

# Siuslaw National Forest Stewardship Contracting Multiparty Monitoring Report Fiscal Year 2011

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## Executive Summary

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### Introduction and Purpose

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This Multiparty Monitoring Report for Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11), 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 sales, through a process called stewardship contracting. Stewardship contracting is a method for the United States Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to contribute to the economic viability of rural communities while restoring and maintaining healthy forest ecosystems, by providing a continuing source of employment and local income.

### Methodology

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To determine the biophysical and economic impacts of stewardship contracting, data were analyzed from Siuslaw National Forest stewardship contracts, Forest Service retained receipts projects, and projects conducted on private and non-federal lands, commonly referred to as Wyden projects. These data were provided by the Siuslaw National Forest and Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development (Cascade Pacific RC&D). In addition, field work was conducted to collect and analyze vegetative data from stewardship timber sales to determine if silvicultural prescriptions were being achieved.

To determine the direct economic and employment impacts of stewardship contracting during FY11, 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 equivalent (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 data provided estimates of the overall economic impact that stewardship contracting provides to the local community.

As a result of all stewardship contracting projects completed on the SNF during FY11, there was a total of 16.899 million board feet (MMBF) of timber removed from stewardship timber sales, \$157,637 spent on retained receipts projects and \$118,377 spent on Wyden projects. The economic impact of these projects was over 195.41 FTE jobs created, which had an average wage of \$24.01 per hour. This resulted in \$9,458,690 earned by contractors and subcontractors and over \$851,281 paid in state taxes (based on a 9% state income tax assessment).

## Section One: Introduction

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Integrated Resource Management (IRM), a forestry consulting firm 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 FY11. This report provides a general summary of these data. In addition, as part of this project, a custom Microsoft Access database was created to facilitate the compilation of all data. The database is called the *Siuslaw Monitoring Project (SMP) FY11 Database*. It provides the user with a quick and easy way to query data relating to stewardship contracting. The database is available for download at:

<http://www.cascadepacificstewardship.org/resources-publications>.

### About Stewardship Contracting

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Stewardship contracting is an innovative method for managing forests and watersheds that is rooted in collaboration and adaptive management. Stewardship contracting is a suite of authorities or contracting tools that are intended to help the agencies meet land management objectives and rural community needs. It is the blending of land management and rural community development that makes stewardship contracting unique. The guiding regulations from the USFS encourage strong collaboration between the federal agencies and local and regional partners and interests.

In 2003, Congress enacted legislation enabling the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to use stewardship contracting to accomplish land management. Specific mechanisms authorized by the legislation include:

- *Exchange of goods for services*: Contractors can be paid in goods—with the value of any timber or other forest products removed by the contractor used to offset what the agency owes the contractor for services performed, as written in 16 U.S.C. 2104 Note (Revised February 28, 2003 to reflect Sec. 323 of H.J. Res. 2 as enrolled)
- *Receipt retention*: Excess receipts from the sale of timber or other forest products removed can be kept and used by the agency, rather than being deposited in the U.S. Treasury.
- *Best-value contracting*: Contracts must be awarded on the basis of achieving best value to the government. A variety of criteria, in addition to price, can be used in making the award determination.
- *End-results contracting*: The agency determines the end result desired for the work, but the contractor has flexibility to propose the methods to be used, including, in some instances, which individual trees to cut.
- *Multi-year contracts*: Service contracts can be held for up to 10 years, instead of the current 5 year maximum.

### Origins

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The Northwest Forest Plan designated much of the forested land of the SNF as late successional reserves (LSR). LSRs are managed to provide habitat for threatened and endangered species. The SNF uses stewardship contracting as a means to address the health of the land within or adjacent to the SNF. Salmon habitat enhancement and restoration is high priority in the basin. Given that much of the lands with the highest habitat potential for salmonids are on private land, there is a natural strategic

partnership between the National Forest , watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts and other organizations that promote conservation on private lands. The local partners are organized into four stewardship groups, the Alsea, Hebo, Marys Peak and Siuslaw stewardship groups.

## About the Stewardship Groups

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The Alsea, Hebo, Marys Peak and Siuslaw stewardship groups are each a collection of local and regional organizations and individuals that collaborate with the SNF on the planning, implementation, and monitoring of the stewardship projects on land within or adjacent to the SNF. Each group has formed its own charter and meets monthly to discuss projects within its area. Group participants include: federal and state agencies, landowners, conservation organizations, local governments, timber companies, tribes, and other interested parties.

