

Local Work Group Meeting Minutes

03/06/2019

The meeting started with a short presentation by each partner of projects/issues they have worked on in the past year and activities in the coming year.

OSU Extension – Offering a series of workshops on forest management, pesticide certification, beneficial insects, irrigation water efficiency, and Goggle Earth Pro.

GRMW – Focusing habitat restoration efforts on the Grande Ronde above Starkey and on Catherine Creek above Union.

SWCD – Doing several small grants on livestock water. Developing restoration projects with BPA and FIP funding. Focus area on Willow Creek with ODA and working on the dams on Willow Creek and the Grande Ronde River. Completed restoration on End Creek site.

USFS – Continued efforts to plan fuel breaks and fire management planning for the Mt Emily area. Working with NRCS on a possible Two Chiefs Initiative Proposal.

Tri-County – Focusing on meadow hawkweed and leafy spurge treatment. Noxious weed treatment is a 50% match with landowners.

CTUIR – Focused on monitoring anadromous fish populations, restoration at Birdtrack Springs, Rock Creek, and maintenance of existing restoration project like the Southern Cross.

ODF – Submitted a national fire plan grant application for thinning and slash disposal on the western valley toe slope.

NRCS - reported on the Farm Bill and program update for EQIP, RCPP, CSP, WRP and initiatives.

The group discussed a possible forest management CIS on the forested western valley slope to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health. Steve West shared his thoughts and ongoing efforts to thin the forest on the Ponderosa Ranch to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health. The USFS shared their maps of prior treatment areas, high risk sites, and recommendation for future treatment areas. NRCS and ODF displayed a map of areas of high priority for treatment on private land identified in the national Fire plan application. The group decided to proceed with the development of a new CIS on private land for this funding cycle (FY20) and a Two Chiefs application for this fall with the Wallowa Whitman and Umatilla NF.