

**ALSEA STEWARDSHIP GROUP
MEETING NOTES
May 21, 2012 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Alsea Library**

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Ross Holloway	CPRCD Facilitator		
Dan Segotta	SNF – CCRD	Viva Worthington	SNF - CCRD
Jackie Nichols	CPRCD	Kirk Shimeall	CPRCD
Elmer Ostling	AWC	Jennifer Ayotte	Benton SWCD
Vicky Mugnai	SNF – CCRD	Tom Davis	AWC
Wayne Hoffman	MCWC	Mike Kennedy	Siletz Tribe

Review Notes and Agenda

Addition to agenda: Field trip update

Notes of the April 16 meeting were accepted as corrected and clarified:

- Page 1, Owl Workshop update should read *Barred Owl*, not *Bard Owl*.
- Page 2, Clarification to CPRCD's Announcement: due to changes at Albuquerque, CPRCD is changing their vendor payment policy to once every 30 days. Information about policy change will be sent along with contracts.
- Page 2, LFA acronym under 2nd bullet for Outreach Fund Allocation discussion should first be spelled out as Limiting Factors Analysis.

Project/Agency Updates

Forest Service, Dan Segotta

- New District Ranger, Michele Jones, reports for duty June 25. She is currently a District Ranger on the Conasauga District of the Chattahoochee-Oconee NF (Georgia). Her roots are in Oregon (she grew up in Aloha).
- Viva Worthington's last day is June 1, her potluck Bon Voyage is May 24.
- Cooperative Weed Management meeting at CCRD-Waldport's Lighthouse Room on May 23 (1:00 to 3:00 pm).
- Elk Thin Stewardship sale will start up in the next week or two; road maintenance currently underway.
- The Regional Office approved Missouri (CCRD), Rock (Marys Peak) and Bixby (Hebo) Thins for stewardship. Missouri Thin will be advertised this week.
- Update to April's report of CCRD opening roadside blowdown for firewood along specified key roads: activity closed within one or two days of opening due to USFWS concerns over the number of permits that could be issued and the potential disturbance to owls and murrelets. The seven permits issued during the open period were allowed to proceed.

CPRCD, Jackie Nichols

- Grants and Agreements process is done - \$303,440 will be awarded for projects approved last fall; projects will be contracted next week.

- Nine projects that were funded under the previous five-year agreement are still wrapping up. They have until the beginning of June to finish work; CPRCD needs invoices.
- CPRCD is moving to a new office and will have a new address – new office will be off Hwy 99E, south of Hwy 34.
- Website undergoing changes.

Roundtable Report (notes of the May 7 Roundtable meeting provided)

- Current and expected fund balance- Dan Segotta reported that receipts as of March amounted to approximately \$440K, most of which were generated last fall. Total expected funding will mirror last year's receipts (in the neighborhood of \$600K). It is anticipated that this year's projects will be funded similar to last years' projects.
- The Roundtable reviewed the revised project application:
 - ✓ Timeline was discussed; technical specialists' suggested changes were incorporated in the project review form.
 - ✓ Language cleaned-up, redundancy was removed, new and separate form for documentation of technical specialist consultation added, contact information for technical consultation changed to remove specific names.
 - ✓ Application now includes questions applicable to multi-year projects or projects that are part of a larger project.
 - ✓ Permits and licenses block were added.
 - ✓ Work plan payment schedule added.
 - ✓ Budget development section was reduced to two questions intended to capture unit cost and require applicants to provide support for their numbers.
 - ✓ Application will go live on website June 1-changes can still be incorporated until then.
- Discussion about conducting a sensing after this year's process to see if the new application was actually an improvement for applicants and reviewers.
- Suggested topic for future Roundtable meetings: have the Roundtable identify common projects among the Stewardship Groups before allocating outreach funding.
- Elmer Ostling posed a question related to the Roundtable's discussion and report on the Reauthorization of stewardship contracting authority, which is scheduled to expire in September of 2013. Ross provided information on the status of stewardship reauthorization legislation in the current Congress. A provision for permanent authority is included in the Senate version of the Farm Bill. However, the bill has yet to pass the Senate and there is no Farm Bill on the House side. The likelihood that this Congress will get this ironed out with the permanent authority provision included is very low (the Washington Office thinks that the Stewardship Authority will be reauthorized before it expires in 2013). In any event, any contracts currently in place, before the Authority expires will be honored. It should be noted that the Wyden Authority was made permanent several years ago, and is not expiring.
- The Roundtable also discussed the outreach funding request process; a draft one-page form was edited and approved for use in future projects.
- Outreach brochure: Chandra LeGue's (Oregon Wild) draft was reviewed at the Roundtable meeting; Hebo's stewardship area boundaries included. Brochure underwent minor editing, photos were updated and matching fund language clarified. Point of contact information was changed to capture general information, removing employee names, given that staff changes can make that section of the brochure obsolete quickly. Brochure should "go to press" this week.

