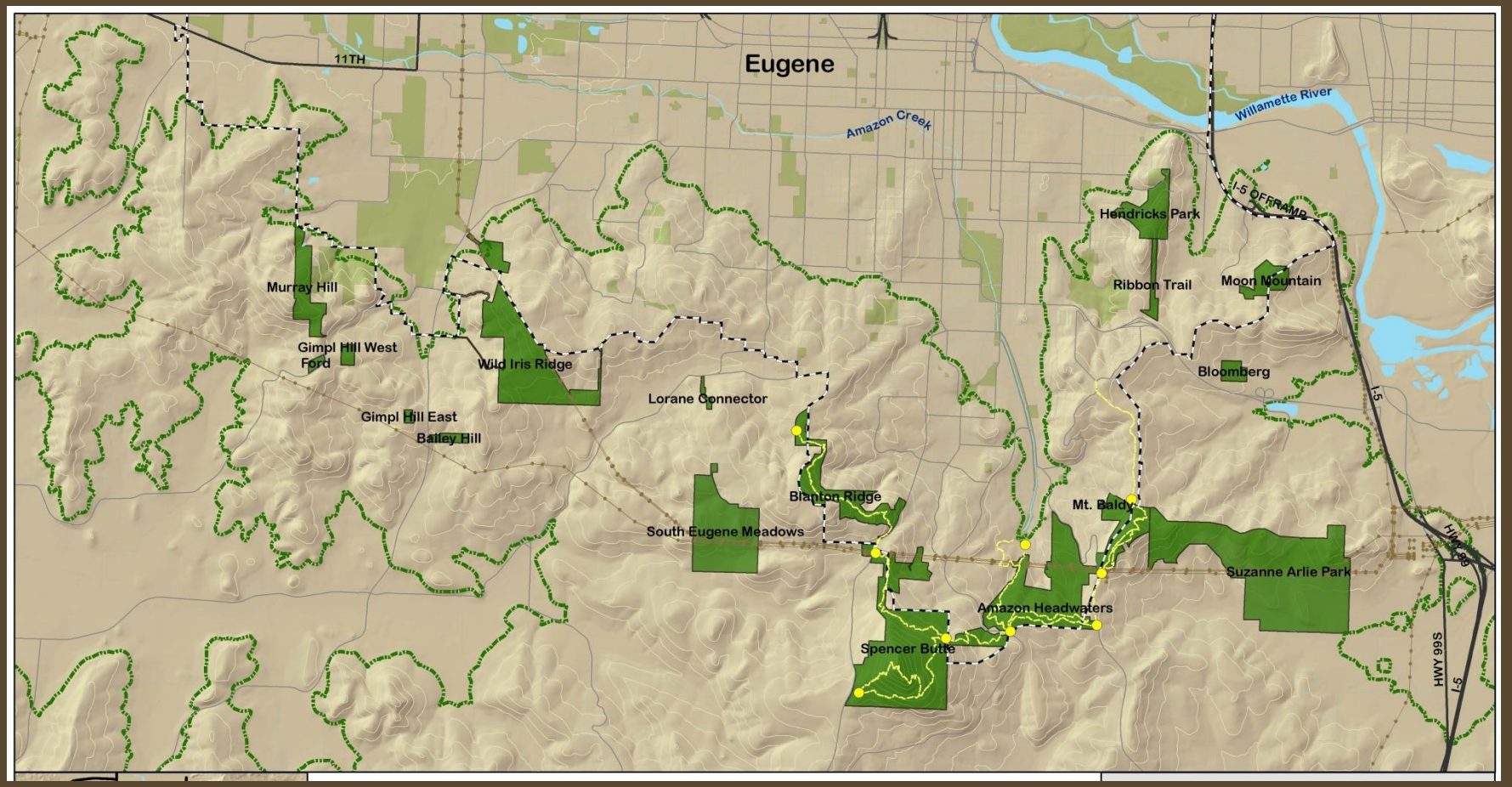
OAK HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS IN EUGENE, OR

OBJECTIVES, IMPLEMENTATION, AND LESSONS LEARNED

Emily Steel
Natural Areas and Urban Forestry Section
Parks and Open Space Division

