

RAC events

on the Fremont-Winema National Forests

July 2006
Issue V



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RAC Goals and Accomplishments

The Fremont-Winema RAC has made Watershed Restoration a priority and from 2002–2006 put Title II dollars into 61 projects that have come along way in restoring key watersheds and reducing fire threat on the Fremont-Winema National Forests.

Besides watershed restoration projects, the RAC also funded 25 fish habitat improvement projects, many replacing barriers to fish passage and 11 more projects that will improve wildlife habitat on our public lands.

The 45 forest health projects, funded by this RAC to date, will have far reaching benefits not only to the land and the natural resources on the Forest, but to the surrounding communities as well.

One part of the Secure Rural Schools Act of 2000, was to enhance local economies by hiring locally. From Fiscal year 2002–2006 the many restoration projects have managed to employ 1,812 workers for more than 14,522 days.

This great work will continue through fiscal year 2007. (see page 3 for a list of approved projects)

RAC COMMITTEE

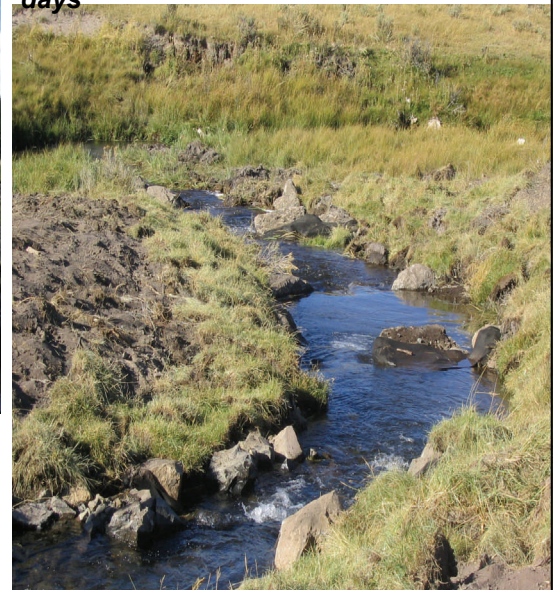
MEMBERS 2004-2007

*Pete Talbott
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
Hank Mroczkowski*



Brown Springs Creek Restoration is an example of a successful partnership between the USFS \$90,000, USFW \$38,900 and a private landowner giving more than \$21,000 in in-kind contributions.

This project employed 12 workers for 272 days



Putting Local People to Work at Ecosystem Restoration



Ecosystem Restoration is
a key component of PL

What is happening with reauthorization?

On June 20, 2006 the RAC finished their review and prioritization process resulting in the recommendation of 18 Forest projects and 10 private land projects (see page three) designed to provide a variety of watershed restoration projects including everything from creating fish passage, treating fuels build up and noxious weeds to enhancing old growth stands and wildlife habitat. The task was especially challenging this year because all projects were well thought out and highly competitive.

As the Summer progresses there is not much new to report regarding reauthorization of PL 106-393 (SRS). At this time the bill sits on the tables of the house and senate awaiting review. Extension of the legislation has strong congressional support but finding a budget to fund the legislation remains the biggest challenge. In the meantime, the Fre-Win RAC continues to do an outstanding job supporting the program through their local knowledge of what is needed on the ground to improve the condition of our watersheds in Klamath and Lake Counties, Oregon. On September 7 and 8, 2006, the RAC, Forest representatives, and other interested parties, plan to visit ongoing and complete RAC projects as well as future sites in need of restoration treatments. So, the collaborative learning process continues. With another year of accomplishing much needed work in our communities.

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Find us on the web at

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/frewin/netspecial-projects/rac/>

(Continued from page 1)

To view project summaries of projects funded by the Fremont-Winema RAC, visit our website (address above) and click on



*Payments to States has a website you may want to check out.
http://www.notes.fs.fed.us:81/r4/payments_to_states.nsf*

This site has a listing of all the projects funded with Title II dollars 2002-2007. Some of the outcomes of these projects can be viewed here as well.

And the Winners are...Approved Projects for 2007

Klamath County...

