

McKenzie Stewardship Steering Committee

Field Tour – Stewardship Contracting Projects on the Siuslaw Watershed

December 7, 2007

Tour Summary

The Siuslaw Field Tour drew a diverse group of participants from the Eugene, Springfield and McKenzie River Watershed all interested in learning about stewardship contracting. In total 23 people attended the tour which was also joined by representatives from the Siuslaw and Alsea Stewardship Groups. The tour gave participants an opportunity to learn how stewardship contracting works and see on the ground accomplishments. They also heard about the experiences and perspectives from people involved in developing the projects.

At the first site, the group observed an active thinning project. *Walker Thin* is a Late Successional Reserve (LSR) thinning project designed to accelerate the development of late successional attributes. A representative from the Swanson Group, the contractor working the site, talked about the benefits and challenges to stewardship contracting from the logger's perspective. Personnel from the Siuslaw National Forest then highlighted some of the benefits from the agency perspective.

At the next site participants saw a completed thinning project in an LSR. Similar to *Walker Thin*, the *Divide Thin* project was designed to accelerate the development of late successional reserve attributes.

Finally the group visited Roach Creek, a project site on private land where retained receipts were used with additional funding sources to restore former pasture to benefit Coho Salmon. Representatives from the Siuslaw and Alsea stewardships groups talked about working with local landowners and how the stewardship groups use partnerships to leverage funds to accomplish projects.

Next Steps

In January 2008 the McKenzie Stewardship Steering Committee will invite stakeholders to participate in the first organizational meeting of the McKenzie Stewardship Group. Over the course of several more meetings, the group will develop its vision, goals, and guiding principles, and define member roles and responsibilities. As well, participants will learn about restoration priorities in the McKenzie Watershed and provide input on the development of an upcoming Forest Service stewardship contracting project.



Tour Participants

Name	Title	Organization or Agency
Aaron Helfrich		McKenzie River Guides Association
Bert Sandker		Blue River Reforestation
Bill Barton		Infraspect and the Native Forest Council
Brenda Hallmark	Fuels Technician	USFS
Chandra LeGue		Oregon Wild
Daniel Evanoff		Native Forest Council
James Rudisill		Eastern Lane ODF
John Pine		Eastern Lane ODF
Josh Laughlin		Cascadia Wildlands Project
Josh Schlossberg		Native Forest Council
Larry Six	Executive Director	McKenzie Watershed Council
Larry Strickland	Log Acquisition Director	Rosboro Lumber Company
Marcus Kauffman	Project Manager/Facilitator	Resource Innovations
Mary Allison	District Ranger	McKenzie River RD
Mike Powers		Bramble Consulting
Nancy Toth	Environmental Associate	Eugene Water and Electric Board
Ralph Perkins		East lane Soil and Water Conservation District, McKenzie Watershed Council
Ryan Ojerio	Graduate Research Assistant	Resource Innovations
Samantha Chirillo		University of Oregon
Shane Kamrath	Wildlife Biologist	McKenzie River RD
Shannon Donovan	Program Associate	Resource Innovations
Shannon Wilson		Native Forest Council
Terry Damon	Timber Sale Contracting Officer	Rosboro Lumber Company