

Siuslaw National Forest Multiparty Stewardship Contracting Monitoring Report Fiscal Year 2013

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Executive Summary

Introduction and Purpose

This Multiparty Monitoring Report for Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13), documents and analyzes the biophysical accomplishments, economic impacts and stewardship monitoring that were 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

To determine the biophysical and economic impacts of stewardship contracting, data were analyzed from SNF stewardship timber sale 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 FY13, 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 FY13, there was a total of 14.54 million board feet (MMBF) of timber removed from stewardship timber sale contracts, \$555,479 spent on Forest Service retained receipts projects and \$190,377 spent on Wyden projects. The economic impact of these projects was the creation of 166 FTE jobs, which had an average wage of \$23.98 per hour. This resulted in \$8,023,749 earned by contractors and subcontractors and over \$722,137 paid in state taxes (based on a 9% state income tax assessment).

Section One: Introduction

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 FY13. 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) FY13Database*. 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/smartlist_41/meetings-publications/meetings-publications

About Stewardship Contracting

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 UFSF and the BLM 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

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 salmonoids 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

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 FY13

As most readers who are familiar with the *Fiscal Year 2012 Multiparty Monitoring Report* will notice, the content and format of the FY13 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 *FY13 Multiparty Monitoring Report*.

- Increased quantity of stand exam/photo point plots: During the FY13 field season, there were a total 22 stand exam/photo point plots installed across eight harvest units. These plots consisted of 9 pre-harvest plots and 13 post-harvest plots.

Section Three: Methods

In order to calculate the direct socioeconomic impacts of stewardship contracting on the SNF for FY13, 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 FY13 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 FY13. These data in their entirety resides in the *SMP FY13 Database*, which is available for download at:

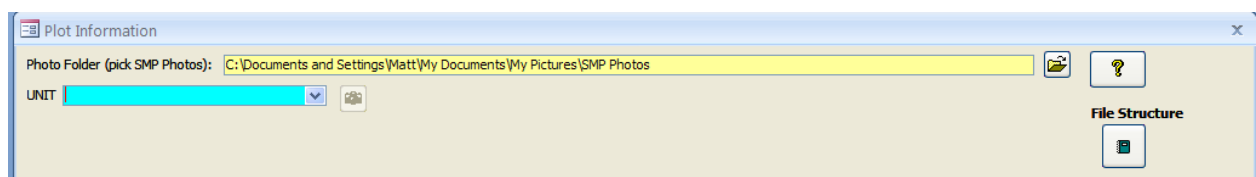
http://www.cascade-pacific-stewardship.org/smartlist_41/meetings-publications/meetings-publications

Below are directions for downloading and using the database.

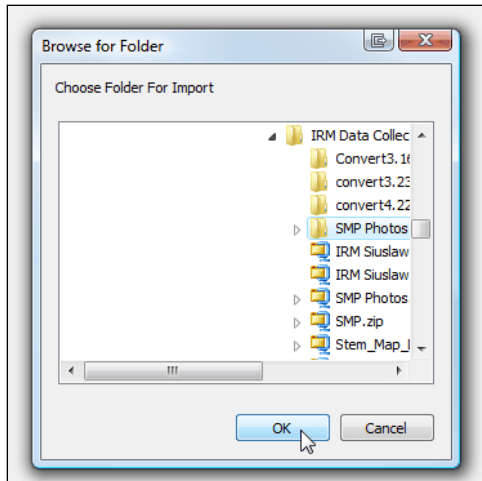
Deploying the Siuslaw Monitoring Project FY13

1. Download Siuslaw Monitoring Project FY13.
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 Microsoft 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 FY13 Database*.
2. Select the “Stewardship Monitoring” tab.
3. Click the dropdown to the right of the “Unit” tab and select “2011 Jeep Thin Unit: 1”
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 Jeep Thin Unit: 1” (Plot 2)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

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

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

Integrated Resource Service Contract:

The Integrated Resource Timber Contract (IRTC) formats (FS-2400-13 and 13T) were developed for exclusive use in implementing stewardship contracting projects when the value of goods exceeds the value of services. These contract formats combine product removal and service work. Only the Integrated Resource Timber Contract can be used to generate receipts for use on another stewardship contracting project.

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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 USFS using funds generated from stewardship contracts. These funds may not be used for USFS 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 USFS, using either an Integrated Resource Timber Contract (IRTC), or an Integrated Resource Service Contract (IRS C) as described above.

