



**4FRI Stakeholders  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 27, 2013  
Flagstaff Aquaplex**

**In attendance:**

Ethan Aumack, Pam Baltimore, Anastasia Begley, Pascal Berlioux, R. H. Davis, Angela Elam, Dick Fleishman, Steve Gatewood, Alicyn Gitlin, Jessica Gist, Marlin Johnson, Alan Kaufmann, Anne Mottek Lucas, Tom Mackin, Bill Noble, Tom Osen, Henry Provencio, Steve Rosenstock, Yvonne, Reinink, Sue Sitko, M. Earl Stewart, Sybil Smith, Rich VanDemark, Diane Vosick, Amy Waltz, Russell Winn, Jim Zornes, Tayloe Dubay, Michael Smitch, Paul Ferris, Buck Swaney

**Call in:** Pete Shurman – National Bank of AZ; Billie Hughes

**Action Items from this (3.27.13) Meeting**

1. Post CFLRP Coalition letter on BASECAMP and encourage stakeholders to sign-on
2. Post new CFLRP 4FRI Stakeholder resolution on BASECAMP for stakeholder approval.
3. USFS Would like to present CFLRP Outputs update in light of changed conditions in the landscape – like to present in April SHG meeting to discuss in case changes need to be made before presenting to Fed office in May.
4. <b>Public meetings. Volunteers listed below. We need additional volunteers (Tayloe will post on BASECAMP):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 15 – 6-9 p.m. Coconino National Forest Supervisor’s Office,</li> <li>• April 16 – 6-9 p.m. Williams Ranger District, 742 S. Clover Rd., Williams –</li> <li>• April 17 – 6-9 p.m. Sedona Fire Department, 2860 Southwest Dr. Sedona –</li> <li>• April 20 – 6-9 p.m. Tusayan Town Hall, 845 Mustang Dr., Grand Canyon Airport, Tusayan</li> <li>• April 23 – 5-8 p.m. Navajo Public Health District, 600 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Show Low –May 15 – 1-4 p.m. Coconino National Forest Supervisor’s Office</li> </ul>
5. Need to locate 4FRI Table Top or create new poster for Stakeholder outreach at DEIS Public meetings.
6. Off-line work on the boundary issue and will be talked about at the April meeting.
7. USFS Maps for the Eastside were requested by Billie Hughes.

**Meeting Objectives for 3.27.13**

1. Learn about how the Forest Service coordinates haul road use
2. Continue education about the 4FRI DEIS
3. Learn about emerging Monitoring technology and bridge habitat work
4. Finalize stakeholder press release for DEIS
5. Begin discussion on next EIS

## Agenda

### 9:00 Welcome, Introductions, and Ground Rules – *Diane Vosick & Buck Swaney*

1. Please sign the attendance sheet
2. Please sign the charter

### 9:15 Approval of 2/27/13 Minutes and Review of Action Items Minutes approved

#### Status of Action Items from 2.27.13

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordinate Forest Service-SH public involvement<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Include press releases -----<b>Press Release to be presented by Tayloe Dubay on 3/27 to Stakeholders</b></li></ul></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TNC Technical Presentation in March --- <b>Ed Smith to present</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Media Messages (DEIS)—<b>See Above</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SHG press release—<b>See Above</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don Walters presentation—Planned for April – <b>Ed will follow-up</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Start dialogue about defining boundary for next EIS (A-S can lay out plans for 2<sup>nd</sup> EIS &amp; rationale @ Tonto &amp; Mogollon Rim) – <b>Scheduled for 3/27 meeting</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Revise &amp; post March messages – <b>Posted with contractor questions on 3/20/13</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accept changes &amp; post adopted Charter – <b>In process, will be posted prior to 3/27</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group relationships/ process – <b>On 3/27 agenda for a brief process review</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invite ADOT to discuss roads – <b>Forest Service road coordination process to be presented on 3/27. State road discussion deferred until a later date/Pascal Berlioux and Rob Davis are the points of contact on roads and the work that is underway by the Arizona Forest Health Council</b></li></ul>

### 9:20 Call to the Public – none

### 9:25 Forest Service Updates-*Henry Provencio and Dick Fleishman*

- Haul roads and coordination with task orders
  - Only the 141 road on the Kaibab National Forest will be impacted by the first round of task orders. A formal process to coordinate with the counties hasn't yet been established. However, within the EIS roads and routes are identified with timing restrictions.
- Status of DEIS release
  - The DEIS will be published, Friday March 27<sup>th</sup>
  - There will be a 60-day comment period that will technically begin on April 1, 2013.
  - Maps are provided
- Status of task orders
  - FY13 expect 15,000 acres; prepping FY14 & 15 that include:
    - Silviculture Prescription
    - Wildlife surveys
    - Weed surveys
    - Cultural surveys
    - Road needs
    - Right-of-way and land line
  - The Governor's office and Forest Health Council are working on road issues
  - Each forest has a 5-year restoration plan
  - Request to post on Basecamp – when in polished form
- Status of work under the continuing resolution
- Public meetings
  - The Forest Service and the stakeholders will issue press releases

- TNC to help provide tech support for video webinars - working to be set up

## 9:45 Stakeholder Updates/Disclosures

- Status of fundraising efforts for facilitation- Diane Vosick
  - Raised \$6000 by partners
  - ERI: \$1000
  - TNC: \$1000
  - GFFP: \$500
  - GCT :\$500
  - Apache & Navajo \$2000
  - We would like to get up to \$7000. The State is going to determine if they can contribute to the effort.
- Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project update- Paul Summerfelt Anne Mottek-Lucas
  - Meetings:
    - Apr 3rd 6-8 CCA (Property owners near Dry Lake Hills area)
    - April 10th 6-8 CCA – User groups of Dry Lake Hills area; open to public
    - Apr 22nd (signing ceremony )
    - May 1st Public scoping meeting
    - Website is being developed as well; should be posted soon fwpp.org
    - FWPP Monitoring workshop — April 30th, 8:30 to 12
    - Yellow-belly Ponderosa community performance CCA Apr 25th 7 p.m.
  - The Forest Service is reassessing what project acres go where with respect to Mormon Mountain. They are working with USFW to examine Owl responses to treatments vs non-treatments or reference sites.
- Recap of DC Trip- Trip Participants
  - Encouraged about how much others want to see this work & 4FRI succeed
  - Marlin: There was a lot of interest and knowledge of details of this project from USDA. Participating from USDA: Harris Sherman, Meryl Harrell, Butch Blazer and Robert Bonnie from USDA
    - The talking points and contractor Q-As are on Basecamp
    - People asked if this will be litigated. There were lots of questions about reauthorizing the stewardship contracting authority using a “Clean Bill” vs. one with changes
  - Earl Stewart and the County Supervisors were able to talk with Chief Tidwell
- Rehire for ERI-4FRI position- Diane Vosick
  - Program Coordinator position will be open for another week & a half
- Process review- Creating a working group- Buck Swaney
  - There’s a process guiding how work groups are formed and coordinated
  - The Steering committee coordinates working groups. It doesn’t change what working groups produce but rather steers and guides recommendations. It then send recommendations to the Stakeholder group.
  - The DEIS working group will coordinate with the SC but reports to the entire stakeholder group.
- Ed – will post the CFLRP Coalition sign-on letter for support for full finding of the CFLRP on BASECAMP. If no one objects in the specified time frame then the 4FRI will sign on in support of full funding . The deadline for us to sign-on is April 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - We will also post a new FY14 Resolution supporting CFLRP funding on BASECAMP for stakeholder consideration and approval at the next meeting.

