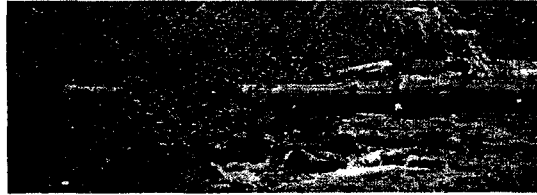


Promoting forest health
in Klamath and Lake
Counties through
partnership, problem-
solving and science



KLAMATH-LAKE FOREST HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

March 20, 2008

John Pellissier
Oregon Department of Forestry
3200 Delap Road
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Dear Mr. Pellissier:

The Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership has reviewed the 2009 Annual Operating Plan for the Klamath District of the Oregon Department of Forestry. The Partnership appreciates this opportunity to make constructive comments on the Plan, which will hopefully assist Oregon Department of Forestry in successfully managing their forests.

The Partnership feels that Oregon Department of Forestry conducts a well-performed, high level of management on their forests and would like to encourage the Department to continue this type of management. The Partnership supports the active management of forests to balance the needs of timber production and healthy forests. The Partnership does not have specific suggestions for changing the 2009 Annual Operating Plan, as the Partnership supports the Plan as proposed.

The Partnership hopes these comments will be helpful in revision of the 2009 Annual Operating Plan. The Partnership would like to thank the Oregon Department of Forestry for the opportunity to review the plan.

Sincerely,

Project Coordinator



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor
April 12, 2008

Department of Forestry
Klamath-Lake District
3200 DeLap Road
Klamath Falls, OR 97601
(541) 883-5681
FAX (541) 883-5555



Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership

A..

Dear [redacted] and the Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership,

Thank you for taking the time to review and respond to our 2009 Annual Operations Plan. The district uses public comments such as these to ensure the department is staying abreast of the public's concerns and keeping within our management objectives, as stated in our Eastern Region Forest Management Plan.

Positive comments such as the ones received from the Partnership reinforce the validity of the Eastern Region Long-Range Forest Management Plan. Oregon Department of Forestry will continue to actively manage our State Forests to provide a broad range of environmental, social, and economical values to the people of Oregon.

Approved annual operations plans will be posted on the department's web site at [http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE FORESTS/Annual Operations Plans.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/Annual_Operations_Plans.shtml). Your comments and our responses will be posted on the website. Your letter will be identified by your first name and the initial of your last name. Your address, email, and phone number will be blocked out. Organization letterhead will be retained. If you have any concerns regarding the posting of your comments please contact:

Roger Welty, Planning Specialist
Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310
503-945-7258, fax: 503-945-7376

Sincerely,

Bill Hunt
District Forester



March 23, 2008

Mr. John Pellissier/Acting Management Unit Forester
Oregon Department of Forestry
3200 Delap Rd.
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

Dear Mr. Pellissier:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2009 Annual Operations Plan for the Klamath-Lake District state forests.

Looking at the overview of commercial forest management operations it appears reasonable and well intended. From a lay persons point of view I generally think ODF does a good job of timber management.

The management objectives within the 232 ROW cut seem prudent although I question whether Sun Mountain Road could be considered a "high traffic road".

In both Slapdash and Switcheroo timber sales I notice the possibilities of nesting Pileated Woodpeckers. With Slapdash "seasonal restrictions may be applied ".....around a known Pileated nest tree and with Switcheroo "seasonal restrictions will be in place".....for another known nest tree and I was wondering why the differences in protection for the two nest trees.

The noxious weed treatment plans are a good idea and I'm happy to see them proposed.

Please keep me informed as to the status of the pump chance/wildlife pond project that has been proposed in previous AOP's.

Again the possibility of the district issuing a use permit to the High Desert Trail Riders Back Country Horseman to actively use the KOSS site is of concern to me. Many of us who initially voiced our opposition to the *siting* of the Klamath Outdoor Science School in this

location feared the possibilities of the further expansion of infrastructure and land area not suitable for a forested setting. Already we have an area that is a "cobbled-together" collection of yurts, buildings, wash stations, porta-potties, vehicles and tents that actively detracts from the forested setting. The States own primary recreation strategy of "informal dispersed recreation and to not actively promote increases in recreation use" goes against the idea of creating this horse use facility. Additionally I see nowhere in the goals, objectives and plans of KOSS their priority of establishing a horse use area within this site and how it would lend itself to their mission of teaching outdoor stewardship. More importantly I see nowhere within the Klamath County CUP that was approved nor the Oregon Department of Forestry special use permit, that likewise was issued, any conditions where this horse use area would be permitted.

