



# SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT UPDATE

Printed quarterly by the Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor's Office

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[www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw)

**FALL 2003**

## **THIESS INTERNATIONAL RIVERPRIZE FINALIST**

**BACKGROUND:** The Siuslaw River Basin Restoration project was selected as a finalist for the prestigious Thiess International Riverprize, which recognizes excellence in river management and provides incentive to further the worldwide effort of restoring healthy rivers. The Siuslaw River Basin was one of five finalists out of 15 nominations worldwide. Other finalists include: restoration of the Danube River submitted by the World Wide Fund for Nature; the Fu-Nan Rivers, China; the Alexander River, Israel and Palestine; and the Arvari River, Rajasthan State, India. Each project was judged on the basis of program delivery, participation by communities and partners, accountability and innovation. The winning project was the Alexander River, Israel and Palestine.

## **SIUSLAW RIVER BASIN PARTNERS:**

Siuslaw National Forest

Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Siuslaw National Forest

John Hancock Timber Co.

Florence Salmon Trout Enhancement Program

Siuslaw Watershed Council

Siuslaw Institute

National Forest Foundation

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Pacific Rivers Council

Siuslaw & Mapleton School Districts

## **ACTIONS:**

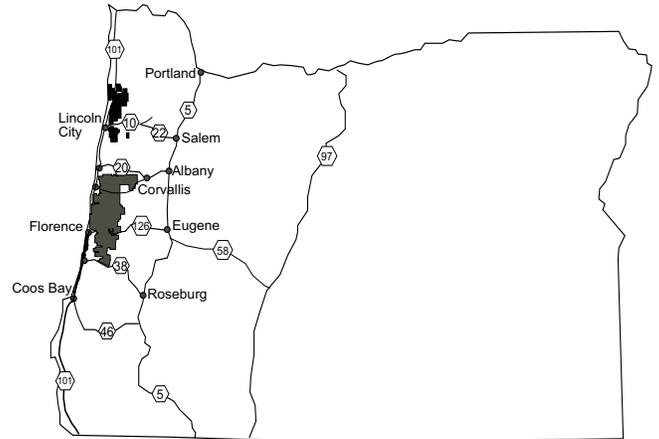
**Knowles Creek Restoration – *Building a Base of Knowledge*** – this stream, degraded by log drives and forest management to an unproductive bedrock channel, spawned over 15 years of collaborative commitment to restoration by industrial timber, environmental and government organizations. The restoration strategy focused initially on protection of the very limited existing high quality habitat followed by the restoration of stream function through the introduction of large wood and boulders and recovery of riparian forests. In-stream structural elements slowed flows facilitating the deposition of gravels, accumulation of debris, and reconnection of floodplains. The restored stream now has deep, complex pools, high flow refuge areas for aquatic organisms and recovering salmon populations. This project has a strong scientific investigation and monitoring component, which involves the local school district.

**Deadwood Enhancement Project – *Encouraging Local Participation*** – community participation has resulted in 16 landowners implementing projects on their land and over 20 miles of in-stream and riparian restoration. The community is committed to working with natural resource agencies both federal, and private to facilitate compromises which control erosion, restore water quality, and create coho salmon habitat. With the completion of this project, restoration activities in the Deadwood Creek watershed, a key coho salmon refuge area, will be considered complete.

**Karnowsky Creek Restoration Project – *Integrating Activities and Learning Opportunities*** –The Karnowsky Creek Restoration project developed a restoration plan for an entire 1800-acre watershed. The restoration projects completed in the Karnowsky Creek watershed incorporates lessons learned from other projects already completed in the surrounding area. These projects include thinning plantations to create old forest structure, road decommissioning, constructing over 3 miles of stream channel using innovative state of the art techniques, introducing large wood to the stream channel and floodplains and replanting native vegetative communities. This whole watershed restoration project has been adopted by the local school district as an outdoor classroom and engages students and community members in understanding and caring for their environment. The project will result in improved water quality and anadromous fish and wildlife habitat in this tidally influenced valley bottom.