The stewardship groups dedicate much of their attention to the use of the Coast Range Stewardship Fund, a subset of the receipts retained from stewardship contracts that can be utilized by landowners through non-governmental organizations for restoration projects on non-federal lands that benefit the National Forest.

## Section Two: What's New in FY11

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As most readers who are familiar with the *FY10 Multiparty Monitoring Report* will notice, the content and format of the FY11 report is very similar. This is due to the support received from the previous year's report and an effort to be consistent for the public. Below is a brief list detailing the major changes to the *FY11 Multiparty Monitoring Report*.

- Increased quantity of stand exam/photo point plots: During the FY11 field season, there were a total 44 stand exam/photo point plots installed across eight harvest units. The increased number of plots resulted from shifting available funds from stewardship field trips, in order to provide additional tracking of pre and post-harvest conditions of stewardship timber sales.

## Section Three: Methods

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In order to calculate the direct socioeconomic impacts of stewardship contracting on the SNF for FY11, IRM worked with the SNF staff to develop estimated worker production rates. These rates were multiplied by federal wage determination rates, which allowed IRM to derive estimated FTE jobs, worker income and state income tax information. Through data provided by Cascade Pacific RC&D and the SNF, IRM analyzed data pertaining to contractors and their locations that performed work on stewardship contracting projects. With these data gathered, IRM was able to break down estimated wages, FTE jobs, total income and state tax revenue generated by county, for all FY11 SNF stewardship contracts, Forest Service retained receipts projects and Wyden projects.

## Microsoft Access Database

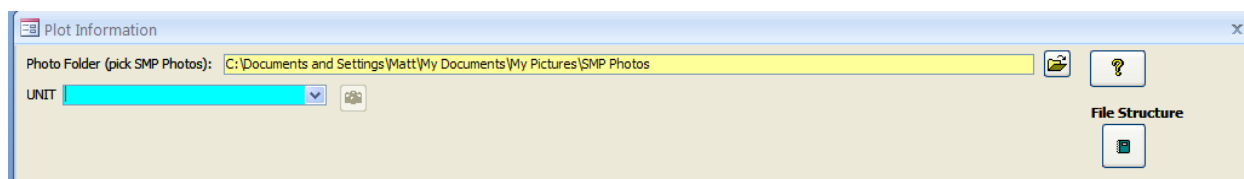
As previously discussed, this paper contains a summary of these biophysical, economic and monitoring data that were completed and analyzed during FY11. These data in their entirety resides in the *SMP FY11 Database*, which is available for download at:

<http://www.cascadepacificstewardship.org/resources-publications>. Below are directions for downloading and using the database.

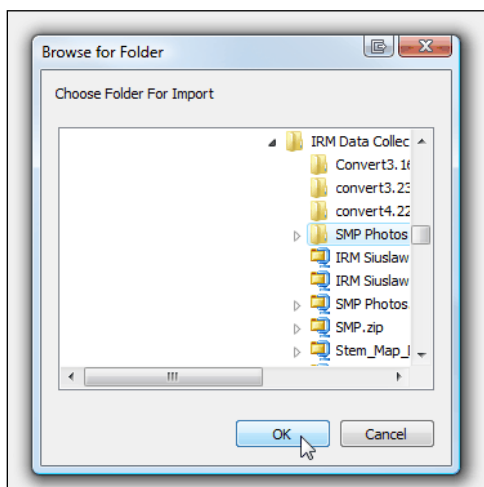
### Deploying the Siuslaw Monitoring Project FY11

1. Download Siuslaw Monitoring Project FY11.
2. Extract to a folder on your computer.
3. The result will be three .mdb files (Access Databases) and a folder called SMP Photos.
  - a. IRM Biophysical Accomplishments.mdb
  - b. IRM Siuslaw Monitoring Project.mdb
  - c. SMP Economic Analysis.mdb
  - d. SMP Photos folder
4. The Siuslaw Monitoring Project.mdb database has a link to the SMP Photos.

The Biophysical Accomplishments.mdb and SMP Economic Analysis.mdb files are stand alone Access databases that do not require linking to any other files. The Siuslaw Monitoring Project.mdb database, however, does link to the SMP Photos folder. By default it is programmed to assume that the SMP Photos folder is in the same location as the Siuslaw Monitoring Project.mdb file. If you move either the .mdb file or the SMP Photos folder to a new location, you will need to link the photos to the database by clicking on the folder icon in the Plot Information form and navigating to the SMP Photos folder (see image below):



Click on the folder, which will bring up the Browse for Folder dialog:





Select the SMP Photos folder and click OK.