I was not aware that ODF constructed trails and maintained them such as the one mile nature trail loop adjacent to the KOSS site. Will this trail be considered for public use or strictly for KOSS use? If available to the public what form(s) of trail recreation will be permitted (stock, motorized, bicycle, foot only) and how will it be administered and maintained to comply with the forests recreation strategy.

Last year I had requested all printed information/official plans that pertained to that years required annual development plan between ODF and KOSS, but I don't remember receiving any of this material . Please forward the 2007 information along and when the 2008 becomes available send this along too.

Again I thank you for the chance to become involved in the Oregon State Forest operations management plan.

Sincerely,



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Forestry

Klamath-Lake District
3200 DeLap Road
Klamath Falls, OR 97601
(541) 883-5681
FAX (541) 883-5555

April 28, 2008



Dear Mr. [redacted]

Thank you for taking the time to review and respond to our 2009 Annual Operations plan. I will respond to each of your comments individually as listed below.

"question whether Sun Mountain Road could be considered a "high traffic road"

Sun Mountain Road is listed as a Mainline road in Oregon Department of Forestry's Road Classification. The definition of a mainline road is one that supports at least 20,000 acres (combined ODF and other landowners), surfaced with durable aggregate, and has a running surface of 14 to 18 feet. It receives the largest amount of traffic of all of our Sun Pass roads and is listed as an improved gravel road on all State, County, and Federal maps. It receives much more than normal forest type activity. Many people use this road system as a cutoff to Highway 97, therefore the "high traffic" terminology.

"seasonal restrictions may be applied" in the Slapdash Timber Sale.

"seasonal restrictions will be in place" in the Switcheroo Timber Sale.

The Slapdash Timber sale is outside of our Forest Connectivity Areas (FCA), while Switcheroo is located within. This provides for the slight differences in management. Since the FCA is specifically managed for Pileated Woodpecker nesting and activity, we have committed to a No harvest Activities between April 1 – June 30. Outside of the FCA's we will avoid harvest within ¼ mile of a known active nest site, between April 1 – June 30. Therefore a seasonal restriction may be applied if we have a known nesting site within Slapdash.

"pump chance/wildlife pond project"

This project is still in the developmental stage, with nothing decided or committed at this time. ODF is in contact with ODF&W and working on a plan that will benefit all parties.

"High Desert Trail Riders Back Country Horsemen actively using the KOSS site"

There is no connection between the KOSS site and High Desert Trail Riders Back Country Horsemen. The Horsemen have requested a temporary special use permit to



create an area near the KOSS site that would serve as a starting/stopping point for rides between Kimball State Park and Collier State Park. Minor brush removal to allow parking of horse trailers would be the extent of the construction. They are currently using this site and have been for the last 5 years. They would like to remove some brush and post a sign defining the road system that joins Kimball State Park with Collier State Park. This is still under review and in no way will it be a "horse facility", just a spot to park a horse trailer and stage the horses off the main road.

"ODF constructed and maintained trails"

The one mile nature trail you speak of is a trail built near the KOSS site for the students to walk and learn. It will have stops with informational signs posted along the way. This fits very well within our Eastern Region Long Range Forest Management Plan. A current strategy within our recreation section allows us to provide information through brochures, signs, tour opportunities, and contact with schools. This educational loop trail will be one tool used to provide information on a "working forest". Maintenance will be minimal and completed by our fire crews as part of their chainsaw training and physical conditioning. This is a very steep trail that will not permit any kind of activity other than walking.

"Annual development plan between ODF and KOSS"

I will forward this information as it becomes available.

Approved annual operations plans will be posted on the department's web site at [http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE FORESTS/Annual Operations Plans.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/Annual_Operations_Plans.shtml). Your comments and our responses will be posted on the website. Your letter will be identified by your first name and the initial of your last name. Your address, email, and phone number will be blocked out. Organization letterhead will be retained. If you have any concerns regarding the posting of your comments please contact:

Roger Welty, Planning Specialist
Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310
503-945-7258, fax: 503-945-7376

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Hunt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill Hunt
District Forester