



Declaration of Cooperation Support Statements

HARNEY COUNTY RESTORATION COLLABORATIVE

This Declaration of Cooperation brings together the key stakeholders needed to create the opportunity for a meaningful collaborative effort to address the multi-faceted forest and community health problems facing Harney County. At the onset of this Oregon Solutions project there was no consensus, or “shared plan”, on the means to address the ecological, economic and social health issues related to forests and woodlands in the County.

The Declaration of Cooperation Support Statements describe commitments to participation with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative (HCRC). The goals of the HCRC include:

- Restoration of forest health and the return of natural ecosystem processes,
- Enhanced and improved community economic resiliency,
- Improved efficiency and efficacy of federal, state and local agencies to carry out their missions,
- Enhanced social capacity to solve problems in ways that build and sustain desired environmental, economic and community conditions, and
- Development of a working draft of desired future conditions and agreement on practices to get there.

A set of commonly-held “Desired Future Conditions,” that were approved unanimously by the Collaborative, are included at the end of this document. The goals for the Collaborative, a broader (draft) list of stakeholder Common Ground Principles, Project Objectives, and Implementation Plans are outlined in a separate Working Draft Consensus Document that has been developed since the Governor’s designation of this project in March 2008.

While not a binding legal contract, the Declaration of Cooperation Support Statements are evidence to and a statement of the good faith and commitment of the undersigned parties. The individual stakeholders agree to undertake the identified actions. These commitments represent a public statement of intent to participate in the HCRC, to strive to identify opportunities and solutions whenever possible, to contribute assistance and support within resource limits, and to collaborate with other Team members in promoting the success of the project.

I. HCRC Stakeholder Support Statements

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II. Common Ground Principles

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I. HCRC STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT STATEMENTS

- Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project
- Burns District Bureau of Land Management
- Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
- City of Burns
- City of Hines
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Governor Kulongoski's Natural Resource Office and the Economic Revitalization Team
- Harney County
- High Desert Partnership
- Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI)
- Malheur Lumber Company
- Malheur National Forest
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Economic and Community Development Department
- Oregon Wild
- Prairie Wood Products
- Sustainable Northwest (SNW)
- The Nature Conservancy
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project

The mission of the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project is to protect biodiversity and ecological integrity in Blue Mountains and central Oregon ecosystems, to promote reintroduction of extirpated native species and ecologically sound restoration, and to address the root causes of ecological and community imbalance.

Our role within the Harney County Restoration Collaborative is to monitor fuel/fire risk reduction and restoration projects being developed by the HCRC and the Forest Service and to advocate on behalf of native wildlife species and fish, for needs of elements of the ecosystem (such as soils, water, climate stability), and for other ecological goals such as functioning and flourishing ecosystems, preservation of undeveloped and roadless areas, and protection and restoration of old growth habitat and a full complement of native biodiversity, including reintroduction of extirpated species. We will also uphold federal and state laws for protection of wildlife species and ecological values.

Our organization is, and will remain, biocentric, and does not include in its mission any assurance of advocating for a wood or biomass supply coming off public lands. However, we recognize the need to address root causes of community imbalance as well as ecological imbalance and support ecologically sound restoration. This is where we are seeking to work within common ground with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative. On behalf of Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, I wish to acknowledge the good faith shown by other members of the HCRC in finding such common ground and the development of mutual respect and good will among diverse members of the collaborative

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project commits to the following contributions to the work of the HCRC as long as we have sufficient funding and staff time, credible contemporary science supporting fuel reduction and restoration projects proposed by HCRC, and HCRC efforts and projects are consistent with BMBP's mission and goals. New developments in relevant science, changes in funding or staffing, or a break-down in the collaborative consensus process or change in the nature of projects proposed, may terminate our engagement in HCRC at any time. We also reserve the right to appeal or litigate any project proposed, developed, or endorsed by the HCRC and the Forest Service in accordance with NEPA if the project poses what we consider significant risks to biodiversity, ecological integrity, or a particular species or ecological value. With those limitations in mind, we offer the following assistance to the work of HCRC:

- field-checking of proposed fuel/fire risk reduction and restoration projects within our capacity for the relevant field season(s), given the rest of our work load;
- the sharing and discussion of the results of our field-checking (aka "ground-truthing") with the other HCRC collaborative group members and the Forest Service and use of this data and photo documentation to guide project development to protect ecological values and species;
- participation in good faith in HCRC collaborative meetings and field trips as much as the rest of our work load and scheduling allows;

- participation in project-specific subcommittees and subcommittees organizing science forums or public education regarding ecologically sound restoration as much as our available time/work load permits;
- honest evaluation of the work and progress of the HCRC to outside environmental groups and activists, as well as to BMBP's supporters, including foundations and major donors.

