

## **Ochoco Forest Restoration Collaborative** **Commitment to Productive Participation**

This Commitment to Productive Participation represents the interests of active Ochoco Forest Restoration Collaborative (OFRC) members, guest participants, U.S. Forest Service partners, and media to advance the mission of the OFRC and to honor the agreements that are collaboratively developed. Individuals who do not wish to or are unable to sign this Commitment and be an active member, yet want to remain informed and involved with OFRC to a lesser-degree are encouraged to participate as a community member or guest participant. Regardless of level of participation, attendees at OFRC meetings, field trips and events agree to abide by the following Ground Rules and Communication Protocols.

For additional detail and elaboration on the OFRC mission, vision, and process, see the OFRC Operations Manual.

### **Mission**

The OFRC, founded in 2012, is a diverse group of stakeholders who work together to create and implement a shared vision to improve the resilience and well-being of forests and communities in the Ochoco Mountains.

### **Ground Rules and Communication Protocols**

OFRC stakeholders developed this set of ground rules for conduct and communication during their May 22, 2012 meeting.

#### ***Focus on learning***

- \* Come willing to learn.
- \* Come to meetings prepared.
- \* Present interests (e.g., desired conditions) not positions (e.g., management specifications).
- \* Listen to understand. Be present and aim to fully hear others.
- \* Critique constructively and ask questions to learn.
- \* Be willing to be creative, explore alternatives, and search for opportunities.
- \* Share all relevant information.
- \* Share and take into account information from diverse sources.
- \* Please ask—there are no stupid questions.
- \* Respect the range of knowledge present in the group.
- \* Adapt ground rules to reflect group needs and dynamics as they evolve.

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***Listen and speak with respect***

- \* Only one person speaks at a time. Allow people to finish their thought. No interrupting and no side conversations.
- \* Speak when you have something to say: bring up concerns and different views. No personal attacks. Come down hard on ideas, but never on people.
- \* Voice your concerns and take the time to address conflicting concerns.
- \* Do not dominate discussions. Do not use meetings as a forum to “soapbox.” Respect each other in and outside of meetings.

***Communication outside of meetings***

- \* Keep your colleagues and constituents informed about the process.
- \* Bring relevant information back to the group.
- \* Do not criticize individuals or the group process. Bring your concerns directly to the individual or the group.
- \* Don’t presume to speak for others who are not there. No backroom deals.
- \* A website will be maintained for storing and sharing all information. Partners are encouraged to help develop content for the website.

**Signed:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Participation \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Community Member/Guest, Full Member, U.S. Forest Service Partner, Media)*