

YEAR IN REVIEW 2007

Fremont-Winema National Forests



FREMONT-WINEMA NATIONAL FORESTS
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LAKEVIEW, OREGON

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LETTER FROM THE FOREST SUPERVISOR

Thanks to all our employees, cooperators, partners and stakeholders. What you do and how you do it makes a difference every day.

The Fremont and Winema National Forests were administratively combined in 2002. Today, these two Forests have transitioned into a strong cohesive unit that work together to restore the unique ecosystems of each forest.

Highlighted in this 2007 Stakeholders Report is the progress and accomplishments the Fremont-Winema National Forests have made toward this common goal.

In all Forest operations, managing for resilient healthy ecosystems is a responsibility our employees and community partners take seriously.

This report shows how the efforts of our dedicated staff and partners have resulted in the many successes of the 2007 Fremont-Winema National Forests' programs for vegetation management, fuel reduction, watershed and aquatics, wildlife, recreation and conservation education.

Together, we completed important stream restoration and hazardous fuel reduction projects. We launched the Travel Management and Lake of the Woods Vegetation Management planning efforts. We also developed a 10-year Stewardship Contract to help meet forest restoration objectives with



commercial by-products and significant fuel reduction.

This critical connection - between the Forest and local communities - helps both the land and the people thrive in south central Oregon.

We look forward to another exciting year in 2008. And as always, we invite you to visit the Fremont-Winema National Forests to enjoy the variety of recreation opportunities and scenery it has to offer.

Karen Shimamoto

Karen Shimamoto
Forest Supervisor of Fremont-Winema
National Forests



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest restoration in partnership with our neighbors.

In 2007, the Fremont-Winema National Forests and its partners focused restoration efforts in the forest uplands and ponderosa pine ecosystem of the Upper Klamath Basin, Chewaucan Watershed, Jack Creek Watershed and Lakeview Stewardship Unit.

The vegetation projects currently underway in these areas are thinning overly dense forest and providing more open habitats. This allows the remaining trees to get more moisture, sunlight and nutrients and grow larger, which benefits wildlife species dependent on larger trees

Large, old-growth trees in the ponderosa pine ecosystem are scarce due to past management practices of cutting mostly large trees and suppressing wildfires. the Forest to become dense. Before human intervention, wildfire functioned to keep these forests open and free of small fuels such as shrubs and dead branches. This helped develop and sustain abundant stands of large old-growth ponderosa pine. Returning the forest to its more open condition also helps increase the quantity and quality of water, and allows fire to play a more natural role in sustaining ponderosa pine ecosystems.

The Forest is also preparing a long range vegetation management plan to better address deteriorating forest health in the Lake of the Woods recreation area. The timber stands surrounding the Lake of the Woods area is comprised of Douglas-fir, white fir, ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine. Many of the trees are in poor condition due to root rot, over crowding, insect infestations and damage sustained from interactions with humans, vehicles, building construction and frequent high water tables.

The goal of the project is to develop a healthy forest while still



Chewaucan Restoration Project



Lake of the Woods on the Klamath Ranger District



Bald Butte on the Paisley Ranger District

providing an enjoyable recreational experience. The management challenge here is to leave healthy trees in a pattern that protects them from wind, insects and disease, while maintaining the attractive setting that makes Lake of the Woods such a popular recreation area.

Another vegetation planning process for public safety and forest health that is underway is the Red Zone Integrated Pest Management Project on the Bly and Paisley Ranger Districts. Over several years, many lodgepole pines on these two Ranger Districts have died due to epidemic level infestations of mountain pine beetles.

The planned project will remove dead, infested and dying trees along nearby roads and in campgrounds to address public safety concerns. It will also cut patches of dead and dying trees in strategically

located areas to give firefighters a safer area to slow the spread of fire and reduce the threat to the remaining live tree stands.

On the reforestation end of vegetation

management, the Forest successfully reforested 3,894 acres burned in catastrophic wildfires. Most of these were in high elevations where natural regeneration would not be possible.