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 1st, 2005 authorizes the USFS to provide funds for projects on private and non-federal lands that benefit the National Forest.

Economic Definitions

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

Summary of Biophysical Accomplishments in FY13

The three types of biophysical accomplishments that are summarized in this section are: Forest Service stewardship timber sale contracts, Forest Service retained receipts projects and Wyden projects, which were completed during FY13 on or near the SNF.

Forest Service Stewardship Timber Sale 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 13 previously awarded stewardship timber sale contracts on the SNF during FY13. Six of these contracts were held by Georgia Pacific, four were held by the Swanson Group and two held by B&G Logging. There was a total of 14.54 MMBF of timber removed from the SNF during FY13 from the combined 13 stewardship contracts.

The major biophysical accomplishments achieved through stewardship contracts across the 13 stewardship timber sales during FY13 were as follows:

- 903 acres of late successional reserve (LSR) enhancement (commercial thinning)
- Total of 14.54 MMBF of timber harvested
- 1695 snags created
- 5 miles of road log out and brushing
- 20 hours of mechanical road day lighting
- 1,311 pieces of dead wood created
- 8 acres of noxious weed control

- 9,448 acres of upland site preparation and under planting
- 1.75 miles of road decommissioning
- 250 acres of false brome monitoring

Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

Forest Service retained receipts are funds that are received from the sale of forest products removed under a Forest Service stewardship timber sale 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 FY13 there were eight active retained receipts projects, which expended a total of \$555,479. The major biophysical accomplishments include:

- 1.52 miles of road decommissioned
- 23 acres of Silverspot butterfly habitat restoration
- 1.5 miles of road reconstruction to improve water quality
- 317 acres of meadow habitat maintained
- 1 bridge replaced
- 500 acres of Snowy Plover habitat restoration and protection

Wyden Projects

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 provide 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. Agreement to protect, restore or enhance natural resources may be with governmental, private and/or nonprofit entities. There was a total of \$190,377 of retained receipts from Forest Service stewardship timber sale contracts expended to fund the 11 active Wyden projects in FY13. 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 FY13 versus previous years of multi-year contracts. The cumulative quantifiable accomplishments of these multi-year contracts are greater than:

- 124 acres of noxious weed control
- 83 acres of native planting and protection
- 5 culverts replaced
- .5 miles of stream log placement projects
- 2 graded riffles created
- 1 dam repaired

Section Five: Economic Impacts

Overview of all Fiscal Year 2013 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 timber sale 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, represent 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 FY13*, which can be downloaded at Cascade Pacific RC&D's website.

Forest Service Stewardship Timber Sale Contracts

There were a total of 13 stewardship timber sale contracts being actively thinned in FY13. B&G Logging, Georgia Pacific and the Swanson Group purchased a total of 14.54 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 13th, 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/, a federal wage determination website) are contained within the *SMP FY13 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 sale contracts as a whole.

Table 1– FY13 Forest Service Stewardship Timber Sale Contracts – Economic Data

County	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	State Taxes Paid
Benton, OR	74,752	\$1,612,830	37.08	\$21.58	\$145,154
Coos, OR	53,490	\$1,337,241	26.53	\$25.00	\$120,351
Lane, OR	184,978	\$4,539,556	91.76	\$24.54	\$408,560
Lincoln, OR	11,890	\$297,262	5.90	\$25.00	\$26,753
Marion, OR	676	\$18,698	0.34	\$27.64	\$1,682.87
Tillamook, OR	2,108	\$42,162	1.05	\$20.00	\$3,794.63
<i>Total</i>	<i>327,895</i>	<i>\$7,847,752</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>\$23.93</i>	<i>\$706,297</i>

Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

During FY13, there were a total of eight projects active on SNF property that was 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 Forest Service retained receipts projects completed on SNF property as a whole.

Table 2 – FY13 Forest Retained Receipts Projects – Economic Data

County	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	State Taxes Paid
Benton, OR	1,206	\$30,850	0.60	\$25.57	\$2,776
Lane, OR	471	\$9,667	0.23	\$20.53	\$870
Multnomah, OR	983	\$24,000	0.49	\$24.41	\$2,160
Tillamook, OR	1,022	\$21,938	0.51	\$21.47	\$1,974
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,682</i>	<i>\$86,455</i>	<i>1.83</i>	<i>\$23.48</i>	<i>\$7,781</i>

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 FY13 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 FY13 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 data broken down by county for the 11 Wyden projects worked on during FY13.

