

**Siuslaw Stewardship Group
Meeting Notes
September 1, 2011**

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Ross Holloway	Facilitator	Dan Segotta	SNF
Pam Gardner	SNF	Bill Hatton	BLM
Liz Vollmer-Buhl	SWC	David Eisler	SWC
Johnny Sundstrom	Siuslaw Institute	Chandra LeGue	Oregon Wild

The meeting began at 1:05 PM.

Review Notes and Agenda

The participants approved the August 4, 2011 meeting notes with one minor correction. The discussion about the CPRCD website was in reference to the “Stewardship” page on the website.

Current Process/Project Updates

Forest Service, Dan Segotta

- § Colin Crook is taking a transfer to Montana.
- § North Fork Siuslaw EA – The preliminary analysis is undergoing internal review. Expect a public version in late-October or early-November.
- § Dan handed out a timber sale schedule for the coming fiscal year and described the proposed stewardship sales. This list includes Hebo RD sales, but they have not yet identified which will be stewardship sales. All of the current volume numbers are estimates.
- § No update on retained receipts, but still thinking it will be in the \$200,000 for Wyden projects.
- § The Forest has identified and allocated \$95,000 for the non-retained receipts activities associated with the stewardship groups (facilitation, monitoring and outreach). This is about twice as much as in previous years, but costs are higher with an additional group in Hebo. It may also be wise to “save” some of these funds for future years in anticipation of potential budget reductions.

Stewardship Contracting Authority Reauthorization Efforts, Johnny Sundstrom

- § Extension of stewardship authority remains potentially linked to extending the “Secure Rural Schools” (SRS) funding to Counties. A “fallback” position if SRS funding does not materialize is to propose sharing 25% of stewardship sales receipts with Counties. There is some internal debate among supporters of stewardship contracting reauthorization whether to pursue a “clean” bill, or ask for changes to the authority.

Other Updates

- § Liz reported that SWC is getting lots of release work done this summer with their stewardship agreements set to expire.
- §

10-year Celebration Event Debrief

- § One “loose end” is getting the porta-potty vendor paid. Dan is working on it.
- § The group thanked Dave Eisler for “hosting” the event on his property and also for all the work done to prepare the site.
- § Media update – There was a 2 page article in the Siuslaw News as a result of the media tour. KLCC also ran a story the day prior. Dave asked that the news article be distributed to members. The FS press release from Joni Quarnstrom also appeared in the Forest Service’s Region 6 newsletter. Johnny suggested that a possible agenda item for the Fall Roundtable be a discussion of protocols for working with the media.

Fall Field Trip to BLM Lands

- § The group selected October 14 as the date for the field trip.
- § Bill Hatton provided a handout on BLM stewardship contracts for the period from FY07 to FY11. He explained that their emphasis is on generating receipts for the Counties. Their stewardship program is of a much smaller scale than the Siuslaw National Forest’s. He also explained that a number of their projects have focused on their progeny test sites.
- § The group discussed options for topics and stops on the field trip. Interest was expressed in seeing examples of any practices that are unique to BLM, examples of standard thinning prescriptions used, operations where chipping has been utilized, and a combination of both stewardship and restoration activities.
- § The tentative schedule for the field trip will be 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., with the possibility of assembling in the Veneta area. Bill will send a draft itinerary to Ross to share with the group.

Project Applications for Next Funding Cycle

- § Siuslaw Riparian Restoration 2012-13 - Liz explained that this proposal from SWC differs from past ones in that it incorporates two years worth of release work, due to the timeline and funding cycle associated with the CPRCD agreement. Otherwise, it is very similar to past year’s projects. All “dollars” from other sources are “in kind” services. There have been some cost adjustments to reflect real costs experienced on previous projects. Johnny requested that the group consider this project their number one priority for the purpose of Roundtable discussions, and the group agreed.
- § SWCD Knotweed Control Project – Liz and Johnny answered questions about this project. The project proposes using a foliar herbicide application away from streams,k and a stem injection application near streams. Utilizing non-herbicide methods on specific landowners is also addressed in the proposal. The proposal also includes anticipated follow-up treatment in subsequent years. Liz referred to the successful knotweek control work that has occurred adjacent to the docks in Mapleton. This project is scalable if availability of funds becomes an issue.

Forest Service Retained Receipts Project Submittals

- § Dan shared a list showing nine potential projects submitted by FS staff. The nine projects are:
 - Coast Range Restoration Seedlings – funds to purchase seedlings from non-FS nurseries to replace what appears to be a poor crop at the FS nursery.
 - Mt. Hebo Silverspot butterfly project – first project for the Hebo RD and group.
 - Rock Creek Silverspot project – continues and expands previous work.
 - Siuslaw Meadow Maintenance – continues previous work.

- ORBIC and APHIS projects – continues work on Snowy plover nest site protection and predator control, but at reduced amount.
 - Plover Habitat Improvement – beach grass control and placement of oyster shells.
 - Five Mile-Bell – Dike removal and large wood staging for future projects.
 - Culvert replacement in the Five Rivers area.
- § One additional project not yet on the list is a road paving project in the Lobster Valley area. The road would support access to a long-term stewardship timber sale. Cost is likely to be \$70-80,000.

Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates

- § October 6 – Regular meeting
- Review technical team report on Wyden projects
 - Review BLM field trip details
 - Agenda for Fall Roundtable meeting
- § October 13 – Fall Roundtable meeting from 9:30 – 12:00 at SNF Supervisor’s Office in Corvallis. Johnny suggested that a discussion of using extra outreach funds to develop an outreach document be part of the agenda.
- October 14 – Field trip to BLM land

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.