

**Siuslaw National Forest
Stewardship Contracting
Multi-Party Monitoring Report
Fiscal Year 2008**



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Executive Summary

Introduction and Purpose

This Multi-Party Monitoring Report for fiscal year 2008 (FY08), documents and analyzes the biophysical accomplishments, economic impacts and stewardship monitoring that was conducted on the Siuslaw National Forest (SNF) and non-federal property with funds generated through stewardship timber sale contracts, through a process called stewardship contracting. Stewardship contracting is a method for federal agencies to contribute to the growth of sustainable rural communities, restore and maintain healthy forest ecosystems, while providing a continuing source of local income and employment.

Methodology

To determine the biophysical and economic impacts of stewardship contracting, data was analyzed from Siuslaw National Forest stewardship contracts, Forest Service retained receipts projects, and projects conducted on private lands funded through retained receipts (commonly referred to as Wyden projects). These data were provided by the Siuslaw National Forest and Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development (Cascade Pacific RC&D). In addition, fieldwork was conducted in order to collect and analyze data which is used to monitor stewardship projects.

To determine the direct economic and employment impacts of stewardship contracting during FY08, the SNF and Integrated Resource Management (IRM) derived estimated worker production rates, which were combined with federal wage determination rates to determine estimated full time employment (FTE) jobs. In addition, IRM conducted phone and email interviews with contractors to determine the county of origin of contractors involved in stewardship contracting. Analysis of these data provides estimates of the overall economic impact that stewardship contracting provide to the local community.

As a result of all stewardship contracting projects completed on the SNF during FY08, there were a total of 6,063 million board feet (mmbf) of timber removed from stewardship timber sales, \$562,041.00 spent on retained receipts projects and \$429,009.00 spent on Wyden projects. The economic impacts of these projects were over 78 FTE jobs created which had an average wage of \$23.29 per hour. This resulted in \$3,706,780.42 earned by contractors and subcontractors and over \$333,610.00 paid in state taxes.

Section One: Introduction

Integrated Resource Management, a forestry consulting company headquartered in Philomath Oregon, was hired by Cascade Pacific RC&D to compile, analyze and summarize the biophysical and socioeconomic impacts of projects completed with stewardship funds during FY08. This report provides a general summary of these data. In addition, as part of this project, a custom MS Access database was created to facilitate the compilation of all these data. This database is called the *Siuslaw Stewardship Database*. This database provides the user with a quick and easy way to query the data relating to stewardship contracting. The database is available for download at <http://www.cascadepacificstewardship.org/resources.html>

About Stewardship Contracting

Stewardship contracting is a process available to the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that seeks to promote sustainable natural resource management practices, while providing rural communities with a reliable source of income and employment.

Origins

In 1999, Congress passed legislation for the USFS to enter into 28 stewardship contract pilot projects. This legislation came as a result of years of difficulty implementing timber sales and associated restorative activities due to disputes between public and private entities. By 2003, the stewardship contract pilot projects had proved successful and Congress eliminated the pilot projects, but authorized the USFS and the BLM the same authorities through 2013.

Stewardship contracting allows stakeholders to become involved in the planning of projects from the onset of design; this often fosters greater trust and support from the local community than traditional timber sales. Unlike traditional timber sales, which strictly focus on the removal of merchantable timber, stewardship timber sales are able to generate timber for the regional market, while performing restorative activities and reinvesting surplus funds into future projects under the same contract.

About the Stewardship Groups

A key component to the success for stewardship contracting has been the close collaboration between federal agencies and the numerous stewardship groups across the country. Participation in the three stewardship groups on the SNF includes that of conservation groups, private landowners, government agencies and non-profit organizations. Stewardship group participants strive to maintain healthy forest ecosystems, while providing rural development. The three stewardship groups involved in stewardship contracting on the SNF are: the Alsea Stewardship Group, the Mary's Peak Stewardship Group and the Siuslaw Stewardship Group. All stewardship group meetings are open to the public and all attendees are encouraged to participate, there is no formal membership in the groups.

