

## **4FRI Stakeholder Group Meeting Notes**

**Wednesday, March 28, 2012 9AM-4PM**

**Coconino Supervisor's Office, 1824 S. Thompson Rd, Flagstaff, AZ**

Attending via phone: Todd Schulke, Windy Greer

**Approval of 2.22.12 Minutes:** APPROVED

### **Requests to use 2011 4FRI Annual Evaluation Results**

- A stakeholder, Windy Greer, is a graduate student who requests to use the 2011 4FRI Annual Evaluation results in her research
  - **Decision:** Windy can use the questions and responses for her research
- The U.S. Institute would like to share the questions (not the responses) from the 2011 4FRI Annual Evaluation with others as a model of the type of evaluation they might want to use on their projects.
  - **Decision:** U.S. can share the questions with others

### **Forest Service Updates and Presentations – Henry Provencio**

#### Contract Award Update-

- A recommendation has left the Region and is with the Washington Office
- The Washington Office contracting office is reviewing the recommendation now; no information on timeline for resolving questions
- Regional Forester Corbin Newman is in talks with the Chief about the announcement
- No one knows for sure on when it will be announced; likely before next 4FRI meeting

#### NEPA Analysis Team Update-

- Currently updating and archiving documents on the website
- Working on amendment language; can't guarantee they will be ready for April 9; but will be for May
- Meeting at 4:15 today to formalize how to update the progress to date as part of the CEQ pilot. The Washington Office would like a specific formalized list of how they will be updated
- Public members are interested in seeing scoping documents
- Public members have said the website is hard to navigate—documents are hard to find
- Effects analysis; major challenge was weighted analysis. We are about ready to finalize the numbers and write what they mean
- Current timeline for the ROD is January 2013; DEIS sometime in July 2012
- Need to start thinking about the second analysis area now. NEPA team had a meeting with the Forest Supervisors yesterday about starting to get data populated for the next area. Then will do a gap analysis and fill in the gaps to make sure the data is site specific and we are using the best available science
- No timeline yet on the RFP for the second area
- Taylor expressed interest in a display of what fire regimes would do after 2020. It could be a good demonstration to show these through 2050. Right now the team is working on the report

#### Update from Forest Supervisors-

- In December, we met with a smaller subset of the stakeholder group. As we work with small groups, we want to get the agreement from the full group and have full transparency
- Timeframe is getting limited to meet as we try to get a Draft EIS out in July
- Want to avoid FACA violations; we can meet to seek common ground
- We had meetings for clarification of comments in December. There have been requests to schedule follow up. We are still trying to schedule this. We need to bring closure to this.

The group did a review of the first NEPA team meeting:

Things that worked:

- Openness and honesty
- Opportunity for dialogue directly with 4FRI team
- Keeping it informal (easy because it was small)
- Focus on issues that arose during the comment period focused the conversation
- The fact that it took place
- Draft analysis handout (on Basecamp)
- Distilled information

Things to improve:

- Draft analysis handout not marked draft
- Keep it brief-more dialogue than presentation
- More structured way to capture and carry forward dialogue, next steps (document)
  - Forest Service post meeting notes
- Possible timing of meeting
  - Letter going out to public on update and how to be involved, office hours, and NEPA update meetings
- Phone-in capability

**NEXT STEPS**

- Forest Service will look into making the website easier to navigate; although may be challenging with current Forest Service template. Recommendation to make Planning documents link bigger bolder; same with meeting minutes
- Landscape Working Group to start on scheduling of the Lessons Learned meeting for the first analysis area
- Forest Service to post meeting notes from first NEPA meeting

**Discussion on solicitation of funding-Marcus Selig**

- Forest Service recently had concerns about wording for solicitation of funding from Navapache. The Forest Service is not soliciting donations, donations are not being solicited for the Forest Service, and there should be no perception that donations are being solicited for the Forest Service.
- CNF perspective that only National Forest Foundation has the authority to solicit funds for Forest Service. The Forest Service itself is not allowed to solicit for funding
- The wording issue: the term “4FRI” is used for both the Forest Service project and for the stakeholder group

- CNF perspective that no one can raise money for Forest Service; but you can donate money to the Forest Service. It will go to the general fund and Forest Service can spend it however they want
- What are we raising the funds for?
  - Raised by 4FRI for 4FRI activities. Ancillary restoration projects that are not currently funded; or to support monitoring/third party monitoring
- Raise money through Stakeholder Group, some would be on Forest Service land, some not. When the Stakeholder Group solicits funds, we need to take some proactive efforts to communicate that we are different from the Forest Service. Currently both use the term “4FRI”
- The statewide fund does not want to be 4FRI-centric.
  - On the statewide fund, people can designate exactly what they want the money to go to

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Continue this dialogue
- Marcus send an email to reestablish the Fiscal Working Group (coordinate with Liz)
  - Diane (ERI)
  - GFFP
  - TNC
  - SRP
  - Marcus
- Communications Working Group will look at nomenclature issue of distinction 4FRI for Forest Service
- We as stakeholders need a fundraising plan/budget
- Stakeholders think about whether they want to establish a 501(c)(3)
- Involve Liz in conversations about the local and statewide issues