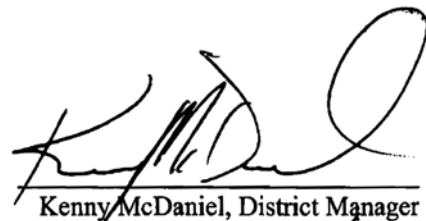

Karen Coulter, Executive Director

April 2nd, 2009
Date

Burns District Bureau of Land Management

The Burns District of the Bureau of Land Management, within constraints of available funding, will commit resources and personnel to:

- Support the guiding principles of and participate in the ongoing Harney County Restoration Collaborative, which will meet once monthly in the Burns/Hines area.
- Pursue the use of Stewardship Contracting Authorities in planning restoration of forest and woodland ecosystems needing treatment. The use of these long term contracting authorities may help level the supply of woody biomass material.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenny McDaniel', is written over a horizontal line.

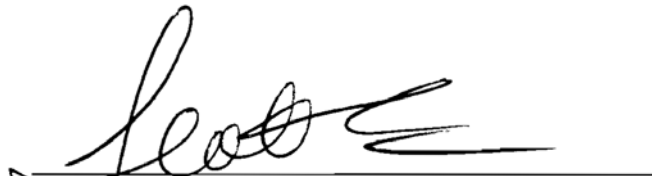
Kenny McDaniel, District Manager

4/10/07
Date

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council commits the following support for the Harney County Restoration Collaborative:

- General Capacity Support: Similar to LCRI, COIC's Central Oregon Partnerships for Wildfire Risk Reduction (COPWRR) project staff will help the High Desert Partnership develop capacity to serve the Collaborative, and potentially partner on grant opportunities and/or projects where a broader regional partnership would benefit all parties;
- Levelized Supply Program Development: Subject to available funding, COIC will provide technical assistance services, as needed, in association with the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Nature Conservancy, Harney County, local businesses and contractors, and other partners to help create a sustainable long-term supply system focused on the communities of Harney County.
- Monitoring: COIC will share available resources and information regarding environmental and programmatic monitoring related to sustainable supply and ecosystem restoration projects.



Scott Aycock, Program Administrator
Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council


City of Burns

Harney County is facing an ecological, economic and social health crisis in its forests, woodlands and community. This crisis threatens forest health, wildlife habitat, and human communities. The City of Burns believes that the best solution to the crisis is one that is developed collaboratively, and that balances ecological, economic, and social values. Therefore, the City of Burns supports and expects the following outcomes from the Harney County Restoration Collaborative:

- The development and implementation of ecologically and economically-sound restoration projects.
- The development of a sustainable, predictable supply of restoration by-product material (e.g. CCF of fiber, green tons of biomass, etc.) resulting from the treatment of an agreed-upon minimum number of acres per year.
- The development of sound economic, ecological, and social monitoring programs to ensure that actions result in positive “triple bottom line” outcomes.

To these ends, the City of Burns commits the following:

- Ongoing good-faith participation at the Harney County Restoration Collaborative table;
- Political support for the Harney County Restoration Collaborative and the Common Ground Principles included at the end of this document.
- Staff support, as necessary and available, for the Landscape Assessment and Levelized Supply Initiative.



Len Vohs, Mayor

City of Hines

Harney County is facing an ecological, economic and social health crisis in its forests, woodlands and community. This crisis threatens forest health, wildlife habitat, and human communities. The City of Hines believes that the best solution to the crisis is one that is developed collaboratively, and that balances ecological, economic, and social values. Therefore, the City of Hines supports and expects the following outcomes from the Harney County Restoration Collaborative:

- The development and implementation of ecologically and economically-sound restoration projects.
- The development of a sustainable, predictable supply of restoration by-product material (e.g. CCF of fiber, green tons of biomass, etc.) resulting from the treatment of an agreed-upon minimum number of acres per year.
- The development of sound economic, ecological, and social monitoring programs to ensure that actions result in positive “triple bottom line” outcomes.

