



4FRI Steering Committee Call Minutes

Tuesday, January 14th, 2020 1-2:30 PM (AZ time)

Teleconference line: (712) 775-7031, code: 439290611#

Attendee: Tom Mackin, Shaula Hedwall, Greg Smith, Joe Miller, Diane Vosick, Carol Covington, Dick Fleishman, Tracy Bazelman, Henry Provencio, Neil Chapman, Paul Summerfelt

- I. **Additional agenda items** - None
- II. **Updates and announcements** - None
- III. **Approve minutes from November 12, 2019** - Approved
- IV. **Review action items from November 12, 2019**

Action Item	Lead	Status
1. Follow-up with Kruger on public outreach for public meetings	Vosick	Complete
2. Clarification from Dick on what's needed for CFLRP match	Vosick	Complete

V. **USFS update**

1. Status of the FY20 funding for the 4FRI – 4FRI is currently \$2 million over- planned. The main reason for that is that 4FRI has identified nearly \$2 million for 4FRI phase 2 contracts as placeholders. The \$2 million over-plan is based on 4FRI receiving \$4 million in makeup/replacement CFLRP funds. These funds have been requested, but have not yet arrived. The \$4 million that 4FRI asked for would be other fund sources and not CFLRP because there no longer is authority for those funds for 4FRI. The Region said to plan on receiving those replacement funds, and 4FRI has planned under that assumption. If these funds do not arrive, then 4FRI will be \$6 million over-planned. Without these replacement funds there will be a gap.

Since 2016, 4FRI has received- approximately \$32 million in funding in all restoration budget line items. Of that, approximately \$10 million are base funding, \$7 million are Regional Office additional funds, \$11 million are Washington Office supplemental funds and \$4 million are CFLRP funds. There likely will be no new CFLRP funds in 2020 from reauthorization. There is no expected funding from the CFLRP reauthorization in 2020. Fleishman expects that reauthorized projects will be awarded funding only after new authorized projects have been funded.

VI. **Charter & Members in good standing**

1. There has been confusion among stakeholders as to which organizations are in good standing and why. There have been changes over time in who represents which organization(s), and it would be helpful to get everyone on the same page by putting together a list of SHG organizations and their representatives. Some people represent multiple entities (e.g. Berlioux represents ECO and multiple counties, Mottek represents Mottek Consulting and GFFP), but it's one person-one vote, and one person can't vote multiple times to represent multiple proxies. The charter only accounts for SHG meeting attendance. This will be discussed at the stakeholder group meeting.

VII. **Notices of Intent (NOIs) filed by Wild Earth Guardians –**

1. The Apache-Sitgreaves (A-S), Coconino (CNF), and Kaibab (KNF) National Forests have all received NOIs. The bulk of the work needed to address the NOIs belongs to the FWS. The FWS knows they will need to revise the Biological Opinion (BO) for the A-S, CNF, KNF, but they are still waiting for a response to what the court is currently reviewing in response to the NM/Tonto injunction.

Timeline – The next step re: the new AZ forest NOI is to respond expeditiously with the revised BO. The NOI would have to go to court before there would be any injunction. For reference, the NOI for the NM/Tonto forests was filed in 2013, and the injunction came in 2019.

Is there any strategic value in the SHG contacting Wild Earth Guardians and seeing if they want to collaborate on Rim Country? Would that be important for a potential objection process? Hedwall thinks the stakeholders should wait, as the FWS and USFS are making efforts to have these discussions with Wild Earth Guardians, and because there's an existing lawsuit and the agencies want to follow the guidance from DOJ. There hasn't been a response from partners in NM. They will continue to pursue mediation as well.

VIII. Work group reports

1. **Communication** – Tayloe Dubay (ERI) is currently chairing the group. Spring 2020 production is underway – email Tayloe with any ideas for newsletter articles. List so far includes: DEIS comments (those will be posted on the 4FRI.org website today), the CFLR reauthorization, RFP deadline, ERI report on chip and ship project, and Coconino County air curtain burner testing. There is a planned March newsletter release date, the deadline for articles is February 14. One possible item – 10 years of 4FRI accomplishments, Dick can be the point of contact.
2. **Industry** – No update
3. **MPMB** – The main focus for the MPMB has been working with Josh Bahling to maintain agreements for on-going monitoring work.
4. **Implementation** – No update
5. **DEIS working group** – No update

IX. Agenda Discussion for the Stakeholder Group meeting (January 22, 2020, Pinetop) – January meeting is cancelled. These items will be moved to the February agenda.

1. TNC recent published carbon work - Woolley
2. TNC/USGS restoration/soil water/growth research – Bradford
3. Charter and members in good standing - Vosick

X. Action Items

Action Item	Lead	Status
1. Chip and ship report to basecamp	Dubay	
2. Items to newsletter to Tayloe	SC members	
3.		

XI. Future Agenda Items and Adjourn

- 1.