



Upper Deschutes River Coalition

www.udrc.org

501(c)3

PO Box 3042, Sunriver, OR 97707

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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.

2011 Annual Report and 2012 Operations Report is at:
www.udrc.org

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

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President's Message

2012 promises to be another very successful year for the UDRC and our communities in South Deschutes county. The UDRC has helped remove 4,800 cubic yards of woody material from our neighborhoods during the second quarter. Since early 2010, we have removed over 10,000 cubic yards of biomass. Close to 70% of our 6,000 privately owned lots now meet Oregon Senate Bill 360 defensible space specifications. More details on the Coalition's biomass removal project are in this E news.

Besides participating in the South County Comprehensive Planning process the UDRC members and partners will be involved in the Todd Lake camp ground restoration the week of July 30. The Coalition is participating in three community annual meetings in August and coordinating the SOLVE four river cleanup project on September 22. We are sponsoring our annual Stakeholder Appreciation event at the Sunriver SHARC on September 29.

Please make plans to join in one or two or all of these important projects during the rest of 2012.

Carl Jansen, President

PS – please consider supporting the Jake Keller Memorial Fund – see the gift form at the end of our e news.

Who We Are!

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

The 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.

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UDRC Committee Chairs:

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2012 Meeting Schedule:

www.udrc.org

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

Next meeting is August 21.

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

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, stakeholders and partners. For example, of primary importance is to first educate, lobby and advocate, gather information and be the voice of reason in ongoing wildland fire, water rights, and native habitat issues.

Leadership Committee

Support of the Upper Deschutes River Coalition's Annual Appreciation Event

We need your support of the Coalition' annual stakeholder meeting on September 29, 2012 at the new Sunriver SHARC by donating items for our silent auction and raffle. This will help raise funds to sustain our base operations and help us expand our services in South Deschutes County.

Current donated items include:

- Awbrey Glen – golf
- Widgi Creek Golf Club – golf
- Sunriver Resort – golf
- Sunriver Resort – two night stay
- Sunriver Scene – two ads
- Jerry's Rogue jets - \$50 certificate
- Sun Country Raft Tours – Big Eddy Thriller whitewater ride
- Deschutes Native Seed Resources - \$55 gift certificate
- Wine baskets and much more

Joe Stutler, Former Deschutes County Forester will be preparing a Tri-Tip BBQ lunch with all the trimmings. We look forward to your donation of goods, services, sporting trips (fishing, floats, kayaks, etc.) and attending the event at Sunriver's new aqua center.

UDRC Sponsor Program – Sponsors will be featured on the Coalition's web site, our E News, and at our monthly Board and partner meetings. Sponsorships start at \$250. If you would like to discuss being a sponsor contact John Moore, UDRC Treasurer at jjemoore@msn.com

Private Lands Committee

Summer 2012 Ladder Fuel Reduction Projects

The following summarizes the sweat equity program:

Total cubic yards removed to the transfer station – 4,802
Contractor cost - \$52,696
Total contractor hours – 341
Cost per contractor hour - \$155
Cost per cubic yard - \$11

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

Vandevort Acres Road
District

Vandevort Ranch

Whispering Pines

Wild River Assn.

Sweat Equity – The Results

• DHHH#6	352 cu yards	\$3,835
• River Forest Acres	867 cu yards	\$11,375
• Heidi Court/Huntington	100 cu yards	\$1,000
• River Meadows	527 cu yards	\$6,375
• Spring River	550 cu yards	\$6,300
• OWW I	156 cu yards	\$1,680
• DRRH 1-5	390 cu yards	\$4,500
• DRRH 9	168 cu yards	\$3,173
• OWW II	772 cu yards	\$8,248
• Lazy River area:		
• Velvet Court/Huntington	80 cu yards	\$1,080
• S.Wert Lot	840 cu yards	\$5,390

Lessons Learned

- Next Time Need:
 - Better planning and communications
 - Coordinate with HOA's & Road Districts
 - Inform So. Hwy 97 Recycle center of deliver dates
 - Develop master schedule
 - Neighbor sweat equity end date to place material on road sides
 - Neighbor pickup dates – start and end dates
 - Post schedule on www.udrc.org
 - Issue news release to local papers
 - Contractors
 - Hire contractors ahead of time
 - Use contractors who have proper equipment to pickup material

From April to June neighbors in ten UDRC communities participated in removing ladder fuel from their private property and placing the material on the road sides. The UDRC hired four contractors to remove the material and moved it to the County's transfer station off Highway 97. The program was funded by a two-year grant from Deschutes County.

