

## **APPENDIX D: PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS FOR THE 2009 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN**

The Oregon Department of Forestry issued a Press Release on February 12, 2008, announcing a formal 45 day public comment period for the 2009 Annual Operations Plans from February 11 through March 26, 2008.

The purpose of the Public Comment Period was to provide an opportunity for the public to review the AOPs, ask questions, make recommendations, and offer comments. As a public agency, ODF operates in the best interest of Oregonians, conducting business in an open way with opportunities for scrutiny to foster and maintain public confidence that ODF operations are benefiting Oregonians.

Past experience has shown that public comments have the potential to improve plans, so the objective was not only to inform the public, but to receive feedback that would help to clarify the AOPs, improve their consistency with the long range FMPs and IPs, and to become aware of any new information that could affect a planned operation or improve its efficiency or effectiveness.

The Forest Grove District received one letter regarding the 2009 AOP.

### **Forest Grove District FY09 AOP Changes**

The following changes were made to the Forest Grove District FY09 AOP since the public review period (February 11 through March 26, 2008). These revisions were a result of further analysis and editing by district personnel. The AOP narrative summary document, summary tables, and pre-operations reports have been updated to reflect these changes.

#### **1.) Timber Harvest Operations Section:**

- Rolling Rocks was changed from a primary to an alternate sale in the FY09 AOP due to access issues (severe road damage) associated with the storms that occurred in November and December of 2007.
- Woodrow Wilson was changed from an alternate sale to a primary, in order to replace Rolling Rocks.
- The acreage of Woodrow Wilson was increased from 63 to 112 acres of modified clearcut (an increase of 49 acres), in order to replace the volume of Rolling Rocks.

#### **2.) Young Stand Management Section:**

- The following planned activities were deleted from the FY09 AOP due to budget constraints: 350 acres of pre-commercial thinning and 3,000 acres of fertilization.

### **3.) Recreation Management Section:**

- The following planned activities were deleted from the FY09 AOP due to budget constraints:

#### **Facility Development and Upgrade Projects**

##### Gales Creek Campground

- Increase the size and capacity of the trash and recycling station. (4CY – pad and fence)

##### Gales Creek Overlook

- Upgrade gravel pedestrian area
- Add plantings around the perimeter of the site.

##### Reehers Camp

- Add Two Gates at the Day Use Area

##### Stagecoach Horse camp

- Construct and Install a Mounting Assist Ramp

##### Four County Point Trailhead

- Install Single Panel Information Board

#### **Trail Development**

##### Construction Projects

- #43 Military Trail\* - FY09 work will replace an existing temporary Military Bridge structure with a permanent 40 to 50 foot trail bridge.
- Wilson River Trail Bridge\* - FY09 work will include the construction of an 80 to 85 foot trail bridge across Elk Creek.

- The following projects were added or adjusted. An explanation of these additions or adjustments follows the project description in italic text.

## Undeveloped Facility Operations and Dispersed Site Management

- Inventory and site condition assessments.

*Inventory and Assessment of dispersed sites in the Sunday Creek Basin was called out as a specific work item to define and clarify where the inventory and assessment work is planned to take place.*

## Trail Development

### Motorized trails:

#### Construction Projects

- #8 Julies Trail and #3 Crooked Bridge Trail\* – FY09 work will significantly upgrade 4 miles of trail. Work will be done on contract and will involve upgrade of existing trail and construction of new segments of trail.

*This project was planned for FY08. The project was delayed due to staff turnover, winter storms, and low elevation snow that persisted over the project area through April of 2008.*

### Non-motorized trails:

#### Location and Design Projects

- Wilson River Trail segment C3\*, horse, hiker, mountain bike - (Larch Mountain Basin). FY09 work will complete the location and design of a 2 to 4 mile section of trail.

*This planned activity was changed from segment C-3 to segment C-2. The location and design work for segment C-2 was to be completed in FY 2008. About 50% of the work was completed but the rest has been delayed due to winter storms that ended up changing our trail location and design priorities and low elevation snow that limited access and our ability to complete the location and design work. Location and design work for segment C-3 was deleted due to budget constraints.*

- Reehers Camp Loop Trail\*, horse, hiker, mountain bike - (Wheeler Basin) FY09 work will complete location and design work for 1.0 to 1.5 miles of trail. This project is being carried over from the FY08 AOP.

*The project was to be completed in FY08. The project was delayed due staff turnover, winter storm damage on the existing*

*trail system that ended up changing our trail location and design priorities.*

#### Construction Projects

- Reehers Camp Loop Trails\*, horse, hiker, mountain bike - (Wheeler Basin) The Reehers Camp Trails project is being located and constructed in segments and phases. FY09 work will construct 1.0 to 1.5 miles of trail that was located and designed in FY07.

*The text for this project was adjusted. The last line was changed from "FY09 work will construct 1.0 to 1.5 miles of trail that was located and designed in FY08" to "FY09 work will construct 1.0 to 1.5 miles of trail that was located and designed in FY07".*

- Wilson River Trail segment C-1\*, horse, hiker, mountain bike - (Larch Mountain Basin). FY09 work will include construction of the 3.5 mile trail project that was located and designed in FY2008.

*This project is being carried over from FY2008. The project was planned for completion in FY08. It was delayed due to staff turnover, winter storm damage to the project flag line, and low elevation snow that limited our access and our ability to review and revise the flag line location.*

- Wilson River Trail segment C-2\*, horse, hiker, mountain bike - (Larch Mountain Basin). FY09 work will include construction of a 1 mile section of the 4 mile trail project.

*This project was adjusted. We reduced the number of miles of trail construction work to be completed from 2 to 4 miles to 1 mile due to budget constraints and trail crew availability. The last line of text was changed from "FY09 work will include construction of a 2 to 4 mile section of Wilson River Trail segment C-2" to "FY09 work will include construction of a 1 mile section of the 4 mile trail project".*