

# RAC events

on the Fremont-Winema National Forests



October 2006  
Issue VI

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## RAC COMMITTEE

### MEMBERS 2004-2007

*Pete Talbott (chair)*

*Gary Johnson*

*Sherm Radtke*

*Lani Hickey*

*Melvin Dick*

*Fred Rasmussen*

*Mary Baker*

*Bill Duke*

*Anita Ward*

*Richard Brown*

*Craig Bienz*

*Clair Thomas*

*Jane O'Keeffe*

*Al Switzer*

*Don Gentry*

*Brett Johnson*

## Fremont-Winema RAC Field Tour

Fall is the perfect time of year to venture into the woods and see what is happening on the Forest. The RAC and Forest Service staff chose September for the fourth annual RAC field tour; a chance to go out and get a first hand look at some of the projects they helped to fund with Title II dollars. Past, current and future project sites were visited. The tour began on the Lake County side of the Forest.

The Winter Rim and the Sycan Marsh areas were the focus of the field tour on the first day. The Sycan River is identified by the Fremont-Winema National Forest as a priority watershed. The RAC helped fund projects in this area that will improve the use of the water as well as the land. The Winter Rim Fence project, located on forest and private land, will construct a fence that will benefit the two private land owners and the Forest by creating a more effective rotation of allotment use.

The group also visited the site of one of three weir projects recommended for funding by the RAC for 2007. Located in the Sycan River, the projects involve survey and design and two weir replacements. Weir improvements involving the installation of flat plate screens will result in better fish passage for bull trout and improve water flow for irrigators.

The Winter Rim Fence project and the Sycan Marsh Weir projects have brought to the table a diverse group of partners. The Fremont-Winema Forest, the ZX Ranch and the Withers' Ranch came together to advance range management on the Winter Rim Fence project; while the Sycan Marsh Weir projects are the direct result of a cooperative effort by The Nature Conservancy (TNC), The Klamath Tribes, The Forest, The ZX Ranch and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The collaboration of ideas as well as the sharing of the expense is a remarkable accomplishment that all agree is working extremely well.

Day one finished with a visit to Coyote Creek where Forest Fish Biologist Dave Hogen explained the need for a new culvert. The group agreed that in order to return this water system to its proper function the Coyote Creek culvert should be replaced.

(Continued on page 2)



*Site of the Sycan Weir 2 project  
Objective: design a new structure that would allow fish free passage as well as continue to irrigate the meadow.*

**Putting Local People to Work at Ecosystem Restoration**

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## **Smokey Blanket**

### **Payments to States National Web site**

This year, as incentive to keep updates current on the National Payments to States Website, the Washington Office created a contest with the much coveted retro Smokey Bear Pendleton blanket to be awarded to the winner. The Washington Office uses this website to track expenditures and accomplishments of Title II dollars. As each RAC coordinator across the nation completed his or her update they were to contact Cynthia Haverkate and /or Debra Whitall. The coordinator's name was then added to the hat. The cutoff date for submission arrived, Cyndi put her hand into the hat and drew out Lucinda Nolan from the Fremont-Winema RAC. Lucinda was surprised and thrilled. "I want to thank all the project coordinators for getting their updates to me in a timely fashion so that I could successfully meet the deadline and win the blanket!"



*( Story Continued from page 1)*

Day two of the tour highlighted projects located on the Klamath Ranger District. A key stop was in the Rocky Point Wildlife Urban Interface where explanation of vegetation management treatments to enhance forest health and reduce fire risk to the community was shared by Deb Shepherd, Assistant Fire Management Officer and Steve Mooney, District Silviculturist. Deb and Steve explained how the public has come to welcome the Forest Service "in their back yards", and is now seeking advice and assistance in making their private land more fire resistant, as was not the case when they first started to work in this area. The acreage treated with combined Forest Appropriated dollars and Title II funds is impressive. The group witnessed first hand the improvements to the Forest health.

The group ended the two day tour with a visit to Rock Creek and an area near the Crater Lake

***"RAC provided a significant amount of funding to help make it possible to reduce hazardous fuels within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) around the Rocky Point Area."***  
***(Steve Mooney)***

National Park boundary to review and discuss fish habitat restoration projects and forest health treatments that were partially funded by Title II dollars. As the group wrapped up the tour all agreed that many of the projects would not have been accomplished without Secure Rural Schools and the Title II program. But what really stood out on this year's field tour, was the cooperation and collaboration between the Forest and it's many partners.



