

LAND MANAGER'S GUIDE TO ASPEN MANAGEMENT IN OREGON



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Foreword

We are Kevin and Carol Westfall, residents of Klamath Falls, Oregon. We own property that is located northeast of Chiloquin at an elevation of 4,700 feet. This property consists of meadows interspersed with conifer stands and patches of aspen. The meadows, which make up about one-half of the acreage, are irrigated by two springs. The dominant tree species are lodgepole pine and ponderosa pine, with about 20 acres of quaking aspen.

The property appeals to us for a multitude of reasons. The meadows are well suited for live-stock grazing, the timber is managed for both commercial and home firewood production, and there are many opportunities for outdoor recreation.

When we purchased the property, we were not aware of aspen's unique characteristics nor of its importance to the forest ecosystem. Aspen's value as a wildlife food source was one of the main reasons we decided to prioritize the enhancement of this species.

We have attended workshops, read articles, and received technical assistance from informed



resource professionals. All of this has helped guide us in our efforts.

Throughout the West, aspens have been declining for a number of years and for a variety of reasons. We encourage anyone with an interest in aspen to get involved in the management and enhancement of this valuable member of the natural world.

Kevin and Carol Westfall

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Tim Deboodt started working for the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service in 1983 in Teton County. In 1987, he moved to Prineville, Oregon and is now a faculty member with the Oregon State University Extension Service, serving the central Oregon region by developing and delivering educational information related to rangelands, their use, and management. Programs include restoration of semiarid watersheds, range improvements, livestock grazing systems, and land management policy issues. Current research activities include the effects of western juniper control on watershed function and hydrology, water quality parameters as influenced by land management activities, and restoration of rangeland health using prescribed fire and other management practices.

Stephen Fitzgerald is the eastside silviculture and wildland fire education specialist for the Oregon State University Extension Service, stationed in Redmond, Oregon. He conducts extensive educational programming in forest management, wildland fire ecology, fuel reduction, and post-fire recovery. Much of his silviculture research work deals with improving forest health in eastside dry forests.

Ann Humphrey is a biologist who has been fortunate to spend the past 31 years working in a variety of ecological systems across the United States, from sage grasslands and ponderosa woodlands in Wyoming to tall grass prairies in Minnesota, old-growth

forests in Washington, and seabird colonies in the northwestern Hawai'ian Islands. She has spent much of the past 5 years studying the Zumwalt Prairie in northeastern Oregon, where she recently collaborated with Wallowa Resources, a local nonprofit, to examine the effectiveness of aspen exclosures.

John Kaiser is a forest archaeologist on the Fremont-Winema National Forests.

Jim Lowrie has had a 33-year career with the U.S. Forest Service in the White River, San Juan, Black Hills, Malheur, Olympic, and Deschutes National Forests. He is currently district wildlife biologist, Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District, in the Deschutes National Forest. His primary aspen management experience has been in Colorado, Wyoming, and Oregon.

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