

## Executive Summary – January 2017

### Executive Summary Wasco County Forest Collaborative

We had a great attendance at our January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting with our guests, Lisa Northrup and Phil Chang. While no one produced a crystal ball predicting what the political landscape might look like under a Trump administration, we did have a robust, full exchange of ideas, questions, and concerns. On behalf of the US Forest Service and Senator Merkley's office, Lisa Northrup and Phil Chang made clear their respective offices' commitment to the collaborative process. They gave us an appreciation of political and legal constraints they operate in, while still giving us hope that things can get done. Lisa Northrup emphasized the importance of transparency and timely communication between the US Forest Service and the collaborative group.

Marching ahead, we focus on the following items at our next meeting, February 2<sup>nd</sup>:

1. Create a subcommittee on community outreach to the schools (contingent on getting the National Forest Foundation grant, which hopefully we will hear from by Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>)
2. Continue our discussion on retained receipts with aim of selecting where and what we would want to see during our summer field trips.
3. Initiate a discussion on our direction and purpose, i.e. do political lobbying with Greg Walden; fire education, etc.
4. Tyson Bertone-Riggs will give a brief presentation on Federal Forest Restoration Program
5. Casey Getz will provide us an update on the Rocky Burn NEPA process.

Stay warm, dry and safe in this winter weather.

Bill Noonan