

McKenzie Stewardship Logistics Committee

June 20th, 2008 2:00 pm—3:00 pm

EWEB, 500 East 4th Avenue, Eugene

Participants:

George J. Regas USFS Willamette NF, Natural Resources Team Leader
Johan Hogervorst USFS Willamette NF, Forest Hydrologist
Karl Morgenstern EWEB
Larry Six McKenzie Watershed Council
Mary Allison USFS Willamette NF, McKenzie River District Ranger
Marcus Kauffman Resource Innovations
Nancy Toth EWEB
Katie MacKendrick Resource Innovations

Upcoming Events

Topic	Date	Time	Location
Stewardship Field Tour	Friday June 27 th	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	TBD
Stewardship Group Meeting	Thursday July 24 th , 2008	5:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Vida-McKenzie Community Center

Introductions

The meeting started off with introductions as Resource Innovations has hired a new graduate research fellow, Katie MacKendrick, to follow Ryan Ojerio and continue his work for the McKenzie Stewardship Group.

Response to letter concerning continuation of Stewardship Group

The logistics committee discussed a letter written to the forest service by a community member calling for the Stewardship Group to cease and desist. The letter proposed that now is not the right time to give away the public's natural resources because of the poor state of the timber market, in essence describing how a stewardship contract project now will not produce any retained receipts – the sale of restoration byproducts will not return any funds to the community and may not cover the service costs. The logistics committee discussed the importance of the letter's perspective and the need to share it with the Stewardship Group; and the importance of the writer participating in the Group and bringing a business perspective.

The logistics committee proposed sharing the letter at the next group meeting on July 24, 2008, and hearing from the group whether they support the letter and would like to disband, or they acknowledge the point the letter proposes, but would like to continue working together to make an impact in restoring the watershed. One reason for the group to continue may be to engage in a collaborative planning process starting from a blank slate.

The logistics committee discussed several types of projects that could be pursued, including a demonstration project, and projects local, small operators could get involved in. Other stewardship groups in Oregon are using appropriated dollars (sales in stewardship contract projects are not covering the service costs and therefore require appropriated dollars) to accomplish important work in the community. Other communities are using stewardship agreements to accomplish restoration (agreements between the Forest Service or BLM and one

organization, which provide a mechanism for organizations to leverage federal funds). The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Wild Turkey Federation now have multiple stewardship agreements with the Forest Service or BLM in the West to do restoration work. (These organizations subcontract on-the-ground work to local contractors.)

Currently, there are federal funds available for improving road culverts, which could be leveraged through a stewardship agreement with a local organization involved in fish habitat or watershed restoration. The National Forest Federation, which will soon have a full-time Eugene-based representative, may have funds available for restoration.

The committee decided to contact the letter writer before the next group meeting to let them know the letter would be discussed, and respond to the letter following the Stewardship Group's discussion and decision.

June 27 Field Tour Itinerary

Johan will facilitate the field tour; Karl and/or Larry will take pictures; Nancy will take notes. Katie and Marcus will be out of town.

The committee discussed the itinerary and proposed potential changes in meeting place and watershed and fisheries projects, and whether time permitted visiting the Ridge Cat Thin. George will find out which roads connect to the Ridge Cat Thin to determine whether it will fit in the tour's agenda. The committee will work to finalize the itinerary and send an updated agenda to the Stewardship Group.

July 24 Stewardship Group Meeting Agenda

The Stewardship Group has received emails asking for term and definition submissions. Responses will be incorporated into the group discussion during the next meeting.

Based on the letter discussion, the committee decided to revise the July 24, 2008, meeting agenda to include the following:

- Response to letter concerning continuation of the Stewardship Group
 - Group feedback (cease and desist OR continue working together)
- Where to go next (collaborative planning, restoration project)
- Goals and restoration objectives
- Criteria and sideboards
- Location (potential WUI?)

Marcus suggested two themes for the group moving forward:

- Identifying common ground for a restoration project
- Bringing in resources to fund restoration