



**DECLARATION OF COOPERATION  
SOUTH SANTIAM COMMUNITY FOREST CORRIDOR  
March 10, 2014**

**Project Snapshot**

The South Santiam Community Forest Corridor is a natural resource abundant environment stretching approximately twelve miles between the City of Sweet Home on the west and extending into the Willamette National Forest on the east. Dominant features of the corridor include the untamed South Santiam River, actively managed private forest lands, culturally significant Native American cultural sites, and a variety of private and public recreation sites managed by multiple agencies. This Oregon Solutions project has helped to achieve the following outcomes:

- A vision document has been produced that identifies achievable long-term goals for the corridor.
- Specific action plans have been outlined by three working committees for achieving key pieces of the vision statement
- New collaborative partnerships have been forged between various area stakeholders that will increase the capacity of Project Team members for achieving priority projects within the corridor. These new partnerships include Sweet Home's selection to be part of the Federal Lands Livability Initiative and the OSU College of Forestry's proposal to include nearby portions of the Willamette Nation Forest in a new Institute for Working Forest Landscapes.
- The Sweet Home All-Lands Collaborative (SHALC) has agreed to serve as the governance structure for the corridor to maintain momentum on achieving outcomes identified by the vision document and the working committees.
- Additional commitments have been obtained by numerous stakeholders toward achieving the progress goals as listed in this Declaration of Cooperation.

**Project Background**

In August of 2012, as a logical outgrowth of the Sweet Home All-Lands Collaborative (SHALC), eight Sweet Home area organizations and agencies submitted a request to Governor Kitzhaber to designate the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as an Oregon Solutions Project. Those entities were the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department, the Linn County Board of Commissioners, Cascade Timber Consultants, the South Santiam Watershed Council, the Sweet Home Economic Development Group, the City of Sweet Home, the Sweet Home Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest, and the Portland District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. On October 8, 2012, the governor formally designated the project and he named Thomas Maness, OSU Dean of Forestry, and Cynthia Solie, Executive Director of the Cascades West Council of Governments, as co-conveners of the Project Team. Since that time, more than 50 individuals representing approximately 30 stakeholder groups have been working in a collaborative effort to create beneficial economic, social and environmental outcomes for this 12-mile corridor along the South Santiam River between the city of Sweet Home and the Willamette National Forest.

## **Project Description**

The Project Team's work has been guided by a vision document (see appendix A) that includes the following significant goals:

- *Increase the physical connection between Sweet Home and the Willamette National Forest via the South Santiam River corridor.*
- *Help improve quality of life for local residents. A high quality of life and successful, livable communities serve to attract new businesses and residents to the area.*
- *Provide for public access to local natural resources and the South Santiam River.*
- *Contribute to job creation in the Sweet Home area through ecological forestry management of the natural resources, development of more diverse forest products and markets, forest restoration and management activities, and promotion of recreation and tourism.*
- *Promote improved natural resource health through management and restoration actions within the watershed and implementation of conservation education programs.*
- *Contribute to improved health of local residents by providing a safe, desirable, and convenient system of recreation opportunities including development of, or partnership with, a sustainable collaboration that is focused on systemic efforts to address health issues in the community.*
- *Promote knowledge of and connections to historic local places, including the Santiam Wagon Road.*
- *Promote further economic development and tourism activities through an integrated system of recreation opportunities, consistent with local values.*
- *Protect and enhance important cultural resources in the corridor, particularly Cascadia Cave.*
- *Establish a research forest of both public and private lands outside the corridor in partnership with Oregon State University College of Forestry to serve as a demonstration area for the public to learn about active management of forests as an integrated component of broad scale, healthy, working landscapes capable of producing key biological and social attributes while also supporting local economies.*
- *Provide opportunities for volunteers and organizations with available in-kind resources to contribute to achievement of project goals.*
- *Provide broad-based education and job training opportunities utilizing the community forest corridor as a resource-rich laboratory for enriching experiences while working in and with the natural environment.*

To facilitate achievement of these goals the primary work of the Project Team was assigned to three working committees: the Working Forest/Community Forest Committee, the Tourism/Recreation/Health Committee, and the Cascadia Cave/Cultural Resources Committee. Each of these committees established purpose statements and a list of anticipated short and long-term outcomes. All members of the Project Team as well as interested parties were invited to participate on one or more of the committees based on their interests and potential contributions to the anticipated outcomes.

A key early product of importance to each of the committees was the identification of private lands within the corridor (primarily those managed by Cascade Timber Consultants) that might be suitable for land exchanges with publicly owned or other privately owned lands in order to expand public ownership and access to important areas within the corridor. These land exchanges have the potential to create mutual benefits for numerous stakeholders within the corridor. Such benefits include improved public access to recreation sites, increased protections and appropriate management for highly significant cultural sites such as Cascadia Cave, improved environmental protection through public ownership and management of sensitive habitat, and enhanced economic outputs of private lands. An important threshold for the group was that any land exchange should not include O&C lands or otherwise negatively impact county revenues. Consequently, the current focus of the land exchange effort is on BLM lands that could be placed into more active private forest land management in exchange for CTC lands along the river that have public benefit as well as watershed and habitat enhancement opportunities.

Other activities currently in progress include the identification of potential multi-use trails within the corridor, determination of appropriate public ownership, protection and governance of the Cascadia Cave cultural site, and examination of higher level economic outputs from an actively managed community/working forest. In support of these activities, a number of grant opportunities and technical assistance efforts are underway. These include the selection of Sweet Home as host of a full-time RARE (Resource Assistance to Rural Environments) AmeriCorps volunteer offered by the University of Oregon (with financial support from Linn County, the City of Sweet Home and the Sweet Home Ranger District), a technical assistance project award from the National Parks Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program for trail development planning, a recent award from the U.S. Forest Service for planning assistance for a Cascadia visitors kiosk, interpretive trail and river overlook (for a total of approximately \$200,000), and Sweet Home's recent award as one of four communities selected for the Livability Initiative.

The Livability Initiative is a two-year project led by a partnership between the Federal Highway Administration, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Army Corps of Engineers, and The Conservation Fund's Conservation Leadership Network to strengthen the livability of communities that are neighbors to federally managed lands. Several other grant and technical assistance opportunities are also being examined including ODFW's Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Fund and Travel Oregon's Rural Tourism Studio program.

### **Project Outline**

This Oregon Solutions project was supported by a Leadership Team, a Technical Support Team, three working committees and an active list of Interested Parties (see all in appendix B). The full Project Team consisted of the following:

The Leadership Team and the full Project Team each met five times during the course of the Oregon Solutions project and the three working committees also met on a number of occasions. These meetings led to a number of collaborative efforts on a wide variety of fronts to advance the project vision. Many of these efforts are reflected in the commitments that follow.

To some degree, all signers to this Declaration of Cooperation share in a mutual obligation to hold each other accountable toward fulfilling the commitments contained herein. For its part, Oregon Solutions will reconvene the full Project Team in the fall or early winter of 2014 to assist the team in reviewing progress made to date and identifying additional high priority actions that need to be undertaken by project stakeholders.

### **South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Team Commitments**

The commitments represented in the following pages form a public statement of intent to participate in the project, 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. All team members acknowledge that the best solutions depend upon cooperation by all entities at the table. Accordingly, they recognize that each party has a unique perspective and contribution to make, and legitimate interests that need to be taken into account for the project's success. High among these interests are those of the citizens of East Linn County and the property owners and residents along the corridor. The attached vision statement and team commitments are intended, in part, to address these interests in addition to the other interests of stakeholder groups; however, it is recognized by all parties to this agreement that any final development plans for each specific component of the project will require additional community review and comment before the Governance Group signs off on the project and permits are issued.

**This Declaration of Cooperation, while not a binding legal contract, is evidence to and a statement of the good faith and commitment of the undersigned parties. The undersigned parties to this Declaration of Cooperation have, through a collaborative process, agreed and pledged their cooperation to the following findings and actions:**

#### **Declaration of Cooperation Contributors:**

- AmeriCorps, Resource Assistance for Rural Environments
- BLM, Salem District, Cascade Resource Area
- Build Lebanon Trails
- Cascade Timber Consulting
- City of Sweet Home
- Co-Conveners
- COMP NW
- Friends of Fish Lake
- Governor's Regional Solution Team
- Linn Benton Community College
- Linn County Commissioners
- Linn County Parks and Recreation
- National Park Service
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Oregon Department of Transportation, Scenic Byways Program
- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
- Oregon Solutions
- Oregon State University, College of Forestry
- Samaritan Health Services
- South Santiam Watershed Council
- Sweet Home All-Lands Collaborative
- Sweet Home Economic Development Group
- Sweet Home Trails
- The Confederate Tribes of Warm Springs
- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Rhonde
- The Confederated Tribes of Siletz
- Travel Oregon
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, Willamette Valley Projects
- U.S. Forest Service
- United States Senate
- Visit Linn Coalitio

*Inspired by the vision*



*Dedicated to the work*

Build Lebanon Trails  
P.O. Box 2604  
Lebanon, OR 97355

January 24, 2014

To whom it may concern:

Build Lebanon Trails (BLT) and the Lebanon Trails Committee (LTC) are pleased to write a letter of support for the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project.

BLT is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization with a large and growing volunteer base. BLT volunteers come from Lebanon and surrounding rural areas including Albany, Sweet Home, Brownsville, Lacombe and Scio.

BLT's Mission is: To inspire and assist the community in the development, maintenance and enhancement of multiple-use trails, and related facilities in and around Lebanon for the enjoyment, recreation, health and safety of the residents and their guests.

In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor's vision, Build Lebanon Trails and the Lebanon Trails Committee commit to soliciting volunteers to help on SSCFC trail related work projects.

