

**Siuslaw Stewardship Group
Meeting Notes
October 6, 2011**

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Ross Holloway	Facilitator	Dan Segotta	SNF
Chuck Fisher	SNF	Bill Hatton	BLM
Liz Vollmer-Buhl	SWC	David Eisler	SWC
Johnny Sundstrom	Siuslaw Institute	Seth Mead	Siuslaw SWCD
Mike Kennedy	Siletz Tribe		

The meeting began at 1:05 PM.

Review Notes and Agenda

The participants approved the September 1, 2011 meeting notes as drafted.

Current Process/Project Updates

Forest Service, Dan Segotta

- § Retained receipts update – Looks like there will be ~\$600,000 in total receipts this fiscal year, with ~\$240,000 available for Wyden projects.
- § Forest had a helicopter timber sale that went “no bid”. May re-work the sale and offer it again this year or next. The sale combined various pieces of previous timber sales that were not accessible with the cable logging systems.
- § The North Fork Siuslaw EA is scheduled to be signed, and there will be two fourth quarter sales available. One will be designated as a Stewardship timber sale.

Tongass National Forest Program and Reauthorization Efforts, Johnny Sundstrom

- § Update to previous report about the work that Marcus Kauffman and Johnny have been doing with the Tongass NF. Forest is ready to issue two stewardship contracts, and may be seeking advice on how to develop a program to use the retained receipts generated.
- § Efforts towards reauthorization of stewardship contracting authority are moving forward as a “clean” bill that proposes no changes to the current authority. Outlook seems positive, with support from the USFS.

Tech Team Comments on Project Applications for Next Funding Cycle

SWCD Knotweed Control Project – Eight reviewers looked at this application. Application needs more detail on the planting portion of the proposal. It would be helpful to provide some information on dealing with contingencies such as weather events that prevent effective treatment. Also an interest in knowing more about landowner efforts to help with monitoring. Seth feels that all tech team comments can be addressed in a revised application. Tech team feels this is a very strong project from a technical standpoint.

Siuslaw Riparian Restoration 2012-13 – There were also eight reviewers for this project. The tech team comment on footnotes was determined to be moot. Team asked for clarification of contingency plans to deal with drought conditions affecting planted vegetation. Also need to

clarify that there is additional release work carried from previous years. Tech team feels this is a very strong project from a technical standpoint.

Other Comments on Project Applications for Next Funding Cycle

- § The group discussed how statements of support for these projects can be communicated through to the Roundtable and beyond. Group's reps to the Roundtable (Johnny and Dave) need to state support at the meeting, and that will be included in the meeting summary provided to the FS staff.
- § There was a discussion of the need to form a subcommittee from the four stewardship groups to identify needed improvements to the project application and technical review criteria for the next project cycle. Ross will see that this is included in the Roundtable and Joint Meeting discussions that are coming up.
- § The group reviewed a spreadsheet summarizing the six Wyden project applications received from the four stewardship groups. There are still some adjustments to be made on the MPSG and HSG projects. Lincoln SWCD is also preparing budgets to show the cost of expanding their Knotweed project to include 2nd and 3rd year treatments.

Forest Service Retained Receipts Projects

- § Dan briefly explained the nine projects for FS lands discussed at the September meeting, and one road improvement project that has been added (project was noted as a possible addition at the September meeting).
- § The projects total ~\$374,000, which is slightly more than the \$360,000 estimated to be available, so some reductions may be necessary.
- § Liz proposed that the Snowy plover habitat improvement project should be a high priority.
- § Group endorsed the FS retained receipt projects located within their project area.

Fall Roundtable Input from SSG

- § The December 6 joint meeting agenda will be discussed at October 13 RT meeting. One decision for SSG will be their choice for a "show and tell" topic.
- § Johnny reported that the Five Mile-Bell NEPA project had been nominated to the Council on Environmental Quality to be recognized as an innovative NEPA process. May be one of five such projects recognized nationally. This may be a good project to highlight at the joint meeting.

Fall Field Trip to BLM Lands

- § Bill Hatton reviewed a proposed itinerary for the October 14 field trip to BLM lands.
- § The field trip will start from Veneta at ~10:00 A.M. and return at ~3:00 P.M. The plan is to visit several past and proposed project sites, including a proposed project in the old 1966 Oxbow Fire area.
- § Dan will have one van available, and will be at the SWC office in Mapleton at 9:00 A.M.
- § Attendees should bring a sack lunch and we will plan to stop at the vacant Lane County Sheriffs work camp in Alma.

Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates

- § November 4 – Regular meeting
- § December 1 – Regular meeting cancelled, in lieu of Joint meeting on December 6

- December 6 – Joint meeting of the four stewardship groups in the Newport area.
Tentative schedule – 11:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., with lunch provided.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 P.M.