Once you have the database and photo point picture files saved properly, you will be able to browse through these stewardship data from the current fiscal year as well as previous years. This database allows the user to generate reports detailing these biophysical, economic and monitoring data.

Example: If you wanted to view these monitoring data that are displayed in section six of this report, follow the steps below:

1. Open the *SMP FY11 Database*.
2. Select the "Stewardship Monitoring" tab.
3. Click the dropdown to the right of the "Unit" tab and select "2011 OI Cleve Unit: 5 (3 plots)".
4. In the top left salmon colored box, click the "2" under the plot column.
5. If you would like to view the photo points that were taken at this plot, click the camera icon that is located to the right of the "2011 OI Cleve Unit: 5 (3 plots)" tab.

These data contained within the biophysical and economic sections work similarly. For each of these, there are dropdown tabs that let you select various projects or other search categories.

## Definitions

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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

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**Biophysical Accomplishments:** Land and water management practices that help preserve natural resources or ecosystems.

**Integrated Resource Contract:** A contract used in stewardship contracting timber sales, which allows agencies to exchange goods for services when the cost of the services exceeds the value of the timber harvested.

**Late Successional Reserve (LSR):** This phrase became widely used in 1994, when the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) established LSRs on 30 percent of the federal land area within the range of the northern spotted owl (United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and United States Department of Interior (USDI) 1994). The primary objectives for the LSR land allocation are to "protect and enhance conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species including the northern spotted owl (USDA and USDI 1994)."

**Retained Receipts Projects:** Refers to service contracts on land managed by the Forest Service using funds generated from stewardship contracts. These funds may not be used for Forest Service salaries, overhead administrative costs or indirect costs; neither may they be used for project planning or analysis. This authority was granted by amendment number 2409.19-2008-7, found in the Forest

Service Handbook FSH 2409.19 – Renewable Resources Handbook, chapter 60 Stewardship Contracting, effective October 21, 2008.

**Seral Forage Creation:** Development of specific plant communities which are beneficial to particular animal species. Typical projects would consist of planting various grass and forbs species that would provide additional food sources for deer and elk.

**Sidecast Pullback:** The process of moving soil and road material from the downhill side of a gravel road to the uphill side for the purpose of road decommissioning.

**Stewardship Contracts:** Refers to contracts on land managed by the Forest Service, using an Integrated Resource Timber Contract, Integrated Resource Service Contract, standard service or construction contracts that utilize stewardship authority. These contracts allow the USFS to bundle several contracts into one, to treat a landscape, trade goods for services, use multi-year and one year contracts and agreements up to 10 years, and use best value contracting to evaluate contractors' proposals. These authorities were passed under section 323 of Public 108-7 under the omnibus Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2003, on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

**Wyden Projects:** Refers to projects on private and non-federal lands that use stewardship funds. The Wyden Amendment (Public Law 109-54, Section 434) passed on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005 authorizes the USFS to provide funds for projects on private and non-federal lands that benefit the National Forest.

## Economic Definitions

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

**Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Jobs:** Method of calculating amount of jobs created. The assumption is that there are 2,016 work hours in a year (8 hours a day, 21 work days a month, 12 months a year).

**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 part suppliers, electrical power, fuel and chemical 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.

**Million Board Feet (MMBF):** An acronym used to abbreviate One Thousand Thousand Board Feet or Million Board Feet of timber. This is a unit of measure of harvested timber.

**Socioeconomic:** A phrase used to discuss the combination of social and economic factors (e.g. a salary of a specific job).



## Section Four: Biophysical Accomplishments

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### Summary of Biophysical Accomplishments in FY11

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The three types of biophysical accomplishments that are summarized in this section are: stewardship contracts, retained receipts projects and Wyden projects, which were completed during FY11 on or near the SNF.

### Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

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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 13 previously awarded stewardship contracts on the SNF during FY11. Five of these contracts were held by Georgia Pacific, seven were held by the Swanson Group and one held by B&G Logging. There was a total of 16.889 MMBF of timber removed from the SNF during FY11 from the combined 13 stewardship contracts.

