

Upper Deschutes River Coalition

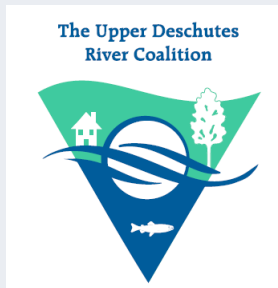
www.udrc.org

541-390-9798

PO Box 3042, Sunriver, OR 97707 501(c)3

APRIL 24, 2015

[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 updated 2015 Operations Plan at: www.udrc.org

At UDRC Organization

Also, Click Who We are and Our History for a map of our service area

President's Message:

Fellow UDRC Stakeholders,

In 2015, what value does the UDRC bring to communities south of Sunriver?

A great example is the Coalitions work with the US Forest Service in developing a fuels reduction project which will reduce the fuels on 3,600 acres adjoining Coalition's neighborhoods. The neighborhoods included in the USFS's Upper Deschutes River WUI Fuels Reduction Project include:

- Ponderosa Pines DRRH
- River Meadows Cougar Grove
- OWW1 Spring River
- Haner Park River Forest Acres
- Wild River Huntington Road
- Fall River Newberry Estates
- Deschutes River Woods
- Sunriver

The USFS's work on the west side adjacent to the above communities will include:

- Commercial thin, ladder fuel reduction thin, mow and under burn on 1313 acres
- The above work without under burn on 456 acres
- Mow only on 1,166 acres
- Ladder fuel reduction thin and mow on 473 acres
- The above with under burn on 198 acres
- Under burn only on 7 acres
- Ladder fuel reduction thin and prune on 6 acres

(Specific work type by community is listed on www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45297)

"The purpose and need of the USFS project complements the mission of the UDRC" according to the USFS. The UDRC has been a partner with the USFS for many years and the Coalition worked closely with the USFS's Bend Fort Rock ranger district in developing the project.

Our expanded Leadership Team includes:

Carl Jansen
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Watershed
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Executive Director
Jerry Hubbard plus
Fund Raising

UDRC Committees:

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Dean Richardson
541-593-1207

Watershed

Other added value the Coalition brings to our communities include:

- Our 2015 home owner sweat equity program on private property (funded from a grant from Project Wildfire)
- Our new five year agreement with the USFS on fuels reduction on national forest and private lands
- Our continued direct involvement with the Deschutes Basin Study (river flows and more)
- Our work with Oregon Fish & Wildlife on their Redband Trout fisheries improvement where we received a \$5,000 grant from BNSF Railway
- Our discussions with the USFS on improving the boat launch site at Big Bend on the Upper Deschutes River (parking expansion and clean up of the site)

We wanted to share our work with you and ask for your help in supporting the Coalition's operations in 2015 and beyond. Each spring our operating cash runs low and we are asking for your investment in the Coalition so we can keep adding value to all communities in South Deschutes County. A donor form is at the end of the e news and we are asking you to consider becoming a Friend of the Coalition.

You can call me with any questions about the Coalition and our plans for 2015 and beyond.

Carl Jansen
UDRC President
541-593-2777

Friends of the Coalition Contributions

Please support the Coalition's future by joining The Friends of the Coalition.

[Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

It takes \$12,000 a year to operate the Coalition.

By becoming a Friend of the Upper Deschutes River Coalition your investment will help the Coalition's 2015 work that includes:

- Our home owner sweat equity work on private property (funded from a grant from Project Wildfire)
- Our new five year agreement with the USFS
- Our work with the USFS on the new Upper Deschutes River Wildland-Urban interface fuels reduction project (3,600 acres next to UDRC communities).
- Our continued direct involvement with the Deschutes Basin Study (river flows and more)

I have enclosed a gift of:

- \$100
 \$250

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Education & Outreach
Carl Jansen
Bill Filsinger

Fund Raising
Jerry Hubbard
John Moore
Carl Jansen

2015 Meeting Schedule:
www.udrc.org

Next meeting May 19,
12:30 noon at the Sunriver
Library

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

Gate House

Haner Park

Lazy River West

Lazy River East

Oregon Water Wonderland
1 & 2

Pinewood Country Estates

River Forest Acres

River Meadows

Spring River Fire & Safety
Assn.