Section Two: Methods

In order to calculate the direct socioeconomic impacts of stewardship contracting on the SNF for FY08, IRM worked with the agency staff of the SNF to develop estimated worker production rates. These rates were multiplied by federal wage determination rates, which allowed us to derive estimated FTE jobs, worker income and state income tax information. Through data provided by Cascade Pacific RC&D and the SNF, we analyzed data pertaining to contractors, and their locations, that performed work on stewardship contracting projects. With the data gathered, we were able to break down estimated wages, FTE jobs, total income and state tax revenue generated by county for all FY08 SNF stewardship contracts, Forest Service retained receipts projects and Wyden projects.

Definitions

Due to the nature of this paper, some of the terms used to describe the various aspects of stewardship contracting may be unfamiliar to the general public. For this reason, we have provided the following definitions:

General Definitions

Late Successional Reserve: An area of forest where the management objective is to protect and enhance conditions of late successional and old-growth forest ecosystems

Retained Receipts Projects: Refers to service contracts on land managed by the Forest Service using funds generated from stewardship contracts.

Spatial Heterogeneity: In relation to a forest ecosystem, this is a measure of how similar the spacing of trees is across a landscape. For example, a traditional tree orchard would have a very low spatial heterogeneity.

Coefficient of variation (CV): Is the standard deviation of a data set, divided by its mean.

Stewardship Contracts: Refers to contracts on land managed by the Forest Service using an Integrated Resource Timber Contract or an Integrated Resource Service Contract.

Wyden Projects: Refers to contracts on private lands and public lands (other than federal forests) administered through Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development using funds generated from stewardship contracts. The Wyden Amendment (Public Law 109-54, Section 434) authorizes the Forest Service to utilize funds to complete projects on private land, provided those projects provide a benefit to public land.

Economic Definitions

Direct Jobs: Includes all those industry, industry-contracted and government employees involved in: protection of the commercial forest resource, harvesting, reforestation and tending, mill processing/manufacturing, administration, etc.

Indirect Jobs: Includes all those involved in the provision of goods and services necessary to support the ongoing operations of the industry, and its direct employees as defined above, such as: equipment and parts suppliers, electrical power, fuels, and chemicals suppliers, equipment maintenance shops, etc.

Induced Jobs: All those involved in the provision of goods and services purchased by those directly and indirectly employed and contracted by the industry.

Section Three: Biophysical Accomplishments

Summary of Biophysical Accomplishments in FY08

The three types of biophysical accomplishments that are summarized in this section are: stewardship contracts, retained receipts and Wyden projects which were completed during FY08 on the SNF.

Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

Stewardship contracting was developed as a method to achieve land management goals for National Forest System lands while meeting local and rural community needs. Implementation activity occurred on six previously awarded stewardship contracts on the Siuslaw National Forest during FY08. Three of these contracts were held by Georgia Pacific and three were held by the Swanson Group. There was a total of 6,063mbf removed from the SNF during FY08 from the six stewardship contracts combined.

The major biophysical accomplishments achieved through stewardship contracts across the six timber sales during FY08 were as follows:

- 468 acres of late successional reserve (LSR) enhancement (commercial thinning)
- 672 pieces of coarse woody debris created
- 104 mature and 518 young snags created
- 3 miles of road maintained for fire equipment access
- 64 acres of upland planting
- 12 acres of riparian and 32 acres of upland site prep and planting
- 129 acres of upland LSR enhancement and 37 acres of riparian LSR enhancement (non-commercial thinning)
- 46 acres of riparian release
- 137 small trees topped inside unit and 50 small trees topped outside unit
- 19.5 miles of deferred road maintenance completed

Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

Forest Service retained receipts, are funds that are received from the sale of forest products removed under a stewardship contract. Some of these funds are retained by the agency and used to pay for resource restoration, maintenance and enhancement projects on the National Forest. During FY08 there were 11 retained receipts projects completed, which cost a total of \$562,041.00. The major biophysical accomplishments include:

- 22 miles of road repair
- 2.5 miles of riparian restoration
- 500 acres of snowy plover habitat restoration/protection
- 210 acres of meadow maintenance

Wyden Projects

The Wyden Authority authorizes the USFS to expend funds (including retained receipts) on resource restoration and enhancement projects on non-federal lands provided the projects provide resource benefits to National Forest System lands within the watershed. Wyden stewardship projects on the Siuslaw National Forest are accomplished through cooperative agreements and public assistance grants. Agreements may be with willing governmental, private and nonprofit entities, to protect, restore or enhance natural resources. There was a total of \$429,009.00 of retained receipts from stewardship contracts awarded to fund the 21 Wyden projects completed in FY08. Most of these completed projects were ongoing multi-year projects initially awarded in previous fiscal years. Due to the method of reporting, it was difficult to separate out the bio-physical accomplishments of FY2008 verses that of pervious years of multi-year contracts. The cumulative accomplishments of these multi-year contracts are greater than:

