

Appendix A – Forest Plan Feedback

The goal of ecosystem management is to promote sustainability by protecting the ecosystem elements within and across spatial and temporal scales. Ecosystem analysis supports ecosystem management by providing a larger scale context to guide the development and effects analyses of site-specific projects and subsequent decisions. Another role of ecosystem analysis is to provide feedback to the Klamath National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (*Forest Plan*).

The following recommendations were developed during the Horse Creek Ecosystem Analysis process. These recommendations involve data layers, estimates of land allocation acreage, and assumptions used for Forest-wide calculations.

1 - The Horse Creek analysis provides an updated estimate of Riparian Reserve acreage and a sample of ground-truthed riparian features for comparison. This allows a more accurate representation of both mapped and unmapped Riparian Reserve acreage than was used in the *Forest Plan*. It is recommended that more sampling of ground-truthed riparian

features be done across the forest and future Forest-wide analyses use updated mapping and sampling to estimate Riparian Reserve acreage.

2 - The requirement in the *Forest Plan* Record of Decision for a watershed analysis in Areas with Watersheds Concerns (AWWCs) has been met for the AWWCs in the Horse Creek watershed. However, four sub-watersheds (Lower Horse, Middle Creek, Buckhorn Creek, and Doggett Creek) have been determined to be impaired and in need of continued limitations from watershed disturbances.

3 - Using updated Riparian Reserve mapping, updated AWWCs, updated 100-acre Late Successional Reserves, and refined vegetation mapping, an identification of areas capable of supporting timber harvest has been developed in this analysis. It is recommended that this refinement of capable acres in the Retention, Partial Retention, and General Forest Management Areas be used in developing expected timber yields from the watershed.