Mick Mc Micken was the UDRC's project coordinator. Thanks to Mick and all those who took part in making the project successful.

Public Lands Committee



County Forester Joe Stutler is leaving his post at the County. Joe has been a great friend of the Coalition and we will miss his wisdom, judgment and advice. We wish Joe all the best. The Board of Directors, UDRC.

Deschutes County Forester – Ed Keith

Ed Keith has been hired as the new County Forester and will start on Monday, July 16. Ed will replace County Forester and Project Wildfire Director Joe Stutler, who retired last week from Deschutes County.

“Living in Deschutes County means living with the threat of wildfire. The job of the forester is an important link in the continuum of public safety services that help to protect our communities. Project Wildfire is an international model of how to engage homeowners in reducing the risk of a catastrophic event,” Deschutes County Commissioner Tammy Baney said.

In his new position, Ed will continue the liaison role between the County and the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, legislators, County committees or departments, environmental groups, community groups and will continue to assist in the development of the County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. He will act as technical advisor to Deschutes County Commissioners and staff regarding forest matters and other responsibilities regarding fire hazard mitigation and forest policy.

Ed has a bachelor’s degree in Forest Management/Forest Recreation Management from Utah State and worked for the Oregon Department of Forestry since 2000, holding the positions of Forest Manager 2, Stewardship Forester, and Natural Resource Specialist 2. Prior to his employment with the Department of Forestry, Ed was a Park Ranger for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Ed was most recently stationed in Sweet Home, Oregon where he worked on the Fire Protection Program, the Private Forests Program, as well as administrative functions.

Welcome Ed a new partner in the UDRC!

Watershed Committee

River Stewardship Guide – This stewardship guide is for landowners who want to be good stewards of the Deschutes River, Little Deschutes River, Fall River, Sunriver and Spring River. Agencies and organizations that share concern for these rivers want to work with landowners to preserve the beauty, water quality and unique structure and function of habitat along these rivers within the Upper Deschutes Watershed.

This guide describes what landowners can do to protect, improve and preserve riverside conditions. The guide includes simple steps and recommendations from experts in the community. Each property has unique elements that are important for the river corridor and wildlife living in and along the river. The guide is at:

<http://www.udrc.org/river-guide>

Water Flows on the Little and Upper Deschutes Rivers

In early to mid-July the Upper Deschutes River has been running at high levels. It has flooded private property along the river. Even though flows have come down some, it is still important for the impacted property owners to notify the Bureau of Reclamation (BuRec), The Oregon Water Resource Department (OWRD) and the Irrigation Districts about the recent excessive flows and the potential of property damage.

Wickiup Reservoir is a BuRec project with the flows managed by the Oregon Water Resource Dept. Water is released from Wickiup as demanded by the irrigation districts.

Jeremy Giffin, Deschutes Basin Water Master (Wickiup): 541-388-6669
jeremy.t.giffin@wrds.or.us

The irrigation districts demand water as needed for their purposes. The contact info for the two primary irrigation districts are:

Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) Manager: Steve Johnson, 541-548-6047

North Unit Irrigation District (NUID) Manager: Mike Britton, 541-474-7127

SOLVE River Clean Up – Sept. 22

The UDRC will again co-sponsor a river bank cleanup project with SOLVE on Saturday Sept. 22. Our partners include the Sunriver Owners Association, Sunriver anglers, La Pine Park and Recreation District and the La Pine Chamber of Commerce. The UDRC plans to clean up over 60 miles on four rivers from Rosland Park and Wickiup to Benham Falls. Please call or e mail Carl Jansen for more information.

The Downstream Consequences of Depleting Groundwater

ScienceDaily (June 11, 2012) — Hard lessons from around the American West and Australia could help improve groundwater management and protect ecosystems in California, Stanford researchers find.

