

# Community Workshop Notes

## April 19, 2005

### Dayton, Washington



**Meeting Facilitator:** Martha Bean  
**Meeting Recorder:** Tami Paulsen, Kathy Campbell  
**Meeting Participants:** 22 participants signed in

**Co-Convener:** None

**Forest Service Official:** Mary Gibson, Walla Walla District Ranger, Umatilla National Forest

**Team Members:** Trish Callaghan, Bob Mason, Bruce Countryman, Tami Paulsen, Dave Schmitt, and Kathy Campbell

**Handouts to Each Participant:** Meeting Agenda, Worksheet for Management Categories, Worksheet for Areas with Wilderness Potential, Worksheet for Wild and Scenic Rivers, Management Categories & Subcategories, Inventory and Evaluation Process for Areas with Wilderness Potential, and Inventory and Evaluation Process for Wild and Scenic Rivers.

#### Display tables during the open house portion:

##### **Table – Forest Planning Process:**

**Handouts:** The Forest Plan Revision Team; Components of a Forest Plan; What a Plan Does and Does Not Do; The 2004 Planning Rule, How to Contact Us.

##### **Table – Inventory of Areas with Wilderness Potential and Wild and Scenic Rivers**

**Handouts:** About Areas with Wilderness Potential and About Wild and Scenic Rivers.

##### **Table – Management Categories**

**Handouts:** None

##### **Table – Suitability**

**Handouts:** None

#### Meeting Summary/Objectives:

This was Round Three in the Community Collaborative Workshop series. The beginning of the workshop was an open house format with displays for one-on-one discussions as people arrived. The purpose of the workshops was to summarize the Forest Service's 2005 Planning Rule, introduce Proposed Management Categories for use in the Revised Forest Plan to display management guidance, and to present updated inventories for both Areas with Wilderness Potential and potential Wild and Scenic Rivers.

The Wilderness and the Wild and Scenic River presentations were focused on the inventory phase of the process; no decisions or proposals were being made. This step was only to identify what areas and rivers QUALIFIED to be considered for designation. Time was provided for questions to clarify the inventory criteria and to gain additional information from the public on current uses and conditions of specific areas and rivers. Discussions on these topics were intended to provide the public with information so they could comment on whether they thought the areas and rivers met the criteria. The Revision Team asked that additional comments be sent in by June 30, 2005.

#### The 2005 Planning Rule:

Team Leader Dave Schmitt gave a PowerPoint presentation about the 2005 Planning Rule.

**Q.** Do activities increase or decrease the budget, or is it all congressionally driven?

**A.** Congress allocates the budget. While we request funding, Congress allocates our budgets based on what they want us to do.

**Q.** How does a small community influence the budget?

**A.** Since Congress determines our funding, working with your representative is the best way to influence our budget.

**Q.** What happens to the team when the plan is done?

**A.** They will find other jobs or possibly retire. There may be a follow-up Implementation Plan that some team members will be involved with. We are working closely with forest specialists so that the work we do will not be lost.

### **Management Categories:**

The Revisions Team's Vegetation Specialist, Bruce Countryman, presented a PowerPoint describing a preliminary set of Management Categories that may be used to display management guidelines on the three Blue Mountain national forests and asked the participants to comment on the concept and suggest additional categories and subcategories they would like to be used. **The team asked that additional comments be received by June 30, 2005.**

### **Flipchart Comments**

**Q.** Do we have access to the maps?

**A.** Yes, they're all on the website.

**Q.** How about the big maps on the wall?

**A.** They are on the website also. Give us a call if you want copies of them.

**Q.** Where would timber harvest activities occur?

**A.** Most likely in Category 4 and but possibly in Category 2, 3, or 5.

**Q.** Is Category 4 the same as a timber management plan?

**A:** No. Category 4 identifies where we think timber production is appropriate. A site-specific analysis must be done to actually carry out a timber harvest activity.

**Q.** Are the state lines defined? I would like to see timber cut volumes by state. It would be helpful to define what the cut will be and what the percentage will be in Oregon and Washington.

**A.** We can get those breakouts by state for you.

### **Wild and Scenic Rivers and Areas with Wilderness Potential:**

Trish Callaghan, Recreation Specialist for the Revision Team, made two presentations: one on the requirements and process for inventory and review of Wild and Scenic Rivers and one on the process for updating the inventory of Areas with Wilderness Potential. Participants were given time to ask questions about the criteria process used and to review maps and identify rivers and areas that should be added or removed from the inventories. **The team asked that additional comments be received by June 30, 2005.**

*Flipchart Comments - Wild and Scenic Rivers  
No Comments or Questions*

### **Flipchart Comments – Areas with Wilderness Potential**

- The table for the Grande Ronde does not match the map
- Would like to see the split between Oregon and Wilderness percentage.

### **Questions and Answers – Areas with Wilderness Potential**

**Q.** How many acres are in the inventory process?

**A.** Approximately 900,000 acres.

**Q.** Who is advocating terminology change from "roadless areas" to "Areas with Potential Wilderness"?

The change appears to be one step closer to wilderness area designation.

**A:** The term "roadless" is confusing as there may be roads in the roadless area. Using the term areas with wilderness potential more accurately describes what the areas are. "Roadless" is more closely linked to the current Forest Plans and to the RARE I and RAREII processes from which the 1984 wilderness areas were created. Areas with Wilderness Potential are those areas which meet or may meet the intent of the Wilderness Act and the Forest Service Handbook direction for inventorying areas with that potential

**Q.** At the end of process will the Proposed Forest Plan include acres mapped as Areas with Wilderness Potential?

**A.** Maybe. The Revised Forest Plans will recommend the areas for some type of management direction. If an area is recommended as wilderness, it would be mapped as "recommended wilderness". Those areas not recommended for wilderness will be designated with one of the other management designations and be mapped in a manner like the ones portrayed by the discussion we had earlier with Bruce and the management categories.

**Q.** Will the plan actually recommend additional wilderness?

**A:** It may or may not, depending on the decision of each Forest Supervisor.

## Overall Evaluation

### Comments from the Critique Forms:

Participants answered the following questions on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

	<b>Average</b>
I understand what management categories are and how they will be used in the Forest Plan.	3.9
I understand the process for Wild and Scenic River Inventory, and ways I can contribute to it.	3.6
I understand the process used to inventory the areas with wilderness potential and ways I can contribute to it.	3.0
I was comfortable discussing public land issues with people I didn't know tonight.	4.0
I was comfortable discussing public land issues with people who held different viewpoints tonight.	4.1
The workshop format was appropriate for what we needed to do tonight	4.0
I am comfortable using maps to enhance my understanding of the discussion topics tonight.	4.3
I receive useful information and meaningful opportunities to engage in forest plan revision through this collaborative process.	3.7

### Participants were also asked:

**Is there anything in particular that you liked or didn't like about the workshop?**

**Is there anything that you would like to know more about?**

**Do you have any other comments about the workshop?**

- Keep with using true "user" on concerned individual input to develop the plan and its direction.