

Stakeholder Meeting 11.17.2010

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

#### **First Call to the Public:**

- No comments during the first call

#### **Previous Minutes**

- The following amendment was provided to the minutes from the last meeting :
  - The Science and Monitoring WG chair is Matt Williamson (GCT), and co-chair is Pete Fule' (ERI).
- The meeting minutes were approved from 10.27.10.

#### **CFLRP Annual Report**

- The FS is required to submit an annual report detailing work activities associated with the CFLRP grant monies for fiscal year 2010 (10/1/09-9/30/10).
- Stakeholders were asked to quantify (in-kind or direct) the contributions they have provided towards CFLRP activities.
  - The FS requested the Stakeholders maintain specific records of the types of contributions they have made towards CFLRP activities.
- The ERI will assist the FS in submitting the CFLRP annual report. Members were asked to submit an estimate of their contributions to the effort by the end of the meeting.

#### **Work Plan Update & Review**

- The Steering Committee clarified that they are not independently creating a work plan for the 4FRI, but are only compiling and synthesizing information. They are requesting all working groups to provide them with details on the types of deliverables and timelines that will be produce over the next year.
- It was requested that the FS activities on NEPA be added to the work plan.
- It was requested that the Stakeholder's work plan match or support the FS timeline.
- The importance of identifying White Mountain Stewardship deliverables was highlighted, but where to document the information (within the 4FRI work plan or a separate document) remains to be decided.
  - The FS informed the group that they will be having an internal meeting to discuss how to integrate WMSC activities with the 4FRI activities.
  - The FS is tentatively scheduled to provide an update of their internal discussions on the integration of the 4FRI and WMSC activities during the January, 2011 meeting.
  - There were no objections to adding WMSC activities to the 4FRI work plan.

#### **MOU**

- The draft MOU has been sent to FS Office of General Council for review and to clarify questions such as:
  - Who can sign the MOU?
  - Is the 4FRI a "suable entity"?
  - If the 4FRI is a 501c3 can industry signatures be accepted?

- The FS and the 4FRI Stakeholders will be meeting on January 10, 2011 to discuss the draft MOU.
  - The Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on the draft MOU prior to this meeting.
  - The Stakeholders have been encouraged to participate early in all working group activities to foster a deeper level of accountability.
  - Stakeholders that have comments or want to participate in the MOU should contact Ethan Aumack with GCT.
- The FS is still debating whether an MOU or FACA is the best mechanism for stipulating the relationship between themselves and the 4FRI.
- It was highlighted that the MOU should clearly state whether it is a legally binding document.
- The AZ Game and Fish Department indicated they can potentially sign the MOU, but it would have to pass through their legal department for review.
  - It was recommended that the MOU WG provide sufficient time for Stakeholders to review and approve the MOU.

### **Support and Endorsement Letters**

- Ed Smith (TNC) received signatures from six entities supporting a letter requesting the continuation of funding for the CFLRA program.
  - The letter will be added to the 4FRI document notebook.
- A letter has been sent to the USFS by the 4FRI providing recommendations on partnership engagement section of the USFS Manual. **The letter can be viewed on Basecamp**
- The 4FRI Science and Monitoring WG have provided letters of endorsement for two Joint Fire Science Proposals that “address needs that can’t be covered by the SMWG”.
  - First proposal: Pete Fule’ (ERI) & Steve Sesnie (ForestERA) analysis of WUI treatments vs. non-WUI treatments @ <https://ffri.basecamp.com/projects/4682141/file/65793688/Fule%20letter.pdf>
  - Second proposal: James Anderson analysis of carbon aerosols from prescribed fire @ <https://ffri.basecamp.com/projects/4682141/file/65793687/Anderson%20letter.pdf>
- It was highlighted that more time should be provided for Stakeholders to review endorsement letters in future situations.
  - The SMWG has been tasked with developing a set of criteria to evaluate future requests soliciting 4FRI endorsement of science proposals.

### **Update from USFS:**

- The FS provided a presentation on the 4FRI at the 2010 National SAF conference in Albuquerque, NM. The presentation was introduced by Forest Service Chief, Tom Tidwell.
- The FS has invited the Salt River Project (SRP) to participate in the 4FRI meetings.
  - A representative from SRP was in attendance at the meeting.
- The FS/4FRI fire ecologist has been working with ForestERA and the Fire Science Lab to develop products that meet the needs of the FS and the 4FRI.
- Bill Noble is the FS/4FRI wildlife biologist.
- Neil McCusker, FS/4FRI silviculturist has been working with Tessa Nicolet FS RO to run vegetation treatment models. They are also working on a strategy to join their results with data from ForestERA.
- Craig Johnson is the FS/4FRI tribal liaison.

