

Rogue Native Plant Partnership

5.10.2021

Meeting to discuss Umpqua Native Plant Partnership

Attending:

Kathryn Prive, Vanessa Rojas, Tuula Rebhahn - The Understory Initiative/RNPP

Cal Lee Davenport - USFWS, Medford

Allison Manwaring - USFWS, Roseburg

Clint Emerson - Forest Service botanist, temporarily taking over botanist duties in the Umpqua

Summary of 4/20 in-person meeting with stakeholders in Roseburg

CalLee:

- Strengths that stand out so far: Strong interest, enthusiasm for partnership especially among Native Plant Society Umpqua Valley, knowledge of local native plants and seed sources
- Potential missing parts: Infrastructure (eg nurseries)

What do people need from a NPP?

Allison: Not sure who has restoration projects, or who needs plants or seeds in the ground

Discussion of next steps

- Send out an email from RNPP explaining who we are and introducing the survey, to all potential Umpqua NPP members
- Plan follow-up meeting between members of this group to review survey results
- Plan a seed collection site/date as well
- Set up a first "official" UNPP meeting - in the fall?
- Get a plant list together, species that people would want (collect this info with survey - ask if it's seed or containerized plant?)
 - *Alison to scan & share the plant list from Elkton Community Education Center*
- Think about coordinator role - how will it be funded?

In person or virtual meeting (general UNPP)?

- Will depend on survey results, what the issues are that are rising to the surface
- Virtual brings more people in from outside the area. In-person reinforces grassroots efforts.

- Could hold an in-person meeting the same day that the Oak Working Group meets

Updates from Clint Emerson:

Will be headed to Umpqua in 2-3 weeks for position underneath Forest Supervisor (for 4 months)

Trying to get money funneled to pollinator efforts

Has been working with Plant Conservation Alliance on National Seed Strategy

Working on post-fire recovery on North Umpqua - 20 years of intensive fire

- Grew up in Glide, OR

Situation on the Umpqua is not good as far as botanists working on these issues, one botanist now there in Tiller - her name is Crystal Shepherd

There is also a fellowship/partnership person - Audrey Squires with National Forest Foundation

More info on National Seed Strategy

National Academy of Sciences is now involved - more political clout, they can actually lobby

They want to boost funding 5x under this administration

Botany Bill - has a lot of native plant materials requests in it

Umpqua silviculture program

- Umpqua is smaller than the Rogue, fewer seed zones
- Revegetating safety zones
- It's all about demand driving species, methods

National Seed Strategy idea: Native plants - original green infrastructure

Providing another option to the ODFW non-native seed mixes for private landowners

Changing the culture of Forest Service

- Dealing with territorial-ness
- "Kicking seeds"

Need to get out of the echo-chamber