Proposed SSCFC activities are closely related to our mission of providing public trails that enable everyone regardless of physical ability to get up and move into the great Oregon out of doors

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rodney Sell".

Rodney Sell  
BLT, Board President  
Chairperson for LTC

For more information about BLT and LTC visit us at  
[www.lebanontrails.com](http://www.lebanontrails.com)  
<http://www.facebook.com/buildlebanontrails>

## **Cascade Timber Consulting, Inc.**

Cascade Timber Consulting, Inc. is a private consulting firm that manages 145,000 acres of timberland in Linn County. Our goal of sustainable forestry is practiced in all of our activities. This management has provided timber, jobs, and support for the community while protecting the environment since 1917.

As an original co-sponsor of the Oregon Solutions Project, CTC recognizes the importance of collaboration and supports the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments:

### **1. Ongoing Governance**

- Provide CTC representation on the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative (SHALC) board which will provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.

### **2. Financial Support and Capacity**

- CTC will provide, as needed, limited partner support to the community forest corridor, primarily through in-kind services of its management personnel and in-house information resources.

### **3. Land Exchanges**

- CTC will support proposed land exchanges between identified CTC properties and public agencies that will result in 1) "win/win" outcomes for both parties including increased protection for sensitive cultural areas, 2) improved public access and recreation opportunities, and 3) potential for CTC to create new "working landscapes" on underutilized public properties.
- In addition, CTC will consider cooperation as a "willing seller" in any grant application for the outright purchase of the Cascadia Cave site including the potential to provide some amount of donated "value match" based on the criteria of the grant program and subject to a review of property appraisal and other program requirements. With our goal of no net loss in land base we would require availability of offsetting land to purchase.

### **4. Economic Development**

- CTC will support the activities of SHALC through active representation on its governing body.
- CTC will be active in supporting a full range of job growth opportunities in and around the community forest corridor including advocating for sustainable levels of timber harvest, local production and manufacturing of wood products and other commercial forest products, and increased development of compatible tourism related employment.

### **5. Public health and quality of life**

- CTC supports healthy lifestyle activities in the Community Forest corridor and currently provides limited access to its lands for responsible individuals seeking hunting, fishing and other recreation opportunities.

### **6. Recreation**

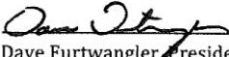
- CTC will work with Linn County Parks and Recreation, the State Parks System, and other stakeholders on identifying mutually agreeable locations for the multi-use South Santiam corridor trail between Sweet Home and the Willamette National Forest.

### **7. Landscape Health and Policy**

- CTC will continue to support and expand the work with SHALC and all partners engaged in the All Lands Approach for improving landscape health.
- CTC will assist in inviting other timber landowners to join in the All Lands Approach work with continued interagency, local governments, and SHALC involvement.
- CTC supports OSU's proposal for development of the Institute for Working Forests Landscapes within the Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area.

**8. Community Involvement and Education**

- CTC will invite and help guide organized field trips designed to help educate the public about sustainable forestry and other land management practices.

Signed:  Date: 3/10/14  
Dave Furtwangler, President



## CITY OF SWEET HOME

1140 12<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE • SWEET HOME, OREGON 97386 • (541) 367-7993 • FAX (541) 367-6440

### **City of Sweet Home**

The City of Sweet Home (City) is nestled at the original gateway to the heart of the Willamette National Forest. Its economy has a long history of being inextricably tied to the adjacent forest lands and the many benefits that nature affords to communities fortunate enough to co-exist in such verdant surroundings. In recent times, Sweet Home has had to seek diversification as timber harvests have declined and a higher percentage of logs have headed for export. Now guided by a new "2020 Vision" document, Sweet Home is engaged in new partnerships to assure a vibrant future for its residents. Part of that future includes taking advantage of new opportunities afforded by tourism, recreation, small business development, as well as opportunities afforded by both traditional and innovative forest products manufacturing and development.

As an original co-sponsor of the Oregon Solutions Project, the City of Sweet Home recognizes the importance of collaboration and supports the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments:

#### **1. Ongoing Governance**

- Provide City representation in the Sweet Home All lands Collaboration (SHALC) which will provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor (SSCFC).

#### **2. Financial Support and Capacity**

- The City will provide partner financial support utilizing a portion of the City's Economic Development funds as authorized through the City's annual budget process.
- The City will consider direct financial support for grants and technical support of the effort based upon funding availability in the Annual City Budget.
- The City will seek and assist with grant writing, assist with market development, and provide GIS and other in-kind technical services as available. Dedicated staff and time will be assigned to projects as affordable and appropriate.

#### **3. Land Exchanges**

- The City will support proposed land exchanges between private landowners (within city limits) that will result in 1) "win/win" outcomes for involved parties, 2) improved public access and recreation opportunities for Sweet Home residents, and 3) potential for private owners to create new "working landscapes".

#### **4. Protection of Cultural Resources**

- The City will assist in efforts that preserve and showcase culturally significant resources and/or sites within the SSCFC.
- The City will advocate for the preservation and protection of cultural resources and/or sites within the SSCFC.
- The City will review and update land use policies, plans, and development codes, if needed, in an effort to protect cultural sensitive sites within jurisdictional boundaries.

#### **5. Economic Development**

- The City will support the activities of SHALC through active representation on its governing body.
- The City will be active in supporting a full range of job growth opportunities in and around the community forest corridor including advocating for sustainable levels of timber harvest, local



production and manufacturing of wood products and other commercial forest products, and increased development of tourism related employment.

- The City will assist in building existing economic development groups organizational capacity including consideration for continued financial support for a dedicated Economic Development Staff position.
- The City will work with Linn County and other community stakeholders in refining the master plan and planning the development of the former Western States property as an activity anchor at the west end of the SSCFC.

**6. Public Health and Quality of Life**

- The City will support and advance livability initiative outcomes for city of Sweet Home.
- The City will assist with promotion of healthy lifestyle activities and events in and around the SSCFC.
- The City will support the County in seeking Brownfield evaluation and clean-up assistance on the former Western States mill site properties. Additionally, the City will partner with Linn County in support of the outreach efforts outlined in their site specific Brownfield Assessment Grant application for the former Western States mill site properties.

**7. Recreation**

- The City will assist in the development of diverse recreation areas, opportunities, and events in and along the SSCFC.
- The City will review and modify, if needed, current (recreation, greenway, trails, etc.) plans to create linkages to the corridor and other regional destination opportunities.

**8. Landscape Health and Policy**

- Continue to support and expand the work with SHALC and all partners engaged in the All Lands Approach for improving landscape health.
- Invite other timber landowners to join in the All Lands Approach work with continued interagency, local governments, and SHALC involvement.
- Assist in seeking BPA mitigation opportunities and associated funding for landscape restoration and health.
- Support OSU's proposal for development of the Institute for Working Forests Landscapes within the Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area.

**9. Community Involvement and Education**

- The City will encourage and support community efforts for forest related recreational and health opportunities including fieldtrips, guest speakers (cultural history, specialist), conservation education and outdoor programs.
- The City will participate in and provide support for ongoing communications to Sweet Home residents about efforts in and along the SSCFC.
- The City will encourage and support volunteer efforts supportive of outdoor and forest related projects, activities and events in and along the SSCFC.

Signed: Jim Gourley Date: 3/10/14

Jim Gourley, Mayor

Signed: Craig Martin Date: 3/10/14

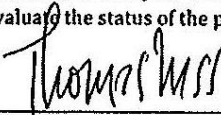
Craig Martin, City Manager

**Co-conveners**

Thomas Maness, Dean of the OSU College of Forestry, and Cynthia Solie, Executive Director of the Cascades West Council of Governments, have served as co-conveners of this project at the request of the governor. Both have strong interests in the success of this project as advocates of strong rural economies and healthy forests. In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor, and as long as we hold our respective offices, the co-conveners will commit to the following actions:

1. Support project funding through agreement-seeking with other project stakeholders, granting agencies, and private parties.
2. Participate in public events and presentations to help promote the project.
3. Provide leadership for a re-convening of the Oregon Solutions Project Team within the next year to evaluate the status of the project and progress made toward the commitments contained in this document.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3/10/14

Thomas Maness, Dean, OSU College of Forestry

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3/18/14

Cynthia Solie, Executive Director, Cascades West Council of Governments

**COMP-Northwest:**

COMP-Northwest welcomes opportunities to work collaboratively with other caring organizations to provide services to the communities we serve. As an Osteopathic Medical School located in Lebanon, OR, we teach the next generation of medical doctors to serve as leaders in our local communities of Linn and Benton counties. You can see more at <http://www.westernu.edu/northwest>

COMP-Northwest is represented on the South Santiam Community Corridor Forest Project Team by Dr. Louise and Dennis Muscato, assists the Team in supporting positive community health outcomes through our Healthy Living and Wellness Initiative, our community engagement and service learning activities. We support the project vision and goals of the Team and commit to the following:

1. COMP-Northwest will support and assist the Team in grant opportunities that have strong potential for helping to advance the Project Vision and Goals.
2. COMP-Northwest will assist in identifying and promoting specific wellness activities within the Community Forest Corridor.
3. COMP-Northwest will assist in developing community wellness metrics that can be used by the East Linn County Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) to help bring awareness to the benefits of healthy outdoor activities.
4. COMP-Northwest will help promote volunteer opportunities within the Community Forest Corridor among its students, employees, and community partners.
5. COMP-Northwest will endeavor to make its facilities available for committee meetings, volunteer training and other activities as may be appropriate in support of corridor projects.

