

Oregon/Washington National Landscape Conservation System 3-year Strategy Fiscal Years 2013-2015



Oregon/Washington NLCS Strategy -- 2013 to 2015



Oregon/Washington National Landscape Conservation System 3-year Strategy: Fiscal Years 2013-2015 (September 14, 2012)

This state-level strategy tiers to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) 15-year National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) strategy published in 2011. It represents an integral step toward implementing the goals of the national strategy by connecting national emphasis with state focus and local action. The Washington Office (WO) coordinated with several NLCS state leads on the development of one template for all states to use in forming their NLCS strategies. The template is based on the four themes and nineteen goals of the 15-year NLCS strategy. Since Oregon/Washington's 2015 Strategic Plan, meticulously developed by state leadership and staff, included goals and specific actions for the *Treasured Landscapes—NLCS* theme, our task primarily included a reformatting of the 2015 Strategic Plan into the State Strategy Template provided by the WO. Refinement has occurred through the breakout sessions at the July 2012 NLCS Workshop in Albuquerque, input from Oregon/Washington's District Manager representatives to the 2015 Strategic Plan NLCS Theme, and subsequent statewide comments on the draft strategy from managers and staff at all levels.

The template utilized below was designed to facilitate a linkage between the national strategy and individual unit initiatives in several ways. For example, each theme is followed by a section titled, National Emphases. This section is intended to communicate the specific parts of each theme the WO will focus on implementing through FY 2015. States then develop their own State Strategic Approach within each theme to communicate the state's overall intent for that theme and list the state- and unit-level actions that contribute to each goal. This strategy, then, represents how Oregon/Washington will contribute to the accomplishment of the national themes and goals.

The four themes addressed in both the national and state strategies are listed below, followed by our Oregon/Washington state- and unit-level actions designed to accomplish the state and national goals under each theme:

Theme 1—Ensuring the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of NLCS Values.

Ensure primacy of conservation within the NLCS, promote science that serves to further conservation, and provide for compatible use that protects NLCS resources and values.

Theme 2—Collaboratively Managing the NLCS as Part of the Larger Landscape. Building a better conservation model through collaborative management.

Theme 3—Raising Awareness of the Value and Benefits of the BLM's NLCS. Raise public awareness and understanding of the NLCS, cultivate relationships, promote community stewardship of BLM-managed public land, and provide for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Theme 4—Building upon BLM’s Commitment to Conservation. Promote a model of conservation excellence internally, through improved understanding and fully integrating the NLCS within the BLM.

Theme 1: Ensuring the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of NLCS Values

National Emphasis:

- Policy Development
- Science
- Data Management

State Strategic Approach: Management planning and projects are conducted to:

Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of NLCS values is the highest priority in NLCS planning and management, consistent with the designating legislation or proclamation.

State-level Actions:

1. The BLM in Oregon/Washington (OR/WA) will conserve, protect, and restore the values for which each NLCS unit was designated. The OR/WA NLCS unit types include a National Monument, a Cooperative Management and Protection Area, and a Legislated Outstanding Natural Area (NM/NCAs); 9 Wilderness Areas; 86 Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs); 25 Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSRs); 2 National Scenic Trails, and 2 National Historic Trails (NSHTs).
2. Develop a statewide network of NLCS State Office, District Office and Field Office personnel for enhanced communication among and coordinated implementation of the NLCS programs.
3. Seek opportunities to partner with WO counterparts in the development of NLCS guidance and training to ensure that a rich combination of perspectives, ideas, and expertise from all levels of the organization informs well-grounded products with broad Bureau-wide ownership.
4. Promote information sharing among Regional and National-level Solicitors for consistency and efficiency in preventing and defending against NLCS challenges.

