

**JOINT STEWARDSHIP GROUP
MEETING NOTES
December 6, 2011 11:30 to 4:00 pm
Beverly Beach State Park Meeting Yurt
Newport, OR**

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Jane Brass Barth	MPSG&HSG Facilitator	Frank Davis	USFS-SNF-SO
Ross Holloway	ASG & SSG Facilitator	Kraig Kidwell	USFS-SNF-SO
Jackie Nichols	Cascade Pacific RCD	Ron Hudson	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Dan Segotta	USFS-SNF – CCRD	Michelle Dragoo	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Vicky Mugnai	USFS-SNF – CCRD	George Buckingham	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Pam Gardner	USFS-SNF-CCRD	Wayne Patterson	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Joni Quanstrom	USFS-SNF-SO	Viva Worthington	USFS-SNF-CCRD
Kelly Kittel	Alesea WC	Marc Barnes	IRM, ASG
Andy Kittel	ASG, Alesea WC	Chris Cornwell	Lincoln County
Fran Recht	ASG, PSMFC	Paul Engelmeyer	ASG, Audubon Society
Josh Lambert	ASG, Lincoln SWCD	Mike Kennedy	Siletz Tribe, ASG, HSG, SSG
Johnny Sundstrom	SSG	Liz Vollmer-Buhl	SSG, Siuslaw WC
Matt Mellenthin	IRM, MPSG	Chandra LeGue	Oregon Wild, SSG, ASG
Karen Fleck-Harding	MPSG, MRWC	Catherine Pruett	HSG, Salmon Drift WC
Alex Sifford	HSG, Neskowin- Nestucca WC	Steve Trask	MPSG, HSG, Biosurveys
Anne Walker	USFWS, HSG	Joe Rohleder	ASG, Alesea WC
Luke Gmazel	HSG, City of Lincoln City	Lisa Phipps	HSG, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership
Liz Graham	Benton SWCD, MPSG	Chris Finn	BLM - Eugene
Heath Keirstead	Benton SWCD, MPSG	John Sanchez	Consultant

Welcome/Introductions/Agenda Overview

This meeting is the third annual gathering of the stewardship groups on the Siuslaw National Forest. It is convened to share ideas, hear and give feedback to the annual multi-party monitoring report. Special topics for this year's meeting are tools to show economic impact of restoration and working with the media on stewardship issues. As the meeting began, Pam Gardner announced that she would be leaving soon to take a position in Montana. She thanked the group for all their hard work and accomplishments for stewardship on the Siuslaw National Forest. The group thanked her for all her support.

Stewardship Project "Show and Tell"

Each of the four stewardship groups on the Siuslaw National Forest shared an example of work they have done over the past year(s). The goal is was to increase awareness of the range of work that stewardship groups can do from planning to outreach to specific projects. Each presenter produced a PowerPoint, which will be posted on the USFS, Siuslaw National Forest Partnerships website.

Alsea Stewardship Group: Canal Creek Stream Habitat Enhancement

Andy Kittel, private landowner and member of the ASG, shared information on the Canal Creek habitat enhancement project that is being done on his property. Key points from Andy's presentation included:

- § Project area: lower end of the creek; a high priority location considering the forest's large wood project on the upper end of the creek.
- § Technical objectives:
 - increase channel complexity, in stream structure, pool habitat for juvenile salmonid rearing and adult holding
 - retain and sort spawning gravel
- § Practices: root wad and log placement, boulder placement, native vegetative planting (willow and alder)
- § Partners & Collaboration: AWC, ASG, USFS, ODFW, private landowners
- § Funding: stewardship funds, in-kind, and donations amounted to approximately \$50K
- § Q&A: chum sightings not verified

Hebo Stewardship Group: Bear Creek LWD

§ Alex Sifford, Executive Director of the Nestucca-Neskowin Watershed Council, gave a summary of what the new Hebo Stewardship Group had accomplished since it first convened in February 2011:

- Rotating venue between north Lincoln & south Tillamook Cos.
- Determined Stewardship Area Boundary
- Defined "Adjacent Communities"
- Completed and got approval of group charter
- Learned about Wyden authority funding
- Tagged onto 10 Year Celebration
- Received a Two Chiefs Award
- Developed restoration project ideas
- Turned one idea into Bear Creek LWD Project
- Bear Creek proposal awarded funding
- Held successful Field Trip to see stewardship work

