

Joint Statement of the Forest Service and Mt. Hood Meadows Oreg., LLC Regarding the Terms of a Wetland Conservation Easement

The Forest Service and Mt. Hood Meadows Oreg., LLC (Mt. Hood Meadows) have been continuing in their efforts to implement the Cooper Spur-Government Camp land exchange pursuant to Section 1206(a) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Act), most recently by working on the Wetlands Conservation Easement the Act directs the Forest Service to reserve on the Federal parcel to be exchanged. They are jointly issuing this statement to report on the latest progress they have made toward this end.

The Forest Service and Mt. Hood Meadows engaged in mediation on September 30th for the purpose of resolving the remaining easement terms that had continued to be in dispute.

The Forest Service and Mt. Hood Meadows are pleased to report that they were able to arrive at mutually satisfactory easement terms during the September 30<sup>th</sup> mediation. The parties have agreed to prepare a new iteration of the easement that reflects the mutual understanding they reached during their mediation. In addition, exhibits to the conservation easement have yet to be prepared that describe the surveyed legal description of the wetland areas and identify the wetland baseline conditions.

The Forest Service intends to incorporate the Wetland Conservation Easement as part of the Proposed Action to be addressed in the NEPA analysis of the exchange transaction. The Forest Service and Mt. Hood Meadows will work cooperatively to resolve any revisions to the Wetland Conservation Easement arising from the agency's NEPA review.

Now that the Forest Service and Mt. Hood Meadows have resolved the easement terms, they are engaged in efforts to establish an acceptable timeline for completing the exchange.

  
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