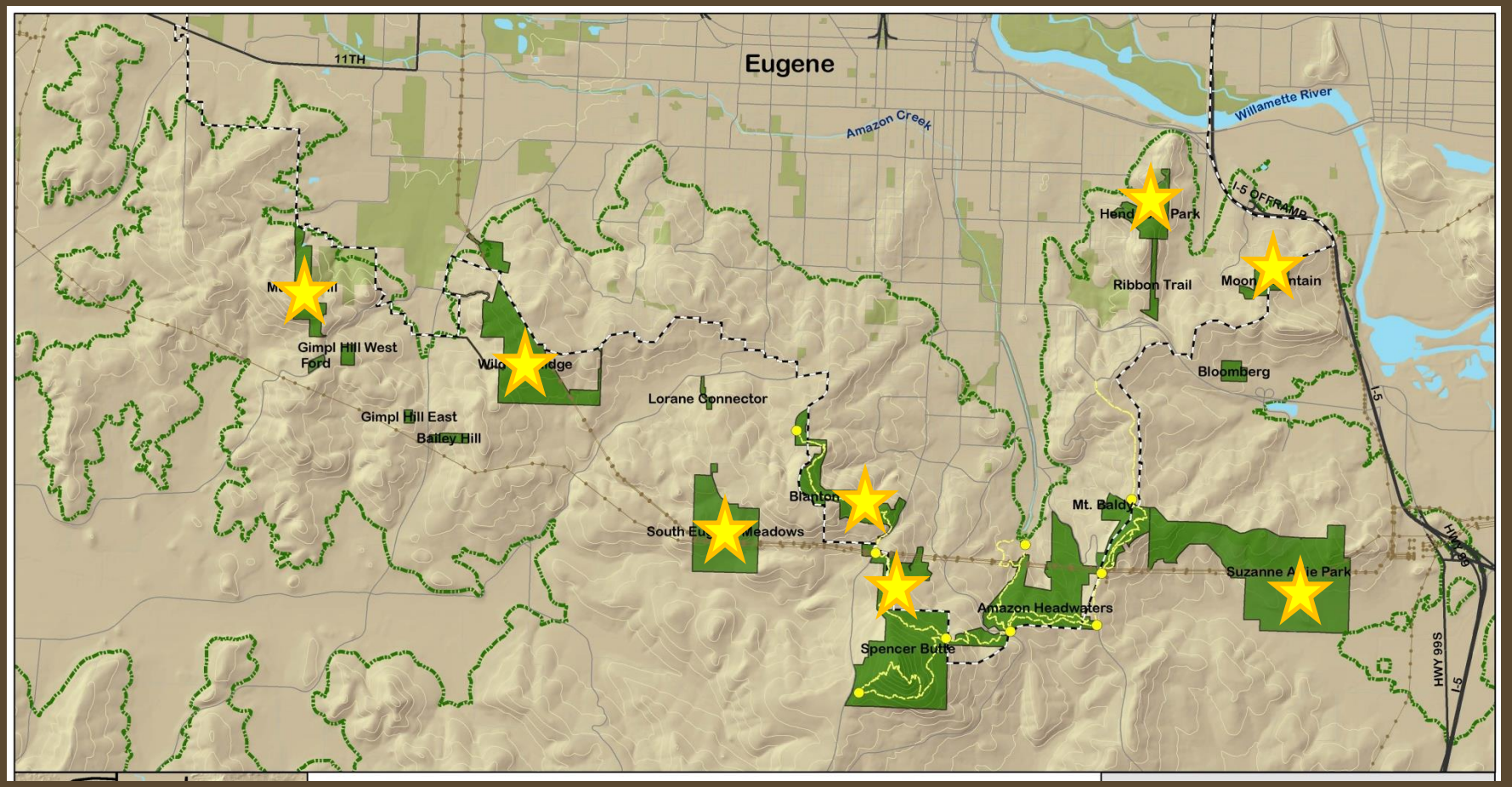
Eugene's Ridgeline Park System



Encroachment

Logging Legacy

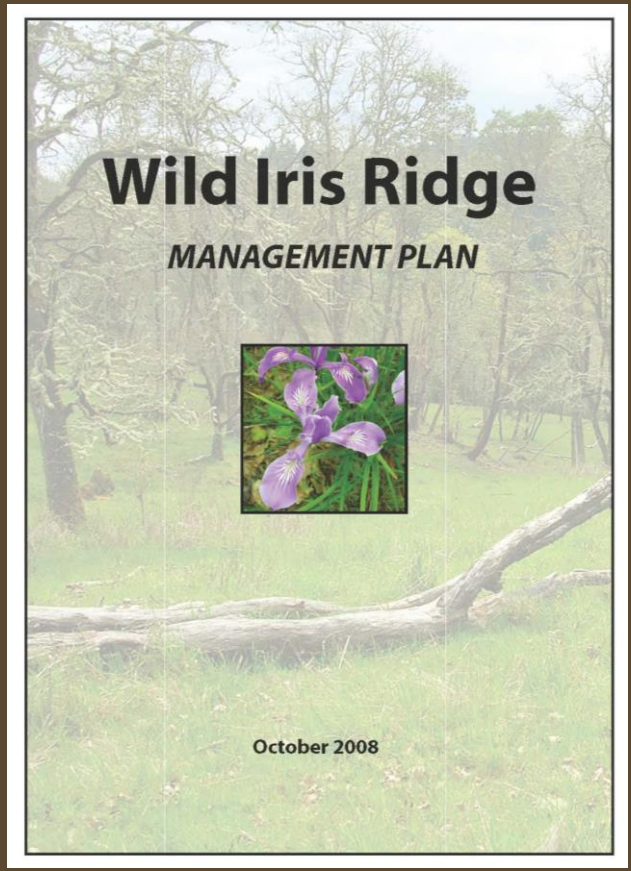
Oak Restoration Projects



Key Restoration Project Phases

Know Your Desired Outcomes

- Management Plans
  - Ecological baseline
  - Restoration targets
  - Goals, objectives
  - Prioritization



Restoration Goals – Oak Woodland

- Total canopy cover 40-50%
- Oregon white oak dominant
- Subdominants <25% relative cover
- Release and retain all large-diameter oaks and madrone
- Min. 2 age-classes of oaks
- Invasive trees removed
- Invasive shrubs <5% cover

Restoration Goals - Wildlife

- Retain canopy connectivity with Douglas-fir
- Total shrub cover 10-40%