Sun Country Estates

Sunriver Business Park

Sundance – Sunriver

- \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 \$10,000
 another Amount \$ _____

To Donate Click here: [Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

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 541-390-9798 or visit www.udrc.org

Watershed Committee

Our UDRC representative on the Deschutes Water Alliance (DWA), BSWG, and InStream Flow sub-committee is Jeff Wieland. He can be reached at jeffwieland@me.com if you have questions or concerns.

Reservoir Levels - Current reservoir levels can be found on the Bureau of Reclamation Pacific Northwest Region Hydromet Program at <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/destea.html>.



April 8, 2015

SUNRIVER ANGLER'S CLUB PRESENTS SPECIAL PROGRAM ON DESCHUTES RIVER

On Thursday, June 18 at 7 pm the Sunriver Anglers Club will present a significant program illustrating the current state of the upper Deschutes River and the efforts being undertaken to restore stream flow and improve water quality in the river basin.

The program will include a video presentation by cinematographer, Scott Nelson, who has created a powerful video which describes the current condition of the river and how this came to be. We will also have a visual presentation by Jason Gritzner, USFS Hydrologist, showing the conditions of the river and the adjacent stream banks at different stages of the draw-down which annually occurs when upstream reservoir storage cycles begin.

Following the two visual presentations, Tod Heisler, Executive Director of the Deschutes River Conservancy, will describe the status of efforts now

Thousand Trails

Upper Fall River

Vandever Acres Road
District

Vandever Ranch

Whispering Pines

Wild River Assn.

Check out our
stakeholders page at
www.udrc.org
For detailed information
and links to all of our
stakeholders.

Jake Keller Awards:

2014 Awards:

Volunteer of the
Year:

Jeff Wieland
Spring River

Partner of the
Year:

Kirk Flannigan
USFS

2013 Awards:

Volunteer of the
year:

Jim Larsen
Cougar Grove

Partner of the
Year:

Stu Otto, Oregon
Dept. of Forestry

underway to improve the river.

We invite not only the anglers in the community but all those who have an interest in the health of the river and the upper basin environment to attend this meeting. The Deschutes River is perhaps the most important feature of the Sunriver and adjacent community, and this program will enable all those who have a stake in the attractions of our area to be well informed about the current state of affairs and the plans for the future.

The meeting will be held at the SHARC in Sunriver. For additional information concerning the June 18 program, contact Ron Angell at 541 593 3242. For information concerning the Sunriver Anglers Club, see www.sunriveranglers.org

Spring is here! But what happened to winter?

March 31st, 2015 Deschutes River Conservancy:



Spring is finally here, but what an unusual winter! Unseasonably warm temperatures resulted in very little snowpack and an average amount of precipitation that allowed reservoirs to fill in the Upper Deschutes Basin ahead of schedule.

What can we expect to happen with the river this year as a result? According to Kyle Gorman, Oregon Water Resource Department Region Manager, the flows in the Deschutes should be relatively normal this summer, but will depend on stored water to a greater extent than in a normal year where snowmelt provides much of the water supply during the late spring and early summer.

If the remainder of the winter and early spring continue to produce minimal snow followed by scant summer rainfall, levels in the reservoirs are likely to

2012 Awards:

Volunteer of the year:

Mick McMicken
Fall River

Partner of the Year:

Katie Lighthall
Project Wildfire

be lower after the irrigation season than in recent years.

That's likely to create more pressure to fill them next winter. When flows in the Deschutes are held back for the winter to replenish the reservoirs it creates a potential for a significant impact on fish and wildlife in the fall.

Tumalo and Whychus Creeks are entirely dependent on snowmelt, so we will see lower than normal flows in both of these reaches as the irrigation season unfolds. But thanks to a number of conservation projects and several key instream leases, flows should hold around 10 cfs in Tumalo Creek and 20 cfs in Whychus.

On a positive note, Ochoco Reservoir is in better shape than it was at this time last year, giving a more positive outlook for water supplies instream in Ochoco Creek and on farms in the Crooked River Basin.

According to Brett Hodgson of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, weather driven variability in streamflows is a natural phenomenon to which trout in this area have been able to adapt. Consecutive dry years and seasonal flow management for irrigation are both factors that tend to have greater long-term impacts on fish and wildlife.

Prineville Reservoir is the wild card. If the reservoir doesn't fill, this could affect the amount of stored water available to improve flows for fish and other wildlife, pursuant to recent legislation.

While officials say water supplies are fairly decent this year, we should still conserve water where we can. The big question is: what will happen next winter? If next winter brings very little precipitation, we could see very low water supplies, and that has the potential to dramatically impact the health of our rivers and streams.

One thing to remember is that variations in snowfall and overall precipitation in the Deschutes River Basin can vary dramatically. In the past decade, we've seen some great years – and a year like this.

What can we do? Deschutes River Conservancy is working collaboratively with all who have an interest in the river – communities, farmers and irrigation districts, fishermen, boaters and more – to ensure the health of the river and its unique ecosystems. Together we are identifying long-term solutions to ensure healthy ecosystems and economic benefits, regardless of the weather.

Private Lands Committee

March 31, 2015

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Mike Supkis
Fire Chief, La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
Chair, Central Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
541-536-2935

Central Oregon Fire Chiefs Announce Seasonal Burning Closure of May 1

The Central Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (COFCA) announces the date of closing for residential and private lands open debris burning across the tri-county region in Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson Counties. Fire Chiefs from the local municipal and rural fire departments, along with State and Federal partners have determined due to existing environmental conditions this year that outdoor burning of debris and agricultural burns on private lands (with the exception of the Jefferson County Smoke Management area) will close as of midnight Friday, May 1, 2015.

“In order to best serve our residents throughout Central Oregon with fire and EMS protection, Central Oregon Fire Chiefs each year, jointly select a common closing date to avoid escaped residential debris and agricultural burns on private lands”, said Mike Supkis, Fire Chief, La Pine Rural Fire Protection District, and Chair of Central Oregon Fire Chiefs Association.

“The snow pack and annual moisture levels are at a record lows this year. With the warmer weather the potential for escaped debris burns is greatly increasing as well as the threat of larger fires. Our agencies have already responded to escaped burns this spring which is earlier than normal”, Chief Supkis said. “Even though specific areas in Central Oregon still may receive a bit of rain or even a spring snow shower before or after the closure, the region as a whole is experiencing an extreme drought this year and all our fire agencies across Central Oregon will need to rely on and support each other this year when a wildfire fire breaks out”, adds Chief Supkis.

The Central Oregon Fire Chief’s Association strongly urges homeowners to prepare their property for the upcoming fire season now before there is smoke on the horizon. Fortunately, there are alternatives to burning yard debris. The spring FireFree events in Deschutes and Jefferson counties **provides this opportunity for local residents to dispose of their debris inexpensively and legally**. The FireFree days will begin on May 1 and will be available for selected dates during the month in numerous locations to all Central Oregon residents.

Central Oregon Fire Chief’s federal partners (US Forest Service & Bureau of Land Management) will still be performing prescribed burns throughout the region in preparation of fire season even after burn season closes on private lands. These prescribed burns will be conducted under carefully planned conditions such as: with federal fire resources, professional fire managers and firefighters on scene, favorable weather conditions and carefully planned land plots. These prescribed burns improve forest health and reduce the forest fuels in order to lower the wildfire risk to our communities that is ever present later in the season when the conditions are even more extreme.

