

Oregon | Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project | 2016

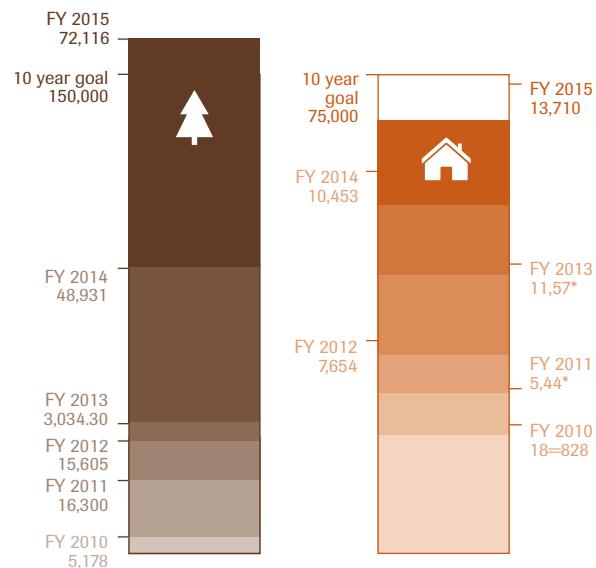


The Two Bulls Fire burning outside of Bend, Oregon, in June 2014 @ Ally Steinmetz.

The Deschutes Forest Collaborative Project in central Oregon spans 257,000 acres of forest, the majority of which historically experienced frequent low-intensity fires. In recent decades, however, large high-severity fires here demonstrate the need for forest restoration to protect the region's two municipal drinking sources, three nearby cities, and dozens of high-use recreation areas. Harvesting small and medium-sized trees reduces the threat of high-severity fire, creates jobs, sustains high-quality recreation experiences, improves wildlife habitat, and provides clean, cold water for native fish.

Partners

- American Forest Resource Council
- Central Oregon Cities Organization
- Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation
- City of Sisters
- City of Bend and Bend Fire Department
- Deschutes County
- Deschutes Land Trust
- Deschutes Recreation Assets Committee
- Enterprise Cascadia
- HM3 Energy
- Interfor Pacific
- Intermountain Wood Energy, LLC
- JTS Animal Bedding
- Miller Conservation Consulting
- Moon Country Sno-mobilers
- National Forest Foundation
- Ochoco Lumber
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Equestrian Trails
- Oregon State Snowmobile Association
- Oregon State University
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
- Oregon Wild
- Project Wildfire
- Quicksilver Contracting Co.
- Sustainable Northwest
- T2, Inc
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trout Unlimited
- TSS Consultants
- Upper Deschutes River Coalition
- Upper Deschutes Watershed Council
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Whitefish Cascade Forest Resources



Wood Supply

CCF of timber sold

Community Protection

Acres of hazardous fuels reduced



Alan Unger

As a boy scout growing up in Redmond, Oregon in the 1960s, Alan Unger learned to respect and appreciate the Deschutes National Forest. He carries that respect and appreciation with him today in his current role as Deschutes County Commissioner.

"I had the privilege to grow up in this forest and I have a responsibility as an elected official to work with our communities to ensure the forest is here for generations to come."

Alan has watched the forest shape and define Central Oregon his whole life — bringing living wage jobs and laying the foundations for busy downtowns during the timber era, and now bringing hikers, anglers, mountain bikers, and skiers to live, work, and play here.

"The beautiful mountains and forests that we see when we look out our windows everyday are what define Central Oregon living," says Unger.

As County Commissioner, Alan is eager to maintain and restore the forests that are central to quality of life and believes that collaboration is the path forward.

"We need to move away from the past. We need all sides to understand that the old ways of doing business haven't served the forest or the range of values in our communities. We can either work together to find a new way or we can watch the things we care about burn up in uncharacteristic wildfires."

The Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project (DCFP) is an ideal forum to seek that new path forward. Alan has worked for over two years as the DCFP Chair to bring key stakeholders together to share their values, learn the science, seek common ground and find creative agreements to steward our forests.

"This represents a new way of doing business in the forest. Through collaborative baby steps we have built the relationships, the trust, and the transparency necessary to generate solutions that work for the community, for our Forest Service partners, and for our forests."

Through the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration program the forests within the DCFP landscape are growing healthier, more resistant, and more resilient to disturbances like wildfire, while providing myriad benefits to the communities of Central Oregon. Moreover, restoration is and will continue to produce forest products that sustain mills and forest operators and help extend stewardship across the landscape.

To learn more go to www.deschutescollaborativeforest.org



Total acreage of landscape: 257,000

2015 Results

- 78 jobs created or maintained on a per year average
- 24 miles of road maintained or improved
- 12.3 miles of fish (stream) habitat restored
- 954 acres of invasive plants and noxious weeds removed
- 4,264 of wildlife habitat restored



Stakeholder site meeting in the Glaze Meadow. © Amy Waltz

Post-treatment in the Sisters Area Fuels Reduction Project. © U.S. Forest Service

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