

Project – North Fork Smith

The next watershed-scale restoration project on the Central Coast Ranger District – Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area is in the area of the North Fork of the Smith River. The project is referred to as the NF Smith Project and is focused on terrestrial restoration.

The project web site where information will be posted and available to the public is located here:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59122>

Project Location

The project area is located approximately 11.5 air miles northeast of Reedsport, Oregon – Douglas County; and about 7 air miles east of Dunes City, Oregon, and about 11 air miles southeast of Florence, Oregon – both in Lane County). The northern portion of the project area lies within Lane County and the southern portion (the majority of the project area) is in Douglas County.

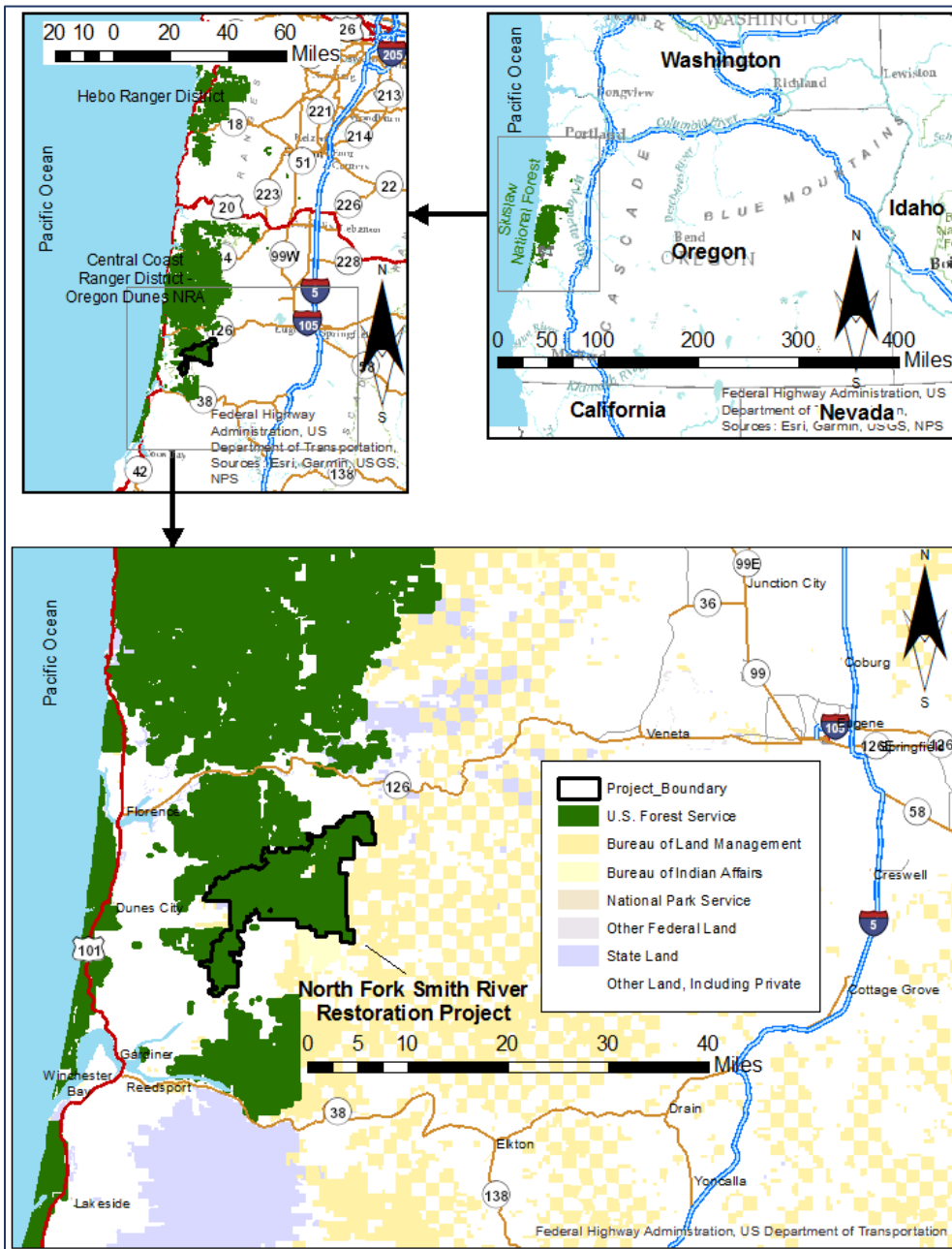


Figure 1. Vicinity map

Ownership

The project area is about 39,440 acres (Table 2) and is located in two counties – Lane and Douglas counties, Oregon.

