Oregon's Community-Based Forest Collaboratives Statewide Summary

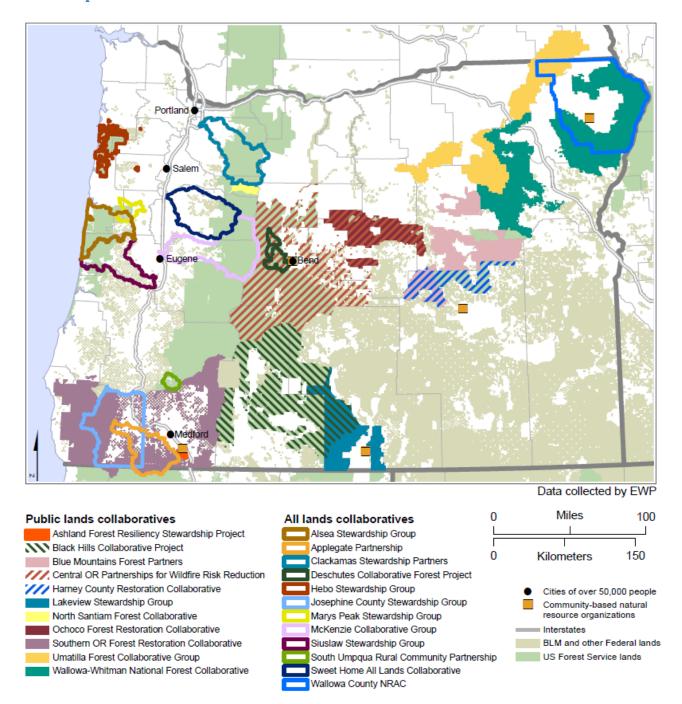
Community-based forest health collaboratives have been emerging across Oregon over the last twenty years. The emergence of these collaborative partnerships has been in large part to provide review and provide recommendations for Federal forest management activities occurring near their communities. Starting with a handful of pioneering local partnership efforts in the 1990s, the number of community-based collaboratives identified now exceeds twenty. As of 2012 there is at least one community-based collaborative group working with each of the 11 National Forests that are wholly, or in part, included within the State's boundaries.

In 2013, information for 23 collaborative groups was gathered and summarized in an "Oregon State-wide Forest Collaborative Inventory". Of the 23 collaboratives summarized in the Inventory, 14 are focused on "Dry Forest" landscapes and 9 are focused on "West-side Forest" landscapes.

Key findings about the 23 collaborative groups summarized in the Inventory include:

- The rate at which collaboratives are being created has increased substantially in the past decade.
- More than 170 organizations are engaged in the 23 collaborative groups.
- All 11 USFS National Forests and 7 of 9 BLM Districts in Oregon are engaged in collaboratives.
- Each collaboratives is typically engaged with just one USFS National Forest; in contrast, each USFS National Forest is typically engaged with two or more collaboratives.
- All West-side Forest Collaboratives have an "All Lands" focus; in contrast, most Dry Forest Collaboratives focus on "Public Lands".
- Dry Forest Collaboratives are characterized by more involvement by State, County, City, Conservation/Environmental NGOs, Professional Association NGOs, Private Forest Products and Management Business, and Private Energy Business organizations than are West-side Forest Collaboratives.
- West-side Forest Collaboratives are characterized by more involvement by Watershed Councils and Soil and Water Conservation District organizations than are Dry Forest Collaboratives.
- Although not yet formally quantified, anecdotal comments by collaborative contacts strongly suggest that collaboratives have significantly reduced litigation of Federal land management actions.
- Funding is the most-commonly reported need for Oregon collaborative groups.

Figure 1. Map of Collaboratives



Product of the Dry Forest Investment Zone Project

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