

# BLM Proposed Resource Management Plan - Initial Summary

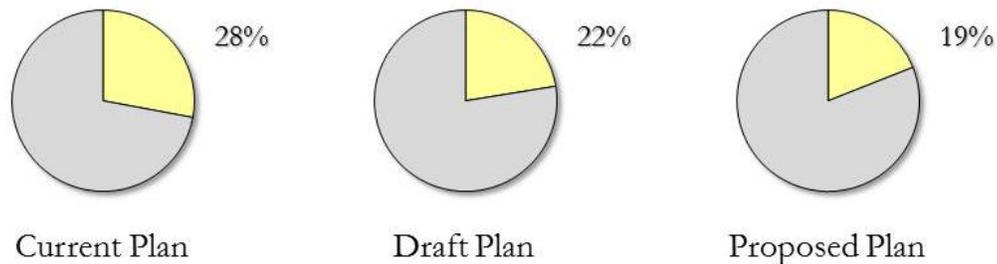
## Prepared by the Association of O&C Counties

April 13, 2016

The Proposed RMP (PRMP) and Final EIS for the 2.5 million acres of BLM administered lands for the six western Oregon Districts was released on April 12, 2016. This initial summary compares the “Current Plan”, which is based on the 1995 RMP/ Northwest Forest Plan<sup>1</sup>, with the “Draft Plan” published last year, and the Proposed RMP.

### Percent of BLM Lands Allocated to Sustained Yield Management

The lands allocated to sustained yield management (yellow) constitute the land base which provides revenues for counties over the long term. Lands allocated to “Reserves” preclude sustained yield management.



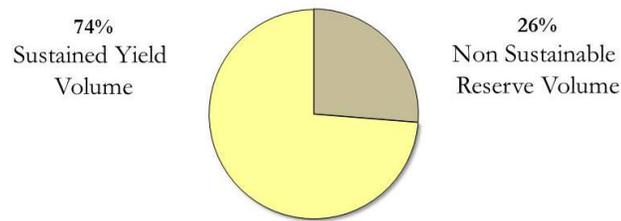
### Context

- O&C Act states - All timberlands shall be managed under the principles of sustained yield.
- During the 1970-80s the harvest land base comprised 80%+ of the BLM lands.

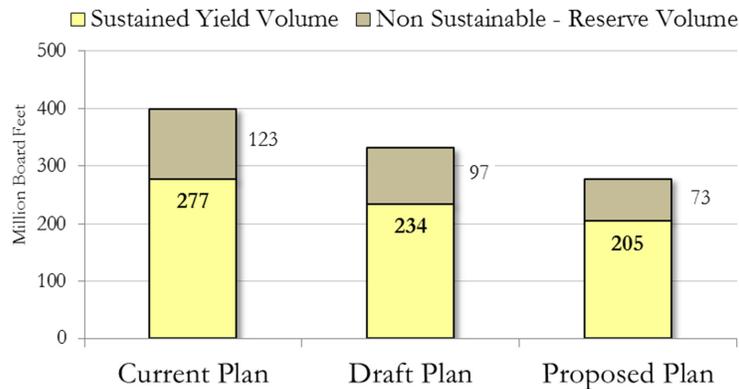
## Proposed Plan Annual Harvest Volume

BLM reports a total harvest of 278 million board feet per year under the PRMP.

- 73 million board feet (26%) comes from Reserves which is not a sustainable source of harvest over the long term.
- 205 million board feet (74%) comes from sustained yield management. This is derived from the 19% of BLM lands in the previous pie chart.



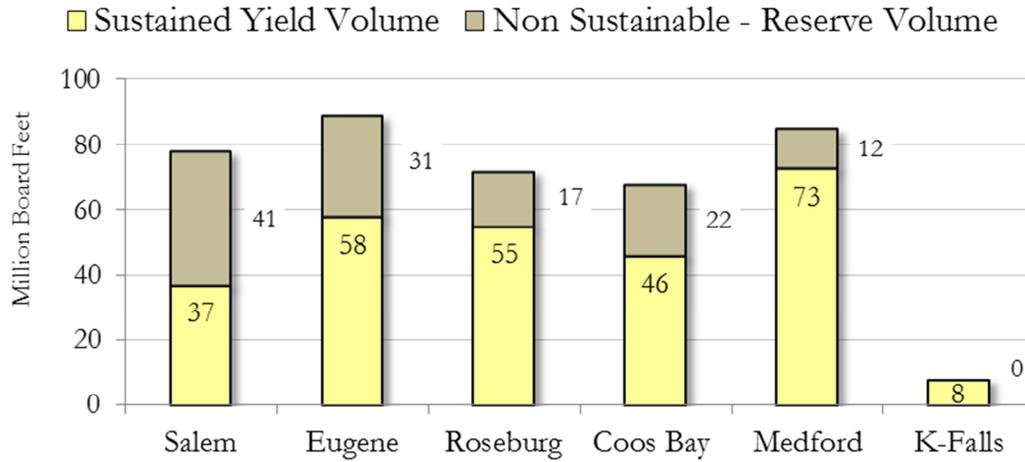
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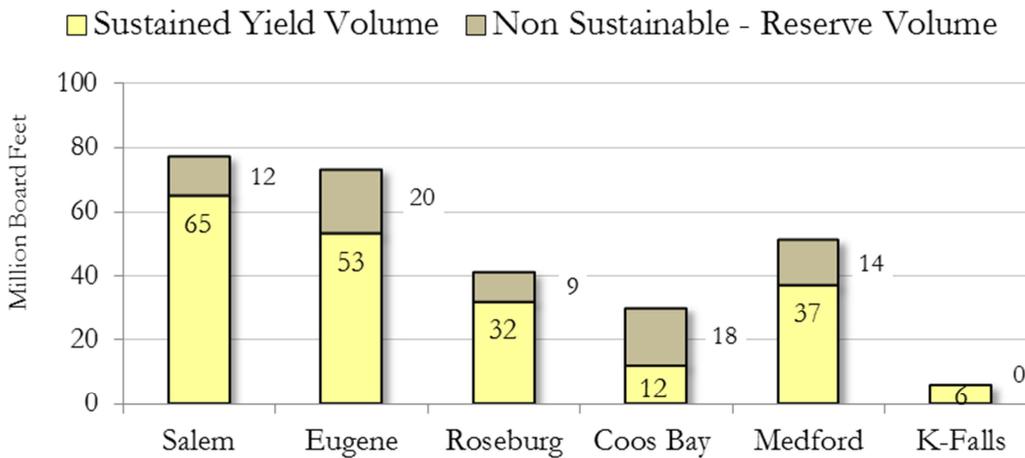
- The 1995 RMP declared a harvest level of 203 MMBF which is equated to “current offerings” by the BLM. The 1995 RMP did not estimate Reserve volume and that is not included in the 203 MMBF. This is the basis BLM uses to claim an increase in harvest.
- The BLM’s recent analysis indicates that the Current Plan is capable of producing 277 million board feet on a sustained yield basis plus an additional 123 million board feet from Reserves. Total volume for the Current Plan is 400 vs. the PRMP at 278 MMBF.
- The sustainable harvest under the PRMP is a 26% reduction from the Current Plan.
- The decline from the Draft Plan Reserve volume is due to changes in the riparian strategy.
- The sustainable harvest level is less than 17% of the annual productive capacity of the forest.
- The sustained yield level during the 1970-80s was approximately 1.17 billion board feet.

