



## Upper Deschutes River Coalition

Healthy Fire-Resistant Forests

Clean & Abundant Rivers

Beneficial Wildlife Habitat

### UDRC 2012 Annual Report

1/5/2013

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

To: UDRC Stakeholders

The following 2012 Annual Report which reflects our achievements during 2012 based on our February 2012 Operations Plan. The Leadership Team wishes to thank all of our Board members, Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, Volunteers and Partners for their support and involvement in our Coalition's activities. A special thank you to Kelle Jones for her many volunteer hours as our Secretary over the past three years. Kelle has resigned to support more family related functions.

Your Leadership Team accepted the offer by Jim Larsen to be the Board Secretary. Jim will also continue to be the Co-Chair of the Public Lands committee. Jon O'Shaughnessy volunteered as Co-Chair of our Public Lands committee and representative of River Forest Acres and the Gate House, a small community located near OWW1.

In 2012, our volunteers residing in the Coalition's service area contributed 10,883 hours vs. 9,394 hours in 2011 of their time, valued at \$239,100 in support of the Coalition's activities. Over the last two years our total volunteer hours is 20,277, valued at \$445,486. Our volunteer efforts provide a major resource in producing the positive results outlined in this and past reports.

Carl Jansen, President  
John Moore, Treasurer

Jerry Hubbard, Vice President & Executive Director  
Jim Larsen, Secretary

**Leadership Team (Carl Jansen, Jerry Hubbard, John Moore and Kelle Jones)**

- During the first quarter the Board appointed active committee chairs for:
  - Public Lands – Jim Larsen and Jon O’Shaughnessy
  - Private Lands – Monte Dammarell and Mick McMicken
  - Watershed – Jeff Wieland and Ray Cecchi
  - Education – Carl Jansen and Kelle Jones
  - Fund Raising and Finance – Jerry Hubbard and John Moore
  - The Leadership Team spent 360 hours working for the Coalition.
  
- Continued to communicate to the Board, partners and stakeholders the role of the UDRC in South Deschutes County related to the Coalition’s 2011 Strategic Plan with a focus on:

Education	Wildlife	Community involvement
Recreation	ForestsRivers	
Economy	Funding the UDRC	

  - Board and Coalition partners spent 950 hours in Board and Partner meetings.
  
- Worked with the Deschutes County Community Development Department in creating a long term South County Land Use Plan which incorporated features in our current 2011 strategic plan.
  
- Met with many of the 26 Coalition’s member neighborhood organizations to encourage participation in the Coalition’s mission, themes and funding.
  
- Managed the 2012 operations and grant budgets and reported the status to the board of directors monthly.
  
- Reviewed the UDRC 2012 operations plan with the Bend Ft. Rock Ranger District USFS, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Deschutes County Forester and other stakeholders.
  
- Completed a financial review of 2011 income and expenses to assure compliance to UDRC policies and nonprofit organizations standards.
  
- Donations were received from 7 of our 26 member neighborhoods and also an additional \$25 each from 17 of our board members. Current revenue was made up with \$9,260 from donations and an additional \$4,880 was received from our annual recognition event. We received and corresponding spent \$62,955 combined from the Deschutes County Fuel Treatment grant and the Todd Lake NFF Grant. We are expecting a small deficit for the year. We expect to end the year with nearly \$11,000 in cash some of which is restricted.

- Broadened UDRC involvement with Sunriver and La Pine Chambers of Commerce, including presentations to their members on our efforts supporting our mission statement.
- Expanded the scope of our September 2012 annual appreciation event attended by over 170 people held at the new SHARC (Sunriver Homeowners Aquatic & Recreation Center). Project Wildfire sponsored a BBQ lunch and we expanded the silent auction, raffle and awards activity. Net proceeds from the event were \$3,900.
- Jake Keller Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Mick Mc Micken for his management of the 2012 Sweat Equity Program.
- Partner of the Year Award was presented to Katie Lighthall of Project Wildfire for her outstanding support of the Coalition through improving our marketing and educational material and branding concepts.

