

# Deschutes County Forestland Classification

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – 10 AM  
Minutes

## Committee Members Present:

Ed Keith, Deschutes County Forester  
Kristin Dodd, ODF, Unit Forester  
Jeremy Ast, Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire  
Matt Cyrus – Grazing Representative  
Bill Swarts – Timber Representative  
Nicole Strong, Deschutes County, OSU-Extension Agent

## Committee Members Absent:

None

## Guests:

Roger Johnson, Sisters Camp Sherman  
Gordon R. Foster, ODF  
Ben Duda, ODF  
Scot Langton, Deschutes County Assessor  
Alice Wolf, Property Owner

**Meeting called to order at 12:04 pm by Ed Keith**

## Introductions

## Review & approve Minutes from 1/7/15 meeting

Review of January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes. Motion to approve minutes made by Jeremy Ast, and seconded by Bill Swarts. **Vote: For — Unanimous.**

## Public Comment Period

None

## Old Business

### Review field verification for previous specific legal descriptions

**T14S, R10E, Section 11:** Ben Duda presented photos that showed the area has regeneration timber growing in the brush. This area might be a fire scar. The area also has evidence of forestland productivity in the soil layer. Determination: Class 2.

**T14S, R10E, Section 12:** The photos showed some small pine trees trying to establish. The east side of this section transitions to juniper. The committee agreed to classify the area with the pine regeneration as Class 2 & the area with juniper as Class 3. The committee requested to have the classification lines defined better between the Class 2 & 3 on the map.

**T14S, R10E, Section 13:** There is some regeneration of pine amongst the juniper. The committee deferred to the soil layer that indicated a juniper dominant vegetation type. The committee classified this area as Class 3.

**T14S, R10E, Section 14:** After Ben Duda visited this area, he determined that it is mostly a fire scar. This area used to be a pine stand but there was no evidence of regeneration yet. The committee determined after reviewing the photos and the soil layers to follow the soil layer lines to determine where Class 2 & Class 3 should be.

**Bill Swarts** posed a question he had received from a stakeholder to the committee. Lands that were timber production sites in the past that have been severely burned to the point where the sites will not produce timber until the area recovers, is there a way to classify those lands differently until the are is able to produce timber again? Mostly, food for thought for the committee. Bill used the Cascade Timber Land that was burned in the 2014 Two Bulls wildfire as an example.

**T14S, R10E, Section 27:** This area had no immediate indication of irrigation except for one corner when Ben Duda visited the site. However, Matt Cyrus & Jeremy Ast clarified that there is underground irrigation with pop-up sprinklers on that much of this property. The committee agreed that the areas Matt Cyrus & Jeremy Ast indicated as irrigated will be classified as a 0 and the remainder of the property will be classified as a 3.

**T14S, R11E, Section 16 & Section 17:** This area has some scattered pine but the pine present will not meet the production for Class 2. This section is a transition area between the pine and juniper vegetation type. Currently the section has both Class 2 & 3 to delineate juniper and pine stands. The committee agreed to default to what the soil layer indicates on the map. After further review of this section the committee agreed to the preliminary mapping classification presented by Oregon Department of Forestry.

Ben Duda & Gordon Foster reviewed the suggested changes to the map by the committee from the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The committee confirmed all the changes made by ODF except for T14S, R10E, Section 25, which will be field verified.

Alice Wolf posed a question about the classification in Township 14S, Range 10E, Section 25. She is the owner of the property and she offered some background information on the property for the committee. She is in the process of thinning the property for forest health. Currently Ms. Wolf has a habitat conservation plan in place for her property. She has had 3 biologists provide assessments on the property that have indicated with their reports old growth juniper present. The land also contains many rocky bluffs. Nicole Strong explained that the committee is not only classifying what vegetation is present now but also what the soil layer suggests about what the land can support in regards to production capabilities. Ms. Wolf explained she has 5 different soil layers she has used to make decisions about managing her properties. Matt Cyrus added that much of the general area was logged at the turn of the century, which could be the reason for the lack of pine in this area. The Committee determined this is Section will need a field verification visit before they can make a determination.

## New Business

### **Continue review & preliminary classification of lands**

The Committee continued their review of the Deschutes County lands in Township 14S (T14S), Range 12E (R12E). The committee agreed they would classify all lands in this section including the areas outside of the Oregon Department of Forestry's boundary.

The committee reviewed and accepted the preliminary mapping classification designation by Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T14S, R12E:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 21, 22, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 & 35

Further, the committee asked that changes be made, per the committee's suggested revisions, to the proposed maps presented by the Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T14S, R12E**: 5, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26, 27, 34 & 36

No Sections in **T14S, R12E** suggested for further review.

The Committee continued their review of the Deschutes County lands in Township 15S (T15S), Range 8E (R8E). This Range contains wilderness areas. The committee will not classify wilderness lands.

The committee reviewed and accepted the preliminary mapping classification designation by Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T15S, R8E**: 1, 2, 3, 10, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25 & 36

No suggested revisions for any Sections in **T15S, R8E** were proposed.

The Committee continued their review of the Deschutes County lands in Township 15S (T15S), Range 9E (R9E).

The committee reviewed and accepted the preliminary mapping classification designation by Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T15S, R9E**: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 & 36

Further, the committee asked that changes be made, per the committee's suggested revisions, to the proposed maps presented by the Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T15S, R9E**: 13

No Sections in **T15S, R9E** suggested for further review.

### **Calendar Planning – Meeting Schedule**

The Committee agreed that planning future meetings for a 3 hour block will help with the task at hand. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> at 9am-12pm, at the Sisters ODF office. The ODF office is located at 16721 Pine Tree Lane, Sisters, OR, 97759. Following meetings will be held on: March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 9am-12pm at the Sisters ODF office and April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 9am-12pm, at the Deschutes County Road Department, 61150 SE 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Bend.

Kristin Dodd asked the committee if reviewing the changes proposed is helpful at each meeting? Ed Keith noted that confirmation is necessary of the proposed changes. The committee determined that those changes should be reviewed at the beginning of each meeting.

There being no further business to discuss Ed Keith, **adjourned the Committee Meeting at 2:15pm.**

**Next meeting:** February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 9am-12pm at Sisters ODF office at 16721 Pine Tree Lane, Sisters, OR 97759.