- All existing snags and trees with cavities are retained
- Add 4 snags (range 2-7) per acre

Project Planning – 6 to 12 months

- Stand Assessment
  - Merchantable timber vs. "biomass"
  - Project layout
  - Mark trees
- Project budget and scope
- Forestry consultant

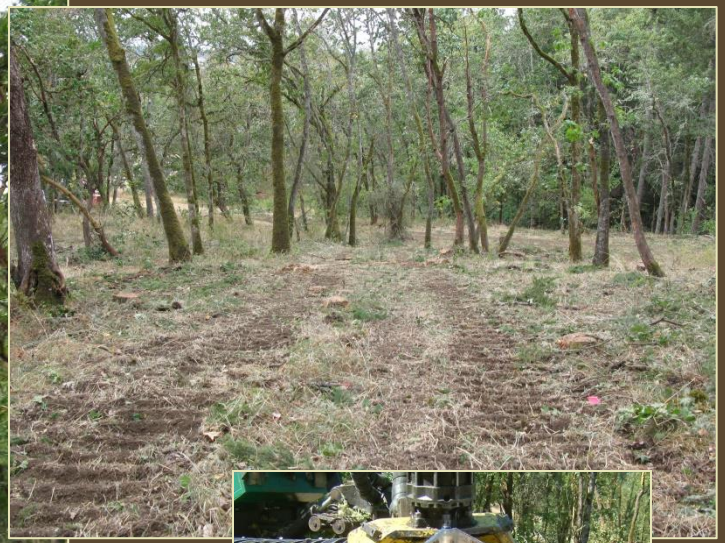
Wood Products Revenue

- Necessary for larger-scale projects
- Timber markets fluctuate significantly
- Understand mill pricing
- Lower-value wood
- Transparency
- Sizeable contingency

Conservation Project Design

- Short-term site disturbance vs. long-term ecological goals
- Minimizing damage to retain trees
- Avoid sensitive areas
- Project footprint
- Project timing
  - Soils
  - Nesting birds