A major contribution to the overall effort was a \$100,000 grant from The National Arbor Day Foundation post-fire restoration program. This grant – one of only five projects funded by the Foundation in 2007 – offset the cost of over 200,000 ponderosa pine seedlings planted in 2002 Toolbox Fire burned area.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

2007

- The Klamath Tribes
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
- The Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group
- Lake County Resources Initiative
- Fremont-Winema Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)
- The Collins Companies
- Marubeni Sustainable Energy
- Klamath and Lake counties
- Local communities
- Local fire departments
- Local watershed councils

FUEL REDUCTION PROGRAM

Working together for healthy forests; safe communities.

The Fremont-Winema National Forests led the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Region in fuel reduction treatments in 2007.

The goal of the Forest's Fuel Reduction Program is to build resiliency into the landscape to prevent catastrophic wildfires, restore ecosystems when fires do occur and provide economic benefits in communities. This program focuses on the healthy recovery of ecological functions, wildlife habitat and biological diversity by utilizing a combination of mechanical and prescribed burn treatments.

In 2007, the Forest reduced hazardous fuels on 9,896 acres in the wildland urban interface (WUI) near local communities and 6,330 acres outside of the WUI. As a result, any fire that enters these areas will be of lower intensity and be easier to suppress.

Another important part of the Fuel Reduction Program is ensuring that this work is done across the landscape in partnership with its neighbors.

Employees from the Fremont-Winema National Forests, Chiloquin-Agency Lake Rura I Fire Protection District and The Klamath Tribes were recognized by the Pacific Northwest Region with the 2007 "Caring for the Land and Serving People Award" for community partnership efforts to reduce hazardous fuels around the at-risk community of Chiloquin, Ore.

Their collective fuel reduction efforts lowered fire hazard and improved forest health on 18,763 acres of National Forest System lands, all within Chiloquin's WUI.



FUEL REDUCTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2007
- Commercial Thinning 10,539 acres
 - Pre-commercial Thinning 8,021 acres
 - Thinning of Natural Fuels 2,055 acres
 - Natural Fuels Underburning 12,816 acres
 - Mastication/Mowing 300 acres
 - Machine Piling 1,963 acres
 - Pile Burning 6,856 acres
 - Removal of Natural Fuels/Lop and Scatter 7,037 acres
 - Chipping of Fuels 1,511 acres

BIOMASS

Collaborating with partners on alternative power, restoration and jobs.

A part of the Fremont-Winema National Forests ongoing contribution to community and economic health, the Forest is now contributing to the biomass production effort.

In 2007, the Forest was proud to participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony held in Lakeview, Ore., to dedicate The Collins Companies' newly-build \$6.6 million small-diameter sawmill, capable of processing logs less than 10 inches in diameter.

The event also kicked off the \$20 million Marubeni Sustainable Energy's biomass plant. The Lakeview plant, still in the planning stage, will be built at The Collins Pine Lakeview Sawmill and be the first new biomass facility in Oregon since 1992. The plant is expected to produce about 13 megawatts of

renewable energy a year. A megawatt generally provides enough energy for 600 rural single-family residences or 1,000 urban single-family residences.

Together, these facilities will keep 80 jobs in Lake County and allow local processing of smaller woody material from

organizations to providing a predictable, economical and ecologically sustainable supply of biomass.

In other biomass efforts, the Forest also negotiated two biomass sales. These sales allowed removal of logging residue piles from closed timber sales that would have

20 - YEAR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PARTICIPANTS

- The Collins Companies
- Marubeni Sustainable Energy
- Lake County Resources Initiative
- Fremont-Winema National Forests
- Lakeview District of the Bureau of Land Management
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Lake County
- Town of Lakeview

public and private lands. The removal of this material will aid the Forest in its forest restoration efforts and help reduce the buildup of hazardous fuels.

The Forest also signed a 20-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with eight partners to confirm the commitment of all cooperating

normally been burned. More than 11,000 tons of biomass were sold and used to generate electricity in White City, Ore. Several more biomass sales are planned for 2008.



STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

Creating contracts that fund restoration work.

Stewardship contracts generate revenue by the sale of forest products, which becomes a source of funding for more restoration work. It is a tool the Forest Service uses to implement a variety of land management treatments. Long-term stewardship contracts help provide a more stable supply of raw material from the Stewardship Unit and improve forest health.

Here is the status of a number of stewardship projects that the Fremont-Winema National Forests are working on:

- The nearly-completed Bull Stewardship Project produced over five million board feet of sawlog material. Most of the biomass material on the Bull Stewardship Project has been piled and is available for use.
- The awarded Kava Stewardship Project is expected to provide approximately two million board feet of sawlog material. This project will thin and reduce hazardous fuels on almost 963 acres.
- The awarded Trail Stewardship Project is expected to provide approximately 13 million board feet of sawlog material. This project will thin and reduce hazardous fuels on almost 3,000 acres.
- The awarded Burnt Willow Stewardship Project is expected to

provide approximately 10 million board feet of sawlog material and 15,000 tons of biomass. This project will thin and reduce hazardous fuels on almost 6,000 acres.

10-YEAR STEWARDSHIP CONTRACT

In 2007, The Fremont-Winema National Forests moved **forward on planning for a first-of-its-kind 10-year stewardship contract**. This contract will allow the Forest to use a stewardship service contract that includes "embedded" timber sales to generate revenue from **thinning projects that will be reinvested through work on fuels reduction and watershed restoration projects. It is expected to provide at least 10 million board feet annually of sawlog, plus biomass material.**

This 10-year stewardship contract is just one tool that is enabling the Forest to work with local communities to create jobs, develop new businesses and improve environmental conditions on the public lands around them.

In February 2008, solicitation for the 10-year stewardship contract was issued with proposals due in April. The U.S. Forest Service Northwest Region's Purchasing Office held a pre-proposal meeting in Lakeview, Ore., to discuss the details of the contract. Interest in the solicitation exceeded the Forest's expectation and was attended by potential prime contractors, subcontractors, collaborative groups and other agencies.

- The awarded Millrip Stewardship Project is a riparian habitat improvement project to remove lodgepole pine from former aspen and willow stands. It will remove over one million board feet of sawlog material from 109 acres and prepare the units for underburning.
- The Forest completed the environmental analysis of the Buck Stewardship and Abe Stewardship projects. These projects will go out for contracting in 2008.

TITLE II RESTORATION PROJECTS

Working with our counties for sustainable forests and jobs.



In the past seven years, the Fremont-Winema Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) allocated more than \$15 million of Title II funding to watershed restoration projects that also provided significant employment opportunities to local communities.

In 2007, the RAC recommended approximately \$2.89 million of Title II funding for 29 watershed restoration projects on the Fremont-Winema National Forests and adjoining private lands. These projects fully or partially supported employment of 471 people for a total of 3,766 days devoted to Title II project implementation in both Klamath and Lake counties.

Of the 29 funded projects, 17 were in Klamath County and 12 in Lake County. The RAC supported funding of 10 proposals submitted by nonprofits and agencies outside of the Forest Service, including Lake County Watershed Council, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Lake County Resource Initiative, Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and private landowners.

The Fremont -Winema RAC is chartered by the Secretary of Agriculture as part of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (SRS). The RAC consists of 18 Oregon citizens representing a broad range of viewpoints and experiences.

TITLE II PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fuels Reduction (e.g. prescribed fire, slashbusting and thinning):

- 11,770 acres

2007

Noxious Weeds/Re-establish Native Species:

- Controlled/eliminated 1,621 acres of noxious weeds and identified 394 new sites as priority for treatment.
- Produced 5,315 pounds of native seeds and seedlings.