Signed: 

Paula Crone, DO

Date: 3-21-14

### Friends of Fish Lake


The Fish Lake Historic Site is located in Oregon's Central Cascade Mountains on the Willamette National Forest (WNF) near the headwaters of two important rivers, the McKenzie and South Santiam. It is connected directly to the South Santiam River/Highway 20 corridor by the historic Santiam Wagon Road and also via State Highway 126.

The lake and meadow was the site of Native American summer encampments prior to European settlement. The area became an important overnight stop for travelers crossing the Cascades between 1868 and 1905 and incorporates the Fish Lake Remount Depot, representing the architecture typical of 1920s Forest Service administration and 1930s Depression Era Civilian Conservation Corps structures. The existing buildings reflect a long history of continuous occupancy, offering a unique display of key elements of western Oregon history in an open setting available to the public. The Site is currently in the review process for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Friends of Fish Lake (FFL), an all-volunteer non-profit organization, was created to support the WNF at the Fish Lake Historic Site. The FFL mission is to protect, restore and maintain the historic structures, assist in interpreting cultural and natural resources, and cooperate in the development of a learning center.

The Friends of Fish Lake support the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor in anticipation of future extension of that activity to the crest of the Cascades, and are committed to assisting project implementation in the following activities:

- Pursuing opportunities to develop the Community Forest Corridor as a recreation destination area emphasizing stewardship through conservation education.
- Supporting the promotion of positive traveler experiences, including interpretation of historic sites, within the Corridor.
- Supporting the attraction of cultural activities, research and interpretation to the Corridor.
- Supporting conservation education and learning opportunities in the Corridor.

Signed:  Date: 3/14/14  
Mike Kerrick, Friends of Fish Lake President

Signed:  Date: 3/19/14  
Rolf Anderson, Friends of Fish Lake Board Member



## LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JOHN K. LINDSEY  
*Commissioner*

WILL TUCKER  
*Commissioner*

ROGER NYQUIST  
*Commissioner*

*Linn County Courthouse  
P.O. Box 100, Albany, Oregon 97321  
(541) 967-3825 FAX: (541) 926-8228*

**RALPH E. WYATT**  
*Administrative Officer*

February 19, 2014

### DECLARATION OF COOPERATION:

Linn County is in the center of the Willamette Valley with the Willamette River as its western boundary and the crest of the Cascades as its eastern boundary. The climate and soil conditions provide one of Oregon's most diversified agriculture areas, as well as, an ideal environment for the growth of timber. While timber harvests and wood products manufacturing have declined from historic levels, the Linn County Board of Commissioners (Board) continue to strongly advocate for forest-based economic development activities utilizing the County's many assets including abundant natural resources, available workforce, current mill or industrial sites available, rail and I-5 access to markets and vibrant communities. In addition, recreational opportunities are extensive in Linn County and include hiking, climbing and skiing, picnicking and camping in County and State parks, boating, water skiing and fishing on lakes and rivers, petrified wood and agate beds, covered bridges and historic districts and events. Many of these assets are concentrated in the South Santiam River Watershed.

The Cascadia Cave is an important historical and cultural site needing protection, preservation and scientific study. The Hill family and Cascade Timber Consulting have done a lot to protect and preserve the site while allowing limited public access to the site which is on their property. The Board is committed to the site becoming public property; open to the public with appropriate protection and governance to protect the site; and, the Tribal and public interests.

Thus, the Board is committed to opportunities for enhancing the economic, social and environmental health of South Santiam Corridor and the surrounding areas.

As an original co-sponsor of the Oregon Solutions Project, the Board recognizes the importance of collaboration and support the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments:

1. **Ongoing Governance:**

The Board shall provide County representation on the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative (SHALC) Board which will provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.

2. **Financial Support and Capacity:**

The Board will consider, as needed, limited partner financial support to the Community Forest Corridor, primarily through its Parks and Recreation Department by supporting grant applications and the development of new park assets and management of growth of current assets. In addition, the County will seek and assist with market development and provide GIS and other in-kind technical services as available. Dedicated staff and Commissioner time will be assigned to projects as affordable and appropriate.

3. **Land Exchanges:**

- The Board will support proposed land exchanges between private land and public land owners that will result in the desired outcomes for both parties including: 1) increased protection for sensitive cultural areas; 2) improved public access and recreation opportunities for Linn County residents; 3) no net loss in County revenues; and, 4) potential for private owners to create new “working landscapes” and protect or increase managed timber protection.
- The Board will continue to pursue an agreement with the State Parks for the long-term control, management and improvement of Cascadia State Park.

4. **Economic Development:**

- The Board will support the activities of SHALC through representation on its governing body.
- The Board will be active in supporting a full-range of job growth opportunities in and around the Community Forest Corridor including advocating for sustainable levels of timber harvest, local production and manufacturing of wood products and other commercial forest products, increased development of tourism related to employment and ensure efforts are connected, as needed, to resources outside of the Community Forest Corridor.
- The Board will continue to seek FHWA and ODOT assistance in resolving transportation issues associated with US Hwy 20 between Sweet Home and the junction with Hwy 22 and other roads or bridges in or connecting to the Community Forest Corridor (i.e. Quartzville and Foster areas).

5. **Public Health and Quality of Life:**

- Assist with promotion of healthy lifestyle activities and events in the Community Forest.
- The Board has taken and, will continue to take, the lead in seeking Brownfield evaluation and coordinating the clean-up assistance on the former Western States Mill site properties.
- When the Livability Initiative's Outcomes for East Linn County are available, the Board will review the Outcomes and consider adopting supporting efforts if appropriate.

6. **Recreation:**

- The Board supports the commitments made by the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department as contained elsewhere in this declaration of cooperation and in alignment with the Linn County Parks Master Plan.

7. **Landscape Health and Policy:**

- Continue to work with SHALC and all partners engaged in the All Lands Approach for improving landscape health.
- Invite other timber landowners to join in the All Lands Approach work with continued interagency, local governments and SHALC involvement.
- Assist in seeking BPA mitigation opportunities and associated funding for landscape restoration and health as appropriate.
- Support OSU's proposal for development of the Institute for Working Forests Landscapes within the Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area.

8. **Community Involvement and Education:**

- Support efforts to re-establish a post office in the Cascadia area.
- Provide support and facilitation for local community outreach and citizen involvement as Community Forest Corridor projects move forward.

9. **Severability**

- This Declaration of Cooperation while not a binding legal contract, it is evidence to and a statement of the good faith by the Board of Commissioners. As a Board we are committed to the commitments made above, but as time and circumstances change, the Board may withdraw membership with above organizations and/or modify commitments or act as a Board to repeal our support of this declaration.

**LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Nyquist, Chairman

**OPPOSED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John K. Lindsey, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William C. Tucker, Commissioner

2-19-2014  
Date



## **LINN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION**

3010 FERRY STREET SW, ALBANY, OREGON, 97321  
TELEPHONE: (541) 967-3917 FAX: (541) 924-6915



### **Linn County Parks & Recreation**

Visitors to, and the residents of, Linn County enjoy an almost limitless variety of outdoor recreational opportunities including hiking, swimming, fishing, picnicking, camping and more. Many of these activities are available within the 22 county parks and 6 US Forest Service parks operated and maintained by the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department. The South Santiam Community Forest Corridor provides a focal area for visitors to Linn County who are seeking many types of recreation and tourism opportunities. It is also an area that holds tremendous potential for enhanced public access and recreation development while maintaining a robust forest products industry.

As an original co-sponsor of the Oregon Solutions Project, the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department recognizes the importance of collaboration and supports the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments:

#### **1. Ongoing Governance**

- Linn County Parks shall provide representation on the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative (SHALC) board which will provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor with support and guidance of the Linn County Parks Commission and the Linn County Parks Director.

#### **2. Financial Support and Capacity**

- The Linn County Parks and Recreation Department will provide support to the community forest corridor through in-kind staff support and supplies when deemed appropriate by the Linn County Board of Commissioners. In addition, the Parks Department will seek and assist with grant writing, assist with market development, and provide other in-kind technical services as available. Dedicated staff time will be assigned to projects as time and budget resources permit.

#### **3. Land Exchanges**

- Linn County Parks and Recreation through the support of the Board of Commissioners will continue to pursue agreement with State Parks for the long-term control, management and improvement of Cascadia State Park.
- Linn County Parks and Recreation will support new park/access development as appropriate on new land along the corridor that may become available through land exchange or purchase when the land is deeded to Linn County. The development may be to allow day use or other access and consistent with the need to maintain the department's funding model and Park Master Plans.

#### **4. Economic Development:**

- Linn County Parks will support the activities of SHALC through active representation on its governing body

#### **5. Public health and quality of life**

- Assist with promotion of healthy lifestyle activities and events in the Community Forest as consistent with the Linn County Parks vision statement and Master Plan
- Support the Livability Initiative Outcomes for East Linn County

**6. Recreation:**

- Linn County Parks will continue to take the lead in working with the National Parks Service for development of a multi-use recreation trail through the community forest corridor connecting the city of Sweet Home to the Willamette National Forest.
- Linn County Parks will provide support for the collaborative effort involving the exchange and/or purchase necessary to preserve the Cascadia Cave site under federal protection and management.
- Linn County Parks will continue to work with various stakeholders on the enhancement of recreation and tourism opportunities throughout the corridor as identified in the project vision statement and the inventory of recreation assets and opportunities while supporting the management of the forest for timber production.

**7. Landscape Health and Policy**

- Continue to support and expand the work with SHALC and all partners engaged in the All Lands Approach for improving landscape health.

**8. Community Involvement and Education**

- Linn County Parks will take a lead role in seeking citizen involvement in decisions involving the corridor trail location and design elements.
- Linn County Parks will actively seek volunteer groups and individuals for assistance in trail enhancement and maintenance activities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Brian Carroll, Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3-10-14

### **Linn-Benton Community College**

LBCC is a two-year public college that serves the residents of Linn and Benton counties of Oregon. The college's mission is to help build communities that are better places to live and work. The college offers a wide variety of credit and non-credit classes in Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Sweet Home and other locations throughout the district.

