Minutes from Leadership Meeting July 30, 2024

Leaders present: Darlene, Bondi, Laurie

1. National Amendment for protecting MOG: Darlene is waiting for national to post their letter before creating her letter. The national office is planning to offer a webinar . 350PDX has a space in Portland which we may be able to use for an advocacy day. Comments are due Sept 18. Darlene will check on the rental possibility.
2. Owyhee Campaign: Wyden’s office has not responded to Micky’s request for a meeting . Wyden’s town hall is scheduled for Friday, August 2. Jane Heisler is planning on going. Darlene may go with Micky if Micky is able to schedule a meeting. Please call you senators to support this campaign.
3. NW FOREST PLAN: The recommendations by the Federal Advisory Committee added Tribal recommendations in the amendment. It still focuses on timber harvests, thinning, and forest fire reduction. Also added was no post-fire harvest for national forests. Rotations from 80-120 years. But it doesn’t really say how to protect MOG trees. No public comments are accepted at this time.
4. BIOMASS: Laurie made a request to Heidi Cody for a recording of the webinar on BIOMASS. Laurie wrote a letter of opposition about Longview DRAX plant. Darlene requests information about general impact of BIOMASS. Heidi said she would get the recording out.
5. Elliott State Forest: Carbon Credits project is newly added to the plan. The plan also reduces the protections in Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) which would restrict timber harvests in endangered species habitat.
6. WOLVES: The Washington Fish and Wildlife proposed a plan to downlist wolves in Washington from endangered to sensitive. Laurie testified in opposition to this proposal. The council met and voted 5 – 4 to reject the proposal to downlist wolves. This is a win for wolves as they have not met recovery targets in North Cascades or Mt Adams areas.
7. DABBLER Sale—DNR lands. The DOBBLER sale is now accepting comments to restrict the harvest. Rosanne and Bondi are planning on going out to visit the DABBLER Sale and provide some data for us about the parcel. We should set up a zoom meeting and get some talking points about the plan.
8. Solitude Monitoring; We are still in need of of 6 more sessions of monitoring in Indian Heaven Wilderness. We especially need folks to monitor Deep Lake and East Crater areas
   1. We have also been requested by Mount Hood Wilderness Rangers to do some monitoring of Mark Hatfield Wilderness in 2025-26 but it will be drastically reduced from the current 50 sessions of Indian Heaven wilderness.
9. Citizen Science project with WTA (Carolyn)—more details to come
10. Meeting dates for 2024-25 have been confirmed and posted. We decided to go with Wednesdays and Thursdays this year instead of Tuesdays.
11. Book Groups
    1. Laurie agreed to do a book group on the Kevin Fedarko book “The Emerald Mile” on October 30. Details will be sent out.
    2. Doran suggested “Becoming Animal” by David Abram
    3. Micky suggested “Forest Under Siege” by Rand Sneck
    4. The Heartbeat of Trees: Embracing Our Ancient Bond with Forests and Nature:
12. Speakers:
    1. Bondi to contact Rob Lee about speaking about the amphibian rescue in Forest Park
    2. Rosanne suggested Audrey do a virtual talk about Public Lands
    3. Carolyn suggested a virtual Advocacy Class with Mountaineers
13. FUN
    1. Campout suggestions—get a committee together starting in September
    2. Hikes
    3. Kayak event at Lake Merwin—Creosop Bay with Carolyn
    4. Broadwalk ideas: Klamath dam removal/Elwa Dam removal
    5. Other?