

# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship

*Increasing efficiency and effectiveness  
among conservation partners*



## FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

*Updated June 30, 2021*

# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship

# FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

## RELATIONSHIPS

- Create a durable communication structure (i.e. advisory and subcommittees)
- Build partnership coalitions around mutual interests
- Enhance partner involvement in planning meetings and project implementation to enhance understanding and communication
- Establish regular coordination meetings to discuss priorities and funding options to avoid missed opportunities
- Coordinate grant application efforts to best position partners to be competitive and leverage funding more broadly

## RESTORATION

- Highlight current natural and physical resource restoration initiatives, programs, and projects
- Increase the pace, scale, and quality of restoration efforts in central Oregon
- Identify the high priority restoration opportunities in central Oregon from an all lands perspective
- Incorporate best available science into landscape assessments, project development, and monitoring
- Develop a process for monitoring shared stewardship restoration projects and connection to adaptive management and learning

## PROCESS

- Create shared stewardship directory of central Oregon partners
- Build capacity matrix with partner skills, expertise, and resources
- Identify resource values, management challenges, and restoration priorities at a central Oregon-wide scale
- Spatial mapping of important geographies and values at risk
- Highlight all available tools to support shared stewardship (agreements, contracts, etc.)
- Identify components of a web based platform
- Develop a process for shared decision making

## PEOPLE

- Identify landscape uses and their effects and tradeoffs to ecosystem resiliency (i.e. special forest products, recreation, etc.)
- Increase awareness of cultural areas of significance, resources, and conservation efforts
- Highlight current recreation & tourism management opportunities, challenges and relationship to the local economy
- Identify growing recreation trends, concentrated areas of use, and explore proactive management options
- Promote shared stewardship within Central Oregon



# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship Framework for Action

## RELATIONSHIPS

### **Create a durable communication structure**

- Create an inclusive and complimentary communication structure that highlights and enhances (rather than replaces) existing collaboration, partnerships, and restoration efforts in central Oregon
- Use the structure to build capacity and leverage the strengths of each organization
- Seek dedicated Shared Stewardship staffing to support communication at a central Oregon-wide scale

### **Build partnership coalitions around mutual interests**

- Capitalize on an enhanced partner network to build new coalitions
- Establish subcommittees or working groups around areas of mutual interest to manage more effectively and proactively (i.e. recreation and people management)
- Establish subcommittees or working groups around conflicting values (that may represent greater opportunities for integration to problem solve)

### **Establish regular coordination meetings to discuss priorities and funding options to avoid missed opportunities**

- Schedule half-day quarterly coordination meetings in the first 1-3 years to enhance relationships and sustain momentum
- Schedule full day field trips 1-2 x/year

### **Enhance partner involvement in planning meetings and project implementation to enhance understanding and communication**

- Incorporate established partner meetings into Shared Stewardship meetings for efficiency
- Post open meetings on an electronic bulletin board
- Draft standard template for providing project information
- Clearly outline expectations and limitations of when partners can get involved in project-level planning (i.e. NEPA and scoping)
- Commit to annual field trips to highlight shared steward-ship efforts, monitoring, adaptive management, and pro-mote shared learning
- Dedicate time in Shared Stewardship meetings



# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship Framework for Action

## RESTORATION

### Agree on what restoration means in different contexts

- Build a glossary of terms (i.e. restoration, resilience)
- Define aquatic restoration, fire-adapted ecosystem restoration, habitat restoration, post-fire restoration, etc.

### Highlight current natural/physical resource restoration initiatives, programs, and projects

- Review existing conservation strategies, strategic plans, and land management plans
- Highlight restoration activities and opportunities on private land (ODF, NRCS, Watershed Councils)
- Outline near-term and long-term priorities
- Tap into established coalitions working towards well-defined goals and integrate with other restoration efforts
- Form committees that address specific interests such as wildlife habitat, native plants, and aquatic restoration

### Identify the high priority restoration opportunities in central Oregon from an all lands perspective

- See “Process” and spatial mapping
- Incorporate recreation/public access as a layer

### Incorporate best available science into landscape assessments, project development, and monitoring

- *(under development)*

### Increase the pace, scale, and quality of restoration efforts in central Oregon

- Identify appropriate scale for restoration (scale is resource dependent)
- Focus on SHARED LEARNING (experience and expertise) to promote ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT at a larger scale
- Ensure partners are in alignment in understanding each others’ priorities and emphasis areas over 1-5 years
- Increase awareness of project area limitations in both planning and implementation

### Develop a process for monitoring shared stewardship restoration projects and connection to adaptive management and learning

- Focus on SHARED LEARNING (experience and expertise) to promote ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT at a larger scale
- Share and integrate data
- Assess data reporting systems accessibility
- Forest Inventory and Analysis (private and public land)
- Utilize established protocols (PIBO, MIMs, etc.)
- HERS lab through OSU-Cascades
- Enlist Universities to support monitoring, research, re-orting



# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship Framework for Action

## PEOPLE

### Identify landscape uses and their effects and tradeoffs to ecosystem resiliency

- Including working landscapes and Tribal lands
- Tool: Ecosystem Services Prioritization, Human Ecology Mapping

### Increase awareness of cultural areas of significance, resources, and conservation efforts

- Tribal values, working landscapes and associated cultures
- Acknowledging/honoring/respecting different stakeholders' "sense of place"
- Education/understanding of cultural values and priorities

### Educating/informing the public (and land managers) about restoration and stewardship needs/opportunities

- Foster a good understanding of land management and why limitations are in place
- Inform public about the importance of an "All Lands" approach and work being done on public/private
- Provide communication and education to those living in metro areas about land ethics—messaging to people where they live, rather than where they are recreating

### Increase awareness of many values associated with diverse social uses of natural resources

- Firewood cutting, berry picking, bird watching, pinecone picking, wild-life, etc.
- Integrate understanding of social use considerations into design of shared stewardship projects

### Promote shared stewardship with central Oregon communities and partners

- Continue to promote message to new residents and visitors
- Maximize our shared leverage through Shared Stewardship & avoid competition
- Opportunity: Connect with Coalition for the Deschutes: Gayle Snyder and Lisa Windom (North Irrigation District)

### Highlight current recreation & tourism management opportunities, challenges and relationship to the local economy

- Highlight the economic value to the local community from recreation and tourism to help bring recreation partners to the table
- Tap into the financial/economic opportunity provided by recreation and tourism
- Cultivate a stewardship ethic locally and among visitors to create a sustainable recreation system now in the future
- Address broader impacts for adjacent, surrounding private lands and land owners
- Identify growing recreation trends, concentrated areas of use, and explore proactive management options

### Identify growing recreation trends, concentrated areas of use, and explore proactive management options

- *(under development)*



# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship Framework for Action

## PROCESS

### **Build partner directory and capacity matrix**

- Include partner skills, expertise, and resources (helpful for funding, leveraging, and recruiting new partners)
- List priority project types (i.e. invasive species), geographic scope of organization, and current collaborative partnerships

### **Highlight all available tools to support shared stewardship (agreements, contracts, etc.)**

- List of existing partner agreements and MOU's
- Good Neighbor Authority and agreements
- Stewardship authority and contract types
- Restoration contractor resources

### **Coordinate grant application efforts to best position partners to be competitive and leverage funding**

- Use Shared Stewardship network to circulate funding opportunities
- Connect funding opportunities to partners that have mutual interests (through dedicated staffing and Funding subcommittee)
- Identify opportunities to leverage and match funds
- Utilize outreach and education to raise awareness for restoration funding needs

### **Identify resource values, management challenges, and restoration priorities at a central Oregon-wide scale**

- Potentially link to the spatial mapping effort
- ID broad geographies of importance to Shared Stewardship partners
- Periodic review (annual/semi-annual)

### **Spatial mapping of important geographies and values at risk**

- What is “central Oregon” (Deschutes Basin? County lines?)
- Collectively identify resource values (what are they and how are they defined)
- Identify restoration and management actions needed to address values at risk (start broad and refine over time)
- Identify intersection and overlap of geographic ranges and shared interests
- Establish mapping (scale) parameters:
  - Existing shared stewardship projects
  - Thematic approach to map layers (aquatics, wildlife, forestry, recreation)
  - Priority project overlay? Opportunity overlay?
  - Know the questions (and audiences) you want the map to answer
  - Have the ability to tailor a map to the criteria for certain funding sources
  - Model after Oregon Explorer or ArcGIS Online Story map
- Establish periodic updates and review
- Reporting works in progress and completed projects, evaluation of success
- Develop data sharing agreements to consider sensitivities (i.e. cultural sites)

*continued on next page*



# Central Oregon Shared Stewardship Framework for Action

## PROCESS cont.

### Develop a process for shared decision-making and governance

- Draft Central Oregon Shared Stewardship MOU (similar to Klamath Lake MOU) to outline shared interests, guiding principles, mutual goals, and partner commitments and accountability
- Collectively prioritize conservation and restoration efforts at a central Oregon-wide scale
- Clearly state participation and communication expectations of shared stewardship (simple, concise, broad)
- Lower level agreements or contracts might be necessary to determine how, when, and who is doing the work associated with specific funding
- Define how shared stewardship entities interact (i.e. subcommittee communication—i.e. Implementation, Monitoring, and Funding Subcommittees overseen by key land management organizations or Shared Stewardship staffers? Evaluate NE Oregon model as potential template

### Outreach and Communication

- Draft strategic and thoughtful messages around central Oregon Shared Stewardship
- Hold in-person and online events around central Oregon
  - Potential opportunity for communication & community engagement especially on high interest areas
  - Identify key questions and concerns before a project formally enters into the NEPA process
- Utilize existing events hosted by partners
- Connect to key players and events (targeted to elected officials, county commissioners, and audience with significant influences)