

Minutes of the Jackson County Forestland-Urban Interface Classification Committee Meeting

August 27, 2003 1:00 p.m.
Southwest Oregon District Office, Central Point

Committee and staff attendees: Reeve Hennion Dan Thorpe, Lou Gugliotta, Rick Gibson, Brian Ballou, Jim Wolf, Keith Massie

Committee members absent: Bill Rose, Michael Mattson

Chairman Hennion called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. No members of the public were in attendance. The committee was composed of three members, making the meeting a work session.

The committee approved the minutes of its July 23 meeting.

On the agenda:

- Mapping Sams Valley
- Hwy 62 to Eagle Point
- Butte Falls Highway
- West Eagle Point (Long Mountain)
- East side of Eagle Point to Ashland

The committee reviewed the draft boundaries in the Sams Valley area. A forestland-urban interface area west of Dodge Bridge was expanded to include some lots on the northwest side of the forestland-urban interface area. They were added because of their proximity to a high-density area. Committee members noted that fuels in the area were conducive to aggressive burning, and that access to some interior homes was poor. However, Mr. Wolf noted that perhaps half of the homes in the development had received some measure of defensible space treatment.

The committee reviewed an area between Antioch and Modoc roads, along Hwy 234. After brief discussion, the committee agreed to use the draft boundary without adjustment. Near the intersection of Hwy 234 and Table Rock Road, the committee reviewed draft boundaries around lots west of the intersection. Most of the lots were 2.76 acres in size, and the committee agreed with the draft boundary; a small number of lots were added to the northwest portion of the forestland-urban interface boundary.

Draft forestland-urban interface lands south of Shady Cove, east of the Rogue River, were reviewed. A significant area was added adjacent to, and east of, Hwy 62. The committee added another significant area that was southeast, and east, of the bridge over the river. Forestland-urban interface boundary additions continued east of the river, around lots along Old Ferry Road.

Moving back south, a forestland-urban interface area was added along Langel Creek. A dot was placed on a large lot just north of this forestland-urban interface area; the dot noted that the committee wished to visit the area before rendering a decision.

The committee shifted its attention to lots along the Butte Falls Highway. Draft forestland-urban interface areas were reviewed in the McNeil and Obenchain roads' areas. One lot was added to the north part of the Obenchain forestland-urban interface area.

Dots were placed on Butte Falls. "It goes from high density to nothing," said Mr. Wolf. The lots were within the city, and none was paying forestland protection. The committee decided to not include lots within Butte Falls.

The committee then review draft forestland-urban interface areas east of Eagle Point, in the Brownsboro and Ayers roads' areas. One forestland-urban interface area along Little Butte Creek was deleted. In the Long Mountain area, a forestland-urban interface area was added in the Mt. View Road/Lexington Road area. Farther south, east of the irrigation ditch, a large area of developed lots was enclosed within a forestland-urban interface boundary.

In the Foothill Boulevard/Dry Creek area, a long, large forestland-urban interface area was added.

Moving south, the committee reviewed its boundaries in the Dead Indian Road area, east of Ashland. Open and irrigated lands were excluded, consistent with earlier decisions.

Dots were placed on areas needing review after color aerial photos are used; currently, black & white photos are used, and they sometimes don't show much detail about vegetation cover.

After mapping is complete, classification is next: high or extreme, depending on vegetation. Mr. Wolf explained the choices available for vegetation data. He noted that the Deschutes County Classification Committee chose to use the GAP data. Mr. Hennion recommended that the committee allow Mr. Wolf to use GAP data, rate the vegetation types, and return to the committee with the ratings. The committee agreed.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for September 10.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Bill Rose, Secretary

Date