

**JOINT STEWARDSHIP GROUP  
MEETING NOTES  
December 10, 2012 11:30 to 4:00 pm  
Yachats Commons  
Yachats, OR**

**Attendees:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Kirk Shimeall	ASG & SSG Facilitator	Jane Barth	MPSG & HSG Facilitator
Michele Jones	USFS-SNF-CCRD	Kraig Kidwell	USFS-SNF-SO
Brenda Barton	USFS-SNF	Jeff Uebel	USFS-SNF-SO
Carl Bauer	USFS-SNF-CCRD	Ron Hudson	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Dan Segotta	USFS-SNF – CCRD	Michelle Dragoo	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Frank Davis	USFS-SNF-SO	Joni Quarnstrom	USFS-SNF-SO
Vicky Mugnai	USFS-SNF – CCRD	George Buckingham	USFS-SNF – Hebo RD
Marc Barnes	ASG, IRM	Liz Vollmer-Buhl	SSG, Siuslaw WC
Wayne Hoffman	ASG, MCWC	Dave Eisler	SSG, SWC
Andy Kittel	ASG, Alsea WC	Johnny Sundstrom	SSG, Siuslaw Institute
Fran Recht	ASG, PSMFC	Seth Meade	SSG, Siuslaw SWCD
Josh Lambert	ASG, Lincoln SWCD	Mike Kennedy	ASG, HSG, SSG, Siletz Tribe
Paul Engelmeyer	ASG, Audubon Society	Chandra LeGue	SSG, ASG, Oregon Wild
Aaron Duzik	Lincoln SWCD	Art Sleight	MPSG, landowner
Chris Cornwell	Lincoln County	Betty Sleight	MPSG, landowner
Elmer Ostling	ASG, AWC	Ken McCall	MPSG
Fran Recht	ASG, PSMFC	Xan Augerot	MPSG, MRWC
Abigail DeYoung	Siuslaw & Lincoln SWCD	Matt Mellenthin	MPSG, IRM
Reed Wilson	Benton Forest Coalition	Jennifer Ward	MPSG, City of Corvallis
Sole' Aulenbach	Benton Forest Coalition	Alex Sifford	HSG, NNWC
Mahogany Aulenbach	Benton Forest Coalition	Catherine Pruett	HSG, SDWC
Rana Foster	Benton Forest Coalition	Anne Walker	HSG, USFWS
Stan Petroski	South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership	Nathan Poage	Clackamas Stewardship Partners
Daniel Whelan	Sen. Merkeley's office	Jerry Kimmel	
Shiloh Sundstrom	Deadwood	Emily Jane Davis	U of Oregon

## **Welcome/Introductions/Agenda Overview**

This meeting is the fourth annual gathering of the stewardship groups on the Siuslaw National Forest. It is convened to share project ideas and hear and give feedback to the annual multi-party monitoring report. Special topics for this year's meeting included an Owl Workshop (preceding the joint stewardship meeting) and the initial discussion of a forest-wide project. Guests from other organizations were invited to attend both the special presentations and general meeting to increase sharing with other regions of the state.

## **Stewardship Project "Show and Tell"**

Each of the four stewardship groups on the Siuslaw National Forest shared an example of work they have done over the past year(s). The goal of this segment is to increase awareness of the range of work that stewardship groups can accomplish through outreach, planning and implementation. Each presenter produced a PowerPoint, which will be posted on the USFS, Siuslaw National Forest Partnerships website.

*Siuslaw Stewardship Group: Siuslaw Riparian Restoration Project-Native Plant Distributions, Liz Vollmer-Buel*

### Historical Overview (1998 – 2012)

- SWC conducted needs assessment
- Project started with salvage donations, volunteers and an OWEB Grant
- Project supplanted with Siuslaw/Coast Range Stewardship Funds
- Project implemented through a contractor, staff and volunteers
- Partnerships established

### Project Overview

- Areas are identified
- Riparian landowners recruited
- Technical assistance provided to landowners with plant selection and site prep
- Supplies are ordered
- "Distribution Day" established: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in February
- Distribution Day coordinated by volunteers, staff and partners
- Project has grown to 4 distribution sites throughout the watershed, with a secondary distribution, at the end of the season, when local nurseries donate unsold plants to SWC.
- Inspection and reporting is extensive and provides another opportunity to counsel and support landowners: 50+ trees are donated, on average, to participating landowners, inspections look at the percentage of trees still alive, protection needs against threats are assessed and riparian area conditions noted. (Protection assistance is provided up to 5 years after planting.) The largest threats to plantings are domestic animals, beaver and mowing.

### Accomplishments

- Over 420 landowner participants
- Over 50 riparian acres planted
- Repeat customers, after high water events
- New customers involved in restoration every year

## Future of Project

SWC will concentrate efforts in addressing areas with significant water quality issues.

### *Hebo Stewardship Group, Oregon Silverspot Butterfly, Anne Walker and Michele Drago*

Oregon Silverspot Butterfly habitat restoration occurs at 5 known sites. Three sites are on the Siuslaw NF. The butterfly population in Hebo is the largest and most robust. The butterfly's life cycle is centered on Little Blue Violet and nectar plants. Biggest threat: loss of suitable habitat and invasive species. Habitat is created and maintained by disturbance (mowing). Recovery efforts involve the release of captive-reared butterflies and the propagation of native plant seed (through volunteer planting events). The Cannery Hill project area (coastal prairie restoration) has spurred the Nestucca Bay NWR to do more restoration.