The major biophysical accomplishments achieved through stewardship contracts across the 13 stewardship timber sales during FY11 were as follows:

- 987 acres of late successional reserve (LSR) enhancement (commercial thinning)
- Total of 16.889 MMBF of timber harvested
- 1,902 pieces of dead wood creation
- 42 mature snags created
- 1,579 young snags created
- 11 acres of pre-commercial thinning
- 278 small trees topped
- 76 acres of upland site prep and under planting
- 2 miles of road decommissioning (Road 3310)
- 124 acres of false brome control

### Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

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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 FY11 there were four active retained receipts projects, which cost a total of \$157,637. The major biophysical accomplishments include:

- 305 acres of meadow restoration
- 500 acres of snowy plover habitat restoration/protection
- 29 acres of mechanical EBG treatment for snowy plover habitat restoration

## Wyden Projects

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The Wyden Authority authorizes the USFS to expend funds (including retained receipts) on resource restoration and enhancement projects on non-federal lands as long as the projects provides resource benefits to National Forest Service lands within the watershed. Wyden projects within the vicinity of the SNF are accomplished through cooperative agreements and public assistance grants. Agreements may be with governmental, private and nonprofit entities, to protect, restore or enhance natural resources. There was a total of \$118,377 of retained receipts from stewardship contracts awarded to fund the 11 active Wyden projects in FY11. Additionally, several other 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 FY11 versus previous years of multi-year contracts. The cumulative accomplishments of these multi-year contracts are greater than:

- 48,460 native plants distributed
- 78.8 acres of habitat planted
- 207 native shrubs planted
- .5 miles of stream bank planted
- 3,375 feet of wildlife friendly fence constructed
- 239 logs and rootwads placed in streams
- 42.5 acres of knotweed control
- Re-contour 500 feet of stream bank
- Replace/upgrade existing culvert

## Section Five: Economic Impacts

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### Overview of all Fiscal Year 2011 Stewardship Contracting

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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 stewardship monitoring efforts prior to Fiscal Year 2008 (FY08), 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 (based on a 9% state income tax assessment). These estimates were then analyzed based upon contractor location, which allowed IRM to estimate socioeconomic data at a 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 the *SMP Database FY11*, which can be downloaded at Cascade Pacific RC&D's website.

## Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

There were a total of 13 stewardship contracts being actively thinned in FY11. Georgia Pacific and the Swanson Group purchased a total of 16.889 MMBF of commercial timber through stewardship timber sales during this time period.

Beginning in FY08, a new method was derived to determine the socioeconomic impacts of stewardship contracting through a combination of two methodologies.

For the stewardship timber sales portion of the stewardship contracts, IRM used a multiplier to determine the number of direct, indirect, and induced jobs created. According to Gary Lettman, former forest economist with the Oregon Department of Forestry, 11.4 direct, indirect and induced FTE jobs are created for every one 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 of the associated restorative activities that were part of these stewardship contracts, IRM used the following methodology:

- Production rates for individual tasks were estimated. These estimates were based upon the expert knowledge of staff at the SNF and IRM. 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. 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 workers as required by the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act of 1965. This bill, amended on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1976 as Public Law 94-480, requires contractors and subcontractors performing services on prime contracts in excess of \$2,500 to pay service employees in various classes no less than wage rates and fringe benefits found prevailing in the locality.

The estimated production rates along with the wage determination rates (as found on [www.wdol.gov/](http://www.wdol.gov/), a federal wage determination website) are contained within the *SMP FY11 Database* and available in report format through the use of the database. Table 1 displays a subset of these economic data broken down by county between the 13 active stewardship timber sales as a whole.

**Table 1— FY11 Forest Service Stewardship Timber Sale Contracts – Economic Data**

| County             | Person Hours<br>Worked | \$ Earned          | FTE<br>Jobs   | Avg.<br>Wage   | State Taxes Paid |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Benton, OR         | 67,670                 | \$1,477,299        | 33.57         | \$21.83        | \$132,957        |
| Coos, OR           | 64,394                 | \$1,609,860        | 31.94         | \$25.00        | \$144,887        |
| Lane, OR           | 143,356                | \$3,509,285        | 71.11         | \$24.48        | \$315,836        |
| Lincoln, OR        | 95,096                 | \$2,377,406        | 47.17         | \$25.00        | \$213,967        |
| Marion, OR         | 969                    | \$26,728           | 0.48          | \$27.58        | \$2,405          |
| Tillamook, OR      | 18,316                 | \$366,310          | 9.09          | \$20.00        | \$32,968         |
| <b>Total Value</b> | <b>389,801</b>         | <b>\$9,366,888</b> | <b>193.36</b> | <b>\$24.03</b> | <b>\$843,020</b> |

## Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

During FY11, there were a total of four projects active 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 these economic data broken down by county for the four retained receipts projects completed on SNF property as a whole.

