

# Oregon | Southern Blues Restoration Coalition Collaborative Landscape Restoration Project | 2016



Total acreage of  
landscape: 690,723

## Partners

- American Forest Resource Council
- Backlund Logging
- Bear Creek Timber Company
- Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project
- Blue Mountain Forest Partners
- Boise Cascade
- Bureau of Land Management
- Burns-Paiute Tribe
- Crown Cattle Company
- Grant County Commissioners
- Grant County Forest Commission
- Grayback Forestry Inc.
- Harney County Commissioners
- Harney County Restoration Collaborative
- High Desert Partnership
- Iron Triangle
- Jerome Natural Resource Consultants Inc.
- King Inc.
- Malheur Lumbar Company
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- O'Rorke Logging
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Department of Wildlife
- Oregon State University
- Oregon Wild
- Pacific Northwest Research Station
- Prairie Wood Products
- Rush Creek Ranch LLC
- Southworth Brothers Ranch
- Sustainable Northwest
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Forest Service
- University of Washington
- Western Environmental Law Center



Protected old growth pine tree in the Southern Blues project area. © Susan Jane Brown

Restoration projects in the Southern Blues Restoration Coalition CFLR reduce forest density, create a mosaic of wildlife habitats, allows large trees to continue growing, fosters a more fire-resistant mix of trees, and improves water and wildlife habitat by restoring forest areas. By the end of the CFLR Project, the lands and waters will provide improved natural functions for fish and wildlife. The Project will also create a predictable flow of work and wood supply for manufacturing, new market opportunities, and local jobs.”

Grant County is a large, rural, natural resource-dependent county in eastern Oregon. Timber and ranching are its main industries, with over 60% of it federally-managed public land.

Here a history of conflict and litigation ceased virtually all commercial activity on federal lands. In short, both communities and forests were suffering due to the lack of restoration efforts and natural resource related economic activity.



Mark Webb

Mark Webb, Executive Director of Blue Mountain Forest Partners (BMFP) and former county commissioner and judge, is part of a group that believes area communities, conservationists, and the U.S. Forest Service need to “retool” their approach if forest and community health is to be improved. To meet this need, BMFP was created in late 2006.

Since then it has worked with the U.S. Forest Service to plan and implement five projects. The first project, at about 6,000 acres, took almost three years of hard work to complete; BMFP’s current 42,000 acre project will take half that time.

Along with the Harney County Restoration Collaborative in Harney County, BMFP makes up the Southern Blues CFLR. Webb believes there is a two-fold benefit from CFLR investment.

“First, it promises to fund important work on federal lands in Grant and Harney counties for a number of years, which is vitally important for the area’s resource-dependent communities,” he says. “And two, it will help the local collaborative process evolve, which will similarly ‘mature’ the Forest Service’s approach to its federal land management responsibilities for the next generation.”

## 2015 Results

- 344 jobs created or maintained annually
- \$21.3 million in total labor income
- 18,034 acres of hazardous fuels treatments
- 3,853 acres of forest habitat restored
- 75,270 CCF of timber sales

## Contact information

### Mark Webb

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