

Coast PAC Meeting Notes
Meeting held at the Siuslaw National Forest
May 10, 2012

Attending:

Mike Wilson, Grand Ronde Tribes, Mike Pond, BIA - Siletz, Greg Norton, BIA - Siletz, Mike Kennedy, Siletz Tribe, Paul Thomas, Siuslaw NF, Michele Dragoo, Siuslaw NF, Ginnie Grilley, BLM Eugene, Randy Rasmusson, Umpqua Watersheds, Jerry Ingersoll, Siuslaw NF, Steve Small, BLM Salem, Rocky McVay, Association of O&C Counties, Jody Caicco, USFWS, Johnny Sundstrom, Siuslaw SWCD & Institute, David Redhorse, BIA Portland, LaDonna Carlisle, BIA Portland, Renne Ferris, Joni Quarnstrom, Siuslaw NF, Trish Hogervorst, BLM Salem.

Welcome and Introductions:

Jerry Ingersoll, Ginnie Grilley, Steve Small

Panel #1 – Critical Habitat for Spotted Owl Report (notetaker: Joni)

Jody Caicco –

Draft EIS Barred Owl public comment deadline – June 6

Draft Critical Habitat Rule public comment deadline – extended to July 6

Barred Owl EIS:

Canada is removing Barred Owls and replacing them with Spotted Owls.

Any cooperation between Canada and US? – *The PAC could write a letter of support for continued or better cooperation as an action item.*

Barred owl reproduces three or four young compared to Spotted Owl.

Is FWS working with the State hunting commission to sell hunting permits for Barred Owl? No, but nothing firm in the DEIS.

Locations?

Critical Habitat Rule

see attached power point

Healthy forest reserve program: easement with stewardship plan to have lands become spotted owl habitat. Safe harbor ability. *Have PAC discuss this program in the future.*

This does not trump the Northwest Forest Plan or any others. It adds another layer onto how you manage your land.

Is it possible Congress will not fund the work from the EIS? That's possible. There may be opportunities to work with partners, find other funding.

Ginnie Grilley-

Identified the percentage of matrix lands on Eugene BLM.

Paul Thomas-

Siuslaw National Forest manages primarily all of its land for critical habitat now. There won't be any difference from the Critical Habitat rule than what currently occurs.

Ripe for discussion – less than for silviculturally than it is socially.

Secure Rural School Legislation Panel (notetaker: Trish)

Al Matecko, Forest Service, County Perspective, Rocky McVey
Doug Heiken, Oregon Wild, Jerry Ingersoll, FS Agency Representative

History of Legislation – Al Matecko, Forest Service PAO

1908- 25% of all revenue from the Forest Service receipts to counties

1937 -75% of all revenue from BLM receipts to counties

1950 –Changed to 50% of all revenue from BLM receipts to counties

1994 NW Forest Plan signed.....timber harvest greatly reduced...safety net.....Jobs in the Woods

Senator Larry Craig (Mark Rey) and Sen Ron Wyden (Sarah Biddleman) drafted legislation.

Secure Schools signed in Fall 2000. Bipartison effort.

Purpose: to provide \$\$ to counties, 156-165 million per year. ie: Benton: received \$475,000.

RACs formed. (55 across the country.)

Over last 10 years RAC implemented \$185 million in projects. (4000+ projects)

FY2008 RAC legislation changed formula decreasing funding.

Without RAC dollars, this year, Benton county would receive \$10,000.

Rocky McVey – O&C Counties

O&C lands were revested, plus Coos Bay Wagon Road lands

1990 –Listing of the spotted owl

33 Oregon counties--16 O&C Counties –All 33 counties opted to participate in Secure Schools Title 2.

Title 2 projects contributed greatly to Oregon

RACs are a key success of the Secure Schools.

Title 2 RAC projects – Before 2008, there was no minimum amount counties had to contribute to Title 2.

In 2008 – counties required to have a RAC—and to put 8% in Title 2 RAC projects.

Today:

Secure Rural Schools included in last two President budgets.

Counties have asked to comment on economic analysis for Critical Habitat.

Counties reviewing Stewardship Contracting language.

Johnny Sundstrom: Siuslaw NF is one of the most successful Forests in Stewardship Contracting.

Stewardship contracting gains through jobs is far greater than 25% of receipts to the treasury.

Doug Heiken - Oregon Wild

Oregon Conservation Trust Jobs Act -

The relation between counties and forests worked well until the environment was considered.

Some options to consider:

- Timber receipts are probably not going to cover county costs.
- Could consider a PILT approach...tax federal lands similar to private lands.
- Hastings bill is moving forward.
- Shared responsibility: Counties consider raising taxes on all the lands.
- DeFazio proposal –Older BLM forests- at least 125 yrs. old -to Forest Service
Younger BLM forests managed for timber under Oregon Forest Practices Act by a trust.

Jerry Ingersoll - Agency Representative:

The Siuslaw perspective on the Secure Schools. In 1908, we harvested less than 20 million board feet per year. This number slowly rose over the years. In 1960-80's, the forest harvested 300-400 million

board feet per year. 40 years of intensive timber production, then in 1990 harvest dropped to 0 board feet. Last 20 years have been restoration forestry producing about 30 million board feet per year in thinning, about half in stewardship contracting. There are a lot of benefits to the counties from the last 20 years. The program we have is a success, there is not a lot of controversy.

Title 2 has been a significant contributor to work on the ground. Loss of county payments would be a great loss to the counties. The collaborative partnerships have been really great.

Jerry challenged the Coast PAC members to identify ways they could advise the agencies on the information presented.