**Table 2 – FY11 Forest Retained Receipts Projects – Economic Data**

| County             | Person Hours<br>Worked | \$ Earned       | FTE<br>Jobs | Avg.<br>Wage   | State Taxes Paid |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Lane, OR           | 246                    | \$3,822         | 0.12        | \$15.55        | \$344            |
| Multnomah, OR      | 983                    | \$24,000        | 0.49        | \$24.41        | \$2,160          |
| <b>Total Value</b> | <b>1,229</b>           | <b>\$27,822</b> | <b>0.61</b> | <b>\$22.64</b> | <b>\$2,504</b>   |

## 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 FY11 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, these economic data represent FY11 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. Table 3 displays a subset of these economic broken down by county for the 11 Wyden projects worked on during FY11.

**Table 3– FY11 Wyden Projects – Economic Data**

| County             | Person Hours<br>Worked | \$ Earned       | FTE<br>Jobs | Avg.<br>Wage   | State Taxes Paid |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Benton, OR         | 73                     | \$2,460         | 0.04        | \$33.57        | \$221            |
| Coos, OR           | 668                    | \$15,290        | 0.33        | \$22.88        | \$1,376          |
| Lane, OR           | 721                    | \$16,323        | 0.36        | \$22.64        | \$1,469          |
| Lincoln, OR        | 1,392                  | \$27,480        | 0.69        | \$19.73        | \$2,473          |
| Marion, OR         | 79                     | \$1,445         | 0.04        | \$18.35        | \$130            |
| Multnomah, OR      | 47                     | \$982           | 0.02        | \$20.87        | \$88             |
| <b>Total Value</b> | <b>2,980</b>           | <b>\$63,980</b> | <b>1.48</b> | <b>\$21.46</b> | <b>\$5,7587</b>  |

## Summary of Economic Impacts Combined Across All Three Project Types for FY11

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Table 4 summarizes these economic data broken down by county for all projects completed with stewardship funds during FY11.

**Table 4 – Economic Data for all FY11 Projects**

| County             | Person Hours<br>Worked | \$ Earned          | FTE<br>Jobs   | Avg.<br>Wage   | State Taxes Paid |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Benton, OR         | 67,743                 | \$1,479,759        | 33.61         | \$21.84        | \$133,178        |
| Coos, OR           | 65,062                 | \$1,625,150        | 32.27         | \$24.98        | \$146,263        |
| Lane, OR           | 144,323                | \$3,529,430        | 71.59         | \$24.41        | \$317,649        |
| Lincoln, OR        | 96,488                 | \$2,404,886        | 47.86         | \$24.92        | \$216,440        |
| Marion, OR         | 1,048                  | \$28,173           | 0.48          | \$27.58        | \$2,535          |
| Multnomah, OR      | 1,030                  | \$24,982           | 0.51          | \$24.25        | \$2,248          |
| Tillamook, OR      | 18,316                 | \$366,310          | 9.09          | \$20.00        | \$32,968         |
| <b>Total Value</b> | <b>394,010</b>         | <b>\$9,458,690</b> | <b>195.41</b> | <b>\$24.01</b> | <b>\$851,281</b> |

## New Projects Approved for Fiscal Year 2012

There have been a series of new projects approved by the USFS that will become active during Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12). These projects (Tables 5-7) will be actively monitored along with the ongoing projects from FY11 and included in the following year's monitoring report. The new projects approved for FY12 are as follows:

## Forest Service Stewardship Contracts

**Table 5– FY12 Approved Forest Service Stewardship Contracts**

| Project Name                     |
|----------------------------------|
| Bridge Thin Stewardship Contract |

## Retained Receipts Projects

**Table 6 – FY12 Approved Retained Receipts Projects**

| Project Number | Project Name   | Stewardship \$<br>Approved |
|----------------|--|----------------------------|
| FS-067         | Mt. Hebo Silverspot Habitat Restoration-Hebo RD      | \$10,000                   |
| FS-068         | Rock Creek Silverspot Habitat Restoration-CCRD-ODNRA | \$10,000                   |
| FS-069         | Siuslaw Meadow Maintenance-CCRD-ODNRA                | \$11,000                   |
| FS-070         | ORBIC Plover Nest Protection                         | \$30,000                   |
| FS-071         | APHIS Plover Predator Management-CCRD-ODNRA          | \$10,000                   |
| FS-072         | Plover Habitat Restoration-CCRD-ODNRA                | \$21,000                   |
| FS-073         | Fivemile Bell Dike Removal and Large Wood-CCRD-ODNRA | \$75,000                   |
| FS-076         | Rock Creek Bridge Replacement                        | \$200,000                  |
| Total Value    |  | \$367,000                  |

