



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Roseburg District Office
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, Oregon 97471
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg>

AUG 20 2019

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DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2019-0004-EA

Umpqua Sweets Harvest Plan Environmental Assessment

Dear recipient,

The Swiftwater Field Office of the Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is beginning the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Umpqua Sweets Harvest Plan. The BLM is initiating scoping, a process by which the BLM solicits internal and external input on the issues, impacts, and potential alternatives that will be addressed in the Umpqua Sweets Harvest Plan EA. I am inviting you to share any concerns or specific information about the proposed action.

The Swiftwater Field Office proposes commercial thinning and regeneration harvest on approximately 2,000 acres of forested stands aged 41-160 years old and approximately 500 acres of fuels treatments and tree tipping outside harvest units in the Middle North Umpqua River, Rock Creek, Little River, and Lower North Umpqua River watersheds. Potential harvest units and fuels treatments have been identified in the Harvest Land Base—Low Intensity Timber Area (LITA), Moderate Intensity Timber Area (MITA), Riparian Reserve (RR), Congressionally Reserved and National Conservation Lands, District Defined Reserves (DDR) and Late Successional Reserve (LSR) land use allocations (LUAs) under the 2016 Northwestern and Coastal Oregon Record of Decision/Resource Management Plan (NCO ROD/RMP).

Desired outcomes would include contributing toward the declared Allowable Sale Quantity (NCO ROD/RMP, pp. 5-8, 59); adjusting the age class distribution (NCO ROD/RMP, p. 59); restoration of riparian areas (NCO ROD/RMP, pp. 68-73); reducing stand susceptibility to disturbances such as fire (NCO ROD/RMP, p. 66); modifying fuel profiles; and improve fire management opportunities (NCO ROD/RMP, pp. 77-78).

Proposed project activities include yarding corridors, snag creation, approximately 92 miles of road maintenance/renovation, and approximately 12 miles of road construction. Roads may also be decommissioned as part of the proposed action.

Potential harvest units are located in the following legal description, Willamette Meridian, Oregon (see vicinity map):

- T. 25 S., R. 2 W., Sections 15, 21, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35
- T. 26 S., R. 2 W., Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 30, and 31
- T. 26 S., R. 3 W., Sections 1, 11, 13, and 25

Commenting

The BLM welcomes substantive comments on this proposal by September 18, 2019. Comments that will assist BLM are those that clearly and succinctly:

- 1) Identify issues for analysis. An issue will be analyzed if:
 - a) Analysis of this issue is necessary to make a reasoned choice among alternatives; or
 - b) The issue may be associated with a potentially significant environmental impact
- 2) Provide information that would be of use in analyzing environmental effects of the action
- 3) Provide alternative means by which the BLM could meet its purpose and need for the proposal

You may submit your comments to Mike Korn: Bureau of Land Management
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg OR, 97471

Comments may also be submitted via email at: blm_or_rb_mail@blm.gov. Please specify the project name in the subject line of your email.

The interdisciplinary team will consider your comments during further development of the proposed action, any alternative actions, and project design features. The proposed action and alternatives will be analyzed and the results documented in an EA as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Upon completion of the EA, there will be an opportunity for public comment. We anticipate the EA will be available for public comment in the fall of 2019. A copy of the EA will be made available on the BLM National NEPA Register (ePlanning), and will also be sent to those that request it or are on the District's mailing list to receive an EA.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have further questions, or require other information, please visit our office or contact me at the Roseburg Bureau of Land Management (541) 440-4930.

The BLM thanks you for your interest in public land management!