- 178 acres of habitat restoration
- 58 logs placed into streams
- 309 acres of noxious weed control
- 35,898 native trees planted or distributed

Section Four: Economic Impacts

Overview of all Fiscal Year 2008 Stewardship Contracting

This Section provides an overview of the methods used to determine the economic impacts of stewardship contracting and the results of the economic analysis. There were slight variations in data analysis between the three categories of stewardship contracting (Forest Service stewardship contracts, Forest Service retained receipts and Wyden projects), which will be explained in detail below.

Due to difficulty in obtaining socioeconomic data from contractors during previous stewardship monitoring efforts, the USFS and IRM decided to use worker production estimates and federal wage determination rates to derive FTE jobs, average wages, net incomes and state tax revenue. These estimates were then analyzed based upon contractor location, which allowed us to estimate socioeconomic data at a county by county level. These data provided within this section represents a combination of direct, indirect and induced employment figures. The LSR thinning treatments, which are the tree harvest portion of the stewardship contracts, represents direct, indirect and induced employment figures. The associated restorative activities, retained receipts and Wyden projects are strictly based upon direct employment figures. A full list of worker production rates and federal wage determination rates used in this report is readily available in report format through the use of *Siuslaw Stewardship Database* which can be downloaded at Cascade Pacific's website.

Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

There were a total of six stewardship contracts being conducted in FY08. Georgia Pacific and the Swanson Group purchased a total of 6,063MBF of commercial timber through stewardship timber sales during this time period. To determine the socio-economic impacts of stewardship contracts in previous Siuslaw Stewardship Monitoring reports, interviews were conducted with the purchasers. This methodology proved to be problematic because the purchasers where either unwilling to disclose what they considered to be proprietary information, or they did not have access to the information since much of the work was conducted by sub-contractors.

For this report we chose to derive the socioeconomic impacts for the stewardship contracts through a combination of two methodologies.

In respect to the timber sales portion of the stewardship contracts we used a multiplier to determine the number of direct, indirect, and induced jobs created. According to Gary Lettman, a forest economist with the Oregon Department of Forestry, 11.4 direct, indirect and induced FTE jobs are created for every million board feet (MMBF) of timber harvested. Of these, there is one logging job for every 5.1 mill jobs.

To determine the socioeconomic impacts for the associated restorative actives that were part of these stewardship contracts, we used the following methodology:

- Production rates for individual tasks were estimated. For example, we estimated a production rate of 17 young tree snags were created per 8 hour day for the snag creation conducted on the contracts. We did the same for all other tasks. These estimates were based upon the expert knowledge of staff at the SNF and IRM. Total quantities for each task were divided by these estimated production rates to determine FTE jobs.

- Total payroll was calculated by multiplying the number of FTE jobs by the appropriate wage determination rates, which contractors are required to pay their employees as required by the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act.

The estimated production rates along with the wage determination rates are contained within the *Siuslaw Monitoring Database* and available in report format through the use of the database. Table 1 displays a subset of the economic data broken down by county between the six timber sales as a whole.

Table 1 – FY08 Forest Service Stewardship Contracts – Economic Data

County	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	Taxes Paid
Benton	19,455	\$38,5715.59	9.65	\$19.83	\$34,714.40
Douglas	5,019	\$100,378.12	2.49	\$20.00	\$9,034.84
Douglas/Benton*	2,574	\$51,480.58	1.28	\$20.00	\$4,633.25
Lane	3,698	\$73,383.10	1.83	\$19.84	\$6,604.48
Lincoln	112,025	\$2,799,313.55	55.57	\$24.99	\$251,938.22
Total Value	142,772	\$3,410,279.93	70.82	\$23.89	\$306,925.19

*Contractors were from two counties

Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

During FY08, there were a total of 11 projects completed, on SNF property, funded with income retained from stewardship contracts. To determine the socioeconomic impacts for these activities, we used the same methodology as we did for the associated restorative activities of the stewardship contracts, as outlined above. Table 2 displays a subset of the economic data broken down by county for the 11 retained receipts projects completed on SNF property as a whole.

