

Resource Management Plan (ARMP), and Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) for the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District. The ARMP will provide the framework to guide land and resource allocations and management direction for the next 10 to 20 years in the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District. This ARMP supersedes the applicable portions of the existing Lost River and Jackson-Klamath management framework plans and other related documents for managing BLM-administered lands and resources in the subject area. The Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District is responsible for management of approximately 212,000 acres of partially forested public land and 21,000 acres of non-federal surface ownership with federal mineral estate in Klamath County, just east of the Cascade Range in southern Oregon.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ARMP/ROD/RPS are available upon request by contacting the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management, 2795 Anderson Ave., Bldg. 25, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603. The telephone number is (503) 883-6916. This document has been sent to all those individuals and groups who were on the mailing list for the Klamath Falls Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement. The full supporting record for the approved Klamath Falls Resource Area RMP is also available for inspection in the Klamath Falls Resource Area office, at the office given above. Copies of the draft and final EISs are also available for inspection in the public room at the BLM Oregon/Washington State Office, 1515 S.W. 5th St., Portland, Oregon 97201; and Klamath County library, at 126 S. 3rd St., Klamath Falls, Oregon during normal operating hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Barron Bail, Area Manager, Klamath Falls Resource Area office, Phone (503) 883-6916.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Klamath Falls Resource Area ARMP/ROD/RPS is essentially the same as the Klamath Falls Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS). Virtually no changes to the proposed decisions have been made, however some clarifying language has been made in response to 9 protests the BLM received on the PRMP/FEIS, several comment letters, and as a result of ongoing staff review. Seven alternatives that encompass a spectrum of realistic management options were considered in the planning process. The final plan is a mixture of the management objectives and actions that, in the opinion of the BLM, best resolve the issues and concerns that originally drove the preparation of the plan and also meet the plan elements or adopt decisions made in the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl and Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (or Northwest Forest Plan/ROD). The Northwest Forest Plan/ROD was signed by the Secretary of the Interior who directed the BLM to adopt it in its Resource Management Plans for western Oregon. Further, those decisions were upheld by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on December 21, 1994.

The overall objective of the plan is to manage the resources in the Klamath Falls Resource Area on an ecosystem basis. Within that ecosystem

management framework, the proposed final resource management plan would maintain or improve water quality through a system of Riparian Reserves and best management practices. To contribute to biological diversity, standing trees, snags, and dead and down woody material would be retained.

Ecosystem Management and Forest Products Production

The BLM-administered lands are allocated to Riparian Reserves, Late-Successional Reserves, and General Forest Management Areas. An Aquatic Conservation Strategy will be applied to all lands and waters under BLM administration. An allowable sale quantity for commercial forest products is established.

Ecosystem Management and Livestock Grazing

Grazing management levels, seasons of use, and monitoring guidelines are established. The process for monitoring, evaluating, and amending or revising the plan is described.

Recreation

Management would provide for a wide variety of recreation opportunities, with particular emphasis on enhancement of opportunities for dispersed recreation activities including hunting, fishing, and hiking, as well as providing outdoor recreation activities in areas that are both close to population centers and accessible by vehicles.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

The ARMP/ROD designates four new areas of critical environmental concern with the restrictions noted below:

Area name	Acres	Vegetation harvest	ORV use	Mining location	Mineral leasing	Rights-of-way
Miller Creek	2,000	R	P	R	R	R
Yainax Butte	720	R	R	R	R	NC
Upper Klamath River	4,960	R	R	R	R	R
Old Baldy	520	P	P	P	R	P

NC=No Change from existing situation
R=Use is allowed but with restrictions
P=Use is prohibited

The Miller Creek area is designated an area of critical environmental concern to maintain, protect, and/or restore natural processes, wildlife, and scenic values. The area would not be available to planned timber harvest. Livestock

grazing would be restricted. Mineral leasing would be subject to no surface occupancy. The area would be closed to off-highway vehicle use (except Round Valley Road area).

The upper Klamath River area, from rim to rim, is designated an area of critical environmental concern to maintain, protect, and/or restore historic, cultural, scenic, fisheries, and wildlife populations and habitat. The