Restoration at Sandy River Delta

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• Short history
  – how did it form?
  --What was it before 1800?
  --How did it change over time

• Our Vision
  • What we have accomplished
“...the brant and geese made such a noise that it will be impossible for me to sleep.”

“...extensive low country...thickly timbered...the bushes so thick that our hunters could not get through...

The Journals of Lewis and Clark, 1805 and 1806
In 1993, a group of biologists examined the Lower Columbia region to help create a vision for SRD. At that time, the greatest loss was the hardwood riparian forests due to agriculture, commercial hybrid poplars, and industrial development. This habitat was critical to neotropical birds and other wildlife.

Thus, we decided to restore SRD to its original forested condition as was evident in the photo of 1935.
Adopted Vision for SRD, 1995
Wetland Restoration: Reed Canary Grass Removal
Sandy River Delta Restoration

- Riparian Forest Restoration
- Wetland Restoration
- Original Sandy River Channel Restoration
- Oak Woodland Creation
- Dike Proposed for Removal

1995- Present

Dike Proposed for Removal
Riparian Forest Restoration
Oak Woodland
Wetland Complex
### Summary of Adaptive Management (acres)

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Planted in 2003: Shown in March 2005 after two years of growth.
New Channel for Sandy River
2014
Past and current restoration:

1. Restoration of the forested character on Sundial
2. Currently restoring forest along east side of Thousand Acres
3. The wetlands near I-84 to the south
4. Sandy River has regained access to its original channel
5. Restoration of forests along old channel and south is on-going
6. Parking area and trails

Future restoration:
1. Complete wetland restoration
2. Restore oak savannah and native prairie in center of Thousand Acres.