To these ends, the City of Hines commits the following:

- Ongoing good-faith participation at the Harney County Restoration Collaborative table;
- Political support for the Harney County Restoration Collaborative and the Common Ground Principles included at the end of this document;
- Staff support, as necessary and available, for the Landscape Assessment and Levelized Supply Initiative.


Ruth Schultz, Mayor

Defenders of Wildlife

Defenders of Wildlife commits the following support for the Harney County Restoration Collaborative project:

- Ongoing Participation: Defenders will continue to participate in good faith at the Collaborative table;
- Commitment to the Common Ground Principles: Defenders supports the Common Ground Principles listed in section VII of the Working Draft Consensus Document;
- Outreach: Defenders will inform policy makers, media, and other environmental organizations of our support for any appropriately-sized facility that contributes to ecological sustainability of Harney County's forests and woodlands by utilizing biomass material generated as a by-product of restoration-oriented treatments;
- Monitoring: Defenders will work with the Collaborative to encourage and help oversee environmental monitoring programs designed to gauge the effectiveness of thinning and other treatments in achieving restoration objectives; and
- Jane Project: Defenders will work with the Collaborative to identify appropriate types, scale and location of restoration-oriented treatments in the proposed Jane Project.


Rick Brown, Senior Resource Specialist

Governor Kulongoski's Natural Resource Office and the Economic Revitalization Team

The Governor believes the State of Oregon should be engaged in the shaping and implementation of federal forest policy. Oregon state government agencies are working with the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management on revision of land management plans for federal forests. The State of Oregon is developing a more efficient process for building consensus around planning and management for federal forest lands with the goal of getting on-the-ground management underway in a timely fashion while ensuring the opportunity for public involvement. This project is consistent with these efforts.

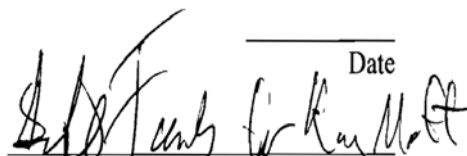
More recently, the Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee, appointed by the Oregon Board of Forestry, completed developing a document that articulates the State's vision for how federal forests should be managed to contribute to the sustainability of Oregon's overall forestland base. The committee, formed to help the Board meet Governor Kulongoski's mandate to give Oregonians a greater voice in the management of federal lands, represented a broad range of interests. The Oregon Solutions Harney County Restoration Collaborative is a model of how the FFAC recommendations can be implemented to identify integrated solutions to federal forest issues.

To support the on-going work of the Collaborative, please consider:

- The Governor adopted a Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) for the state that identifies the development of forest biomass to energy as one priority. The Governor's Office continues to work with state agencies and stakeholders to accomplish the goals set out in the REAP and will ask that the state agencies involved with this Plan provide information to the Harney Restoration Collaborative and participate with the Collaborative as appropriate.
- The Eastern Oregon ERT regional coordinator will participate with the Collaborative. When appropriate, the ERT coordinator will invite representatives of other state and federal agencies to collaborate on specific projects.



Mike Carrier, Governor's Natural Resources Policy Director



Date

Ray Naff, Director, Economic Revitalization Team

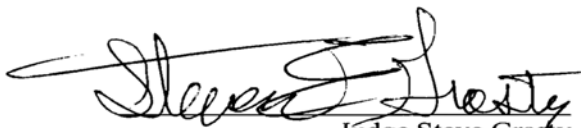
Harney County

Harney County is facing an ecological, economic and social health crisis in its forests, woodlands and community. This crisis threatens forest health, wildlife habitat, and human communities. The Harney County Court believes that the best solution to the crisis is one that is developed collaboratively, and that balances ecological, economic, and social values. Therefore, Harney County supports and expects the following outcomes from the Harney County Restoration Collaborative:

- The development and implementation of ecologically and economically-sound restoration projects.
- The development of a sustainable, predictable supply of restoration by-product material (e.g. CCF of fiber, green tons of biomass, etc.) resulting from the treatment of an agreed-upon minimum number of acres per year.
- The development of sound economic, ecological, and social monitoring programs to ensure that actions result in positive “triple bottom line” outcomes.