- Dave Gifford FS/4FRI archeologist has gathered preliminary survey data for the Coconino and Kaibab NF.
- The FS/4FRI soils and hydrology team will be done with their analysis by mid-December; at which time FS TEAMS will take over their work.
- Charlotte Minor FS/4FRI landscape architect is developing photos that simulate forest treatments that can be used to solicit feedback from the public and stakeholders.
- Carol Boyd FS/4FRI is managing shelf stock operations.
- Paula Cote FS/4FRI NEPA Coordinator is developing adaptive management plans, working on a draft purpose and need, and comparing short and long term benefits of the 4FRI treatments.
- The FS is meeting monthly with the four forest planners to ensure they are all speaking in similar terms.
- The FS indicated they are considering using the definition in the FS Manual (20.20.5) to define ecological restoration. All stakeholders are encouraged to review the definition.
- A stakeholder requested that the FS provide sufficient time for industry to review and submit “solid” proposals for the 4FRI contracts.

#### **LSWG Update:**

- The LSWG will submit their work to the FS by December 15, 2010.
- The group recognizes the importance of developing a strategy for the entire 4FRI landscape, but is focusing on the first treatment area due to pending deliverables.
- Taylor McKinnon will be co-chairing the LSWG with Shaula Hedwall.
- The large tree retention working group will have “products” available for the FS by December 15, 2010. Time will be allocated before this date for Stakeholders to provide comments on the “products,” but it will be a “fast process.”

#### **Science & Monitoring WG:**

- The prioritization of science needs assessment will be ready 11/19/10.
- The treatment area portfolios DFC’s will be used to inform adaptive management for FS.

#### **Communication WG:**

- A draft web design has been created and will be operational by the end of the year.
- It was suggested that additional resources be developed to enhance outreach efforts, such as PowerPoint and video presentations.
  - The group was reminded that talking points are available on Basecamp.
- It was suggested that outreach activities should target individuals and entities that have a “misunderstanding” of the 4FRI goals; suggestions for targeted outreach should be sent to Bonnie Stevens @ email [bonnie.stevens@nau.edu](mailto:bonnie.stevens@nau.edu)

#### **Economics and Utilization:**

- The ERI offered to fund the publication and dissemination of the “Economic and Utilization” component of the Landscape Strategy.
- Several Stakeholders suggested the first publication by the 4FRI focus on “introductory documents” to prevent any misunderstanding by the public.

- It was explained that the Economic and Utilization introduction thoroughly explained the goals and objectives of the 4FRI, and should alleviate any fears of misinformation.
- It was suggested that the 4FRI establishing a website and upload all 4FRI documents, before publishing anything in hard copy.
- The publication of the Economic and Utilization paper was tabled.
- A discussion on the process for publishing 4FRI documents, resulted in the following decisions:
  - Any working group that has been tasked with a deliverable has the authority to make recommendations to the Stakeholders. **However, all final decisions, unless explicitly delegated, remain with the full Stakeholder group**
  - The 4FRI “decision rules” will be used by the Stakeholders (or an authorized working group) in adopting any recommendations.
  - Documents can be approved via Basecamp on a case-by-case basis.
  - The Communication WG is tasked with developing a strategy for publishing documents; identifying key audiences; and recommending potential 4FRI publications to the Stakeholders.

**Fiduciary Agent:**

- **Fiscal Sponsorship vs. 501c3**
  - The GFFP has removed their name from the list of potential 4FRI fiscal sponsors. A letter was submitted to the Fiscal sponsorship work group conveying this message.
  - It was recommended that if a fiscal sponsor is identified, they should be required to attend Stakeholder meetings.
    - It was highlighted that having a fiscal sponsor participate in 4FRI meeting has pros and cons that will need to be evaluated.
  - It was recommended to “hold off” on forming a “DBA” if the 4FRI identifies a fiscal sponsorship.

**Call to the public:**

- The following comments were provided by the public:
  - The 4FRI should create a website before publishing any documents.
  - The 4FRI should distinguish itself from the USFS.

**Round Table:**

- Chris Knopp would like to discuss how the WMSC activities will interface with the 4FRI at the January meeting (tentative-pending internal FS meetings).
- Stakeholders should send suggestions for outreach contacts to the Communications WG.
- The SC has been tasked with developing a strategy for conducting outreach to newly elected members of Congress.
- An article will be published in AZ Republic on 4FRI and WMSC, on Sunday 11/21/10.

**Next Meetings:**

December Meeting---Canceled  
 January 26, 2011-Pinetop: AZ Game & Fish  
 February 23, 2011 Flagstaff: TBD  
 March 30, 2011 Pinetop: AZ Game & Fish  
 April 27 Flagstaff: TBD