



UPPER DESCHUTES RIVER COALITION

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www.udrc.org

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

January 25, 2010

Dear UDRC Stakeholders:

This 2009 annual report is intended to provide all our stakeholders (members, neighbors and partners) a brief summary of the results achieved by the many volunteers, board, committee chairs, partners and officers during the year.

Our mission is "To protect Upper Deschutes River Communities by restoring and sustaining healthy fire-resistant forests, pure and abundant river flows and wildlife habitat" and remains a goal for everyone involved.

We have focused on achieving this mission through the many hours of volunteer time through the efforts of our key committees; leadership, public lands, private lands, watershed, education and fundraising. Thank you everyone who have made this a successful year and meeting many of our goals stated in our 2009 operations plan approved by the board in February 2009.

Leadership Committee:

- The UDRC expanded neighborhood membership with the addition of Lazy River and Blue Eagle. This results in 21 active neighborhoods within our South Deschutes County region.
- During the 2009 annual meeting in August, the board elected Carl Jansen, President; Jake Keller, Vice President; Terry Pickering, Treasurer; and Jerry Hubbard, Secretary.
- We now have relocated all our records to a new business office located within the Sunriver Physical Therapy building (across from Three Rivers School in the Sunriver Business Park). Gayle and Jim Smith, owners, have allowed us to use this space rent-free for several months. We intend to pay monthly rent soon.
- The UDRC, with support from the Deschutes County Planning Department, has established a 6,200 lot owner database to be used for a wide variety of projects. These include lot ownership data, member information including email addresses, lots which meet SB 360 status, UDRC and County treated fire free lots and donor information. We will continue to update this database quarterly to reflect vital information for decision making purposes.

- We have continued to expand our neighborhood volunteer activities. Current participation exceeds over 300 people dedicated to supporting our overall mission statement. Our neighbors contributed over 6,114 hours of volunteer time in 2009. The volunteer time amounted to over \$122,000 in labor and supervisory savings. Our intention has been to educate all our neighbors to increase their knowledge of what the UDRC is doing for the well being of our communities.
- Carl and Jake briefed a number of residents attending neighborhood annual meetings in 2009 including DRRH#6, DRRH#9, and Pinewood County Estates. Presentations also included the Sunriver Rotary breakfast meeting and residents attending the Deschutes County Comprehensive Planning discussions at Three Rivers School and the LaPine High School.
- Carl and John Moore, a part-time controller/CFO and resident of Spring River, have conducted a thorough review of all receipts and disbursements of funds from 2005 through 2008. All activities satisfy the national accounting standards for non-profits. It was suggested we modify co-signing all checks by two officers and break down accounting reports into the use of restrictive and non-restrictive funds use. Restrictive funds must be used for dedicated grant projects. Non-restrictive funds can be used for administrative purposes. These reviews will continue annually, with reports prepared for board approval by the end of the first quarter of each year.
- The UDRC board approved hiring a part-time Executive Director to manage grant applications, office administration, committee coordination activities and performing the function of Corporate Secretary. Jerry Hubbard started his job on December 1, 2009. We appreciate the 589 volunteer hours Jerry has contributed in 2009. Jerry and his wife Ann moved into our region in mid-2008 from facility management positions with the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry and Van Kampen Investments (part of Morgan Stanley).

Public Lands Committee:

- This committee, under the leadership of Jim Larsen, coordinated several activities on USFS public lands through support by a number of UDRC committee members. The Deschutes National Forest Supervisor, John Allan, closed Ann's Butte to motorized vehicle traffic. Permanent closure signs were posted at key entry points. Roads were blocked with boulders and rendered unusable by motorized vehicles.

The following is a summary of U.S. Forest Service fuels treatments within the Coalition CWPP boundary from 2004 to December 2009.

The Coalition's CWPP totals area 57,964 acres of which historical fuels treatment included completion of 3,383 acres of thinning, 3,316 acres of completed mowing and 1,981 acres of burning for a total of 8,680 treated acres.