# Siuslaw National Forest

## Vicinity map



### *For More Information*

#### ***Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor's Office***

P.O. Box 1148, 4077 Research Way  
Corvallis, OR 97339  
Ph: (541) 750-7000; Fax: (541) 750-7234

#### ***Hebo Ranger District***

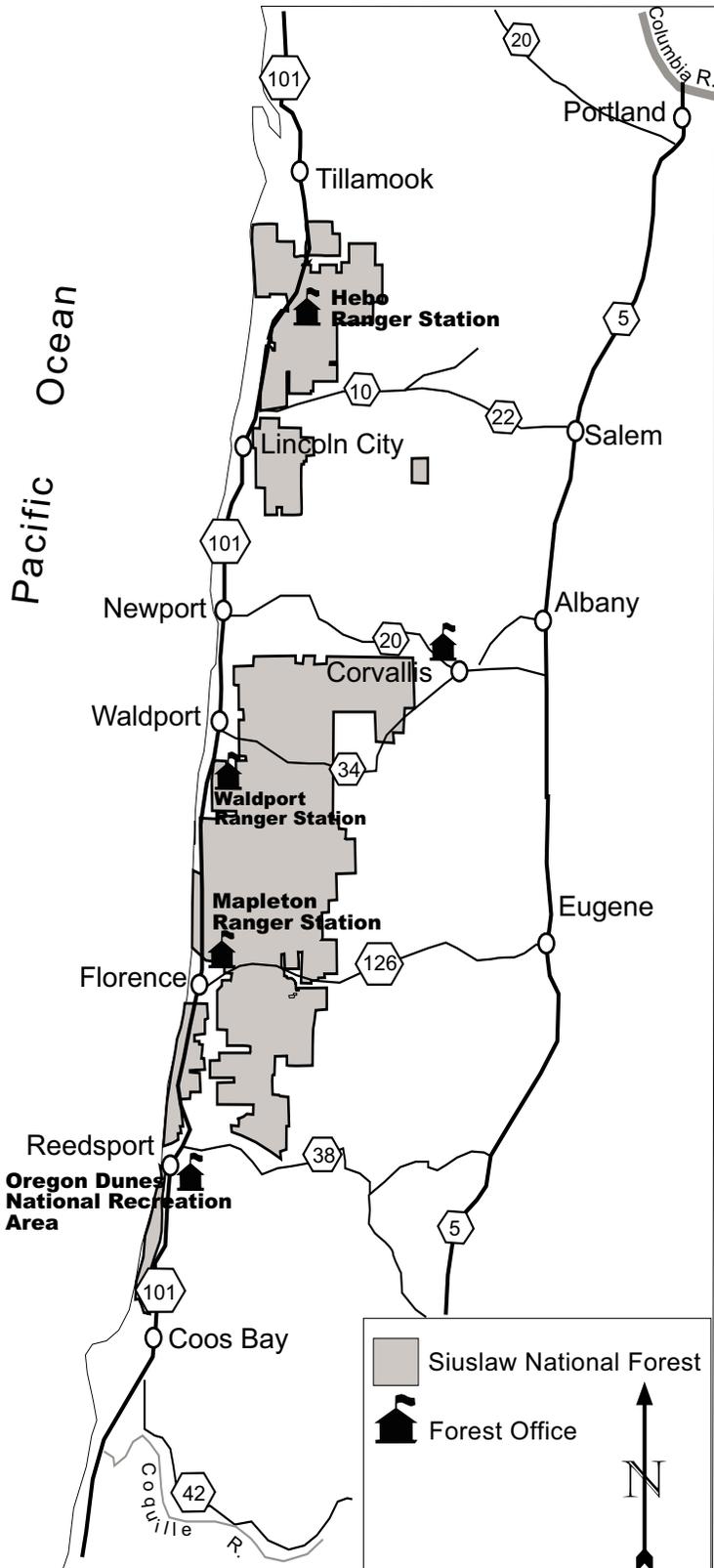
31525 Hwy 22  
Hebo, OR 97122  
Ph: (503) 392-3161; Fax: (503) 392-4203

#### ***South Zone Offices***

⇒ Waldport Ranger District  
P.O. Box 400  
Waldport, OR 97394  
Ph: (541) 563-3211; Fax (541) 563-3124

⇒ Mapleton Ranger District  
4480 Hwy 101 N, Bld G  
Florence, OR 97439  
Ph: (541) 902-8526; Fax: (541) 902-6946

⇒ Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area  
855 Hwy 101  
Reedsport, OR 97467  
Ph: (541) 271-3611; Fax: (541) 271-6017



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# Current Projects

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## Calendar Year SOPA Quarters

Winter Quarter: January 1 to March 31

Spring Quarter: April 1 to June 30

Summer Quarter: July 1 to September 30

Fall Quarter: October 1 to December 31

## Timing of Decisions

The projected decision dates in the following sections are best estimates based on predicted funding, weather conditions, project priorities, and overall scheduling of work. Although it is difficult to predict how and when these various factors will change project schedules, we will try to reflect any changes as accurately as possible as we update the Project Update each quarter.

## Lands and Minerals

### Fenton Small Tracts Act (formerly Lamm)

*South Zone, Mapleton RD  
T17S, R10W, S23*

Involves well house on USFA land.

