



4FRI Stakeholder Group Meeting Notes
September 26, 2012
Flagstaff, Arizona

Coconino NF Supervisor's Office, 1824 S. Thompson St. Flagstaff, AZ
Call-in Number: 877-686-0400 ~ Passcode: 774-7488-215

Attending by phone: Russ Winn, Sue Sitko, Erik Nielsen

I. Next Steps and Key Decisions Made at this Meeting

1. Approval of 8/22/2012 Minutes: One correction suggested by Amy Waltz: Under "Next Steps" for the NEPA working group, the bullet that says the NEPA group will report out to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) should be struck. The NEPA group will report out to the Stakeholder Group.

2. Decision on Resolution Supporting Moving Ahead with Regional Industry & Pioneer

- 4FRI members agreed to use the 9/4 resolution language without names in the last paragraph; 4FRI members have an understanding that the meaning of "working constructively" includes that one may express concerns in a constructive way.
- **Next Step:** Windy will revise language in the Resolution and distribute the revised language through the Steering Committee.

Call to the Public: None

Update from the Forest Service – Henry Provencio

1. **Draft Environmental Impact Statement Status (DEIS)/NEPA** – collaborative review of released draft documents
 - The USFS is working to speed up the DEIS internal review; however, after Thanksgiving is the earliest possible release. Not many public comments have been submitted since the draft DEIS documents were posted on the USFS website but the USFS is working to incorporate the public comments that have been made thus far. Mid-October is the goal for internal review completion.
2. **Status of Future Facilitation** – GSA proposal: A team will be meeting later this week to make a recommendation on who should be selected. There will be a selection made in time for the facilitator to attend the October stakeholder meeting.
3. **USFS Operations**--Some stakeholders would like more updates on operations.
 - There will be a USFS internal meeting in to get all four Forests on the same page for constructing task orders.
 - There is a draft ten-year plan with the first three years under existing NEPA. There will be a crosswalk available at the next Stakeholder Group meeting to inform stakeholders how operations are being planned. This will be an agenda topic for that meeting.

- Lauren Marshall, USFS Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) lead, is coming for a one-day tour of 4FRI next week.

Updates from Stakeholders -All

1. 4FRI Field Trips Report

- Attendance and discussion have been good for the last three field trips. District staff from Coconino and Kaibab Forests has attended. Trips have resulted in good exchange of information between stakeholders and USFS staff regarding the transition from planning to implementation. Implementation guides have been refined and groups tree flagging has helped show what the landscape will look like.
- The next 4FRI Field Trip will be held on Thursday 9/27. Meet 7:45 a.m. at the Coconino Supervisor's Office to carpool or caravan. We will visit an area south of Lake Mary in its watershed to discuss Mexican spotted owl treatments, savannah, and the aspen exception within the context of the 4FRI Proposed Action, DEIS, and implementation strategy. Details for the trip will be posted to Basecamp.

2. KNAU Story Report

- Last week Ed Smith talked to the KNAU station manager, Jon Stark. Jon confirmed that the 4FRI story has been dropped because the story is not considered current news and there were questions on balance and reporting.

3. Pioneer Associates/Pioneer Forest Products

- Concord Blue has issued a letter stating they will be working with Pioneer to develop a milling and manufacturing operation in Winslow.
- Pioneer has purchase agreements on the land and will be ready to finalize these as soon as the funding is in place.
- A light level of logging is in the schedule for January through the wet season. Loggers from Arizona have expressed interest in investing in new equipment to support the supply coming in.
- Twelve investment companies have corresponded with Pioneer. Pioneer is optimistic about some local companies submitting proposals. Final written proposals are to be submitted by October 5. Herman is sorting through those for final selection. A letter of credit should be in place by mid-November.
- Marlin encouraged everyone to please let him and Mike Cooley know if there are other committee meetings they should be participating in.
- Pioneer is tentatively working on a field trip for October 1 to get loggers in the field to discuss implementation.
- Workforce development has emphasized training loggers. The State Commerce Department has let them know that some of the community colleges are using the information Marlin sent them to develop curriculum. The main contact is Judy Bratcher, Navajo County.