Linn-Benton Community College has been represented on the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team by Gary Price.

In Support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, Linn-Benton Community College commits to the following:

- **Educational Opportunities**

LBCC will work with project stakeholders to develop and/or expand educational programs that will assist in achieve the long term goals of the SSCFC project such as, small business, tourism, recreation, and forest products development and management.

- **Career Exploration**


LBCC's Lebanon Career Center will provide career assessments and career information, including occupational information, employment outlook, education and training requirements to assist with career decision making and declaring a major. The center will work with project stakeholders to offer career exploration workshops, informational interviews, and job shadowing experiences to help in career exploration and assessment.

- **Work Experience**

LBCC will work with project stakeholders to develop Cooperative Education (sometimes called co-op, internship or practicum) opportunities within the corridor to allow students to gain practical work experience, make informed career decisions, and gain an advantage in the job market.

- **Job Search**

LBCC's Lebanon Career Center will host an annual Career Fair, employer visitations, offer job search workshops and Student Employment Specialists for job search and resume assistance.

Signed:  Date: 2/13/2014  
Gary Price, Regional Director of Linn County Centers

## **Declaration of Cooperation Commitment**

### **National Park Service – Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program**

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is a community assistance arm of the National Park Service (NPS). RTCA staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas, water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. RTCA helps communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects that the community initiates.

RTCA has awarded the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team a grant of technical assistance and will be assisted by Dan Miller. In Support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, RTCA commits to working with the SSCFC Trails Committee to develop a concept plan for the South Santiam River Trail. NPS will help contact private landowners, hold public meetings, facilitate planning discussions, and coordinate development of the trail plan.



Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Michael Linde, NPS - RTCA, Program Leader



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
South Willamette Watershed District Office  
7118 NE Vandenberg Ave  
Corvallis OR 97330  
(541) 757-4186  
(541) 757-4252  
[www.dfw.state.or.us](http://www.dfw.state.or.us)

March 10, 2014

Sweet Home All Lands Cooperative  
1140 12 Ave  
Sweet Home, Or 97386



SUBJECT: Letter of Commitment

Dear South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team,

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is a state agency whose mission is to protect and conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitats for present and future generations. ODFW fully supports economic growth; enhanced recreation, education and job training opportunities as well as ecological restoration in the South Santiam Corridor, especially if these goals are implemented in a manner that conserves valuable ecological resources. Therefore, ODFW and the South Willamette Watershed District in particular, support the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor and commit to the following actions as resources allow:

1. Continue to provide recreational opportunities for fishing, hunting, and wildlife viewing in the South Santiam Corridor.
2. Assist with natural resource educational outreach opportunities for fish, wildlife, and habitats within the Community Forest Corridor
3. Work with landowners to assess and address wildlife damage.
4. Continue to provide staff resources for technical assistance to land owners and other natural resource managers within the Community Forest Corridor.
5. Work with South Santiam partners to achieve "broad sense recovery," defined by Oregon as having populations of naturally produced salmon and steelhead that maintain self-sustaining recovered populations while providing for significant ecological, cultural, and economic benefits. The ODFW website link for our fish ecology, behavior, enumeration, and monitoring results are located at:  
<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ODFW/willamettesalmonidrme/home>.
6. Work with partners to implement the Oregon Conservation Strategy that builds on existing habitat protection and restoration efforts by providing a framework for a cohesive, statewide, non-regulatory approach to habitat and species conservation.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist with this important planning effort. Feel free to contact me with questions at 541 757-5226.



Sincerely,

*Nancy Taylor*

Nancy Taylor

District Wildlife Biologist

Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

7118 NE Vandenberg Ave

Corvallis, OR 97330

**Oregon Department of Transportation**

The Oregon Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunities and livable communities for Oregonians. In keeping with our mission ODOT staff located in the Area/District 4 Offices will work together with the project team partners to resolve transportation issues on US20 subject to available funding and Area Commission on Transportation and Oregon Transportation Commission priorities. Additionally, staff will work collaboratively with Linn County, National Parks Service and other trail development stakeholders to identify suitable locations for a multi-use trail. ODOT maintenance crews will maintain US20 Santiam Highway in accordance with ODOT's Level of Service Policies and in conformance with Highway Trust Fund guidance.

Signed:  Date: 3-10-14  
Amy Ramsdell, Area 4 Manager - ODOT Region 2



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., Governor

Department of Transportation  
Transportation Development  
Division  
Active Transportation Section  
555 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Suite 2  
Salem OR 97302

Memo

To: Steve Bryant, Oregon Solutions  
From: Patrick Moran, ODOT  
CC: McGregor Lynde, ODOT  
Date: 3/6/14  
Re: Declaration of Cooperation for South Santiam Community Forest Corridor

### **ODOT Scenic Byways Program**

The ODOT Oregon Scenic Byways Program was created as an opportunity for Oregon to take advantage of the national program defined in ISTEA. The Program provides an "umbrella" to include various federal, state, city and county defined scenic roads and highways.

The ODOT Oregon Scenic Byways Program crosses jurisdictional boundaries and establishes uniform - criteria - consistent signage and statewide promotion. This program also offers an opportunity to preserve and enhance Oregon's most scenic corridors while ensuring the transportation function is protected. The South Santiam Community Forest Corridor is part of the Oregon State Scenic Byway known as "Over the Rivers and Through the Woods Scenic Byway". Pat Moran, Oregon Scenic Byways Program Manager, has been an active member of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team.

In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, the ODOT Oregon Scenic Byways Program commits to the following:

1. Assist and work collaboratively with Linn County, National Parks Service and other trail development stakeholders to identify suitable locations for a multi-use trail.
2. Assist in the development of the Over the River and Through the Woods Scenic Byway/ South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as the Gateway Entrance HUB from I-5 to five National Scenic Byways in Central Oregon.
3. Assist in the development of the Over the River and Through the Woods Scenic Byway/ South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as a cultural corridor for the Region.
4. Provide the program connection between the new Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Oregon Scenic Bikeway Program and the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor/ Oregon Scenic Byway Program.
5. Assist in the development of future Marketing and Interpretation Plans for Over the River and Through the Woods Scenic Byway/ South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.
6. Assist in the promotion of the Over the Rivers and Through the Woods Scenic Byway as an integral part of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.
7. Assist in seeking grant and technical assistance opportunities to promote tourism and traveler amenities in the corridor.

Signed:

Date: 3/10/14

Pat Moran, Scenic Byways Program Manager

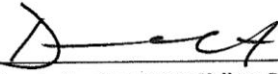


**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD):**

OPRD participated as an active member of the Oregon Solutions Project Team through its Valleys Region Manager, Dennis Comfort and through the support of Director, Tim Wood. In addition OPRD owns property (Cascadia State Park) within the South Santiam River Corridor. OPRD recognizes the regional significance of the South Santiam Community Forrest Corridor and supports opportunities for area citizens to engage in the recreation activities included in the project vision.

In support of achieving the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department will assume responsibility for the following:

1. OPRD will seek to transfer OPRD's Cascadia State Park property to the governing entity of Linn County Parks and Recreation for inclusion in their system of parks. This transfer may take place at a time and in a manner appropriate for South Santiam Community Forrest Corridor development and according to OPRD's real property disposition obligations and requirements, which may entail a recreation easement, long-term lease, or declaring the property to be surplus and transferring full ownership pending OPRD Commission approval. Cascadia was acquired with federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) assistance for public outdoor recreation purposes. If the property is transferred to another local government entity, that entity must be willing to assume compliance responsibilities under the LWCF program.
2. OPRD will participate as an active member of the Cascadia Cave Committee.
3. OPRD will support the activities of the NPRS trail planning committee and assist in identifying potential funding opportunities for trail construction.

Signed:  Date: 3/19/4  
Dennis Comfort, OPRD Valleys Region Manager

**Oregon Solutions**

Oregon Solutions was tasked by the governor to assist the Co-conveners in managing the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor project and providing a neutral forum in which team members could work productively toward development and implementation of a common vision.

In support of achieving the South Santiam Community Forest project vision, Oregon Solutions will assume responsibility for the following:

1. Work with all parties to this Declaration of Cooperation in drafting acceptable commitments that will lead to achievement of the project vision.
2. Highlight the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor project as part of the Oregon Solutions website and other promotional materials.
3. Assist the Continuance/Governance Committee in developing a structure for ongoing project governance.
4. Take the lead in re-convening the project team within the first year anniversary of the signing of this declaration of cooperation for evaluation purposes.
5. Provide on-going project support, if requested, on a fee for service basis.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Steve Bryant, Project Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4/10/14

**Oregon State University, College of Forestry**

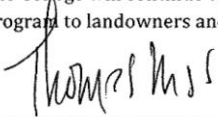
The mission of the College of Forestry, as part of Oregon's Land, Sea, and Space Grant University, is to educate and engage the next generation of scholars, practitioners, and users of the world's forest resources, to conduct distinctive problem-solving and fundamental research on the nature and use of forests and related resources, and to share our discoveries and knowledge with others.

The College of Forestry has been actively engaged since the very beginnings of both the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative and the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor. Dean Maness has served as one of the project's Co-conveners and faculty member Eric White has provided substantial assistance to both SHALC and the Leadership Team of the Community Forest Corridor.