Unit-level Actions:

1. All units will glean information from enabling legislation or proclamations, from prior inventory reports, and from ongoing inventories or monitoring efforts to document all unit objects and values and will account for these objects and values in monitoring and management plans and project prioritization.
2. Finalize and maintain unit boundary maps and legal descriptions and post boundaries accordingly.
3. Establish land acquisition and transfer priorities to acquire lands from willing sellers through land exchange, purchase, donation, and similar methods (in addition to legislated land exchanges).

4. Complete new Management Plans (Resource Management Plans (RMPs) or Activity Plans, as appropriate) or update existing Plans, as needed. Determine “interim” management needs for units where plans cannot be completed by 2015.
5. Conduct visual resource inventories and implement visual resource management (VRM) planning and mitigation activities to protect aesthetic and landscape values. Develop interim VRM classes, congruent with NLCS conservation, protection, and restoration goals where none currently exist.

Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the NLCS values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.

State-level Actions: OR/WA units will conduct baseline inventories of objects, values, conditions, and trends (e.g., unique features, special status species, invasive species, critical habitats, and other values for which the units were designated) and establish protocols for periodic monitoring of those values over time.

Unit-level Actions:

1. BLM will complete baseline wilderness character inventories for all designated wilderness areas according to established schedules, with all units completed in 2014.
2. BLM will conduct annual and 5-year monitoring updates for all designated wilderness areas in accordance with the BLM’s Wilderness Character Monitoring Protocol.
3. WSA inventory reports will be safeguarded and utilized in project analyses, and annual monitoring will be conducted in accordance with BLM’s WSA monitoring standards to ensure that actions do not “impair the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness.”
4. For all NM/NCAs, BLM will maintain inventories of NLCS objects and values identified in their enabling legislation or proclamations as well as in post-designation inventories and subsequent monitoring. Such values will receive priority for conservation, protection, and restoration in land use plans and subsequent implementation-level plans and projects.
5. BLM offices managing WSRs will monitor, protect, and enhance Outstandingly Remarkable Values identified for each designated river corridor.
6. BLM offices managing NSHTs will document the nature and purposes of each designated trail to consider in corridor identification and management planning to ensure that future actions do not substantially interfere with such nature and purpose.

Goal 1C: Provide a scientific foundation for decision-making.

State-level Actions:

1. Implement the NLCS Science Research Program, addressing BLM data gaps to facilitate management decisions.
2. Communicate internally and externally and integrate the results of scientific research and studies on NLCS lands.
3. Work with the BLM’s Riparian Service Team, the National Operations Center, the BLM Science Advisor, the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, and others for timely research/studies within the NLCS.

4. Share resulting findings and best management practices throughout the BLM and with interested organizations and members of the public.
5. Promote consistency in science-related terminology and concepts to facilitate technical transfer of findings (e.g., accurate definitions of “science” versus “non-science,” rather than some inaccurate notion of “best science,” and understanding that “science consistency” means demonstrating understanding of relevant science in decision rationale, regardless of the decision ultimately reached).

Unit-level Actions:

1. Offices managing NM/NCAAs will complete and implement a Science Plan for each unit, as per budget directives.
2. To the extent consistent with NLCS conservation and protection goals, all NLCS units will support scientific research aimed at improving management of the unit and offering important findings relevant to Public Land management beyond the borders of the units themselves.
3. Wilderness and WSA managers will continue to use the *Framework for Evaluating Proposals for Research in Wilderness* and will continue to work with the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute for research and studies informing best management practices in wilderness areas and WSAs.

Goal 1D: Use the NLCS as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management and business processes that aid in the conservation, protection, and restoration of NLCS areas.

State-level Actions:

1. Support unit-level research, studies, and innovative management approaches and opportunities to share the findings (e.g., conferences, publications, and websites) for application on NLCS and other lands (Federal, State, Tribal, and private).