Table 3– FY13 Wyden Projects – Economic Data

County	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	State Taxes Paid
Benton, OR	657	\$17,813	0.33	\$27.11	\$1,603
Coos, OR	742	\$25,974	0.37	\$35.00	\$2,338
Flathead County, MT	57	\$2,000	0.03	\$35.00	\$180
Lane, OR	218	\$3,750	0.11	\$17.23	\$338
Lincoln, OR	1,052	\$35,852	0.52	\$34.09	\$3,227
Tillamook, OR	19	\$678	0.01	\$35.00	\$61
Yamhill, OR	216	\$3,475	0.11	\$16.06	\$313
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,962</i>	<i>\$89,541</i>	<i>1.47</i>	<i>\$30.23</i>	<i>\$8,059</i>

Summary of Economic Impacts Combined Across All Three Project Types for FY13

Table 4 summarizes these economic data broken down by county for all projects completed with stewardship funds during FY13.

Table 4 – Economic Data for all FY13 Projects

County	Person Hours Worked	\$ Earned	FTE Jobs	Avg. Wage	State Taxes Paid
Benton, OR	76,616	\$1,661,493	38.00	\$21.69	\$149,534
Coos, OR	54,232	\$1,363,216	26.90	\$25.14	\$122,689
Flathead County, MT	57	\$2,000	0.03	\$35.00	\$180
Lane, OR	185,667	\$4,552,974	92.10	\$24.52	\$409,768
Lincoln, OR	12,942	\$333,114	6.42	\$25.74	\$29,980
Marion, OR	676	\$18,699	0.34	\$27.64	\$1,683
Multnomah, OR	983	\$24,000	0.49	\$24.41	\$2,160
Tillamook, OR	3,149	\$64,778	1.56	\$20.57	\$5,830
Yamhill, OR	216	\$3,475	0.11	\$16.06	\$313
<i>Total</i>	<i>334,539</i>	<i>\$8,023,749</i>	<i>166.00</i>	<i>\$23.98</i>	<i>\$722,137</i>

New Projects Approved for Fiscal Year 2014

There have been a series of new projects approved by the USFS that will become active during Fiscal Year 2014 (FY13). These projects (Tables 5-7) will be actively monitored along with the ongoing projects from FY12 and included in the following year's monitoring report. The new projects approved for FY14 are as follows:

Forest Service Stewardship Timber Sale Contracts

Table 5– FY14 Approved Forest Service Stewardship Timber Sale Contracts

Project Name
Choker Thin Stewardship Contract
Drew Thin Stewardship Contract
High Tide Thin Stewardship Contract
Noble Thin Stewardship Contract

Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

Table 6 – FY14 Approved Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

Project Number	Project Name	Stewardship \$ Approved
FS-089	Living with Beaver	\$15,000
FS-090	Marys Peak Meadow Restoration	\$18,400
FS-091	Grass Creek Culvert Replacement	\$80,000
FS-092	Shotpouch & Sugarbowl Roads – Maintenance & Stabilization	\$52,000
FS-093	Henderson Creek Road Decommissioning	\$50,000
FS-094	CCRD Silverspot Butterfly Habitat Restoration	\$35,000
FS-095	CCRD Meadow Maintenance	\$37,000
FS-096	ORBIC Plover Nest Protection	\$55,000
FS-097	APHIS-WS Plover Predator Management	\$60,000
FS-098	2014 Fivemile Bell Restoration, Phase II	\$135,000
FS-099	Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement/EBG Control	\$58,000
<i>Total</i>		<i>\$595,400</i>

Wyden Projects

Table 7 – FY14 Approved Wyden Projects

Project Number	Project Name	Stewardship \$ Approved
WY-A14-18	Mill Creek Riparian Restoration	\$18,739
WY-A14-19	Sugarbowl Creek Riparian Restoration	\$60,799
WY-A14-20	Yachats River Knotweed Sites Restoration	\$23,752
WY-A14-21	Poole Slough Preserve Habitat Improvement	\$27,819
WY-H14-22	Upper Five Rivers Salmon & Elk Habitat Restoration	\$40,754
WY-H14-04	Bower Creek Fish Passage Enhancement	\$66,700
WY-H14-05	Tillamook SWCD Invasive Species Control	\$16,408
WY-M14-13	The Old Peak Meadow Habitat Enhancement	\$54,752
WY-M14-14	Lower Woods Creek Stream Enhancement	\$91,300
WY-S14-15	Siuslaw Riparian Restoration 2015 and 2016	\$84,916
WY-S14-16	Fiddle & Morris Creeks Riparian	\$88,900
<i>Total</i>		<i>\$574,839</i>

Section Six: Implementation Monitoring

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) photo point plots. The *SMP FY13 Database* provides access and analysis of all of these monitoring data.

