

# Northwest Oregon Resource Advisory Council (RAC)

## Meeting Notes

March 9, 2016  
9:00AM –5:00PM

Willamette Heritage Center  
Mission Mill Dye House  
1313 Mill St. SE  
Salem, OR 97301

MEMBERS PRESENT: All with the exception of Pam Berrian

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mike Korn (Eugene District - Siuslaw Field Office Manager), Diane Morris (Facilitator and Salem District – Marys Peak Acting Field Office Manager), Karen Shank (Salem District - Tillamook Field Office Manager), Belle Smith (Salem District - Cascade Field Office Supervisor), Patricia (Pat) Johnston (Eugene District - Plant Ecologist), David Howell (Salem District - Associate District Manager), Patricia Mallette (Eugene District - Associate District Manager), Trish Hogervorst (Salem District - Public Affairs Officer), Kim Titus (Salem District Manager), Kathy Stangl (Eugene District Manager), John Huston (Designated Federal Officer and Salem District – Cascades Field Office Manager), Jennifer Velez (Note Taker and Eugene District – Public Affairs Office), Kathy Angstrom (Salem District - Management Analyst), Greg Shine (Oregon State Office – Public Affairs), Jay Ruegger (Eugene District – GIS Analyst)

**\*Visit <http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/nworrac.php> for recommended project funding allocations.\***

**9:00AM Welcome/Ice Breaker**

- Welcome by Annabelle (RAC Chairperson) and Diane (Facilitator)
- Logistics – facilities, lunch, wifi access
- Introductions with ice breaker question – what interests you about serving as a RAC member?

**9:15 AM Meeting Nuts and Bolts**

- Travel Update (Kathy)
  - RAC members need to complete the travel profile form to claim reimbursements for mileage, meals and lodging and remember to sign
  - Sign-up sheet available for shuttles from Salem to Eugene for Friday

- Handouts (Dave)
  - FY 2012-2014 Past Projects
    - Includes year(s) funds awarded, completion date (if applicable), and whether 2015 funds were requested
  - List of criteria identified for reviewing Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Title II project proposals
    - SRS funding for FY2016 is now available
  - List of proposed projects
    - Includes information about whether projects have requested multi-year funding and more
  - Meeting notes from RAC meeting on October 21, 2015
  - SRS project presentation schedule
  - Meeting agenda
  - Interests submitted by counties for project review
  - Table of remaining SRS funds from past projects and administrative cost projections for utilizing the \$50,000 approved within the Charter e.g. for BLM staff time related to contract needs, RAC meeting facility needs, etc.

Q. Are the funds derived per county?

A. Funds are broken out that way.

- GIS Interactive Map (Jay)
  - Online interactive map began as a request to map the locations of project proposals
  - It provides spatial context for where potential projects are located, particularly where they are located in relation to other potential projects
  - Serves as a pilot for BLM RACs in Oregon to provide a helpful tool for displaying and highlighting SRS projects
  - Demonstration for using map provided
  - Quick start guide for accessing and using the interactive map provided in handout
  - Members asked to explore tool and provide feedback at next RAC meeting
- RAC Vacancies (Greg)
  - Greg is liaison with BLM Washington Office for RACs
  - Call for nominations is not officially out, but recruiting can begin now
  - RAC members are encouraged to help seek out new nominees
  - Current RAC member can pursue reappointment if interested
  - 1/3 of the Council members' terms, or five positions, expire on August 3, 2016

Q. What happens to the RAC if SRS is not reauthorized?

A. This RAC serves multiple roles and would continue to review recreation fee proposals and provide general recommendations on

land management issues e.g. particular to the new Western Oregon Resource Management Plan

- General Updates (John)
  - The official approval for consolidation of the Eugene and Salem Districts has been received, so the next meeting may be with the Districts as one
  - A quorum has been met for the day
- Review of Agenda
  - Vote - agenda approved
- Review of Notes
  - Vote – notes approved

10:00 AM **Public Forum** – no public present, but time was provided for anyone that arrived

#### 10:05 AM **Prioritization of Voting Criteria**

- Members provided with 15 minutes to review criteria
- Criteria should be kept in mind when considering and discussing project discussions
- Members asked to mark next to their top five criteria
  - Some of the criteria will be grouped into categories such as community benefits, monitoring and reporting, partnerships, long-term impacts, etc.
- Criteria identified as being highly important were:
  - Federal lands nexus (8)
  - Long term benefits (7)
  - Matching funds brought in (6)
  - Economic benefit to the local community (6)
  - Measurable results or anticipated results based on best science (6)
  - Watershed improvement and ecological benefit to project area (5)
  - Alternative funding sources available (5)

Q. What does access to federal lands apply to?

A. An ongoing issue with public access to BLM lands remains with reciprocal right-of-way agreements in place with private entities.

Q. What is sustainability applying to?

A. Projects are multi-year with funding.

S. It's important to consider whether projects will be viable for multiple years.

S. Project proposals were reviewed by BLM technical staff with no red flags identified.

S. In considering projects, reminder that all projects must meet applicable natural resource management laws and regulations.

Q. What should be done with funds that are not allocated? Should they roll over to consider for next year funding allocations or allow the county(ies) to retain funds to spend?

A. Roll over by county was voted on and approved.

#### 10:45 AM **Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act Update** (Dave)

- Draft information shared about the fee proposal process timeline and upcoming needs
- Handout will be provided at future meeting
- Fee proposals need to be brought forward for new recreation sites as well as for changes to existing recreation fee sites
- Fees remain within the area they are collected
- Process includes public outreach about any planned recreation fee changes

Q. What are the requirements to bring forth a fee proposal?

A. A business plan is required.

Q. Is a lot of bookkeeping done to track how much of the funds are spent at each site? Are long-term maintenance costs identified?

A. Yes.

Q. Are long-term maintenance costs identified?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the intent that fee collection will make sites self-sufficient?

A. Yes through a combination with the use of appropriated funds.

S. I would love to see an annual pass be encouraged for people who frequent these sites instead of them having to pay each day. Ultimately, I'd like to see a way for partner groups that help develop and maintain these sites to be able to use a permit system.

S. Permits are required at a non-BLM site near us and that seems to work well.

Q. I'm curious about how county emergency services are compensated when there are accidents originating from recreation development on BLM.

A. This is a consideration. Increased economic activity in the county is one way. BLM law enforcement are available to assist.

S. We've done events over the past three years and never had an incident that required emergency services.

S. BLM contributes to Oregon Department of Forestry for response services to wildfires.

Q. Is there a formula for determining if a site should even have a fee?

A. There are guiding criteria such as whether a site is high use or if resource damage is incurred. The agency receives a limited amount of funds for so many sites. If the public demands more than that, recreation fees allows the agency to have more sites and/or maintain sites to a higher level.

S. It's important to provide opportunities for all, at all "price points" including no fee options.

S. An example of this along the spectrum of opportunities that can be provided is pit toilets verses vault toilets.

S. Be sure to read information provided for recreation fee discussion at upcoming meeting.

### **11:15 AM Next RAC Meeting**

- Potential topics include:
  - Recreation fee proposals
  - Allocating 2015 SRS funds
- Potential time to meet will be Fall (October) of 2016 for a 2 or 3 day meeting

S. Important considerations will be timing related to calling for new project submissions as well as when vacant RAC member positions will be filled.

