



Upper Deschutes River Coalition

PO Box 3042, Sunriver, OR 97707
541-390-9798

501(c)3 www.udrc.org

NOVEMBER 7, 2013

DONATE TO THE UDRC TODAY

Our Mission:

To protect Upper Deschutes River Communities by restoring and sustaining healthy fire-resistant forests, pure and abundant river flows and wildlife habitat.

Please review our 2012 Annual Report and 2013 Operations Plan at: www.udrc.org

Click Who We are and Stakeholders for a map of our service area and each neighborhood

Our Sponsors:

Fall River Estates

River Meadows

Caldera Springs

Sunriver Resort

Cascade Natural Gas Corp.

Search North America

Portland General Electric

President's Message – Remember!

Hi Everyone,

May is starting off with a bang! Warm days and cool nights mean summer is nearly here and the wildfire season is fast approaching. Please see important information in the Private Lands section of the E News.

May brings many important dates to remember including Mother's Day, Endangered Species Day, Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day.

We are blessed living in such a beautiful area and having the support of our Board members, volunteers, friends and partners. Speaking of partners we want to thank **Fall River Estates, Caldera Springs and River Meadows Homeowner Associations for their annual membership and financial support!**

Besides flowers sprouting we have new business activity in our area:

- **Deschutes Roadhouse Bar and Bistro** – opens about May 20 and is located on Spring River Road and Lunar Drive. The owners completely remodeled the facility and it looks great according to Jerry Hubbard. The owners are Jim and Eva Heulett and Co-Owners Chef John and Kerri Lipkowitz. More information is in the Community section of the e news.
- **Mountain Jug** – located at the entrance to the Sunriver Business Park next to the fly fishing store, the Mountain Jug beer store features ten Bend beers on tap, growlers and over 100 beers available in their coolers.

Please stop by and say hello to our new business neighbors.

You are encouraged to attend our next stakeholder meeting on May 21st at 12:30 at the Sunriver Library.

Officers:

Carl Jansen

President

541-593-2777

carlj@searchna.com

Jerry Hubbard, Vice-

President

Treasurer

John Moore

541-974-6153

jjmoore@msn.com

Secretary

Jim Larsen

541-593-3691

Stagestop16439@gmail.com

Jerry Hubbard

Executive Director

541-390-9798

jhubbard@chamberscable.com

UDRC Committee Co-Chairs:

Private Lands

Mick McMicken

541-593-7686

semperfimick@aol.com

Monte Dammarell

541-604-0210

kmriverhaus@gmail.com

Public Lands

Jim Larsen

541-593-3691

Stagestop16439@gmail.com

Jon O'Shaughnessy

541-593-2880

kandjo2@q.com

Watershed

Jeff Wieland

541-598-7790

Wilyj8@yahoo.com

Ray Cecchi

541-598-2062

ravant35@gmail.com

Jim Murphy

541 598 8588

eandjmurphy@msn.com

Education & Outreach

Monte Dammarell

Carl Jansen

Fund Raising

Jerry Hubbard

Check out our meeting and event schedules posted on our web site "Events" page. We plan to have some of our monthly meetings hosted by our communities including River Meadows, DRRH community Center and One Thousand Trails.

The Leadership Team would like to talk with your neighbors at their annual meetings this year. Our intent is to broaden our outreach activities beyond what we have done in the past.

Also please provide e mail addresses to me for people who might want to receive future issues of the E News in 2013. Send them to carlj@searchna.com

Have a good day.

Carl Jansen
541 593 2777

[Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

Who We Are!

The UDRC is a multi-issue, project-based nonprofit coalition representing a broad range of interests among its 26 member communities, Federal, State, County and other stakeholders.

Our UDRC's Twenty Year Vision Statement: *Communities and partners aware of the issues, engaged, collaborating and acting together to create and maintain a healthy, scenic and sustainable environment where everyone is able to live with their core values.*

UDRC's Mission Statement: To protect Upper Deschutes River Communities by restoring and sustaining healthy fire-resistant forests, pure and abundant river flows and wildlife habitat.