Photo Point Monitoring

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 FY13 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 FY13 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 9 sets of pre-harvest photos and 13 post-harvest photos. On the following pages are examples of pre and post-harvest photo points taken on the Jeep Thin Stewardship Timber Sale. The *SMP FY13 Database* provides the user with the ability to view all the photos.

Jeep Thin Unit 1 Plot 2



North 2009



North 2011



North 2014



East 2009



East 2011



East 2014

Jeep Thin Unit 1 Plot 2



South 2009



South 2011



South 2014



West 2009



West 2011



West 2014

Jeep Thin Unit 1 Plot 2



Overhead 2009



Overhead 2011



Overhead 2014

Common Stand Exam Data Collection

The purpose of the Common Stand Exam (CSE) monitoring is to collect pre-harvest ecological data in order to establish a baseline to track changes in stand dynamics post-harvest. To accomplish this, there were (41), 1/10th 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. Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) was the first year that post-harvest data had been collected. There were a total of 9 pre-harvest stand exam plots and 13 post-harvest stand exam plots installed or re-measured in FY13. 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 Jeep Thin stewardship timber sale as can be seen in the *SMP FY13 Database* (same plot as the photo points shown above).

As part of the Fiscal Year 2009 (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 - FY13 seasons, 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)

Plot Information

Photo Folder (pick SMP Photos): C:\Users\Matt\Pictures\SMP Photos

UNIT 2010 Jeep Thin Unit: 1

PLOT	Elevation-ft	Aspect-deg	Cruise Date
1	1181	290	4/5/2011
2	1206	248	4/5/2011

DBH	TPA	BA	%DF	%WH	%RA	%BM	%CH	#Plots	TPP
17.6	85	159	76%	0%	0%	6%	18%	2	8.5

PP_PLOT	DBH	TPA	BA	%DF	%WH	%RA	%BM	%CH	#Plots	TPP
JT.U1.P1	17.5	70	122	86%	0%	0%	14%	0%	1	7.0
JT.U1.P2	17.6	100	197	70%	0%	0%	0%	30%	1	10.0

File Structure

Compare

PLOT	TREE	SPC	DBH	STAT	HT	CBHT	CC	AGE	RG10	SP	HT	COVPCT	CNT	DEC	LEN	LARGE	SMALL
2	24	DF	23.5	L	119	62	CO	0	0	POMU	2	30	1	1	19	8	4
2	25	DF	13.1	L	95	66	IN	0	0	ACCI	14	5	1	1	6	7	4
2	26	DF	26.8	L	131	67	DO	41	4	OXOR	1	3	1	5	12	16	4
2	27	CH	7.8	L	98	64	IN	0	0	GRASS	1	2	1	5	21	48	35
2	28	CH	7.8	L	91	62	IN	0	0	LUPIN	1	1	1	1	6	7	5
2	29	CH	9.3	L	97	65	IN	0	0	DIFO	1	1					
2	30	DF	21.1	L	132	88	DO	0	0	ASCA	1	1					
2	31	DF	24.2	L	118	71	CO	0	0								
2	32	DF	25.1	L	134	80	DO	0	0								
2	33	DF	17.3	L	114	77	CO	0	0								

Plot Information for Comparison Unit

UNIT 2013 Jeep Thin Unit: 1

PLOT	Elevation-ft	Aspect-deg	Cruise Date
1	1181	290	11/17/2014
2	1206	248	11/18/2014

DBH	TPA	BA	%DF	%WH	%RA	%BM	%CH	#Plots	TPP
17.7	75	144	73%	0%	0%	7%	20%	2	7.5

PP_PLOT	DBH	TPA	BA	%DF	%WH	%RA	%BM	%CH	#Plots	TPP
JT.U1.P1	17.5	60	103	83%	0%	0%	17%	0%	1	6.0
JT.U1.P2	17.7	90	184	67%	0%	0%	0%	33%	1	9.0

