

## Forest Management

### Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon



#### **Background:**

Forest Management refers to the science of managing forested landscapes. Management policy depends on the geography, topography, climate, existing laws, and philosophy of the land owner. In the Pacific Northwest, the BLM manages forests according to existing federal regulations and agency policy.

Through the Resource Management Plans (RMPs), the BLM will determine and declare the allowable sale quantity (ASQ)—the timber volume that a forest can produce continuously under the intensity of management described in the RMPs for those lands allocated for sustained-yield timber production. The BLM will make the determination and declaration of the ASQ for each of the six sustained-yield units, which match the five western Oregon BLM district boundaries and the western portion of the Klamath Falls Field Office in the Lakeview District. The consolidation of the Eugene and Salem Districts will not alter the existing sustained-yield unit boundaries.

#### **Key Points:**

- **Even-aged** systems with clear-cutting would produce more uniform stands in a mix of age classes without structural legacies. **Uneven-aged** management systems with selection harvesting regimes would produce mostly older, structurally-complex stands, and mature forests with multiple canopy layers.
- The ASQ under the alternatives would range from 120 million board feet (MMbf) per year under Sub-alternative B to 486 MMbf per year under Alternative C. The ASQ under the Proposed RMP would be 205 MMbf per year. The ASQ is primarily determined by the size of the Harvest Land Base, the intensity of forest management practices, and restrictions on timber harvest.
- Non-ASQ timber harvest volumes in the first decade would range from 4 MMbf per year under Alternative D to 122 MMbf per year under the No Action alternative. Non-ASQ timber harvest volume in the first decade for the Proposed RMP would be 73 MMbf per year.
- The proportion of harvest volume coming from large logs (i.e., > 20" diameter at the small end of the log inside the bark) would be lowest under Sub-alternative C, at 5 percent of total harvest volume, and highest under the No Action alternative and Alternative C, at 14 percent of total harvest volume.



The proportion of harvest volume coming from large logs would be 9 percent under the Proposed RMP.

The Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon will determine how the BLM-administered lands in western Oregon will be managed , to produce a sustained yield of timber products, to further the recovery of threatened and endangered species, to provide for clean water, to restore fire-adapted ecosystems, to provide for recreation opportunities, and to coordinate management of lands surrounding the Coquille Forest with the Coquille Tribe.

For more information, please visit the BLM's Resource Management Plans of western Oregon website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon/index.php>.