Blue Mountains Forest Partners ~ Forest Restoration Science Forum
September 24, 2007

Agenda and Scientist Bios

Sunday, September 23rd

6:00pm Reception with appetizers and beer at The Outpost (201 W. Main St in John Day)

Monday, September 24th

7:30 – 8:00am Coffee and registration at the Forest Service in John Day, Juniper Room

8:00 – 8:15 Welcome, Review Forum Goals and Agenda

8:15 – 11:15 15 Minute Presentations from each scientist with 15 minutes for questions

Dr. Jim Agee
Stephen Fitzgerald
Dr. Paul Adams
Steve Zack
Mark Henjum
TBD

11:15 – 12:00 Discussion

12:00 – 12:45 Load vans for field visits (Lunch in vans)

Sites will be in the Lower Shirttail Damon project area – specific stops are still being determined. At each stop, scientists will be asked to respond to the questions:

- Is there a scientific consensus about the changes that have occurred in dry forests of eastern Oregon and Washington over the last century or so? What are the causes and implications of these changes, and what might be done to reduce the adverse consequences of these changes?

- What treatments (introduced fire, thinning, livestock removal, road removal, etc.), if any, are appropriate and necessary to protect and restore forest stands on the Eastside? And, is there scientific consensus around these treatments?

12:45 – 1:45 Arrival and Discussion at First Site

1:45 – 2:15 Travel to Second Site

2:15 – 3:15 Discussion at Second Site

3:15 – 3:45 Travel to Third Site

3:45 – 4:45 Discussion at Third Site

4:45 – 5:30 Return to John Day

Scientist Bios

Paul Adams, PhD
Professor
Forest Watershed Extension Specialist

Paul has diverse research interests that draw from his technical background in forestry and forest soils, as well as his broader interests and experience in public issues and policies on forest lands. Recent projects have examined the effects of mechanized timber harvesting and fuel reduction treatments on soil properties, including the growth of residual trees near compacted and tilled skid trails. Other studies have investigated the evolution and nature of Pacific Northwest policies and management for forest streams, and those for limiting forest soil compaction impacts.

Paul's primary work responsibilities are in extension education and other outreach activities that serve citizens, resource professionals, and decision makers throughout Oregon. In his role as Forest Watershed Extension Specialist, he develops and presents seminars, training programs and educational materials related to forest practices and watershed resources. Audiences include forestry professionals, forest landowners and operators, and public policy makers. Given their high profile and importance, Paul has helped synthesize information on watershed effects of wildfire and post-fire treatments, as well as on municipal water supplies from forest lands. In addition, he provides ongoing education and other support to both forestry professionals and landowners to help improve their knowledge of and leadership in public issues and policies on forest lands.

Jim Agee, PhD
Virginia and Prentice Bloedel Professor of Forest Ecology
University of Washington
Forest Ecology; Fire Ecology

Dr. Agee's research focuses on disturbance ecology, and specifically the role of fire in forest ecology. A major conservation biology issue is how to reintroduce natural disturbances like fire into ecosystems that may have been altered by fire exclusion, grazing, and logging. Current projects he is involved with, together with graduate students, research associates, and colleagues include:
•Fire and bark beetle mortality in old pine forests at Crater Lake National Park
• Effects of coarse woody debris on reintroduction of fire in young dry site forests
•Effect of thinning and burning on alien understory species in pine forests
•Optimizing landscape level-fuel treatments
•Effects of thinning and burning on ecosystem processes (a national project called Fire and Fire Surrogates, with 13 sites nationwide)
•Effects of fire reintroduction on Oregon white oak

Stephen Fitzgerald
Eastern Oregon Silviculture and Wildland Fire Education Specialist
Oregon State University

Fitzgerald has been an Extension Faculty member since 1984 first working in coastal forests of SW Oregon before coming over to central and eastern Oregon in 1988. Fitzgerald's work involves developing and delivering educational programs (tours, demonstrations, workshops,

conferences, etc.) to professional natural resource managers, Extension faculty, woodland owners, loggers, decision-makers, and the general public.

Fitzgerald conducts applied research in the dry forest types of central and eastern Oregon in the area of thinning and density management, fuel reduction methods, and forest regeneration. Fitzgerald serves on several local and statewide committees. He served as chair the Oregon Department of Forestry's Smoke Management Program Review Committee and served a member of the Governor's Eastside Forest Advisory Panel.

Prior to working for Oregon State University, in 1983-84, he worked as a forester at the University of Idaho Experimental Forest in Moscow, Idaho.

Mark Henjum
Umatilla Wildlife Biologist
Co-author of Eastside Forests Scientific Societies Panel report

Mark Henjum worked as a wildlife biologist with the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife from 1976 until his retirement in 2005. During his tenure with ODFW he was assistant district fish and wildlife biologist in La Grande, and project leader for the Blue Mountains black bear study and for the Catherine Creek Mountain Lion Study. Mark worked as the regional nongame biologist for the NE region for 18 years, and the final task in his ODFW career was Wolf Program Coordinator. He now works part time with the USFS as the Blue Mountain Elk Initiative Coordinator.

Steve Zack, PhD
Conservation Scientist and Coordinator Pacific West Program
Wildlife Conservation Society

Steve Zack earned his B.S. from Oregon State University in 1978 and his Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico in 1985. He was Lecturer of Biology at Yale University from 1988-1993. He has conducted long-term studies of wildlife in Kenya, Venezuela, and in Madagascar prior to returning to the western U.S. and developing the Pacific West Program for WCS. He currently works with federal and state scientists, and private land owners, on diverse wildlife conservation and habitat restoration issues in Oregon, California, and Alaska. His forest work includes long-terms collaborations with U.S. Forest Service scientists, academics, and others in evaluating the wildlife response to a diversity of experimental forest treatments in ponderosa pine forests, primarily in Oregon and California. This research includes the national "Fire/Fire Surrogate Study" funded by the Joint Fire Sciences Program, a collaborative effort across 13 sites evaluating the effectiveness of prescribed fire and thinning in reducing catastrophic fire hazard.