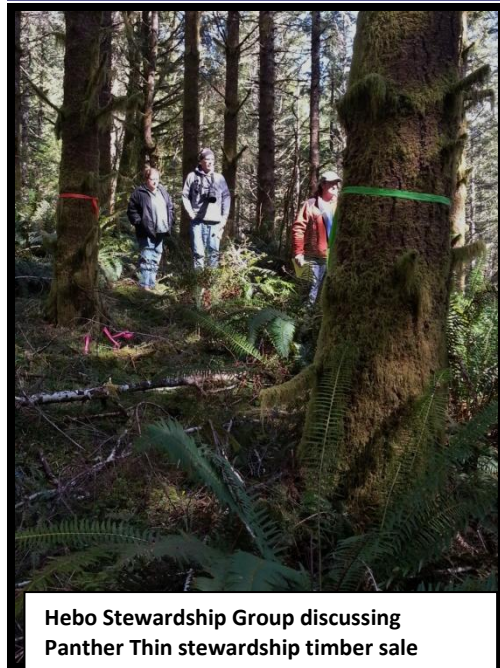
Num Lock

Table 8 is a screenshot of the Common Stand Exam inventory plot –Jeep Thin Unit 1 Plot 2 (same as the photo point pictures (pages 16-18)) as seen on the *SMP FY13 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)
- Top and Bottom 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

Field Trip # 1 Hebo Stewardship Group – March 21, 2014



Hebo Stewardship Group discussing Panther Thin stewardship timber sale

On March 21, 2014, the Hebo Stewardship Group held their annual stewardship group field trip. The two sites that were included in this field trip included a stop at the 1888-111 road to discuss road management issues as well as a stop at Panther Thin, a recent stewardship timber sale.

The major topics that were discussed at the first stop included the following:

- Current project plan for road
- Reasons for road management (decommissioning vs. storage)
- Anticipated impacts on water quality and fisheries
- Anticipated impacts on public use

At the second stop, the group discussed the silviculture of Panther Thin, including the objectives and prescriptions. In addition, the impacts to wildlife, water quality and fisheries were discussed in both short and long term timeframes.

This stop at Panther Thin was also used to discuss the thinning gaps associated with the operations. Topics included: cut/leave tree demo, snag and down wood creation and wind throw concerns.

Field Trip # 2 Siuslaw Stewardship Group Field Trip – August 28, 2014

The 2014 field trip for the Siuslaw Stewardship Group was held at Siltcoos Beach at the Oregon Dunes.

The group discussed several issues that relate to Snowy plover & dunes restoration including:

- Snowy plover nest protection
- Predator control issues
- Habitat restoration projects

The group participants made stops at several restoration areas including Old Waxmyrtle sand route, Dunes overlook beach, Waxmyrtle camp ground, Siltcoos day-use beach and Breach Sand Route.



Siuslaw Stewardship Group at the Oregon Dunes

Field Trip # 3 Marys Peak Stewardship Group Field Trip – October 17, 2014

The Marys Peak Stewardship Group (MPSG) field trip on October 17th was used to discuss activities included as part of the Bridge Thin stewardship timber sale and to learn about the watershed education program the MPSG supported last year.

Key topics discussed during the Bridge Thin tour included, snag & down wood creation, false brome monitoring, seedling planting and road decommissioning. The key tour guides for this field trip were Van Decker of B & G logging and Jennifer Ward, City of Corvallis Watershed Program Specialist.

Following the discussion of Bridge Thin, the group discussed the watershed education program that was supported by the MPSG.



Field trip participant discussing operations at Bridge Thin

Field Trip # 4 Alsea Stewardship Group Meeting – October 21, 2014



In lieu of a field trip for 2014, the Alsea Stewardship Group (ASG) chose to ask Kim Nelson, researcher at OSU give a presentation in addition to the monthly meeting agenda items.

The meeting comenses with standard introductions, updates and anouncements, led by Kirk Shimeall. Following the business agenda, the group welcomed Kim Nelson for her presentation on Marbled murrelets. Some of the topics that we discussed were as follows:

- Discussion on the background of the species
- Habitat issues facing the murrelet
- Potential management strategies to help the species recovery
- Actions that the Alsea Stewardship Group can pursue to help the species

Following the presentation, the group discussed the 2014 Coast Range Fund project proposals and Forest Service projects selected for stewardship funding.