§ Catherine Pruett, Executive Director of the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council, gave an overview of the Bear Creek project that her organization will do with stewardship funds awarded this past cycle. Main elements of the project are log placement and riparian planting. Key points from Catherine's presentation included:

- Target date: summer 2012
- Habitat enhancement

- Bear Creek is a Salmon River tributary
- Project components: large wood placement, invasives removal, riparian planting, outreach and monitoring.
- This is the second site of 3 identified for restoration to address the lack of deep pool habitat. The first site was done in 2010 and the 3rd site will be done if/when the landowner is willing.
- LFA (limiting factors assessment) and restoration concerns: lack of deep pool habitat caused by decrease in beaver population and past logging practices
- Priority prescription: add LWD to boost summer pool frequency and conduct riparian planting
- Proposed Morton and Minski Thins are planned in proximity to project area

Marys Peak Stewardship Group: Engaging Neighborhoods in Restoration

Karen Fleck-Harding, an outreach consultant who works extensively with the Marys River Watershed Council and MPSG member, explained how she works to engage neighborhoods in restoration work. The outreach approach involves packaging many projects together along a stretch of a creek, with a goal of building community ownership of the overall effort. Karen's presentation addressed the following key elements of the outreach efforts:

- § Building familiarity
- § Building trust (following through is key)
- § Building knowledge
- § Building partnerships
- § Building ownership: developing one-on-one relationships with landowners and getting them involved (every landowner along stream was personally contacted), put tools in place to continue assisting landowners over time
- § Building sustainability
- § Sharing information at homes, community halls, other local venues
- § Steve Trask, Biosurveys Inc., provides Rapid Bio-assessment information to landowners to build their knowledge of their area.
- § Karen and Steve's outreach work has been the source of stewardship projects funded in recent Coast Range fund cycles, including projects on Greasy Creek and Shotpouch Creek.

The SSG chose to incorporate their "show and tell" story of the 5-Mile Bell project into the Restoration Economy presentation later in the agenda.

Stewardship Sales Update

Dan Segotta and Wayne Patterson reviewed the timber sales schedule for FY12 and FY13.

- § Dan Segotta provided a handout of the proposed timber sales for the Siuslaw National Forest (both Districts)
- § The schedule will likely change throughout the year (easement issues can pop up)
- § Each shared why particular sales were best for stewardship sales.
- § In the Alsea area, the Missouri Thin is best due to volume and quality factors, and in Hebo, Bixby Thin has good opportunities for stewardship because of the non-native

stocks that need to be replaced. There is interest in taking a field trip to see the species planted in the 1910s after three burns.

- § Hebo's goal is to identify stewardship sales in both parts of the district.
- § The first opportunity for FS and HSG collaboration on planning will be the North Nestucca EA starting this year. 50% of the timber sales will be stewardship as directed by the Forest Supervisor (all sales on the forest would meet stewardship guidelines)
- § The forest is trending upwards when comparing the MBF volume for FY12 and FY13 to FY10 and FY11; the average sale price is \$20K to \$24K per ton on CCRD and \$10K to \$15K per ton on Hebo

Restoration Economy in the Siuslaw River Basin

Johnny Sundstrom highlighted a report and presentation designed to address the issue of developing a "Restoration" economy to offset the diminished natural resources economy in the Siuslaw River basin. Key points from Johnny's presentation included:

- § The Siuslaw Basin comprises 775 square miles and has 150 years' history of an extractive economy (timber, fish and pasture)
- § Moving into the present: the forest's restoration economy emerged out of a social commitment to the recovery of salmon and a less focused but equally necessary resolve to restore forest resources.
- § We need to develop the economic vocabulary and justification that will translate the ethical imperative into a growing restoration economy.
- § Restoration Economy: requires and is based on investment, workforce, priorities, cost-benefits, value-added processing and marketing.
- § Foundation of a Restoration Economy: while honoring the extractive economy of our history we need to develop partnerships, dedicate ourselves to restoring landscapes and communities, provide jobs and utilize local businesses.
- § Economic impacts data is available on the Ecosystem Workforce Program (U of O) website.

