



Pinchot Partners

WORKING ON COMMON GROUND

September 21, 2022

9:30am - 4pm

Skate Field Trip

In attendance: Janene Ritchie, Pete Krabbe, David Owen, John O'Brien, Ashley Short, John Squires, Matt Comisky, Bill Little, Sharon Hanna, Constance Mears, James Donahey (USFS), Cheyenne Adamonis (USFS), Ken Wieman (USFS), Sarah Rockey (USFS), Anna Baklund (Tread Lightly), Harry Bhagwandin (Lewis County Commissioner candidate) and Brooke Squires.

Site #1 - Riparian Buffers: Acting District Ranger James Donahey described old growth characteristics, including size and age of trees, high species diversity, high canopy closure, etc.

Site #2 - Old Growth Conditions: Cowlitz Valley District silviculturist, Cheyenne Adamonis, explains the origin of a stand dated from the late 1800s and its management history. She shared a LiDAR map that illustrates the variety of sizes and classes of trees present in the riparian area.

Site #3 - Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) in progress: Forest Service Biologist Ken Wieman described the history of a site on the 4725 road and the high flow event in 2018 that necessitated a new aquatic organism passage (AOP) at this location. The group then visited a completed, successful AOP.

Site #4 - Damaged culvert on active haul route: Engineer Sarah Rockey shared the challenges of funding and planning road work in the Cowlitz Valley, and how her scrappy team has managed to accomplish 11 major road projects on a shockingly small budget, and with significant vacancies on their team.

Site #5 - Completed AOP: Forest Service Biologist Ken Wieman described the history of a site on the 4725 road and the high flow event in 2018 that necessitated a new aquatic organism passage (AOP) at this location. The group then visited a completed, successful AOP.

Site #6 - Regeneration harvest area: Cheyenne gave information on early seral habitat in an area that was harvested in 2020 and replanted in 2021. Cheyenne and James also shared a research project that's attempting to answer questions related to assisted migration -

https://columbiainsight.org/the-forest-service-is-experimenting-with-relocating-tree-species/?fbclid=IwAR2RkdGams8nK_PnnEsbO94UedQsdtEK9IU-D51KxpaubGvAPS1KSEaNgJjo

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM

Minutes prepared by Constance Mears