*Status: Document Development*

*Decision: Fall 2003*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Mike Schwartz, 541-750-7175*

## Recreation

### OHV Sand Camping Project

*South Zone, ODNRA*

Motorized areas of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area

Designate 130 to 180 dispersed campsites in the motorized areas of the NRA; increase staging-area capacity at Horsfall and Hauser Staging Areas.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Winter 2004*

*Implementation: Spring 2004*

*Contact: Sharon Stewart, 541-271-6071*

## Road-Use

### Moon Creek Road Decommissioning

*Hebo RD*

*T3S, R8W, S19-23, 27-33; T3S, R9W, S12, 13, 22-24*

Analyze forest roads and identify roads that need to be waterbarred and closed due to maintenance concerns or unacceptable levels of risk to fish habitat.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Winter 2004*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Wayne Patterson, 503-392-3161*

### Yachats Watershed Roadwork Project

*South Zone, Waldport RD*

*T14S, R10, 11 & 12W; T15S, R10, 11, & 12W*

Decommission about 8.3 miles of non-key roads; close about 34.8 miles of non-key roads in watershed.

*Status: Document Development*

*Decision: Spring 2004*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Bruce Buckley, 541-563-3211*

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## Current Projects

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### Special Uses

#### Miscellaneous Special Use Permits

*Forest-Wide*  
Forest-wide

Water systems, roads, transmission lines, road easements, minerals, commercial haul, tailholds, concessions and recreation events.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Fall 2003*

*Implementation: Winter 2004*

*Contact: Linda Montanez, 541-563-3211*

#### Reeny's Reserve

*Hebo RD*  
T5S, R9W, S25

Construct about 1,000 feet of temporary road to provide access to Boise Building Solutions land. Also included are tailhold trees and use of Forest Road 2282 for timber haul.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Winter 2004*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Brent Erskine, 503-392-3161*

### Timber Sales

#### Windjammer Project

*Hebo RD*  
T7 & 8S, R10W

Commercially thin approximately 1,000 acres in stand 35 to 70 years old within LSR and AMA lands; stabilize, decommission and close roads associated with commercial thin operations in Drift Creek key Watershed.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Summer 2004*

*Implementation: Summer 2005*

*Contact: Brent Erskine, 503-392-3161*

### Watershed and Fisheries

#### Hebo Lake Angling Enhancement

*Hebo RD*  
T4S, R9W, S.16

Project would deepen the margins of Hebo Lake to improve angling opportunities and to help control exotic weeds.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Summer 2004*

*Implementation: Winter 2005*

*Contact: John Casteel, 503-392-3161*

#### Moon Creek Restoration

*Hebo RD*  
T3S, R8W, S29

Install about 10 wood structures to improve stream function.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Winter 2004*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Wayne Patterson, 503-392-3161*

#### Sampson Creek Habitat Improvement

*Hebo RD*  
T8S, R9W, S.1

In cooperation with State of Oregon and Midcoast Watershed Council, the District proposes an instream habitat improvement project would place large logs in Sampson Creek with use of helicopters.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Summer 2004*

*Implementation: Fall 2004*

*Contact: John Casteel, 503-392-3161*

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## Current Projects

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### Watershed and Fisheries

#### Lagoon Restoration

*South Zone, ODNRA  
T19S, R12W, S33*

Develop invasive weed control plan for lagoon and nearby lakes and ponds.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Fall 2003*

*Implementation: Spring 2004*

*Contact: Mike Northrop, 541-902-6960*

#### Yachats Watershed Aquatic Restoration

*South Zone, Waldport RD*

*T14S, R10, 11 & 12W; T15S, R10, 11 & 12W*

Place trees and root wads in about 9.6 miles of streams; plant about 75 acres with conifers and hardwoods in riparian areas; non-commercially thin about 100 acres of riparian areas, maintain and release about 1,070 acres of conifers near streams.

*Status: Document Development*

*Decision: Fall 2003*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Bruce Buckley, 541-563-3211*

### Watershed Restoration

#### Gauldy Project Thin

*Hebo RD*

*T4S, R9 & 10W*

Commercial thinning 1,000 acres in stands 35-70 years old within LSR and AMA lands; adding stream structures; and decommissioning, stabilizing and closing specific roads.

*Status: Document Development*

*Decision: Fall 2003*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Brent Erskine, 503-392-2161*

### Watershed Restoration

#### North Fork Siuslaw Aquatic Restoration Project

*South Zone, Mapleton RD*

*T16S and T17S, R10W and R11W*

Helicopter placement of large wood (450 whole conifer trees) in the mainstem of the North Fork Siuslaw River and Elma, Porter, Condon, Uncle, and McLeod Creeks. The project involves U.S. Forest Service and private lands.