**Public Lands Committee (Jim Larsen and Jon O’Shaughnessy)**

- Proposed a fuels treatment project to the Forest Service to reduce wildfire hazard along access roads and boundaries of Haner Park, Ponderosa Pines, Cougar Grove, and River Meadows, DRRH 1-5, and Oregon Water Wonderland I. The total area is approximately 1000 acres.
- During the past five years the USFS treated over 17,625 acres and the BLM treated 514 acres with the Coalition’s service area. The treatments represent about 15% of the 57,000 acres of public lands within our Wildland Urban Interface.

Forest Service:	BLM:
Thinning: 7572 acres	Thinning: 377 acres
Mowing: 5962 acres	Burning: 137 acres
Burning: 4091 acres	

- Utilizing \$10,500 in grant funds we completed the Todd Lake Camp Ground Restoration Project in the Deschutes National Forest by installing 2000 feet of fencing, new signage, cleanup and three new fire pits.
- Met with Forest Service staff to review fuel treatment plans for 2012 and informed Coalition members.
- Assisted the Forest Service to implement the travel Management Plan in the Coalition area. Distributed Motorized Vehicle Use maps. Monitored road closures.

- Kept Coalition members informed on proposed Forest Service and BLM projects within the Coalition area and monitored ongoing projects.
- Participated in the Deschutes National Forest's Provincial Advisory Committee by advocating activities focused on supporting the UDRC's overall mission and the mission of the USFS. Jerry Hubbard reapplied to the PAC for membership.

#### **Private Lands Committee (Mick Mc Micken and Monte Dammarell)**

- Managed the two year \$100,000 Deschutes County fuel reduction sweat equity program. Focused on high fire risk neighborhoods as defined by our Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) including Spring River, River Meadows, DRRH 1-5 and 9, and River Forest Acres.
  - Expended \$52,995 on contractors removing woody material.
  - Removed 4,802 cubic yards taking 288 truckloads of material from neighborhoods. 7,787 volunteer hours were spent on fuel reduction compared to 5,089 in 2011.
  - From 2011 to 2012, volunteers spend 12,876 hours on fuel reduction.
- Assisted in wild fire fuel reduction projects on two properties (5 acres) in the Sunriver Business Park. A third parcel will be treated in 2013.
- Completed the private property evaluation inventory and mapping on all 26 UDRC communities for compliance to Senate Bill 360/Defensible Space guidelines. Added several risk maps to the UDRC's web site. Additional maps will be added in 2013. 43 volunteer hours were spent on risk mapping.
  - Over 70% of our community private lands have been treated to conform to Oregon's defensible space guidelines, known as SB360.
- Coordinated with Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) for the nationally recognized FireWise certification of all UDRC neighborhood/communities. Existing FireWise communities are Fall River, Crosswater, Caldera Springs, River Meadows, Spring River Fire & Safety Association and Wild River.
- Continued to collaborate with all other Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) in Deschutes County through Project Wildfire's leadership and pursued operational alternatives for improving our defensible space contracts, including cost sharing, sweat-equity, and increased volunteer programs. 63 volunteer hours were spent at Project Wildfire meetings.

- Continued collaborative fuel reduction programs with UDRC neighborhoods and County, State, and Federal agencies to optimize limited funding for forest health improvements in and bordering our WUI.
- Began to update the UDRC's third version of its CWWP with the assistance of Project Wildfire, USFS, ODF, La Pine Fire and our County partners.
- Updated Graphic Information Systems (GIS) wildfire hazard maps to include lots still to be inventoried.
- Used GIS hazard maps to identify priority areas for fuel reduction projects.
- Volunteers spent 700 hours on wood collection, splitting and delivery of fire wood for Care and Share.