OSU recognizes the unique opportunity to engage in collaborative efforts to improve the economic, ecologic, and environmental conditions of one of the world's most productive forests located in very close proximity to College of Forestry faculty, students and extension staff. Thus, the College is supportive of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision as indicated by the following commitments:

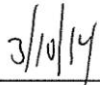
1. The College recently pledged to create the "Institute for Working Forest Landscapes" (see Appendix \_\_\_) which is intended to provide a world-class research and outreach center for healthy landscapes with an initial focus on west side "moist" forest lands including both public and private lands. Forest lands within the South Santiam watershed including private lands and Willamette National Forest lands are prime targets for the Institute's initial research. This Institute "will advance the public's awareness of the importance of active management in support of broad scale healthy working landscapes by establishing a demonstration research forest where on-the-ground research will explore how pro-active, management of forest lands can provide employment stability and public access in rural communities, ecological integrity, and long-term protection of key environmental attributes. " The Institute will address the following opportunities, all of which have potential significant benefits to the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor:
  - a. Increasing public trust in active management of public and private forest lands
  - b. Improving the health of rural communities and citizens
  - c. Increasing the competitiveness of Oregon's private landowners and businesses
  - d. Enhancing ecosystem health with a Landscape Approach
2. As funds are available, the College will continue to provide faculty support to SHALC and the Community Forest Corridor governance group.
3. The Institute will seek opportunities to utilize Sweet Home and the Community Forest Corridor for research opportunities within the four primary research themes of Intensively Managed Forests, Healthy People and Communities, Resilient Ecosystems, and Competitive and Innovative Products.
4. The College will seek opportunities for students and interns to become engaged with the Community Forest Corridor as a place to learn, volunteer and make other contributions.
5. The College will continue to provide the resources of its Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Program to landowners and other natural resource managers within the Community Forest Corridor.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Thomas Maness, Dean

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



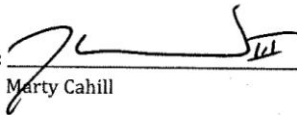
**Samaritan Health Services:**

Samaritan Health Services welcomes opportunities to work collaboratively with other caring organizations to provide services to the communities we serve. Through our many joint efforts with federal, state and local entities, we work to strengthen and expand the reach of health care, so that more people can enjoy better health. Our collaborations are among the many ways we are "building healthier communities, together."

Samaritan Health Services has been represented on the South Santiam Community Corridor Forest Project Team by Dr. Jana Kay Slater who has assisted the Team in articulating positive community health outcomes from many of the projects envisioned within the Community Forest Corridor. In keeping with our motto of "building healthier communities, together" and in support of the project vision and goals, Samaritan Health Services commits to the following:

1. Samaritan Health Services will assist in identifying technical assistance and grant opportunities that have strong potential for helping to advance the Project Vision and Goals.
2. Samaritan Health Services will assist in identifying and promoting specific wellness activities within the Community Forest Corridor.
3. Samaritan Health Services will assist in developing community wellness metrics that can be used to help bring awareness to the benefits of healthy outdoor activities.
4. Samaritan Health Services will help promote volunteer opportunities within the Community Forest Corridor among its employees, community partners and clientele.
5. Samaritan Health Services will endeavor to make its facilities available for committee meetings, volunteer training and other activities as may be appropriate in support of corridor projects.

Signed:

  
Marty Cahill

Date:

3/10/14

**South Santiam Watershed Council**

The South Santiam Watershed Council (SSWC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization representing a broad range of stakeholders who live, work, and recreate in the South Santiam Watershed. Stakeholders participating on the SSWC include rural and urban residents, private landowners, the private timber industry, agricultural interests, local businesses, community organizations, schools, and city, county, state, and federal governments.

SSWC's mission is to involve local people in the enhancement and protection of the South Santiam watershed for the social and economic benefit of its landowners, managers, and users.

In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, SSWC commits to the following:

**1. Ongoing Governance**

- Provide SSWC representation on the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative (SHALC) board which will provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.

**2. Financial Support and Capacity**

- The SSWC will provide limited partner financial support, seek and assist with grant writing, other in-kind technical services as available, and serve as a fiscal agent.

**3. Watershed Restoration Projects**


- Where opportunities exist to implement river and riparian restoration action along the corridor, the SSWC will provide staff to assist in the developing, fundraising, and the implementation of projects to enhance and restore the watershed. These opportunities may involve working on public and private land, and participation is voluntary. Restoration and enhancement may include, but is not limited to, controlling invasive species, planting native vegetation, and improving in-stream habitat conditions for spring Chinook salmon, winter steelhead and other resident and anadromous fish.

**4. Watershed Education**

- The SSWC is committed to providing educational opportunities for K-12 students in the communities of Sweet Home and Lebanon. Currently, the SSWC has invested in Youth Watershed Councils at both Lebanon and Sweet Home High School, and envisions students in these groups assisting in developing, implementing, and monitoring restoration projects found within the corridor.

**5. Watershed Monitoring**

- The SSWC will assist in monitoring baseline habitat conditions where appropriate, and where funding is available. This monitoring may include stream temperature, in-stream conditions, and fish passage opportunities at road crossings.

Signed:  Date: 3/10/14  
Eric Hartstein, SSWC Council Coordinator

Signed:  Date: 3/10/14  
Norm Kaldahl, SSWC Board Chair

## **Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative**

SHALC is a diverse group of local leaders that formed in 2012 to collaboratively coordinate land and watershed management in the Sweet Home area for a variety of benefits including local economic development, forest and riparian health, clean air, a high quality of life, and vibrant recreation.

As an original co-sponsor of the Oregon Solutions Project, Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative recognizes the importance of collaboration and support the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments.

### **1. Leadership:**

- SHALC will seek out the funding and staff necessary to provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor projects and initiatives.

### **2. Ongoing Governance:**

- SHALC will update the January 2013 provisional charter to include newly formed partnerships and other key stakeholders.

### **3. Financial Support and Capacity:**

- SHALC will seek and assist with grant writing, assist with market development, and provide other in-kind technical assistance as available. Dedicated staff time will be assigned to projects as affordable and appropriate.

### **4. Economic Development:**

- SHALC will active in supporting a full range of job growth opportunities in and around the community forest corridor including advocating for sustainable levels of timber harvest, local production and manufacturing of wood products and other commercial forest products, and increased development of tourism related employment.

### **5. Public Health and Quality of Life:**

- Assist with promotion of healthy lifestyle activities and events in the Community Forest.
- Support Linn County in the community engagement portion of the brownfield evaluation and clean-up assistance on the former Western States mill site properties.
- Support the Livability Initiative Outcomes for East Linn County.

### **6. Recreation**

- Support Linn County redevelopment efforts of the former Western States mill site properties.

### **7. Landscape Health and Policy**

- Invite other timber landowners to join in the All Lands Approach work.
- Continue to support and expand the work all partners engaged in the All Lands Approach for improving landscape health.
- Support OSU's proposal for development of the Institute for Working Forests Landscapes within the Central Cascade Adaptive Management Area.

### **8. Community Involvement and Education**

- Provide support and facilitation for community outreach and citizen involvement as community forest corridor projects move forward.

Signed: Cynthia Glick Date: 3/20/14  
Cynthia Glick, Willamette National Forest, Sweet Home Ranger

Signed: Dave Furtwangler Date: 3/10/14  
Dave Furtwangler, Cascade Timber Consulting, President

Signed: Erik Peterson Date: 3/10/14  
Erik Peterson, USACE, Portland District, Willamette Valley Office, Operations Project Manager

Signed: Will Tucker Date: 3/10/14  
Will Tucker, Linn County, Commissioner

Signed: Brian Carroll Date: 3-10-14  
Brian Carroll, Linn County Parks and Recreation, Director

Signed: Craig Martin Date: 3-10-14  
Craig Martin, City of Sweet Home, City Manager

Signed: Kevin Strong Date: 3-18-14  
Kevin Strong, Sweet Home Economic Development Group

Signed: Thomas Maness Date: 3-10-14  
Thomas Maness, Oregon State University, College of Forestry, Dean

Signed: Eric Hartstein Date: 3/10/14  
Eric Hartstein, South Santiam Watershed Council, Council Coordinator

# SWEET HOME Economic Development Group

401 Main Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

The Sweet Home Economic Development Group, Inc. (SHEDG) formed in 1989 to provide leadership in creating an economic development plan to overcome severe reductions in timber revenues.

SHEDG's mission is to effectively lead efforts to enhance and promote thriving, diverse economic development in the Sweet Home Community.

In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, SHEDG commits to the following:

- **Business Development:** Support efforts to create family wage jobs through industrial and business recruitment, tourism opportunities, and by supporting existing businesses. SHEDG will also support grant applications and other activities that have potential to create job opportunities within the Community Forest Corridor.
- **Workforce Development:** Work with employers to determine workforce needs and with agencies to train employees. Encourage School-to-Work programs and student education activities particularly as they relate to improving learning opportunities connected to the abundant natural resources within the Community Forest Corridor.
- **Physical Infrastructure:** Support the city of Sweet Home's efforts to upgrade and expand the road, water and sewer systems to accommodate future needs of a growing and vibrant community.
- **Quality of Life:** Support efforts to foster a livable community with affordable housing, comprehensive social services, responsive police and fire protection, and extensive recreational opportunities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: March 5, 2014



Declaration of Cooperation Commitment Statement

**Sweet Home Trails**

Sweet Home Trails is a Community Based Organization (CBO) whose committed members wish to promote the activities of walking, hiking and other recreation on the trails as well as develop other trails in and around Sweet Home, Oregon.

Sweet Home Trails has been represented on the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team by Jon Meier.

