



**Burns District, Bureau of Land Management
Three Rivers Resource Area
Shed Forest Restoration Project**

Location:

This project is located in Harney County, Oregon and consists of five separate units, or areas, dispersed across the Burns District. This project is being planned as an HFI/HFRA project. The total project area is approximately 1,500 acres.

Purpose:

The project will: 1) reduce the spread of insect infestation and disease; and, 2) reduce fuel loading and the risk of a stand-replacing wildfire occurring. Furthermore, the project will improve and restore wildlife habitats for various species (including the bald eagle, a federally threatened species), will improve forest health and vigor, and will enhance watershed conditions and protect watershed functions.

The projects goals will be achieved through a variety of treatments, including a combination of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir thinning, removal of western juniper, and treatments to reinvigorate aspen. Prescribed fire will be used to reduce fuel accumulations as well as woody debris generated by other treatment methods. The project provides for future maintenance of the treatment areas by using prescribed fire if needed.

The treatments are to occur over the following vegetative communities: 1) ponderosa pine/bunchgrasses and Douglas fir/bluegrasses forest types; and, 2) aspen stands. Some of the forest restoration and fuel treatments may be accomplished through the use of stewardship contracts. These treatments are scheduled to start occurring spring of 2005.

Partners:

This project was developed in consultation and coordination with an array of groups, including: the Burns Paiute Tribe, Harney and Grant County Courts, Harney County Watershed Council, Harney Soil and Water Conservation District, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council, Malheur National Forest (Emigrant Creek Ranger District) and the interested public.

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