

News Release:



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THE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE UMPQUA RIVERS NAMED AS RECIPIENT OF 2006 TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA® NATIONAL AWARD

(Roseburg, Oregon) – The Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers has been named as a recipient of the 2006 Take Pride in America National Award in the Private Public Partnership category. The award recognizes the Roseburg based (watershed council) partnership group for their outstanding volunteer efforts on Federal, state and local private lands.

Take Pride in America Executive Director Michelle Cangelosi announced the award, and will make a formal presentation at an awards ceremony to be held September 14 at the Department of the Interior in Washington, DC. According to Cangelosi, the Partnership's long history of substantial accomplishments stood out to the judges.

"I'm extremely pleased that we were recognized for this award. It's a tribute to our many volunteers and partners who make our work possible," said Bob Kinyon, Executive Director of the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers.

The Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers is a nonprofit corporation that is charged with enhancing water quality and fish habitat within the Umpqua Basin, stretches from the cascades to the coast in southwest Oregon. Over the last decade, the Partnership has vigorously pursued their mission, working closely with a wide variety of landowners and agencies. Examples of the regional projects that the Partnership for Umpqua Rivers has completed include tree planting, fencing, livestock crossings, stock water, instream log & boulder structures, culvert replacements, volunteer water quality testing, watershed assessments and public education and outreach.

"By working with the Partnership, we've been able to complete stream restoration projects that span ownership boundaries, as well as stretching our limited funds through matching funds and in-kind donations." Said Jay Carlson, the Bureau of Land Management's Roseburg District Manager. "With their help we have been able to accomplish work that previously seemed out of reach."

This year's winners in the annual Take Pride in America awards were selected from nominations representing individuals, groups and projects in 32 different states. "These Take Pride award winners embody the mission of Take Pride by accepting responsibility and taking action to enhance our public lands," Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne said. "It is through their stewardship that they are creating a lasting legacy within their community."

Take Pride in America, an initiative of the U.S. Department of the Interior, is a nationwide partnership program which inspires Americans to volunteer in caring for their public lands. Their goal is to instill an active sense of ownership and responsibility in every citizen for natural, cultural and historic resources, and to support and recognize the efforts of those who volunteer for public lands. For more information, visit www.TakePride.gov.

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