UDRC's Primary Role: The Upper Deschutes River Coalition is the lead organization in its 69,000 acre Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) to catalyze and coordinate its stakeholder's, community neighbors, public, nonprofits and partners. For example, of primary importance is to first educate, and advocate, gather factual information and be the voice of reason in ongoing wildland fire, water rights, and native habitat issues.

[Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

Leadership Committee

- **2013 Sponsorship Opportunities** – the Coalition is looking for businesses, organizations or individuals to co-sponsor the Coalition's direct operations in 2013 with a total funding goal of \$20,500. More information is in the Fund Raising section below. Support ranges from \$250 and up. [Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

John Moore

2013 Meeting Schedule:

www.udrc.org
[click on Events](#)

Please attend our Board and Partner meetings at the Sunriver Public Library at 12:30 p.m. on:

Next meeting is May 21st.

Communities represented by the Upper Deschutes River Coalition:

Beaver Road District

Caldera Springs

Cougar Grove

Crosswater

Deschutes River Recreational Home sites 1-5; 6; 8; & 9.

Fall River Estates

Haner Park

Lazy River West

Huntington Road West

Oregon Water Wonderland # 1 & 2

Pinewood Country Estates

River Forest Acres

River Meadows

Spring River Fire & Safety Assn.

Sun Country Estates

Sundance - Sunriver

Thousand Trails

Vandevent Acres Road District

Vandevent Ranch

Whispering Pines

Wild River Assn.

Public Lands Committee

- The Forest Service plans prescribed burns on 61 acres between Sunriver and Highway 97, and 12 acres near the High Desert Museum this week. More info – see link: <http://www.ktvz.com/news/deschutes-nf-plans-five-prescribed-burns/-/413192/20011056/-/jwy5s7z/-/index.html>
- The Forest Service is continuing the Spring prescribed burn program. Burns have been completed in South Bend and North of Spring River. Prescribed burns are planned for the Lookout Mountain Experimental Forest depending on weather conditions.
- The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the West Bend vegetation management project has been released. This project includes thinning, mowing, and under burning of 22,000 acres. Public comments will be accepted until June 3. Details are available at this web page: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=34238

Private Lands Committee

We were reminded locally of the likely early start to Fire Season by the fire which ignited early afternoon Saturday, May 5 2013, in La Pine. Quick action by La Pine Rural Fire District, ODF, US Forest Service, BLM, Sunriver, Camp Sherman, Black Butte Ranch, Sisters firefighters controlled the blaze in short order.

A VERY important factor in reducing the potential damage was credited by a Deschutes County Forester's Office spokesman to have been due to ladder fuel reduction and mowing on areas affected well prior to the start of the fire. Thus, prior preventative steps around your private property and home can potentially save it when a wildfire occurs.

Please take advantage of the Firefree disposal days scheduled for this month and take action on your property. The dates are outlined here. In addition, I can use more volunteers to direct traffic at the South County Transfer Station off Hwy 97 north of La Pine on 5/17 and 5/18. Please call me at 541 593-7686 and volunteer your time for a 2-3 hour shift between 8:00am and 4:00pm.

As stated previously, there are only minimal grant dollars remaining for assisting our UDRC Communities with fuel reduction activity during spring 2013. Property owners in Haner Park have been stacking woody bio-mass material along their roadsides. The material will be chipped back onto their properties beginning mid-May.

Available remaining funds will be utilized in DRRH 6 for the same treatments later this month. At this juncture, there is no further grant money available for fall 2013 work on private land projects. I will provide updates on that subject as information becomes available. MG "Mick" McMicken, Co-Chair, Private Lands.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kate Lighthall, Program Director
Project Wildfire, FireFree
541-408-3048

Fire Season is Right Around the Corner

With fires blazing in southern California and New Mexico and the potential for loss of hundreds of homes, Project Wildfire takes this opportunity to remind residents in central Oregon that **YOU** are our greatest resource when it comes to protecting homes and neighborhoods. “There are many similarities between central Oregon and the areas affected in California and New Mexico including an abundance of grasses and strong springtime winds that can quickly turn into a similar disaster here, particularly in combination with debris burning,” warns Ed Keith, Deschutes County Forester.”

The greatest risk of homes catching fire during a wildland fire event is from the advancing embers or “fire brands” that reach your property long before an actual flame front. “High winds can whip embers beyond the flame front and land in gutters, on decks, in vents, and in flammable vegetation, soon igniting and burning down the homes,” says Katie Lighthall, Program Director Project Wildfire. “There simply are not enough fire personnel or resources to post a truck at each home, so it’s up to individual homeowners to take responsibility for the defensible space around their homes,” she adds.

With this in mind, Project Wildfire reminds you to take a look around your property in the “home ignition zone” where glowing embers can ignite spot fires and vulnerable areas like decks, patios and fences that can spread flames to your home. And **take advantage of upcoming FireFree Recycling Events to dispose of the debris for FREE.**

FireFree Recycling Events:

**Friday, May 3 THROUGH May 11 at Knott Landfill in Bend
(closed Sunday).**

**Fridays & Saturdays, May 10 & 11 at the Westside Collection
Site in Bend.**

**Friday & Saturday, May 17 & 18 at Deschutes County Transfer
Sites:**

Negus Transfer Station in Redmond

Northwest Transfer Station in Cloverdale

Southwest Transfer Station in La Pine

Will your home survive a wildfire?

Fire science tells us that if you have created and maintained a defensible/survivable space around your home, it has an 80% chance of surviving a wildfire without fire department assistance. Those are great odds and FireFree encourages residents to take that bet and get prepared for the upcoming wildfire season. Now is the time to clean up your yards and create defensible spaces around homes and recycle that debris at FireFree collection sites FOR FREE in Deschutes and Jefferson Counties.

FireFree reminds you to take a look around your property in the “home ignition zone” where glowing embers can ignite spot fires and vulnerable areas like decks, patios and fences that can spread flames to your home. And take advantage of upcoming FireFree Recycling Events to dispose of the debris for FREE.

Where are your most vulnerable places for glowing embers to ignite your home?

- Are your gutters and roof valleys free from debris like pine needles and leaves? Clean them out. Despite a metal or asphalt shingle roof, the buildup of gutter debris provides necessary fuel for the glowing embers to ignite adjacent fascia boards or siding – most often made of wood.
- Do your shrubs and weeds provide a path of fuel for fire to reach your trees or home? Reduce shrubs and other “ladder fuels” around your home to reduce the threat of ground fires igniting nearby trees, or your home.
- What can catch fire on your deck or patio or near your fence? Remove weeds, shrubs or any combustible materials from around, under or on top of your deck, patio or wood fence. This includes toys, planters, construction materials, patio furniture and cushions along with even small piles of pine needles or leaves.
- Is your wood pile near your home or other combustible vegetation? Move wood piles at least 20 feet away from your home or other combustibles.

Visit the FireFree website at www.firefree.org for more information about how you can prepare your property for wildfire season.

Volunteers Needed: each landfill site needs at least two people per day, all day. Just direct traffic, no unloading needed.

Note, without the staffing, Solid Waste won't allow FireFree days.

Katie Lighthall, Program Director
Project Wildfire
541-408-3048

Mike Supkis, Fire Chief
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
541-536-2935

Hazardous Fuels Treatments Pay Off!!

Central Oregon – Yesterday’s unexpected wildfires in La Pine have provided a frightening, yet positive example of why hazardous fuels reduction is so important to improving the fire resilience of our landscapes and protecting our communities.

The Burgess Road Fire was ignited yesterday when high winds blew trees onto power lines resulting in multiple fire starts in an area east of Huntington Road and south of Burgess Road. While firefighters are still mopping up, the success of the operation is already being observed by fire management on scene.

“Conditions are especially dry for this time of year, increasing the potential for fires to spread quickly,” notes Mike Supkis, Burgess Road Fire Incident Commander and Fire Chief of La Pine Rural Fire District. “Despite the already extreme conditions however, we are seeing higher levels of suppression success thanks to the fuels treatment efforts in this area over the past few years,” explains Supkis.

