Increasing the Pace and Scale of Forest Restoration: A Partnership

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Quick Overview

• Dry-side Forest Health Collaboration Funding Package

  ▪ How it came to be
  ▪ Working with the Regional Office
  ▪ Expenditures to date
  ▪ New Business Model plans
The Genesis

• 2009 Federal Forest Advisory Committee (FFAC) Report called for State action
  • Identified collaboration as path forward

• Local collaboratives initial success
  • No litigation in 7+ years on 3 Forests

• CFLR program selects three Oregon projects
The Genesis

- Fed Forest Health packaged developed by FFAC-IWG subcommittee

- Participants funded a Forest Restoration Economic Assessment

- Prioritized by Gov’s Office in 14/15 biennium
  - Significant: “roll up our sleeves and help” attitude
## Doubling the Pace

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Impact</th>
<th>Current Level (2007-11)</th>
<th>If Doubled?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriated Funds</td>
<td>$41 million</td>
<td>$82 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>2,310</td>
<td>4,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawlogs</td>
<td>141 mmbf</td>
<td>282 mmbf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$91 million</td>
<td>$181 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Output</td>
<td>$232 million</td>
<td>$463 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Revenue</td>
<td>$3.6 million</td>
<td>$7.2 million</td>
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Note: Above table assumes linear relationship when doubling the Current Level. It is not prudent to expect this in actuality related to costs, jobs or economic output.
Investment Pays

• Every $1 million investment in restoration returns $5.7 million to local/state economies

• For every $1 the USFS spends on forest restoration, the agency avoids a potential cost of $1.45 due to fire suppression
Oregon’s Investment Case

• Much of eastern Oregon forests & watersheds at elevated risk for uncharacteristic fire
  – Ecological agents haven’t evolved to stop at property boundaries

• Unemployment in our communities impacts Oregon’s economy and State/local budgets

• Restoration Economic Assessment suggests economic advantages to increased investment in restoration
New Partnerships

• MOU between the Regional Office & State
• State seat on the Eastside Board of Directors
• Regional Partnership Coordinator assigned as formal State Liaison
• Desk space / open doors in Regional Office
• FFAC-IWG continues with strong commitment from Governor’s Office & Regional Office
Oregon’s Funding Package

• Three program components:
  1. Collaborative Capacity Grant Program
  2. Technical Assistance & Science Support Contracts
  3. New Business Model Investments

• Current Stage: Initial Implementation
Collaborative Grants

• **Focus:** increased scale and/or complexity in project development

• $200K awarded to six collaboratives
  – State funds matched 2:1
  – 2\textsuperscript{nd} solicitation: May/June 2014

• **Example:** transition to Issue-based approach from geographic focus
  – Mixed conifer; riparian; roadless; etc.
TA & Science Support

• Provision of overarching technical and science support services to increase scale

• Contracts administered by ODF
  – RFP closed on March 28

• Examples:
  – Mixed Moist Conifer Workshop
  – Landscape analysis & prioritization
New Biz Model Partnership

• **Intent:** advance landscape-scale work & focus on identifying business practice efficiencies  
  – Targeted in the Blue Mountains

• Leverage USFS Eastside Restoration Strategy  
  – Committed $8.8 million additional

• ODF contracts and/or extend seasonals
So like what exactly?

• **Planning:**
  – Heritage & botany surveys in support of Lower Jo project
  – LiDAR acquisition & interpretation
  – Stand exam data to verify LiDAR & support current Forest projects

• **Implementation:**
  – Boundary surveys
  – Unit layout & timber marking
To what end?

• **Collaborative Support**
  - Collaborative Grants
    – GOAL: Increased social agreement
  - Tech Asst & Science Support
    – GOAL: Increased scale and impact

• **New Business Model**
  – GOAL: Increased pace and efficiency
Why Oregon? Why Now?

- FFAC report and IWG continues
- Grass-roots collaboration
- Strong regional intermediaries
- Engaged infrastructure community
- CFLR projects
- Direct involvement from the Governor
- Partnership-inclined leadership across key agencies
Finally, a picture!