Action Item: The group needs to approve the CFLRP Coalition sign-on request

Action Item: The group will need to approve a resolution in support of full funding of the CFLRP at the next meeting

- Ed will be leaving to work for TNC in May in Sacramento, CA – TNC will refill his position
- The Forest Service has posted a job for a monitoring coordinator for 4FRI

- A group of individuals is working to create a combined Region 2 & 3 CFLRP conference in October

Action Item: The USFS will present a CFLRP Outputs update in light of changed conditions in landscape – like to present in April SHG meeting to discuss in case changes need to be made before presenting to Fed office in May

- The Steering Committee will discuss who will move into Co-chair positions

**10:00 Technology in the Woods: reducing costs and increasing efficiencies- Ed Smith**

- Ed presented a new approach to implementation monitoring in development by The Nature Conservancy and others. He is working with James Perkins to test it. The technology can show boundaries, where trees are cut, and where bundles need pick up. It can also provide a daily update on productivity. Genesis Industries developed the technology.

**10:15 Break**

**10:30 DEIS Workgroup – Update on learning and progress- Buck Swaney and Amy Waltz**

- Handouts capture details and will accompany 3/27/13 minutes
- Adequate participation in these groups between now and May will be best!
- Apr 9<sup>th</sup> is next facilitated meeting with solidified team membership
  - Teams 1,2,3,5,6 – have long-track items that will need attention through May; Teams 4,7,8,9 – hope to complete their work by the next SHG meeting
  - Requirements
    - One weekly call/meeting
    - Every 2 weeks, facilitated meeting (4 meetings left)
    - Templates developed this week for each group by Buck
    - The group will be guided to understand consensus – decision rules; establish pragmatic filters
    - Comments will be structured following CEQ recommendations
    - The teams will do their work and will go through a mock decision rule process in order to test the team findings before bringing them before the Stakeholder group

Team 1:

- Products (Bridge Habitat & maps)
- Further outreach go to other Stakeholders
- Steve Gatewood volunteered to be on Team 1

Team 2:

- Need to broaden participation and membership
- Other organizations have vested interests
- Co-lead should be by environmental groups most involved in these discussions
- CBD or other preservationist group involvement desired
- Technical expertise is also needed about Forest planning and/or NEPA
- Having USFS come present on differing issues – Team leads are highly encourages to contact FS
- A habitat specialist would be a wonderful asset – Shaula Hedwall will be asked

Team 3:

- Translation into OTIP, LTIP & to see what's different; Crosswalk from USFS
- More representation needed

Team 4:

- Clarification is needed on the question being asked and the team approach. This will be addressed prior to the next team meeting

Team 5:

- This group will study the EIS approach to examining the cumulative effects. 15-20% of the analyzed area is already part of existing NEPA shelf stock.
- FWPP cumulative effects are not included
- Clarification is needed on the methodology used to consider cumulative effects in this document

Team 6:

- Monitoring and Adaptive management. The Forest Service acknowledged that this section is incomplete. The socio-economic monitoring is missing. However people were confused because the goal is to comment on what is missing. Henry encouraged the group to comment on this section and provide additional information
- Henry mentioned that the objection process for the DEIS will follow new rules published on March 27<sup>th</sup>. The process is consistent with the changes used under the Healthy Forest Restoration Act.
- The Forest Service can be invited to these meetings as resource individuals
- The question was asked if the stakeholders can see a draft of the final EIS before it is released.

Team 7:

- Collaboration. This team is going to find places in the DEIS where the Stakeholder Group recommendations were used.

Team 8:

- This team is focusing on the DEIS's analysis assumptions related to how and when mechanical treatments take place, and what contingencies might be in place to address changes along the way. The SHG raised specific questions about the effects upon implementation.
- Initial review of DEIS and discussion with FS indicated that there is no assumption and no contingency framework present. None of the analysis depends on assumptions of this nature. USFS cannot do anything different than what's outlined in the EIS.
- Section 18 is not final

Team 9:

- This team is studying the DEIS's prioritization planning for treatments. Its specific focus is to determine what prioritization process is used, and what value system guides prioritization.
- HRVYN – High Restoration Values ... vs. MRVYN – Moderate; overlap habitat treatments?
- Amy will call Dick about questions

**12:00 Lunch**

**1:15 Pioneer Update- Marlin Johnson**

- They continue to work on financing and in conversations with 3 companies. They hope to act on the Ranch Task Order once the snow is gone using a local subcontractor