Unit-level Actions:

1. To the extent consistent with NLCS conservation and protection goals, all NLCS units will support research, studies and innovative management approaches aimed at improving management of the unit and offering important findings relevant to Public Land management and other ownerships beyond the borders of the units themselves.
2. Participate in regional or statewide forums to share success stories and lessons learned.
3. Work closely with partners and larger networks to both gain and disseminate findings.
4. Continue to support and disseminate information from appropriate scientific endeavors occurring in specific NLCS units (e.g., Steens Cooperative Management and Protection Area [CMPA] juniper treatment studies/research within and outside the Western Juniper Management Area for sharing among states experiencing juniper invasion of sagebrush and other ecosystems and working continue to work with scientists, academicians, and others studying the high biodiversity in Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument [CSNM] and bird, sea, and terrestrial ecosystems/populations at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area [YHONA]).

Goal 1E: Limit discretionary uses to those compatible with the conservation, protection, and restoration of the values for which NLCS lands were designated.

State-level Actions:

1. Utilize land use planning and activity-level or project planning to engage stakeholders in identifying existing and future uses that are compatible with the enabling legislation or proclamation for each area.
2. Provide ready access, to all managers and staff involved in NLCS management, to the necessary source documents (laws, regulations, enabling legislation or proclamations, agency policy), both online and hardcopy, that prescribe actions and set parameters for activities within each unit type.
3. Provide training, workshops, and other forums to ensure thorough understanding of the actual decision space associated with management and project proposals as a result of the laws, regulations, and policies associated with each type of NLCS unit

Unit-level Actions:

1. Maintain copies of and electronic access to source documents (laws, regulations, and policies) that define the purpose of each NLCS unit type and the parameters within which management activities must occur.
2. Participate in regional, statewide, or national forums (e.g., training, workshops, or conferences) aimed at interpreting all pertinent authorities for NLCS management and sharing findings from Interior Board of Land Appeals and Federal Court rulings regarding agency interpretation of those authorities.
3. Develop land use or activity-level/project plans that address the requirements of laws, regulations, enabling legislation/proclamations, and policies associated with each NLCS unit and ensure that management actions fall within defined parameters for each unit type.
4. Ensure that current data standards are being followed while maintaining accurate maps and boundary descriptions to ensure that incompatible activities not intended to occur within individual units do not encroach into the units.

Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the NLCS as Part of the Larger Landscape

National Emphasis:

- Ecosystem-based Management
- Conservation Values in Planning
- Share Collaboration Stories
- Community Based Recreation

State Strategic Approach: Management actions and projects are conducted to:

Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the NLCS in the context of the surrounding landscape.

State-level Actions:

1. The BLM in OR/WA will continue to utilize the wealth of broad-scale and step-down ecosystem assessments (e.g., Northwest Forest Plan, Interior Columbia Basin, Subbasin Reviews, and Watershed Analyses) and associated strategies to set the ecological (i.e., physical, biological, and social) context within which each NLCS unit resides and establish integrated priorities for management attention within, among, and beyond individual NLCS units.
2. Incorporate more recent Rapid Ecoregional Assessments into the context/prioritization processes as well.
3. Utilize the findings from all broad-scale assessments to inform decision-making at the plan and project scales.

Unit-level Actions:

1. The OR/WA westside NLCS units will continue to benefit from context and priorities developed using the Federal Ecosystem Management Assessment Team report and subsequent broad, mid- and finer-scale ecosystem assessments (including watershed analyses) conducted since completion of the NW Forest Plan.
2. The OR/WA eastside NLCS units will continue to benefit from the context and priorities developed from the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project's (ICBEMP) Science Assessment and subsequent broad, mid-, and finer-scale ecosystem assessments (including subbasin reviews, watershed analyses, and RMP-level aquatic conservation strategies) conducted since the ICBEMP effort.

Goal 2B: Adopt a cross-jurisdictional, community-based approach to landscape-level conservation planning and management.