4. Stakeholder Disclosures

- Paul Summerfelt gave an update on City bond question 405, Forest Health and Water Supply. This goes to the voters on November 6. There have been a number of public meetings, open houses, and ongoing outreach efforts by the City with very positive response. There is a citizen advocacy group that has formed. They have a website: Yeson405.org that provides more information. Marcus Selig chairs that committee and Diane Vosick is also a participant.

- David Tenney and Hunter Moore met with Jon Stark and Mark Beavis from KNAU to follow up on the potential NPR story. Jon and Mark confirmed that the story had been cancelled, but disagreed on who at KNAU made that decision. There may be a story being put together by KNAU on 4FRI (separate from the KNAU story that was cancelled). Michael Collier flew down to Silver City to interview Todd Schulke on his way to interview Pat Jackson. Ed Smith also was interviewed.
- Amy Waltz has invited the Remote Sensing Application Center (RSAC) Team to speak at the National Forest Foundation (NFF) National Webinar on November 1 using 4FRI as their data case for monitoring. Details for the webinar will be distributed on Basecamp.
- Wally Covington is the science advisor on Federal Advisory Committee on the new Forest Planning Rule. The primary purpose of the group is to talk about implementation of the Rule. The directives will be put out for comment as they are drafted.

Resolution Supporting Moving Ahead with Regional Industry & Pioneer

In July the task was given to Diane Vosick and Marcus Selig to draft a resolution to express 4FRI's support for moving forward with the contract. That resolution has since gone through several iterations of revisions. There remains contention, however, over language in the resolution, the intent behind the resolution, and unanimity in stakeholder support for moving the resolution forward.

1. Reasons Expressed for Resolution

- There is confusion within the general public about 4FRI's support of industry.
- Congressionals have asked for a supporting statement to clear confusion.
- 4FRI needs a new resolution that tells the public 4FRI is still committed now that a contractor is in place to capture the evolution of thinking and support.
- A statement supporting Pioneer may build confidence in Pioneer's potential investors.
- 4FRI needs to continue to move forward.

2. Concerns Expressed Regarding Resolution

- 4FRI has already released an industry resolution.
- Some stakeholders believe the contractor selection process was flawed and that the resolution will prevent organizations from speaking about this in the future. (They are concerned that future expression of concerns would be challenged as a Charter violation.)
- Some stakeholders have concerns regarding Pioneer's financing and ability to survive as a viable small diameter industry.
- The latest version of the resolution understates the level of concern and does not acknowledge ongoing concern.
- More questions need to be answered regarding Pioneer's business plan.
- In the current version, some stakeholders are not familiar with the companies named in the last paragraph or would not be comfortable or endorsing a specific company. (These were just listed as examples.)

- It is not within the Eastern Counties’ legal framework to support a specific business without a due diligence process.

3. Agreed Upon Points:

- No participant said they are unwilling to work with Pioneer.
- The resolution will read that 4FRI will “work constructively” with the contractor. The meaning of “working constructively” includes that one may express concerns in a constructive way.
- Specific company names will be taken out of the last paragraph of the 9/4 version of the resolution.
- When representatives of the media ask questions regarding this issue, organizations can express their own organization’s opinions as long as they are not speaking on behalf of 4FRI. When representing 4FRI, organizations should convey that “4FRI is working constructively with Pioneer.”

DECISION

The Stakeholder Group agreed to use the 9/4 resolution language without names in the last paragraph; Also, Stakeholders have an understanding that the meaning of "working constructively" includes that one may express concerns in a constructive way.

Highest Agreement: Natural Resources Working Group, Eastern Counties Organization, Navajo counties, White Mountain Conservation League, State Forestry

High: Center for Biological Diversity, Pioneer Forest Products, City of Flagstaff, Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership, Ecological Restoration Institute, Public Citizen, Northern Arizona Wood Products Association, Arizona Game and Fish, the Nature Conservancy

Acquiescence: Coconino Natural Resource Conservation District

No Clear Agreement: No one

Next Step: Windy will revise language in the Resolution accordingly and distribute it through the Steering Committee.

Discussion of CFLRP Match Reporting – Windy Greer

- Stakeholders were encouraged to give their match reporting data to Windy by Thursday, September 27. They will not have another opportunity until next year.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CFLRPParterMatch>.

University Of Montana, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, “Four Corners Industry Census” –

- Todd Morgan and Colin Sorenson gave a presentation to the Stakeholder Group on their work in the Four Corners Area.

U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution Parting Recommendations –Debra Drecksel and Kim Caringer

- The U.S. Institute put together a set of recommendations for 4FRI to consider as they move forward with new facilitation. (See the recommendations at the end of these notes).

Because of time constraints, the following agenda items are moved to October Stakeholder Meeting:

1. Charter Amendment Process - - *Windy Greer*

- Moving Decisions/Levels of Agreement Forward
- McCracken test case update – *Amy Waltz*
- Proposed Charter revisions for approval in October

2. Landscape and Monitoring Group report - *Amy Waltz*

- Pre-DEIS shared learning and issues
- Comment Period on DEIS

3. Bringing in Outside Collaborative Input & Possible DC Trip – *Diane Vosick*

Final updates:

1. Don't forget to give your input for our annual evaluation at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/4FRIAnnualEval2012>.

2. Next Meetings: 10/24/2012 in Pinetop at Arizona Game & Fish Department (AGFD), 11/28/2012 in Winslow at the **Winslow Chamber of Commerce, Hubble Building – 523 W. 2nd St**, 12/19/2012 in Pinetop at AGFD

- At the next meeting, Henry will work with the group to discuss ways to manage the parking situation at the Coconino NF Supervisor's office.
- 4FRI group needs to remember AGFD meeting room polices when utilizing their meeting space.

3. See "Parting Process Recommendation for 4FRI" on the next page of these notes.

PARTING PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 4FRI

To: Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI)

From: Debra Drechsel, Kim Caringer, and Pat Lewis (U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution)

Date: September 26, 2012

In light of our long-term involvement with the 4FRI collaboration, we offer the following parting process recommendations to support your success:

From Debra:

1. Stay focused on the ultimate goal: forest restoration.
2. Continue your proactive internal leadership.
 - a. Stakeholder Group: Steering Committee, Co-Chairs, Working Groups, task groups
 - b. USFS: 4FRI Team, Forest Supervisors, Forest staff
3. Focus on interests.
 - a. All behavior is purposeful. Every position is taken to advance an interest.
 - b. Engage in interest-based negotiation.
 - c. Look for ways to meet multiple interests in common solutions.
4. Clearly articulate decisions and action items.
 - a. In meetings
 - b. In meeting notes
 - c. Refer back to and honor past decisions in future discussions.
5. Post and enforce your ground rules.
 - a. Especially behave respectfully toward one another.
 - b. All participants, as well as the facilitator, should behave in accordance with the ground rules and should hold one another accountable to the ground rules.
6. Utilize neutral facilitation.
 - a. Use a neutral third party to facilitate controversial issues.
 - b. To the extent you desire self-facilitation, that person should facilitate from a neutral perspective.
7. Focus on common ground, what is possible, and mutually beneficial solutions.

From Pat:

8. Consider identifying a 4FRI champion – someone who is 1) committed to the success of 4FRI, 2) who has stature in the field of forest restoration; 3) has leadership qualities; and 4) respect from all participants. Consider asking this person to donate time to Chair 4FRI and to work with parties in conflict (outside of the meetings) to reach common ground for the good of 4FRI.
9. Take the time necessary to address agenda topics. Collaboration is time consuming. Consider two half days with a social hour after the first half day. You may find more willingness to collaborate on the second day.

From Kim:

10. Keep your eye on the prize. Remember that you all are here for the shared goal of restoration and how far you have come.

- 11.** Happy Hour! Continue to do social events outside the regular meetings. Building relationships is an important part of this process.
- 12.** Separate the people from the problem. Remember that everyone is part of 4FRI to represent a set of interests which should be respected.
- 13.** Strive for consensus. This is in your foundational documents. When tough decisions arise, agree to roll up your sleeves and work together for something that everyone can live with. It will build trust and momentum, send a strong message, and will build relationships.
- 14.** Don't be afraid of conflict. Every group like 4FRI has tough challenges, and the only way to move forward is to deal with it directly. Address matters in your stakeholder meetings, with a third party neutral if possible, and talk openly and honestly while being respectful.