

**Renewable Energy & Eastern Oregon Landscape Conservation
(REECon) Partnership**

September 30, 2011

DRAFT Meeting Notes

ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- Coordinated Landscape Level Mitigation (CLLM) Work Group
 - Will meet in October to revise the roadmap document
- Next meeting will be held early November
 - Doodle poll to find date

BRIEF MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome, Introductions & Agenda Review

Since our last meeting was in July; here is an overview of recent events that are relevant to our discussion:

- The state technical team reviewed and finalized updates to the core area maps as recommended by the regional Sage Grouse implementation teams. Current maps are available at:
<http://nrimp.dfw.state.or.us/DataClearinghouse/default.aspx?p=202&XMLname=944.xml>
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- July 14th, the Record of Decision for West Butte was signed by Secretary Salazar.
- Umatilla County revised its wind power siting guidelines to require a two mile setback between a wind turbine and a city urban growth boundary, rural residence or roadway.
- Defenders of Wildlife conducted field work over the summer to develop a sagebrush metric for ecosystem service markets funded through the Bullit Foundation
- CLLM met in September.
- NW Environmental Forum was held in Salem—follow up with USFWS on settlement discussed related to sage grouse listing. (let's discuss this tomorrow, and how it's related to the REECon discussion)

Mitigation Framework – Summary of Outcomes

- Framework based on sound propagation model, working to ensure consistency with EFSC standards for siting.
- There is not full agreement but feedback has been positive from development community because they appreciate having a set target standard.
- MitTech group has met its goal to develop a framework and will continue to work together informally; there are no plans to meet on a regular basis.
- Christian Hagen has taken leave of ODFW and will be working with NRCS national initiative. Autumn Lanken will fill his role at ODFW in the interim.

Coordinated Landscape-Level Mitigation (CLLM) Working Group

- Working to define a “roadmap”, still focused on identifying opportunities for mitigation on a landscape scale. Will share progress at next REECon meeting.
- How CCA’s and CCAA’s fit in has not directly been addressed. Could enter into discussion down the road.

National Planning Strategy for Sage Grouse

- BLM is working to address the USFWS finding that sage grouse lack adequate regulatory mechanisms to ensure species conservation.
- To develop and implement the strategy, national efforts were divided into Eastern and Western states (California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and most of Utah)
- Will be working at the state level on an EIS to modify BLM District level plans
- For more info:
<http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/nv/information/newsroom.Par.9003.File.dat/Sage.Grouse.Strategy.Fact.Sheet.pdf>

Other Updates:

Governor’s Office

- Karen Joyce will be serving as the interim energy advisor. Governor’s office working to develop capacity for moving forward with a 10 year strategy. Kickoff anticipated in December.

Juniper

- Oregon Solutions conducted assessment to identify market/supply chain opportunities for juniper.
- BLM is currently restoring large acreages of sagebrush. Treatments include juniper removal, Removal of juniper cut as a part of restoration for purposes other than firewood – such as biomass utilization or for logs used in value-added products is a job creation opportunity for further exploration.

Participants

Co-Conveners: Brett Brownscombe, Governor’s Office Natural Resources
Kim Titus, BLM for Mike Haske

Agency

BLM
ODFW
ODFW
OFWO
Dept of State Lands
NRCS
AOC
AOC
AOC
CREA

Attendee

Mark Brown
Bob Hooton
Eric Rickerson
Joe Zisa
Lanny Quackenbush
Bill White
Mike McArthur
Emily Ackland
Doris Penwell
Paul Woodin

TNC
Defenders of Wildlife
Audobon
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Liz Nysson

By Phone:

Governor's Office
BLM
TNC
Harney County
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Greg Wolf
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