State-level Actions:

1. Continue to work with regional intergovernmental entities through networks developed as part of our broad ecosystem planning efforts in the Pacific NW to ensure that NLCS plans remain an integral part of landscape-scale strategies and initiatives.
2. Engage Tribal, State, Local, and other Federal agencies and interested publics in NLCS planning, management, and resource data sharing at the earliest opportunity, consistent with Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and the Sunshine in Government provisions of Sec. 313 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).
3. Continue to work with all entities associated with the Sage Grouse Strategy to resolve issues across all ownerships, using NLCS units to the extent compatible with conserving, protecting, and restoring the values for which they were designated.

Unit-level Actions: Continue to support appropriate cross-jurisdictional, community-based efforts occurring in OR/WA NLCS units such as:

1. Multi-jurisdictional project planning and implementation associated with the North Steens Ecosystem Restoration Plan (affecting Wilderness Areas, WSAs, and the CMPA).
2. Working with governmental and public partners and landholders in and around CSNM to develop a landscape-level fire management plan and a travel and transportation management plan that considers regional and local conditions and opportunities.
3. Working with US Forest Service, Okanagan County, and Okanagan Utility District to best locate the new Pacific NW National Scenic Trail (specifically, the opportunity to move the trail from a high-use highway to a possible rails-to-trails option across the Similkameen River).
4. Working with US Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and US Coast Guard at Yaquina Head to develop a landscape management plan to be incorporated into the unit's management plan.

Goal 2C: Work with Tribes, State agencies, and Local communities to identify and protect lands that are critical to the long-term ecological sustainability of the landscape.

State-level Actions:

1. See State-level Action 1 under Goal 2A above.
2. Continue to work with regional, intergovernmental entities through networks developed as part of our broad ecosystem planning efforts in the Pacific NW to ensure that NLCS plans remain an integral part of landscape-scale strategies and initiatives.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Periodically revisit plans with other governmental partners (e.g., for wildlife management, fire suppression, and law enforcement) to ensure that mutual needs are met consistent with NLCS goals.
2. Continue to establish standard communication protocols with Pacific NW American Indian Tribes to facilitate continual communication regarding common ecological and cultural management issues.
3. Research Tribal rights and interests of each existing Tribe to ensure that outreach for coordination of NLCS programs reaches not only nearby Tribes, but also distant Tribes with rights and interests in the NLCS unit (e.g., Rogue WSR issues in southern Oregon being of concern to the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Reservation in NW Oregon because the Rogue River Band was moved to the reservation in the 1850s).

Goal 2D: Adopt a community-based approach to recreation and visitor services delivery consistent with the conservation purpose of the NLCS and the socio-economic goals of the local community.

State-level Actions:

1. Provide high-quality visitor services, facilities, and products, such as cohesive brochures, exhibits, and educational materials, for community education compatible with conserving, protecting, and restoring NLCS values.
2. Utilize web and social media to get the word out about NLCS opportunities, events, and activities with cohesive messages and common look and feel.
3. Engage volunteers, partners, communities, and cooperating agencies in planning and implementing management activities, projects, and services.
4. Support unit efforts to contract for Law Enforcement to ensure quality recreation experiences for families and others within NLCS areas.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Continue to use partners and volunteers at all sites to assist with cooperatively managing for conservation, protection, and restoration of NLCS objects and values through such activities as conducting service learning projects, monitoring resources, and developing and delivering environmental education and interpretation presentations.
2. Work with partners, tourism development agencies and groups, and local businesses to enhance the economies of local gateway communities through support of geotourism compatible with NLCS goals.
3. Support sufficient law enforcement through agreements with counties.

Theme 3: Raising Awareness of the Value and Benefits of the BLM's NLCS

National Emphasis:

- Communication and Outreach
- Volunteer, Partnership, and Education Strategies
- Veteran Engagement and Employment
- Youth Engagement and Employment

State Strategic Approach: Management actions and projects are conducted to:

Goal 3A: Launch a long-term public awareness initiative about the BLM OR/WA's NLCS units, including statewide and local outreach, communications, and media plans.

