

**Coast Range Provenance Advisory Committee**  
**January 18, 2007**  
**Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters**

**Attendees:** Ginny Grilley, Betty Jean Keele, Dan Hollenkamp, Bill Hatton, Sheila Arena, Trish Wilson, Rennie Ferris, Annabelle Jaramillo, Mike Wilson, Johnny Sundstrom, Dick Powell, Jose Linares, Alan Henning, Ron Phillips, Trish Hogervorst, Joni Quarnstrom (note taker)

**Western Oregon Plan Revision – Dick Prather, BLM State Office**

**EIS Timeline:** Schedule has slipped a little bit on WOPR. This is good because it gives us a little more time to write and clean up the EIS document.

Document is expected to be printed the end of June 2007. There is a possibility that the document could get put on the internet in May. At that time people can start making comments.

**Public Involvement:** BLM hired a professional public relations firm. Carey Green and John Lange come from southwestern Oregon. Kerrie facilitated SW PAC; John mediated a BLM timber sale. Professor Greg Walker will support the process.

We are building internet tools that will be different than the way BLM has worked with the public by looking at your values. It directs you to the EIS, however uses your values to see where your values fit in BLM work. It is a decision-based process based on values. You tell it what you are interested in and the program will take you to that part in the EIS. Same with maps – tag a road and put your comments on the map. Key words will help with the search; writers are now working on tagging specific words, messages.

There are tools being developed for this project that Dick expects BLM can use in the future.

**Timeline:** 90 day public comment period will begin the day the printed document is available. Some computer tools and an electronic version of the EIS may be available in March, April or May.

**Collaboration:** We want to get some groups of people together in Western Oregon to talk about their values and the work BLM is doing. Dick is looking for an efficient way to do collaboration. PAC members will be asked to comment along with other people, i.e., watershed councils. Collaboration equals a variety of interests, similar to the PAC and watershed councils.

**Q.** Has there been any thought to look at it on an issue-based collaboration? No, Dick has not explored that yet.

PAC's are FACA-covered so can offer advice. Other groups are not and so it's important to invite everyone. There will be some new ideas used that we will tweak as we go along.

**Alternatives:**

No Action – Continue current ARP and stay with Northwest Forest Plan. Court suit asked BLM to analyze al

**Alternative One** – Kept a lot of the basis of the Northwest Forest Plan. Kept LSR boundaries and now called Late Successional Forest and no age cap. Took riparian reserves and cut them in half. (This idea came from FEMAT and draft NW Forest Plan). No salvage in Late Successional Management areas. Leave it alone.

**Alternative Two** – This one we tried to build around Spotted Owls. What is the minimum that spotted owls need? Let's go back to critical habitat. No, too big. What about old recovery plan? Well, that might work. Then we came up with another idea – what would happen if we took the recovery rules and redid them ourselves? That's where we are at. We are now using guidelines out of Washington Fish Guidelines.

We took a look at areas prone to slide versus areas of quality of land slides to improve stream/habitat improvement. Used CLAMS information to assist.

**Alternative Three:** Let's manage on a more natural basis with longer rotation. Some lines for riparian similar to Alternative Two. Landscape Management area. There is a lot of intermediate harvest available.

All alternatives have harvest and rotation. Timing depends on how and what you are trying to do.

BLM is maintaining spotted owls and marbled murrelet.

**Q.** Why the marbled murrelet? Because habitat overlaps and marbled murrelet is still a listed species.

**Q.** Isn't a lot of BLM land east of marbled murrelet territory? Yes, some.

**Preferred Alternative:**

BLM must select a preferred alternative. Actual decision makers are District Managers and State Director. It must be one of the existing alternatives and not a mixture of alternatives. Based on what we know today, this is what we are going to. Will it change after public involvement? It very well could.

**Q.** Can preferred alternative contain manager's concern for budget, personnel? Yes, that will be one of the criteria.

Most likely, the final alternative will mix and match from all alternatives to end up with a final. Dick requests that you send in your comments in early during the official public comment period. This helps him when it comes to re-writing.

**Questions:**

**Q.** What about OHV use? New machines can drive steeper ground now. Close it unless you want it open. Forest Service needs to coordinate with BLM in the current travel management planning.

**Q.** In the past we've heard a lot about coordinating efforts between the BLM and Forest Service. However this plan looks like a separation and not good coordination with planning activities. Why? BLM gets a different legal mandate for planning. It does make us different from the Forest Service. But can we work together? Sure, particularly on the ground.

This plan will now cause the agencies to work under a different situation, depending on selected alternative. People on the ground should still be able to work together.

Forest Service proposed planning is now very different than BLM planning.

**Q.** Doesn't somebody trump the BLM or FS on ESA consultation? Both agencies have to follow and work together even if there isn't a recovery plan. We will have to see how the recovery plan comes out.