Table 2 – FY08 Forest Retained Receipts Projects – Economic Data

County	Stewardship \$ Awarded	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	Taxes Paid
Douglas	\$287,216.00	2,747	\$51,537.78	1.36	\$18.76	\$4,638.40
Jackson*	\$14,595.00	0	\$0.00	0.00	NA	\$0.00
Lane	\$16,600.00	320	\$4,627.20	0.16	\$14.46	\$416.45
Linn**	\$163,630.00	3,404	\$66,386.67	1.69	\$19.50	\$5,974.80
Multnomah	\$80,000.00	1,422	\$25,944.00	0.71	\$18.24	\$2,334.96
Total Value	\$562,041.00	7,894	\$148,495.66	3.92	\$18.81	\$13,364.61

*No labor was completed, money was used for materials

**Contractor based out of Linn County, equipment and employees based out of Lane County

Wyden Projects

As stated in the biophysical accomplishments section, due to the method of reporting, IRM was unable to accurately separate the biophysical accomplishments of FY08 from that of the total for the multi-year Wyden projects. Although the biophysical accomplishments of Wyden projects reflect multi-year projects in their entirety, the economic data represents FY08 alone. To determine the socioeconomic impacts for these activities, we used the same methodology as we did for the associated restorative

activities of the stewardship contracts and retained receipts projects, as outlined above. At the close of FY08, the 21 projects reported on have been closed. Table 3 displays a subset of the economic data broken down by county for the 21 Wyden projects completed during FY08.

Table 3 – FY08 Wyden Projects – Economic Data

County	Stewardship \$ Awarded	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	Taxes Paid
Lane	\$397,228.00	6,772	\$122,119.22	3.36	\$18.03	\$10,990.73
Multnomah	\$31,781.00	1,717	\$25,885.61	0.85	\$15.08	\$2,329.70
Total Value	\$429,009.00	8,489	\$148,004.83	4.21	\$17.43	\$13,320.43

Summary of Economic Impacts Combined Across All Three Project Types for FY08

Table 4 summarizes the economic data broken down by county for all projects completed with stewardship funds during FY08.

Table 4 – FY08 Projects – Economic Data

County	Stewardship \$ Awarded*	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	Taxes Paid
Benton	\$0.00	19,455	\$385,715.59	9.65	\$19.83	\$34,714.00
Douglas/Benton**	\$0.00	2,574	\$51,481.58	1.28	\$20.00	\$4,633.25
Douglas	\$287,216.00	7,767	\$151,924.90	3.85	\$19.56	\$13,673.24
Jackson***	\$14,595.00	0	\$0.00	0.00	NA	\$0.00
Lane	\$413,828.00	10,790	\$200,129.52	5.35	\$18.55	\$18,011.66
Lincoln	\$0.00	122,025	\$2,799,313.55	55.57	\$24.99	\$251,938.00
Linn****	\$163,630.00	3,404	\$66,386.67	1.69	\$19.50	\$5,974.80
Multnomah	\$111,781.00	3,139	\$51,829.61	1.56	\$16.51	\$4,664.66
Total Value	\$991,050.00	159,155	\$3,706,780.42	78.95	\$23.29	\$333,610.24

* FS timber sales do not draw from Stewardship \$ Awarded

** Contractors were from two counties

*** No labor was completed, money was used for materials

****Portion of contracted work that was based out of Linn County used equipment and employees from Lane County

New Projects Approved for Fiscal Year 2009

There have been a series of new projects approved by the USFS that will become active during Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09). These projects will be actively monitored along with the ongoing projects from FY08 and included in the following years monitoring report. The new projects approved for FY09 are as follows:

Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

Table 5 – FY09 Approved Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

Project Name
Jeep Thin Stewardship Contract
North Beaver Thin Stewardship Contract