- Possible meeting locations include Benton County Commissioners Office, Linn County Fairgrounds, Salem District Office or Eugene District Office

S. Funds should not be used to pay for facilities when there are existing federal facilities that can be used free of charge.

**11:35 AM Lunch**

**12:40 PM Process for Presentations**

- 5 minutes allotted for presentation and 5 minutes for question
- If a project does not have a presenter, RAC members will be allowed to review the project on their own for that time slot
- Presentations on multi-county projects will occur when the first county alphabetically in the order shows up in a field office grouping. Multi-county projects will be approved by county as the RAC votes on that county's funding.

**12:45 PM Presentations - Tillamook Field Office**

Columbia County

- 1) River Youth Corps Riparian Restoration  
No representative; information shared by others present

The Youth Corps supports the BLM as well as other area organizations. The funding would allow the youth corps to collect seed and support the organizations they work with in restoration work.

- 2) Vernonia Schools – Nehalem Natives Nursery  
Presenter: Cain Allen

Need staff person to oversee day-to-day operations of nursery. Nursery operations are developing. They have a greenhouse. Their primary goal is to generate species that support Coho salmon restoration efforts. The nursery provides an outdoor learning classroom for students.

Q. Is there a curriculum that ties in the work of the nursery?

A. Yes, one is in development. Local biology teachers are involved.

S. The city's vision when they needed to relocate the school due to flooding was to involve local students through natural resource education.

Q. What is the demand for the stock produced at the nursery?

A. The nursery generates 5,000 plants that are used each year, and donates many more.

Q. Why is the request for 2014 funds double what shows for past requests?

A. The number shown is actually funds awarded not funds requested.

Q. Do you work with other schools to increase capacity?

A. We work with the local youth corps.

Q. How long has this program been going on?

A. Since 1996.

3) North Scappoose LWD and Restoration

Presenter: Pat Weller

Overall goal is to increase salmon habitat in the North Scappoose Watershed. The project is working within a mile of BLM lands, with three interested adjacent landowners nearby. Our project seeks to improve conditions through large woody debris placement to increase within stream complexity and shade enhancement. Project includes water quality monitoring to better understand temperature issues. ODFW and DEQ are partners.

Q. Where would the logs come from?

A. Locally, from an adjacent land owner, which they will contribute as match. Weyerhaeuser may participate to.

Q. How is this project scalable based on funds that may be approved?

A. Will start in the mid, then high, then lower site.

4) Native and Invasive Plant Program

Presenter: Tyler Joki

Essence of program is that invasive plant species are removed throughout the County and native plants planted in their place. SRS funds are an important contributor to the success of this work. County is predominantly BLM land. Proposed project is scalable. At \$50,000, each high school could get \$1,000 per year over five years. This will likely be the last SRS funding request because of the establishment of school and partner based funding support.

Q. Are recommendation followed for chemical treatments?

A. Yes, Oregon Department of Agriculture standards are met.

Q. Are there plans to incorporate other school districts in addition to the tree that were mentioned?

A. We work collaboratively with organizations that offer similar programs to the other school districts.

Q. What is the plan for the SRS balance that remains?

A. Those funds are earmarked for an outdoor grow space.

Q. Which greenhouse is the source for requested funds?

- A. All structures are in place. What is being requested is funding to support school involvement in nursery operations.

#### Discussion

- S. Reservations about large wood placement in upper Scappoose Watershed and questions about the anticipated benefits.
- S. The funds requested at the identified “scalable” levels for all projects total less than the available amount of funds.
- S. It’s important to acknowledge the value of natural resource education in these presentations.
- S. It would be hard to determine how \$10,000 would be distributed among the three education related projects if the Scappoose Watershed project is not funded.

#### Recommendation

Approve the scalable amount requested by all education related projects, then split the remaining funds among the River Youth Corps Riparian Restoration Project (2/3) and the Vernonia Schools Native Plant Nursery (1/3). No funding approved for the North Scappoose LWD and Restoration Project.

Motion made, voted on and approved – all approved but one.

#### Multnomah County

- 5) Multnomah-Dixie Mountain Weed Management  
Presenter: Kurt Heckerth

Funds would be used by Columbia River Youth Corps to remove invasive species. Past funded projects on ivy pulls have been successful. All work is done by hand, with no chemical application. It provides youth corps members with training opportunities.

- Q. Does treatment occur in the powerline right-of-way?  
A. No.

- Q. Without chemicals, what kind of success have you had?  
A. With removal followed by spot treatments, success has been good. The next site, which is within a plantation and not on a slope, will be a bit trickier.

#### Recommendation

Fund project at requested amount.

Motion made, voted on and approved - unanimous

Washington County

- 6) Youth Driven Conservation Thin Leaved Peavine  
Presenter: Rebecca Currin

Project involves helping youth develop job-related experience and would help prevent listing of the thin leaved peavine. Students will get a hands-on training in a greenhouse and in the field. Three schools would be involved with 100 hours each. The thin leaved peavine is a rare species found in western Oregon. There is currently no legal protection for the plant. Anticipated impacts include monitoring 10 known occupied sites by the plants and doubling known individuals. Funding request is scalable. This is a multi-county project.

Q. Is this an orchid?

A. No, it's in the pea family.

Q. What habitat does the peavine like?

A. It likes prairie oak edges. It can be found on the edges of agriculture and along roadsides.

Q. Does the species require disturbance?

A. It likes shrubby edge habitat, which is also favored by poison oak.

Q. Please clarify amount being requested.

A. Amount shown on sheet includes match and total requested SRS funds.

Q. Which sites would receive priority?

A. Those sites in the north valley.

Q. Where would the planned work occur?

A. Currently it's all planned on public land, not all of which is federal land.

Q. If the two northern counties were eliminated, could the requested funds be given to the other two counties?

A. Yes.

Q. Could you scale the project to do one site in each county?

A. Yes, there are many ways to scale the project.

Q. Has anything like this been done before with replanting a rare species?

A. Yes.

Q. Would conditions for survival vary by county?

A. Yes, but the accepted best practice to re-establish rare plants is to plant in as many sites as possible.

Q. Is there evidence to support that the planting effort could be successful?

A. It is not known to date, but we want to try.

Q. Is anyone else doing this kind of work?

A. Yes, there are many partners across the Willamette Valley doing this kind of work with threatened and endangered species.

S. A project on this scale may be premature due to its experimental nature e.g. try in one or two counties first.

S. This should maybe be tried in Benton County first, then revisit it.

S. An important consideration is whether BLM lands do or potentially could benefit from this project and how. An assessment of habitat locations on BLM Land would be helpful.

S. The RAC could return to this project later and provide a breakdown of funding requested for one site per each of the six counties as well as what focus the project on one or two sites in Benton County only would look like.

S. Additional information needed to show a scalable break-out by county.

7) Northwest Oregon Partnership  
Presenter: Dave Harris

The organization specializes in providing education and restoration work, and operates in eight counties. They serve an array of partners including the BLM. Camp Tillamook is the hub of operations. A large nursery is there with satellite nurseries scattered elsewhere with a goal of providing stock to partners. Youth at the camp are involved in learning various aspects of propagation. The hope is that the work inspires participants to pursue natural resource careers, particularly in rural communities. A list of accomplishments was shared including the creation of 90 jobs for youth. The program has also been successful in supporting restoration efforts on private lands.

Q. Why does a remaining balance show?

A. Approximately half has been spent, but has not been billed to the BLM yet. There are plans for the remaining funds to be spent.

Q. How dependent on the SRS funds is this work?

A. Very dependent.

## Recommendation

Fund full amount asked for by Northwest Oregon Partnership and no funding to Youth Driven Conservation Thin Leaved Peavine.

Motion made, voted on and approved - unanimous

## Yamhill County

### 8) Rapid Bio-Assessment Phase 1

No representative; information shared by others present

Project proposal entails snorkel surveys. The group is helpful in getting measurements to help other organizations better work with streamside enhancements. The surveys include counting fish. The project involves a number of partners.

S. The project has a lot of merit.

### 9) Northwest Oregon Partnership

Previously presented by Dave Harris

### 10) Law Enforcement Agreement

Presenter: Robert Mitsuyasu

In some cases, our public lands are being misused, particularly by those who choose to commit crimes on BLM land such as thefts, illegal camping, dumping trash, drug use, etc. BLM Rangers cover a lot of ground. The cooperation with local law enforcement is invaluable, especially given the checkerboard land ownership pattern in western Oregon. Litter from target shooting is one example of an activity that is prevalent and requires law enforcement working together. It can cost thousands of dollars to clean up shot-up televisions, and replace administrative signs that have been vandalized. Special forest product theft is another issue.

S. There are some issues that federal officers can handle that others cannot.

Q. How were the requested funds determined?

A. The request is scalable, but there will be less law enforcement presence with less approved funding. For example, in Yamhill County roughly two days a week. In Benton County, it's about three to four days.

Q. How many hours would the funding get?

A. It depends on who is doing the patrolling and whether it is at a regular or overtime rate.

#### Recommendation

Fund all three projects at \$6k, \$15k and \$20,725k respectively.

Motion made, voted on and approved – unanimous

#### 3:25 PM **Wrap-Up**

- In the case that there is extra time available tomorrow, can continue discussion on location for next meeting, better ways to do project presentations, how to do public comment period (over lunch perhaps) at future meetings, and what kind of information RAC members want from other County commissioners for the next round of project reviews
- Feedback on interactive map use during presentations was very positive.

#### 3:30 PM **Meeting Adjourned**

March 10, 2016  
9:00AM –5:00PM

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Mission Mill Dye House  
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MEMBERS PRESENT: All with the exception of Pam Berrian

OTHERS PRESENT:

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9:00AM **Public Forum** – no public present, but time was provided for anyone that arrived

9:05 AM **Welcome/Logistics**

- Lunch arrangements
- Travel - profile forms made available in hard copy, make sure to save lodging receipts (Kathy)
- Follow-up information for Thin Leave Peavine project proposal provided
- Group photo
- Day 1 meeting review

S. Multi-county project proposals are complicated.

S. Each set should be done clearly and separately, with a reminder of when the appropriate session comes up by county.

S. A handout that shows everything broken out would be helpful, as was provided for the Thin Leave Peavine project.

- S. Consider having presenters for multi-county project only come one day.
- S. We should see if there is a way to make the funding allocation discussion easier, such as by attaching dollar amounts to the recommendations and subsequent amendments that are made.
- S. Reminder that Robert's Rules of Order are being followed and that it is important, especially for those in elected official positions.
- S. The Dye House is tricky facility for those who utilize ADA features.

## 12:45 PM Presentations – Cascades Field Office

### Clackamas County

#### 11) Youth Employment NYC Presenter: Joe Waksmundski

NWYC provides job and experience education for young adults. They need the capacity that RAC funds can offer to continue to do community benefitting programs. Volunteer hours, trail maintenance, new trail construction, invasive plant removal, and replanting are examples of the work they provide. Last year youth in their programs worked 16 weeks. They offer matching funds and are a partner. If fully funded, they could reach 108 youth with 10 project weeks. Stipends are offered for youth who complete the program to help further their education. They've received RAC funding in the past. All projects they offer are scalable to a minimum of \$5,350, which is one week of work.

Q. How do you pick up youth from the local community?  
A. We recruit in the school districts through contacts.

Q. Do projects occur in the county in which they're funded?  
A. Youth community based programs occur on the county supporting them. Young adult program work occurs over the broader geographic area.

Q. How do I know the difference?  
A. Marion and Clackamas counties are youth programs, Linn and Benton County programs are young adult programs.

#### 12) Dumpstoppers

Presenter: Rick Gruen

Mission is to clean up illegal waste on forest lands in Clackamas County. We also do education to prevent illegal dumping. A Deputy is tied to the program for enforcement. The program consists of a program coordinator, an assistant, the Deputy, and various administrative staff. An incredible network of partners supports their efforts, which began in 2003. Statistics provided for how much waste they've removed including cars, hazardous waste, remodeling scraps, and more. It takes roughly \$15,000 a month to run the program.

Q. How would those who dump be prosecuted without the work of the Dumpstoppers?

A. It would be challenging to catch those responsible. We sort through trash to search for evidence. It's easier to ask those identified to clean up their mess than to prosecute them. Relationships with local deputies are really helpful.

Q. How many actual convictions do you have as a result of the program?

A. About 3 to 4 citations a year on average.

Q. What are the challenges your volunteers face?

A. Contact with harmful materials such as needles. We do a lot of education and provide protective gear to help keep them safe.

S. I don't know how we could say no to this because it is so important.

S. It's important to nip dumping as soon as possible because it helps prevent additional dumping at a site.

S. It's a real problem because the dumping occurs so near the population.

### 13) Molalla LSR Enhancement

Presenter: Corbin Murphy

This wildlife project is to help create early seral habitat in late successional reserves, which are like a biological desert. Funding has been providing by the RAC and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation before. Monitoring cameras are set up to help with monitoring. The project would also support native pollinators, assist with some native huckleberry production, and create appealing habitat for migratory birds. The overall goal is to increase usage by these various types of wildlife. Replanting would occur. Slash will be piled and burned, with 10% left for wildlife use.

Q. How is creating early seral habitat in Late Successional Reserves consistent with the agency's management plan?

A. In the long-term the goal is to create quality late successional habitat with more complex canopy structure.

S. You have matrix lands to do that work in.

S. This work would occur in small areas throughout.

Q. Is this a pilot project to influence forestry practices?

A. There's been demonstration of this through other projects. This offers benefits for people, specifically hunters, and wildlife.

Q. Have you approached sportsman's groups for funding as well?

A. No.

S. We could recommend funds for nursery stock for this first year.

S. I'd be happy to help put you in touch with private funders.

S. Late Successional Reserves have heavily impacted available early seral habitat.

#### 14) Law Enforcement

No representative; information shared by others present

This specific project proposal is for .5 FTE of law enforcement presence, primarily to provide coverage over the weekends.

Q. Do these law enforcement deputies have to stay within county boundaries?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the county getting the full amount of receipt funding that they put in?

A. We believe so.

Q. What would a contract look like?

A. It wouldn't get much.

S. The BLM has almost fully funded a ½ FTE for this already (Linn County).

S. Would like to know the percent of how many funds counties turn back.

#### Recommendation

Fund the first three projects at the scalable level and make the rest available for law enforcement deputies to use for overtime on weekends.

Motion made, voted on and not approved.

Fund all projects except the Molalla LSR enhancement.

Motion made, voted on and not approved.

Fund all projects except the Law Enforcement project and roll over remaining funds for the next round.

Motion made, voted on and approved – unanimous.

### Linn County

#### 15) Juvenile Work Service

Presenter: Rob Perkins

RAC funds have supported this work in the past. The requested amount is scalable, but funded at full would provide 53 project days. We've worked a lot with BLM. The youth are in the young adult age range. They have committed a misdemeanor or felony offense. Many participants complete the program. Previous support has been greatly appreciated.

Q. Can you better explain the requested amount?

A. It reflects match ability for supplies like trailers as well.

#### 16) Fire Protection Communication

Presenter: Chris Klein

East Linn and Lane County would benefit from this project. It's for two radio sites in each county. The project consists of hardware updates to the existing systems to tie them all together into one dispatch location, which could offer future cost savings. A quicker dispatch can support natural resource management in many ways, particularly with wildfire response. The requested amount shown in the handout is incorrect. It's actually \$30,000 less. The work is scalable across the two counties. Doing half of the project is possible if funding is only received from one county.

Q. This seems like an essential need for fire management agencies, so why is it a project proposed to the RAC?

A. More information is needed for a response.

Q. Would newly appropriated funds from Congress be available for this?

A. Unsure.

Q. Is equipment to use the enhanced radio coverage needed?

A. No.

Q. Do law enforcement agencies use these repeaters?

A. They could.

Q. Have you requested funds from other agencies?

A. No.

S. It's an important discussion about how to make these types of communications more effective by looking at the big picture.

S. Many cities use their own communication systems.

Q. What is the cost savings for dispatches to consolidate?

A. They will appear over time, but at least by \$5,000 a month due to a reduction if one staff person.

Q. Could you do one repeater in Linn County?

A. Yes, but it doesn't complete the project.

Q. Could the landowners or ODF come up with the rest of the funding?

A. Not sure.

S. This seems like a nut and bolts request so I'm surprised to see it here.

S. It's important to support these kids.

#### 17) Law Enforcement Contract

No representative; information shared by others present

Project moved to Lane County projects, where it primarily applies due to the land base.

Q. Is there anything particular with the Linn County portion of this?

A. No, the retired deputy hired for this really enjoys the work and is very active with it.

#### 18) Water Source Maintenance

Presenter: Bret Peterson

ODF has primary wildfire response responsibilities on BLM lands. We know we need water sites to use in suppression, but knowing about them doesn't mean that it's easy to access them when needed. The Eugene District has done an inventory of ponds. The full funding would allow for brushing of the ponds outside of fire season. Matching funds are also available. The hope would be that the maintenance would continue after the initial effort. We're trying to build a cooperative network among

water sources on public lands and industrial timber lands to be best prepared for fire suppression needs.

Q. What is brushing?

A. The removal of vegetation on roads leading to and the area around water sources to improve access for vehicles and aircraft.

Q. Will engine crews deal with this on down time?

A. Yes, but our crews start in mid-June instead of mid-May now so there is not that down time to do that kind of work.

Q. Does BLM have a responsibility to do this kind of work?

A. We have primarily done this work in the past.

- 30) Illegal Dumpsite Clean-up  
Presentation has already been heard.

#### Recommendation

Fund all projects except the fire communications site.

Motion made, voted on and approved – unanimous.

11:40 AM **Lunch**

Presentation - Marys Peak Field Office

#### Marion County

- 19) Youth Enviro Squad Forest Steward  
Presenter: Dan Hoynacki

This program serves students mostly in the Salem area. It engages them in natural resource work and career opportunities. The youth program has occurred for several years. The focus is service learning through invasive species removal. The program involves education work on Saturdays. There are two classes – sustainability of resources and healthy outdoor campground behavior. We'd like to engage more youth in the canyon and eventually be able to offer stipends. We'd also like to expand more into the Elk Horn area.

Q. Have you applied for this funding in the past?

A. Yes, for the past two years.

Q. What have been other sources of funding?

A. Private grants with staff coverage from county funds.

Q. What does underserved mean?

A. Youth with socio-economic challenges that may not be a traditional learner.

S. Linn County would like to help you look into other funding sources.

20) North Fork and Salmon Falls Parking Improvement

No representative; information shared by others present and the DFO did a brief presentation.

This is a high use area, especially in the summer. The area contains lots of places for swimming. The parking lot fills often. When this happens visitors park along the road and block traffic. This project will help expand the parking lots at both locations. Both sites are currently fee free but expected to add fees.

S. Part of the parks are leased lands from the BLM.

21) Law Enforcement Contract

Presenter: Gerry Adcock

As was just presented, we receive a number of complaints about the North Fork corridor due to transients, parking along the side of the road, special forest product theft, and impediments to emergency response services. We have several joint projects in the area with the BLM to deter excessive partying and unapproved trail development.

Q. Do you still have cadets?

A. We do not due to safety issues.

Q. Is the project scalable because the requested and scalable amount appear to be the same.

A. Unsure about why that is.

Recommendation

Fund all projects but for the parking improvements less than requested.

Motion made, voted on and approved – unanimous.

Benton County

22) Tobe Creek LWD

Presenter:

23) County Sheriff Forest Patrol

Presenter: Robert Mitsuyasu from Wednesday RAC session

24) OHV Trail Obliteration

Presenter: Doug Fitting

The Beaver Creek area includes a riparian protection zone. Our management plan says trails should be closed if they are not part of a designated trail system or negatively impact water resources. The trail would be decommissioned. A local contractor would be hired to pull the road, decompact the surface, and restore the subsurface hydrologic connection. The area would then be seeded and mulched. Eventually large woody debris would be placed.

Q. How does it interrupt flow?

A. The trail disconnects the hydrologic funding. Removing the trail would reconnect it.

Q. How will you keep visitors from recreating the trail?

A. Through the placement of large woody debris and other natural barriers.

Q. Is any assistance coming from the Siuslaw National Forest or other agencies or organizations?

A. No.

25) Weed Removal

No representative; information shared by others present

This project will focus on the base of highway 34 up towards Marys Peak. The goal would be to keep invasive species from taking over a meadow area. A contract would be put together. The project is scalable. The plan is to do monitoring.

S. I believe the noble firs are what is threatening the meadow.

S. The peavine mentioned in this proposal is not the same as the Thin Leave peavine in another project proposal.

Recommendation

Fund all projects including the Thin Leave Peavine proposal. Make the remaining funds available for consideration in the next round.

Motion made, voted on and approved – unanimous.

## Polk County

### 26) Ronco Road Repair

Presenter: Douglas Fitting

This road provides public access to recreation in the King Valley area. The roads would be improved to lessen impacts on aquatic resources. It is supported by local landowner. Approximately 1.6 miles of road would be renovated by a local contractor. The road would be graded and resurfaced with aggregate. It currently lacks proper drainage. In some places the degradation could lead to the road becoming impassable. The project would alleviate 4x4 damage. If these improvements are not made, the road may be gated by private landowners, which would restrict public access. This project is scalable.

Q. How will you deter 4x4 use?

A. The improved road will help minimize future use by 4x4s.

Q. Is this a private road?

A. It's under mixed ownership.

Q. Has there been any log fall on this road recently?

A. No.

Q. What are the landowners contributing?

A. Nothing.

Q. Could the landowners gate the road after the work is done?

A. The county maintains the road and has discretion over its status.

Q. Will you put this project forth for other funding like federal access grants (FLAP)?

A. Yes, we plan to.

S. The gate issue is one the Board of Commissioners has heard. We created an emergency gate system for temporary gating during times of high fire danger.

### 27) Noxious Weeds

No representative; information shared by others present

### 28) Dumpstoppers

Presenter: John Nyberg and Mark Silberdagl

The numbers have been going down recently because we haven't had as much presence. An example is an SUV that was left and used for target shooting. A vehicle that was chopped into three pieces was recently found and removed. Those who are prosecuted are asked to do community service. Without this program, the issue will get worse and worse. Forest areas could become a dumping ground.

Q. Where is most of the dumping taking place?

A. A few miles up some spur roads.

Q. How many accumulated hours?

A. Approximately 7,200 hours. Last year alone about 3,300 hours were contributed.

29) South Fork Aerial LWD

Presenter: Lucas Hunt

This project involves a number of partners. It's is for upstream watershed enhancement, which would improve the water source. It will help keep sediment out of the reservoir, while supporting salmon habitat. A number of the creeks involved were utilized for logging operations in the past, and have little in stream wood. The proposal includes adding large woody debris over a two mile stretch. We could extend that if additional funding is provided. The large wood in the upper section will come from a recent thinning on BLM land. The project will complement directional felling in the area. Other funding sources may become available. The project is scalable.

Q. Are the contributions from other sources firm?

A. Yes, this information is provided in the project proposal. We are still waiting to hear back on a few other potential funding sources.

Q. Are those funds contingent on this project receiving SRS funds?

A. No.

Q. What is the riparian condition and where is the sediment load coming from?

A. Fish can reach the dam. They are passing. All in all there is about 6 miles of spawning ground below the dam and 11 miles above it.

Q. There is a lot of damage below the area you propose working in. Will the council be working there too?

A. We've identified the area to work in because it's open there and we feel that would give us a better chance to be successful with this large wood placement. There is risk to working lower in the stream due to potential for flooding within the city.

Q. Explain where the directional felling occurred.

A. These were overstocked areas in a BLM project area.

## Recommendation

Fund all projects.

Motion made, voted on and approved – all voted yes but one.

## 2:20 PM **Wrap-Up**

- Shuttle coordination
- Logistics for Friday – no wifi

S. Please set up a hotspot if at all possible.

- Project review process

S. It's a challenge to work through so many projects.

S. Tomorrow we will be hearing a lot of projects before making recommendations.

S. An idea would be to review all multi-county projects together in the first meeting.

S. It might be helpful to have staff help show how project proposals fit into agency work.

S. I don't want that.

S. I would like to hear more about county preferences for projects.

Q. What is the difference between Title I, II, III IV funds?

A. Overview was provided by Chairperson.

S. BLM should not influence projects as they are benefitting from them.

S. I think having county prioritization is helpful.

S. I appreciate the stakeholder grouping that we have and that one group, commissioners, should not be asked for priorities and other groups not asked.

S. Commissioner recommendation should be part of the process and requested but not provided to RAC members as a separate input.

S. Would like BLM staff to provide information on how projects fit, particularly with legislation and its implementation

- Public comment period timing

S. Like the idea of doing it over lunch time.

S. Another idea is to have the public comment period in the afternoon starting up right after a break.

- Closing comments
  - We really appreciate your time and how you are working together (Kathy)
  - We will strive to meet in no cost facilities and ask for any ideas you have to increase our efficiency during these meetings (Kim)

**2:45 PM Meeting Adjourned**

March 10, 2016  
9:00AM –5:00PM

Willamette Heritage Center  
Mission Mill Dye House  
1313 Mill St. SE  
Salem, OR 97301

MEMBERS PRESENT: All with the exception of Glen Crinklaw

Mike Korn (Eugene District - Siuslaw Field Office Manager), Patricia (Pat) Johnston (Eugene District - Plant Ecologist), David Howell (Salem District - Associate District Manager), Patricia Mallette (Eugene District - Associate District Manager), Trish Hogervorst (Salem District - Public Affairs Officer), Kim Titus (Salem District Manager), Kathy Stangl (Eugene District Manager), John Huston (Designated Federal Officer and Salem District – Cascades Field Office Manager), Jennifer Velez (Note Taker and Eugene District – Public Affairs Office), Greg Shine (Oregon State Office – Public Affairs), Jay Ruegger (Eugene District – GIS Analyst), and other various Eugene District staff

9:00 AM **Welcome** (Pat)

9:05AM **Presentations – Lane County**

30) Illegal Dumpsite Clean-up  
Presenter: Jeff Spring

The BLM currently has some funds to clean up hazardous waste, but those funds are limited. A number of local contractors are available to hire to assist with cleaning up illegal dumping sites. These types of sites appear all over forested lands in Lane County. Investigations are done to try to identify who is responsible. A short video was shown.

Q. Are youth going to be involved with this work?

A. We are looking to hire contractors with training to handle these types of cleanups due to safety and biohazard risks. Doing a contractor also allows has to have ample oversight over the funds expended and ensures they're nearby when needed.

Q. How is this a Class IV project?

A. Because of the household materials.

Q. How is this project measurable?

A. We're looking at this to be a pilot program.

Q. Would this project run into conflict with other programs in Lane County.

A. I don't believe so, we're still pursuing collaborative opportunities to do this work.

Q. Are there other similar programs here?

A. There are not, not like Dumpstoppers which operates in other counties.

### 31) Mohawk Education and Outreach

Presenter: Jared Webright

We're looking to build off of classroom learning. We'd like to offer a community education based project working alongside local landowners that focuses on watershed education and monitoring. We will tie the students' work into quantification of metrics to assess their learning. There are six potential sites, with one focus site located upstream in the Mohawk Basin. This will offer exposure to different habitat types. The focus site is on Kelly Creek. It would involve 15-25 acres of wetland habitat. A similar program has been offered in the McKenzie River Watershed with the US Forest Service on no-school Fridays. Students are organized in small teams and also participate in community outreach to get a 0.5 learning credit. This work eventually leads to the identification of small projects for local contractors to do to enhance the watershed. There is match for this project.

Q. What can you report back to us on regarding metrics from past projects?

A. We've been able to focus on projects in close proximity to schools. We could expand the program to get students out into the watershed to work with larger metrics.

S. I appreciate that you work with a high school that is so close to the river.

S. Yes, we'd really like to broaden the program.

Q. What kind of species would you focus on in the uplands?

A. A herd of elk first and foremost. We would also potentially work with some legacy oaks.

Q. Is this a IV project for watershed restoration and maintenance?

A. Yes

Q. How many students would this program involve?

A. Two years, with 14 students a year.

Q. What percentage of this project is education versus watershed enhancement?

A. The RAC funded portion is 90% education.

### 32) Pacific Fisher Inventory

Presenter: John Deluca

USFWS proposed to list the west coast population as threatened. It's a Bureau sensitive species. Habitat loss and marijuana grows have negatively impacted their habitat due to the use of herbicides. We'd like to do surveys to assess population numbers. The requested funds would cover the cost of equipment only, which could be used for many years. The BLM would cover the staff time. The Siuslaw Field Office would be the focus. We're collaborating with the Pacific Northwest Research Center to ensure standardized protocols are being used to make it viable. We're also working with the Lakeview District which has experience doing this kind of work. We would look to share the results with the public. The request is scalable.

Q. I know the agency is working with USFWS to create a plan to try to prevent the species from being listed, so do you think this work is premature?

A. We have one historic incidental observation, we haven't surveyed for it below. I don't think it's premature because of guiding laws that direct the Bureau to monitor and conserve these types of species. This would also tie into collaborative planning to hopefully prevent listing of the species, and take a proactive standpoint.

### 33) Snag Creation High Priority LSR

Presenter: John Deluca

The focus would be in high priority late successional reserves. Various species depend on them for habitat needs including Bureau sensitive species. Due to past land management practices, a lot of snags have been lost on the landscape. We would collaborate with USFWS and others. The project is scalable. Snags that were created would be visited in future years for to monitoring success of the project. This would offer opportunities to bring

school groups out for environmental education. Based on Northern Spotted Owl nesting preferences we would aim for snag creation in trees that are 24" in dbh or greater. Snags would be created in stands that have previously been thinned. Ten years after harvest creates great candidates. We also find that this work generates opportunities to open up the canopy. This would offer research opportunities for local graduate students.

Q. Are any of the stands capable of supporting nesting habitat?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Does BLM have an equipment securing process?

A. We do have funds for equipment, but we still look at other funding resources.

Q. With \$60 per snag could you scale it?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you sought funding through appropriations for these projects?

A. Yes, we're waiting to hear back on our budgets.

#### 34) Calico Creek Restoration

Presenter: Del Ryan

Historically, this was a year round creek that now flows seasonally. We're looking to add woody debris to the stream to enhance its structure. We'd like to see complementary work near adjacent BLM lands. We use low impact techniques to do the work, particularly on BLM land. We would use hand tools to place woody debris. A series of photos were shown showing the outcome of work done five years ago. Cutthroat trout that make it into the streams are still not able to stay there year round. Work would involve the Kennedy Conservation Corps. At Aprovecho we have thousands of visitors. We would like to engage them in learning about stream restoration.

Q. Can you explain your organization?

A. We are a non-profit organization with a mission to learn about organic farming and more. We have a 35 acre managed forest for sustainable use.

S. The stream drains into the Coast Fork and could support anadromous fish.

Q. In what way is this project involved in enhancement of BLM lands?

A. By moving up in the watershed we'd hope to increase likelihood of water storage to achieve year round flow. We're also looking to do oak savannah restoration near BLM lands.

### 35) Cow Creek Water Quality and Habitat

Presenter: Celia Barry and Dave Downing

We're proposing to partner with NWYC on this to do a habitat and water quality enhancement project on Cow Creek. It provides habitat for lamprey, cutthroat trout and potentially Coho salmon. Currently, the creek contains too much sediment. A focus group approach would be used to work with small groups of private landowners to do the restoration work. NWYC would work with the Soil and Water Conservation District. Local landowners and the county are on board with the culvert replacement. We plan to provide over \$300,000 in match.

Q. What type of project is this?

A. Fish habitat restoration.

Q. Can this project be phased over a number of years?

A. Yes, we always try to engage landowners over a two year period. The focus areas are based on measurable objectives in working with landowners such as reduction of loss of floodplain due to agricultural activities. We do pre and post activities. We also do a post project assessment.

S. With the requests for funds, we've several hundred thousand in the hole.

S. The culvert replacement will need to occur soon due its five year risk assessment.

Q. Are the culvert replacements at grade or above?

A. Yes, they're perched.

Q. Restatement of the requested funds. The problem issue is the bridge since it needs to be replaced, so will that happen anyways?

A. Yes, we've been seeking funding for three years.

Q. Where does this fit into stream enhancement priorities for the area?

A. This is a tributary to the North Fork Siuslaw. It could become habitat for Coho salmon. It already provides habitat for lamprey. From the county

standpoint, it is a safety priority. Not much work has occurred here before. For the county, we're required to focus on the roads to ensure they provide access. This work would complement past restoration work done by the BLM and others in the area.

36) Kalapuya Conservation Corps

Presenter: Stefan Almac

Kalapuya High School is an alternative high school. We strive to change the trajectory of their life. We look to ensure they have education and training beyond high school. We ask students to step into their education by having them do summer crew work on BLM prioritized projects. Projects include building picnic tables and invasive species removal. Many students say they return to sites they work at such as the Shotgun OHV area to ensure it is clean. Students who complete the work tend to get hired quicker than other students. Students have also built an industrial size greenhouse making us full service. We augment the RAC funding with other grants. The request is scalable. For results, we have increased graduation rates. All have graduated from high school.

Q. If we give you the minimum, would that keep you afloat for the summer?

A. Yes.

Q. What funding have you received in the past?

A. We received \$58,000 in years past as well as other BLM grants.

Q. Do you recruit students from across Lane County?

A. No because we are a public school so students must come from the Bethel School District.

37) KCC Row River Trail Program

Presenter: Matt Hoag

The Kennedy School strives to promote a positive and productive relationship for the students with the world that they live in. We've done this work in past years. Our projects help build their confidence. Many of the students live in extreme poverty. We offer a co-curriculum program. School success determines eligibility. They in turn help teach elementary students about stewardship. We've done work along the Row River Trail. Our work complements mowing, for example where the mower can't get close to the

fence to remove blackberries, we can. We've also painted restrooms. We'd like to work on the 13 miles of trail managed by the BLM.

Q. Is it allowable for the BLM to use herbicide to control the vegetation?

A. Not in Lane County

S. Thank you for all of your work with the school. It's really supported health and wellness and created a source of pride for the city.

Q. Is the project scalable?

A. Yes. We're only asking for money for next year. My salary is covered by the school budget, so you really get bang for your buck with this project.

Q. Would getting \$12,000 mean a shorter time for the students to work?

A. Yes. It's around \$500 a day for crew salary.

Q. Did you apply for OYCC funding as well?

A. We do usually, but we did not this year.

### 38) Owens Creek Habitat Connectivity Enhancement

Presenter: Jed Kaul

Thank you to the RAC for being a contributor in the past. We've been able to replace many high priority fish passage barriers thanks to you. One high priority replacement in Owens Creek remains, which is what this request is for. It would be replaced with a bridge and engineered rifle. The NYWC would be hired to help do the work. The proposed project location is location downstream of 11 other fish passage structures. The existing culvert has a 6' drop making it a barrier. There are over 110 acres of O&C land in the watershed. The goal is to help get fish into the headwaters. Match is being provided by the landowner and local businesses. Other grant funds will be sought too.

Q. So this project is downstream of other completed projects?

A. Yes. The reason this one is last is because time was needed to develop local relationships.

Q. How many miles of habitat will be opened?

A. 15.

Q. Is BLM doing the NEPA work?

A. Yes, it will be in kind.

S. Thank you for your visit last fall. We appreciate the work that you do.

S. Wonderful project description.

Q. Was this funded in past years, and if so, what was accomplished?

A. Yes, over the past five years. The map shows a subset of the work that's been accomplished.

Q. How do fish in Owens Creek get into the Willamette?

A. It's easy going downstream, not upstream.

Q. When does the work need to be done?

A. Ideally this summer. We need to hear back from other grant sources before being able to begin.

S. Another round of RAC funding will be available soon, which may fit within your timeframe.

### 39) Road 20-1-31.2 Storage

Presenter: Steve Liebhart

The project area is located near Dorena Reservoir. Much of the road is grown over. It contains slides. A stream is running under the road and there are crushed culverts, which is a huge issue. At the end of the culvert is a 3' drop. The top of the road surface is cracking and the running water is continuously undermining the stability of the road. Cross drains need to be removed and water bars would be placed to help ensure ditchline water doesn't pull up. The overall goal is to prevent catastrophic failure and stream sluice, potentially ruining other infrastructure. Request is higher because I originally underestimated how much fill is above the road.

Q. Why isn't the road being removed?

A. There are BLM timber lands up road and we want to maintain access to them.

Q. Why aren't you waiting for a timber sale in the area to do the work?

A. Because of the safety risk associated with the crushed culvert. No timber sales planned in the area.

Q. How was the damage caused?

A. There was a slide that caused a covering of the stream up road and then two roads converge near the stream in another area.

Q. Could you apply for FEMA funds for this?

A. No, it's too small scale.

Q. Can appropriated funds be used for this?

A. Could, but there aren't enough to fix all of the damaged culverts in the area.

S. The issue is that the original culvert was undersized, and in a big storm situation it would essentially become a dam.

Q. Has the idea been explored to remove the culvert?

A. Yes, that is what we will do. The road will go into storage.

S. Note that there is a federal agency match.

#### 40) Smith Creek Bridge and Storm Enhancement

Presenter: Steve Liebhart

This project is also located in the area above Dorena Reservoir. The idea is to remove culverts to improve habitat for cutthroat trout and prevent sediment delivery. Doing so and replacing culverts with bridges will reduce long-term maintenance needs. We'd like to add large woody debris below two culverts so that we can meter the amount of materials that is moving downstream. The existing culverts pose barriers to fish passage. All trees and boulders would come from the BLM within a mile of the project area. Work will be done along with Weyerhaeuser to provide leveraging opportunities. RAC funded work would include excavator and other equipment use. The project is scalable.

Q. Is this a want to do for Weyerhaeuser?

A. Yes. They're almost done with the engineering phase.

Q. Do they have a projected start date?

A. No, so it may not happen this year.

Q. Which of your projects is the highest priority?

A. The Smith Creek Road project.

41) Row River Trail Mechanical Maintenance

Presenter: Amanda Ferguson and Russ Kalice

We'd like to extend a project that was started two years ago. The Row River Trail is incredibly important to the local economy. We'd like to extend the mowing that we do on our part of the trail and extend it to the BLM portion. A city crew would use their equipment to do bi-monthly mowing year round. The second part of the project is restroom cleaning. We want to extend our contract to have all five restrooms along the trail cleaned. Kennedy Youth Crew has helped with all of this work. Request is funding for five years. The project is scalable.

S. We're not certain that 5 years of funding would be available.

S. We understand that. We're interested in a long term relationship with the BLM.

Q. So the City is OK with contracting for less time?

A. Yes.

Q. What are visitor contributions?

A. They contribute to the local economy. In any event that happens a fee is paid to the BLM.

S. The funds are used at times to provide supplies for funds.

S. The economic effect of a well maintained trail is huge. It's very valuable.

S. Interest in the long-term maintenance of the trail.

S. There's no fee for individuals to use the trail.

S. I love using this trail. I would pay a fee to use it.

S. There are so many access routes that it would be hard to begin to think about where fees might be charged,

#### 42) Triangle Lake Noxious Weed Eradication

Presenter: Kim Sheperd

We've had a crew for several years. We're told that they do a job that rivals professionals that are hired. We've worked on removing knapweed and non-native blackberries. We hire six students for the crew and one alternate. Grant funds are used to purchase supplies, boots, bee spray, transportation costs and more. We've worked from Cottage Grove to Mapleton. Two students, Alex and Damian, shared that the job helped them develop skills to apply for jobs. We also learned the skills needed to keep a job such as team building. We learned about working safely. We learned about harmful plants to avoid, as well as how to identify native and non-native plants. We've made friendships, and learned how to better manage our money.

Q. Have you looked at how to expand on successes with invasive plant removal?

A. It depends on the species and proximity to BLM lands. We share information with landowners about how to control invasive species. There's a group there that really opposes any herbicide treatment.

Q. Have you looked at OYCC funding?

A. No, we've primarily relied on the RAC funding.

Q. Is the project scalable?

A. Yes, the hope is that the program will be able to continue.

Q. Can you explain the group that opposes herbicide use?

A. If anyone were to hear about herbicide use within a ten mile radius, others would rally.

Q. Is there a chance the private landowners could hire the crew?

A. Yes, outside of the BLM arranged work.

S. We see a couple of BLMers in the future. We encourage you to continue your work.

Q. Are there educational elements to the program?

A. Yes, we discussed it at the beginning of the year. We've invited guest presenters to speak to us in the past.

43) Walker Creek Fish Passage

Presenter: Tyler Pedersen

This project area is in the Siuslaw Watershed near Wildcat Creek in the vicinity of Walker Creek Road. The actual site is on BLM land. It would increase fish passage. The BLM has submitted for culvert #1. This request is for culvert #2. Juvenile passage is blocked. Adult passage is partially blocked. This would be match money for OWEB. Another component of the project would be to increase conifers in the vegetation mix. This will also limit downstream erosion. This project is scalable.

Q. Is part of the scaled amount to leverage funds?

A. Yes, we need to show a potential match of at least 25%.

44) Youth Juvenile Forest Work

Presenter: Matt Usurf

Youth services have three separate programs. One program services the highest risk youth. We have core curriculum and also vocational time. The students are older. There are small class sizes for safety and productivity reasons. Since the last time we requested funding, we've achieved a number of accomplishments. We've primarily worked in the Shotgun OHV area but also at recreation sites up the McKenzie River Corridor, We're the only public safety program that is applying for RAC funding. After completing the program, students are usually three grade levels up higher than when they began. Our crew leaders have an immense amount of experience and have been there for 14 years since the program began.

Q. Explain the funding requested.

A. We've spent down the past funds that we received. We've put in for the OYCC grant. We are asking for \$105,097 for 90 days.

45) Fire Protection Communication

No representative

46) Water Source Maintenance

No representative

47) Youth Employment NYC

Presenter: Joe Waksmundski

NWYC is offering several new programs this year. We have pending charter school status. We are working with a Tribal program too. We worked with over 500 Lane County youth lately. The requested amount is scalable. We'd be looking to fill in at Whitaker Creek Campground. We also seek to help increase local tourism through our efforts to maintain sites.

#### **12:10 PM Follow-up For Thin Leave Peavine Project**

Clarification was provided about the request. It would only be \$12,000 a site to fund outplanning. There are two known population sites here. The BLM has funded past work.

S. RAC members should be sure to review the spreadsheet provided.

S. Clarifying question asked about whether the Shotgun area is a fee site.

Action: The RAC Chair requested a chart similar to the one Rebecca gave them should be included with each RAC proposal.

#### **1:00 PM Public Comment Period**

Don Strand, Coordinator for Bicycling Safety Coalition

I'm here in support of the Kennedy Youth Crew project and for the Row River Trail mechanical project. I have personal experience with biking injuries. Safety issues with the trail were addressed through the construction of an underpass. I'm also involved with local biking events. In past years, it has become increasingly difficult for the BLM to maintain the trail. The Youth Crew has been very effective in pushing back blackberries. City involvement in trail maintenance has made a huge difference in keeping the trail safe. The removal of debris on the trail is an ongoing issue. I've volunteered on the trail to mark bumps and cracks in the trail surface to help prevent others from encountering them and causing harm. A safe travel surface needs to be blown on a periodic basis. I've interacted with the youth crew before and they are a wonderful group. The city's request really covers only a fraction of the maintenance costs, especially with the thousands of people that visit it each year. The multiple year proposal would make it much easier for the city. I encourage your support for both of the projects.

S. RAC funding is not guaranteed in future years, which may cause project proponents to ask for more than is really needed.

Q. As a bicyclist, what are your thoughts on other ways to fund the trail maintenance?

A. I'm not sure, perhaps use some volunteers, but that isn't a permanent fix.

- S. The BLM is trying to get partners together to develop a cooperative maintenance agreement to help leverage funding sources.
- S. Oakridge had a lot of success when they developed biking there. The city funded that, particularly connectivity.
- S. Studies show that cyclists tend to be affluent and spend money in the area.
- S. Another funding source to research is Connect Oregon.
- Q. Are the paths in Corvallis city funded?
- A. Yes.
- S. The connectivity issue is really important right now.
- S. The challenge for funding a resource like the Row River Trail is not new. When we started with the Kennedy Youth Crew and the city they definitely helped in the short term. I will be attending a two day active transportation summit where these challenges will be addressed. It's an important discussion. We recognize the value of the trail and the partners involved.
- S. There are 13 designated bikeways in Oregon, only two are family friendly. The Row River Trail is one of them.

#### **1:25 PM RAC Discussion of Lane County Projects**

- S. Because of a time lapse with the assistance agreement with Lane County Sheriff's Work Crew, we'd like to allow them to retain the past year's funds totaling \$23,919.
- Motion made and approved.
- S. As a guideline, we did dots to indicate project support last year.
- S. I'd propose that we review multi-county projects first then do an informal vote.
- S. The fire communications and water source projects were actually two different proposals.
- S. A good starting point is to consider the \$17,000 requested for two sites.
- S. We did not fund the fire communications work.

- S. With connections made yesterday ODF will be hiring a youth crew to do brushing around ponds.
- S. The technology requested by ODF is very new and perhaps not fully vetted yet.
- S. Let's try to make the same connection for water source work with the Lane County Juvenile Youth Crew.
- S. We tentatively plan to fully fund the water source project.
- S. Minimum scaling requested for all projects would be approximately \$610,000.
- S. I would like us to remember to give heavy weight to the criteria.
- S. We'll continue to do it the way we did the past two days.
- S. We'll review projects to see whether to leave them in for consideration at the minimum funding level.
- S. The Mohawk Education and Outreach project doesn't seem to sit well with the criteria and is mostly focused on education. Project tentatively left out.
- S. Setting up cameras for fishers here seems silly. Project tentatively left out.
- S. Lands are snag deficient, so project seems low priority. Project tentatively left out.
- S. For the Calico project, project tentatively left out.
- S. For the Crow Creek Project left in.
- S. Kalapuya Youth Crew left in.
- S. Kennedy Conservation Crew still has money left on the table. We'll come back to this one.
- S. Owens Creek Habitat left in.
- S. Smith Creek Bridge tentatively left out.
- S. Row River Trail mechanical tentatively left in.
- S. Triangle Lake project will be returned to.

S. With the Walker Creek project, the BLM funding isn't secured yet. Project tentatively left out.

S. With Lane County Juvenile Forest project, this is an incredibly valuable program that changes lives. Project left in.

S. NYC project left in.

S. With this, we're in the hole.

S. Funding at the minimum levels will be retooled for projects left in. The Water Source Project was funded below the minimum scalable level.

Motion made, voted on and approved – unanimous.

### **2:20 PM Next Steps**

S. Respond to Doodle poll for next meeting unless your position expires and you don't plan to seek nomination for reappointment.

S. For next time, put the packets together so that they follow the agenda.

S. Would like to have the hard copy binders for project review meetings. The spreadsheets are very helpful.

S. Part of our charge as RAC members is to monitor approved projects. We should do a summer field trio.

### **2:30 PM Closing Remarks**

S. I really appreciate the collaboration and cooperation over the past few days. (Chair)

S. We really appreciate your time and always welcome your input on how to make things better. (Kathy)

S. We'll be one District when we meet next, so please keep letting us know how to improve on what we're doing. (Kim)

S. Thanks to the planning team and the RAC members. (John)

### **2:30 PM Review of Action Items (below)**

### **2:40 PM Meeting Adjourned**

## **Action Items**

- Research bylaws and how public can impact agendas
- RAC members complete travel profile form and return to Kathy
- Block out some rooms at the Eugene and Salem District Offices for next meeting
- Send out Doodle poll for meeting dates in October
- Provide group photo to RAC members Complete
- Send RAC members information about upcoming webinar on Planning 2.0
- All help with recruiting for upcoming vacancies
- BLM will send out solicitation for a new round of project proposals
- Recreation fee proposals to be sent to RAC members when they're available
- Send out Doodle poll for summer field trip
- Send out meeting notes for review