- Noxious Weed Management, Klamath FW , \$75,000
- Ninemile Restoration Units, Chiloquin, \$72,600
- Three Creeks Pre-commercial Thinning, Chemult, \$101,130
- Ninemile Natural Fuels Reduction , Chiloquin, \$250,000
- Ninemile North Natural Fuels , Chiloquin, \$250,000
- Paradise/Watson NEPA, Paisley, \$10,000
- Rock Creek Large Wood Reintroduction, Klamath Co., \$60,000
- Road 5808-060, Chiloquin, \$93,700
- Paradise Fish Passage, Paisley, \$248,000
- South Fork Fuels Treatment, Bly, \$78,500
- Lone Pine PCT, Chiloquin, \$250,000
- Sycan Weir 6 Fish Passage, External Klamath, \$17,225
- Crane Creek Headgate Replacement, External Klamath, \$26,528
- Rock Marsh Plantation Thin, Chiloquin, \$125,000
- Yosshouse Natural Fuels Outside Harvest, Chiloquin, \$75,000
- Twenty-one Reservoir BLM Bitterbrush Planting, External Klamath Co, \$21,004
- Klamath County Barnes Valley Old Growth Enhancement, Bly, \$128,600



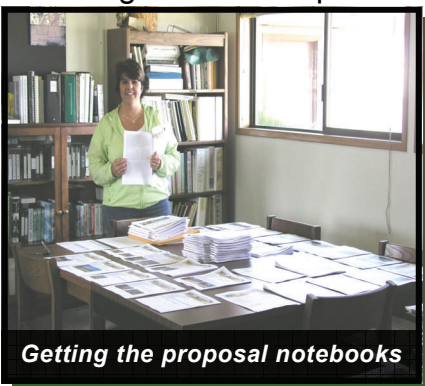
RAC Members make their vote count at the annual prioritization meeting in Klamath Falls, Oregon June 20, 2006

Lake County...

- Cottonwood Creek Watershed Restoration Phase 4, External Lake Co. \$27,118
- Chewaucan Restoration (Paisley Town Weir), External Lake Co. \$50,000
- Noxious Weed Suppression, Lake County Forest Wide, \$100,000
- Cottonwood Creek Watershed Restoration, Lakeview, \$41,000
- Bridge Creek Juniper Thinning, External Lake Co., \$40,000



The RAC discusses the pros and cons of projects



Getting the proposal notebooks

- Sycan Winter Rim Fence , External Lake Co., \$28,200
- Chewaucan Watershed Monitoring, External Lake Co., \$83,530
- UTC Pre-commercial Thinning and Fuel Reduction, Lakeview, \$104,000
- Stateline Pre-commercial Thinning and Fuel Reduction, Lakeview, \$40,000
- Sycan Weir 3 Fish Passage, External Lake Co., \$92,925
- Sycan Weir 2 Design, External Lake Co., \$28,125
- Lake County Barnes Valley Old Growth Enhancement, Bly, \$78,000

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

A Word From the Chair

This past month at the annual prioritization meeting, it became my honor and pleasure to be elected chairman of the Fremont-Winema National Forests RAC. During the past six years it has been our responsibility to advise and recommend to the Forest Supervisors (current and past) and the county commissioners on distribution of Title II funds throughout the Fremont-Winema Forests. We have aimed to take an entire watershed approach to projects that will have **positive impacts on the ground**.

I was pleased to see scores of private requests as well as those from the federal agencies, at our recent prioritization meeting. This enabled the RAC to extend its focus of a whole watershed approach from beyond federal lands to private lands within those watersheds that we feel are a priority. It is important for all to realize that lands, streams, and all the resources associated with them know no boundaries. In order to have healthy watersheds we must look to all ownerships.

The RAC has only acted as a catalyst in accomplishing the many projects that have been funded since the Secure Rural Schools Act was first passed by congress in 2000. It is the people on the ground that have done the real work and provided the positive economic effects and watershed restoration in the rural communities of Lake and Klamath Counties in Southern Oregon. Now is the time for reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools Act. There is so much more to be done in managing healthy watersheds; therefore, I ask everyone to do what ever you can to help in this reauthorization process.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and commend my fellow RAC members, past and present, for an excellent job through their dedication and hard work. But, more importantly with such a diverse group and with varied perspectives, we have always managed to discuss differing points of view and maintain respect for one another and their point of view. I feel this understanding has made our RAC a very strong and effective group.



**Mr. Pete Talbott, chair
Fremont-Winema RAC 2007**

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