Retained Receipts Projects

Table 6 – FY09 Approved Retained Receipts Projects

Project Number	Project Name	Stewardship \$ Approved
FS-032	Siuslaw Basin Meadow Maintenance	\$16,600.00
FS-033	APHIS-WS Plover Predator Management	\$50,000.00
FS-034	ONHIC Plover Nest Protection	\$30,000.00
FS-035	Snowy Plover/Pink Sand-Verbena Habitat Restoration	\$50,000.00
FS-036	South Zone Riparian Release in Anadromous Habitat Area	\$15,000.00
FS-038	Road 24 Stabilization	\$130,000.00
FS-039	Road 32 Drainage and Road 3278 Sediment Reduction	\$110,000.00
Total Value		\$532,600.00

Wyden Projects

Table 7 – FY09 Approved Wyden Projects

Project Number	Project Name	Stewardship \$ Approved
WYA1-01	Scotch Broom Removal	\$11,285.00
WYA1-02	Ryder Creek Fish Passage	\$21,927.00
WYM1-01	Rock Creek Fish Ladders	\$60,000.00
WYM1-03	Mary's Peak Snag Creation	\$25,662.00
WYS1-03	Siuslaw Riparian Restoration 2009	\$38,419.00
Total Value		\$157,93.00

Section Five: Implementation Monitoring

In order to track ecological responses to the LSR thinning treatments within stewardship timber sale areas, IRM installed or updated a series of monitoring plots. These included Common Stand Exam (CSE), photo point, variable radius tree tally, and stem mapping plots. The *Siuslaw Stewardship Database* provides access and analysis of all of the monitoring data.

Photo Point Monitoring

The purpose of the photo point monitoring is to establish pre and post-harvest photo plots to document pre-harvest conditions and document changes due to timber harvesting associated with stewardship contracts. The location of the points selected, were a combination of pre-harvest photo points installed by IRM and post-harvest photo points that had been initially installed under the direction of Resource Innovations. All photo point plots installed during FY08 are permanently referenced with metal posts and tags as well as blazed reference trees. In addition, each plot was mapped using a resource grade GPS. Each photo point includes four cardinal-direction photos, and a canopy photo.

IRM installed a total of 39 sets of pre-harvest photos and two sets of post-harvest photos. On the following pages is an example of a photo point of pre and post-harvest pictures taken on the Misery Thin stewardship timber sale. The *Siuslaw Stewardship Database* provides the user with the ability to view all the photos.

Misery Thin Unit 8 Plot B
Pre-Harvest

Misery Thin Unit 8 Plot B
Post-Harvest

MT.U8.PB.N



MT.U8.PB.E



MT.U8.PB.S



MT.U8.PB.W



MT.U8.PB.U



Common Stand Exam Data Collection

The purpose of the CSE monitoring is to collect pre-harvest ecological data in order to establish a base line to track changes in stand dynamics post-harvest. To accomplish this, there were twenty 1/10th acre (37.2 ft. radius) pre-harvest CSE plots installed across three stewardship timber sales. These plots were overlaid at selected photo point locations. By incorporating the photo point pictures and CSE data, viewers will be able to compare the visual changes to the statistical changes as the stand progresses. On each plot, the following data was collected:

- Tree level data: Species, diameter, ht., crown class, crown ratio, damage, age and growth information
- Vegetation data: Species, % cover and average ht.
- Down woody material: Piece count, length, diameter at large and small end

Inclusion of CSE data collection was initiated in the FY08 contract. In subsequent years, the SNF intends to re-measure the plots to document post-harvest conditions. Table 8 illustrates an example of summary statistics from CSE data compiled from the North Beaver Thin stewardship timber sale as will be seen in the *Siuslaw Stewardship Database*.

Table 8 – Common Stand Exam summary statistics (sample)

North Beaver Thin U2P1				
Tree	DBH (in.)	Ht. (ft.)	% DF	% BM
	14.5	104	56%	44%
Vegetation	Life Form Type	Species	% Cover	Height
	Trees	PSME	75%	105
	Shrubs	ACCI	65%	8
	Herbaceous	POMU	5%	2
Course Woody Material	Decay Class	Length (ft.)	Short End Dia. (in.)	Large End Dia. (in.)
1	5	11	15	35
2	5	39	40	1

Variable Radius Plot Data Collection

The purpose of the variable radius plot data collection was to collect statistically valid pre and post-harvest data of stewardship thinning units. With this data, it is possible to document and analyze the spatial heterogeneity of the harvest units, verify the species, structure and composition of the units, in order to determine if the long term management goals are being met. Due to the fact that one of the primary ecological goals of LSR thinnings is to accelerate these stands to “old growth characteristics,” The spatial heterogeneity of the harvest units becomes a critical measurement of success.