***Neil Anderson explains the Rock Creek Large Woody Debris project to the tour.***



# Title II Accomplishments FY02-07

The Fremont-Winema Advisory Committee has approved 213 projects for funding with FY02-FY07 Title II funds. Out of the 213 projects, 95 projects are complete and an additional 61 are in progress. Currently, 28 are working towards getting their funds obligated and awarding contracts. There are recently 29 new projects recommended and approved for funding in FY2007 by the Forest Supervisor Karen Shimamoto.

Employment figures currently on the books from local contractors involved in implementing RAC projects:  
Klamath County contractors employed 1486 workers for 10,504 days  
Lake County contractors employed 344 workers for 4,079 days.

### Restoration Project Type Accomplishment Summary:

**Forest Health-** 35,916 acres of hazardous fuels treatment and pre-commercial thinning, 750 acres of aspen restoration, 7 spring developments, and 600 acres of forest cleanup

**Road Maintenance and Decommissioning-** .75 miles campground road resurfacing, 24.5 miles road decommissioning

**Other-** 700 monitoring plots established with 3500 acres of Forest monitored annually

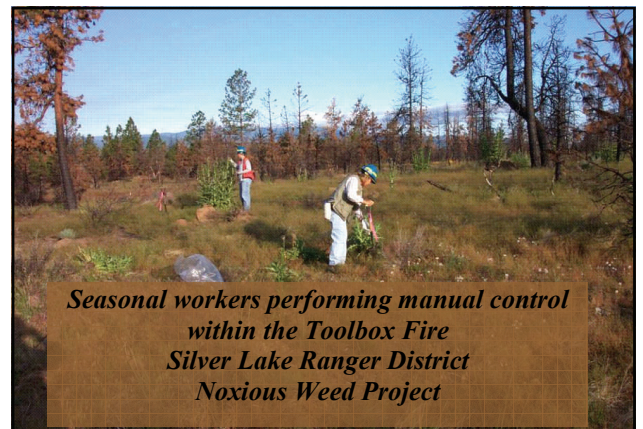


**Fish Habitat-** 95 miles stream bank restoration, 18 culvert replacements, 1 large weir diversion, 2 new designs and 100-150 structures (woody debris placement)

**Watershed Restoration-** 15 miles livestock control fence around meadows, 3766 acres riparian restoration, 500 acres planted, 2 campgrounds, 6 springs, 4 head-cuts and 28 structures (culverts, weirs, etc)



**Noxious Weed Control-** 6173 acres treated, 20,000 acres inventoried and 1383 miles of road mapped



**For more information please contact Amy Gowan, Designated Federal Official, at 530-841-4421 or Lucinda(Cindi) Nolan, RAC Coordinator, at 541-943-4451.**



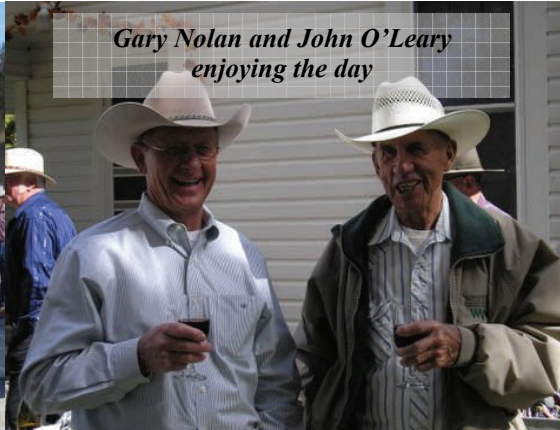
# Paisley Town Weir Celebration

*The Hosts: Tom and Barb Shaw*

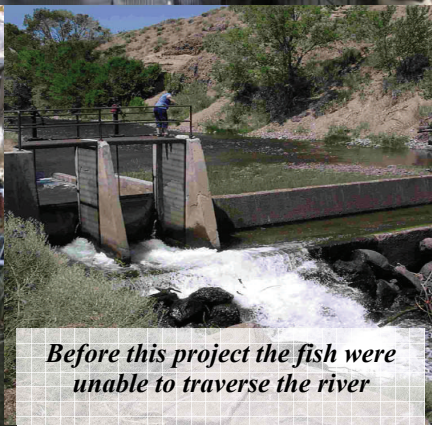
*The new diversion structure*



*Gary Nolan and John O'Leary enjoying the day*



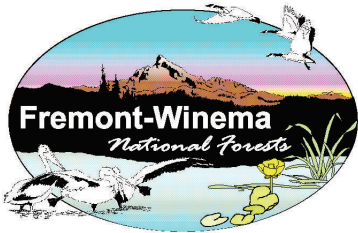
*The food was the only thing that could quiet this crowd.*



*Before this project the fish were unable to traverse the river*



*The river is now open for the fish to come home!*



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