Fish Passage and Habitat:

- Replaced seven fish barriers with new culverts and removed one completely to restore stream channel.
- Treated 19 stream miles for fish habitat restoration

Riparian Health:

- Produced 17,500 riparian seedlings to re-establish native species.
- Stabilized 1,200 feet of stream bank.
- Restored three miles of stream channel.
- Maintained and decommissioned 1.5 miles of roads.
- Constructed 3.7 miles of fence and removed 2.5 miles of old fence.
- Constructed 1,250 feet of buck and pole fence for meadow protection and restored spring source.

Forest Trash Removal:

- Cleaned up five sites, including traffic barriers.

Monitoring:

- Monitored 400 plots for vegetation management and restoration effectiveness. Data collected at all sites.
- Constructing 1,250 feet of buck and pole fence for meadow protection.
- Restoring spring source.
- Cleaning up trash and traffic barriers at five forest sites.
- Monitoring 400 plots for vegetation management and restoration effectiveness.

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

Cooperating to deal with invasive species.

Invasive plants are significant threats to our nation's forest and rangeland ecosystems. Over time infestation of non-native plants have caused displacement of native plants, degradation of fish and wildlife habitat, and increased the intensity and frequency of wildland fire.

The Fremont-Winema National Forests sought public comment in 2007 on a proposed project to treat invasive plants on forest lands using various control methods. There are presently 24 species of invasive plants infesting approximately 7,379 acres of the Forest.

Over the next 10-15 years, the Forest proposes to control invasive plants in a cost-effective manner that complies with environmental standards. The number of acres treated in a given year would depend on funding and the success of previous treatments.

In 2007, the Forest treated approximately 2,130 acres infested with invasive species using manual and chemical control means applied by crews from the Forest, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Klamath County, private contractors and Integral Youth Services. The Forest also continued inventorying and monitoring infestations of invasive species, identified about 400 new sites, and monitored nearly half of the 4,000 known infestation sites.

In addition, the Forest made public education about invasive plants in Lake and Klamath counties a top priority. Forest staff made themselves available for plant identification and presentations to community groups, local schools and summer camps. The Forest also initiated weed tours in cooperation with multiple partners.



WATERSHED AND AQUATIC PROGRAM

Watershed by watershed, working for better water and habitat.

The Fremont-Winema National Forests' Watershed and Aquatic Program is about maintaining and enhancing watershed health.

Many watersheds on the Forest are unique in that they are fed by large springs, which rise in the headwaters of streams and run into marshes along the Forest boundary. These waters are home to a wide variety of native fish species including chub, dace, lamprey, sculpin, sucker and trout.

In 2007, the Forest implemented the following restoration strategies and recovery actions:

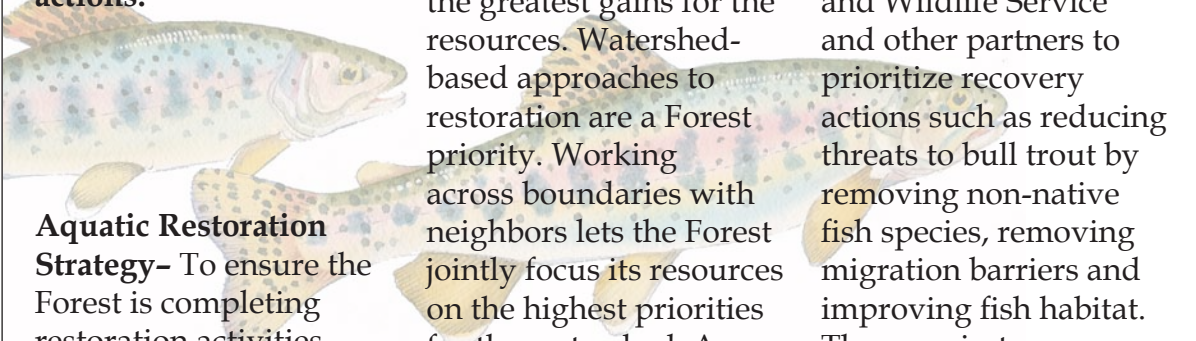
Aquatic Restoration Strategy- To ensure the Forest is completing restoration activities in the highest priority area, it is following the Forest Service's Pacific

Northwest Region Aquatic Restoration Strategy. This strategy requires the prioritization of watershed restoration efforts on National Forest lands. The Forest is in the process of completing watershed action plans for one or more high priority watersheds. The action plans will focus future watershed restoration activities. These focused efforts will guide our future activities over the next decade.

