

# Oregon's Federal Forest Health Program (FFH)

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BOARD OF FORESTRY, MARCH 2016

## From whence it came

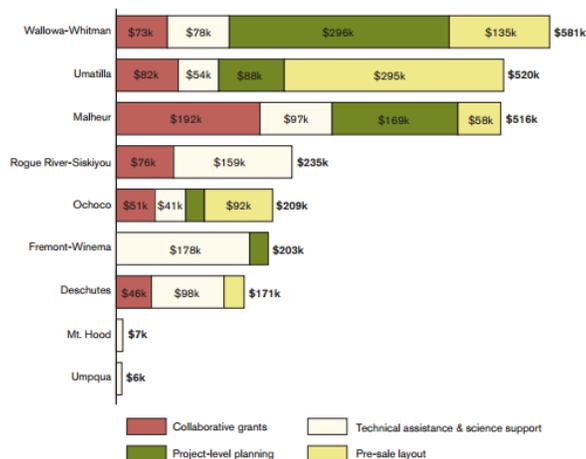
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- 2009 Federal Forest Advisory Committee Report
  - Called for State action, including state funds
  - Identified collaboration as a path forward
- 2012 FFAC Subcommittee scopes out State funding package
- Co-funded Forest Restoration Economic Analysis
- Initial package prioritized in Gov Kitzhaber's 13-15 budget
- FFWG continues: supports collaboratives & informs implementation of the FFH program

# Version 1.0

- 2013-2015 biennium - \$2.88 million
  - “Dry forests” of eastern & SW Oregon
  - USFS only
  - Focus in Blue Mountains
- Staffed with existing positions at ODF; ie. no overhead
  - Relied on lead partner at USFS (Bill Aney)
- Driving assumption:
  - Significant uptick needed on social license & NEPA shelf stock
- USFS “match”: \$10 million

**Figure 6 Oregon Department of Forestry Federal Forest Health Program funding by national forest, 2013–2015**



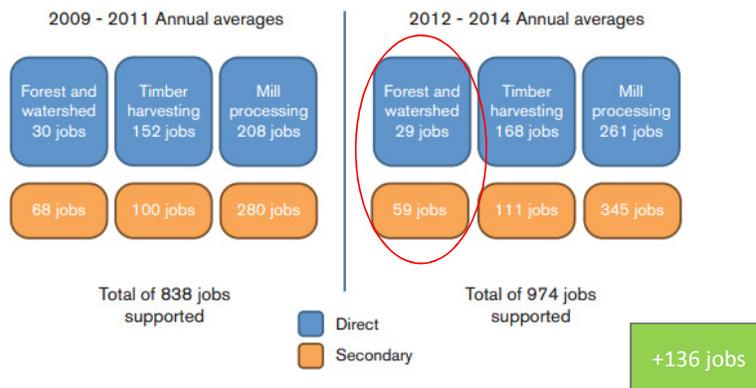
Full report: [http://ewp.uoregon.edu/sites/ewp2.uoregon.edu/files/WP\\_57.pdf](http://ewp.uoregon.edu/sites/ewp2.uoregon.edu/files/WP_57.pdf)

## Collaborative approach

- USFS Records of Decision were signed on **137,487 acres** of collaborative projects within the Blue Mtns region from 2012–2014
- Blue Mtns Collaboratives worked on planning an additional **465,356 acres**.
- Contracts for collaborative projects on the Malheur National Forest yielded approximately **156.8 mmbf** in volume.

Full report: [http://ewp.uoregon.edu/sites/ewp2.uoregon.edu/files/WP\\_57.pdf](http://ewp.uoregon.edu/sites/ewp2.uoregon.edu/files/WP_57.pdf)

**Figure 11** Average annual jobs supported in eastern Oregon from restoration activities in Blue Mountains national forests during the baseline and program years



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## Doubling down

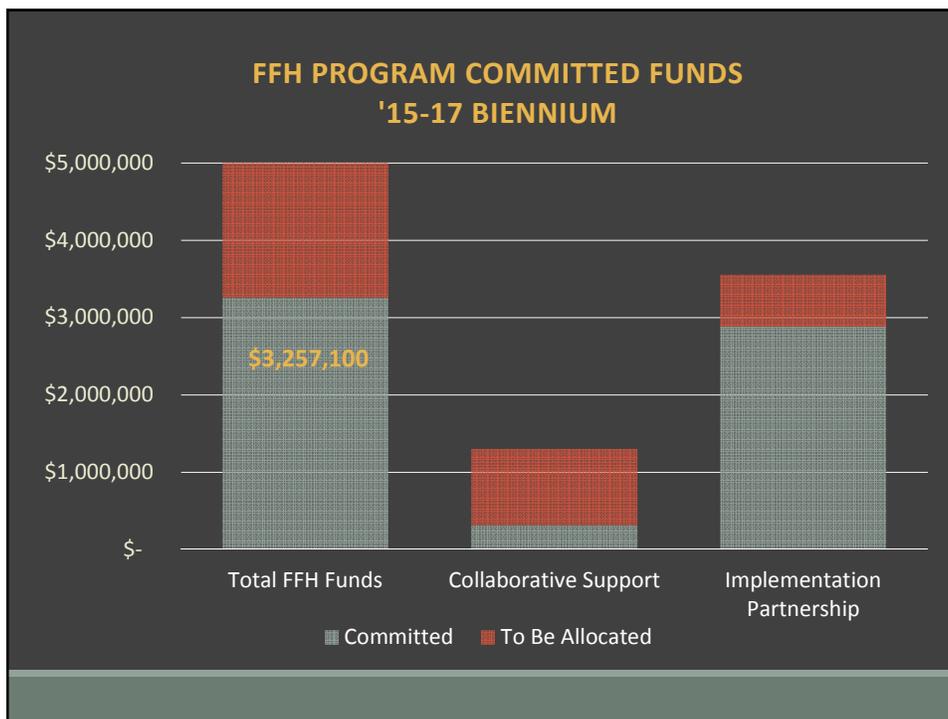
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- \$5 million approved for 2015-2017
- Key differences:
  - Statewide scope
  - More legislative direction on funding for components
    - Collaborative Support = \$1.3 million
    - State-Federal Implementation Partnership = \$3.4 million
  - ODF Position authority: total 7.64 FTE
    - Includes “District Coordinators” in each EOA District
    - Combination of LD and seasonal positions

## Version 2.0

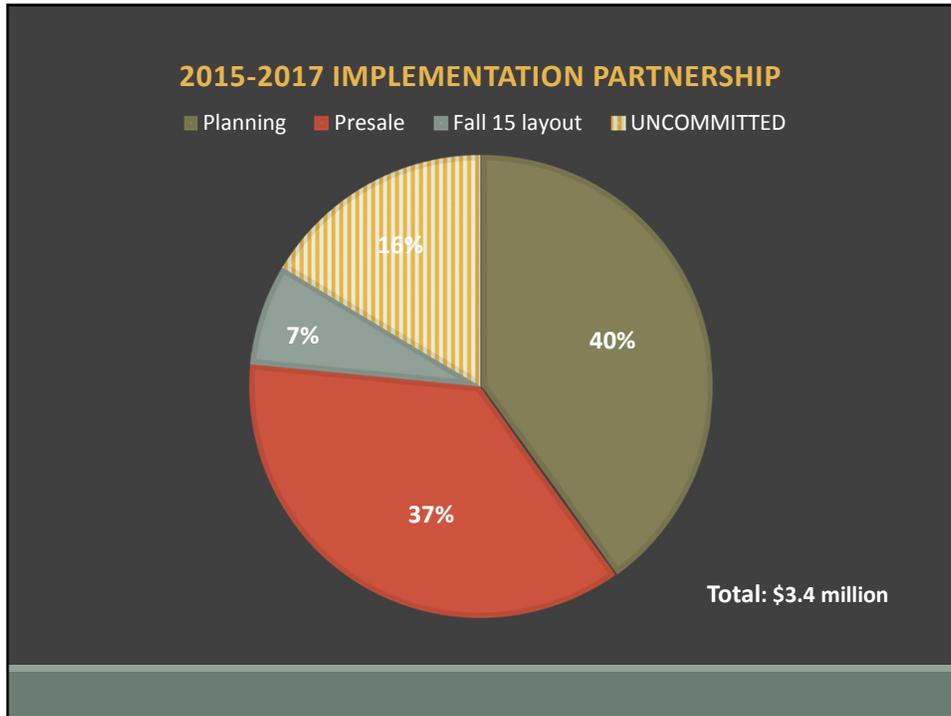
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- Two primary program components
  1. **Collaborative Support (Scale & Quality)**
    - A. Collaborative Grants
    - B. Technical Assistance and Science Support
  2. **Implementation Partnership (Pace & Quality)**
    - Planning and pre-sale activities
    - ODF Seasonal employees, State contracts, Reimburse USFS contractors
    - Call for Projects yielded 70 submissions totaling \$13.2 million