The Water in the West program at Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment is focusing attention on how groundwater pumping can threaten rivers and ecosystems and, conversely, how creative groundwater management can be a savior during drought. The program recently released a report exploring ways that various American and Australian states and water districts manage and regulate connections between groundwater and surface waters and ecosystems such as rivers, streams, springs and wetlands.

"In many places, over-pumping of groundwater reduces surface-water flows," said report author Rebecca Nelson. "Failing to recognize and address these fundamental connections can place other water users like farmers and cities at risk and can harm fisheries or wetland habitats of migratory waterfowl."

Many jurisdictions manage and regulate surface-water and groundwater without any recognition of the connections. For instance, California has no legal framework for comprehensively managing the impacts of groundwater pumping. Across most of California, well owners can pump as much as they like with little accountability for the impacts on rivers, other water users and ecosystems. In contrast, other states around the West have developed laws and policies for controlling the impacts of wells on rivers. Australia has gone even further, considering how ecosystems of all kinds are affected by groundwater pumping.

"We have only recently developed the science necessary to understand the extent of this problem," Nelson said. "Now we need to move on to thinking about the law and policy tools we need to deal with this issue. On that score, California is at the rear of the pack."

Stanford researchers have been learning from states throughout the western U.S. and Australia that are dealing with common issues of water scarcity, increasing competition for water, greater reliance on groundwater and fragile ecosystems. Hard lessons have produced a range of creative policy tools to ensure that wells do not inadvertently deplete stream-flow, or damage connected ecosystems, while minimizing economic disruption to those who often rely on groundwater during droughts.

Some western states, which face stressed basins and drying rivers, cap groundwater pumping in high-use areas. New wells are permitted when well owners are able to offset their pumping by conserving water or buying and retiring other water rights. Across the Pacific, a decade-long drought ravaged many river ecosystems in Australia but until recently, little attention was paid to the importance of groundwater to those systems. Now, Australian scientists are preparing to release the country's first national map of groundwater-dependent ecosystems. The map will help decision makers when they consider applications for new wells and formulate new water plans designed to protect these ecosystems into the future.

The Stanford Woods Institute's Water in the West program is collaborating with the University of Sydney's United States Studies Centre to gather groundwater experts from around the western United States and Australia for a workshop later this month focused on promising groundwater policy solutions to common challenges and the wisdom of hard groundwater management lessons.

Public Land Committee

New Bend-Fort Rock District Ranger – Welcome Kevin!

Kevin Larkin is the new District Ranger for the USFS's Bend-Fort Rock District. Kevin comes from the Kaibab National Forest in far northern Arizona for the last five years. Before the Kaibab duty, he was at the White Mountain national Forest in New Hampshire.

Todd Lake Camp Site Restoration Project – July 30, 2012

The National Forest Foundation is granting \$10,000 to the Coalition to restore the camp site at Todd Lake. The project is set to start about July 30 and will take several weeks to complete.

Volunteers will be needed and people interested in helping may contact Jerry Hubbard at jhubbard@chamberscable.com

E News – E Lists –

If you or your associates would like to receive e news or updates on the Coalition please send us your contact information – send to Kelle Jones at kellejones@gmail.com

Community News

South Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan – Meetings:

The next community meetings are July 31 and August 1.

The County's website for this project is: www.deschutes.org/southcountyplan . Deschutes County staff is committed to engaging residents and organizations throughout the summer. Contact Terri Hansen Payne (541-385-1404; terrip@co.deschutes.or.us) or Peter Gutowsky (541-385-1709; peterg@co.deschutes.or.us) to schedule a meeting.

The Jake Keller Memorial Fund

GIFT FORM

Yes, I/we would like to help the Upper Deschutes River Coalition build an environmentally minded community by restoring and sustaining healthy fire-resistant forests, pure and abundant river flows and wildlife habitat within the 69,000 acre service area.

Your investment will help the Coalition build a strong base for financial stability.

I have enclosed a gift of:

- Lodgepole Pine for \$100
- Cranebow Trout for \$250
- Rainbow Trout for \$500
- Brown Trout for \$1,000
- Ponderosa Pine for \$2,500
- Redband Steelhead for \$5,000
- Bull Elk for \$10,000
- Another Amount \$ _____

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 www.udrc.org

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!