

Board of Forestry Tour - Sun Pass State Forest

November 1, 2007

Introduction:

Sun Pass State Forest and the Eastern Region Forest Management Plan

The original 14,450 acres of Sun Pass State Forest was purchased in 1943 for \$21,423.53, or \$1.48 per acre. Since then there have been several exchanges, purchases, and parcels deeded from Klamath County. Today the forest consists of 21,512 acres, 17,812 acres of Board of Forestry lands and 3,700 acres of Common School Forest Lands. The Klamath-Lake District manages a total of 33,265 acres, 6,403 acres of Common School Forest Lands and 26,862 acres of Board of Forestry lands.

The Eastern Region Long-Range Forest Management Plan was approved in October, 1995. For the first time, this plan placed the forest in a regional context by considering the management of surrounding ownerships in determining the management strategies for Sun Pass.

Today's Tour

The tour is divided into three main stops, one for each of the legs of the "Sustainability Stool".

Discussion of the Economic Sector will take place at the boundary between two recent timber sales. At this stop the district will discuss their primary management system, uneven-age management; present data on the two sale areas; and present data on recent economic performance. Speakers representing the county and the timber industry will present their perspectives.

Discussion of the Social Sector will occur at the Klamath Outdoor Science School (KOSS). At this stop speakers from KOSS, Klamath County School District, and a student who has attended will present their perspectives.

Sun Creek is home to a threatened population of bull trout. Efforts are underway to recover this population by reconnecting Sun Creek with the Wood River and by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the adjacent landowner's irrigation system. These efforts will be the topic for discussion at the stop emphasizing the Environmental Sector. Speakers from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Crater Lake National Park, and the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife will present their perspectives.

Themes:

1. ODF has been implementing the plan for 12 years and it is nearly time for a plan review to determine what updates, if any are needed. The district is involved in activities such as the Klamath Outdoor Science School and the restoration of Sun Creek which were not specifically anticipated in the FMP. The plan goals and strategies were general in nature, but provided enough guidance to allow the district to take advantage of these opportunities.
2. The Board of Forestry recently adopted Performance Measures for the State Forests and is considering metrics for NW Oregon state forests. How well do the Performance Measures translate to the eastern region? How might the metrics be adapted to this area?