Table 1. Landownership in the project area.

Ownership	Acres	%
Bureau of Land Management	2	0.01%
County	39	0.10%
Private	897	2.27%
Siuslaw National Forest	38,502	97.62%
Summary	39,440	100.0%

The majority of the land within the project area boundary is administered by the the Siuslaw National Forest (<97%, ~38,500 acres) with private ownership totaling about 900 acres, or about 2.3% of the area.

Table 2. Townships, ranges, sections, and partial sections that the project is located within.

Township South	Range West	Sections (All)	Section (Partial)
18S	9W	34	26, 27, 28, 32, 33, 35
19S	10W	13, 14, 15, 19 - 31, 34 - 36	1, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 32, 33
19S	11W	25	24, 23, 26
19S	9W	4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 17 - 20, 29 - 32	2, 3, 6, 21, 28, 33
20S	10W	None	1, 5, 6, 7, 18, 19, 30
20S	11W	13, 24, 25	12, 14, 23, 26, 35, 36
20S	9W	5, 6, 9	4, 7, 8

Timeline

Request: Provide a project calendar

Current amended regulations have imposed a 1-year limit on completing an environmental assessment and a 75-page length limit.

The IDT members would like to conduct some pre-scoping this summer. We would like to get a proposed action designed and out for scoping by the fall of this year. Scoping will give the team a better understanding of the final project timeline.

Current estimates (subject to change) project that the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) would be available for a 30-day public comment period in the winter of 2021/22 and the Final EA and Draft Decision projected to be available for a 45-day objection period in the summer of 2022.

Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) Members

Request: List of IDT members and when/if they are unavailable. How do provide specialist's availability?

Table 1 lists the interdisciplinary team (IDT) members for the project.

- Team members are typically unavailable on weekends, holidays, and outside of normal work hours during the workweek. Availability during these times will need to be prearranged.
- If a team member plans extended time away (**more than 2 weeks?**), we will share that information as it becomes available.
 - We are unable to determine in advance if a specialist will seek another opportunity that makes them either temporarily or permanently unavailable.
- David Orozco, GS-09 wildlife biologist in Waldport, has accepted a promotion to the District Wildlife Biologist Position in Region 3 with the Cibola National Forest, Magdalena Ranger District. David has been with the district since 2018, and fortunately for us, he has generously set his start date for late April-ish to help us transition workloads before he goes. Thank you and congratulations, David!
- Wildlife Staff that have recently joined the district
 - Meagan Campbell - FS <Meagan.Campbell@usda.gov>; (Temporary hire)
 - Kate Cronin - FS <Kate.Cronin@usda.gov>; (Permanent)
 - Mycah Scoggins - FS Mycah.Scoggins@usda.gov; (Permanent)

Table 3. NF Smith Project Interdisciplinary Team Members

Team Member	Roles	Phone	Email
Armstrong, Rachel	DRM GIS	541-563-8450	rachel.armstrong@usda.gov
Burns, Paul	Fisheries biologist	541-991-6554	paul.burns@usda.gov
Depue, Opal	Fire and fuels	541-782-5254	opal.depue@usda.gov
Fisher, Chuck	Project Leader	541-563-8406	lawrence.fisher@usda.gov
Hoyt, Howard	Silviculturist	541-563-8453	howard.hoyt@usda.gov
Kirkpatrick, Molly	Archaeology	541-563-8410	molly.kirkpatrick@usda.gov
Largent, Kacy	Hydrologist	541-563-8457	kacey.largent@usda.gov
Mathews, Dan	Recreation	541-271-6082	Daniel.Matthews1@usda.gov
Rebischke, Armand	Botanist	541-563-8419	armand.rebischke@usda.gov
Sanders, Rob	Transportation planner	541-750-7080	robert.sanders@usda.gov
Toole, Benjamin	Wildlife biologist	541-563-8452	Benjamin.Toole@usda.gov
Vogel, Donni	District Planner	541-563-8416	donni.vogel@usda.gov
Wangerin, Karl	Logging systems	541-563-8459	karl.wangerin@usda.gov