

July 19, 2011

Greetings Everyone!

First of all, I am very excited to see so many of you signed up for this trip. I really hope that this trip is a thought provoking good discussion opportunity for all of us. It is my pleasure to show you the great things that Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program is doing (and will do!) in the future in the Willamette valley. I am sending you the original letter of recommendation from ODFW to BPA so you may see the prices, acreages, etc of all the projects that were recommended in FY2011. I am also attaching a copy of the MOA in case you did not see it.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO GET US YOUR LUNCH ORDERS BEFORE 7/22! THANKS!

Logistics:

I have rented a 12 passenger van which will hold most of you. **I will pick you up at the Best Western Motel at 7:30 am July 26.** There will be some of you that will not fit in this van, so if I can identify another person who can drive 4-6 people that would be great. I would really like to not have a large convoy of rigs, the first site is in a residential neighborhood and parking is limited. I realize some of you may be coming from Corvallis; I figured you would meet us at the site separately. Again, please try and condense yourselves as much as possible. I know you are all professionals, but there is poison oak at these sites, snakes, bugs, and it will probably be hot (who knows the way the weather has been!).

My cell phone number is 503-931-3821. If you get in on the 25th and need anything, please let me know.

The directions: <http://www.mapquest.com/?version=1.0&hk=4-EA3b1XK9> these directions are to the first site and then to the second site. The first site is South Eugene Hills. I have included maps of this site and the second site so you can check it out beforehand. Our host at this site will be Ed Alverson from the Nature Conservancy. Staff from the City of Eugene may also join us. This site one of many proposed sites that will eventually link to form a greenbelt or corridor from Fern Ridge Reservoir to Mt. Pisgah. Discussion topics: creating access for wildlife and humans; wildlife connectivity, wildlife and interactions with powerlines; restoration opportunities; and "the big picture", etc.

We will then drive to the second site (Willamette Confluence) and have lunch. More details on entrance: **the entrance road will be on your left immediately after a green house at 33995 Seavey Loop Rd. The driveway is marked with orange cones and there is a small red fire zone sign.** We will meet our second hosts there, Jason Nuchols and Dan Bell from the Nature Conservancy. This site is a very large site and has many different aspects so we'll take our time and look at as many as we can. This site is what would be called a "dual credit" site meaning that it provided both fish and wildlife benefits. This site also triggers a clause in the Willamette Biological Opinion that allows BPA to take restoration credit for restoring fishery benefits to this site. Discussion topics: floodplain restoration- fighting weeds; reclaiming gravel mining sites; upland restoration of oak forests using fire, native

American uses, public access, homeless and transient people issues, restoration on a grand scale, etc.

Then we will mount up and drive back to Salem where I will drop you off at the motel, return the van, and meet you at the Parking lot of the Carousel: <http://mapq.st/pO52Wh> where we will look across the Willamette Slough at a property that may be a future acquisition. Discussion topics: industrial reclamation and wildlife habitat, public access and wildlife privacy, floodplain restoration, connectivity, etc. Then we happily make our way to Venti's Café for dinner- reservation at 6:30 pm sharp. We are in the basement (trust me). Venti's is probably the best place to eat good food, they have vegetarian, vegan, and meat eater options- and they have many selections of beverages for all tastes.

On the 27th, we will have the regular CBFWA meeting in the Commission room at ODFW. Directions: <http://mapq.st/n3CdeP>.

Please travel safely and if you need anything please don't hesitate to call! I am really looking forward to your input.

Laura

Laura Tesler
Willamette Wildlife mitigation staff biologist
oregon department of fish and wildlife
3406 cherry ave ne
salem or 97303
503.947.6086