

DRAFT
ALSEA STEWARDSHIP GROUP
MEETING NOTES
February 28, 2011 3:00 to 5:00 pm
Alsea Library

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Ross Holloway	Facilitator	Pam Gardner	USFS
Trish Wilson	BLM	Marc Barnes	IRM
Elmer Ostling	AWC	Mike Kennedy	Siletz Tribe
Dan Segotta	USFS	Chandra LeGue	Oregon Wild
Paul Engelmeyer	Wetland Conservancy	Fran Recht	PSMFC
Wayne Hoffman	MCWC	Vicky Mugnai	USFS

Welcome and Introductions

Review Notes and Agenda

Notes of the January 24 accepted as submitted.

Additions to Agenda

Hebo Stewardship Group Meeting-Update

Project/Agency Updates

Forest Service, Dan Segotta & Pam Gardner

- Title II Payco project proposals deadline extended to March 3. Approximately \$500K available for Lincoln County and approximately \$300K available for Lane County. Josh Lambert will be submitting proposals for invasives projects. Jack Sleeper and Marty Bray are the FS contacts for fisheries and wildlife.
- The proposed Forest Service Planning Rule is out for public comment.
- Siuslaw NF's scoping letter for the Five Rivers Culvert Replacement project sent out. Lane County has a Federal Highway contract to do work within a small portion of Siuslaw NF with their staging area on Siuslaw NF land.
- Dan Segotta described conversations he had with two individuals who would be willing to come and speak to the group. The two potential speakers presented for consideration: Jean Buckner with Symbios LLC and Jim Trappe, Professor, OSU College of Forestry. Professor Trappe is a world expert on truffle ecology in natural forests and can speak on truffle ecology and the impacts of truffle harvest and forest management. Jean Buckner represents a company interested in supporting FS and BLM initiatives for sustainable local communities and protection of watershed and restoration of forest environments. ASG agreed to invite the two speakers to provide an educational presentation at one of ASG's spring meetings.

Hebo Stewardship Group, Wayne Hoffman & Mike Kennedy

- Wayne and Mike attended the first meeting of the newly formed Hebo Stewardship Group.
- It was well-attended (~25 people), with good representation of groups and interests in the Hebo area.
- Wayne and Mike shared their stewardship experiences with the Hebo group, and the group's response was positive.
- Hebo will be moving forward with one stewardship group (after considering forming two for different watersheds in the area).
- Next steps: The group will meet again on March 9 in Cloverdale, and will focus on determining their stewardship area on maps. The Hebo RD indicated they have thinning projects that could be accomplished in the near-term through stewardship timber sales.

Monitoring in Mary's Peak Stewardship Group Area, Marc Barnes

There are 13 to 18 pre-harvest plots identified for Bridge Thin in this year's monitoring contract. These will be baseline data plots (a combination of stand exams and photo points).

NOAA Consultations, Paul Engelmeyer

Paul shared conversations he has had with NOAA staff in Portland. Posed the question as to why NOAA is not supporting SNF management proposals, when the environmental groups are supporting. Paul proposed extending another invitation to NOAA as we begin to plan 2011 field trips. He offered to take the lead in making the contacts.

BLM Update, Trish Wilson

- BLM has a new Salem District Manager, Miles Brown. He served as BLM's Branch Chief of Rangeland Resource, Recreation, and Wilderness in Portland, Oregon. He also brings experience working with OWEB.
- BLM's budget forecast mirrors that of the Forest Service. BLM is undergoing a staffing and planning exercise.

Project Updates

- Parker Bear Commercial Thin: came back to BLM due to downturn in economy. Sale will be offered again next year.
- North Fork Overlook Commercial Thinning: older trees are competing with younger trees. Paul Engelmeyer attended a field trip to review this timber sale and remembered that people on the fieldtrip had concerns about thinning adjacent to remnant large trees that were scattered within the thinning units and the potential effects to murrelets that could be using them for nesting. The group on the field trip recommended that BLM consult with murrelet experts at OSU about the project. Trish was not aware of the issue and Paul expressed surprise that the project was moving forward.
- Meadows: BLM is pursuing a project to remove encroaching conifers in the Marys Peak meadow. BLM conducted a field trip with contractors.
- Yaquina Head Lighthouse: looking at a 15-year management plan, continuing partnerships and determining program emphasis. The lighthouse is visited each year by approximately 300,000 people.

- Alsea Falls: recreation proposals from the public under consideration, BLM working on finalizing boundary of proposed recreation area.
- BLM holdings: no plan to block off BLM holdings near Starker Creek and Weyerhaeuser property in the Mary's Peak resource area.
- NOAA designated Alsea as a priority watershed.
- WOPR (Western Oregon Plan Revision) and Resource Management Plan: agency waiting to see what happens with the spotted owl recovery plan.
- Salem District is also watching to see what happens with collaborative projects in southern Oregon.

Forest Service Contracting Discussion, Dan Segotta

Revisit contracting policies and requirements (handouts provided: *FS-2400 Offer for Integrated Resource Contract & the forest's Technical Evaluation Criteria*).

- Stewardship timber sales on the Siuslaw NF are designed to ensure that there is enough value in product removal to generate retained receipts.
- Stewardship Timber Sale contracts differ from Stewardship Service contracts.
- Specifications for service related items are included in stewardship proposals.
- Road packages: may be included in contracts; contractors have an option to opt roadwork back to the FS (FS then put contract out for bid). Specified roadwork can be opted back to the FS in stewardship sales. Specified road work corresponds with haul routes and usually involves reconstruction and culvert replacements. Road work is appraised for and included in price.
- Contractors can look at appraisals and logging feasibility reports when preparing bids and proposals.
- Page 4 of FS-2400 explains rationale for the Technical Evaluation Criteria. (Discussion about Siuslaw NF being open to ASG input regarding evaluation criteria.)

Review monitoring information on local economic impacts (handout provided)

- Discussion about impacts to local workforce and small contractors: historically, Swanson and GP have been Siuslaw NF's primary large purchasers. The forest has no say as to whom subcontractors can be.
- Job creation is skewed towards the processing of wood and there are no large scale processing facilities within the Alsea Stewardship Area boundary.
- Currently, it is not possible to obtain specific data related to subcontractors and millworkers (who they are or where they're from). Purchasers consider this proprietary information. To obtain this information, identifying subcontractors would have to be specified in the stewardship contract. Caveat: stewardship contracts are complex. Compelling contractors to identify subcontractors could reduce interest from some prospective purchasers.
- Dan talked about a recent stewardship sale being awarded to a small purchaser. Evaluation criteria played a part in the award going to the small purchaser; award was based on best value.

Next step

- ASG members are invited to review and digest the information presented at this meeting and bring input back to the group at a future meeting.

- Dan agreed to look back at the Group's original recommendations on how the local workforce criteria should be weighted and see how it was changed for the final criteria being used to evaluate proposals. The bottom line for the group is whether we are accomplishing the results we want to see.

Future meeting dates and agenda items

March 21	3 – 5 pm	Waldport (Central Coast Ranger Station): Invite OPRD to discuss potential collaboration on projects. Begin to develop field trip ideas.
April 18	6 – 8 pm	Fall Creek Hatchery
May 16	6 – 8 pm	Waldport (Central Coast Ranger Station)
June 20	6 – 8 pm	Alsea Public Library

Agenda item for a future meeting: invite speaker to discuss wildlife response to thinning regimen (this group needs to flesh out what we would specifically like to hear.)

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm