



4FRI Stakeholder Group Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 23rd, 2014, 9am-1pm
 Winslow Chamber of Commerce, 523 W Second St.
 Teleconference line: (712) 432-1500, code: 292353#

Attendance: Ethan Aumack, Pascal Berlioux, Ray Torres, David Dorum, Dick Fleishman, Steve Gatewood, Eli Lauren-Bernstein, Joe Miller, Scott Russell, Paul Summerfelt, Buck Swaney, Greg Smith, Stephen Reidhead, Ricky Walker, Dale Walker, Dan Kipervaser, Rebecca Davidson, Ron Klawitter, Randy Fuller, Karen Durant, Chris Stephan, Carla Uriarte, Buzz Ivicsek, Steve Horner, Mark Herron, Tom Osen, Bob Seidler, Den Ribelin, Jana Sterling, Steve Pauken

On the phone: Tommy Martin, Lori Martinek, Todd Schulke, Linda Lind

9:00 Introductions

9:10 Approve minutes from June 25th SHG meeting —Pascal

Some revisions by Pascal, which will be incorporated. Adopted as such.

9:15 Review action items from June 25th SHG meeting—Eli

Action Item	Lead	Status
1. Post revised 4FRI resolution to BASECAMP and provide Stakeholder comment period until July 4 th	Steve Gatewood	completed
2. Post CG and GEPAZ presentations from 6.25 meeting on BASECAMP	Eli	completed
3. MPMB to report on final recommendations for 2014-15 task order pre-treatment monitoring at the July SHG meeting	MPMB	In progress
4. USFS to begin providing written SHG monthly updates, and will include task orders issued, notice to proceed, and completed ... and also Rx, burns, fires	Dick	completed
5. Post 4FRI SHG 2014 progress report on BASECAMP	Buck	completed
6. Facilitation quote and contract for Buck	Dick	In progress
7. Governor’s Group to meet with the LAM on preponderance tree	Ethan & Amy	
8. Post the CG Technical Plan to BASECAMP	Eli	completed

9:15 Call to the Public

9:20 USFS update – Dick

See handout.

Dick is currently reviewing the 4FRI facilitation contract and his review will be compared to two other reviewer’s comments.

Draft Biological Opinion should be delivered Aug 9th...The SHG will invite Shaula Hedwall to give a report on the BO at the Aug meeting. Accelerated review process is already underway—Paula Cote is already writing all the other components of the FEIS that don't hinge on the BO (e.g. response to comments).

- Request from SHG to have the USFS identify those entities that have standing to object/litigate.

The implementation rates that Jason predicted (22K acres/year by the end of July) at the last SHG meeting are now looking unlikely on that timetable.

9:35 Campbell Global update – Steve Horner

SEE USFS HANDOUT. One TA is inactive and 5 are active (primarily road maintenance). FYI, road maintenance does not count towards implementation acres.

GEPAZ is not yet ready to make the industry/market announcements that were projected last meeting.

Q: Now that business plan changes have been approved by USFS, and Winslow mill has been moved to Williams, what is GEPAZ's role in Williams logging at this point with regard to New Pac's establishment in Williams?

A: Ramp-up in implementation is not dependent on a new Williams mill.

A: (Chris Stephan) New Pac took possession of Williams site (325 S. Garland Prairie Rd) in Oct, 2013 and NewPac investors own that facility. They began accepting logs on Monday of this week. They will have milling capacity starting Aug 1st. Chris can't speak to GEPAZ's investments/land purchases in Williams.

It seems there may have been some confusion about GEPAZ's new mill site Williams—this sounds like the exact same property that New Pac owns, implying that GEPAZ is working closely with NewPac there.

10:15 Governor's Group final outcomes—Ethan Aumack

Since Nov 2013, Kevin Kinsall at the Governor's office has been coordinating ongoing conversations with ECO-Dave Tenney, Toni Martin, GCT, CBD, State Forestry and the USFS (to observe only) to work through issues in the 4FRI DEIS that have been difficult to resolve and hopefully identify solutions.

5 meetings have taken place with much emphasis on shortening the list of issues. They settled on 3 issues:

- Large tree retention
- Canopy cover
- Roads

Several recommendations were made:

- **Large Tree Retention:** language from CFLRA and the 4FRI Large Tree Retention Strategy be added to the EIS. A checklist for large tree retention was recommended. Clarification that the Large Tree Implementation Plan will guide all treatment of large trees. No new analysis are being recommended, since the assumption is that these clarifications will be included in the FEIS.
- **Canopy Cover:** focus was on the portion of the landscape where spatial analysis identified a preponderance of large young trees, in areas outside of the WUI and where mechanically thinning will occur. This is a total of about 60-70,000 acres, and targets the upper VSS 4 and 5, 6 size classes with >70 BA, and less than 100 trees/acres. Treatment would occur only in the lower 4, 3, 2, 1 VSS classes. DPFA and PFA areas were also included. Ethan will share the map of preponderance of lg. young trees with the LAM small working group and MPMB.
- **Roads:** (concerning the 500 miles of new roads that were proposed in order to complete treatments) USFS *clarified its intent* to follow CFLRA and obliterate roads, but no need to change actions with regards to roads (e.g. to clarify the intent to use old roads when possible).

The USFS is now determining what to do with these recommendations, under their legal option to clarify DEIS comments. The FEIS will clarify the crosswalk b/n the LTRS and the LTIP (as we discussed Oct. 2013).

Q: was the Goshawk minimum canopy cover threshold (40% at the stand level) discussed in these meetings and will that be part of the public comments from GCT on this issue?

A: yes, although the recommendation is not being extended beyond the Preponderance of large young trees areas.

Comment from the public: the wildlife protected areas are going to burn up if we don't treat them, so let's make sure those get treated (they are worried that the 40% canopy cover retention recommendation will lead to insufficient fire risk reduction).

9:55 Break

10:45 Discuss letter to Regional Forester on 4FRI FEIS timeline and objection process—SC
SEE TALKING POINTS handout (BASECAMP)

The goals of this letter are to make the SHG's intentions clear to R3 supervisors and Regional Forester about the importance of a timely completion of 4FRI planning and that the objection process is completely thoroughly, quickly and in an inclusive manner.

The SHG intends to invite Cal to attend or call in at the August SHG meeting and to send him a letter (see action items).

Margaret VanGilder will be coordinating the objection review process for Cal.

The Roosevelt Mine objection process could be examined as a test of the application of the new CFR 36 218 rule...the SHG would like to know what worked and didn't. The Rim Lakes decision may also be example for how the new rule will allow public comments during the public objection process meetings.

The letter will request from the USFS an explanation of their approach to the 4FRI objection process.

The word from USFS is that the ROD will be signed in early late January/early February.

11:20 MPMB update on task order selection for 2015 pretreatment monitoring—Eli

The MPMB is still working through final recommendations for 2015 task order monitoring. The delay has been caused by a need to address a number of parallel action items, such as (1) developing monitoring questions that are tied to monitoring plan indicators, (2) developing methods and cost estimates for Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory songbird monitoring, and (3) seeking more detailed prescription-level information on the 19 task orders issued for 2013-2015, in order to match them to high-priority monitoring questions.

Final recommendations should be ready by the August SHG meeting.

Trout Unlimited has interest in stream temperature monitoring goals and would like to suggest 4FRI monitoring find ways to improved efficiencies with hydrological monitoring.

11:30 Discuss Wildfire Disaster Funding Act and competing legislation—SC

The SHG previously drafted a resolution in support of W DFA in the spring of 2014. Since then many parallel bills have been proposed (SB1875—Wyden & Crapo, SB3992—Simpson & Shradler, and SB2593—McCain, Barrasso & Flake). These are clearly partisan bill. The SHG resolution needs to specifically urge bi-partisan support; might also be worth supporting SB2593's stipulation to require restoration funding. Last week Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on this subject.

The SC has decided that given the current policy context, the SHG should alter its resolution to recommend generally "fixing the fire borrowing problem", but not specifically citing the Wyden/Crapo Bill as THE solution. We may not need to "back off" of supporting SB1875; instead recommend that Congress make decisions, considering all competing bills, to "solve the problem".

12:25 Stakeholder Disclosures and Accountability – all

(Paul Summerfelt) FWPP held a second public meeting yesterday with very good turnout. Agreement was reached with Navajo Nation on a tribal inhoding in the Dry Lakes Hills-represents a milestone in tribal relations. Treatments have already begun on State Forest lands. FWPP leveraged funds to date: since Jan 2013 there is \$1.6M of additional money leveraged (USFS, State, NAU, etc.)

(Scott Russell) USFS work on CC Craigen reservoir project is moving forward with SRP and other partners, to protect water supply through forest thinning around the reservoir. Good chance that there will be no EIS (categorical exclusion) but that depends on the scope of the project.

Facilitator's observations:

- Perhaps the CWG can work with CG/GEPAZ to develop a standard format for monthly updates and by gathering specific questions From the SHG ahead of time?

12:45 Action Items and adjourn

Action Item	Lead	Status
1. Finalize 4FRI facilitation contract by next SHG meeting in Aug	Dick	
2. SC co-chairs draft a letter to Cal outlining the request for Aug meeting participation and clarification on the objection timeliness and process	Steve and Pascal	completed
3. Revise the FEIS policy timeline, to account for current state of progress	Eli	completed
4. Revise the Fire Suppression Funding resolution and post to BASECAMP by the 24 th for approval by the 25 th of July, approved by the 29 th , then send to Staff.	Paul & Pascal	completed
5. CWG standardize reporting structure, USFS CG and GEPAZ to guide their monthly updates. Leads to more focused dialogue b/n SHG and the contractors.		

Next SHG meeting will be in Pinetop, Aug 27th

Process for approving minutes:

1. Note-taker sends draft minutes to Co-Chairs and facilitator < 48 hrs. following meeting
2. Co-Chairs and facilitator respond with edits (if needed) < 48 hrs. of receiving minutes
3. Note-taker incorporates edits & posts draft minutes to BASECAMP < 48 hrs. of receiving edited minutes
4. Draft minutes are approved (with additional edits as necessary) at next Stakeholder Group meeting
5. Note-taker posts Final Minutes to BASECAMP as PDF