

South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team  
Monday, January 7, 2013, 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
The River Center, 3000 S. Santiam Highway, Lebanon

Approximately 70 people attended the meeting including a large majority of those listed on the Project Participant list (available for viewing on the project website at <http://orsolutions.org/osproject/SSCFC>)."

**Thomas Maness:**

- Very strong personal interest
- Collaborative effort is at the core of the College of Forestry's mission
- Start with brief introduction

**Beverly Stein:**

- Thanks people for coming and taking leadership
- Describes OS

What makes collaboration successful?

1. Have a common agenda
2. How can you reinforce what you do well through working with others
3. Continuous communication
4. Backbone support organization
5. Shared Metrics

**Steve Bryant:** Ground Rules

- Leadership team will draft formal operating ground rules
- Table tents will be the way we put people in the speaking order
- All team members should actively participate and add value to the project
- Attempt to operate by consensus
  - o Seek common agreement on things we want to achieve
  - o Even if you don't agree, you agree not to stand in the way
  - o If you still want to stand in the way, tell us that because it means that we have not reached consensus

**Craig Martin:**

- This project is consistent with Sweet Home's long term goals for responding to the decrease in timber revenues
  - o Looking for more opportunities to use the forest as a key piece of the economic revitalization strategy
  - o Community has always been tied to the forest both in an economic and cultural/social way
  - o Community has a strong value in public health, which we can meet through this project with recreation and jobs in the forest

**Brian Hoffman:**

- Economic value is high in the forest: biomass and tourism are the two main markets
- Enhancing recreation with South Santiam forest corridor; ultimately attracting new residents to Sweet Home and Linn County
  - o People live here because they can go to the lake in 10 min
- Tourism is a key factor in success to most of the businesses in the community
- Sweet Home Ranger District was a key convener on these efforts
  - o Working with Brian Carroll and Linn County commissioners
  - o Going forward, shared commitment to success is critical to the long-term benefits provided by the project

**Eric Hartstein:** SSWC Coordinator

- Diverse stakeholder group with public, private, and academic institutions
- Initiated in 2012 with interest in achieving common goals
- SHALC'S interests extend beyond these projects

**Emily Jane Davis:** US Ecosystem Workforce Program

- SHALC is still trying to figure out how it is going to work with this body because the two bodies share many members and they do not want to waste those individuals' time

**Thomas Maness:** OSU College of Forestry

- What is important is deciding what this project isn't
- What are we dealing with here
- What is the best way to utilize stakeholders within this body

**Community Member**

- What is the boundary?

**Will Tucker:** Linn County Commissioner

- There are many projects in the region that are all related, but this body is doing a specific project that extends to about Moose Creek
- We are still deciding the boundaries and looking at the relationship between various efforts in the region
- There are hundreds, possibly thousands, land owners in the proposed corridor
- The challenge is determining how to coordinate the projects and decide how to draw the boundaries

**Glen Colberg:** Sweet Home community member for ~40 years

- What is the city of Sweet Home's reason for participating on this project?
- Where is the land going to come from?
- Has anybody done a survey of private landowners?

**Norman:** Sweet Home Community member

- We are wasting biomass on a project up the road
- We can't count of the USFS to do anything

**Brian Carroll:** Linn County Parks

- Describes physical landscape and boundaries

[3:15 BREAK]

**Presentations on community forest**

**Questions/Concerns after presentations on community forest:**

- How wide is the corridor?
- What will the hunting regulations be in the corridor?
- Wildlife viewing
- Trash and maintenance
- Post office wants to have a place to tie back into the community and might set up a place at the caves

**Comments**

- Similar to North Umpqua Trail
- In line with Santiam Health Service's mission
- Similar to Oakridge who has looked to the forest as a main economic driver
- Makes sense from the standpoint of many government bodies
- If we are taking about building new trails, we must insure that we have the resources for maintaining the trail
- When a restoration project is happening, we have to give people something to do. Are they just going to look at trees or are we going to look at resources along the trail? We can do tours on the trail, which bring in the cultural aspect. We have to identify what resources need to be incorporated into the planning of recreational activities.
- How do we incorporate the cultural heritage into the project?
- We should make it a "cultural byway"
  - o We need to do a better job of telling the story of the land
    - We need more historical markers and signs
  - o We also need to explain the ecology of the land/watershed
- Much of the corridor has never be surveyed for their resources
- A bottom up approach is key
- Cascadia Music Festival at the old mill site
- Many people are living off of the grid and have many renewable energy programs that they could show people about
- Camp Attitude is a great resource
- Grants and funding opportunities for small businesses

**Discussions**

- You want to be careful that you don't get more than what you want

- Ease into it and let it grow
  - Make sure that it is safe and that you attract the right customers
- What is the outcome in a year?
- What are the priorities in the short term?
- Is the cultural trail the game changer or main focus?
  - How does this tie into the community forest idea?
- We should look into a business plan approach
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Ethno/Eco-Tourism
    - Keeps land values stable
- How do we organize the various priorities in the Sweet Home mission statement and the things that we talked about today

**Next Steps:**

- Leadership team members will convene
- What are some deliverables
- This group will get together at the beginning of March
- Send out the power points that were shown in today's meeting
- Update information and put handouts up on OS website
- Get a public meeting and explain how this ties into different projects