State-level Actions:

1. Develop, continually improve, and deliver high-quality NLCS media (printed and electronic) to educate citizens about the values and opportunities provided by OR/WA NLCS units.
2. Maintain a functional NLCS website with links to District Office pages providing necessary details about each site.

3. Continue highlighting NLCS Units and specific Recreation, Volunteer, and Education opportunities in our quarterly *NW Passage* publication and on the OR/WA BLM's innovative Social Media sites (e.g., Wild Wednesday) that then point viewers to our official website.
4. Produce an official OR/WA NLCS map, brochure, and possible traveling educational exhibit.
5. Partner with other governmental resource agencies and recreation providers in local and regional initiatives (e.g., The Intertwine Alliance – www.theintertwine.org) established to foster resource stewardship and enjoyment.
6. Participate with interagency partners to celebrate and highlight the values of The Wilderness Act on its 50th Anniversary in 2014.
7. Recognize Advisory Committees as partners representing diverse stakeholders. Explore adding a “Working with Advisory Committees” module to any BLM-sponsored training programs to improve engagement of Advisory Committees in NLCS planning and issue resolution while ensuring that such engagement falls within clearly defined BLM decision space.
8. Pitch stories and features about NLCS that have specific interest to local communities and partner groups through media contacts and partners.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Continue engagement and partnering with local governments and organizations providing recreation or education services and opportunities to ensure that NLCS messages are highlighted.
2. Improve engagement and effectiveness of natural resource advisory committees (e.g., Resource Advisory Committees, Steens Mountain Advisory Council) by participating in any Advisory Committee (AC) training sessions and ensuring that AC roles are clearly defined and that issues brought to the AC fall within BLM decision space pertinent to specific NLCS units.
3. Maintain NLCS unit websites to ensure that viewers receive the most up-to-date, relevant information on each site.
4. Work with Friends groups and others to produce area-specific maps and brochures and ensure consistency of NLCS messages.
5. Continue to participate in local forums (e.g., Earth Day festivals, River Days, Public Lands Day events, State and County Fairs, Sportsmen's Shows) where the NLCS message can be efficiently disseminated.
6. Continue to support data stewards for each designated wilderness area to keep information current on wilderness.net.

Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and advance the relevance of the NLCS to communities of interest and place.

State-level Actions:

1. Develop and maintain positive, lasting partnerships by:
 - a. identifying and utilizing technical assistance workshops and training programs designed to assist local unit managers,

- b. promoting innovative assistance and cooperative agreements (consider developing templates and FAQs), and
 - c. finding and advertising partnership grant opportunities and appropriate new technologies to support developing and sustaining partnerships and the collaborative decision-making process.
2. Recognize that nurturing successful partnerships requires more time, funding, and continual effort than “conventional wisdom” assumes. Provide funding support to units with struggling NLCS partnerships and Friends Groups to the extent that funds allow.
 3. Pursue master/statewide funding assistance for Districts to utilize and streamline procurement.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Continue to encourage and support Friends Groups.
2. Submit periodic Budget Planning System (BPS) proposals for specific partnering opportunities in need of funding (e.g., CSNM Friends Group assistance with shift from work projects to Monument education/interpretation).
3. As funding allows, continue to support appropriate partnership endeavors occurring in NLCS units, such as:
 - a. working with Southern Oregon University faculty and graduate students to design and deliver environmental education/interpretation curriculum for CSNM,
 - b. offering assistance for school groups to participate in educational offerings at YHONA, and
 - c. hosting restoration work camps in the Steens Mountain CMPA and many of our wilderness areas and WSAs to remove unneeded fencing and monitor conditions.
4. Continue existing, and seek innovative new, assistance agreements with organizations to conduct restoration and monitoring and deliver environmental education and interpretation programs about site-specific resources (e.g., Friends of Badlands Wilderness [or FOBBITs] in eastern Oregon).
5. Participate in local Resource Advisory Committees and the Steens Mountain Advisory Committee to keep members up to date on key resources and values and engaged and well informed in issue resolution.