Watershed Restoration- Since natural resource issues cross ownership boundaries, watershed-wide approaches to land management are preferred and result in the greatest gains for the resources. Watershed-based approaches to restoration are a Forest priority. Working across boundaries with neighbors lets the Forest jointly focus its resources on the highest priorities for the watershed. An example of this approach is occurring in the Upper Sycan Watershed of the

Klamath Basin where the Forest is partnering with private landowners to facilitate year-round passage of native fish by rehabilitating irrigation structures, replacing road culverts and eliminating barriers to fish migrations and movement on both private and federal lands.

Endangered Species Recovery Actions- The Forest is leading recovery efforts for five fish species federally listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by implementing recovery actions with partners. Forest staff are working closely with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other partners to prioritize recovery actions such as reducing threats to bull trout by removing non-native fish species, removing migration barriers and improving fish habitat. These projects are critical to the continued existence and recovery of these species.



WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM

Mountains to desert, working for better wildlife habitat.

The
Fremont-
Winema
National

Forests' Wildlife Program protects and enhances habitat for wildlife species of all sorts, from amphibians and birds to mammals and reptiles.

In 2007, the Forest implemented the following recovery actions, enhancement projects and research and monitoring efforts:

Oregon Spotted Frogs Conservation and Recovery- It is estimated that the Oregon spotted frog species lost around 70-90% of its historic habitat. These frogs are highly aquatic and live in or near permanent bodies of water. The Forest is addressing the spotted frog population decline in the Klamath Basin by collaborating with private landowners, identifying wetland restoration projects within occupied habitat and monitoring populations using egg mass surveys.



Western Juniper Cutting for Shrub/Steppe Habitat Enhancement-

In the last 100 years, western juniper has expanded its presence in the west, dominating former grass and shrub lands. In addressing western juniper encroachment, the Forest is working to reduce the number of younger junipers in habitat once dominated by shrubs and herbaceous vegetation favored by sage grouse, mule deer and songbirds. Cutting the younger, encroaching juniper protects soil resources, plant community structure, forage production, wildlife habitat and biodiversity. Forest staff also worked cooperatively with private landowners to cut 365 acres of juniper.

Research Projects- Wildlife research

projects in the Forest include a spotted owl demographic study undertaken by Oregon State University. In cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Research Station and The Nature Conservancy, the Forest is also conducting two studies to evaluate the effects of wildfire or prescribed fire on birds through the Birds and Burns Network. These studies help the Forest better understand the effects its management practices have on avian wildlife.

Monitoring- The Forest continues its efforts to monitor bald eagle, peregrine falcon, goshawk and great gray owl populations. The Forest also is observing neotropical migratory bird patterns in partnership with the Klamath Bird Observatory and the Institute for Bird Populations. This monitoring helps the Forest better understand overall trends in wildlife populations.

RECREATION FACILITIES

Caring for current recreation sites.

The Fremont-Winema National Forests are known for scenic vistas and places where visitors may still find solitude. In the spring, summer and fall, visitors hike, bike, ride horses, hang glide, watch birds, camp, fish and hunt, to name a few activities. In the winter, they cross-country ski, snowshoe and snowmobile.

In 2007, the Forest upgraded a number of recreation sites:

Williamson River Campground- After a year and a half of being closed for reconstruction, the Forest reopened the Williamson River Campground with new amenities sought by today's camping public. The new amenities included a host site, wheelchair accessible camping areas, a pressure water system and vault toilets.

In addition, the campground was relocated away from the river to help reduce future resource damage to the area. Moving the campground allowed

the Forest to construct a new loop road increasing the number of camp sites from 10 to 20. The sites were also enlarged to accommodate recreation vehicle parking.