Implementation



Implementation

Project Sequencing

Project Duration and Footprint

Biomass

Biomass

Canopy Release

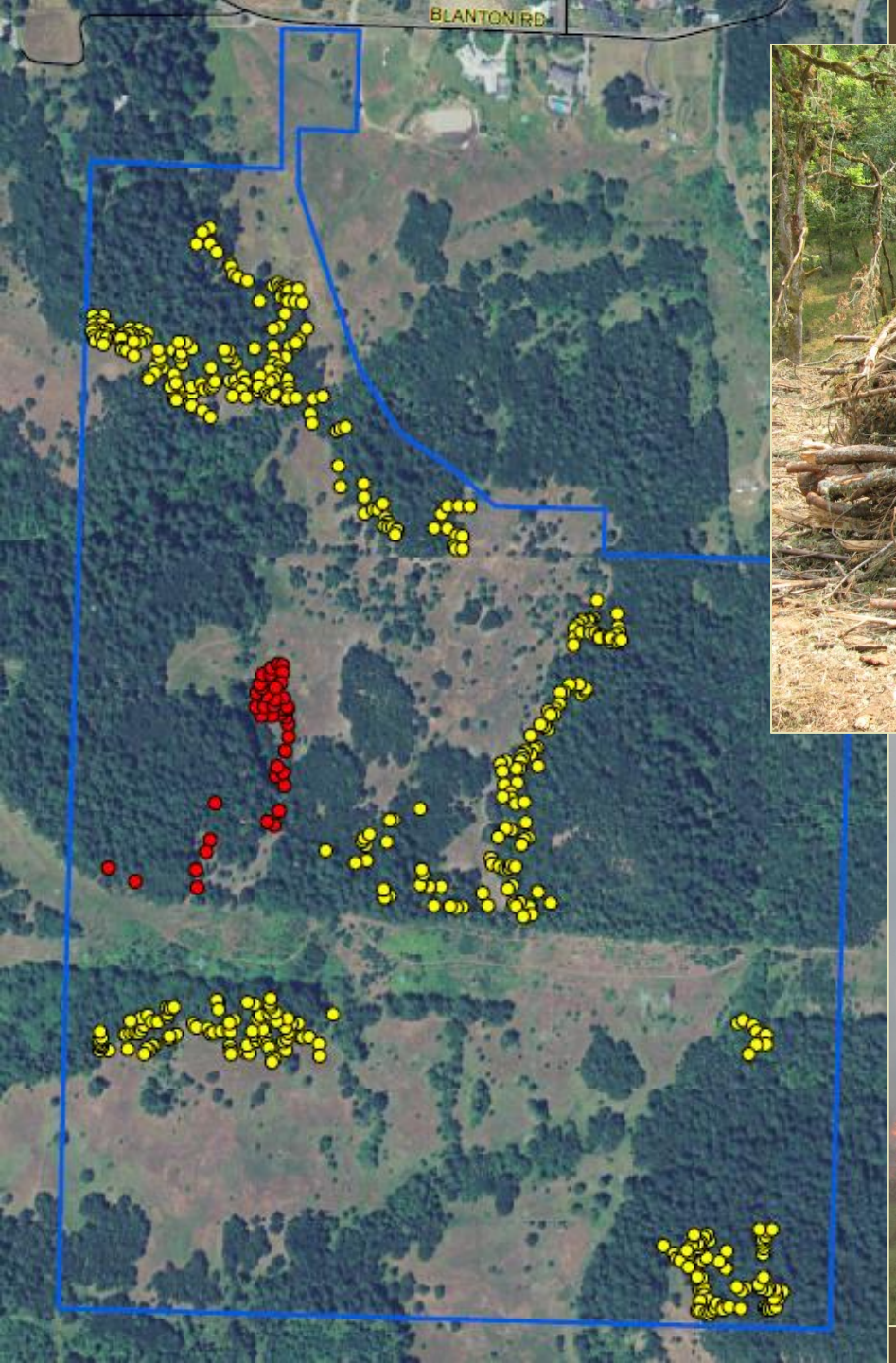
Canopy Release

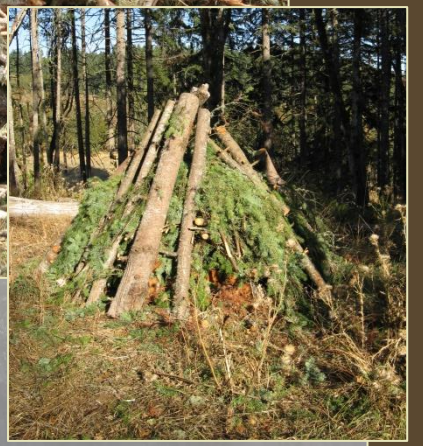
Multiple Phases

Multiple Phases

Post-project Stewardship

- 1-5 years of intensive follow up
- Seeding/planting
- Invasives control
- Stumps


BLANTON RD



Down the (haul) road…