**Q.** For the last twenty years we've been making progress, moving toward a more unified concept towards landscape planning. It seems we are beginning to lose that and fragmentation of bureaucracy is assisting this. As a PAC member, I see that this is changing and I want to register my concern. Johnny Sundstrom  
Betty Jean Keele – I second this concern.

### **Round Robin**

#### **Ginney Grilley –**

- Introduced herself as the new Eugene BLM District Manager. She worked on the Siuslaw NF from 1993 – 98 working on road decommission. Bill Hatton is new Field Manager for Coast Range side of Eugene BLM. Bill O'Sullivan is new Field Manager for Cascade side.
- We've had a lot of retirements as of January 07 so be prepared to work with new people. We plan to hire behind retirees and anticipated timber harvest. Eugene BLM plans to move into the Willamette NF in a new building in Springfield.

#### **Betty Jean Keele –**

- Met Chris Smith at Hult Ponds (one of Ginney's new hires) to put together specification for this old mill site. We scheduled Baker Beach clean up for March 10.
- Volunteer training scheduled for May 18 at Oakridge for volunteers in Cascade area.

#### **Dan Hollenkamp –**

- Workforce planning is occurring at Salem BLM. Getting close to a final decision on what our work force will look in February. We are going down about 30-40 positions and trying to keep the resource area whole. Retirements are at about 40%. Salem and Eugene are looking at sharing positions – timber, wildlife, silviculturist, some specialty positions. We are even looking at Willamette and Siuslaw to share safety.

- Denis Williamson is retired as of January. Our new District Manager is Aaron Horton who is currently Field manager in Milwaukee, WI with ties to Western Oregon. He will start working March 12.
- Marys Peak Field Manager: Trish Wilson is acting and will be through in about one week. There is a strong pool of candidates and Aaron will do the selection.

**Bill Hatton –**

- Upgrading water system at Wittiker Creek campground –. West Eugene wetlands land transfer is occurring, transferring lands from BLM to City of Eugene. We are looking at transportation system, reviewing and analyzing road culverts and working with FS to do design, location, replacement. Looking at about 20 culverts to work on.
- Late December and January storms blew down about 40 acres of timber. A team of folks are looking at the area for salvage.
- Heceta Dunes – conflicting uses between BLM and Forest Service. Will work together to make it all work for OHV use. Bill would like to meet with Ron Phillips on OHV issues.

**Sheila Arena –**

- The Coquille Tribe is required to manage under same guidelines as federal lands. The tribe is surrounded by BLM managed land. Under Alternative 2 and 3, the tribe is recognized as a provision. The tribe got 5,400 acres from an original request of 15,000 in scattered parcels.

**Trish Wilson –**

- Jerry Day will be acting field manager for Marys Peak at the end of the month.
- Yamaha Stewardship Project – brought through Alsea Stewardship – stream management, invasive species. This is tied closely to the Secure Rural Schools act, but without that money needs to go to the counties.
- Marys Peak Stewardship group – met twice and they are just starting to form as a group and identifying boundary. It may overlap into the Alsea Stewardship boundary. Is there any provision for the 25% money to go back to the counties within stewardship? The Forest Service has asked but with goods and services we can't see how it would work. We have asked if we can supplement out of regular timber sales.

**Rennie Ferris –**

- Interesting dynamics in Alsea Stewardship group as it matures.
- Rennie sees less contentiousness in the Coast PAC and sees agency people who work on the ground much less defensive

**Annabelle Jaramillo -**

- Biggest challenge is the changing of the Secure Rural Schools act. Walden and Defazio are introducing legislation and are gaining support. Challenge is how resources formally will be distributed. Senate has asked President to put a one year continuance in President's budget. The US Chamber of Commerce is very

interested in Secure Rural Schools and are mobilizing delegation to go to Washington, DC. This is an economic impact  
This affects 16% of our general fund budget. We will lose 30-40 employees.  
Public safety will be cut. Roads maintenance will not occur.

- Measure 37 - 137 claims in county. 80 were submitted after December deadline. There is legislation in Salem to allow a longer amount of time to process requests. If there is a wayward granted for development near resource land we are sticking to our 300 foot buffer. It's not popular but we have not waived. People are beginning to realize there are unintended consequences people didn't anticipate.
- Benton County has habitat planning process with support of USFWS. Looking at seven plant species that impact habitat. We've have one year assessment and will look at more. This is exciting – assessing public county lands and many private land owners have come out of the woods to have their lands assess
- Federal forest lands advisory committee – see what impact of federal lands is on counties. Group will work on consensus process. Group meets monthly and is working on charter.
- HCP – public stakeholders meeting for Benton county residents.
- Forest patrol will be impacted on forest service land. Sheriff Simpson will talk to Jose about this.
- Hozell forest – Annabelle will look at possibility for hosting a PAC meeting there. Paid for under general fund. Pays for itself under rental fees.

