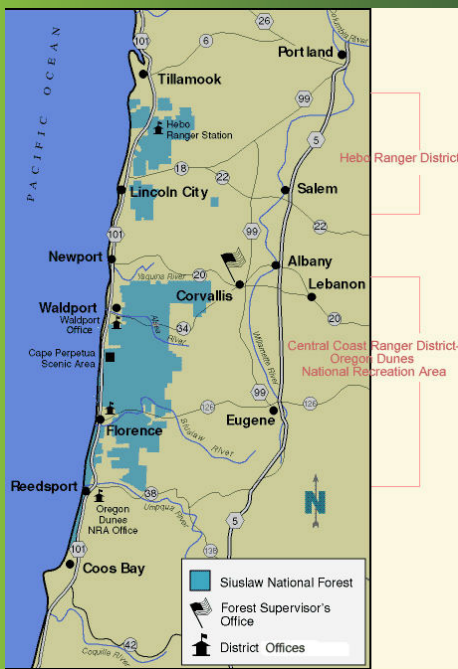




**FOREST VICINITY MAP**



USDA FS 2011

**LEGACY ROADS AND TRAILS FUNDED ACCOMPLISHMENTS (2009-2011):**

Critical maintenance decreases the risk of road failures.

- ▶ 163 miles - surface maintained
- ▶ 34 miles - stormproofed

Cleaning and replacing culverts reduces chance of road blow-outs.

- ▶ 150 culverts replaced
- ▶ 254 miles of ditches re-established and culverts cleaned

Reclaiming/storing unneeded roads lowers maintenance costs and helps keep water clean.

- ▶ 188 miles stored
- ▶ 67 miles decommissioned

Road maintenance and reclamation supports high-wage jobs. An estimated 16-24 jobs are created or maintained for every \$1 million spent on forest restoration.

**INVESTMENTS IN ROADS PAY OFF!**

**SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST ROADS WITHSTAND RECORD-BREAKING STORM**

**STORM BATTERS CENTRAL OREGON COAST – JAN. 2012**

Not since 1996 has the Coast been pounded with weather as extreme as it was this winter. Nearly 9 inches of rain in 24 hours in Yachats – a new record. Slopes gave away under the pressure of so much water creating landslides. Streams and rivers flooded – often where community members had never seen flooding before. Roadways collapsed and other roads closed because of water, fallen trees and branches – making travel difficult. In the end, state, county and Federal highways estimated \$36M in road damage.

But there was one story that was not reported....

**SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST ROADS DEFY STORM**

- ▶ 631 miles of roads remained open, only 26 miles were closed.
- ▶ Forest Service key roads between the coast and inland provided critical connections for residents and emergency vehicles.
- ▶ Sediment impacts to important coho streams were reduced.

**WHAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE?**

In 1996, very large flood events damaged roads, trails, campgrounds, and other facilities. Landslides and debris torrents from road and culvert failures spoiled many stream systems. The Siuslaw National Forest responded by intensifying their forest restoration program – developing projects to repair damage but also to reduce risk from future floods.

- ▶ **Restoration focus** – road reclamation and stormproofing reduced damage risk, protected water quality, and improved habitat for threatened fish species.
- ▶ **Investment** – The Siuslaw allocated nearly \$7 million (in 10 years) to fix the forest’s road system. Sources included Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation Program, Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
- ▶ **Partnerships** – such as with stewardship groups, NGO’s and watershed councils were cultivated and strengthened - leveraging knowledge and resources.

The storm this winter proves that focusing on road management, to protect streams, works.

**FACT SHEET**

## SPOTLIGHT PROJECT: FARMER CREEK CULVERT REPLACEMENT, HEBO RANGER DISTRICT

### ISSUE:

- ▶ Steelhead, cutthroat trout, and coastal coho were blocked by an undersized, perched culvert.
- ▶ Small culvert could have plugged with debris during a storm – increasing the chance for road failure and for a big sediment flush into the stream.
- ▶ Road provides access to private and public lands and is an important alternate route for 15 private residences when Highway 101 is blocked.

### SOLUTION:

- ▶ Fix the problem: Replaced 3-foot wide culvert with a 15-foot culvert – restoring access to 1.5 miles of fish habitat and reducing the chance the culvert will plug and blow-out road.
- ▶ Leverage support: Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation Program funds were matched with native tree and shrub plantings by the Nestucca-Neskowin Watershed Council.
- ▶ Maintain /create local jobs: Just Bucket Excavating, Inc. – a small local business – secured a \$177,500 Forest Service contract, which increased their restoration credentials to bid on future projects.



Pre-project, 2010: View upstream of undersized 3-ft culvert hidden in vegetation.



During project, 2011: View downstream with local contractors at work.



Post-project, 2012: View upstream during a storm. Vegetation will be planted by local watershed council.

All photos USDA Forest Service.

## FACT SHEET