#### **Stakeholder Resolution Regarding Steering Committee Leadership-Marcus Selig**

- Consent to extend Marcus and Diane’s co-chair positions an additional 3 months (one time extension)
- Possible next co-chairs: Ed, Steve, eastside representation?
- **Decision:** all agreed with written Resolution

#### **Facilitator Selection Update – Marcus Selig**

- Steering Committee Recommendation
  - Continue contract for the next 6 months with the U.S. Institute
  - Forest Service wants to go from April to September, but after there will be more discussion on this
  - SRP is giving \$5,000 to facilitation
  - Grand Canyon Trust will hold funds donated by stakeholders to use for facilitation. GCT can contract quickly. Funds will be used for local facilitators which helps build local capacity and internal capacity building
  - SRP will provide names of facilitators that they have used
  - Mike Wood could be a local possibility
  - Guest facilitators?
  - More transparent facilitation for the group to build capacity
- Importance of September 2012 transition

## **CFLRP Match Discussion**

### **Next Steps**

1. USFS will look into the possibility of moving funds on and re-categorizing the small subset of stakeholders 5 projects of concern
  - o Look at money already spent, money not yet spent, and corresponding budget line
  - o Can projects of concern be removed from the CFLRP annual report list for FY 2012?
  - o Can funding sources be changed?
  - o Can the USFS do this and is the USFS willing to do this?
  - o USFS possibly will give 5 individual answers for the subset's 5 projects of concern
  - o Mike Williams estimates 1 to 2 weeks to get these answers
2. Interested stakeholders will hold a second meeting to clearly articulate project concerns and develop a recommendation. (Note: It was discussed that it would be best to involve the USFS so that the recommendation works for them also)
3. Facilitators will organize notes from today's discussion
4. Give results of Next Steps #1, #2, #3 to stakeholders and USFS before next Stakeholder Group Meeting (scheduled for April 25)
5. At next Stakeholder Group Meeting, make a final decision
6. First, attempt to reach agreement on the recommendation from Next Step #2
7. If agreement cannot be reached on the recommendation from Next Step #2, use the decision rules on Steve's and Marcus's proposals (proposals 1 and 2)

### **Canopy Cover Meeting Update – Ed Smith**

- Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, and Grand Canyon Trust working on setting up a small meeting for more discussion with Forest Service in response to NEPA comments (May 4 from 8AM-12PM)
- Larger group meeting (May 4 from 1PM-5PM)

### **Ongoing NEPA/ Project Review Subgroup Discussion-Marcus Selig**

- To proactively address CFLRP match in the future, the Stakeholder Group wants to help develop the CFLR list for future fiscal years
- Group will review specific projects and have stakeholders comment in order to reach a group consensus on how to move forward/ align with 4FRI (Focus on vegetation management and restoration and harvesting)
  - o Initial Group = Bruce, Ed, Steve, Shaula, Ross
  - o Meet once a month to keep up with NEPA processes
  - o **NEXT STEP:** Marcus will send Doodle Poll first of next week on interest in being on this group

### **FY CFLR Resolution Discussion-Marcus Selig**

- Congressman Gosar has championed funding on CFLRP
- FY 12 endorsement on funding was posted on Basecamp for comments. All comments were positive
- Gosar's letter is also on Basecamp

### **Presentation at Small-Wood Conference Discussion – Diane Vosick**

- Diane was asked to be on a panel to talk about challenges and solutions to bringing 4FRI online

- Diane requests stakeholders send her ideas for this discussion by email

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Stakeholder email Diane ideas by Wednesday next week

#### **Working Group Updates-Amy Waltz/Marcus Selig**

##### Communications Working Group:

- April 13 Treasured Landscapes presentation to Board of Directors. NFF reception
- Earth Day Weekend April 21 and 22 (booths at two events with 4FRI information)
- Tomorrow Marcus and Henry meeting with Regional Public Affairs
- May 2 is Valley Forward (SRP sponsoring) several members present to businesspeople in Phoenix. Bruce Hallin (SRP) is member of Valley Forward. Information sharing
- April 27 Healthy Headwaters panel: Wally, Marcus, Charlie Ester, Mary Mitsos (NFF) presentation.

##### Landscape Strategy Working Group:

- NFF gave us \$10,000 to implement social monitoring. Hope to have monitoring plan by April SG meeting
- Encourage people to go to NEPA Update meetings
- Thank small group who looked at CFLRP projects because 128 projects had no real objections

#### **Today's Meeting Evaluation-Kim Caringer/Debra Drecksal**

##### Things that worked:

- Glad we dug in deep on CFLRP Match and Project Nomenclature
- Allowed agenda be modified to dig in deep to CFLRP Match and Project Nomenclature
- People followed ground rules
- Got note taking from Alicia

##### Things to improve:

- No chocolate
- Regional Office people: Would like to see Stakeholder Group take bigger advantage of their presence (Per Pat: Regional Office mostly wants to listen)
- If the agenda changes outside business hours, please let us know (like change CFLRP Match and Project Nomenclature from afternoon to morning)

*NEXT MEETING – APRIL 25 in PINETOP*