

**ALSEA STEWARDSHIP GROUP
MEETING NOTES
January 23, 2012 3:00 to 5:00 pm
Alsea Public Library**

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Ross Holloway	Facilitator	Scott Snedaker	BLM
Dan Segotta	SNF - CCRD	Paul Engelmeyer	Audubon/TWC
Jackie Nichols	Cascade Pacific RCD	Ken McCall	RMEF
Elmer Ostling	AWC	Ray Hughey	RMEF
Marc Barnes	IRM		

Welcome and Introductions

Review Notes and Agenda

Notes of the November meeting were accepted as submitted.

Project/Agency Updates

Forest Service, Dan Segotta

- Paul Thomas at Supervisor's Office spoke with Michael Daugherty at the Regional Office regarding the status of stewardship project approval. The Region had a number of comments and questions, but only minor edits required. Regional Forester approval is expected in the next week.
- District Silviculturalist Position – Currently reviewing candidates and planning to conduct interviews soon. Expect a hiring decision within the next month.
- The District experienced a number of major road failures with the recent rain events. Some will be repaired soon, and some will require more engineering, which will delay repair work until summer.
- Jeff Uebel is serving as Acting District Ranger for the Central Coast Ranger District, following the departure of Pam Gardner.

BLM – Salem District, Marys Peak Area, Scott Snedaker

- Scott introduced himself as a Fish Biologist and Natural Resource Specialist for the BLM.
- He announced that the new Marys Peak Field Manager is Rich Hatfield, a current employee of the BLM Salem District. Rich replaces Trish Wilson, who is now working on the Willamette National Forest.
- Scott reports on a number of recent projects in the Salem District, including weed eradication, fish habitat work, active timber sales, culvert replacement and road obliteration.
- In response to a question, Scott explained the best management practices used to reduce sediment from forest roads.
- Scott described a number of stewardship project activities currently underway, including rock pit restoration work near Alsea Falls, PCT work, and the proposed Fall Coleman stewardship project. This project would involve thinning of ~400 acres of 35-45 year old,

unmerchantable timber stands. The group and Scott agreed that as this project evolved it might make a good field trip stop. Hugh Snook is overseeing this project.

- In response to a question, Scott explained the range of funding sources that the BLM relies upon to pay for projects.

CPRCD, Jackie Nichols

- Planning to close out the current five-year agreement with the Siuslaw National Forest by the end of June. All outreach dollars under the current agreement need to be expended by that time. There is a work plan in place for the Five Rivers outreach.
- The Lincoln SWCD Knotweed Project funding will be increased by 10% to allow accomplishment of more work.

Multi-Party Monitoring Project Discussion

- The Final draft of the FY10 report will be posted to the CPRCD website soon, along with the database. The database will include a number of standards reports.
- Jackie and Dan met with Matt and Marc of IRM to review the upcoming year's work on monitoring. A task will be added to the project to analyze the current plot inventory to evaluate where we have an adequate sample versus areas where we need more plots. Intent is to ensure that we have a good sample across a variety of parameters, including aspect, elevation, geography and treatment prescriptions. Will also analyze some of the early work to see what is worth keeping and re-measuring in the future.
- Dan clarified that this monitoring work is only being conducted on stewardship timber sales.
- Paul asked a question about the amount of windthrow occurring in thinned stands. Dan responded that the recent storm events had caused some windthrow, with the heaviest hit stands losing as much as 50% of the trees. Overall however, windthrow is fairly isolated and generally confined to very recently thinned units, where trees have not had a chance to become wind firm.
- It was suggested that it may be wise to delay snag and down wood creation in some stands until after the first winter season. Scott indicated that BLM already does this on some of their operations. Dan responded that while it may be a good idea, it can be difficult to accomplish because of contracting requirements.
- Another task that may be added to the project work this year is development of data and the drafting of a short (3-4 page) document that summarizes the past four years worth of monitoring information.

Outreach Fund Allocation Discussion

- The group discussed the following ideas for allocation \$1500 in outreach funds made available to the group:
 - Promotional brochures for the Lincoln SWCD/Lincoln County invasives control programs.
 - Additional printing and distribution of the "Lincoln County Rural Living Handbook".
 - Work on the Alsea Watershed Council web page.
 - Support for the costs of printing the monitoring summary document being prepared through this year's multi-party monitoring project.

- Ross agreed to contact the people associated with these projects and ask that they provide additional information on funds needed and products that would be produced for the next meeting.

New Agenda Items

- Marc Barnes suggested that the group consider starting a quarterly newsletter to highlight what is happening with stewardship groups on the SNF. There are subscription services available for \$20 or less per month for hosting and distributing electronic newsletters. Facilitators could coordinate provision of “articles” and information for such a newsletter. Ross suggested that CPRCD might be able to provide “editorial” staff to actually put each newsletter together and provide it to the distribution service. Would be a good use of outreach funds as well, as such a newsletter could be sent to a broad distribution of interested parties.

Future meeting dates

- February 27 3:00 – 5:00 PM USFS Waldport
- March 19 3:00 – 5:00 PM Fall Creek Hatchery

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm