

# Mt. Hood National Forest

## Watershed management . . .

### . . . in your national forest!



Bull Run Watershed quenches the thirst of the Portland metropolitan area. When the Portland Water Bureau and the National Forest needed a better way to care for the water and the land, they got help from RESOLVE, Inc., a neutral non-profit group, and Bull Run Heritage Foundation, a public interest group, and began working together.



Their first step was to assess the situation and what the public wanted, and to use that information to figure out the right roles and responsibilities for the City and the Forest. They discovered that a non-traditional concept — sharing roles and co-administering the Bull Run Watershed in interests of long-term stewardship — had great public support.



By the end of 2004, they had completed a unique draft Memorandum of Understanding for co-administering specific operations, and clarifying administrative roles and responsibilities within the watershed.

### **Practice Makes Perfect**

The City and the Forest have agreed to let the draft remain a living draft for the next year, while key work plans are jointly written and the draft is 'practiced in principle' for a year to test how it works.

### **The Next Step**

Pivotal to long-term success of the effort are coming negotiations related to special use permits and conservation easements that will streamline the work of providing a better municipal water supply and better ecological stewardship of public land.

*Raise a (water) glass to new ways of working!*



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