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October 2014

South Fork Camp is the only DOC institution to be sited on Board of Forestry Lands and the only prison facility that is owned and jointly operated by two agencies. It is the largest and oldest work camp in the Pacific Northwest. Work crews perform forest management in 11 counties in NW Oregon, assist with disaster relief efforts, and engage in fire suppression statewide. In a given year, South Fork can produce 28,000 man days of skilled labor valuing between 4-5 million dollars market value.

#### South Fork Camp Mission and Vision Statement

The Mission of South Fork Camp is to produce economic, social, and environmental benefits for the people of Oregon. South Fork employees strive to:

- **Provide** cost effective, skilled inmate labor to the State Forests and Protection from fire Programs.
- **Promote** public safety by holding inmates accountable.
- **Reduce** recidivism by modeling pro social behavior and teaching work skills that help inmates be productive citizens upon release.

#### South Fork History

South Fork Camp was an honor camp created under the authority of legislation signed by Governor Mackay on May 11, 1951. ORS 421.455 allowed the state Board of Forestry and Board of Control to establish minimum security work camps on state forest land. The bill was framed to accomplish work under the Rehabilitation Act specifically to reforest the 800,000 acre "Tillamook Burn." South Fork Camp was completed in November 1951 and crews immediately began planting trees, felling snags, and building fire breaks. The camp's population originally stood at 45- 50 inmates.

The 15 original camp buildings were designed by ODF engineer L.W. Amort, funded by Forestry, and pre-fabricated by inmate labor at the State Penitentiary in Salem. The buildings were built on skids and designed to be moved to work locations around the forest. All camp buildings were heated by wood stoves, lighted by portable generator, and covered with tar paper to keep moisture out. In 1957 the buildings were covered with hand split cedar shakes, which helped keep the wind from blowing through them. By 1966 the camp had expanded to house 70 inmates. New buildings were built with material from abandoned logging camps.

1980s - Although improvements were made throughout the years, many of the original buildings - constructed on log skids rather than concrete foundations - were still the core of South Fork Camp's infrastructure. Then in 1986, ODF Forester Mark Taylor acted as general contractor to remove the remaining original inmate housing units and replace them with the current housing located in the middle portion of the camp. Following that effort DOC contracted out the construction of a new dining hall. The camp population during that time was around 115 inmates

In 1995 South Fork Forest Camp was designated as an official prison facility to support future expansion plans. Shortly after, DOC and ODF jointly agreed to participate in a site planning and expansion process. The goals of the design phase were to improve security, facility access, and ODF operational efficiency. Again, Taylor was appointed general contractor for the project, and ODF committed two inmate crews to the effort that included subcontract labor and a DOC inmate crew. The crews endured many months of construction, which finally wrapped up in Spring 2003.

#### Current Inmate Population, Camp Staffing, and Operations

Today, the inmate population stands at 200 (level 1) minimum custody inmates. Current staffing for ODF is 22 employees. ODF staff provide training, supervision, and coordinate the daily work of 150 inmates at South Fork, and 20 inmates from the Mill Creek facility in Salem that are considered a part of the South Fork program. During fire season, forestry staff will often be working 7 days a week between fire response and normal forestry management. ODF considers South Fork to be an investment and expect it to produce an abundance of skilled inmate labor to support ODF's mission and objectives.

DOC has 34 employees shifted 24/7 to provide security, food, living, medical, case management and counseling services similar to other prison sites around the state. DOC staff perform searches of buildings, vehicles and inmates to deter the introduction of contraband into the facility. DOC has 1 crew contracted with Oregon State Parks and will utilize up to 35 inmates to perform camp needs such as laundry, kitchen and maintenance.

Both agencies are funded separately, responsible for their own operations costs and maintain their respective assets that include buildings, vehicles, equipment and tools. Each agency has their own command structure, administrative processes, and operational oversight but work collaboratively and communicate daily to ensure the camps success. Due to the joint occupation of the camp, some costs are shared by both agencies and occasionally quid pro quo arrangements are made for project work and camp maintenance.

Assignments of inmates to work crews is a collaborative process overseen by ODF managers with the help of an inmate clerk. ODF and DOC crew supervisors will trade and loan inmate workers to make sure everyone's labor needs are met and cohesive effective crews are established. As a general rule, new camp arrivals are expected to work "on the grade" until they earn the ability to have a camp job through good performance and recommendation of their supervisor. An exception to this is sometimes made for inmates with special skills that may be needed in camp or the ODF shop. It is important for the agencies to maintain mutual respect and support for each other's goals, objectives, and needs. Production and security must be balanced in order for the camp to meet its common mission and purpose.

## South Fork field activities and average percentage of crew days per category:

### Fire Suppression 20%

South Fork crews have proven to be highly trained, mobile fire resources for statewide fire suppression activities involving initial attack, extended attack, crew move-ups, and extended mop up operations. These crews are desired by landowners within NWOA and statewide for fire suppression due to their low cost, reliability, and performance. In 2014 South Fork crews responded to 27 local fires with 150 shifts, and 12 large statewide fires with 278 crew shifts. In addition the camp provided 220 shifts of overhead support for statewide fire activity.

### Recreation 30%

South Fork Crews are instrumental in development and ongoing maintenance of recreation infrastructure in the NWOA. Crews have been utilized in the construction of campgrounds, trail bridges, dispersed campsites, motorized and non-motorized trails, day use areas, and waysides. Crews also engage in rehabilitation projects when resource damage occurs due to inappropriate recreation activities. South Fork crews remove dumped trash and abandon property forest wide.

### Forest Management 38%

South Fork crews are a trained and ready labor force for forest management activities. The annual productions averages for the last 15 years include 576,272 trees planted on 1,608 acres, 3,391 acres of seedling protection (tubing/trapping), 1,526 acres of brush control and site prep, and 508 acres of pre commercial thinning. Inmates also conduct other reforestation management such as bud capping, hack and squirt, pruning, manual and chemical release of competitive vegetation.

### Camp Administration 11%

ODF operates a production shop that includes a woodshop, welding shop, small engines repair, sewing, and hand tool inventory and repair. Inmates also maintain an on-site fish rearing program in cooperation with ODFW, Oregon Department of Forestry, and DOC. This program involves hatching and release of Coho fry, juvenile steelhead, and juvenile Chinook.

Inmate training is an ongoing responsibility met by ODF staff. Inmates are trained in all aspects of the forestry management technical skills, CPR/First Aid, and participate in our annual fire school in order to qualify inmates as Firefighters. Crews also perform maintenance and improvements on Oregon Department of Forestry district office compounds.

### Forest Roads 1%

South fork crews support the work of our Roads Maintenance units by performing roadside brushing, pot hole filling, culvert clearing and bridge cleaning.