In Support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, Sweet Home Trails commits to the follow;

- We will help other SSCFC project team members showcase the trail system in Sweet Home.
- We will work other SSCFC project team members to increase awareness about the trail system in Sweet Home.
- We will actively promote the usage of trail system in Sweet Home.
- We will work with other SSCFC project team members to improve and expand the existing trail system.
- We will help maintain and fundraise for the future enjoyment of the growing network of trails and paths in Sweet Home.
- We will work with other SSCFC project team members to promote outdoor community wellness activities and programs.

Signed: 

Date: 3/6/14

Jon Meier, Sweet Home Trails Board President



## The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

Tribal Council  
Phone (503) 879-2301  
1-800 422-0232  
Fax (503) 879-5964

9615 Grand Ronde Rd  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

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February 5, 2014

Michael P Mills, Project Manager- Oregon Solutions  
National Policy Consensus Center  
Hatfield School of Government  
Portland State University  
PO Box 751 - NPCC  
Portland, OR 97207-0751

### Declaration of Cooperation for the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project

Dear South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team,

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has maintained a cultural and economic connection to the South Santiam River Corridor within the Cascade Range since time immemorial. It is a vitally important traditional use area for our nation. The people indigenous to this area are the Santiam Kalapuya and Santiam Molalla. On January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1855 the leaders of these people joined with other tribal leaders and signed the Treaty with the Confederated Tribes of The Willamette Valley. These people were removed to the headwaters of the Yamhill River, where the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation was created by Executive order on June 30<sup>th</sup> 1857 in partial fulfillment of The Treaty with the Confederated Tribes of the Willamette Valley. We have participated in the Community Forest Collaborative to support consensus driven efforts that will provide greater protection and preservation of cultural sites within the South Santiam River Watershed. We believe the area deserves a very high level of protection, preservation, and restoration of cultural resources within the South Santiam Corridor that can be achieved under federal ownership and management.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde recognize the importance of collaboration and support the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments:

- 1. Protection, Preservation, and Restoration of Cultural Resources**
  - Maintain government to government consultation with the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and others, in order to establish a very high level of protection, preservation, and restoration of the cultural resources within the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.
  - Participate as one of the "Group of Governments" to provide direction and expertise during the transfer of any and all land, deemed by our tribe to be culturally significant, from private to federal ownership and subsequent management for the purpose of enhancing protection, preservation, and the development of future management plans.
- 2. Ongoing Governance**
  - Offer input and advice to the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative (SHALC) board which will provide ongoing administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.

*Umpqua Molalla Rogue River Kalapuya Chasta*

- Consult with the federal government, SHALC and other educators on the cultural interpretation and educational messages relating to the cultural resources and history of the corridor.
- Consult on both on-site and off-site cultural learning opportunities.
- Provide cultural expertise on the long-term control, management and improvement of Cascadia State Park and the surrounding lands in the corridor.
- Coordinate with the federal government for times to exclusively allow Grand Ronde to use the Cascadia Cave site for any traditional uses during which the general public will not have access.
- Commit to formal consultation with the federal government on any future expanded public access at the Cascadia Cave cultural site.
- Consult on the dissemination of any recorded information, whether through laser scanning or other technology innovations.

Sincerely,



Reynold L. Leno  
Chairman  
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

**Travel Oregon**

The Oregon Tourism Commission, doing business as Travel Oregon, is a semi-independent agency created by the Oregon Legislature in 2003 to enhance Oregonians' quality of life by strengthening economic impacts of the state's \$9.2 billion tourism industry.

The Travel Oregon staff develops and implements a biennial strategic marketing plan which includes advertising and marketing, publication development, cooperative promotions, consumer fulfillment, public relations, international marketing, tourism product development, State Welcome Centers, research, and industry relations. Travel Oregon cooperates extensively with local communities, industry associations, government agencies, and private businesses in the implementation of its strategic plan.

Travel Oregon has been represented on the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team by Harry Dalgaard III and Kristin Dahl.

In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, Travel Oregon commits to the following:

1. Assist in the promotion of the Over the Rivers and Through the Woods Scenic Byway.
2. Work with Visit Linn Coalition to actively promote events and activities within the region that could be of interest to tourists
3. Assist in the development and promotion of any future Scenic Bikeways in the corridor.
4. Work with the City of Sweet Home and the Visit Linn Coalition to help deliver tourism development modules as a means of further developing the travel and tourism components of the Community Forest Corridor and surrounding areas.
5. Assist communities in the corridor with product development of other tourism niche markets, which could include:
  - a. Cultural and Tribal Tourism
  - b. Agritourism
  - c. Bicycle Tourism
6. Assist in seeking grant and technical assistance opportunities to promote tourism and traveler amenities in the corridor.

Signed: 

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2014

Harry Dalgaard III

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, Willamette Valley Projects

The Willamette Valley Project operates 13 dams in the Willamette River basin. Each dam contributes to a water resource management system that provides flood risk management, power generation, water quality improvement, irrigation, recreation, and environmental stewardship on the Willamette River and many of its tributaries. Foster Reservoir is within the Community Forest Corridor. The Corps administers 909 acres of land adjacent to Foster Reservoir. The recreation areas on Foster Reservoir are managed by outgrantees through leases. Linn County Parks manages four recreation areas on Foster Reservoir. The Willamette Valley Project works closely with Linn County Parks to provide safe, quality recreation at Foster Reservoir. The goals of the Corps' recreation mission are consistent with the SHALC objectives, specifically: individual and community health, economic sustainability and enhanced recreation opportunities for the public. As an original supporter of the Oregon Solutions Project, the Willamette Valley Project recognizes the importance of collaboration and supports the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor as indicated by the following commitments, within constraints of available resources and funding:

**1. Ongoing Governance/continuance/ admin/ facilitation:**

- The Corps will provide in-kind incidental staff support and expertise as it pertains to Corps managed land that is consistent with Corps authorities.

**2. Financial Support and Capacity**

- The Corps will provide support for others to apply for and obtain funding for projects on Corps land that are consistent with Corps master plans and authorities.

**3. Land Exchanges:**

- Participate in ongoing coordination to support a collaborative approach to managing lands in the Sweet Home area including exploring land transfers and support for the working forest concepts that are consistent with Corps master plans, regulations and legal authorities.

**4. Economic Benefit:**

- The Corps will take into consideration the many benefits that the reservoirs provide, including economic benefits to local communities and other benefits consistent with Corps mission, when making management decisions.

**5. Public health and quality of life:**

- Assist with promotion of healthy lifestyle activities and events in the Community Forest that align with Corps authorities.

**6. Recreation:**

- Collaborate with partners and stakeholders in efforts to develop a multi-use path on the south shore of Foster Reservoir as a link between the City of Sweet Home and National Forest lands that is consistent with master plans and compliant with regulations and authorities. Work closely with partners to ensure the trail is consistent with Corps goals. Facilitate the environmental review and real estate processes for the trail development and long term operation and maintenance agreements.
- Continue to work with the Sweet Home Trails group on volunteer projects to manage the Foster Lake Trail and develop a Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Erik Peterson, Operations Project Manager

**File Code:** 1560

**Date:** March 10, 2014

### **USFS, Willamette National Forest, Sweet Home Ranger District**

The Willamette National Forest, contains nearly 1.7 million acres, stretches for 110 miles along the western slopes of the Cascade Range. The Sweet Home Ranger District represents one of the Willamette's four ranger districts and it comprises a large section of the South Santiam watershed and extends along a National Scenic Byway (U.S. Highway 20) to the crest of the Cascades. Much of the Sweet Home Ranger District is comprised of a "checkerboard" land ownership pattern alternating with large private land holdings that currently produce the vast majority of logs headed to local mills and to ports for export. The nature of this landscape, its rich biodiversity, important cultural resources, and its critical economic connections to nearby communities has provided a unique opportunity for the Forest Service to enter into a number of collaborative agreements to support positive outcomes for both the local economy and the environment. The Forest Service was an original co-sponsor of the Oregon Solutions Project and has committed substantial staff and financial resources to help ensure the success of this effort.

Thus, the Willamette National Forest and the Sweet Home Ranger District, in particular, supports the vision of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor and is committed to assisting in its implementation.

#### **1. Ongoing Governance/ and Technical Assistance**

- The Sweet Home Ranger District supports the establishment of the Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative as the ongoing governance structure for the Community Forest Corridor.
- The USFS shall provide in-kind services, dedicated staff time as affordable and appropriate, and continue as a strong partner.
- In addition, the USFS shall continue to maintain a strong link to educational institutions such as Oregon State University, University of Oregon, Portland State University, and Linn Benton Community College for innovative natural resource and socioeconomic connections and information exchanges.

#### **2. Land Exchange**

- For the unique property of Cascadia Cave, the Forest Service shall seek federal public land management for this important cultural site, and will work closely with a Cascadia Cave Inter-governmental Council to protect, preserve, restore, and manage the site.

#### **3. Economic Development**

- The Forest Service shall support economic development opportunities where relevant and appropriate, such as helping to develop new markets for biomass, non-traditional forest and timber products, providing work for crews to steward the resources of the forest, and enhancing recreational opportunities. This will include applying current ecological and scientific practices as supported by federal laws and policies.
- In addition, staff support shall be given to develop the Community Forest Corridor in accordance with the work developed by SHALC through the Livability Initiative. Specifically, assistance will be sought from the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) to resolve transportation issues associated with HWY 20 in collaboration with ODOT Staff located in Area/District 4.

- The USFS will work with Linn-Benton Community College to provide technical support to the ecotourism, the local recreation industry and training to support any new products and businesses utilizing non-traditional or new timber related products.

#### 4. Public Health and Quality of Life

- The USFS shall support promotion of healthy lifestyle activities and events in the Community Forest as well as promote local job creation efforts.

