

## Hebo Stewardship Group Meeting Notes

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011; 6:00-8:00pm  
Kiawanda Community Center

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Alex Sifford	Nestucca-Neskowin WC	Sherry Vick	NNWC
Dave Martin	Westwind Stewardship Group	Lisa Phipps	Tillamook Estuary Partnership
Luke Gmazel	City of Lincoln City	Guy Sievert	NNWC
Paul Katen	SDWC	Laura Todd	USFWS
Guy Holzworth	NNWC	Mike Kennedy	Siletz Tribe
Duncan Berry	Ecosystem Services Inc.	Ron Hudson	Hebo RD
Steve Trask	Bio-Surveys, Inc	Michael Reichenberg	Hebo RD
George Buckingham	Hebo RD	Josh Marxen	Hebo RD
Jackie Nichols	Cascade Pacific RC&D	Jane Barth	Facilitator

**Agenda Item 1:** The meeting facilitator introduced the agenda and the handouts for all.

Objectives for the meeting included:

1. Adopt final language for the group Charter, including stewardship boundary area.
2. Adopt final language for group norms, decision-making procedure and local economic area definition.
3. Familiarize the group with the Coast Range Stewardship Fund timeline, procedure, criteria, etc.

**Agenda Item 2:** We looked over the minutes from the last meeting. No additions or changes necessary. The notes were approved by consensus. George Buckingham, Hebo District Ranger started off the meeting with a welcome message and thanked participants for their involvement. He sees the HSG as a great opportunity for us to get together. Introductions continued around the room.

**Agenda Item 3:** Documents to formalize group.

Facilitator of the meeting individually reviewed the documents created to formalize group.

Action Items:

1. Charter-Approved *with condition that 1.5 miles was added to boundary and Trask River watershed was in fact included.*

2. Group norms and decision making procedures- Approved

3. Local economic area definition-Approved

*First tier -Full preference will go to those within the Stewardship boundary. Second Tier contractor preference goes to Tillamook County, Lincoln County, and Grand Ronde with the intention is to give preference to small, local contractors, particularly in coastal communities.*

Approved

## Discussion Related to Charter and Stewardship Boundary Map

- Michael R. explained the boundary was established around watersheds including the entire Hebo Ranger District. In some areas artificial boundaries were created when Forest Service land did not extend into a large watershed. The Wyden Authority allows doing projects 1.5 miles from forest boundary if it is biologically significant to the National Forest within the boundary. After much discussion, the group decided it would be beneficial to extend the stewardship boundary 1.5 miles beyond FS land wherever the current draft map has the boundary right on the edge of FS land. This is true for only 2-3 sections of the draft map. The map can be modified at a later date if the group decides it is necessary.
- All projects must make the case that they benefit the Forest. This is particularly true the farther the project is from FS land. The general rule of within 1.5 miles of the Forest for terrestrial projects is based on certain species. Each project proposal can make its case for the species it is aimed at.
- Mike Wilson is not here but appreciates the boundary including Grand Ronde land. He will continue to participate in the group but may not make all meetings.
- Lisa stated the Trask River has Forest Service land that touches into that watershed and she would like to open up the boundary to this watershed. The group determined this River is included in the map, but is not stated in the written description (section A2). The Trask River flows into the Tillamook River. That particular piece, Mill Creek, is very critical Coho habitat.
- We need a boundary to use the Stewardship contract authority to generate retained receipts. There receipts are only generated off of FS lands within stewardship group boundaries. Part of those receipts (currently 60%) is used for stewardship projects on FS lands. The other 40% are for Wyden projects on private lands within or connected (by species or invasives) to FS land. If a Wyden project is within the stewardship boundary, it is pretty easy to justify the connection to FS land. If it is outside the boundary, the applicant needs to make a stronger case for the benefit. That is the real value of the boundary for Wyden projects, which are what the SG work on.
- There must be a limit. If you make the boundary too far, it would be possible to do a project, but would be hard to make the connection to the benefit to the forest. The group can still give preference to local contractors through the local area definition; it does not have to include all targeted communities in the boundary.