- The proposed Outreach Brochure on program accomplishments may be ready in draft form within a month or so. Chandra LeGue is working on this document as well.
- Outreach funds: Dan Segotta reported that the FS appropriated budget is down this year. There may not be as much outreach funding available as in past years. Most certainly, we can expect a 50% reduction in outreach funding.

Initial Project Ideas for Upcoming Cycle

Alsea Watershed Council (AWC), Tom Davis

- Engineer retained for the Benner Creek bridge work; AWC may submit application for this project during upcoming application period. This project should qualify for Wyden. Stream flows out of FS land (Missouri Thin) to river and opens up into a large basin. AWC working on project cost and matching fund ideas.

Mid-Coast Watershed Council (MCWC), Wayne Hoffman

- Beaver Creek riparian and channel project a possibility-with a potential partnership with Oregon State Parks.

Lincoln SWCD Project

LSWCD currently has as ongoing, 3-year invasives project – if scope of project expands, LSWCD may submit an application this year. There were changes in personnel: Stacy Polkowske accepted a position as Habitat Biologist with ODFW, Josh Lambert moved into Stacy's former position as Watershed Technical Specialist with LSWCD, and Aaron Duzik moved into Josh's former position as Invasive Species Program Coordinator.

Announcements

- AWC is planning their annual meeting and field trip for August; details to be announced.
- Wayne Hoffman reported that the Oregon DEQ process is currently going on to develop Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) thresholds. We can expect to see applicants having to tie their project's in with DEQ standards.
- Mike Kennedy announced the Siletz Tribe's upcoming NaDosh celebration (the celebration corresponds with the winter and summer solstice): June 14, 15, 16 in Siletz. *(The following information added post-meeting: event takes place at the Tribal Dance House at the end of E Swan Avenue, dancing starts at dusk. On Saturday the 16th, there is a community meal at the Tribal Community Center starting at 5 pm, followed by the dancing.)*
- C to C Trail update by Viva Worthington: the route from Corvallis to Ona Beach has been established. The trail traverses open and closed, or decommissioned, roads. Three sections of the trail route through FS land (a portion of it is in the Mill-Wright-Beaver area).
- Ross Holloway announced he will be ending his tenure as facilitator for the Stewardship Groups at the end of this contract year (September 30).

Field Trip Update

- Dan Segotta reported that the field trip to tour Missouri, Bear and Jeep Thins will be pushed back to the fall. As such, this group proposed a summer field trip to Mill-Wright-Beaver area due to the upcoming planning process, and the potential for stewardship and partnering with other landowners. Ross will send out a Doodle Poll on possible dates.

- Owl workshop: not much to report. Proposal: include this workshop during the joint December Stewardship Group meeting.
- Future workshop proposed: Marbled Murrelet – are we doing the right things to develop habitat?

Future meeting dates and agenda items

- June 18 6:00 – 8:00 PM CCRD Waldport
 - Replacement Facilitator Discussion
 - Finalize summer field trip agenda
- July 16 6:00 – 8:00 PM Fall Creek Hatchery
 - Meeting cancelled if group goes forward with a July field trip

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm