

Upper Deschutes River Coalition

www.udrc.org

541-390-9798

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

JULY 13, 2015

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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

Fellow UDRC Stakeholders,

Your Planning Team desired to inform our members, partners and stakeholders of several organizational changes which are:

- Leadership team has been renamed as the Coalition's planning team consisting of officers and committee chairs.
- Carl Jansen, UDRC's President has announced his retirement effective on November 17, 2015 which is the last Board and Partner meeting in 2015. Carl has been President since 2006 and followed Jim King, the founding President from 2004-2006. Carl will be an advisor to the new President in 2016.
- Bill Filsinger will continue to be Vice President through 2015.
- John Moore, Treasurer, will continue to monitor the Coalition's financial condition, accounting reports and prepare tax returns. John will limit his involvement in the daily operations of the Coalition.
- Jim Larsen will continue as Secretary of the Coalition. Jim will also continue to be the primary interface with the USFS and public lands.
- Jerry Hubbard, as of July 1st ended his consulting role as Executive Director. For the time being the Coalition's current funding cannot support a paid Executive Director. Jerry joined the Coalition in 2009 and has volunteered about half time until he became part time Executive Director. Jerry will continue to create the E News, prepare some grants and oversee the UDRC-USFS's five year fuel reduction agreement.
- Mick McMicken is leaving his role as Chair of the Private Lands Committee and Sweat Equity Program Coordinator. Mick and his wife have moved to Bend from Fall River but will keep their home in Fall River.
- Opening exists for a 2015-2016 Sweat Equity Program Coordinator, Private Lands Committee – The Board is looking for a new coordinator for the sweat equity program. Please contact Bill Filsinger for suggestions.
- Watershed Committee – Jeff Wieland will continue to be the chair of this committee and holds the Coalition's voting position on the Deschutes Basin Study.

Our expanded Planning Team includes:

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- Nominations for 2016-2017 Officers – nomination forms will be sent to the Board of Directors, stakeholders and other interested parties. The results of the nominations and elections will take place at the November 17 Board meeting.

Survey – We created a web survey form to collect member and resident opinions on the value of Coalition activities. Go to this web link and try filling out the form: <http://www.jotform.us/jimla/udrc-survey>

The Planning Team believes the above changes will provide new ideas and energy to help move the Coalition forward into 2016 and beyond.

Message from Carl Jansen, President:

A special thank you to Jerry Hubbard who made the UDRC a continued success in supporting our vital mission for over 6 years. As noted above Jerry resigned as Executive Director at the end of June. He will be on vacation during our July 21st business meeting to be held at the DRRH Club House on Solar near Island Loop at 12:30 noon.

Also a special thank you to Mick McMicken who has served over four years as our Private Lands Chair. Mick has played a vital role in continuing to coordinate contractors, lot owners and volunteers in reducing ladder fuel threats within our CWPP Boundaries.

During the week of June 25, I participated in a “Navigating the Rivers of Change Conference in Bend sponsored by the Rural Development Initiatives of Eugene. Over 400 attendees participated in more than 35 current sessions regarding improving Oregon’s rural communities. One immediate suggestion is to hold our meetings after 6 pm to allow people who work to attend and be engaged in the wide range of activities sponsored by the UDRC and our partners. A suggestion was made to have our August business meeting on the 18th at 6 pm rather than 12:30 noon. The meeting time will be discussed at our July meeting.

We need more engagement from the younger generations in addition to retirees. Everyone seeking to improve our natural resource base in South Deschutes County is welcome to become involved.

Two major events are scheduled for September, our Annual Appreciation and Fund Raising event at the 1000 Trails Event Center on September 13 The second is the eighth annual SOLVE-UDRC river side cleanup set for the weeks after Labor Day and ending on September 26th. We need many volunteers to make these events a success. Please contact me to for more information.

Enjoy the summer session with your loved ones and friends.

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Communications
Carl Jansen
Bill Filsinger

Fund Raising
Carl Jansen

2015 Meeting Schedule:
www.udrc.org

Next meeting July 21,
12:30 noon at the DRRH
Club House on Solar
Driver

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

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>.

"UDRC Grant Supports Deschutes River Redband Tagging Study"

BNSF Railway \$5000 Grant – the UDRC will purchase \$4,000 for PIT tags for the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. The PIT tags will be attached to Trout to track their movements and aid in fish restoration in the Deschutes Basin. The Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife has spent \$75,000 on new PIT tag equipment. The Coalition's PIT tags will be used over the next few years. Thank You BNSF Railway for the funding!

The Blob and Oregon's Drought:

<http://m.bendsource.com/bend/the-blob-and-oregons-drought/Content?oid=2462779>

How what you eat demands more water than you think it does:

<http://graphics.latimes.com/food-water-footprint/>

Harper Bridge River Access Update:

Some things have changed, some have not. The important thing is that the process and dialogue are ongoing, albeit cautiously. First of all, Deschutes County remains fully committed to a safe and viable Harper Bridge Launch at the current site. While talks and sharing of ideas continue between The County and The Sunriver Owners Association (SROA), several predicted safety measures have been taken that, in this stakeholder's opinion, greatly heighten awareness of the traffic and pedestrian risks at Harper Bridge.

The temporary rumble strips installed last year were replaced this Spring with more sets of permanent, attention-grabbing grooves in the pavement. The speed limit around Harper been reduced, posted, and flagged as 35 mph with permanent signage. Holiday patrol and enforcement efforts by the Sunriver Police, the Oregon State Police, and the Deschutes County Sheriff's Department were thorough and pretty darn unobtrusive.

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

Various additional "Pedestrian Traffic" and "Congestion Ahead" signs have been in place. Temporary or permanent — hopefully, solar powered — flashing warning lights have not been put up on Spring River Rd yet, but those may be on hold pending some permanent solution and budgeting. SROA has partially moved some of their fence North of Spring River Rd back to its original location to allow allowing for hand-launch boat access on that side, but they have not moved the remainder of their fence back away from the road, so pending some permanent solution, parking is still parallel instead of head-in.

With the scheduled opening of the new SROA Launch near the Marina, Harper usage patterns appear to have changed because it's a great float time from Harper to the new, Sunriver take out. It's likely that further talks about a permanent solution at Harper Bridge will resume after the 2015 Summer Float Season. Talks between the County and SROA regarding permanent solutions at Harper Bridge will be conducted behind the scenes for the time being to allow for a broad, open discussion of alternatives that allow for adequate, safer parking and access while addressing the privacy concerns of local property owners.

If anyone has questions about the Harper Bridge Launch, they can contact Watershed Committee Chair Jeff Wieland at jeffjwieland@me.com. He can answer some questions or put you in touch with the right County partners that can.

Deschutes Basin Study:

Now that the final Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) and Plan of Study (POS) have been submitted to and approved by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Basin Study Steering Committee is focused on hiring the right Project Manager and specialists to conduct the actual study.

The Plan of Study focuses on data needed to identify and prioritize practical (read fundable), short and long-term solutions for restoring Upper Deschutes flows and water quality. The BSC approved an experienced, very professional, interim Project Manager, Niklas Christiansen, to further define Study elements and to supervise the Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) of Water Scientists and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to conduct the actual Study activities.

Niklas and the Basin Study Planning Team did a great job of defining who we are looking for to act as Project Manager and conduct study activities, and the Steering Committee approved publishing both RFQs and RFPs. We anticipate making hiring decisions and accept proposals by early August of this year. Look for descriptions of the specific study elements in the next news.

Meanwhile, the 31 voting members of the Basin Study Steering Committee (BSC), including Jeff Wieland on behalf of the UDRC, will continue to review and exercise approval over the larger Basin Study tasks with an eye towards making sure that Ag, Muni, and InStream interests are adequately addressed. The Steering Committee and BuRec expect to have contractors on the river carrying out study tasks by late August 2015.

The Basin Study will go on throughout the remainder of 2015 and all of 2016 and 2017. Data Collection, Climate Change, Hydrologic Modeling, and Development of Alternative Solutions is expected to be complete by mid-2018 when the real work of agreeing on and funding Water Management Agreements between the various

2012 Awards:

Volunteer of the year:

Mick McMicken
Fall River

Partner of the Year:

Katie Lighthall
Project Wildfire

interests will begin. In the meantime, efforts to find practical things that can be done today to help restore the river while protecting the interests and livelihood of the Agriculture and other Water Rights holders will continue during the Basin Study. Efforts to find those interim, practical steps will be led by the Irrigation Districts (DBBC) and the Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC).

The restoration of Upper Deschutes Winter flows and ameliorization of high Summer flows remains complicated; however, all members of the BSC have developed good working relationships over the past 3 1/2 years, and we have all reaffirmed our commitment to practical solutions that help the river without harming stakeholders.

Jeff Wieland
Watershed Committee Chair
jeffwieland@me.com

Public Lands Special Notice - MOST WILDFIRES CAN BE PREVENTED

PORTLAND - the Pacific Northwest Wildfire Coordinating Group (PNWCG) would like to remind outdoor recreationists in Oregon and Washington to use care to prevent wildfires. Parts of the region have not had significant precipitation since mid-March, and conditions are very dry across many areas in both states. Wildfires can start and grow much more easily when conditions are dry.

Discharging fireworks or explosives, including exploding targets, is prohibited. Fireworks can cause costly and dangerous wildfires, especially when conditions are hot and dry and vegetation is receptive to sparks. Fireworks and exploding targets are prohibited at campgrounds and elsewhere on public lands. Recreationists should also check on local fire restrictions before heading out, and consider whether a campfire is necessary.

In 2014, 1,293,685 acres burned in wildfire. Almost half of the 4,572 fires reported in Washington and Oregon were human caused and could have been prevented. Firefighters and land managers need everyone's help to prevent wildfires this holiday and through the summer.

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center seasonal drought outlook shows drought conditions in all of Oregon and nearly all of Washington will likely persist and increase through September, creating conditions that will lead to larger and longer wildfires once they start. While there is nothing we can do to prevent lightning-caused fires, extra caution to prevent accidental human-caused fire starts will be especially important all summer long.

"Wildland agencies work together year round to protect and maintain healthy and fire resilient landscapes, support fire adapted communities and coordinate safe and efficient wildfire response," said PNWCG Chair David Summer. "We all have a role to play in protecting our beautiful public lands here in the Pacific Northwest. Please take care to avoid starting a wildfire when recreating this season. Protect what you love."

Follow the Northwest Coordination Center (NWCC) on Twitter: @nwccinfo. Visit the NWCC website for a wealth of fire information: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/> . For more information on Pacific Northwest Fire Adapted Communities, please visit: <http://pnwfac.weebly.com/> or follow on Twitter @PNWFAC. Details for individual fires can be found on Inciweb: www.inciweb.nwcg.gov<<http://www.inciweb.nwcg.gov>

La Pine Fire District conducting structural assessments

From KTVZ.COM news sources
POSTED: 1:31 AM PDT July 3, 2015
La PINE, Ore. -

La Pine firefighters, in uniform and in a fire district vehicle, will be visiting homes and properties within the fire district this summer. The purpose is to pre-plan and collect critical data for firefighters to use when protecting homes from a wildfire.

This is a continuation of a multi-year project started last year. The fire district was awarded a small grant to employ student firefighters for this summer project supporting the National Wildland Fire Decision Support System.

This is an extension of the Klamath County's pilot project which is creating the new system. It is linked with current Federal, State and County data bases.

Firefighters and incident managers, regardless where they are from will have accurate data on the challenges they face and best apply resources to protect homes the during critical phases of a complex wildfire incident using computer systems and even hand held technology.

Firefighters can collect all data visually from the driveway and participation is not required by the resident. However, firefighters may knock on the door to alert residents they are in the area and to what they are doing and will be happy to answer any questions.

The Fire District is appreciative of each property owner for their effort to maintain their properties in a FireWise and FireFree safe condition. This activity is just one more effort to ensure we all survive the next wildfire in Central Oregon.

USFS Fuels Management Plan

The Forest Service has released the final Decision Notice for the Junction Vegetation Management project. This project will address forest health and fuels issues in lodgepole pine forests, reduce hazardous fuels, reduce density in ponderosa pine forests, and provide timber products.

The 17,500 acre total project area shown in the map below overlaps the Northwest corner of the Coalition CWPP boundary. Treatments which may occur on the same

area include harvest on 9,000 acres, thinning on 12,000 acres; prescribe burning on 5,700 acres, and mowing on 7,900 acres. The project Implementation is expected to begin in fall 2015.

For more information use this web link:

<http://tinyurl.com/junction-decision>

Public Lands Committee - Summary of the June 16 UDRC General Meeting at River Meadows Community Center:

Guest speakers from the Deschutes National Forest were Kevin Larkin, Bend/Fort Rock District Ranger, Alex Enna, Assistant Fuels Management Officer, and Pete Powers, silviculturist. Kevin thanked the Coalition for partnering with the Forest Service in planning public/private fuels reduction projects. The Greater La Pine Basin project is a new collaboration between the Forest Service and National Resources Conservation Service. The project which will provide funding for fuels reduction and restoration treatments in South Deschutes and North Klamath counties.

Alex Enna a prescribed burn manager and project leader for the 3600 acre Upper Deschutes River WUI Fuels project. The UDR WUI Fuels project comment period has ended and the proposed action is under development. A draft Environmental Assessment will be published late this Summer, followed by a comment period and decision notice. Implementation is planned beginning in Spring 2016. Treatment areas near Fall River Estates will be included in the Myst and Junction projects.

The ponderosa pine ecosystem has evolved with fire and prescribed burns are the best natural management tool. The major challenge for prescribed burns in the WUI is smoke management. In the late 1800's there were 6 – 10 large trees per acre and fire returned every 7 – 15 years. Logging, grazing, and fire suppression interrupted the natural cycle and forests are now overgrown with smaller trees.

The Highway 97 corridor reseeded naturally with a dense even-aged stand vulnerable to insects, disease, and wildfire. Lightning is the major wildfire ignition source. Ponderosa pine requires 100 years to produce seed cones, while lodgepole pine produces cones every 15 years and resprouts after a wildfire. Forest management tools are overstory harvest to reduce crown density, thinning, mastication, mowing, and prescribed burning. All these treatments will be used in the UDR WUI Fuels project. Mowing is effective to reduce fuels for 5 years and prescribed burning is effective for 10 years.

The major challenge for prescribed burns in the WUI is smoke management. After a successful burn like the area East of Sunriver, small trees are killed, and red needles and lower branches will fall off the larger trees. Full recovery will occur after about 3 years.

Burn plans include smoke management, weather windows, and silviculture analysis. A good example of a prescribed burn is the area North of the Fall River Guard Station. Prescribed burns in the Bend area will reduce the damage from future wildfires like Awbrey Hall, Skeleton, and Two Bulls. Wildfire simulations demonstrate that many homes would have been lost if the winds come from the

West. Smoke management and weather has limited prescribed fires to one-half of the planned area to be burned.

Questions: What is fire borrowing? When the Forest Service fire budget is exhausted, funds are borrowed from other programs. Why wasn't more timber salvaged from the B&B fire? The value of burned timber must be balanced with ecological benefit. Delays in analysis can cause loss of timber value. What is the purpose of thinning along road 40 near Cascade Lakes Highway? Treatments were done to create a fire break for wildfires along the Cascade crest, lodgepole regeneration, and dead tree salvage. Can down timber near the Lava Lakes area be removed? Thinning is limited in roadless areas.

What is the effect of the drought declaration? It has no impact to Forest Service activities. What is the effect of treatments on deer population? Hiding cover for wildlife must be maintained. There has been no measurable effects from past forest treatments. Any progress on shooting regulations? Staff is working on enforcement policies, consulting with other forests, and exploring legal opinions.

The UDRC greatly appreciates the US Forest Service for their continued partnership and support.

Additional notes: Regarding the 3,600 acre UDR-WUI Fuels reduction project, Alex, together with residents of Spring river including Jeff Wieland toured the 162 acre Forest Service parcel (unit 20) along Spring River Road. The group provided the Forest Service with more detailed information on the idea of creating a wildlife preserve on a major portion of the property. More information on this idea will be forthcoming.

Other News

Gearing Up for a Summer Vacation? Check Out Our Travel Safety Tips

Thursday, June 18, 2015 - 11:00am



Summer travel season is in full swing, and we think trips are always more fun when you bring your furry friends along. If you're planning to take a vacation this summer with your pets in tow, we've got you covered.

Taking a road trip? Here are a few car travel safety tips brought to you by [ASPCA sponsor, Subaru](#).

Practice makes perfect: It's a good idea to practice having your pet ride along for a series of short car trips leading up to your big trip.

Ride safely: Keep your pets safe and secure in the car by having them ride in a well-ventilated crate or carrier. The crate should be large enough for your pet to stand, sit, lie down and turn around in. Secure your pet's crate so it will not slide or shift in the event of an abrupt stop.

Road trip snacks: Be sure to pack plenty of water, and avoid feeding your pet in a moving vehicle. Your pet's travel-feeding schedule should start with a light meal three to four hours prior to departure.

[For a full list of car travel safety tips, visit our Pet Care section.](#)

Traveling by plane? Unless your furry friend is small enough to ride under your seat, the ASPCA advises avoiding air travel with pets. If you must bring your pet along on your flight, it's best to plan ahead. We recommend you book a direct flight if possible. Here are a few other suggestions.

Careful with crates: Prior to your trip, purchase a USDA-approved shipping crate that is large enough for your pet to stand, sit and turn around in comfortably.

IDs, please: Be sure to mark the crate with the words "Live Animal," as well as your

name, cell phone and destination phone number and a photo of your pet. Make sure all vaccinations are up-to-date, and that your pet has been micro chipped and is wearing a collar with your travel contact information.

In-flight food: Attach a pouch of your pet's food to the outside of his or her crate, and freeze water in a dish for your pet to drink as it melts throughout the flight.

[For more air travel safety tips, visit our Pet Care section.](#)

No matter where you're headed this summer please be sure your pet is wearing an ID tag at all times. Happy trails and safe travel.

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 \$_____

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

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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](#)

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

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Sunriver Brewing Company www.sunriverbrewingcompany.com

Fall River HOA

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

DRRH Number 9