Example of the Restoration Economy Approach: Five Mile-Bell Project

- § 10-year project
- § Multiple funding sources and partners
- § NEPA groundwork conducted by local people and businesses (supervised by FS personnel) which resulted in a faster and more streamlined assessment
- § This project's innovative NEPA approach is being recognized and studied at the national level

Multi-Party Monitoring Report, Matt Mellenthin, IRM

Draft copies of the FY10 report provided to attendees; report will be posted on CPRCD's website. Key elements of Matt's presentation included:

- § Major changes to the report structure:
 - FTE job calculation
 - Microsoft Access database (houses biophysical, economic and implementation monitoring data; available on the CPRCD website)

- Common stand exam data
- § What's new in the report
 - Increased quantity of stand exam/photo point plots
 - Hebo Stewardship Group became the newest stewardship group in Western Oregon
 - Implementation monitoring: first year of pre and post harvest data
- § Biophysical Accomplishments of FY10
 - FS stewardship contracts
 - FS retained receipts contracts
 - Wyden Authority Projects (reporting will be improved to be able to provide actual numbers)
- § FY10 Economic Impacts
 - FS Stewardship Contracts - total value of state taxes paid \$447,017
 - FS Retained Receipts Projects - total value of state taxed paid \$4,684
 - Wyden Authority Projects – total value of state taxes paid \$5,986

Three-year Data Comparison

Year	FS Timber Sale Volume (MMBF)	FTE Job Creation
2008	6.06	78
2009	5.787	70
2010	8.976	105.78

- § When Stewardship Groups convene in January-February they should develop ideas to improve monitoring work in the next contract.
- § Matt will touch base with Michelle so her ideas are brought forward to individual group discussions.
- § Paul Engelmeyer will circulate a document he brought to the meeting about monitoring tools by posting on the CPRCD website.
- § Jackie/Dan will convene a committee to work on the multi-party monitoring protocol. Michelle and Paul will join that committee.

Debrief 2011 Project Cycle

- § Ross shared the following comments that he had received to an inquiry about how to improve the 2012 application form and overall process:
 - describe if project is part of a larger effort
 - describe if project is a continuation of a previously approved project
 - reduce application and technical review requirements if technical aspects remain unchanged,
 - add space to indicate multi-year projects
 - reformat/redesign for ease of completion electronically
- § Suggested improvements to technical review
 - Evaluation form should correspond to information on the application

- Eliminate policy criteria
- § Volunteer subcommittee to work with CPRCD on revisions
 - Suggested membership: Ross Holloway, Jackie Nichols, SG representatives (Stacy Polkowske volunteered to represent ASG) and CPRCD technical staff
 - Proposal: Convene one meeting of the subcommittee early in 2012, followed by email review and comment. Each group would review proposed changes at their individual meetings. Final product for review presented at the May roundtable.

Strategies for Working with Media on Stewardship Issues, Joni Quarnstrom - USFS, and Chandra LeGue – Oregon Wild

- § Why is media important?
 - Share successes (landowners enjoy sharing in the successes too)
 - Gain public support and support from decision-makers
 - Recognize participants
 - Ripple effect
- § Various types of media
 - Guest viewpoints
 - Press release
 - Earned media stories
 - Blogs and social media (get picked up by news sources)
 - TV and radio
- § How do you get your story told?
 - Tie story to current issue
 - Sell it as human interest
 - Tie it to controversy
 - Use alternative voices
 - Develop relationships with reporters
 - Conduct field visits and invite local media
 - Keep in mind the media is looking for a good story
- § Working with a coalition
 - Agree on the message, timing and media outlets (develop a plan)
 - Have all partners review draft press release
 - Get approval for all quotations and contacts
- § Key Messages for Stewardship
 - Diverse interests working together
 - Restoration and forest health
 - Whole watershed focus on both public and private lands
 - Local economic benefit
 - What is stewardship
- § Final Thoughts
 - Think about your intended audience
 - Stick to and respect your message; don't go off topic

Update on Stewardship Re-Authorization efforts

Johnny Sundstrom provided the group with an update on efforts to reauthorize stewardship contracting authority. Key points included:

- § The authority expires in 2013
- § All stewardship projects are good if signed off before 2013
- § The primary opposition is the American and Oregon Association of Counties due to potential impacts on revenues to Counties
- § Johnny encouraged everyone to talk with their county commissioners about how stewardship projects actually create economic benefits for counties and that these economic benefits in terms of jobs and tax receipts offset the loss they perceive. Retained receipts would support less than 1 FTE. Johnny is working to produce a one-pager to help tell this story.
- § IRM and Sundstrom offered to create a one to two page paper on the economic benefits of stewardship contracting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm with another tribute to Pam Gardner for her contribution to the SNF and to stewardship. The group wishes her well in her new position in Montana.