Sincerely,

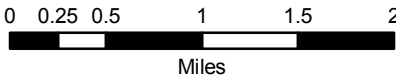
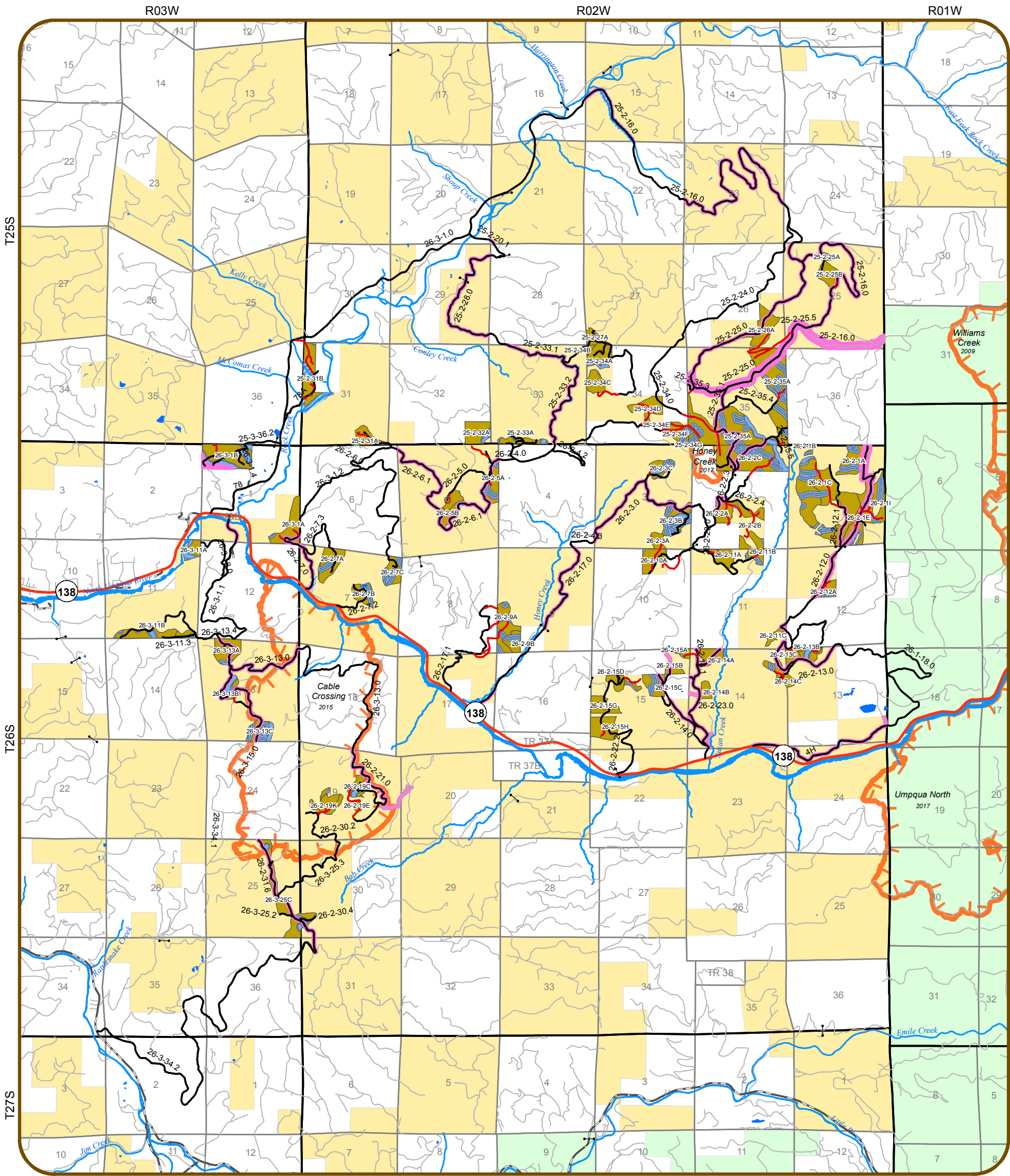


Mike Korn
Field Manager
Swiftwater Field Office

Enclosure



Umpqua Sweets Harvest Plan Vicinity Map

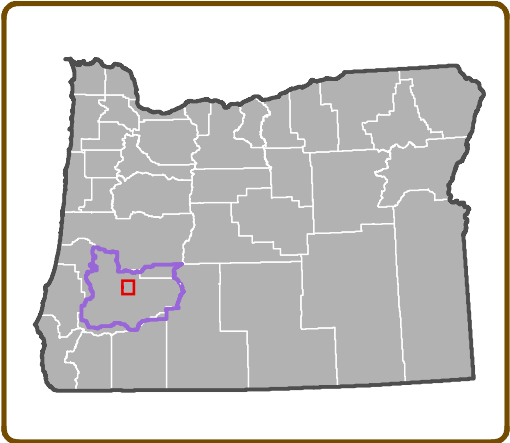


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|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Gate | Umpqua Sweets Unit |
| Road Construction | Umpqua Sweets Riparian Reserve |
| Haul Route | Riparian Reserve - Tree Tipping |
| State Highway | Fuels Treatment |
| County Road | BLM |
| Existing Road | US Forest Service |
| Major Stream | Private Individual or Company |
| Major River | Fire History |

1 inch = 5,280 feet



Date: 8/19/2019



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