To these ends, the Harney County Court has committed the following:

- \$250,000 towards on-the-ground restoration projects within the Emigrant Creek Ranger District; ongoing project facilitation and collaboration, monitoring programs, and/or towards ongoing data collection and analysis. Actual dollar amounts and activities supported will be determined by the County Court.
- Political support for the Harney County Restoration Collaborative.
- Staff support, as necessary and available, for the Landscape Assessment and Levelized Supply Initiative.

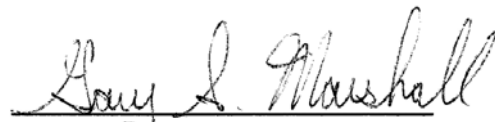


Judge Steve Grasty

High Desert Partnership

The High Desert Partnership will be responsible for the ongoing facilitation, document organization, recording of minutes, member communication and meeting coordination of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative in a manner the will keep all participants involved, informed and working towards a consensus solution. Specifically, the High Desert Partnership will, given sufficient dedicated funding:

- Convene meetings and provide meeting logistics and facilitation
- Gather information as requested by the Core Team
- Host and organize a Science Forum – wherein key researchers from a variety of disciplines discuss the restoration needs in northern Harney County.
- Maintain a project website
- Staff any subcommittees or ad-hoc groups developed by the Core Team
- Help the Core Team develop measurable goals and report on progress toward those goals.
- Serve as the primary point of contact for internal and external communication on all project business
- Contribute \$7,500 of the estimated \$26,000 required to perform these tasks; and
- Write grants to support project activities.

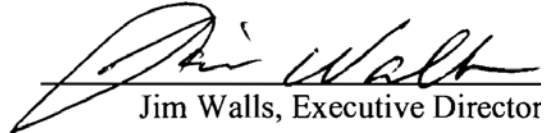

Gary Marshal, Board Chair

Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI)

The Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI) mission is to “demonstrate a sustainable approach to natural resources to ensure quality of life for present and future generations”. LCRI is pleased with the progress to date of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative, which is very compatible with this mission.

Over the years of working on issues similar to those being tackled by the Collaborative, the LCRI has developed significant expertise in a variety of disciplines. The LCRI would like to provide the following support to our “sister” organization, the High Desert Partnership, and to the Collaborative as a whole. LCRI will:

- Continue to participate on the Collaborative team;
- Assist the HDP in identifying grant sources for organizational funding and project activities;
- Provide technical assistance on sustainable supply development, monitoring programs, political networking and advocacy, and restoration-based business development.



Jim Walls, Executive Director

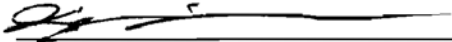
Malheur Lumber Company

Harney County is facing severe ecological, economic and social health issues in its communities and forests. These issues threaten forest health, wildlife habitat, and human communities. Malheur Lumber Company believes that the best solutions to these issues are ones which are developed collaboratively, and that balance ecological, economic, and social values. Therefore, Malheur Lumber Company supports and expects the following outcomes from the Harney County Restoration Collaborative:

- The development and implementation of ecologically and economically-sound restoration projects.
- The development of a sustainable, predictable supply of restoration by-product material (e.g. CCF of fiber, green tons of biomass, etc.) resulting from the treatment of an agreed-upon minimum number of acres per year.
- The development of sound economic, ecological, and social monitoring programs to ensure that actions result in positive “triple bottom line” outcomes.