#### **Mike Wilson –**

- He was acting manager of the Grand Rhonde natural resources in October 2006. The position will be advertised in February 2007.
- Over the past six months the Tribe opened the Fort Yamhill property with state parks. There are not a lot there – trails, digs but pretty interesting. It is located on highway 22, on your way to Hebo. Interpretive signs do a good job of telling the both sides of the story.
- Created a permanent fish weir allowing for tagging fish and monitoring who comes back. Mike participated in lamprey eel collection at the Falls. They were an important food source quite a ways back. Elders were interested in eating them.
- Mike is interested in recreation site facility master plan. He is hoping to see any recreation plans and is concerned about cost of recreation. He took his Boy Scout group to Drift Creek Falls and paid \$5 – it seemed like a lot, compared to Silver Falls with a \$3 fee. Tribal members like the idea of things being open unless there is a good reason to close it. Feel the same about tribal lands.

#### **Johnny Sundstrom –**

- The Siuslaw basin is very fortunate and has a lot going on and it helps that the Siuslaw forest is a profit-making/litigation free forest. This makes it easier to be collaborative, especially with stewardship. Our biggest problem is getting rid of 12 – 24 inch trees. So stewardship helps get these trees cut in the name of restoration. So now it looks like there is competition between natural restoration

and schools, safety and roads. The idea that a society can pit it nr against schools is a social commentary on our country.

- Johnny is making presentations to ODF – advising forests on the ground to provide stewardship groups the possibility of using Wyden funding for private restoration. Asking the state to become a role model.
- Johnny spoke to the Chief of the Forest Service, at his invitation, on stewardship. Siuslaw Stewardship Group have identified three or four “asks” – there is no money for planning and we need this. We also think the Forest Supervisor is the proper level for authority level. We want to be a part of any future handbook revision. Use stewardship dollars for developing some of the economy from product coming out of the area.
- People who purchase rural land need to be aware that their land needs active management.
- Conservation groups are working to get a forestry title in the Farm Bill which would benefit small non-industrial farmers. Change “forestry as an incidental” so it gets the same kind of assistance.
- Johnny is part of the state coho plan group. Johnny supported the economic end of this.
- Johnny has concern that District Headquarters is being moved to Waldport. We feel that the service, mileage and time element will be a large burden. What kind of coverage will there be? It makes the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw’s request for land south of Highway 126 look more feasibility. Who is going to manage the federal lands as you continue to consolidate and reduce?

#### **Jose Linares –**

- The Siuslaw is moving main district office from Florence to Waldport based on capacity to do the good work we are doing. Essentially we are trying to find ways to reduce overhead costs to maintain them on the ground. The Central Coast is one large district with three separate offices.
- The Forest Service has a new Chief, Gail Kimball, first woman chief . She is a career Forest Service employee.
- Bill Helphinstine, district ranger at Central Coast, just retired. Carl West is acting for Bill.
- Some changes here in Corvallis with our headquarters – We’ve been here for twenty years so we were required to go out with a new lease solicitation. An opportunity came up to collocate with the PNW research lab located at Oregon State University and we will take it. It will save us about \$300,000 – \$400,000 and give us a greater opportunity to coordinate with OSU and research community. We will work with the lab and university to figure out details.
- 2007 may be a bizarre year and we will be operating under a continuing resolution which looks like we will work under 2006 budget. This will affect work plans that were figured for a different \$\$\$ figure. It will affect Region Six in timber money since last years budget was not fully funded.

- Giant Spruce Tree at Cape Perpetua was designated as a Heritage Tree; celebration will come in late April at the Cape. More info to follow; watch web site for more information.
- Siuslaw to celebrate our own 100 year anniversary in 2008.

**Bob Progulske** – pass since earlier conversation covered his topic.

**Allan Henning** –

- EPA gave comments on coho conservation plan that had very little information on water quality. We gave comments that we hope will help. It became a factor when public meetings were held and no discussion occurred. Hopefully we will see some revisions.
- EPA is working with Willamette Partnership on temperature loading, versus putting all your money into steel and concrete. Lots of people are engaged in the Basin
- Allan had heard people talk about education issues. EPA does have an environmental education grant program available. It is an opportunity for folks and the announcement will be coming out shortly. Allan will let us know when that is happening.

**Ron Phillips** –

ATV's – three different kinds – trail, sand (Oregon dunes national treasure) and pit riders.

**Recreation Site Facility Master Planning – Mike Harvey, Siuslaw National Forest**

Mike reviewed planning effort and public comment opportunities. Following is the Coast PAC response to pre-work asking for PAC member's concept of the Siuslaw's recreation niche – what makes Siuslaw recreation unique?