## Wyden Projects

**Table 7 – FY12 Approved Wyden Projects**

| Project Number       | Project Name                      | Stewardship \$<br>Approved |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| WY-A12-11            | Peterson Creek Restoration        | \$14,813                   |
| WY-A12-12            | Lincoln SWCD Knotweed Control     | \$18,198                   |
| WY-H12-01            | Upper Yachats River Restoration   | \$13,101                   |
| WY-M12-10            | Yachats Clematis Treatment        | \$14,688                   |
| WY-S12-11            | Greasy Creek Riparian Restoration | \$26,769                   |
| WY-S12-12            | Siuslaw Riparian Restoration      | \$36,896                   |
| Cascade Pacific RC&D | Project Administration            | \$46,092                   |
| Total Value          |                                   | \$170,557                  |

## Section Six: Implementation Monitoring

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In order to track ecological responses to the LSR thinning treatments within stewardship timber sale areas, IRM installed a series of monitoring plots. These included Common Stand Exams (CSE) and photo point plots. The *SMP FY11 Database* provides access and analysis of all of these monitoring data.

### Photo Point Monitoring

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The purpose of the photo point monitoring is to establish pre and post-harvest photo point plots to document pre-harvest conditions and track changes resulting from timber harvesting associated with stewardship contracts. The points selected for FY11, were all located in stewardship timber sales scheduled to be harvested over the course of the next several years. All photo point plots installed during FY11 are permanently referenced with metal posts and tags as well as blazed reference trees. In addition, each plot was mapped using a resource grade Global Positioning System (GPS). Each photo point plot includes four cardinal directions (North, East, South and West) photos, and a canopy (overhead) photo. These photos will allow individuals viewing the photos to track visual changes to vegetation such as species composition, size and percent cover over time as the stand progresses from restoration thinning.

IRM installed a total of 22 sets of pre-harvest photos and 22 post-harvest photos. On the following pages are examples of pre and post-harvest photo points taken on the Ol Cleve stewardship timber sale. The *SMP FY11 Database* provides the user with the ability to view all the photos.



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2

Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 North  
Pre-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 North  
Post-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 East  
Pre-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 East  
Post-Harvest





Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 South  
Pre-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 South  
Post-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 West  
Pre-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 West  
Post-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 Overhead  
Pre-Harvest



Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 Overhead  
Post-Harvest





## Common Stand Exam Data Collection

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The purpose of the Common Stand Exam (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 39, 1/10<sup>th</sup> acre (37.2 ft. radius) CSE plots installed or re-measured across eight stewardship timber sales. These plots were overlaid at 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, these data were collected:

- Tree level data: Species, diameter, height, crown class, crown ratio, damage, age and growth information
- Vegetation data: Species, % cover and average height of all plants down to trace presence
- Down woody material: Piece count, length, diameter at large and small end and decay class

Inclusion of CSE data collection was initiated in the FY08 contract. FY10 is the first year that post-harvest data had been collected. There were a total of 22 pre-harvest stand exam plots and 22 post-harvest stand exam plots installed or re-measured in FY11. In subsequent years, the SNF plans to re-measure all pre-harvest plots to document post-harvest conditions. Table 8 illustrates an example of summary statistics from CSE data compiled from the Ol Cleave stewardship timber sale as will be seen in the *SMP FY11 Database* (same plot as the photo points shown above).

As part of the FY09 monitoring contract, IRM prepared a Siuslaw Monitoring Project Stand Exam Data Collection Program as well as a manual to be used as a reference for future contractors involved in the data collection. The major benefit of these tools is to streamline the data collection process in order to ensure that data collected in future measurements will be compatible with past data collected. In addition, with the data collection program, contractors are able to collect inventory data with the utmost accuracy and efficiency, and transfer these data to the USFS with greater ease.

With the completion of post-harvest photographs and the associated stand exam data collection during the FY10 and FY11 season, the database now has the functionality for the plots which have both pre and post-harvest stand exam data to be seen simultaneously. As seen in Table 8, there is a “compare” feature which will provide the viewer with an instant comparison of several forestry statistics.

**Table 8– Common Stand Exam Summary Statistics (sample)**

The screenshot displays two windows from a forest inventory software. The top window, 'Plot Information', shows data for '2009 Ol Cleve Thin Unit: 5'. It includes a table of plot-level data (PLOT 1 and 2) and a summary table (DBH, TPA, BA, %DF, %WH, %RA, %BM, %CH, #Plots, TPP). The bottom window, 'Plot Information for Comparison Unit', shows data for '2011 Ol Cleve Thin Unit: 5' with a similar structure. At the bottom of the screenshot is a legend defining various acronyms used in the tables.