Goal 3C: Expand use of volunteers within the NLCS.

State-level Actions:

1. Continue and, if feasible, expand volunteer opportunities (e.g., restoration parties, environmental education delivery, and resource and use monitoring) at NLCS units with high visitation, issues, or needs.
2. As funding allows, direct funds to assist units with the workload involved in planning, organizing, and implementing volunteer opportunities and events.

Unit-level Actions:

1. As funding permits, continue existing and possibly expand upon the strong volunteer opportunities occurring in NLCS units, such as recurring work parties and National Public Lands Day, National Trail Day, and River Cleanup Month events. Strive for planning and hosting at least one special volunteer event per NLCS-managing District.

Cross brand with national initiatives including *Let's Move Outside*, *Take it Outside*, and *Youth in the Great Outdoors*.

2. Ensure that accessible units with volunteer needs receive consideration for volunteer events such as Public Lands Day work parties.

Goal 3D: Engage the public in stewardship of the NLCS through education and interpretation.

State-level Actions:

1. Support the ongoing work at all NLCS units involved in education and interpretation, and encourage expanded programs as funding allows.
2. Partner with other agencies, organizations, and institutions that already provide education and interpretation in the local area.
3. Support acquisition and retention of education/interpretation skills at key NLCS units.
4. Promote development of Interpretation, Education, and Communication Plans for key NLCS sites, or for NLCS unit types as a whole, to guide development and delivery of appropriate materials and programs.
5. Promote the role of education and interpretation as a method for developing resource protection and stewardship by supporting staffing levels needed to engage the public.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Continue offering, evaluating, and improving high-quality education and interpretation materials and opportunities at key sites, such as YHONA (visitor center, lighthouse, tidepools), Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (visitor contact station, Southern Oregon University faculty/graduate student curriculum development and delivery), and the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center (exhibits, living history presentations, and events/tours).
2. Provide background materials, photos, and movies for State Office Communications to keep the social media sites up to date and relevant to NLCS sites. In addition, utilize materials for producing corresponding outreach products including press releases, brochures, maps, and flyers.

Goal 3E: Recruit and retain well-trained youth from diverse backgrounds for entry-level careers and engage youth in recreation, education, and stewardship on conservation lands.

State-level Actions:

1. Actively participate in intergovernmental forums devoted to training, hiring, and launching natural resource careers for youth from diverse backgrounds (e.g., Portland metropolitan area's Inner City Youth Institute with USFS and BLM, which has been expanding to include such organizations as the Oregon Zoo, Oregon State University, and the Urban League).
2. Partner with K-12, college, and graduate schools to assist with monitoring NLCS units and design and deliver environmental education and interpretation programs.
3. Pursue and invite academic internships (those required for graduation in a specific program at high schools, colleges, universities, and law schools) to assist with NLCS planning and management at various levels.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Continue to promote and implement existing youth training and hiring practices in key NLCS units (e.g., NM/NCAs, visitor centers, key interpretive sites, restoration camps, and corps).
2. Utilize indirect hiring through youth corps organizations to conduct stewardship activities while promoting future natural resource careers.
3. Participate in national initiatives/activities that connect youth to the outdoors, including *Let's Move Outside*, *Take it Outside*, *National Public Lands Day*, and other locally driven volunteer efforts.

Theme 4: Building on BLM's Commitment to Conservation

National Emphasis:

- Internal Communication Plan
- Policy Coordination
- National and State Strategy Integration
- Budget Coordination

State Strategic Approach: Management actions and projects are conducted to:

Goal 4A: Improve internal communication and understanding of the NLCS and its potential to enhance the BLM as a whole.