The 168 acre Burgess Road Fire encompasses a section of land owned by Deschutes County known as the New Neighborhood. “This 515 acre parcel was thick with overgrown and dead bitterbrush intermixed with lodgepole pine,” explains Katie Lighthall, Program Director for Project Wildfire. “With the help of National Fire Plan funding in 2005, contractors mowed the overgrown brush on this parcel and created space between the trees, reducing the potential for tree-to-tree ignition in the event of a fire,” Lighthall adds.

“Fires are a natural occurrence here in Central Oregon, so we must take responsibility for our property to mitigate our potential losses and those of our neighbors,” says Lighthall. In keeping with that responsibility, Deschutes County and Project Wildfire returned to the New Neighborhood in 2009 under a FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant for a quick and inexpensive “maintenance mow” to provide continued fire resistance and protection for nearby residences along Huntington Road and in the Crescent Creek subdivision.

“Fuels treatments on landscapes and defensible space projects on individual properties do not ensure that fires will not start or that evacuations will not be necessary,” says Lighthall. “They do however, greatly reduce the impact that fires will have on the landscape and in neighborhoods adjacent to those landscapes,” she adds.

“As an Incident Commander, my highest priority is the safety of our firefighters and that of our communities,” says Chief Supkis.

“Without the previous hazardous fuels treatments on this acreage, our firefighters could not have safely carried out their suppression operation yesterday and through the night,” says Chief Supkis.

Project Wildfire is a local collaborative group focusing on one mission – preventing catastrophic losses from wildfire in Deschutes County. The group is comprised of a 50-50 balance between public fire and land management agencies and private citizens, groups and officials who meet regularly and support mitigation efforts across the County.

“Deschutes County is no stranger to collaboration,” says Chief Supkis. “We are extremely fortunate to have strong working relationships with neighboring fire agencies and law enforcement when an emergency situation calls for a coordinated effort,” says Supkis. On the Burgess Road Fire this effective level of coordination included a smooth evacuation of nearby residences by Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office and a unified suppression response from mutual aid partners including the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management as well as local fire departments including Sunriver, Walker Range, Sisters, Redmond, Cloverdale, Black Butte Ranch, Jefferson County and Crescent Rural fire departments.

This type of collaboration and Project Wildfire’s last decade of success point to an effort taking shape across the country called the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. Under an umbrella of active collaboration, private and public agencies, entities, groups and individuals come together to address the three most prevalent challenges/goals across the landscape today: fire resilient landscapes, effective wildfire response and fire adapted communities. “The three goals are interrelated as we can see on the Burgess Road Fire,” says Lighthall. “Hazardous fuels treatments allow for safe and effective fire suppression and a chance for communities to better understand their roles and responsibilities when living in a fire prone environment such as central Oregon,” she adds.

Success stories such as these witnessed on the Burgess Road Fire provide timely and measurable demonstrations of the Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy at work.

For more information about Project Wildfire visit www.projectwildfire.org. For more information about the Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy visit www.forestsandrangelands.gov.

Watershed Committee

Despite lower snowpack, reservoirs are ready for summer

- Spring is now in full swing here in the High Desert and the warmer weather is starting to draw people to the river. This past winter was dryer than normal meaning that water supply for this irrigation season is not as robust as last year. In fact, the snow pack in the Cascades was 34% lower at the start of the irrigation season than last year.

The good news is that the reservoirs are 40% fuller than average thanks to the snowier winters of 2011 and 2010. The combined stored water will allow for adequate summer flows for fish and recreation in the Deschutes Basin while providing dependable water for Central Oregon’s farmers.

Source: Deschutes River Conservancy

- **Abandoned/sinking Pontoon Boat** - Upper Deschutes River – the Deschutes County Sherriff is working to get the owner of the boat to remove it from the river.
- **Crane Rainbow Trout** –

Last fall 45,000 Oak Springs diploid rainbows were released with adipose and left ventricle fins removed and 45,000 Oak Springs triploid rainbows with adipose and right ventricle fins removed.

Any reports on catch rates of different stocks would be great.

This year OD&WF are going to switch back to a spring release of Oak Springs diploids (53s) ADLV and Cranebow triploids (127s) AD only. From ODF&W.

Save the Date

UDRC Annual Appreciation Event at the Sunriver SHARC

September 21, 2013

The Coalition's Annual Appreciation Event and BBQ Lunch is one of the Coalition's signature events. Please plan and join us for a festive afternoon of great food, silent auction and a nice raffle. Bid on exclusive items, unique art, and other wonderful items.

All proceeds from the event directly support the Coalition's mission to protect Upper Deschutes River Communities by restoring and sustaining healthy fire-resistant forests, pure and abundant river flows and wildlife habitat.

Tickets are \$10 per person (includes lunch, soft drinks and two raffle tickets).

Fund Raising Committee [Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

Foundation Search

The Coalition has purchased a one year subscription to Foundation Search which we believe is the best search engine to locate potential foundation and corporate donors. Carl, John Moore, Jonathan **Kahnoski** and Jerry Hubbard are Involved in the project. Jerry and Jonathan will be the primary users and will be co-writing grant requests.

UDRC Sponsor Program

To be “The” sponsor of the Coalition for 2013 for \$20,500 and receive recognition in the following ways:

- UDRC web home page, Listing in the Quarterly E news,
- Listing on the UDRC’s letterhead,
- Listing on the UDRC’s E mail signature lines,
- Recognition at the UDRC’s monthly meetings,
- Recognition at UDRC special events,
- Recognition at UDRC annual appreciation event
-

Other sponsor levels at \$250 and \$500 include recognition:

- Listing on the UDRC web home page,
- Listing in the Quarterly E news,
- Listing on the UDRC’s letterhead,
- Recognition at UDRC annual appreciation event
-

If you would like to discuss being a sponsor contact Jerry Hubbard, VP & Executive Director at jhubbard@chamberscable.com or 541 390 9798

Community News.

Sunriver Nature Center and the Oregon Observatory (UDRC Partner)

Located in Sunriver, the Sunriver Nature Center is a non-profit organization that works to educate the public about the natural world. Founded in 1968, the Sunriver Nature Center has served its community well through public education of local flora and fauna, working with Central Oregon schools, state parks, and other non-profit organizations. The staff at the Nature Center makes every effort to meet our mission to “Inspire present and future generations to cherish and understand our natural world.”

Our facility includes a quaint natural history museum that houses native wildlife, the second largest collection of meteorites in the Pacific Northwest, live reptiles and amphibians, a botanical garden and nature trail. The biggest draws to the center are our nationally renowned observatory and our live birds of prey exhibits and presentations. We also have a large impact in Central Oregon by providing on- and off-site learning opportunities to various groups, schools, and organizations, whether it be our popular traveling trunk program, pond study, or retirement home talks, we have something for everyone.

Recently, the Sunriver Nature Center has begun renovations in the museum, including new paint, new animals, and new exhibits! Our live reptiles and amphibians are enjoying their new homes in the brand new Creature Cave and our kids’ hands-on stations and retail areas are getting a much-needed facelift.

We as staff have a passion for our work and take pride in the opportunity to

share our experiences and knowledge with others. Drop in for a look around, a stroll along our beautiful nature trail, and a chance to see the stars. There is something for everyone. The Nature Center is currently open Tuesday – Saturday from 10AM – 4PM. Starting May 25th, the Nature Center will be open from 9AM – 5PM, 7 days a week. For special events and observatory hours, visit our websites, www.sunrivernaturecenter.org and www.oregonobservatory.org. We look forward to seeing you!

The Upper Deschutes River Coalition is a 501 c 3 nonprofit corporation: Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Please make your check payable to “Upper Deschutes River Coalition”

Our Tax ID Number is 03-0557393

Appreciated Stock Gifts are Welcome!

For more information call 541-593-2777 or visit www.udrc.org

▪ **Use PayPal at [Donate to the UDRC Today](#)**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lodgepole Pine for \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Cranebow Trout for \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rainbow Trout for \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Trout for \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ponderosa Pine for \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Redband Steelhead for \$5,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bull Elk for \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Another Amount \$ _____ |

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

E Mail _____

May we include your name in our list of donors? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, print your name as it should appear for recognition:

Signature _____

Date _____

Please send your completed gift form and check to:

Upper Deschutes River Coalition
P O Box 3042,
Sunriver, OR 97707

Thank You!