The project was paid for by Title II dollars from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act and U.S. Forest Service Capital Investment Funds.

Dog Lake Boat Ramp- The Forest completed upgrades to the boat launching facilities at Dog Lake, a popular bass, perch and crappie fishing spot. The updated boat ramp and dock makes the lake more accessible for fishing enthusiasts. The new facilities were funded by the Forest and an Oregon State Marine Board grant.

Recreation Hazard Tree Removal- To improve public safety, the Forest removed hazard trees from Deadhorse, Campbell, Miller Lake and Lake of the Woods recreation areas.

ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING HIGHLIGHTS

2007

- The Forest partnered with the City of Chiloquin to extend the city water main to the Chiloquin Ranger District office. City water was needed to replace and old administrative site water system.
- The Bly Lookout, formerly a fire lookout used at the Bly Ranger District compound, was sold to the community of Bly. The top of the lookout, called a cab, was moved and installed at the local park to let the public enjoy local history.

RECREATION FACILITIES ANALYSIS

Looking at recreation sites to best serve people in the future.

The Fremont-Winema National Forests are committed to responsibly serve the public by efficiently operating and, when necessary, modifying the services to ensure recreation sites are managed to standard and provide the right opportunities in the right places. As demographics change and new challenges are presented, it is the Forest's responsibility to respond and ensure the appropriate recreation services and facilities are available to the public. In an effort to meet the current growing and changing demands of the visitors and provide healthy, safe and well-maintained recreation opportunities, the Forest conducted a Recreation Facilities Analysis.

This analysis is helping the Forest create a sustainable program that aligns recreation sites with visitors' desires, expectations and use. This local process reflects a national effort to better manage and improve the quality of

developed recreation sites across the entire National Forest system.

The Recreation Facilities Analysis guided the Forest through evaluation of all developed recreation site, including campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads and boat launches. This study considered alignment with the recreation niche, financial efficiency and environmental and community stability.



In May 2008, the Forest began the public involvement phase of the Recreation Facility Analysis planning process. Involvement by local publics, surrounding communities and recreation visitors is a critical and essential component. With the help of these constituents, this analysis will result in a higher quality, more efficiently managed recreation program.

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Working together to find the roads best traveled.

TMore Americans than ever are using motorized vehicles to enjoy the outdoors. When used responsibly, operation of motor vehicles is an appropriate use of National Forest lands, including the Fremont-Winema National Forests.

However, irresponsible motorized use can result in damage to both the land and experiences that visitors come to enjoy.

The Fremont-Winema National Forests are renowned for their scenic vistas and solitary places. A well-managed system of roads and trails can facilitate visitor's full enjoyment of the vast amount of lands this Forest encompasses.

In order to ensure quality experiences for all forest users, the Fremont-Winema National Forests took the first step toward developing a motorized Travel Management Plan in 2007. This effort is also in response to the "Final Travel Management Rule" published by the Forest Service in November 2005. It requires each national forest to designate those roads, trails and areas open to motor vehicle use. The goal is to secure a wide range of motorized vehicle opportunities while ensuring the best possible care of the land. Due to the complexity of the Forest's

road system and the anticipation of a high degree of public interest, the Fremont-Winema National Forests felt it was important to engage the public early in the planning process. Public participation is critical to success of the Travel Management objective of

developing a plan that allows for long-term sustainable motor vehicle use, while balancing public desires and natural resource needs.

The Forest held a series of workshops and discussions with the public in

2007 about the meaning of the rule, its potential affects on motorized use on the Forest and how the public can provide input. As a part of the community involvement, the Forest asked the public for help in mapping special places where access is either desired or should be restricted. Also, involved in the planning are various federal, state, county, city and tribal governments and local recreation organizations.

Based on a combination of previously existing management direction and the public input received to date, the Forest is preparing a Proposed Action that would identify a system of designated routes. This proposal will be released in the summer of 2008 for additional public review and comments.



GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS

Sharing work and money where it benefits us all.

Grants and agreements allow the Fremont-Winema National Forests to share costs on mutually beneficial projects.

The Forest now has about 137 agreements in place with more than 80 partners who worked with the Forest to develop, plan and implement approximately 137 projects. In 2007, our partners contribute an estimated \$537,252 in cash towards projects.

Grants and agreements 2007 highlights:

- The Forest contributed \$5,000 to the Klamath, Lake, Modoc, Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Challenge Cost Share Agreement promoting recreation and tourism in four counties. In 2007, a major accomplishment included establishment of the Klamath County Birding Trail map and support of the Volcanic Legacy All-American Road. This partnership

enhances the local economy in the Lake and Klamath counties through promotion of recreation and tourism opportunities.

- The Forest received a State Recreation Trails Program Grant for \$95,000 to build a snow shelter at Annie Creek Sno-Park. The Forest also received a Klamath County Snowmobile Trails Rehabilitation Grant for \$25,543. These two projects are in partnership with three local snowmobile clubs who are contributing labor to match the value of the grants.

- To help with travel management planning and road inventory activities, the Forest received two Oregon Parks and Recreation ATV Grants. The planning grant is for

\$181,000. The inventory grant is for \$100,000 and is in partnership with the BLM. These funds allow the Forest to better work with the public in planning for

the designation of motorized opportunities.

- The Forest continues work on the following previously awarded grant projects: Chemult Train Station

(\$341,000); Beaver Marsh Rest Area Byway Kiosk (\$176,000); Crystal Springs Byway Kiosk (\$39,500); Pelican Guard Station Restoration (\$220,000); and Doak Mountain Interpretive Stop (\$55,000). These long-term Volcanic Legacy All-America Road projects will benefit the local economy by providing an enriching travel experience through Klamath County. Most of these projects are partnerships with Oregon Department of Transportation.



CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Learning together about caring for the land to serve people.

Connecting people to the land has always been an important mission for the Fremont-Winema National Forest. The Forest is proud of all of its conservation education activities and employee contributions – and equally proud of Shirley Kerns, the Forest Service’s Pacific Northwest



Shirley Kerns

Region recipient of the 2007 Gifford Pinchot Excellence in Interpretation and Conservation Education Award.

Kerns was recognized for her enduring commitment to natural resource education as the Resources and People (RAP) Camp Coordinator for the past 16 years. She has brought together a broad mix of partners to offer

education, financial and volunteer support for this program.

Kerns has been devoted to getting “more kids in the woods” long before it became a national initiative for the Forest Service. Each year, Kerns recruits students between the ages of 13-18 from rural and urban areas in California, Oregon and Washington to attend the camp.

Kerns has also forged strong links within the teaching community.



2007 Resources and People (RAP) Camp

Teachers who participate in the camp earn graduate credits from Southern Oregon University. They also get the opportunity to write natural resource curriculum that will be use back in their classrooms.

Since its inception in 1992, RAP Camp has provided over 800 students a chance to learn about natural resource management by providing them an opportunity to take part in natural resource workshops, outdoor recreation activities, educational field trips and a career fair. In 2007, RAP Camp also received one of the first 24 national “More Kids in the Woods” program grants.

The Forest also works with many partners – including other agencies and nonprofit organizations – to coordinate, develop and deliver high-quality, science-base education programs and materials.

In 2007, the Forest participated in numerous community events, such as the International Migratory Bird Day, Lakeview Irish Days



Sixth Annual Fourmile Quarry Ponds Free Fishing Day



Chemult Dog Races

Celebration, Klamath Falls Horse Packing and Wilderness Skills Clinic, Outback National Scenic Byway Celebration, Klamath Falls Sixth Grade Forestry Tour, Klamath County Fair, Lake County Fair and

Chemult Sled Dog Races. The Forest also organized events for National Trails Day, Oregon’s Free Fishing Day and National Public Lands Day, as well as hosting wildflower walks and noxious weed tours.