In 2009, the USFS completed thinning on 350 acres, completed 835 acres of mowing and under burning of 556 acres.

In 2010, the USFS plans on thinning 570 acres, mowing of 500 acres and under burning of 1,047 acres.

- Bureau of Land Management – report on fuel reduction:

Historic Treatment(s) 2005 to 2009:

2005 Whittier Project. Mechanical treatment of approximately 420 acres of Ponderosa pine, north of State Recreation Road and east of Foster Rd.

2008 La Pine State Park Project. Mechanical treatment of approximately 306 acres of Ponderosa pine within the La Pine State Park, primarily the egress route, north, through the park.

2009 Little Deschutes Tract Project. Prescribed fire treatment of approximately 300 acres of wetland meadow restoration, north of State Recreation Road, east side of Little Deschutes River.

Planned Treatment(s) 2010:

2010 Honey-Do Project. Mechanical treatment of approximately 40 acres of Ponderosa pine, west of Foster Road, adjacent to Home Rec Site #4.

2010 Foster Road Project. Prescribed fire treatment of approximately 158 acres of Ponderosa pine restoration, adjacent to State Recreation and Foster Roads.

- The Coalition participated actively on the Deschutes Provincial Advisory Committee, the Nature Conservancy Fire Learning Network, and the Central Oregon Partnership for Wildfire Risk Reduction. Jim Larsen and committee members identified USFS areas needing thinning bordering five coalition neighborhoods. These five areas were jointly identified by the Coalition and the USFS as high priority fuel treatment areas for 2010.
- We remain active in participating in finalizing travel management plans focusing on ATV, motor cross, biking, and hiking trails on forest service lands in cooperation with a wide range of citizen-based organizations. More work in these areas is planned for 2010.

Private & County Lands Committee:

- A major achievement in 2008-2009 was a creation of two biomass collection sites on Fontana and Cedar Court by Deschutes County. This collaborative project was sponsored by County Forester Joe Stutler, and supported by fuel reductions contractors, private lot owners and generated over 14,840 cubic yards of woody biomass material. Over 106 wood chip truck loads were hauled to wood-fired electrical power plants throughout Oregon. This equates to over 3,700 acres of private and county lots treated in our area, equating to over \$1.2 M in value. Note: With this success, the USFS and BLM have now initiated similar projects on federal forest lands, chipping slash piles rather than burning them.

- Through financial grants supported by Project Wildfire, Western States Oregon Department of Forestry and the National Forest Plan, the UDRC has managed contractor support and wildfire fuel treatments on private lots equating to 315 acres. Neighborhoods receiving this support include Deschutes River Recreation Homesites #1-5, #6, and #9; Oregon Water Wonderland #1 and #2; River Forest Acres; River Meadows; Cougar Grove; Sundance and Spring River. The remainder of these funds (\$58,000) will be spent on vacant lot fuel reduction during the first half of 2010.
- Supported by a Project Wildfire grant, our neighbors have located 80 directional fire evacuation signs along key roads in our area. Deschutes County has printed thousands of “Plan Prep and Go” evacuation brochures to educate our neighbors and visitors. Contact your board representative or www.projectwildfire.org for a copy.
- The UDRC volunteers helped the Sunriver Care & Share program to supply, split and deliver firewood for customers generating \$6,000. Plus volunteers supplied free food and shipped 53 free truckloads of firewood to our neighbors in need.

Watershed Committee:

- Committee co-chairs, Ray Cecchi and June Ramey coordinated many successful joint level projects that have been completed to improve our watershed through support of a number of our partners: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council and Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism.

Some of the projects include planting willows and placing lodge pole stems on river banks bordered by River Meadows reducing riverbank erosion. Also, they coordinated over 60 volunteers in boats and on foot to collect over 1,000 pounds of litter within and near the Upper Deschutes and Spring Rivers from the LaPine State Park to Cardinal Bridge. In 2010, we plan to focus more of our attention through this committee to mitigate watershed damage both on federal and private lands.