To these ends, Malheur Lumber Company will do the following:

- Continued good-faith participation in the Harney County Restoration Collaborative process;
- Honor and promote the “Common Ground Principles” developed by the Collaborative and included at the conclusion of this document; and
- Provide information on economic feasibility and marketability of proposed restoration projects


Mike Billman, Timber Manager

Malheur National Forest

The Malheur National Forest is committed to partnering with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative group on the planning and implementation of the Jane Watershed Project, on the sustainable supply initiative, on the Landscape Assessment, and on future restoration projects in Harney County. The Forest:

- Has already utilized \$250,000 from the Regional Office for the Harney County Large Landscape Project to position themselves to be responsive to the collaborative, including:
 - the transportation system plan
 - heritage surveys on Jane and Marshall
 - stand exams
 - LIDAR mapping
- will continue to work with the collaborative on the implementation of the Jane Watershed project;
- will assign professional staff and data to support the Landscape Assessment project;
- will treat a minimum number of acres/year in stewardship contracts to support the sustainable, levelized supply initiative – the exact number of acres will be determined during the Landscape Assessment process;
- will commit to working with the Collaborative at the pre-planning stage on future sub-watershed scale restoration projects; and
- will support the High Desert Partnership in their facilitation, neutral convening, and grant writing functions.


Doug Gochnour, Forest Supervisor

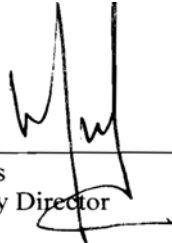
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife lends its support for the efforts of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to address the ecological, economic, and social health issues in Harney County. Among the goals of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative is restoring healthy federal forests and natural ecosystems in the County. The Harney County Restoration Collaborative is consistent with the recommendations of the Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee, which outline the State of Oregon's vision for the sustainable management of federal forests.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will, subject to available resources, support the Harney County Restoration Collaborative in the following ways:

- The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will provide relevant information related to potential wildlife and fishery impacts of proposed actions.
- Ongoing Collaboration– The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will designate a biologist to attend stakeholder meetings related to land management and wildlife and fishery considerations for the project.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's mission is "to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for the use and enjoyment by present and future generations." Healthy forests and ecosystems across the State are vital components for meeting this mission. The Harney County Restoration Collaborative outlines a balanced approach for achieving this goal, and can become a model for other areas of the state to implement the recommendations of the Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee.



Manny Farinas
Interim Deputy Director

Oregon Department of Forestry

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has worked for the past two years with a diverse group of stakeholders, the Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee (FFAC), to make recommendations for how federal forestlands should be managed to contribute to sustaining all the values produced by Oregon's forests. The FFAC reached consensus on a set of recommendations – in *Achieving Oregon's Vision for Federal Forestlands* – that were adopted by the Oregon Board of Forestry in January of 2009.

The State of Oregon is in the process of forming a Work Group to help implement the FFAC recommendations, including working with local collaborative groups to assess forest health conditions and plan projects at the landscape scale to address high priority needs. The ODF will bring the activities and needs of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to the attention of the Work Group, and through the actions of the Work Group, leverage resources and collaborate where possible. Through that process, and subject to available funding and resources, ODF will:

- Identify ODF field personnel to work directly with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative (Subject to available funding).
- Provide technical support to assess forest conditions (Subject to available funding).
 - Have discussions with the Interagency Mapping and Analysis Project working group about using their tools and data to do analysis.
 - Provide ODF and other agency GIS data.
- Project implementation including (Subject to available funding or through contracts):
 - If needed, act as general contractor for Stewardship Contracts
 - Implement contracted activities (i.e., Fuel reduction, road maintenance, timber sale layout, etc.)
 - Perform watershed restoration and maintenance
 - Restore wildlife habitat
 - Control exotic weeds and species


FOR Marvin Brown, State Forester

Oregon Economic and Community Development Department

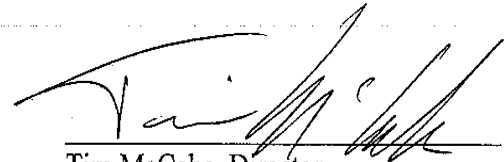
The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department is committed to working in collaboration with partnerships to enhance forest health activities.

The Business Development Officer for the County will act as point person associated with activities to support job creation, expansion, and retention.

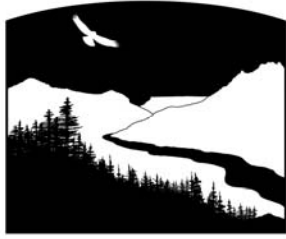
Assist project partners in the identification of economically viable activities for the processing of fiber associated with forest health activities.

Work with the Eastern Region Economic Revitalization Team to assist with regulatory and project streamlining.