#### 5. Recreation:

- The USFS shall consider the possibility of trail location and development on Forest Service lands and other properties. We will assist as necessary with linkages for developing recreation and facility improvements that are provided by a variety of public, private and non-profit entities. In the immediate future this will include continued planning and development of the Cascadia visitors' kiosk, interpretive trail and river overlook.
- The USFS will continue to pursue opportunities to link the Community Forest Corridor as part of a recreation destination area and will emphasize stewardship through conservation education and service learning in the Community Forest Corridor and adjacent or involving Willamette National Forest lands.
- The USFS will assist Travel Oregon (the Rural Tourism Studio project) and support the Visit Linn Coalition in efforts to promote positive traveler experiences within the corridor.

#### 6. Landscape Health and Policy

- The Sweet Home Ranger District shall invite adjacent forest landowners to join in the All Lands Approach work with continued interagency, local governments, and Sweet Home All Lands Collaborative (SHALC) involvement.
- Involvement with a stakeholder monitoring team to assess and evaluate projects done on public lands shall be supported.
- The Willamette National Forest will continue to work collaboratively, as modeled by SHALC and this Oregon Solutions Project, with the Institute for Working Forest Landscapes to find local solutions to policy issues. We strongly support the Institutes concept of linking current science and socio-economics with community and interest-based collaboration.

#### 7. Community Involvement and Education

- The USFS will support the attraction of art, music, literary work, cultural research and interpretation into the Community Forest Corridor.
- The Sweet Home Ranger Station will support conservation education in partnership with businesses and community colleges and encourage work with civic groups such as the Sweet Home school district, scouts, service clubs, etc. for service learning opportunities in the Community Forest Corridor.

Signed:  Date: 3/10/14  
 Cindy Glick, Sweet Home District Ranger

Signed:  Date: 3/10/14  
 Meg Mitchell, Willamette National Forest Supervisor

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 6, 2014

South Santiam Community Forest Corridor  
South Santiam Project Team  
1140 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Dear South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Project Team,

We write to express our congratulations to the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor (SSCFC) Project Team for the recent signing of an Oregon Solutions Memorandum of Understanding of a Declaration of Cooperation (MOU). The MOU is the culmination of one-and-a-half years of extraordinary effort by many partners with the common goal of enhancing the 12-mile connection between Sweet Home and the Willamette National Forest via the South Santiam River Corridor.

We are pleased Governor John Kitzhaber, M.D., designated The South Santiam Community Forest Corridor an Oregon Solutions project. Co-conveners, Thomas Maness, Oregon State University Dean of Forestry, and Cynthia Solie, Executive Director of the Cascades West Council of Governments, brought together a group of community leaders from the public sector, private sector and non-profit organizations.

The SSCFC Project Team worked proactively with partners to improve the connections between Sweet Home and the Willamette National Forest along the South Santiam River Corridor in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner. By creating a shared vision and setting goals, this project aims to improve the quality of life for local residents through the furthering of economic development, recreation, and tourism.

Successfully implementing the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor Vision will require your ongoing collaboration and the commitment of many people and organizations. We have asked our staffs to remain engaged with your efforts and work closely with the relevant federal agencies to help the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor team move forward.

Again, congratulations, and please feel free to contact our offices if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator





March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Visit Linn Coalition**

The Visit Linn Coalition (VLC) is an inclusive and collaborative group representing every community in Linn county for the purpose of promoting tourism as a viable contributor to the economy, livability and quality of life. The mission represents the commitment to working together: "Coming together for the regional coordination and communication for tourism events and projects for the greater Linn county area."

The VLC partnership is diverse with representation from the municipalities of Sweet Home, Lebanon, Brownsville, Scio, Harrisburg, Albany, Halsey, Tangent, and Mill City. Other partners include Linn County Parks, Fair and Expo and a Commissioner. Albany Visitor Association plays an important role as a connection for VLC to Willamette Valley Visitor Association and Travel Oregon. Other partners are Brownsville Chamber, Sweet Home Visitor Center, Lebanon Chamber Tourism Committee and Sweet Home Economic Development Group. The Oregon Jamboree and Bi-Mart Willamette Country Music Festival participate as well as private businesses including Cascade Timber Consulting, Bi-Mart and Samaritan Conference Center.

In support of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor vision, VLC commits to the following:

- **Ongoing Governance:** Provide VLC representation on the South Santiam All Lands Collaborative (SSALC) board which will provide administrative oversight of the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.
- **Asset Mapping:** VLC will work with SSCFC project team members to locate and map natural resource assets and/or outdoor recreation opportunities.
- **Promotion:** VLC will work with SSALC to prepare for, welcome and attract residents and visitors to the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor.
- **Marketing:** VLC will post announcements and other opportunities that relate to the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor (SSCFC) on the VLC website and other social media platforms.
- **Communication:** VLC will encourage residents and visitors to discover the historic, cultural and recreational opportunities available in and around the SSCFC.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

03.06.2014

S. Scott McDowell, VLC Board President

## Appendix A Project Vision Statement

### **The South Santiam Community Forest Corridor:**

December 20, 2013

#### **Why create a community forest corridor?**

Residents of the Sweet Home area recognize and value their connections to natural resources. The public and private forests of this landscape support the local economy, provide recreation opportunities, and support important natural benefits such as clean water, habitat, and cultural sites. Although these linkages are celebrated and clear, physical connections between Sweet Home, public and private forests, public recreation resources, and the upper portion of the South Santiam River are lacking. Local leaders would like to see these connections established, and find better ways to ensure public access to natural resources, provide opportunities for nature-based and cultural tourism, improve public health, support jobs, and promote natural resource health both along the river and in the entire South Santiam watershed.

#### **What is the long-term vision?**

The South Santiam Community Forest Corridor will be a physical place that improves and demonstrates the connections between local residents and natural resources. It will allow residents and visitors to reconnect with the natural world. Establishment of the corridor will respect the rights and values of landowners while focusing on capitalizing on win-win opportunities to coordinate land management on public and private forests, generate forest products, and create recreation and conservation education activities. The management of lands associated with the corridor would be focused on economic development, forest stewardship, the provision of recreation opportunities for local residents and tourists, and promotion of improved health and a high quality of life.

Numerous private and public land owners will comprise the community forest corridor when it is established, and management and governance of the forest corridor will be collaborative and respect the values and goals of individual private and public landowners while seeking broad social and natural benefits. Existing public recreation resources and public/private relationships would act as anchors or keystones for establishment of parts of the community forest corridor.

The community forest corridor will be sustainably funded in an entrepreneurial fashion and financially supported through a variety of sources, including revenue from land management and the production of forest products, within and outside of the corridor; Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board grants; revenues from payment for ecosystem services programs; US Forest Service stewardship contracting revenues; Bureau of Land Management grants, environmental mitigation grants, recreation and trail grants; etc.

#### **What are the long-term goals?**

- Increase the physical connection between Sweet Home and the Willamette National Forest via the South Santiam River corridor.
- Help improve quality of life for local residents. A high quality of life and successful, livable communities serve to attract new businesses and residents to the area.
- Provide for public access to local natural resources and the South Santiam River.

- Contribute to job creation in the Sweet Home area through ecological forestry management of the natural resources, development of more diverse forest products and markets, forest restoration and management activities, and promotion of recreation and tourism.
- Promote improved natural resource health through management and restoration actions within the watershed and implementation of conservation education programs.
- Contribute to improved health of local residents by providing a safe, desirable, and convenient system of recreation opportunities including development of, or partnership with, a sustainable collaboration that is focused on systemic efforts to address health issues in the community.
- Promote knowledge of and connections to historic local places, including the Santiam Wagon Road.
- Promote further economic development and tourism activities through an integrated system of recreation opportunities, consistent with local values.
- Protect and enhance important cultural resources in the corridor, particularly Cascadia Cave.
- Establish a research forest of both public and private lands outside the corridor in partnership with Oregon State University College of Forestry to serve as a demonstration area for the public to learn about active management of forests as an integrated component of broad scale, healthy, working landscapes capable of producing key biological and social attributes while also supporting local economies.
- Provide opportunities for volunteers and organizations with available in-kind resources to contribute to achievement of project goals.
- Provide broad-based education and job training opportunities utilizing the community forest corridor as a resource-rich laboratory for enriching experiences while working in and with the natural environment.

#### **What are some possible segments to include in the community forest corridor?**

1. From the Western States Land Reliance Trust site, through city and county lands to Corps of Engineers (COE) land and Andrew Wiley Park at Foster Lake. Continuing around Foster Lake and connecting to the south arm of the Santiam River. Continuing to the eastern boundary of COE land and the beginning of private land areas (e.g., Cascade Timber Consulting).
2. From the boundary formed by the eastern end of COE land and private land (e.g., CTC), continuing to the western boundary of the Willamette NF (potentially via the Triple-T Mill site). There may be opportunities for using county road rights-of-way as necessary in areas of private lands.
3. From western boundary of the Willamette NF and the Triple-T Mill site, continues to Gordon Road and eastward to the Santiam Wagon Road. Coordination with private landowners would be required for some portions of this segment.
4. Cascadia Cave site. Potential future public ownership and governance of the cave site could be considered concurrently with the other community forest corridor development phases. Potential corridor routes both pass through, and go around, the cave site. The particular role and emphasis of the cave site within the community forest corridor can be identified through the Oregon Solutions process and through a corridor governance structure that respects cultural resources.
5. Identification of working forestlands (and their potential governance) that are not necessarily adjacent to the corridor, but that could be tied to the corridor as sources of revenue. Because much of the land in the potential corridor is physically constrained by rivers and highways and timber production potential is limited, other lands are likely necessary to produce consistent and timely revenue.

