Baker City, OR ? March 31, 2016
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Attendance: 28

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?

? Do more thinning- put the product to use don't waste it
? Explore opportunities for biomass
? Diverse forests- multiple diversity
? Explore economic opportunities
? Thin watersheds on north slopes
? Need a strategy for dealing with appeals
? Protect watershed for irritation
? Opportunities for increasing water yield through thinning
? Need to open up more areas for firewood
? Open type look good for animals
? Thinning and prescribed fire-in all dry Forest
? Thinning and prescribed fire in moist Forest
? Maintain some ground cover during prescribed fire

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?

? Listen to local people and local agencies. Use local knowledge of area for helping with prescribed fire or wildfire
? Access is important for wildland fire fighting
? Locals help clear roads
? Manage availability of forage for deer by staggering burns
? Biomass an option
? Protection around established communities and Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
? Thinning projects (especially the Baker City Watershed)
? Baker City Watershed should be a priority (water supply)
? Grazing with livestock
? Appeals will halt this work

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?

? Start controlled burns near the communities and work away. That way you ensure the most protection for communities (like Sumpter- reduce fuels here)
? Use the local communities as a resource for communication during fires (rumor control-before/during/after)
? Explain why not all dry forest areas are treated
o The Whitney Valley watershed? Including town of Greenhorn
o Broad band to the west of Unity needs treated also
Assess watershed needs in terms of climate change
Utilize grazing to manage the understory (not in watershed)
Catastrophic fires increase the pace of climate change by adding carbon to the atmosphere
Work together for solutions
Grazing is the best defense against forest fires
How do we stop conservationists from appealing?
How to best care for the Baker City Watershed
Thinning projects
Fire breaks on watershed road
Restoration for Red Mountain fire
Watershed for drinking water and agriculture
No more roadless areas. Roads are needed for fire prevention
Years and years of buildup is going to require proper management
Smoke from slash burning and fires has gotten much worse
Open slash to wood cutters and for biomass production

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?
Clarification of objection process/litigation
Prescribe burning within municipal watersheds
Reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire within municipal watershed
Prescribed fire impacts on huckleberries
Livestock as part of projects to reduce weeds and influence big game movement
Analyze mitigation/impacts to big game (all animals) within alternatives
Concentrated areas for low intensity prescribed fire
Addressing medusa head/thatch
Proposed action was too general
Effects of prescribed fire on water temperatures
Effects of proposed action on municipal water supply (Baker/Sumpter)
Effects on irrigation and water rights/supply (long and short term impacts)
Overall watershed health
Grazing as option to help reduce fuels