#### **Watershed Committee (Jeff Wieland and Ray Cecchi)**

- Worked with partners and stakeholders to support sustainable stream flows and fish habitat in the Upper Deschutes River. Held two public meeting on water rights, summer and winter water flows, flooding, and who owns and manages the Upper Deschutes River. Additional meeting will be held in 2013.
- Held public meetings at the Sunriver Homeowners Aquatic and Recreation Center (SHARC) on the Deschutes River high water flows and flooding attended by 60 people plus Federal, State, County agencies. Held a second public meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> on the future of the Upper Deschutes River water management with presentations by Tod Heisler of the Deschutes River Conservancy, Ryan Houston of the Upper Deschutes River Watershed Council and Darek Staab of the Trout Unlimited.
- Coordinated the 6<sup>th</sup> annual river sweep with SOLVE in September thus reinforcing community partnerships. Continued the river sweep including the Upper Deschutes from Wickiup to Benham Falls, Little Deschutes, Spring River and Fall River tributaries. Over 1,000 pounds of trash including tires and two stolen safes were removed by 60 volunteers. 150 volunteer hours were spent cleaning the four rivers.
- Continued coordination with other non-profit organizations to leverage watershed programs and optimize funding opportunities.
- Completed the restoration of the Todd Lake Camp Ground as described earlier.
- Worked with Deschutes County Sherriff's marine division on removing a partially sunken pontoon boat on the Upper Deschutes River.

- Met on-site with neighborhood reps to develop plans for addressing poor circulation, stagnation, mosquito, and fish kill issues.
- Inspected several sites that are candidates for either bank stabilization or improved river access. Began the early stages of partnering with Trout Unlimited, the USFS, and concerned agencies on both issues.
- Worked with neighborhoods, Federal & State agencies, and Deschutes County to help stop an inappropriate zoning change & riverfront development plan. The possible development appears to be dead at this time, and we are keeping a watchful eye on it.
- Worked with community partners, Sunriver Owner's Association, Deschutes County Community Development Department, and Deschutes County Commissioners regarding expansion, improved access, safety at the Harper Bridge and other river access points.
- Worked with the USFS on improving signage, parking, facilities, and launch access at the Besson Camp Day Use area. Learned that there is funding available for improving existing, underutilized USFS facilities.
- Began partnering with the Deschutes Paddle Trail Alliance for better launch, take out, and hazard signage on the River between Wickiup and Benham Falls.

**Education Committee (Carl Jansen, Jerry Hubbard, John Moore, Jeff Wieland, Ray Cecchi and Kelle Jones)**

- Maintained our current website with relevant information for public use to support our mission and strategic themes.
  - In 2012, we had 3,839 web site visits and 27,831 pages were reviewed.
  - Visits averaged 10 per day and 76 pages were reviewed.
  - 25 countries visited our web site.
  - 82% of visitors used Windows and 11% used Mac operating systems.
  - 50% used MS Internet Explorer; 22% used Firefox and 15% used Google Chrome.
- Volunteers spent 420 hours working on our web site, E-News, brochures and mailings, Chamber of Commerce meetings, etc.
- Produced e-newsletters on a quarterly basis highlighting current activities, volunteer projects and financial support. Expanded e list to 320.
- Produced and distributed a landscape defensible space maintenance brochure for use by private property owners within the UDRC service area.

- Assisted the team proposing a community greenhouse in South Deschutes County.
- Hosted the September 29<sup>th</sup> UDRC Annual Appreciation event to further educate the public on UDRC's services to our communities. Project Wildfire provided a tasty Santa Maria BBQ lunch for 160 attendees.
- Coordinated recreational projects and submitted ideas to U.S. Senator Wyden's Central Oregon Recreational Asset Committee, South Deschutes County Committee. Project ideas included paved bike paths from State Park Rec Road via Foster Road to South Century Drive and paving a section of gravel road connecting River Meadows to Stellar Road.

#### **Fund Raising and Finance Committee (Jerry Hubbard and John Moore)**

- Coordinated the implementation with Project Wildfire and La Pine Fire District for the Ready-Set-Go program. Received a \$1,000 grant.
- Established the Jake Keller Memorial Fund towards increasing sustainable non restricted operating funds. Donors provided \$1,900 in 2012 to the Jake Keller fund.
- The Coalition received over \$10,000 in donations from our neighborhoods and residents through better communications about the value the UDRC is delivering to our service area.
  - Developed programs for general donations and corporate sponsorships.
- Executive Director researched funding opportunities and submitted grant request to State, County agencies and foundations.
  - Coordinated grant requests with our Coalition partners.
- Collaborated with other organizations with similar natural resources goals to optimize funding and combined program strength.
- Participated with Deschutes County Project Wildfire fuel reduction grants for private lots and secured donations from landowners and community members, i.e., cost sharing.
- Prepared the 2012 annual financial reports which are attached to this report.

Please help support the Coalition's work in 2013 by making a donation.

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!**

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