



Congressmen Walden and Blumenauer's Mount Hood Stewardship Legacy Act (HR 5025)

Three Year Effort, Bipartisan, Locally Supported, Consensus Based, Stewardship Legacy Plan

- **August 2003** Mt. Hood Summit I – A View From the Summit – Timberline Lodge
- **June 2004** Mt. Hood Summit II – A Vision for the Future – Timberline Lodge
- **July 2005** Mt. Hood Stakeholder Roundtable – Timberline Lodge
- **August 2005** The Backpack Trip – Timberline Trail
- **December 2005** Mt. Hood Summit III – A Legacy for Mt. Hood – Hood River and Portland
- **March 28, 2006** The Mount Hood Stewardship Legacy Act (HR 5025) Introduced
- **April 5, 2006** Resources Forest Subcommittee Hearing
- **July 19, 2006** Resources Committee mark up

SUMMITS:

August 2003 - Mt. Hood Summit I: A View From the Summit - Timberline Lodge

- 300 people participated in a community wide discussion covering a range of issues including transportation, recreation, environmental protection, Tribal trust obligations, tourism, forestry and community development.

June 2004 - Mt. Hood Summit II: A Vision for the Future – Timberline Lodge

- 250 interested public attendees
- 20 presenters
- One hour of public testimony
- Over 80 written statements received from public and interest groups

December 2005 – Mt. Hood Summit III: A Legacy for Mt. Hood – Hood River Portland

- After all the previous opportunities for public input, a legislative concept paper was unveiled in Hood River and Portland to over 750 interested persons.
- After a 30-minute presentation by Congressmen Walden and Blumenauer, people were invited to comment for over 3.5 hours.
- From this legislative concept paper, a bill was crafted.

ROUNDTABLES:

July 2005 – Mt. Hood Roundtable Discussion Meetings – Timberline Lodge

- 2 days
- 5 roundtable discussions areas
 - Wilderness/Wild and Scenic Rivers; Recreation; Development/Transportation Forest Health/Watersheds; Government to Government
- 10 hours of solid conversation
- 50 invited roundtable participants
- Over thirty pages of hand written notes – GW
- 20 maps were used or presented during discussions

THE BACKPACK TRIP

- August 15 – 18
- Circumnavigating Mt. Hood via the Timberline Trail
- Party will consist of 7 people
 - Greg Walden, Earl Blumenauer, Mylene and Anthony Walden, Hillary Barbour, Janine Benner, Colby Marshall
- 4 days, 3 nights
- 41 miles
- Average 45-55 pounds of gear
- Elevation ranges from 3240 feet to 7300 feet...gained and lost a total of 9000 feet
- Crossing almost 40 creeks and streams
- Meeting with over 15 “field experts” as you circumnavigate the Mountain
 - botanists, wilderness experts, hydrologists, geologists, tribal representatives, foresters

Mt Hood National Forest Key Factoids

Established:	1908 – Oregon National Forest (renamed Mt. Hood National Forest in 1919) (“Wy’East” is the American Indian name for Mt. Hood)
Total Acreage:	1.1 million (including private and other jurisdictions)
Mt. Hood peak:	11,240 feet - the highest mountain in Oregon
Visitors per year:	4 million
Population in urban areas:	2 million
Employees:	257 permanent employees; 41 temporary
Volunteer hours:	20,000
Partner Programs:	250
Annual Budget (FY03):	\$23.7 million – 32% decrease from 1994 - 76% appropriated by Congress
Annual Economic Value:	\$150 million

Wilderness/Wild and Scenic Rivers Key Factoids

Wilderness Designations:	6 - Salmon Huckleberry, Hatfield, Mt. Hood, Badger Creek, Bull of the Woods, and Jefferson Wilderness which is split between the Hood and Willamette NF but is not counted in the Hood inventory
Wilderness Acres:	186,200 (17% of total Forest acreage) (Wilderness areas vary in size from 24,000 acres to 47,100 acres)
• With our proposal (77,215 additional acres):	263,414 (25% of total acreage)
Wilderness Average Use:	6.7 hours – 85% of activities are day use
Total Wilderness Visits:	137,000 (actual people)
Age of users:	20-39 (28%), 40-49 (19%), 50-59 (16%), under 16 (12%)
Wild and Scenic Rivers (miles):	121

Recreation Key Factoids

National Forest visits:	4 million
Ski Areas:	1,176,000 visitors per year
Wilderness visits:	137,000 visitors per year

Special Use Permits:	670
Recreational trails (miles):	812
Recreational residence:	555
Established camp sites:	100 – (Forest working to obtain carrying capacity)
Gender distribution:	63.5% male to 35.5% female

Main activities as a % of use:	Down Hill Skiing	24% - 1,176,000 visitors per year
	Hiking/Walking	17% - 833,000
	Relaxing	14% - 686,000
	Non-motorized	9.8% - 480,200
	Viewing natural features	8.5% - 416,500
	Resort use	4.4% - 215,600
	Developed camping	3.1% - 151,900
	Other	19.2% - 940,800

Development/Transportation Key Factoids

Structures:	331
Total Roads (miles):	3,442
• Passenger car:	643
• High clearance:	1,150
• Closed:	1,649
Annual Road Maintenance Budget	\$800,000 (\$3.8 million in 1989)
Utility corridors (miles):	60
National Historic Landmark:	Timberline Lodge
National Historic Trail:	Barlow Road
Historic Structures/Districts:	10

Forest Health/Watersheds Key Factoids

Timber Harvested:	25.4 million board feet (97% decline from 1980's)
• Acres harvested in 2004	989 (less than 1/100 th of total Forest acreage)
Forest Vegetative Structure:	60% of the current stands are considered <i>dense, medium sized forest</i> .
Condition Class:	130,000 acres are in Condition Classes 2 & 3
Insect-caused Tree Mortality:	87,000 acres with significant amounts of mortality from recent bark beetle outbreaks.
Lands specified for timber production:	99,000 (9.6% of total Forest acreage)
Late Successional Reserve:	360,000 (35.1% of total Forest acreage)
Roadless:	118,350 (11.5% of total Forest acreage)
Annual forest growth rate:	13 times yearly harvest rates
Water sources (acres):	71,400
Perennial streams (miles):	1,640
Municipal Watersheds:	6
Drinking water supplies:	1.1 million people
Irrigation districts:	8
Special Forest Product Permits:	7,716
Mineral permits:	532
Wildlife species:	268
Fish species:	30
Threatened and Endangered:	7
Sensitive Species:	43

Archeological sites:	1200
Noxious weeds (acres affected):	7,000

- The Forest Plan identifies an allowable timber sales quantity of timber at 189 million board feet (mmbf) per year. The Northwest Forest Plan amended the Forest Plan resulting in a probable sales quantity of 67 mmbf. (Mt. Hood 2003 Monitoring and Evaluation Report)
- From 1988 to 2003, 32% of fire ignitions were due to lighting, and 33% were caused by escaped campfires. For the period 1999-2003 for all causes, the Forest averaged 62 fires per year 173 acres burned. (Mt. Hood 2003 Monitoring and Evaluation Report)
- Based on annual aerial detection surveys, insects are causing defoliation on approximately 5,400 acres resulting in reduced growth rates and low resistance. Of other great significance is the increase in beetle-caused tree mortality – recent detection on 18,000 acres with 31,000 trees killed. This is the highest mortality of the last decade. (Mt. Hood 2003 Monitoring and Evaluation Report)