

Skyline Forest Phase I

Forest Legacy Program FY 2009 Funding \$ 2,500,000

FY 2009 Non-Federal Cost Share \$ 7,500,000

FY 2009 Project Costs \$ 10,000,000

FY 2009 Project Acres 14,000

Partners: Deschutes Basin Land Trust

The Deschutes Basin Land Trust seeks to conserve 28,000 acres of prime Ponderosa pine forestland that has a high likelihood of being auctioned off in smaller parcels. This property, known as the Skyline Forest, is adjacent to Bend, OR in the southeast and Deschutes National Forest along the western and most eastern boundary. Bend is one of the fastest growing areas in the nation having seen its population triple since 1980 with expectations that it will double again by 2025. Skyline has provided forest products and local access for over 80 years. Skyline's previous owner, however, filed for bankruptcy in 2004 and their creditors formed Cascade Timberlands (CT) to auction off the forest assets. The Trust and Cascade have agreed that Cascade will retain 5,000 in fee ownership of which they will develop 1,500. Upon receiving entitlements, they will contribute 28,000 acres to the Trust. This project would allow the Trust to sell an easement on the 28,000 acres to the Oregon Department of Forestry with the proceeds being used to fund a management endowment and/or pay the seller if required. A stewardship plan for the property would provide sustainable forest management for timber, recreation, watershed, and viewshed protection.

South Eugene Hills Phase II

Forest Legacy Program FY 2009 Funding \$ 1,955,670

FY 2009 Non-Federal Cost Share \$ 2,830,330

FY 2009 Project Costs \$ 4,786,000

FY 2009 Project Acres 400

Partners: City of Eugene

The South Eugene Hills project combines the Forest Legacy Program with ongoing regional efforts in watershed protection, wildlife habitat protection, open space preservation and recreation to conserve portions of the largest remaining undeveloped oak woodland, mixed-conifer and oak savanna habitat in the Willamette Valley. The project is a multi-year effort to conserve a critically imperiled habitat type located within the highest priority Oregon Legacy Area. This area includes the best quality and most diverse oak woodlands, the most northerly stands of California Black Oak, and some of the best remaining oak savannas and mixed conifer woodlands in the Willamette Valley. The area includes important habitat for many endangered and rare species and species-of-concern, including some endemic to these forests and woodlands. The ecological values are among the highest in the state. Phase I was completed in 2007. Phase II proposes a 41% match to acquire 2 fee simple tracts totaling 400 acres that will conserve rare native plant communities, protect headwater streams and provide key recreational and habitat connections between Eugene's.