The collection of variable radius plot data was initiated during the FY08 multiparty monitoring contract. Variable radius plots were installed along transects on the way into and out of each CSE plot. There were a total of 200 variable radius plots collected over three stewardship timber sales. At each plot, cruisers collected DBH, tree count and species data. These data were compiled to provide stand level summary information. One of the measurements used to calculate spatial heterogeneity, is the coefficient of variation (CV) between the plots, of the basal area of each plot (see section 2 for definition). When the CV decreases, the spatial heterogeneity increases and vice versa. As displayed in table 9, the average CV across this stand 30.29%, once the post-harvest statistics are collected, we will be able to determine if the LSR thinning treatments are increasing or decreasing spatial heterogeneity of the stand. Table 9 displays an example of summary statistics from variable radius plot data that was collected in the Jeep Thin stewardship timber sale for this contract, as will be seen in the *Siuslaw Stewardship Database*.

Table 9 – Variable Radius Plot Data (sample)

Jeep Thin Unit 1			DBH	TPA	%DF	%H	%RA	%BM	%CH	#Plots	TPP	StDev	CV	SE
Stand Average			14.2	200	90%	0%	7%	2%	1%	30	6.2	1.89	30.29%	5.53%
PP Plot	Elevation-ft	Aspect-deg	DBH	TPA	%DF	%WH	%RA	%BM	%CH	#Plots	TPP	StDev	CV	SE
JT.U1.P1	1181	290	14.8	200	86%	0%	12%	0%	2%	10%	6.5	2.12	32.64%	10.32%
JT.U1.P2	1206	248	14.4	198	98%	0%	0%	0%	2%	10%	6.0	1.76	29.40%	9.30%
JT.U1.P3	1261	270	13.6	204	87%	0%	8%	5%	0%	10%	6.2	1.93	31.16%	9.86%

Stem Mapping Data Collection

Similar to that of the variable radius plots inventory, the purpose of the stem mapping exercise was to determine whether stewardship contracting thinning treatments are increasing or decreasing the spatial heterogeneity of the forest. However, rather than collect data on a stand level, the stem mapping exercise mapped every tree located within a one acre rectangle with a resource grade GPS unit. By mapping both stumps and retention trees from a previous LSR thinning, we were able to generate spatial data to digitally measure inter-tree distance, and determine pre and post-harvest spatial heterogeneity of the one acre plot.

Figure 1 displays a map created from the data collected at the Early School stewardship timber sale on the SNF. The green dots represent the retention trees, while the red dots represent the cut trees within the one-acre plot that was mapped. The results of this data collection indicate that the particular treatment applied to this stand is actually decreasing the spatial heterogeneity of the stand, contrary to the goal of LSR thinning. Stem mapping data is not included in the *Siuslaw Stewardship Database*, if you would like to view the full results of this exercise, please contact IRM at www.irmforestry.com.