State-level Actions:

1. Foster understanding and acceptance of the NLCS role as an integral part of the BLM's multiple use mission, occupying the more protective end of the spectrum.
2. Highlight the "working landscape" nature of the NLCS and foster clarity in the decision space associated with each NLCS unit type to dispel "NLCS Legends" (i.e., misconceptions about constraints associated with the NLCS).
3. Ensure that NLCS lead personnel remain part of a broader, interdisciplinary organizational structure to demonstrate "walking the talk" of NLCS being fully integrated with the BLM's multiple use, sustained yield mission.
4. Follow through with dissemination of information gained from NLCS research, studies, and demonstration projects that would be useful to managing non-NLCS lands.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Provide orientation to and field tours of NLCS units to ensure that new management team personnel and staff understand the role and importance of the NLCS.
2. Include highlights of recent NLCS activities or accomplishments at All Employee Meetings or other district office forums. Formally recognize special efforts of employees within NLCS units.

Goal 4B: Cultivate shared responsibility for the NLCS conservation mandate as an integral part of BLM's multiple-use, sustained-yield mission.

State-level Actions:

1. Ensure that NLCS lead personnel remain part of a broader, interdisciplinary organizational structure to demonstrate "walking the talk" of NLCS being fully integrated with BLM's multiple use, sustained yield mission.
2. Continue to include NLCS as a Strategic Theme for regular State Leadership Team updates and discussion.
3. Eliminate any duplicative or overlapping planning, accomplishment reporting, or data calls (e.g., National Volunteer Report) that serve to separate the NLCS from BLM's multiple-use programs.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Ensure that NLCS staff is fully integrated with interdisciplinary staff in the District or Field Office.
2. Coordinate cross-discipline activities with all affected disciplines and seek ways to meet mutual needs.
3. Maintain an up-to-date implementation strategy for NM/NCAs and similar designations based on the approved RMP or, in the case of YHONA, the most recent management plan.

Goal 4C: Clearly define, understand, and justify staffing needs, and administratively organize the NLCS areas to ensure that NLCS is a cross-cutting program within the BLM.

State-level Actions:

1. Ensure that each NLCS Unit Type has a designated lead in the OR/WA State Office with primary duties to include: budget development, policy development and implementation, and support to District and Field offices. One person may have lead responsibilities for multiple NLCS unit types.
2. Ensure that the OR/WA State Office provides a lead/point of contact for “community partnerships” support, including outreach, volunteers, education, and youth.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Ensure that each NLCS Unit Type has a designated lead at the district or field office level. One person may have lead responsibilities for multiple NLCS unit types.

Goal 4D: Ensure the NLCS budget is coordinated with the other BLM programs. Set clear expectations and procedures for interdisciplinary budget development, priority setting, and reporting of accomplishments.