## Regional Distribution Harvest Volume

### Current Plan



### Proposed Plan

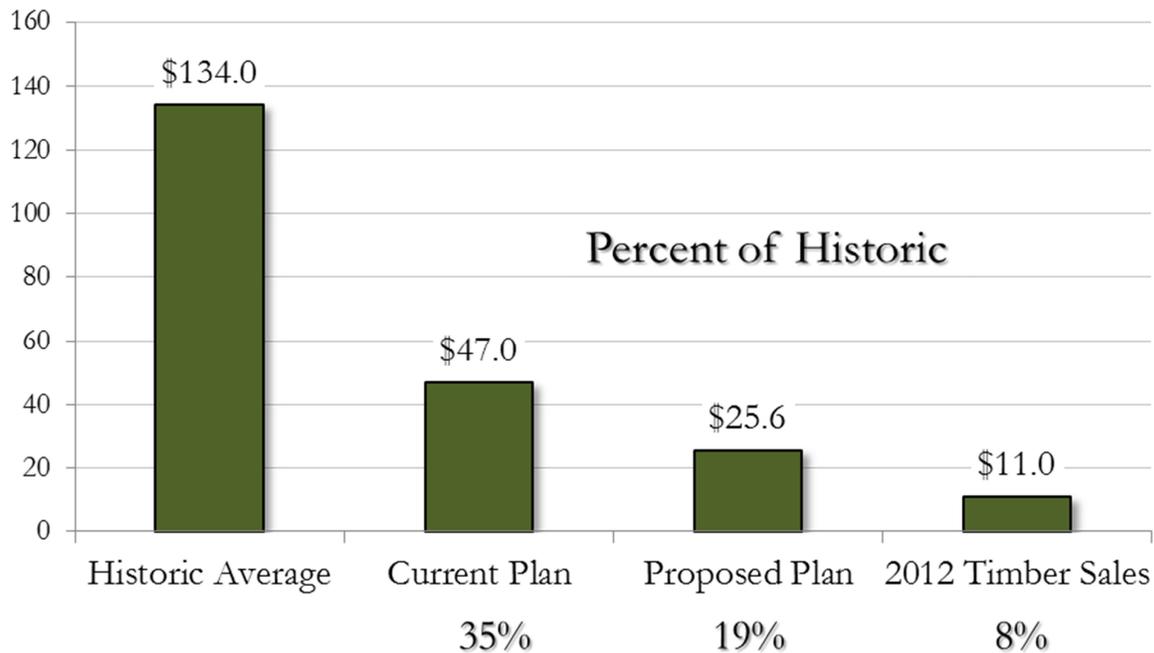


### Sustained Yield Volume Change - PRMP Compared with the Current Plan

- The Salem and Eugene Districts have a 24% increase.
- The southern and coastal Districts have a 52% decrease.

## Payments to Counties – Millions Dollars Annually

Payments to counties were funded by BLM timber sales up until the Northwest Forest Plan when direct payments were made by Congress through the Safety Net and Secure Rural Schools programs. From 1960 through 2011 those annual payments averaged \$134 million<sup>ii</sup> (in constant value dollars.) There are no plans for Secure Rural School payments for this year which means a return to timber sale revenue for payments to counties. The dollars shown for the Proposed Plan assumes full implementation and includes the timber sale volume from reserves. It will be years to achieve full implementation if ever. As the reserve volume is exhausted payments will decline. Current timber sales, based on 2012 implementation, reflect the amount counties would have received and provide an insight in the gap of achieving the PRMP projected levels in the short term.



<sup>i</sup> Data for the Current Plan /1995 RMP is reflected in the No Action Alternative in the Draft EIS.

<sup>ii</sup> Payments to counties based solely on timber harvests (1960 through 1993) averaged \$150 million per year. O&C Lands Report, February 6, 2013, p. 19.