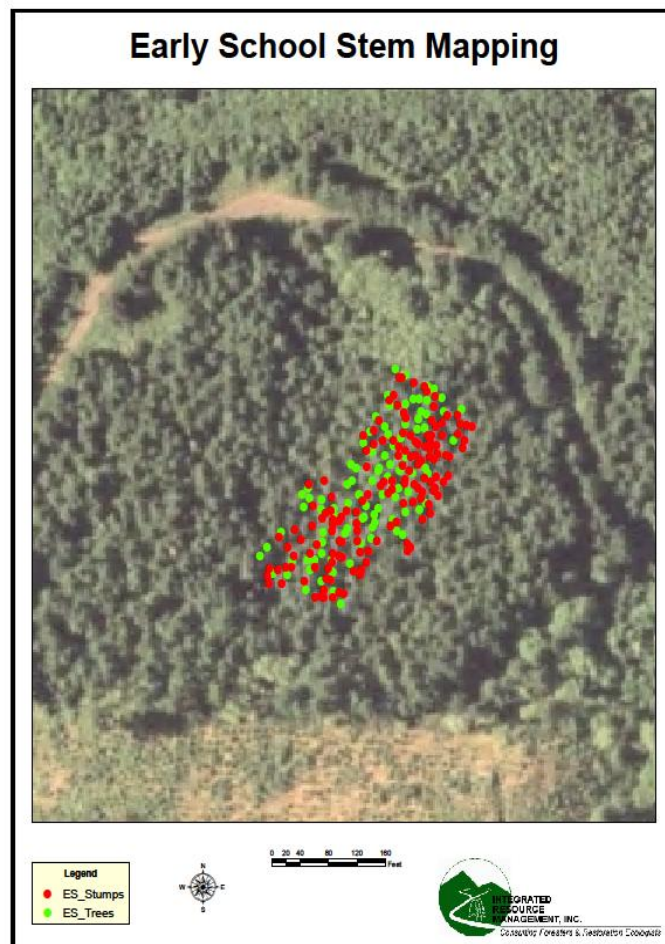


Figure 1 - Stem Mapping Data (sample)

Section Six: Stakeholder Field Trips

Field Trip # 1 Yachats River Area

Alsea Stewardship Group

May 20, 2009

The May 20th field trip consisted of eight stops used to view various silvicultural techniques used on USFS lands as well as stops to view the impacts of noxious weed control projects near the SNF.

In the morning, the group stopped at four stands, each of which had different thinning and replanting prescriptions. The group discussed the pros and cons of the methods used.

After lunch, group members visited three sites that were infested with noxious weeds. Members presented plans for combating the spread of noxious weeds, and discussed the results of current efforts.



Clematis vitalba above Yachats River Road.

Field Trip # 2 Yachats River Area



Inspecting a tree core to determine age and growth rate

Alsea Stewardship Group

June 26, 2009

There were three stops for this field trip, two of which the group discussed stewardship monitoring and one to discuss forage seeding on USFS land.

At the first two stops, Buck and Early School Thin, the group viewed and participated in the collection of data used to track the results of stewardship thinning projects.

The final stop was used to discuss a forage-seeding project completed at Camp Thin. The USFS explained what terrain features seem to produce the best results and specific techniques that can improve germination rates.

Field Trip # 3 Mapleton Area

Siuslaw Stewardship Group

August 14, 2009

The August 14th field trip had three stops, Misery Thin, the 63 road, and an access road in Deadwood Creek drainage.

The stop at Misery Thin was used to discuss various types of stewardship monitoring fieldwork that have been implemented in this years contract. The group listened to explanations from instructors than participated in the collection of CSE data.



Demonstration of stand exam plot measurements

During the afternoon, the group visited a road reconstruction project and a road deconstruction project. The purpose of the road reconstruction project on the 63 road, was to reduce the amount of sediment running off into the near by creek. The final stop was at a recently decommissioned road, which had been ripped and replanted with native vegetation.

Field Trip # 4 Yachats Commons

Alsea & Siuslaw Stewardship Group

December 3, 2009

The joint meeting of the Alsea and Siuslaw stewardship groups on December 3rd was used as the final field trip for the FY08 Multi-Party Monitoring contract. The meeting started with small talk and a catered lunch. The first speaker was Matt Mellenthin, who discussed the format and material of the FY08 Multi-Party Monitoring Report. Following a power point presentation, the audience provided questions and comments regarding the material.



Discussion of FY08 Multi-Party Monitoring Report

After a short break, the group heard from Tom Davis, who discussed the regional stewardship contract meeting, Dan Segota who provided agency updates and Jackie Nichols who talked about stimulus projects and other grant opportunities for group members. After the dual meeting ended, the Alsea and Siuslaw stewardship groups convened their individual group business meetings.

Section Seven: Recommendations

IRM has the following recommendations for future monitoring contracts. The changes relate to stewardship project tracking & the multi-party monitoring report as well as implementation monitoring.

Stewardship project tracking & the multi-party monitoring report:

- Require contractors to provide accurate end of the fiscal year accomplishments
- Eliminate “New Projects Approved” from project tracking and the report, due to the fact that these projects may not be finalized by the time the monitoring reporting starts

Implementation monitoring:

- Release the request for proposal for the Multi-Party Monitoring Report in the Fall rather than Winter, to allow contractors to select field days which have optimal weather conditions for completing photo point monitoring
- Alter design of inventory procedures to result in statistically significant data collection
- Conduct additional stem mapping of pre and post-harvest stands through the use of low level aerial photograph which is now available