



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salem District Office  
1717 Fabry Road S.E.  
Salem, Oregon 97306  
<http://www.or.blm.gov/salem/>



In Reply Refer To:  
5410 (ORS040)  
Airstrip  
EA DOI-BLM-OR-S040-2009-0004-EA

DEC 21 2009

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is considering a forest management project in the Cascades Resource Area of the BLM, Salem District. The purpose of this project is to promote economic benefit, timber production, forest productivity, and habitat restoration. All forest management activities would be in accordance with Salem District's Resource Management Plan (RMP, May 1995). The proposed project would take place within the matrix and riparian land use allocations (LUA) (RMP p. 8). The proposed project area includes analysis for treatment of approximately 325 acres of 40-70 year old forest stands on BLM-administered lands. The BLM will consider thinning approximately 277 acres within the matrix and riparian LUA and will consider regeneration harvest on approximately 48 acres within the general forest management Area (GFMA) portion of the matrix land use allocation.

Within the matrix land use allocation, objectives include providing for sustainable forest commodities, local employment, community stability, ecosystem connectivity, native habitat, and important ecological functions. In riparian reserves, where appropriate, thinning would take place in compliance with the aquatic conservation strategy, and to contribute to attainment of nine aquatic conservation strategy objectives (e.g. development of additional structural and spatial diversity, the protection of aquatic resources, and riparian dependent species). Other potential activities include development, maintenance, and management of transportation systems to meet needs identified under various resource programs (i.e. construction, renovation, or decommissioning for habitat improvement, maintenance of water quality, or recreation in conjunction with thinning).

The Airstrip project is in the Clackamas watershed approximately 6 miles southeast of the city of Estacada in Clackamas County, Oregon. The proposed thinning units are located within Township 4 South, Range 5 East; Section 7, 18 West, Willamette Meridian (see enclosed map).

You have been identified as someone who might have specific knowledge or interest in this area. The purpose of this letter is to give you an opportunity to share any information or concerns you may have about the project. The input you provide will help an interdisciplinary team of BLM natural resource specialists to develop design features for the project and to assess the potential environmental effects.

The enclosed maps show the locations of the proposed harvest units, stand age, and topography. Detailed maps are available upon request. Also enclosed are project comment forms. I would appreciate your written comments by January 22, 2010. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Salem District Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of environmental analysis documents or related correspondence<sup>1</sup>.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Erick Stemmerman at (503) 375-5679 or by email to Erick\_Stemmerman@blm.gov. Written comments may be sent to Cindy Enstrom, Cascades Field Manager, BLM – Salem District, 1717 Fabry Road SE, Salem, Oregon 97306.

Sincerely,



Cindy Enstrom  
Field Manager, Cascades Resource Area

Enclosures

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<sup>1</sup> Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.