

Forest and Partner co-host public field trip to Silver Creek Thin Project Area

August 7, 2014 - Cowlitz Valley Ranger District on Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Pinchot Partners collaborative group are co-hosting a field trip on August 16, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. to the Silver Creek Thin project area and inviting the public to participate. The purpose of the field trip is to provide an early opportunity for information exchange and input from the public as the proposed action for Silver Creek Thin is developed. Possible activities that may be included in the Silver Creek Thin project will be presented, such as commercially thinning timber stands, improving watershed condition and wildlife habitat, promoting huckleberries, and creating quality early-seral habitat.

The public is encouraged to meet at the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District office at 9:00 a.m. located on 10024 US Hwy 12, Randle, WA 9837, or at Cruiser's Pizza at 9:30 a.m. located on 13028 U.S. 12, Packwood, WA 98361. Bring a lunch, plenty of water, and wear suitable footwear.

"We look forward to continuing our engagement with local communities, partners and other interested stakeholders to explore opportunities and concerns related to the Silver Creek Thin project," says District Ranger Gar Abbas of the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District.

Pinchot Partners Board member Bob Guenther says, *"The Silver Creek Field trip is a perfect opportunity for anyone interested in improving the forest on the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District to see the Silver Creek area and suggest activities to enhance it. We hope community members will join us."*

For more information on the Silver Creek Thin Project and field-trip, contact Erica Taecker at (360) 497-1136.

For information on Pinchot Partners collaborative group, contact Jamie Tolfree at (360) 334-2555.

Diana H. Perez, M.S.

Acting Public Affairs Officer
Gifford Pinchot National Forest
10600 NE 51st Circle
Vancouver, WA 98682
360-891-5222

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/giffordpinchot/>

<https://twitter.com/GPNF>

dperez@fs.fed.us