Public involvement – may come back to PAC and share action plan.

Mike showed a Power point presentation defining recreation site facility master planning.

1) Are there things on the Siuslaw that make it better suited to your particular recreation use?

**Comment:**

- Siuslaw National Forest is lacking equestrian trails and could be combined with hiker/biker trails.
- Current trails are not long enough, only 1-2 miles long.
- Inadequate parking lots. Need loops road.
- Need more inland recreation close to large population base use
- Decommissioned roads would work for horse rides, but loops make the best routes. Sometimes decommissioned roads aren't passable.
- Coordinate among public entities – i.e., Benton County closing parks

**Q.** Will this interface with the travel management effort? Yes, some interface although they are separate efforts. Our forest has it's major recreation sites on major key roads that won't be changed under travel management.

Q. Is there a mandated outcome for this plan? No, not that specific.

- Multi-use trails need to be long enough – 3 to 4 hours long for hiking and must be interesting.
- Year around access to the forest is special and unique. Also, close to population areas. Coast climate has cool summers. We have a weather thing that is just outstanding (not a lot of trails)
- There is a huge population of coastal migratory birds. Bird watching is great.
- Elk hunting and watching is good (need trails for this activity)
- Need a long range plan for Enchanted Valley that includes trail opportunity.
- On Baker Beach, trails are unique to that area – need more riding trails
- Niche times of the year: Education opportunities for natural resource occurrence including whale watching on the coast or Chinook spawning – bring kids out to watch. On family drive, you can stop and look at the stream – after you’ve learned about it on the web. This contributes to tourism in off season.
- This could be another opportunity to work with county parks.
- ATV loop trails near the Willamette Valley with pit riding opportunities.
- Design roads for post decommissioning opportunities. Contour decommissioned roads for recreation purposes.
- Increased recreation will increase search and rescue costs.

Involve public each step of the way.

What we identify - ridge top to beach

Climate – year around access

Species – unique to the world

#### **Rec Site Facility Master Planning Schedule:**

- January – internal review of inventory, use of site, cost of site
- March 21 and 22 – niches session with facilitators held either in Corvallis at the Siuslaw Headquarters or at Cape Perpetua Visitor Center. **Coast PAC members are invited to attend.**
- May – go through all developed recreation sites, running through niche, cost of management, looking at ways to make them cost less, finding groups to care for them.
- June – develop five year actions plan. Mike wants to come back and have the PAC review the plan.

Johnny questions doing all the work and then in step seven you involve the public. You may want to involve the public during each step of the way.

Public involvement – develop a blog site

## **Forest History Presentation – Dick Powell, Starker Forest**

Dick Powell presented a PowerPoint presentation based on wood use and importance in history of humankind.

Civilization required wood to building material, as fuel. People did not know about replanting so they started losing productive ground. But they still needed wood. They started conquering other countries for the need of wood.

People migrated and needed to travel on water so discovered boat building with wood. Native American's were found to be cleaner because they bathed. Native Americans were disgusted by handkerchiefs.

Sixty percent of foods today came from the North and South Native Americans. Medicines came from Native Americans, too.

Geography of North America looked like prairies. Bison grazed on the east coast. Indians burned a lot – to get away from enemy, burn enemy's camps, and burn to create nice grasslands to lure bison to.

Past Willamette Valley was much more open than it is now. Natives burned the Valley regularly. Average fires were close to half million acres.

Population in America went from 200,000 city populations; dropped to 3,400. What was decline in population? Disease; European's brought over live stock/human related diseases that natives had no defense for.

Euro-Americans started pushing westward and natives gone for 200 years. Forests were coming back. Artists started depicting romantic paintings of western forests. It grew on the psyche of American society.

1850 – The country is mostly agrarian and needed wood for fencing. Lumber production finally exceeds fuel for wood consumption. US was starting to use coal and oil for fuel. Wood was decreasing.

Westward expansion of the 1800's was greatly facilitated by the railroad. Railroads were a wooden device. Locomotives burned wood.

One mile of track used over 2,500 ties. Ties don't last long; they rot. Oil can preserve wood, develop pesticides. Forests grew back again.

Forestry became cut and run, starting in NE United States.

Oregon's Forest Practices Act enacted in 1971. Got rid of under story through a lot TLC, there are now good forests again. We are putting logs back into the stream for fish habitat.

US Forest Land acreages: Today we have 747 million acres of forest – 71% of the forestland we had in 1630.

Today, just over half of all wood consumed is still used for heating and cooking. Thousands of things we use are wood-based.

Our forests are a result of both biology and history. Why, when it should be hemlock? We have Douglas fir because Dick thinks that native Americans lit fires which brought in sunshine conducive to Douglas fir growth.

Restoration – what year do you restore to?

If you are interested in Dick's presentation, contact Joni for a cd copy of his presentation.

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