### FFH Project Development Grant: Round 1 Funding

Applicant	Project Name	Requested
Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project	Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project	\$49,335
Hood River Collaborative Stewards <i>(SWCD as fiscal)</i>	Waucoma Project Development	\$49,759
Siuslaw Stewardship Groups <i>(Cascade Pacific RC&amp;D as fiscal)</i>	Siuslaw Facilitation, Monitoring & Dunes-Smith River Stewardship Group Development	\$40,455
Wasco Count Forest Collaborative <i>(SWCD as fiscal)</i>	Rocky Restoration Planning Area	\$44,956
Southern Willamette Forest Collaborative	Middle Fork Willamette Stewardship Collaborative Process	\$25,850
<b>Total Funding Decision</b>		<b>\$210,355</b>



### FFH Implementation Partnership – Selected Projects

Forest	Project Descriptions	Funds	Mechanism
FreWin	<u>Unit layout and timber marking</u> on Black Hills, Bluejay, Deuce, Mudhoney.	\$300,000	ODF Seasonal Crew
	<u>Stand exams</u> on Thomas Creek & Blue Jay II.		
Ochoco	<u>Property boundary surveying</u> on Gap and Edge timber sales. Establishes line between public and private land.	\$90,000	IDIQ Contractor
Malheur	<u>LiDAR acquisition &amp; stand exams</u> to support collaborative/research on Canyon Creek Complex.	\$178,200	IGA w/ DOGAMI; ODF Contract
Willamette	<u>Road surveys</u> for upcoming timber sales. ODF will gather data to inform USFS contracting to access NEPA-ready timber sales.	\$75,000	ODF Seasonal Crew
Siuslaw	<u>Marbeled murrelet surveys</u> . Intent to extend operating season on existing sale areas.	\$115,000	ODF Contract
RogueRS	<u>Heritage resource surveys</u> : Agnes project. Protocol shift to survey treatment units only.	\$35,000	IDIQ Contractor

## Good Neighbor Authority

- Authorized by 2014 Farm Bill and Appropriations Bill
  - Effectively allows states to implement actions on federal forests
  - Federal agency retains Decision-making authority
- Two-tiered agreement. In Oregon:
  - **Master Agreement:** Governor and Regional Forester to sign w/ State Forester & ODFW Director
  - **Supplemental Project Agreements:** District Foresters / Forest Supervisors sign
- Federal dollars routed through state agencies
  - ODF will need spending limitation
  - Includes timber sale receipts to recoup state costs

## Good Neighbor Authority

- Wide range of possible roles:
  - **Data collection** (stand exams, heritage surveys)
  - NEPA Team Participation (Fire & Fuels, Fish Bio)
  - **Pre-sale assistance** (unit layout, timber marking)
  - Timber sale administration
  - Contract administration (non-commercial activities)
  - Treatment implementation (pre-commercial thin, pile, Rx burn)
  - Aquatic habitat monitoring and restoration (ODFW)
  - Any other Federal-State business (ie. detection cameras)
- Out of the gate ideas:
  - SOD treatments on the RogueRS
  - Pre-commercial thinning on the FreWin

## A new ODF program

- Core business statement:
  - Accelerate the pace, scale and quality of forest restoration to increase the resilience of Oregon's federal forests, in a manner that leverages collaborative efforts and contributes to the long-term vitality of regional economies and rural communities.
- Program principles:
  - Partnership-oriented
  - Transparent decision making
  - Flexible and adaptable
  - Increase system capacity
  - Measurable metrics

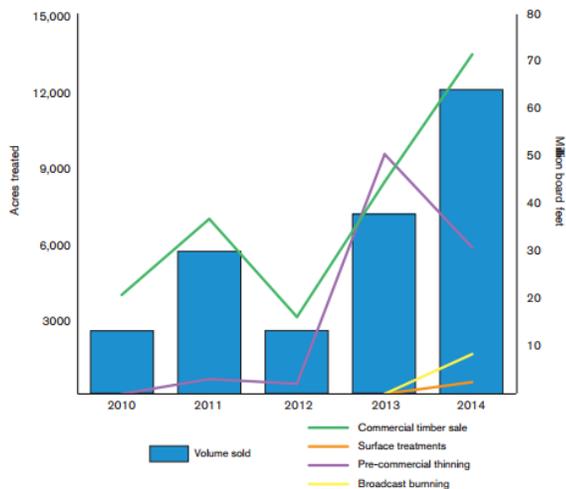


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**Figure 14 Treatment acres and sold timber volume associated with collaborative-planned project areas, Malheur National Forest**



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### SFIP Submissions, East & West