## **Agenda Item 4: Debrief on the Roundtable meeting**

Michael passed around notes from the meeting and discussed highlights. Jane will circulate full meeting notes once completed. The Roundtable fully accepted the HSG into the Coast Range Stewardship Fund. It edited its policy to indicate 4 groups would participate in the Roundtable and all 4 groups would have their top priority project funded before funding additional projects from any group.

## Agenda Item 5: Coast Range Stewardship Fund

- Funds: This cycle the FS anticipates having as much as \$160,000 for Wyden projects. These funds come from retained receipts on active sales within the SSG and ASG areas. Adding Hebo group is a good thing for all stewardship on Siuslaw because this area has the potential for stewardship sales in the near future. The Mary Peak area will have its first stewardship sale this year, contributing to the shared pot for the first time. All 4 groups have equal access to the funds. The funds are not tracked in terms of what area generated them.
- A diagram of stewardship fund process was introduced. Request for Proposals will come out June 1st and applications are due September 1st. Two people from each group go to the Roundtable meeting in the Fall. Each group presents their top priority projects and Roundtable decides prioritization of all projects that can be funded.
- The application is like OWEB application. It is beneficial to people to have the application similar to the OWEB application to answer the same questions since OWEB often is a funding partner on the projects. Jackie is taking input as she revises the application form. People are encouraged to get her feedback no later than May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Matching funds are recommended but not required. The typical level is 25% with both cash and in-kind being allowed. Federal partners can provide technical assistance as match. Applicant will need a letter from agency saying that they are a partner on the project. This helps to meet goals.
- Work plan payment schedule advice from Jackie: Do the budget and then do a timeline of when you need the money. No advancements made and 10% is held back until final report received. Signed agreements typically done in the Spring of following year. Stewardship will not pay for monitoring. Administration should be included in project management. If it is not on the ground, don't break out the cost. Jackie can share examples of past successful applications to help make this clearer.
- When you develop projects think about the scale-ability as you may be asked if you could get by for less.
- The Forest Service specialist contact sheet was introduced by Michael Reichenberg. He explained that this sheet was designed to provide the name of the appropriate contact for different types of projects. Stewardship group participants will know the names of the specialists from past experience. Michael asked that project applicants contact him with any technical questions or requests and he will route those to the specialists. Please don't call them directly. This will be a standard operating procedure. It is important that all project applications are reviewed with FS specialists before being submitted. There is a box on the application checklist to indicate this consultation has taken place.

## Potential Stewardship Project Sharing

The group feels they will have projects ready for the upcoming round. People should let the facilitator know if/when they want time on upcoming meeting agendas to share their ideas with the group. All projects must have stewardship group support to move forward in the funding process.

- Paul Katen shared that the SDCWC has identified several sites on Bear Creek that to receive woody debris. Have done culvert surveys on Salmon River. Have identified top 10 culvert projects. Schooner Creek for next year
- Luke Gmazel shared about a Watershed initiative between council and city for projects in communities.
- Number of small streams in Lincoln City. Can stewardship funding help provide access to those streams? Through seawall—a guess they may not have benefit.
- Laura talked about projects to open up meadows.
- Invasive species know no boundaries; it can be a big distance. Knotweed is on Three Rocks Road and 101. Needs to be fixed before it gets in to the Salmon river –worse than it is.—put concrete ideas in applications
- Alex Sifford shared that the NNWC is looking into work on Farmer Creek. Woody debris. They have a culvert inventory-throughout the basin.
- There was a question about doing anything in Rock Creek or *Sigh Creek (spelling error?)* and mention of marshes on the refuge?

## **Agenda item 6- Future Meeting Dates, Location and Potential Field Trip**

Chose regular meeting date of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays from 6-8pm. May consider meeting earlier in the day during the Winter months. Set next meeting for June 9<sup>th</sup> in Lincoln City. Jane will work on location.

Decided to plan for a Fall field trip.

Michael announced the climate change workshop in Yachats. Jane will email an agenda and how to attend.

Closing remarks were made and the meeting adjourned around 8pm.