Bring opportunities and resources of OECDD to assist the High Desert Partnership.



Tim McCabe, Director



OREGON WILD

Formerly Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC)

16 NW Kansas | Bend, OR 97701 | 541-382-2616 | Fax: 541-385-3370
tl@oregonwild.org | <http://www.oregonwild.org/>

As part of its mission to protect and restore Oregon's wildlands, wildlife and waters, Oregon Wild is committed to the conservation and restoration of ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forests, which have, as a result of logging, grazing and fire suppression, had their structure and composition degraded.

The reintroduction of natural fire regimes and modification of commercial logging and grazing practices are necessary to conserve and restore these forests. Because of the unnatural build-up of small-diameter ponderosa pine, white fir and other tree species in forests, it may be appropriate for large-scale, and intensive efforts to remove undesirable biomass from these ecosystems, using environmentally appropriate methods. In some cases, the reintroduction of fire without prior silvicultural treatment is appropriate. In other cases, the careful execution of a scientifically based thinning regimen is desirable before the reintroduction of fire. Domestic grazing impacts should not impair ecological and hydrological functions restoration. Any forest and steppe restoration regime must strictly conserve soil, water, biodiversity, roadless areas, and large and/or old trees of all species. Restoration must include coniferous vegetation and understory, steppes (grassland), riparian, aspen, fire, roads, hydrology, soil, water, wildlife, fisheries, and grazing issues. All management will adhere to the agreed upon Common Ground Principles of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative.

The utilization of surplus biomass material by local communities can be consistent with such conservation and restoration. Any fiber utilization facility should be scaled to size and duration commensurate with the amount of material that is ecologically desirable and economically feasible to remove from the forest and the steppe over the next few decades. As forests and steppes are restored to again include a natural fire regime, unnatural increases of out-of-place trees and vegetation should be regulated more by fire than logging. Given the slow growth rates of vegetation in the area, it is neither feasible nor desirable to consider large-scale cultivation of biomass on public or private lands to supply any facilities. However, over the next few decades, any such facilities could help reduce the large backlog of vegetation on public lands that has accumulated through previous mismanagement practices.

Consistent with the perspective outlined above, Oregon Wild commits the following support for the Harney County Restoration Collaborative, given sufficient funding and staffing:

- Ongoing Participation: OR Wild will continue to participate in good faith at the Collaborative table;
- Outreach: OR Wild will inform policy makers, media, and other environmental organizations of our support for any appropriately-sized facility that will utilize the by-products of true restoration efforts in Harney County. The appropriate size of facilities utilizing such material would be determined via the Landscape Assessment which includes effects of all issues listed above in paragraph two.
- Monitoring: OR Wild will work with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to encourage and help oversee environmental monitoring programs designed to gauge the effectiveness of thinning, riparian and aspen management, grazing management, roads management and other treatments in achieving restoration objectives.
- Jane Project: OR Wild will work with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to identify appropriate types, scale and location of restoration-oriented treatments in the Jane project area.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Lillebo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a distinct "Lillebo" ending.

Tim Lillebo, Eastern OR Wildlands Advocate

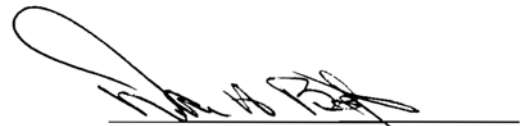
Prairie Wood Products

Harney County is facing an ecological, economic, and social health crisis in its forests and woodlands. This crisis threatens forest health, wildlife habitat, and human communities. Prairie Wood Products believes that the best solution to the crisis is one that is developed collaboratively, and that balances ecological, economic, and social values. Therefore, Prairie Wood Products supports and expects the following outcomes from the Harney County Restoration Collaborative:

1. The development and implementation of ecologically and economically-sound restoration projects.
2. The development of a sustainable, predictable supply of restoration by-product material (e.g. CCF of fiber, green tons of biomass, sawlogs, etc.) resulting from the treatment of an agreed-upon minimum number of acres per year.
3. The development of sound economic, ecological, and social monitoring programs to ensure that actions result in positive “triple bottom line” outcomes.