**What are the connections between the Sweet Home All-Lands Collaborative and the community forest corridor?**

This community forest corridor project is being managed by Oregon Solutions. A separate entity, the Sweet Home All-lands Collaborative (SHALC), is active in the Sweet Home area and is promoting collaborative coordination of forest management on public and private lands to improve natural resource conditions and contribute to local economies. SHALC supports, and is a participant, in this community forest corridor project led by Oregon Solutions.

The Sweet Home All-lands Collaborative (SHALC) is a diverse group of local leaders that formed in 2012 to collaboratively coordinate land and watershed management in the South Santiam watershed for a variety of benefits including local economic development, forest and riparian health, clean air, a high quality of life, vibrant recreation, and cultural resource protection.

SHALC’s mission is to contribute to forest management with explicit goals of creating economic activity and social benefits for nearby communities across the entire Sweet Home region. As such, SHALC sees the community forest corridor as a defined physical location where new management and governance approaches are necessary to foster these outcomes. Early in their work together, SHALC participants identified the corridor area specifically as a place where they had particular interest and where “something needed to happen.” The larger landscape of the Sweet Home area is related to the corridor in several ways:

1. Forest management or other revenue-generating activities in areas not physically contiguous with the corridor may contribute funds and resources to the corridor.
2. The corridor may provide a space to test, demonstrate, or otherwise innovate new ideas and practices that could be later replicated elsewhere in the greater Sweet Home area as appropriate.
3. The corridor is a literal, physical space adjacent to Sweet Home that is convenient for the community to reach and reconnect with the forest; this may contribute to their future interest in working and recreating in the South Santiam watershed more broadly/farther afield.

The community forest corridor has the potential to contribute to the program areas of the Sweet Home All-lands Collaborative (SHALC) in several ways:

| <b>SHALC program area</b> | <b>Application to community forest</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| Forest Management         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land management activities follow and provide opportunities to demonstrate the Collaborative All-Lands Management approach (outlined in the SHALC vision).</li> <li>• Restoration and resource management actions aim to improve the condition and functions of the South Santiam Watershed</li> </ul>                                      |
| Forest products           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A variety of products including saw logs, small diameter material, special forest products, and others are harvested in association with the corridor to meet land stewardship needs in the corridor and create local jobs.</li> </ul>  |
| Recreation and health     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable trail and recreation infrastructure is developed or enhanced to improve connectivity of the community to the forest and allow access to natural and cultural assets. There is a trail that runs through the corridor.</li> <li>• Programs that support health, fitness, and families can take place in the corridor.</li> </ul> |
| Conservation education    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth conservation crews participate in necessary stewardship work in the corridor where suitable.</li> </ul>   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth camps and other programs use the corridor for educational purposes.</li> <li>• There are opportunities for youth experiential learning involving applying forestry skills and completing resource management activities.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

## Planning and governance outcomes

1. With community and stakeholder involvement, reach consensus on a vision statement for the South Santiam Community Forest Corridor including identification of both short and long-term priority projects (including at least those projects listed below) with a particular focus on public access, job creation, fish and wildlife enhancement, and forest health.
2. Clear articulation of the boundaries of the South Santiam portion of the forest corridor and desired endpoints, with identification and spatial alignment of potential land parcels to form the future corridor. Identification of a strategic order to work on those parcels and some first steps in the acquisition processes.
3. In collaboration with the tribal governments of the region, develop a strategy for public acquisition, protection, and governance of the 55-acre Cascadia Cave heritage site.
4. Develop a communications and marketing strategy for the community forest corridor to inform and seek input from the general public and interested parties about the opportunities to improve public access, create new jobs, and improve forest health within the corridor. Develop an understanding of what it might take to reach social agreement.
5. Develop a comprehensive list of potential funding sources and opportunities for implementing and maintaining the priority community forest corridor projects. In particular, examine the recently completed "Forest Invest" study conducted by the Portland State University IGERT Fellows as presented to the National Forest Foundation's Barrett Foundation Prize in August of 2012.
6. Identify one or more non-profit/foundation/trust partners that can provide resources, land management expertise, and asset brokerage services. Include outreach to organizations such as EcoTrust, the Trust for Public Lands, and The Nature Conservancy, among others.
7. Develop a governance structure for sustaining the planning and management of the community forest corridor.
  - Identifying capacities, including resources for a coordinator or other point person, to help carry forward agreements made in the declaration of cooperation following the conclusion of the Oregon Solutions project.
  - Seeking an arrangement that will help create and provide education around a consistent set of management regulations as well as improve the quality of service delivery on this landscape, which currently has complex and disparate ownerships, rules, and policies.
  - Identifying a transparent and sensitive governance structure for the Cascadia Cave area, which is of great significance to Oregon tribes.

## Activity development outcomes

1. **Recreation** - Develop plans for enhanced recreation opportunities within the community forest corridor including multi-use trails, expanded camping, fishing, hunting, swimming, rafting, kayaking, scenic vistas, wildlife viewing, and cultural exploration.
2. **Public health** - Develop collaborative partnerships with area health care organizations with a focus on creating healthy lifestyle activities within the community forest corridor. Potential partners include Samaritan Health Services and Western University COMP Northwest.
3. **Redevelopment** - Identify opportunities for redevelopment of the former mill sites at both ends of the community forest corridor as potential corridor "activity anchors" while also recognizing the environmental constraints involved. Both the former Weyerhaeuser mill site in Sweet Home and the Triple-T site east of Cascadia offer tremendous potential to the community corridor concept based on their proximity to the river, undeveloped acreage, and brownfield redevelopment assistance programs.
4. **Local history** - Develop plans to enhance the utilization, recognition, and historical features of the Santiam Wagon Road and its significance to the community forest corridor.
5. **Citizen engagement** - Identify opportunities to engage East Linn County citizens, especially students and seniors, in actively connecting with the community forest corridor through hands-on experiences and value-added activities.
6. **Community information center** - Assist in the exploration of a reestablished Cascadia Community Post office that could also serve as a community information center.
7. **Cascadia State Park** - Explore new opportunities to promote and enhance utilization of Cascadia SP as a significant asset of the community forest corridor.
8. **Land exchange** - Assist in the exploration of potential land exchanges between public entities and private landowners that would result in achieving other vision document outcomes.
9. **Working forest research** - Pursue opportunities for a comprehensive research program to improve the successful application of forest management across landscapes of public and private forests to produce greater benefits for people and businesses while achieving long-term goals for forest health.

## Appendix B: Project Team Members

### Co-Conveners:

|         |        |                                       |
|---------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Thomas  | Maness | Dean, OSU College of Forestry         |
| Cynthia | Solie  | Executive Director, Cascades West COG |

### Leadership Team Members:

|            |             |  |
|------------|-------------|--|
| Nick       | Batz        | Field Representative, Congressman DeFazio                                |
| Brian      | Carroll     | Director, Linn County Parks  |
| Juine      | Chada       | Field Representative, Senator Wyden                                      |
| David      | Harrelson   | Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde                                   |
| Emily Jane | Davis       | UO, Ecosystem Workforce Program  |
| Dave       | Furtwangler | President, Cascade Timber Consulting                                     |
| Cindy      | Glick       | USFS   |
| Laura      | Goodrich    | RARE/AmeriCorps  |
| Eric       | Hartstein   | South Santiam Watershed Council Coordinator                              |
| Robert     | Kentta      | Cultural Resources Director, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians       |
| Craig      | Martin      | Sweet Home, City Manager   |
| Ed         | Moore       | Department of land Conservation and Development, Regional Solutions Team |
| Jo Ann     | McQueary    | Sweet Home Economic Development Group                                    |
| Meg        | Mitchell    | USFS   |
| Nancy      | Taylor      | ODFW   |
| Will       | Tucker      | Linn County Commissioner   |
| Elmer      | Ward        | Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs                                      |
| Dan        | Whelan      | Field Representative, Senator Merkley                                    |
| Eric       | White       | OSU College of Forestry  |

### Additional Project Team Members:

|           |            |  |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Rolf      | Anderson   | Friends of Fish Lake                         |
| Paul      | Baxter     | U of O Anthropology and Archaeology          |
| Amanda    | Colton     | USFS   |
| Dennis    | Comfort    | Oregon State Parks                           |
| Kristin   | Dahl       | Travel Oregon                                |
| Harry     | Dalguard   | Travel Oregon                                |
| Bob       | Deal       | USFS, Pacific NW Research Station, Portland  |
| Dr. Robyn | Dreibelbis | Comp Northwest                               |
| Tony      | Farque     | USFS   |
| Jim       | Gourley    | Sweet Home City Council, Cascadia land owner |
| Brandi    | Hawkins    | Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce               |
| Kevin     | Heikkila   | USFS   |
| Marcus    | Kauffman   | ODF, Biomass Resource Specialist             |
| Scott     | Leavengood | OSU Extension Service                        |
| Ken       | Loree      | USFS   |
| Pat       | Moran      | ODOT Scenic Byways Program                   |
| Nancy     | Nelson     | State Parks Archeologist                     |

|              |                      |  |
|--------------|----------------------|--|
| Dani         | Pavoni               | USFS   |
| Craig        | Pettinger            | Oregon Department of Forestry                  |
| Gary         | Price                | LBCC, Regional Director of Linn County Centers |
| Amy          | Ramsdell             | ODOT   |
| Tami         | Schroeder            | USACE  |
| Dr. Jana Kay | Slater               | Samaritan Health Services                      |
| Tony         | Vassallo             | Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation                  |
| Brad         | Withrow-<br>Robinson | OSU Extension                                  |

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Oregon Solutions Staff

|          |        |                                  |
|----------|--------|----------------------------------|
| Steve    | Bryant | Oregon Solutions Project Manager |
| Michael  | Mills  | Oregon Solutions Staff           |
| Danielle | Clark  | Intern                           |
| Amy      | Cook   | Intern                           |