**Plot Information Window:**

Photo Folder (pick SMP Photos): C:\Documents and Settings\Matt\My Documents\My Pictures\SMP Photos

UNIT: 2009 Ol Cleve Thin Unit: 5

| PLOT | Elevation-ft | Aspect-deg | Cruise Date | PP_PLOT       | DBH  | TPA | BA  | %DF  | %WH | %RA | %BM | %CH | #Plots | TPP  |
|------|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|------|
| 1    | 1340         | 259        | 4/7/2010    | OLCLEVE.US.P1 | 11.5 | 210 | 175 | 95%  | 0%  | 5%  | 0%  | 0%  | 1      | 21.0 |
| 2    | 1280         | 230        | 5/13/2010   | OLCLEVE.US.P2 | 12.2 | 320 | 283 | 100% | 0%  | 0%  | 0%  | 0%  | 1      | 32.0 |

**Plot Information for Comparison Unit Window:**

UNIT: 2011 Ol Cleve Thin Unit: 5

| PLOT | Elevation-ft | Aspect-deg | Cruise Date | PP_PLOT       | DBH  | TPA | BA  | %DF  | %WH | %RA | %BM | %CH | #Plots | TPP  |
|------|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|------|
| 1    | 1340         | 259        | 5/7/2012    | OLCLEVE.US.P1 | 14.0 | 30  | 32  | 100% | 0%  | 0%  | 0%  | 0%  | 1      | 3.0  |
| 2    | 1280         | 230        | 5/7/2012    | OLCLEVE.US.P2 | 13.1 | 120 | 123 | 92%  | 8%  | 0%  | 0%  | 0%  | 1      | 13.0 |

**Legend:**

SPC = Species  
 DF = Douglas-fir, WH = Western Hemlock  
 BM = Sitka Spruce, BA = Red Alder  
 COV PCT = Ground coverage percent (-1 = trace percentage)  
 CNT = Count, DEC = Decay Class, LEN = Length  
 SMALL = Small end diameter, LARGE = Large end diameter

Table 8 is a screenshot of the Common Stand Exam inventory plot – Ol Cleve Unit 5 Plot 2 (same as the photo point pictures (pages 16-18)) as seen on the *SMP FY11 Database*. The majority of the acronyms used in this table are defined in the bottom gray bar of the screenshot. Below is a brief explanation of these data presented in this table:

- Top Right Blue Table: Stand level data summary (TPA= trees per acre, TPP= trees per plot)
- Right and Left Salmon Colored Table: Plot level data summary
- Left White Table: Plot level tree data
- Center White Table: Vegetation data
- Left White Table: Down woody material data

## Section Seven: Stakeholder Field Trips

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### Field Trip # 1 Siuslaw Stewardship Group – July 20, 2012

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**Modified clear cut with riparian buffer below on ODF land**

The July 20, 2012 Siuslaw Stewardship Group field trip's purpose was to give participants an overview of ODF's forest management practices in the Siuslaw Basin and review of the Divide Thin stewardship timber sale. The field trip included four stops; two ODF timber sales, the viewing of Old Nelson Mountain burn and the Divide Thin stewardship timber sale.

The first stop was at Knapp Nose timber sale. Here, ODF gave an overview of state forest management, discussed recent regeneration harvests and the associated riparian leave areas. While traveling to stop number two, the group drove through Old Nelson Mountain burn and viewed a variety of

prescriptions by various landowners. At the Miller Head timber sale, Ole Buch and Link Smith discussed approaches to developing complex stand structures.

After lunch, the group visited several units in the Divide Thin stewardship timber sale. Here the group heard from a variety of perspectives, including that of the purchaser, contractors and the Forest Service timber sale administrator. The group reviewed work completed between 2004 and 2012, including tree topping, course wood creation and road closures.

### Field Trip # 2 Alsea Stewardship Group – August 8, 2012

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On August 8, 2012 the Alsea Stewardship Group held their annual field trip. The field trip included four stops including stops at the Beaver Creek Natural Area, North Beaver Creek, USFS Stand 505004 and a discussion of the proposed Corvallis to Sea Trail.