To these ends, Prairie Wood Products will do the following:

- Continued good-faith participation in the Harney County Restoration Collaborative process;
- Honor and promote the “Common Ground Principles” developed by the Collaborative and included at the end of this document;
- Provide information on economic feasibility and marketability of proposed restoration projects.



Dan Bishop, Timberlands Manager

Sustainable Northwest (SNW)

Sustainable Northwest supports the spirit of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative Declaration of Cooperation.


Our mission is to partner with communities and enterprises to achieve ecological, social and economic vitality and resilience in rural areas. We believe the four key building blocks of success in forest and range dependent communities are collaborative process, stewardship, reinvestment and monitoring.

The forests of Oregon require active restoration. Rural communities can and should be made integral partners. Multi-stakeholder collaborative groups are vital to build the social agreement to move decisively ahead. Landscape scale restoration will require consistent, long-term, good faith efforts by many parties.

Sustainable Northwest has recently secured seed funding from the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities to advance the concept of a "forest investment zone" in a multi-county area of Eastern Oregon. The outcomes of the zone are consistent with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative efforts. Success will require partnerships. The funding must be leveraged with state, federal, community and private resources.

In order to help advance the Harney County Restoration Collaborative's work and the mission of SNW, we will:

- Explore potential partnerships with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to foster leadership, cooperation and will at all levels of government and the private sector.
- Explore opportunities to leverage resources from the public and private sectors to complement available funds and capacities provided by participating cooperators.
- Link Sustainable Northwest's core programs -- especially the Policy and Communities, Healthy Forests Healthy Communities Partnership, and SNWood Distribution Center -- to the efforts of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative.
- Partner as appropriate with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to convene participatory forums that advance learning and shared commitment to restoration and community health.
- Share progress of the forest investment zone to the efforts of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative.



Martin Goebel, Executive Director

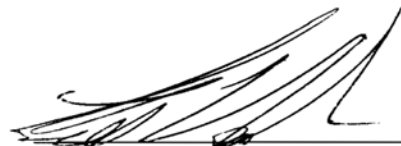
April 1, 2007
Date

The Nature Conservancy

The disruption of natural fire regimes, dramatic increases in tree populations, and spreading landscape homogeneity are the greatest single threat to biological diversity and ecosystem sustainability in forests adapted to frequent fire. Fortunately, science-based forest restoration that includes prescribed burning, mechanical thinning or some combination of the two can improve forest health. A restored forest will provide the critical environmental services on which people and wildlife rely. In addition, forest restoration has the potential to stimulate new markets for wood products and produce energy while simultaneously leading to the creation of restoration based business opportunities and good paying jobs. To efficiently and effectively restore these forests, coordinated action is needed at the landscape scale. To identify socially acceptable management actions land managers and stakeholders must work collaboratively to develop socially acceptable management options. The Nature Conservancy is committed to working in a collaborative framework with diverse stakeholders to restore and maintain forest ecosystem health.

The Nature Conservancy is committed to participating in and supporting the Harney County Restoration Collaborative's work. Specifically, The Nature Conservancy commits to:

- Participating in the HCRC to implement the Jane Project. Specifically, the Conservancy will work cooperatively with the Forest Service to develop map products to help identify treatment priorities and to develop scientifically informed and effective restoration prescriptions.
- Playing a key role to develop a Landscape Assessment that will identify priority watersheds for future management. The Conservancy will assist members of the HCRC, HDP and the USFS by providing technical support for the development of maps, facilitation and other actions that help ensure the landscape assessment achieves the objectives of the HCRC.



Russ Hoefflich, Oregon Director

US Fish and Wildlife Service

The intent and desire of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is to coordinate directly with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative to promote results that are consistent with the goals of the Collaborative, Service and Harney County. The Service will, subject to available resource:

- Share relevant, updated spatial data on species of interest with the Collaborative;
- Continue to work with the Collaborative partners to assist understanding of the regulatory environment, including documents that provide regulatory assurances;
- Inform the High Desert Partnership about relevant Service grant opportunities and provide technical assistance with the application process;
- Provide survey protocol guidance to ensure that surveys are consistent and compatible with species data types collected by the agency; and
- Work with the Collaborative partners to improve the quality and consistency of land management plans and their implementation