**1:20 Press Release and Public Meetings- Tayloe Dubay & Jackie Banks**

- Review and approve press release
  - Quotes will be incorporated
  - Finalize and be ready to release this Friday March 29, 2013 alongside the release of DEIS
  - Jerry Payne will check to see if the Governor would like to comment
  - Because road decommissioning is controversial to some groups and can detract from the central purpose of the restoration activity we agreed to remove language referencing road decommissioning
    - Agreement to take it out
  - As soon as it's complete, it'll be posted on Basecamp and will need all SHG to give input right away
  - Will be posted on the 4FRI website, newspaper and other public places
  - A photo will be included with the press release
- Coordinate participation in public meetings

- April 15 – 6-9 p.m. Coconino National Forest Supervisor’s Office, 1824 S. Thompson St., Flagstaff
- April 16 – 6-9 p.m. Williams Ranger District, 742 S. Clover Rd., Williams
- April 17 – 6-9 p.m. Sedona Fire Department, 2860 Southwest Dr. Sedona
- April 20 – 6-9 p.m. Tusayan Town Hall, 845 Mustang Dr., Grand Canyon Airport, Tusayan
- April 23 – 5-8 p.m. Navajo Public Health District, 600 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Show Low
- April 15 – 1-4 p.m. Coconino National Forest Supervisor’s Office, 1824 S. Thompson St., Flagstaff
  - Stakeholders are encouraged to be present

**Action Item:** The communications committee will see if a poster for 4FRI Stakeholder Group exists and if not create one for the public meetings that describes the work of the SHG.

**1:45 AZ Game and Fish and AZ Wildlife Federation-Corridor-Based Habitat Improvement in Northern Arizona Forests- *Jessica Gist and Tom Mackin***

- NFF-sponsored, AWF implemented last summer as CFLR- match
  - CFLR-leverage funds are needed in the future
- Woody Ridge Wildlife Corridor
- Invasive species removal
- This type of project supports and complements 4FRI-type of work
  - Edges of corridors offer a buffer for maintaining wildlife habitat functionality
- Land uses communicated for various landowners can increase buy-in
  - Partnerships built were great
    - A lot of donations of material and time
    - Removed barbed-wire fence for City of Flagstaff
- Springs and stream restoration projects for the future
- NFF funding in July requires matching funds so further help is solicited by partnering organizations
- National Forest Foundation treasured landscape initiative hopes to raise \$1 million to help restore areas on the San Francisco Peaks.

**2:15 Moving eastward- Discussion of second 4FRI EIS – *Henry Provencio***

- Draft boundary for next analysis area
  - The next analysis area will include the Coconino, Tonto and Apache-Sitgreaves. Although including the Gila National Forest in the next analysis area was rumored the USFS does not plan to include it in the ecological analysis.
  - The A-S has greater vegetation diversity than the first analysis area. Jim Zornes asked the SHG to consider what the logical boundary might be for the next analysis area and what vegetation types should be treated. At this point they need to make some decisions in order to inform data gathering and development. There will be a meeting with the Regional Office in May to begin this process. There is a need to move ahead on this in order to secure adequate funding for the next analysis. Data development will take two years. We are probably 5 years out from a record of decision (ROD) for this EIS.
  - Members of the stakeholder group expressed a variety of opinions. These included a desire to analyze as much of the remaining 4FRI geography as possible to expressions of reservations about proposing treatments in mixed conifer and pinyon-juniper vegetation types. The question was raised about how we might look at values at risk to determine where to go. Also a desire to learn from the first EIS to inform the second was expressed.
- The A-S reaffirmed a commitment to maintain an interim wood supply for eastside businesses

**Action Item:** We will put this on the agenda to discuss in April and May.

**Action Item:** Billie Hughes would like to see the maps for the eastside. The Forest Service will follow up.

**2:15 Review new action items and adjourn**

**Possible Future Agenda Items:**

1. Full Cost Accounting of the Schultz Fire-ERI and Franke College of Business
2. Fire effects field trip
3. Off-line work on the boundary issue and will be talked about at the April meeting