

**ALSEA STEWARDSHIP GROUP
MEETING NOTES**
July 18, 2011 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Central Coast Ranger District - Waldport

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Ross Holloway	Facilitator	Dan Segotta	USFS
Elmer Ostling	AWC	Stacy Polkowske	Lincoln SWCD
Andy Kittel	AWC	Viva Worthington	USFS
Vicky Mugnai	USFS	Joe Rohleder	AWC
Chris Cornwell	Lincoln County		

Welcome and Introductions

Review Notes and Agenda

Notes of the June 20 were accepted as submitted. In response to a question by a member who missed the June meeting, Andy Kittel provided clarification regarding his June update and proposed projects.

Project/Agency Updates

Forest Service, Dan Segotta

- § Retained receipt projections will be announced, hopefully, at the next meeting. The staff person who pulls this information together has retired.
- § The two current positions in Operations were advertised once (silviculture and pre-sale); they need to be advertised again.
- § 1 stewardship sale is being advertised: *Bridge Thin* at Marys Peak.
- § 1 large helicopter non-stewardship sale to be advertised: *Lob Five*. It will yield less about 9MMBF. Very low stumpage rates due to high cost of helicopter logging.

Forest Service, Viva Worthington

- § Pam Gardner will return July 28.
- § No one appealed the East Alsea Decision Notice.

Cascade Pacific RC&D, Ross Holloway for Jackie Nichols

- § Still waiting for the signed 5-year agreement between CPRC&D and the FS (for last year's awards). Project payment schedules could be impacted by the delay.

10-Year Celebration Event Update, Ross Holloway

- § The event is scheduled for August 17. Ross sent out an e-invite last week.
- § More information about the "Two Chiefs" Partnership Award discussed last month: it is jointly bestowed each year by the Chief of NCRS and the Chief of the USFS for exemplary

collaboration in promoting conservation, forest stewardship and watershed restoration. The award has been around for 10+ years and is bestowed upon only a few nationwide efforts each year. Five efforts were recognized last year. The stewardship groups within the Siuslaw National Forest will be recognized this year.

- § The State NRCS Director and the Regional Forester will be at the August 17 event.
- § Chandra LeGue offered to issue press releases and plans to put together a media tour for the morning of August 17.

Lincoln County Vegetation, Chris Cornell

- § Chris has touched bases with Mary Stein, FS Botanist. Chris' current projects:
 - working with Josh Lambert, Lincoln SWCD, on collaborative projects and policemen's helmet in the Alsea and Five Rivers areas
 - Payco grant work
 - working in the Five Rivers area with the Lincoln County Corrections Work Crew
 - this fall the replanting project started by Doug Shaller will continue
- § Chris is applying for an OSWB grant for continuing clematis and knotweed eradication work in the Yachats River area.
- § Slated for next year: a larger roadside policemen's helmet eradication project. Andy Kittel offered that the AWC is working with Benton SWCD to survey invasives in the Lobster Valley area (students were hired to conduct observation work; grant is in place).
- § Dan Segotta advised Chris that there is clematis and yellow star-thistle within the proposed project area described by Stacy Polkowske, Lincoln SWCD (see below).

Stewardship Project Proposals for Current Application Cycle

- § Last month we heard about four possible projects from the Alsea Watershed Council (AWC). Andy Kittel advised that AWC still needs to talk to Chuck Fisher, USFS Hydrologist, and is currently developing the budget. The large wood placement in the Alsea estuary won't happen this year (proposed for the north channel, mud flats area).
- § Stacy Polkowske, Lincoln SWCD, presented her proposal (map of project area provided): she is working with ODFW on a Spout Creek Watershed Restoration/Fish passage project in the Harlan area. Jason Kirshner is assisting. Project involves 12 culverts, large wood placement, and riparian restoration. Stacy will be applying for an OWEB grant in October and will need a large match. There are 12 landowners in the area, 5 miles of main stem Spout Creek and several miles of tributaries (out of the 5 miles, there is buy-in for at least 2 contiguous miles). The county, a big partner in the project, will be doing most of the work on the culverts. Lots of Coho in the area (Steve Trask performed the survey). Land ownership includes the state (ODFW), private landowners, Common School lands (ODF) and some BLM. Stacy plans to apply for Coast Range Stewardship funds and will liaison with FS technical reviewers. ASG feedback to Stacy's presentation: project meets Wyden criteria.
- § Elmer Ostling proposed a possible project for future consideration. It involves Smelt Sands restoration (Smelt Sands is managed by the state). Smelt is a food source for salmon. ASG recommended consultation with fisheries to establish that there would be benefits to federal lands (Wyden authority criteria). This discussion led to a discussion about strategy and work priorities within the basin.

Summer Field Trip Discussion

- § Option 2, of the survey Ross sent out, seemed to hold the most appeal: the Canal Creek project area, Siletz Tribe land on Arnold Creek, and other nearby sites. This field trip would also provide a snapshot of work that is ongoing.
- § Group decided on September 8 for the field trip, to be followed by a meeting in Waldport for project application reviews (while the deadline for proposals is September 1, the review process allows for ongoing refining after that date).
- § Dan Segotta, Andy Kittel and Mike Kennedy will plan the field trip.

Other Discussion

Some discussion about the truffles presentation at the May meeting. Essentially, Siuslaw National Forest will not be issuing truffles permits. Discussion highlights include resource damage through illegal harvesting and a need for a model that demonstrates harvesting can be done in a sustainable and economically beneficial way.

Brief discussion about Stewardship Sale product labeling (SFI© label). Essentially, large public landowners cannot certify their lands. This certification is available to private landholders only.

Announcements

- § The Roundtable meeting will be in October.

Future meeting dates

August 17 3 – 7:30 P.M. 10-year Celebration (Dave Eisler's property in Walton)

No ASG meeting in August

September 26 6-8 pm Fall Creek Hatchery

October 17 6-8 pm in Waldport

Proposed agenda topics for future meetings

- § A presentation about Siuslaw National Forest Non-Timber Forest products program (100% of receipts are returned to the forest. SNF garners approximately \$130K a year in special forest product sales).
- § Clarity on new spotted-owl recovery plan and its impact on the Forest
- § Dead or downed wood
- § FS roads and sedimentation
- § Monitoring (for the joint ASG-SSG-HSG meeting in November)

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm