

**Forest Restoration Collaborative Initiative  
The Outpost in John Day – August 23, 2006  
Meeting Summary (#3)**

**Participants:**

Mike Browning

Walt Gentis, 541-575-0593

Brooks Smith, USFS, 541-5753400

Lisa Doolittle, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, 503-221-2102, ext 104, [lisa@gptaskforce.org](mailto:lisa@gptaskforce.org)

Rick Brown, Defenders of Wildlife

Ted Merrill, 541-575-0305, [ted@ortelco.net](mailto:ted@ortelco.net)

Eva Harris, 541-575-1065, [byramgul@centuryte.net](mailto:byramgul@centuryte.net)

Diane Snyder, Wallowa Resources, 541-426-8053, [diane@wallowaresources.org](mailto:diane@wallowaresources.org)

Art Andrews, 541-575-0919, [art.andrews@centurytel.net](mailto:art.andrews@centurytel.net)

Irene Jerome, 541-575-2210, [ijerome@oregonvos.net](mailto:ijerome@oregonvos.net)

Susan Jane Brown, Lewis and Clark College, NW College of Law, 503-768-6823, [susanjanebrown@yahoo.com](mailto:susanjanebrown@yahoo.com)

Dennis Reynolds, 541-575-0059, [reynoldsd@grantcounty-or.gov](mailto:reynoldsd@grantcounty-or.gov)

Diane Browning, 541-542-2484, [rbrown1@oregonvos.net](mailto:rbrown1@oregonvos.net), [roadhistory@centurytel.net](mailto:roadhistory@centurytel.net)

Sue Newstetter, 541-932-4366, [suenews@ortelco.net](mailto:suenews@ortelco.net)

Helen Emmel, 541-820-4470, [emmelbros@ortelco.net](mailto:emmelbros@ortelco.net)

Tim Lillebo, ONRC, 541-382-2616, [tl@onrc.org](mailto:tl@onrc.org)

Greg Jackson, 541-575-1348, [actionga@yahoo.com](mailto:actionga@yahoo.com)

Peggy Gray (formerly Carey), 541-575-0028, [grayp@grantcounty-or.gov](mailto:grayp@grantcounty-or.gov)

Steve Dahl, 541-575-1555, [sdahl@ortelco.net](mailto:sdahl@ortelco.net)

Charlie O'Rorke, 541-820-4335

Boyd Britton, Grant County, 541-575-0059

Mark Webb, 541-932-4954, [mwebb@ortelco.net](mailto:mwebb@ortelco.net)

Dan Bishop, 541-820-3351, [bishop@ortelco.net](mailto:bishop@ortelco.net)

Jeff Fields, 541-932-4314, [jfields@tnc.org](mailto:jfields@tnc.org)

Karen Coulter, 541-385-9167

Jennifer Wing

Gary Stan Benes, USFS, 541-575-3100, [gbenes@fs.fed.us](mailto:gbenes@fs.fed.us)

Meeting began with welcoming remarks by Mike Browning and Boyd Britton.

***Meeting Objectives***

- Share perspectives on previous meetings
- Overview of collaboration
- Plan next steps

***1. Overview and discussion of July 19 (Meeting #2) group meeting***

Participants reviewed a handout summary of the last full group meeting (please contact Mike Browning for a copy) to make sure that information was captured correctly and to provide any additional comments. The ground rules for participation were emphasized, with one addition:

- Time (in the field) is of the essence

## ***2. Overview of PPT (paper copy) on “Using Collaboration to Achieve Ecological and Community Benefits in Forest Restoration”***

### ***3. Debrief of August 14, smaller group meetings***

Several smaller meetings were held last week to allow a more informal setting for sharing of perspectives and discussing how we might, as a collaborative, move forward on advancing ecological and community goals (please contact Mike Browning for a copy of the summary).

Meeting participants provided a reflection of the meeting, including:

- The meeting felt good; judges (and judges to be), county commissioners, environmental community and others got to know each other better
- The meeting with the timber industry folks allowed participants to get to know each other better, and break some ground by sharing opinions and feelings
- There was the feeling that something might get done out in the field...gained some ground.
- Folks seemed to think it was worthwhile to try and collaborate in the field.
- It’s going to be a lot of work- there are a lot of things in common that need to be pointed out to everyone in the field.

### ***4. General comments from meeting participants***

- Everyone here is here because what we have been doing wasn’t working. We are here to have things turn around.
- Whole life system – our work stresses the need for collaboration and overall connectivity: life is made up of trees, plants, animals, bugs, etc. and sometimes you can’t see the connection; however, it is an invisible tie that binds together all life.