## Historical Overview of the Mt. Hebo Habitat Restoration Project Area

- A large fire swept through the area in the early 1900s opening up Mt Hebo and creating conditions for habitat.
- In the 1980s the land was acquired by the USFS and Air Force infrastructure was dismantled.
- Mt. Hebo is part of a scenic-biological special interest area, home to unique botanical species.
- Mechanical treatment is administered by NWYC using hand tools. Mowers and mulchers more ideally suited for established areas.
- 2012 stewardship funding funded contracts for the restoration and maintenance of existing and newly created habitat and nectar see collection.

## Work Planned for 2013

- Fund NCRS for grow out of nectar plants
- Implement contract this spring
- Determine areas for violet and nectar transplanting
- Continue to work with NWYC
- Continue additional habitat restoration beyond the currently maintained habitat areas

### *Alsea Stewardship Group: Invasive Species Control-Knotweed Control 2010-2014, Aaron Duzik and Josh Lambert*

- First stewardship award was received in 2010.
- Project areas are in Big Elk Creek Basin, Little Big Elk, Beaver Creek Basin, Alsea Basin (3 projects) and the Yachats Basin (2 projects).
- 2011 was the biggest treatment year after more reports were received; treatments are impacting areas with large amounts of encroachment.
- LCWCD using an integrated management approach: control invasives, prevent return, restore native structures, and monitor.
- Future project sites: 3 private parcels in Lower Yachats in 2013 (utilizing stewardship funds) and Siuslaw NF land in 2014.

- The Q&A following Aaron's presentation discussed the importance of addressing areas higher up in the watershed.

*Marys Peak Stewardship Group: Upper Greasy Creek Habitat Restoration, Xan Augerot*

Improve cutthroat habitat through:

- Culvert replacements
- Log placement, large wood enrichment

Project includes:

- riparian planting along main stem of Greasy Creek
- Knotweed treatment (will be in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year in 2013)
- 80 to 85% of the scoped work is complete
- dam removal scheduled for summer of 2013

**Reauthorization Update, Dan Whelan, Senator Merkley's Office and Johnny Sundstrom, SSG**

- Due to packaged bills and filibusters holding up the Farm Bill, reauthorization may get dealt with earlier in the next session.
- The stewardship portion of the Farm Bill has bi-partisan support.
- Authorization expires in 2013, but stewardship contracts signed by September 2013 will be good to go for the life of the contract.

**Multi-party Monitoring Report FY2011, Matt Mellethin, IRM**

Monitoring report is in draft form. The final report will be posted on CPRC&D's website. The purpose of the report is to justify the benefits of economic and biophysical accomplishments.

Key elements of Matt Mellethin's presentation are as follows:

There were major changes to the report structure-

- With FTE job calculations
- Use of Microsoft's Access database (which houses pre and post-harvest data, photopoints, economic reporting, "canned" reports)
- Inclusion of common stands exam data in addition to an increase in photopoints data

Report includes-

- Biophysical Accomplishments for projects under stewardship contracts, retained receipts and the Wyden Authority
- Economic impacts - FTE jobs by county, average wages, state taxes paid and worker production rates (multiplied by federal wage determination rates)
- New projects approved for FY12 (Bridge Thin TS, Siuslaw NF projects, Wyden projects)
- Summary of stakeholder field trips

Data is highlighted for-

- FS stewardship timber sales volume sold (contract volume based on the cruise sold that year)
- Retained Receipts expenditures

- Wyden Project expenditures
- FTE job creation – report shows a substantial increase each year

#### Implementation Monitoring-

- pre and post-harvest photopoints
- stand exam data collected at all plots
- comparison of pre and post-harvest data
- FVS modeling (forest vegetation simulator)

Marc Barnes, IRM followed Matt's presentation: *how does thinning affect the forest?* Marc demonstrated growth projection using SVS (stand visualization system). Marc grew out a 37 year old plot at Ol' Cleave Thin based on

1. Leaving the plot alone. Result: no understory, very tall trees
2. Managing plots every 10 years (thinning and planting). At age 127 the plot will look like an old growth stand.

An old growth stand was used as a reference point: highly variable, multi-story conditions, no understory, few large trees. In the new database, the FVS button will grow the stand on a particular plot.

#### **Outreach**

Amount of \$1500.00 is allocated to each group again this year. The Roundtable requested that joint outreach needs be identified prior to actually distributing outreach funds to each group. The joint meeting shared a bit on what outreach strategies have worked for the different groups and for what purpose.

- Stewardship Group recruiting
- Recruit landowners for stewardship projects
- Public education
- Political support for stewardship

The discussion about a purpose for joint outreach gained some excitement about engaging communities in celebrating the successes of stewardship like was done at the 10-year celebration. Another purpose would be to increase the perception of stewardship in communities. A longer term effort could be to create a video or book to tell the story of stewardship really well.

Next steps: form an outreach committee comprised of representatives from each group. Take this idea back to respective groups: consider pooling funds and coordinating a single event for the public.

### **Forest-wide Project for 2013**

- A forest-wide project would be precedent setting.
- Circulate groups' ideas to all group meetings in January. Define, share, and develop agreements across groups. Determine timeframe: this year? Next year? After re-authorization?
- Talk to OWEB about funding for such a project.

### **Announcements**

- Paul Engelmeyer suggested SGs talk with Todd Wilson, presenter on flying squirrels, about Landscape Planning. This could be a future presentation to one or more groups.
- Paul also suggested inviting Kim Nelson to discuss the Marbled Murrelet. Kim, OSU, helped get the birds listed 20 years ago <http://www.opb.org/news/article/marbled-murrelet-on-endangered-species-list-20-years-but-still-declining/>
- Paul Engelmeyer also mentioned he is communicating with OPB about doing a bigger picture story on stewardship.
- Participants are encouraged to email feedback about the meeting to Kirk Shimeall.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.