*Status: Scoping*

*Decision: Summer 2004*

*Implementation: Fall 2004*

*Contact: Paul Burns, 541-563-3211*

#### Yachats Watershed Terrestrial Restoration

*South Zone, Waldport RD*

*T14S, R10, 11 & 12W; T15S, R10, 11, & 12W*

Commercially thin approximately 2,300 acres of plantations 25-54 years old; underplant about 1,030 acres in treated stands; create snags and coarse wood material; and non-commercially thin about 2,280 acres; decommission about 6.1 miles of non-key roads.

*Status: Decision Pending*

*Decision: Fall 2003*

*Implementation: Summer 2004*

*Contact: Bruce Buckley, 541-563-3211*

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## ***Decisions Made Since Last Quarter***

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### **Lands and Minerals**

#### **Alsea Administrative Site Sale**

*South Zone, Waldport RD  
T14S, R8W, S2*

Sale of the land and buildings on the Alsea  
Administrative Site through competitive bid.

*Status: Signed Decision Document*

*Decision: 9/29/2003*

*Implementation: Fall 2003*

*Contact: Mike Schwartz, 541-750-7175*



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# Items Of Interest

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## Payments to Counties

*Forest-wide - Coos, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln and Tillamook Counties*

The Siuslaw Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) met on June 5th and recommended 32 projects to be funded out of Title II funds in fiscal year 2004 (October 1, 2003-September 30 2004).

The Siuslaw RAC, formed as a result of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393), was tasked to select projects Under Title II of the Act for recommendation to Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor, Gloria Brown for final approval. Proposed projects include: noxious weed and invasive plant control, road improvements, meadow maintenance, trash cleanup, hazardous fuel reduction, pre-commercial thinning, and trail improvement.

The RAC will meet again prior to August 30 to continue project recommendations

Details about each project, along with meeting minutes and agendas are available on the Internet at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw>.

**For more information**, contact Bill Helphinstine, Designated Federal Official, 541-902-8526, Linda Stanley, 541-750-7210 or Anna Morrison, 541-682-4203.

## Invasive Plant Project

*Pacific Northwest Region (involving 19 National Forests and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area)*

The Regional Forester is preparing an EIS to amend Forest Plan direction that will enhance our ability to protect native ecosystems from invasive and non-invasive plants. The analysis will build on the Region's existing program by improving our ability to: prevent the introduction of invasive plant species; improve detection and rapid response to new infestations; control existing populations; and provide for restoration of native species and habitats that have been invaded.

Scoping is ongoing with a Notice of Intent printed in the *Federal Register* on August 28, 2002 (p. 55194). The Draft EIS is expected to be filed with EPA and available for 45-day public review in January 2004. A Final EIS is scheduled to be completed in May 2004.

Contact: Eugene Skrine, Team Leader, 503-326-4310  
Website: [www.fs.fed.us/r6/invasiveplant-eis](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/invasiveplant-eis)

## Sand Lake Forest Lab

*Hebo Ranger District*

T13S, R10W, S17

Develop an environmental education trail on an isolated 11-acre National Forest parcel. Intent is to provide a short, fully-accessible trail for all ages of students.

*Scoping: Ongoing*

*Decision: Undetermined*

*Implementation: Undetermined*

*Contact: Wayne Patterson, 503-392-3161*

## Lower Siletz Watershed Analysis

*Hebo Ranger District*

Modify existing analysis done by the Mid-Coast Watershed Council, to highlight road, stream, riparian, and vegetative conditions on National Forest lands.

*Status: Ongoing*

*Contact: Wayne Patterson, 503-392-3161*

This is the quarterly edition of Project Update notifying you of Siuslaw National Forest proposed actions for which there is an opportunity for your involvement. The list contains proposed actions and actions for which the analysis process is already underway. This update is provided to give you an overview of proposed actions on the Siuslaw National Forest in the event you would like to comment. Detailed descriptions of proposed actions can be obtained by notifying the "contact person" associated with the given project. In some cases, mailing lists have already been established for an action or category of actions. If you are already on a mailing list, you will be notified of scoping periods for those proposed actions. If you would like to be on a mailing list, notify the contact person by mail or phone.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for proposed projects and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who only submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets.

Proposed actions are grouped by category (Recreation, Special Use permits, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife, Land Exchanges, Watershed Analyses, Roads, Plan Amendments and Multi-Projects), and within each category in alphabetical order by RANGER District. The information provided for each action includes name, RANGER District, legal description of location, a brief description of the proposed action, and three dates: scoping, decision, and implementation. These projected or actual dates will be updated in subsequent quarterly reports.



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*AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER*