



FACT SHEET



United States Department of Agriculture
Web: <http://www.usda.gov>

United States Department of Interior
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Making a Difference Mt. Hood National Forest - Oregon

The purpose of the project is to reduce the risk wildland fire poses to the quality of The Dalles Municipal Watershed and adjacent areas. Initial planning will begin in the fall of 2005. The current condition of the watershed and adjacent areas includes overstocked stands and increasing levels of insect caused tree mortality, mainly from mountain pine beetle and fir engraver, contributing to an increase in hazardous fuels. The project area is located on the eastside of the Mt. Hood National Forest in the dry Fire Regimes I and III, and Condition Classes 2 and 3. Hazardous fuel reduction projects for this area are authorized in Title I of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003.

A collaborative process will be used for this planning. A contract facilitator will help develop collaborative skills within the working group so the group can self facilitate. The Forest Service planning team has identified specific organizations and agencies to initially include in the collaboration, such as: City of The Dalles Watershed managers, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, adjacent landowners, and special interest groups. A news release will invite other interested citizens to participate.

Stewardship contracting will help the forest achieve its vegetation management and hazardous fuels reduction goals to protect the municipal water supply, as well as provide jobs within the community. Specific projects may include timber harvest, prescribed burning and mechanical treatments for fuel reduction, and may also include road de-commissioning, culvert replacement, and wildlife habitat enhancement.



For more information on the project, contact Daina Bambe, dbambe@fs.fed.us, (541) 352-6002 or Mike Hernandez, mhernandez@fs.fed.us, (541) 467-2291.

For more information on the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 and the Healthy Forests Initiative, visit www.healthyforests.gov

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