

## Hebo Stewardship Group Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2012

Hebo Lake

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Chandra LeGue	Oregon Wild	Paul Katen	SDCWC
Helen Sheppard	Oregon Wild	Guy Sievert	NNWC
Jackie Nichols	CPRCD	Catherine Pruett	SDCWC
Mike Kennedy	Siletz Tribe	Alex Sifford	NNWC
Anne Walker	USFWS	Brett Sommermeyer	ConBio Consulting
Gus Meyer	Tillamook SWCD	Timber Klahn	Hebo RD
Michelle Dragoo	Hebo RD	Ron Hudson	Hebo RD
Michael Reichenberg	Hebo RD	James Stover	Hebo RD
Kelly Olsen	Hebo RD	Briana Ford	Hebo RD
		Jane Barth	Facilitator

Meeting convened a little after 1pm after a barbeque with Hebo District staff. Thanks to the Hebo District for including the HSG in its gathering.

July notes were approved by consensus. A question was raised about what the HSG might need to do to address the tension over stewardship in Tillamook County that was mentioned in the first paragraph under updates. Jane explained that this issue was being addressed outside the context of the HSG. Michael shared information on a recent tour with Tillamook County commissioners (see update below).

### Updates

#### – Forest Service Updates (Michael R)

- The Hebo District took Tillamook County Commissioners on a tour to increase understanding about the Siuslaw National Forest's stewardship processes and practices. This is part of an ongoing effort by the SNF to address concerns about the loss of the 25% that goes to counties when sales are done as stewardship rather than traditional timber sales. Chandra offered to share with Michael information that Oregon Wild has collected on the dollars that go back to counties from restoration work.
- Bixby Thin Stewardship Contract was advertised. The FS expects to award the contract by September 25<sup>th</sup>. The estimated value of the sale is \$500,000.
- The FS is preparing its list of projects for the 60% of retained receipts it receives. One project will redesign a trailhead to limit sedimentation. Another will address road decommissioning on a portion of FSR 1900 east of Lincoln City.
- Michael shared that he will be taking a position on the Flathead Forest in Montana in October so the September HSG meeting will be his last. Ron Hudson will fill in for him as the liaison to the group. The group wished Michael well in this new position.

*Approved*

- **CPRCD Updates (Jackie)**
  - Stewardship proposals must be postmarked by September 1<sup>st</sup> and sent to CPRCD’s new address.
  - The FS allocated new funds to CPRCD for facilitation services and outreach for this next year. The group will consider how to use the new outreach funds after the Fall Roundtable meeting. Jane reminded the group that at the Spring Roundtable meeting, they decided to first consider any joint outreach projects that are needed and then allocate remaining funds to each group.
  
- **Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council (Catherine)**
  - The large wood placement project on Bear Creek funded in the 2011 cycle will start September 4<sup>th</sup>. The landowner, a high school teacher, plans to bring school kids out to help with the planting and he wants to share ideas about the project with other landowners. Jane suggested the group approach him about a future field trip at the project site. This would be an opportunity to invite landowners in the area to come on an HSG field trip and ideally get involved in the group.
  
- **Joint Stewardship Outreach (Chandra)**
  - Oregon Wild has sent the new brochure designed to educate people about the local economic impacts of stewardship projects to all county commissioners. Chandra encouraged HSG participants to send the brochures to local leaders, too. She shared a sample cover letter that people can adapt when they send the brochures. People can get an electronic version of the letter from her.

### **Wyden Project Proposals**

At the July HSG meeting, Alex Sifford (NNWC) explained a culvert replacement project on Butte Creek for \$34,000 and Catherine Pruitt (SDCWC) explained 2 projects for a total of \$33,000. NNWC plans to go ahead with the project proposal with no changes to report since the July meeting. SDCWC now plans to submit a single proposal for \$22,000 to replace a perched culvert on Forest Capital Partners’ Road 2342. Meeting participants expressed support for both these project proposals. No other project proposals were brought forward for this cycle.

The group briefly discussed possible criteria it could use to prioritize the 2 projects prior to the Roundtable meeting. The working practice is for each stewardship group to have its top priority project get funded before a second project from any group is funded. Potential criteria are:

- Fundable by another source; have applicants list other sources they have approached in the proposal. This is done in the budget section where applicants list pending and other matching funds.
- Scalable
- Ready to go
- Rotating funding among applicants over time

The group wants to approach this funding cycle with both projects as top priority. The reasoning is that the total request of \$56,000 is less than a quarter of the available receipts (\$240,000 estimate) and also that last year this group only asked for one project that was less than a quarter of the funds. Jane cautioned them that there was no official policy that each of the four groups gets an equal share of the available funds. She did also say that another group had brought 2 top priority projects forward in 2011 so there is precedent for their approach. The Roundtable representatives will make their case at the October meeting. Mike Kennedy suggested that the group work on a list of criteria for prioritizing future projects at a Spring meeting so that the criteria are not influenced by actual projects being proposed as is the case now.

## **Announcements**

- Paul Katen will get Jane the link to an article about an OPB program on roads sediment. Jane will circulate it to the group. The Supreme Court due to make a ruling soon.
- The Tillamook Estuary Partnership will dedicate its National Recreation Trail at high noon this Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The NNWC will hold a kayak trip on the Little Nestucca River on Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Alex will share information.
- The SDCWC will hold a sunset kayak trip on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Paul will share information.
- Future meetings:
  - September 13 at 3:00 in Lincoln City. Jane will work on a location.
  - October 4 at 3:00 in Pacific City (one week earlier than usual in order to discuss technical team report prior to the Fall Roundtable meeting)
  - Roundtable meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup> at SNF Headquarters in Corvallis from 9:30-12:30.

Meeting adjourned and the group headed off on a field trip around 2pm.

## **Mt Hebo Field Trip**

The group visited two sites on Mt Hebo to learn about meadow maintenance projects and the silverspot butterfly. Michelle Dragoo discussed the history and ecology of Oregon silverspot butterfly management on Mt. Hebo. Jane will circulate Michelle's notes to the group. Anne Walker and Paul Hammond (OSU) added information on the butterflies life cycle, breeding and reintroduction program, historic numbers, etc. The group was able to observe the silverspot in abundance on nectar plants. People will share their photos via email. The group greatly appreciates the efforts of all these specialists to make this a very informative field trip on a beautiful, sunny day.