Gary Miller, Field Supervisor
La Grande Field Office

II. COMMON GROUND PRINCIPLES

The Core Team has delivered the following Guiding Principles to the Forest Service to guide the development of a Purpose and Need and Proposed Action for the Jane Subwatershed in the Emigrant Creek Ranger District. The Harney County Restoration Collaborative has achieved complete consensus on the following Desired Future Conditions for the northern Harney County forested landscape:

Desired Future Conditions

Regarding Fire, Insects/Disease, and Forest Health

Our goal is:

- a resilient forest that is diverse in age, species, and density; that exhibits appropriate species composition and structure for the ecosystem; and that enables:
 - normal or acceptable levels of fire, insect, and disease outbreaks
 - resumption of natural fire and disturbance cycles
- good air quality
- good water quality
- where historically present, stands that have a patchy, mosaic, clumpy appearance.

Regarding Riparian Areas and Aspen

Our goal is:

- riparian areas that
 - have appropriate vegetation and wildlife for the site
 - produce high water quality that meets or exceeds standards
 - achieve full biological potential
 - meet optimal “properly functioning conditions”
- aspen stands that are:
 - healthy,
 - reproducing, and
 - have trees of multiple ages
- an extent of aspen stands that achieves historic distribution over time.

Regarding Old-Growth

Our goal is:

- resilient old-growth stands
- an extent of old-growth stands that achieves historic distribution over time
- an extent of replacement old-growth stands that achieves historic distribution over time.

Regarding Wildlife Habitat

Our goal is:

- vegetative species consistent with target wildlife species habitat

- habitat conditions that support viability and biodiversity of native wildlife species
- appropriate physical aquatic habitat and native aquatic and riparian-associated species' access to that habitat.

Regarding Vegetative Invasive Species

Our goal is:

- containment and eradication of non-native invasive species.

Regarding Grazing

Our goal is:

- grazing does not threaten other social, ecological and economic values

Regarding Roads and Access

Our goal is:

- decreased road densities and improved road locations that will result in improvement to aquatic habitat and species, soil and habitat that are within management capabilities
- no net increases in system roads - any new system road would be a substitute for existing roads with the purpose of restoring ecological values
- minimized temporary roads
- a road system that minimizes adverse effects on wildlife
- a designated ATV/snowmobile system that takes the pressure off of other areas

Regarding Community Health

Our goal is:

- healthy forests that provide the opportunity for healthy local communities, and healthy communities that provide opportunities to maintain healthy forests.
- the presence of infrastructure capable of utilizing wood products from restoration activities, increase contractor capacity and restore local communities and social health.
- local economies benefit from a diversity of year-round jobs related to restoration, forest management generally, and other ecosystem goods and services
- industries that are appropriately scaled to local, sustainable supply, as determined through collaborative efforts
- sustainable fiber supply is:
 - recognized as an important community value associated with forest management
 - “levelized” (steady from year to year) and meeting the minimum needs of sustainable community infrastructure.
- citizens with pride in the forest they are stewarding; citizens recognized by those outside the area as good stewards of public lands

Regarding Forest Restoration Economics

Our goal is:

- restoration projects include sufficient marketable material to help offset costs, when possible, compatible with ecological values.
- restoration projects are funded by a wide diversity of revenue sources –such as fiber revenues, ecosystem service payments, and service contract appropriations
- forest sector infrastructure is in place to create a value for restoration by-products on a sustainable basis.

Regarding Collaboration

Our goal is:

- a collaborative group that is broadly representative and inclusive
 - and that better involves youth
- a collaborative group that has the data needed to make decisions
- a collaborative group that benefits from constant, iterative information exchange
- multiple scales of analysis, management and collaboration linking stands, watersheds, and broader landscapes
- the High Desert Partnership has the funding, capacity and political backing to continue this collaborative process
- the Forest Service looks to the collaborative as a first step in developing plans and priorities for public land

Regarding Monitoring and Adaptive Management

Our goal is:

- monitoring is an integral, fully-funded component of projects
- social, ecological, and economic monitoring are performed
- monitoring begins before treatments
- third party and collaborative-directed monitoring
- monitoring results are communicated and incorporated into practice.