Residents are strongly encouraged to contact their local fire protection agency:

for additional burning information and regulations. All Central Oregon fire departments and rural fire districts will continue to monitor weather and fuel moisture conditions in their district and may make modifications on a day-to-day basis. Please call your local outdoor burning information line for your current conditions. If conditions become dryer, individual agencies may choose to close local burning sooner. Fire agencies will monitor fuels and fire conditions throughout the summer and anticipate the opening of burn season again in late fall.

Visit the FireFree website at www.firefree.org or call 541-322-7129 for the FireFree dates or more information about how you can prepare your property for wildfire season.

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Project Wildfire has a new blog site at:

projectwildfireoregon.blogspot.com

Wildland Community Preparedness Day – May 2, 2015

Sixty-five \$500 project funding awards are available to implement neighborhood projects in the US.

Click on the link to review the program and the simple grant application form.

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/national-wildfire-community-preparedness-day>

You do not need to be a nonprofit to apply.



Reduce the risk of losing your home to wildfire and take advantage of FREE yard debris disposal at local collection sites.

Create and maintain defensible space around your home and recycle your needles, branches, brush, shrubs and limbs for FREE!

La Pine

Southwest Transfer Station 8AM-4PM

May 15-16, 2015 54580 Highway 97, La Pine

Sunriver

Sunriver Compost Site 8AM-4PM

May 8-9, 2015 Cottonwood Road, Sunriver

Public Lands

Upper Deschutes River Wildland-Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Project.

On April 21 2015, the UDRC's Board of Directors approved sending a letter of support for the project.

The Forest Service has released a public scoping letter describing the Upper Deschutes River Wildland-Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Project. The primary purpose of the project is to improve safety for wildfire suppression and public evacuation. A secondary purpose is restoration of lodgepole encroached meadows and enhancement of riparian vegetation.

The project proposes fuels reduction treatments including commercial thinning, ladder fuel reduction, brush mowing, and prescribed burning on 3600 acres divided into 41 treatment units. Most of the units were suggested by neighborhood residents within the UDRC CWPP boundary. Public comments will be accepted until May 15, 2015. People who submit comments will have standing during the objection period after the environmental analysis is released.

The project documents with maps are posted on this Forest Service webpage: http://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_project_exp.php?project=45297

Restoration Work Continues in West Bend

BEND- Beginning next Monday, the Deschutes National Forest is planning two restoration projects west of Bend in the "Good Dog" and Tumalo Ridge areas.

If conditions remain favorable, work will begin on a mowing project in the "Good Dog" area bordering the western edge of Bend and adjacent to Widgi Creek golf course. The 539 acre mowing project will likely begin on Monday, April 6 and is expected to take 1-2 weeks to complete. Work will only be done on week days so weekend users will not be impacted by equipment operation. While no trail closures are anticipated with this project, recreationists on the Deschutes River Trail are advised to use caution when walking or biking near the mowing machinery.

In mid-April, fuels specialists will begin a mastication project that will take place 9 miles west of Bend near Tumalo Lake and the Swede Ridge shelter.

This 274 acre project is expected to take 6-8 weeks to complete and while there are no trail or road closures anticipated with this project, the Swede Ridge and Tumalo Ridge trail users may experience short delays when the equipment is operating near the trail.

Mowing - Frequently used prior to underburning, mowing reduces the height of flammable understory fuels such as grass and brush. The objective of mowing near the "Good Dog" parking area is to decrease potential flame lengths and fire intensities should a wildfire move through the area. Mowers typically take the brush down to 8 inches in height.

Mastication – This restoration process is designed to decrease the potential impacts of a wildfire to private property and recreational areas by removing brush and small trees. No future underburning is planned in Tumalo Ridge treatment area.

Thinning Project Prompts Temporary Trail Closure in West Bend

BEND- On Tuesday, the Deschutes National Forest is planning to close Steve Larsen Trail in West Bend for approximately three days while thinning operations are occurring.

