# Multiparty Monitoring and Public Learning



Kerry Metlen, The Nature Conservancy Gwyn Myer, Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative

# **Multiparty Monitoring**

#### Compliance

Does it meet the legal requirements?

Implementation

Did we do what we said we would do? Effectiveness

Are we effectively accomplishing our goals/objectives?

Validation

Is there a better way to meet the goals/objectives?

#### Why Multiparty Monitoring?

Increase trust and accountability

Determine action, program or management effectiveness
Inform adaptive management

# **Adaptive Management**

'Management based on a series of feedback mechanisms in a continual cycle of evaluation, planning, action, and monitoring' (Shindler et al 1999)'

#### **Experimental**

Strategic

Arbitrary

#### Keys to Successful Multiparty Monitoring

1. Identifying and engaging stakeholders

2. Building a common understanding

Defining project and monitoring goals and indicators
 Developing and implementing a monitoring plan

5. Learning from monitoring and assessing project process

# An Important Question to Ask

Monitoring faces many challenges/constraints

- Time consuming
- Expensive
- Changing agency priorities



How can NGOs and other groups help partner with agencies to build capacity to be able to monitor?



#### Increase forest ecosystem resistance and resilience

- Fire behavior
- Stand density
- Tree vigor
- Mean diameter
  - Composition of tree and understory diversity

#### Increase spatial heterogeneity to benefit biodiversity and species of concern at the stand and landscape scale

- Canopy cover
- Stand level skips and gaps
- Stand level structural complexity
- Seral stage composition at landscape scale
- Snag and down woody material abundance
- Bird species composition

#### Conserve and improve northern spotted owl habitat through LSEA (late seral emphasis area) design

- Fire behavior adjacent to LSEAs
- Percentage of NRF, dispersal, and unsuitable habitat
- Spotted Owl reproduction and pattern of use

# Generate jobs and support regional manufacturing infrastructure

- Jobs created or maintained
- Board feet and ton weight of material harvested
- Market utilization by product category

# Gain public support for active management in federal forests

#### **Indicators:**

Awareness and support of engaged public Success of community outreach and engagement Scoping and EA comments

#### **Permanent Photo Points**



Conditions at one of 20 FIREMON plots established one year prior to any treatments.

- Visual record across multiple phases
- Baseline to identify changes over time
- Tool for public understanding of stand response to active management



Conditions at the same plot immediately following the hand-piling of remaining activity fuels.

This permanent photo point of a cable yarding corridor was established by the Pilot Joe Multiparty Monitoring Team immediately after completion of the 'finish work



#### **Building Capacity, Accountability, and Support**



- Sponsored a conference in Oct 2010
- Sponsor field trips
- Worked as citizens on ID teams
- Work on MPM team
- Taken photos/collected data in field to help monitoring efforts
- Work to find funding
- Advocate for agency funding
- Provide agency opportunity (and others) to bring questions to the table
- Got funding- i.e., Title II from RAC
- Create(d) jobs
- Public buy-in

#### **Ashland Forest Resiliency**

•7,600 acre project area
•1,700 acres non-commercial thinning
•1,300 acres commercial thinning
•Cooperative project design
•Cooperative implementation
•Multiparty Monitoring

Ashland Forest Resiliency









Protecting nature. Preserving life"



PROJECT FUNDED BY THE American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

# ASHLAND FOREST RESILIENCY STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT



# **Technical Stakeholders**

Developing Monitoring Priorities, June 12, 2009

#### **Monitoring Advisory Committee**

- Ellen Goheen USFS, Forest Health Program
- John Alexander Klamath Bird Observatory
- John Gutrich Southern Oregon University

- Mark Shibley Southern Oregon University
- Eric Dinger- National Park Service
- Dan Sarr- monitoring scientist
- Dave Clayton USFS, Rogue-Siskiyou NF



# Implementation Review Team



Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative













#### Water Quality and Aquatic Habitat

#### Indicators

residual pool depth
substrate embeddedness
macroinvertebrate communities
water turbidity
sediment accumulation in Reeder

# Baseline Macroinvertebrate data



2010	Preferred	Reeder Gulch	East Fork Ashland Creek	West Fork Ashland Creek	Section 20
Richness	>30	28	34	40	26
Abundance	>500	2643	799	473	795
EPT taxa	>30	14	19	23	19
% Dominant	<30	19.6	30.9	22.0	18.4
Intolerant taxa	>15	6	11	15	6
Tolerant taxa	<5	0	0	1	0

2011	Preferred	Reeder Gulch	East Fork Ashland Creek	West Fork Ashland Creek	Section 20
Richness	>30	26	26	45	25
Abundance	>500	546	461	884	326
EPT taxa	>30	19	17	31	15
% Dominant	<30	26.7	39.9	15.4	27.9
Intolerant taxa	>15	11	12	18	9
Tolerant taxa	<5	0	1	0	0

#### Songbird mist netting and point counts

# Indicators Songbird community composition Individual species utilization of specific habitats





### Late Successional Habitats

#### Indicators

Vegetation structures before and after project completion
Population dynamics and habitat use of Northern Spotted Owl, flying squirrels and pacific fisher

## Pacific Fisher – Winter 2011

85



#### Northern Spotted Owls Habitat Use



Apparent occupancy and the reproductive rates of Northern Spotted Owls in the Ashland Watershed, Siskiyou Mountains, southern Oregon 1993-1997, 2005-2008, and 2010-2011: a preliminary report. Katie M. Dugger, Jason W. Schilling, Robert G. Anthony, and L. Steven Andrews.

#### Large tree retention and survival

#### Indicators

- cut-tree size distribution
- legacy tree patch identification
- legacy tree vigor response and retention

Predicted Legacy Tree Densities m<sup>2/</sup>acre High : 1931.2 Low : 0 Predicted Legacy Trees
 ARRA Treatment Footprint
 Roads

AFRSP Legacy Tree Prediction

----- Streams

LIDAR

Aerial Photo

# Social Monitoring – Public Learning

#### Indicators

Survey respondent project support – Mark Shibley
 Survey respondent understanding of forest issues
 Feedback from the Implementation Review Team



# Herbaceous Recovery and Response

#### Indicators

herbaceous cover in Common Stand Exam plots

#### Building Capacity, Accountability, and Support

ADDISFUT LARVAE



- Clarify objectives
- Monitor compliance, treatment effectiveness, and increase accountability
- Engage public and build trust
- Convene partners and volunteers from diverse stakeholder groups
- Inspire collective action
- Leverage stakeholder expertise to increase agency capacity
- Advocate for agency funding and procure outside funding
- Provide framework for additional questions













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