### ***5. Scale and Scope of our Collaboration (sticky note question session)***

*Note: Suggestions made more than once appear only once in this summary.*

- *What is the geographic boundary of our work?*
  - Grant County
  - Malheur NF and Grant County
  - Ukiah-Mitchell-Unity-Burns
  - Malheur-Wallowa Whitman-Umatilla national forests (50 mile radius)
  - Malheur NF and all forests in Grant County (including private lands if they are willing participants)
  - Eastside forests
  - Grant County and a little of Harney County
  - Grant County and associated watersheds
  - Grant County with the exception of projects that reach beyond county boundaries
  - Canyon Creek corridor
  - Watersheds or sub-watersheds
  - National forest and BLM lands in Grant County

- Primarily national forest and BLM – Prairie City with ranger district and associated BLM lands
- *Is our focus forest restoration on public lands?*
  - Yes, public lands – BLM and national forests
  - Yes, public and private
  - Primary focus on public lands, secondary on private in order to meet forest health objectives
  - Forest restoration on local public lands, possible local private lands in Grant County, if invited by land owners
  - Emphasize ecological restoration across landscapes, not just forests...be open to private
  - Forest restoration on public lands...private lands also important as examples of good and bad management, sites, etc.
  - Focus should also consider private lands when considering CWPP
  - Yes, forest health can mean different things to different people
  - Common ground solutions for addressing forest health from environmental, industry and the business community
  - Forest health depends on restoration on both private and public...in some they join boundaries
  - Yes, but we need to define restoration and forest health
  - Primarily on public lands as private are usually better managed...in some cases the whole forest should be looked at when making forest health decisions
  - Sole focus should be managing forest health within the normal range of variability; all resources flora and fauna
  - Yes, public lands are where the big issues are...private landowners can be approached to participate as appropriate
  - Public and private lands is an artificial separation; the trees don't care; restoration starts with protection by reducing hazards of large destructive fires
  - The restoration of our national forests to a healthy state should be our main focus...economic benefits will come from that
  - Yes, however there should be incentives to include private land owners if desired to adjoining public lands projects
  - Yes, we must not lose the infrastructure that is here or we can't help our forest lands
  - Ecologically based forest restoration and grasslands restoration that ultimately produces fires resistant old growth pine forests and natural fire regimes in mixed conifer lodgepole and fir forest types...also restoration of salmon and steelhead
  - Focus on forest health and restoration on public lands...public lands primarily...private lands showing us the way
- *What could be possible names for this collaborative?*
  - Group Resources and Natural Transitions – Grant

Forests for All  
Eastside Forest Working Group  
Little Canyon Mountain Partnership (several mentions using Little Canyon Mountain...)  
Grant County Forest Restoration Collaboration Group  
Mike's Forest Group  
Grant County Community Collaboration Group  
Grant County Restoration Group  
Grant County—Malheur Forest Collaborative Working Group  
Healthy Forest Collaboration  
Arlene Oliver Forest Recovery Group  
Citizens Force Healthy Forest  
Restoration Action Group  
Resources Forever  
Let's do this at the cocktail hour  
Ecosystem Economics Sustainability Working Group  
Waters and Dollars Working Group  
Nature's Little Forest Helpers

#### **6. *Field trip – themes, issues, objectives...***

The group decided that it was important to have our next meeting 'in the field'. This field trip will provide an effective way of discussing some of the issues that have been raised to date, gain better understanding of the forest condition and needs, and help us in selecting a possible project to work on. Participant comments on the field trip included:

- We need to look at more than just fuels reduction sites. It is important to think of, and work on, the overall restoration needs (habitat, fish, soil, roads, etc) beyond just fuel reduction.
- Potential fuel reduction sites (sites that are still in the process of being proposed by the USFS to sites that will be ready to harvest 2008+).
- Contrast private and public lands - Private land that has been managed compared with adjoining federal lands that have not received any management to see how they differ.
  - Swick old growth trail up Bear Valley (USFS) and Miller Mountain (private)
- Look at something that would help us define good forest vs. bad forest health; possible forest restoration opportunity on ground.
- Recent project that has been completed by the FS that includes old growth forest
- USFS potential project: get group's input on how to apply prescription (pine, fir, and mixed type stands). Makeshift marking trees? (Using flagging?).
- USFS should show something that they are proud of and then an area that they feel didn't meet objectives.
- Pick 3 homogenous sites and have groups plan and implement prescriptions that they feel meet the objective of the group. Then go back later to review how effective the prescriptions were in meeting objectives and goals.
- Don't over-schedule the field trip- leave time in order to have lots of opportunity for discussion.
- Phased approach to field trip

***Possible dates for field trips***

- ***Monday, September 11, 2006*** (seemed to work for most participants)
- Other possibilities:
  - Third week in September
  - October 9 week
  - October 16 week
- Avoid, if possible:
  - Fridays
  - Most Mondays and Wednesdays
  - September 18-20
  - September 25-Oct. 1
  - Oct. 2-4, 9-17, 23-25

***Volunteer Field Trip Organizing Committee***

- Diane Browning
- Walt Gentis
- Steve Dahl
- Brooks Smith
- Lisa Doolittle
- Tim Lillebo
- Boyd Britton (volunteered after the meeting)