Contractors will be commercially thinning a 36 acre timber sale unit in West Bend April 14-16. Steve Larsen Trail is located near the junction of Forest Roads 4130 and 4110 between Tiddlywinks and Tyler's trails and will be closed from 4:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. while contractors work in the area. Work is expected to be completed by Thursday afternoon.

Additionally, mastication work will begin on April 13th and is expected to finish by the end of the week. The 66 acre unit is approximately a mile south of Century Drive and west of Arlies Rock.

For up-to-date trail information in West Bend, visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/webmaps/deschutes/west-bend/>

Thinning – Commercial thinning in this area is used to provide a diversity of forest structure and associated wildlife habitats that are reflective of the forest's historic structure.

Mastication – This restoration process is designed to decrease the potential impacts of a wildfire to private property and recreational areas by removing brush and small trees. The public is reminded to use caution when recreating around machinery due to dust and flying debris.

The West Bend Vegetation Project is the first project from the Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project area that the Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project Steering Committee and the Deschutes National Forest have worked on together from the very beginning of designing, through planning, and now to implementation.

-USFS-

US Forest Service – Tetherow Boat Ramp & Benham Falls Projects

The Forest Service is planning the Upper Deschutes Riparian Restoration project. Along Deschutes River near Tethrow Boat Ramp and Benham Falls Day Use Area: User-created roads and trails created by motor vehicles will be de-compacted through subsoiling; vegetation planted (upland shrubs and grass); plus stream bank restored. This will be a good opportunity for Coalition participation. This webpage will include documents when they are available:

http://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_project_exp.php?project=45683

Fund Raising

Grants have been submitted to several foundations and corporations to help fund the UDRC-USFS fuel reduction agreement over the next three years.

Who We Are!

The UDRC is a multi-issue, project-based nonprofit coalition representing a broad range of interests among its 29 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.

UDRC Supporters



PATRICK

PatRick Environmental Corporation

P.O. Box 758

Redmond, OR 97756

1-800-782-4119

Cell 541-233-3105

Fax 541-923-6070

PatRick Environmental was established in 1971 and has a long tradition of providing professional land management services to federal, state, local, and private landowners throughout the northwest. Our services incorporate all aspects of hazardous fuels treatments including: thinning, hand-pilling, chipping, pruning, and prescribed fire.

PatRick is committed to Central Oregon, with the main headquarters in Redmond, OR, by protecting the natural resources that make this area unique. PatRick understands the need in Central Oregon to develop resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and safe and effective wildfire response. We have the resources and experience to meet and exceed your expectations.

Friends of the Coalition Contributions

**Please support the Coalition's future by joining
The Friends of the Coalition.**

[Donate to the UDRC Today](#)

It takes \$12,000 a year to operate the Coalition.

**By becoming a Friend of the Upper Deschutes River Coalition your investment will help
the Coalition's 2015 work that includes:**

- Our home owner sweat equity work on private property (funded from a grant from Project Wildfire)
- Our new five year agreement with the USFS
- Our work with the USFS on the new Upper Deschutes River Wildland-Urban interface fuels reduction project (3,600 acres next to UDRC communities).
- Our continued direct involvement with the Deschutes Basin Study (river flows and more)

I have enclosed a gift of:

- \$100
 \$250
 \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 \$10,000
 another Amount \$ _____

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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 541-390-9798 or visit www.udrc.org

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

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

Past Sponsors of the Upper Deschutes River Coalition include:

Search North America <http://www.searchna.com/>

Sunriver Resort www.sunriver-resort.com

Crosswater Club <http://www.crosswater.com/>

Caldera Springs <http://www.calderasprings.com/>

Portland General Electric Company
http://www.portlandgeneral.com/community_environment/default.aspx

Cascade Natural Gas Company
<http://www.cngc.com/>

River Meadows Community www.rivermeadows.com/

Sunriver Brewing Company www.sunriverbrewingcompany.com

Fall River HOA

Vandever Ranch Association <http://vandevertranch.org/>

DRRH Number 9