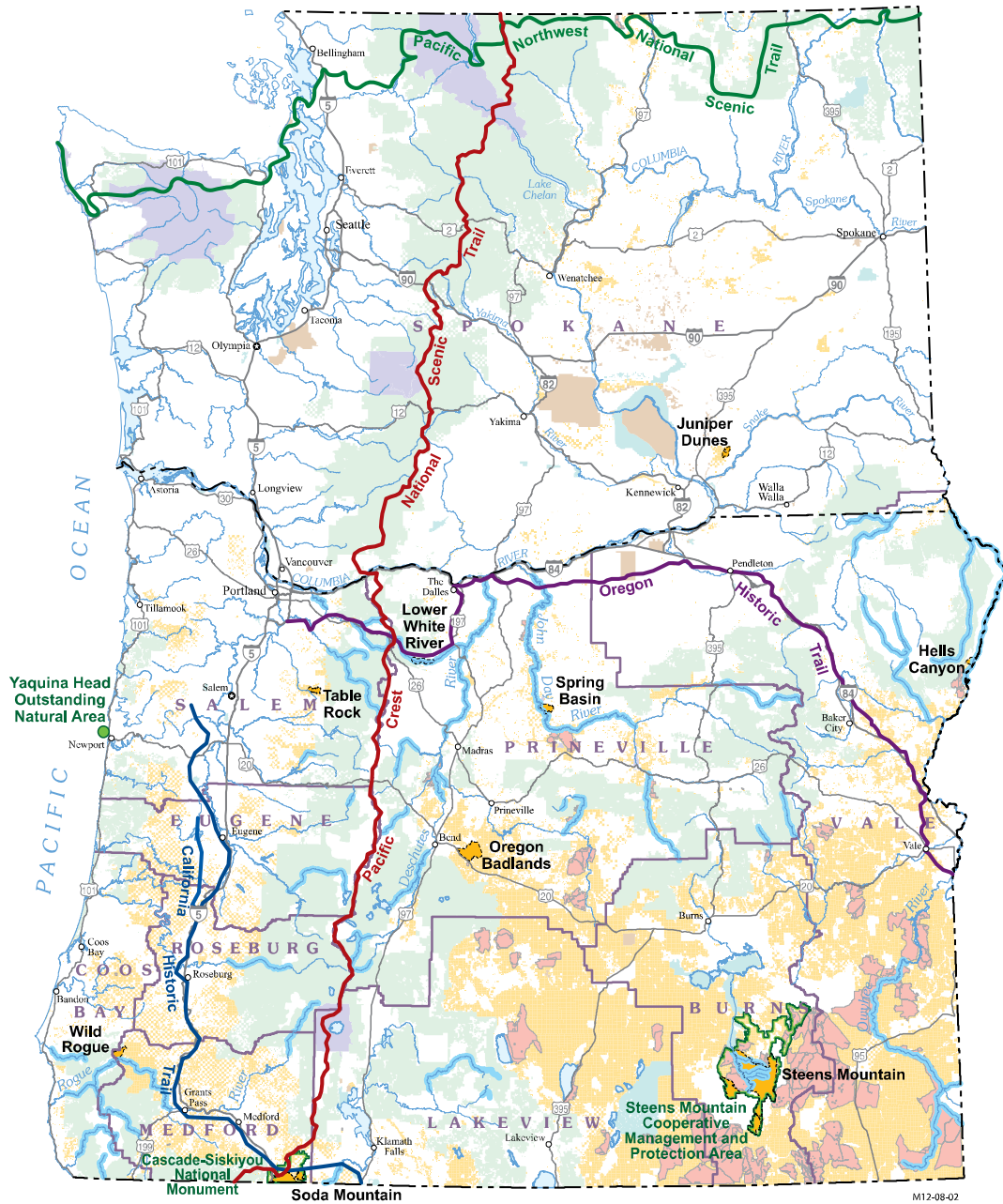
State-level Actions:

1. Continue the strong working relationships with all OR/WA program leads having responsibilities affecting NLCS planning and management.
2. Continue to use any funding increases to “make NM/NCAs whole” after experiencing added overhead from the new subactivity reprogramming effort. Units were asked to report amounts spent by each subactivity on that particular unit (after withdrawals for overhead at the National, State and District Office levels). Those on-the-ground amounts were reprogrammed into 1711 and 6711 functional areas, and subsequent allocations are again subject to overhead withdrawals.
3. Ensure coordination with relevant disciplines on cross-cutting funds for WSRs and NSHTs. Continue to develop directives for each cross-cutting functional area.

Unit-level Actions:

1. Plan and submit BPS proposals for projects that benefit multiple resources using shared funding sources.
2. Ensure that interdisciplinary funds that had been applied to management of an NLCS unit, but were not reprogrammed into any new subactivities (e.g., maintenance funds in some units), continue to be directed to those units, as funding allows.

NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYSTEM: OREGON/WASHINGTON
September 2012



NLCS CATEGORIES		LEGEND		ADMINISTERED LAND	
	National Monument, National Conservation Area or Similar Designation		BLM Wilderness Study Area		BLM
	Wild and Scenic River		US Forest Service		US Fish and Wildlife Service
	National Scenic or Historic Trail		National Park Service		Other Federal
	BLM Wilderness		Private or Other		