During the first stop at the Beaver Creek Natural Area, participants discussed the acquisition and future plans for the property. Speakers discussed the importance of this area to trout and salmon populations. The second stop at North Beaver Creek was used to discuss the primary goal of this area, which is to restore it to late-seral conditions through heavy thinning. Also discussed was the large wood placement projects that have occurred on the site.



**Beaver Creek State Natural Area**

At USFS Stand 505004, speakers discussed the different management strategies that had been used on this and adjacent stands and the implications of these decisions. These discussions included thinning prescriptions, the implications for species such as marbled murrelets and spotted owls. The final stop of the day was used to discuss historic and future plans for the proposed 60 mile Corvallis to Sea Trail.

### Field Trip # 3 Hebo Stewardship Group Field Trip – August 16, 2012

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**Field Trip participants viewing nectar plants**

The Hebo Stewardship Group had their field trip on August 16, 2012. This field trip focused on the history and geology of Mount Hebo and the ecology and habitat management of the federally threatened Oregon silverspot butterfly and its habitat.

Michelle Dragoo of the USFS explained the geology and the history of this area. This included two wildfires in 1845 and 1910, which are responsible for the early seral vegetation we see today, including the early blue violet and the Hebo fawn lily.

The group discussed the current status of the Oregon silverspot butterfly and the nectar species that support them. In addition, the group discussed challenges to stabilizing the butterfly populations, factors that will determine when it can be delisted and long term management strategies.

### Field Trip # 4 Marys Peak Stewardship Group Field Trip – August 23, 2012

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On August 23, 2012, the Marys Peak Stewardship Group met for their monthly meeting atop Marys Peak to combine a field trip with regular business.

The business discussions included updates from the Forest Service and updates on the coast range stewardship fund. Following this, Cindy McCain and Kraig Kidwell led a tour of stewardship projects that have been completed and discussed projects that are planned on the Peak. These projects included the Noble Fir Bough sale, which sold in early August, the Noble Fir thin, that will be advertised in the summer of 2013 and the meadow restoration project, which will be completed after the logging is completed.



**View of the meadow on Marys Peak**



Among the concerns that were raised was how best to inform the public of the projects that are going to be occurring on Marys Peak due to the degree of change the visitors will see. It was also mentioned that the Forest Service may consider closing the Peak to the public in order to get the work completed faster.

### Joint Stewardship Group Meeting – December 10, 2012

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The 2012 Joint Stewardship Group Meeting was held in Yachats Oregon at the Yachats Commons Building. Participants from all four of the local stewardship groups were in attendance along with two guest speakers.

The morning session of the meeting was a workshop used to discuss the current research relating to the northern spotted owl. Guest speaker Eric Forsmen, focused his discussion on the current research related to spotted owl population trends, competition from barred owls and habitat requirements of spotted owls.

Todd Wilson, the second guest speaker focused on the ecology of the major prey species of the Northern spotted owl, these being the Northern flying squirrel and the red tree vole.

After the spotted owl workshop, there was a catered lunch for those in attendance. The first order of business was a project “show and tell”. This was an opportunity for each of the four groups to showcase one of their Wyden projects for the group. Following a short break, Matt Mellenthin and Marc Barnes of IRM presented the draft multiparty monitoring report for FY11. IRM discussed the background of the monitoring report and presented the FTE job creation for FY11. After a group discussion of the report, Marc Barnes presented the group with a visual display of potential forest structures resulting from stewardship thinning, using the data collected as part of the multiparty monitoring.

Following the discussion of the multiparty monitoring report, the participants discussed stewardship reauthorization, and outreach. The final topics of the meeting were a debriefing of the 2012 project cycle, updates and announcements.

## Section Eight: Recommendations

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IRM has the following recommendations for future monitoring contracts. These changes relate to stewardship project tracking.

- Streamline reporting of end of the fiscal year accomplishments for Wyden projects to make biophysical accomplishment reporting more uniform. This can be accomplished by requiring grantees to provide an interim report detailing the expenditures and accomplishments for the project during the current fiscal year, due by the end of the year. This would allow accurate tracking of the biophysical accomplishments on an annual basis, rather than the current end of the project results.
- Host data for Microsoft Access database on a web-based server to allow for more security of data, provide more technological options and make platform more user friendly. Currently, the Microsoft Access database is a necessary tool to house data collected and analyzed. However access to these data can be complicated and cumbersome for the general public due to the fact that the application and data must be downloaded onto a personal computer (detailed instructions are available on the Cascade Pacific RC&D website). A web-based server would allow the public to browse to the Cascade Pacific RC&D website and navigate through these stewardship data with less background application knowledge required and no need to download the application or these large data files.