

Date submitted (UTC): 3/14/2016 4:47:03 PM

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Comments:

Clarkston, WA ? March 8, 2016

Attendance: 16

Forest Management

[Question posed to the group] A large part of the landscape is overstocked with a combination of small to large diameter trees. What does the landscape need and what can the Forest Service do to achieve that?

- ? Remove basal to be effective to meet goals
- ? No Eastside Screens
- ? Too many trees, we need to target forest health and thin more
- ? More clear cutting- can do it right, that is the only way to do it
- ? Treat more acres and have more road access to the trees
- ? Treat more ecologically and efficiently
- ? Thin trees for livestock use
- ? Need more fire resistant trees and more diversity in tree composition and age class
- ? Manage fuel load and overstocking
- ? Build roads if there is no other way to treat acres. We could lose it all, so save something
- ? Manage ground to produce income
- ? Manage as see fit without constraints and without lawsuits
- ? Use fire and grazing to manage stands
- ? Use regenerative harvest where too far gone to manage
- ? Take out downed trees
- ? Don't restrict firewood

Fire

[Question posed to the group] How would you suggest the agency manage the forest landscape to allow for less destructive wildfire events to occur?

- ? Alternative grazing instead of underburning
- ? Need to be accessible by roads
- ? Brushing/cleaning up of stands
- ? Mix grazing and prescribed fire
- ? Put in strategic fuel breaks
- ? Focus on user interface areas (Wildland Urban Interface)
- ? Use common sense management
- ? Reduce the fuel load, use grazing to reduce grass fuel load
- ? Need more management on the ground

Communities

[Question posed to the group] As a member of the community, what do you believe our top priority should be for this landscape-scale restoration project?

- ? Protection of timber from fire
- ? Actually implement the project (especially the prescribed fire)
- ? Have the money to implement
- ? Thinning before the conditions get explosive
- ? Use grazing for fuel reduction (over fire or use both)
- ? Allow industry to achieve objectives without marking every tree

- ? Sustainable multiple use for all user groups, including sustainable timber management and roads/access for management and fire
- ? Safety
- ? Recreation
- ? Commercial thinning
- ? Economics- use project revenues to fund other projects in the same area

Wildlife, Aquatics and other Sensitive Habitats

[Question posed to the group] What fish and/or wildlife species and habitats are important for us to consider when planning the Forest Resiliency Project activities? What conditions do you see benefiting these species and their habitats?

- ? Keep elk up on the National Forests and off private lands. Put sheep and cattle back in the wilderness
- ? The relationship between cows, elk, deer and proposed treatments. Browsing keeps vegetation levels down and freshens the forage
- ? If you log and graze you won't need to burn it
- ? Mechanical treatments followed by prescribed fire. Regenerates browse species for big game. Fire is a good tool along with grazing and harvest
- ? Conditions are too explosive and too thick. Elk can't walk through
- ? Prescribed fire window lines up with hunting seasons. Utilize spring landscape burns more often
- ? Treat riparian areas. Areas are thick with vegetation and become wicks during wildfires. Don't leave them out of proposed treatments. We want that "after" picture in our riparian areas too
- ? Utilize grazing techniques to reduce vegetation. Place salt blocks in strategic areas (attracts wildlife and grass recovers more quickly)
- ? Weed control, bring in goats and other alternative methods to control invasives
- ? Pre-commercial thinning creates a fuel load/risk and is expensive to treat. Allow the vegetation to grow for more commercial value. Be careful about over prescribing pre-commercial thinning
- ? Look hard at thinning and proper spacing, we need a variety of heights and diversity of trees. Proper spacing allows for better grass growth
- ? Treatments can provide jobs, economy, timber. Managed, grazed lands can handle fire
- ? Access does not affect wildlife as some people assume
- ? Elk and deer are on private land, not in wilderness. They prefer managed ground, with thinned trees with pockets of thick vegetation