- USFS Tumbull Fish Habitat project – The National Forest Foundation with financial support of Sun Country Tours, Sunriver Resort and the U.S. Forest Service, awarded the Coalition a \$10,000 grant with \$5,000 going to support the Forest Service’s Tumbull project. The project involves installing 250 dead/down trees in the river banks on the Upper Deschutes River north of Sunriver. The Forest Service believes this will make a big difference in Redband and Brown Trout habitat.

The National Forest Foundation, chartered by Congress, engages America in community-based and national programs that promote the health and public enjoyment of the 193-million-acre National Forest System, and accepts and administers private gifts of funds and land for the benefit of the National Forests.

Education Committee:

- Besides providing UDRC information to residents and lot owners at neighborhood annual meetings, the UDRC held another very successful annual meeting hosted by DRRH#9 at their river park on the Deschutes in August. Speakers representing the Deschutes County, Oregon Department of Forestry, US Forest Service and the DRC provided everyone attending a chance to listen and exchange ideas on how we can improve our communities. Over 80 people attended and over \$1,600 in donations were received in our silent auction. Our plan is to hold a similar meeting in mid-September of 2010. Set your calendar now and spread the word. Our target is to double the attendance.
- Carl, Jake and Jerry participated in a National Forest Foundation sponsored Grassroots Fundraising and Peer Learning Teleconference Session with six other western-based coalitions focused on understanding how to improve our fundraising efforts. These sessions provided all of us many useful approaches towards increasing our fundraising base.
- In late 2009 the UDRC mailed out over 4,500 Project Wildfire's FireFree – Protect Your Own brochures and related UDRC information to individual lot owners within our region. We have been getting many positive responses from off-site lot owners about our services to the community.
- The board was totally supportive in the suggestion to launch a quarterly E-News to over 180 partners and members. Jerry Hubbard, our executive director, is the editor of this newsletter. We encourage everyone to submit a current email address to Jerry so we can inform you about our current and future plans together with recent achievements.
- Our website, www.udrc.org, has received a lot of activity over the years. Since the Coalition's website started in 2004, we have been visited by 26,750 people from around the world! That's right, around the world including Mongolia, India, Sweden, U.K., Poland, Thailand and Austria. In 2009, we had 2,978 people visit our website which contains our E-Newsletter and 2009 Operations Plan. Please visit our site and share the link with people interested in our mission and nonprofit organization.

Fund Raising Committee:

- 2009 has been a very successful year since the startup of the UDRC with over \$400,000 in federal and state grants. Jerry Hubbard volunteered to provide new grant applications to a large number of funding groups. We have been successful in having \$21,839 grants approved during 2009. These include: Project Wildfire grants for \$9,089, National Forest Foundation grant for \$10,000, Central Oregon Fly Fisher's donation for \$250, and a Deschutes County grant for \$1,500 and Sunriver Anglers Club for \$1,000.
- During the year we have received \$9,920 in donations. The silent auction, with items donated by a number of local businesses and individuals generated over \$1,600 in income. Some of our major donors include: Sunriver Resort, Carthel Enterprises, Sunriver Soaring and Project Wildfire. Donations have also been received from a number of our neighborhoods including: River Meadows, Spring River, Oregon Water

Wonderland #1, Crosswater, Caldera, and River Forest Acres. As a result of our December 2009 mailer we are receiving a number of donations from absentee UDRC lot owners living in Georgia, Massachusetts, California and Singapore. Our goal in 2010 is to double the level of donations by doubling the number of donors.

- Attached you will find UDRC's 2009 end of the year financial statements reflecting our income and expenses. Note the end of the year assets amount to \$55,883.

In conclusion, 2009 was a very active, results-oriented year. Collaboration with federal, state, county, the local fire districts, other non-profit associations, local neighborhood leaders and our many volunteers has been the greatest since we started in 2004. A special thank you to everyone.

2010 is going to be an even better year with added emphasis on watershed and habitat improvements.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carl Jansen, UDRC President

Jake Keller, UDRC Vice President

Terry Pickering, UDRC Treasurer

Jerry Hubbard, UDRC Secretary &
Executive Director