

Deschutes County Forestland Classification

December 17th, 2014 – 12 PM
Minutes

Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

None

Guests:

Rick Gibson, Property Owner
Bill Kuhn, Property Owner
Ted Shorack, Bend Bulletin
Gordon R. Foster, ODF
Boone Zimmerlee, ODF
Ben Duda, ODF

Meeting called to order at 12:02 pm by Ed Keith

Introductions

Review & approve Minutes from 11/21/14 meeting

Review of November 21, 2014 minutes. Motion to approve minutes made by Bill Swarts, and seconded by Matt Cyrus. Vote: For — Unanimous.

Public Comment Period

Bill Kuhn provided a report for the committee which was an evaluation of his property, from a forester, to determine the productivity of his land. The forester evaluated his land's characteristics such as wildlife habitat, timber productivity, etc. Mr. Kuhn wished to share the report with the committee as informational background for their future classification discussions. Matt Cyrus asked Mr. Kuhn what the report found regarding the productivity of his lands. Mr. Kuhn explained that the forester that evaluated his property determined that his land would not produce timber due to the dry climate, nor could it be used for agricultural purposes. Bill Swarts mentioned to Mr. Kuhn that regarding forestland classification, his land would likely be identified as Class 3.

There being no further public comment, Ed Keith closed the public comment period.

Old Business

Boone Zimmerlee presented the committee with additional information on right of ways their discussion from the November 21st meeting. Boone confirmed that he secured the appropriate layers to add the right of ways to the map for the committee to consider during the classification process. Committee agreed that there wouldn't be any further action needed on this discussion. Boone also secured the soil

layer for federal lands to add to maps the committee will use during the classification process. These layers will inform the committee's classification discussion for the federal lands.

New Business

Discussion re: classification for Federal Wilderness/Alpine lands

The topic of classifying wilderness lands presented itself while completing the mapping on federal lands for the committee. The features within the wilderness could prove difficult to map. Kristin Dodd suggested that the committee not classify the lands within wilderness. Matt Cyrus added that the main purpose behind the committee classifying federal lands was to provide a classification for that lands in the event of a future land trade. Lands incorporated in wilderness areas are very unlikely to part of a land trade. Jeremy Ast made a made motion to not classify the lands in wilderness areas, Matt Cyrus seconded. **VOTE: For – Unanimous.**

Begin Review & preliminary designation of lands

The committee agreed at the previous meeting to begin in the NW corner of Deschutes County and move through the map left to right. The committee will begin in Township 14, Range 8 Section 1. Boone will be capturing the committee's input electronically and Ben Duda will assist by hand drawing changes on a map to ensure the accurate changes are made.

The committee began their classification process in Township 14 (T14S), Range 8 (R8E) Section 1.

The committee reached consensus on the proposed changes made by Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T14S, R8E**: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 34, & 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 **T14S, R8E**: 8, 9, & 25.

The Committee asked for more definitive information, including photos, of the following Sections in T14S, R8E, so that further review and evaluation could be made on these sections in **T14S, R8E**: 26 & 35.

The Committee continued their edits of the Deschutes County lands in Township 14S (T14S), Range 7.5E (R7.5E) to classify Sections 1 & 12 that are included in Deschutes County.

The Committee reached consensus on the proposed changes made by Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T14S, R7.5E**: 1 & 12.

The Committee continued their edits of the Deschutes County lands in Township 14S (T14S), Range 9E (R9E) Section 1.

The committee reached consensus on the proposed changes made by Oregon Department of Forestry on the following Sections in **T14S, R9E**: 1, 2, 3, 7, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 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 **T14S, R9E**: 4 & 6.

The Committee asked for more definitive information, including photos, of the following Sections in **T14S, R9E**, so that further review and evaluation could be made on these sections in **T14S, R9E**: 5, 8, 9, 10, & 12.

Nicole Strong noted that a small paper map for each committee member would be helpful at future meetings for reference.

Calendar Planning – Meeting Schedule

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for January 7th at 10am-12pm at the Sisters Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) office. The ODF office is located at 16721 Pine Tree Lane, Sisters, OR, 97759. Kristin Dodd will bring personal maps for each committee member. The fire districts that may be particularly impacted will be invited to attend the next meeting in Sisters. Ed Keith suggested to Boone that the maps might be easier to read if the classification numbers corresponded with the borders. Boone noted he would try to accomplish that change by the next meeting. The Committee will meet on January 26th at 12 -2pm and February 20th at 12-2.

There being no further business to discuss Ed Keith, **adjourned the Committee Meeting at 14:06 pm.**

Next meeting: January 7th, 2015 at the Sister's ODF Office, 10am-12pm.