



4FRI Stakeholder Group Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 9 am – Noon

ZOOM Audio Meeting

MEETING WAS RECORDED

In attendance: Amy Waltz, Melanie Colavito, Pascal Berlioux, Anne Mottek, Brad Worsley, Chris Jones, Devon Suarez, Adam Cooley, Cerissa Hoglander, Eli Jensen, Evan Lautzenheiser, Greg Smith, Jason Whiting, John Godfrey, Julian Wolff, Justin Schofer, Keith Brekhus, Kelly Gannon, Luke Thompson, Mark Nigrelli, Michele Ralston, Mike Hannemann, Patrick Moore, Steve Reiter, Tami Conner, Tabi Bolton, Mike Martinez, Kenna Belsky, Joe Miller, Michelle Paduani, Randy Fuller, Judy Palmer, John Souther, Kara Kirkpatrick-Kreitinger, Adam Livermore, Bob Seidler, Travis Wooley, Elvy Barton, Todd Schulke, Tom Mackin, John Richardson, Lynne Krigbaum, Alicyn Gitlin, Laura Jo West, Erika Luna, Adam Reidhead, Hannah Griscom, Anne Mottek, Paul Chapman, and Carol Covington taking minutes.

Approve minutes from the September 22, 2021 Stakeholder Group meeting— Approved as presented.

Review action items from the September 22, 2021 Stakeholder Group meeting — Pascal Berlioux

| Action Item | Lead | Status |
|---|---|----------|
| 1. Innovations in fire management briefing SHG item for October | Tami Conner | Ongoing |
| 2. Organize Industry Roundtable meeting for Oct 12. Determine zoom integration, location etc. | Brad Worsley, Adam Cooley, Neil Chapman, Pascal Berlioux, Melanie Colavito, Tami Conner | Complete |
| 3. Secure participants in the pre-bid RFP meeting and Staff for AZ delegation for invitation to Industry Roundtable | Tami Conner | Complete |
| 4. Organize Non-Industry Roundtable meeting as separate from and following the Industry Roundtable meeting. Oct 18? | Brad Worsley, Adam Cooley, Neil Chapman, Pascal Berlioux, Melanie Colavito, Tami Conner | Complete |

Item #1 will be referred back to the Steering Committee for clarification of desired content and to establish a target presentation date. Added to the Action Items.

Call to the Public and Press – Amy Waltz suggested that if and when members of the press participate in the 4FRI meetings, that they too would announce themselves. There were no members of the press present at this time.

USFS updates – Tami Conner

- **Burnt Corral/Jacob Ryan Update** – Tami Conner reported that the 4FRI Board was asked if there

were any updates, and indicated that there were none. Melanie Colavito reported that there is ongoing discussion about a future field trip to the site, with no details as yet determined.

Follow-up on Restoration Strategy – Berlioux, Chapman, Worsley, Cooley, Waltz, Colavito, Conner
Berlioux noted that there was a delay in reporting results of the two roundtables. He noted that he had circulated notes on basecamp which combined meeting notes from multiple participants. Melanie Colavito noted that because the meeting notes were documenting a working group meeting, it is the organizing group would be the body to approve. Brad Worsley and Adam Cooley both added their consensus to keep notes at the organizing group level. Amy Waltz encouraged individual groups to forward their comments to the Forest Service as an organization. Pascal suggested that such comments be forwarded to both Elaine Kohrman and Tami Conner.

Consensus was reached that any additional edits to the meeting notes from the roundtables would be finalized by the organizing group, by Friday Oct 29 Noon, with final distribution that afternoon.

- **Industry Roundtable update**
- **Non-Industry Roundtable update**
- **Next Steps** – Berlioux reviewed action items from the draft roundtable notes.
 - 1- FY 22 move forward acres ready to go (start of 5-year plan) in addition to high priorities (CC Cragin, East Side, Bill Williams, Flagstaff Mountain, Upper Tonto GNA).
 - 2- SC to create a new 4FRI “Optimization Work Group” with GCT, CBD, ERI, TNC, ECO, NLFP, SC, Tristar, TU, USFS, SRP, etc. to sequence, prioritize and execute collaboratively:
 - #1 Rapid assessment
 - #2 Acres optimization
 - #3 coordination with road package optimization (some parallel track to capture Infrastructure Bill funding opportunities).
 - #4 coordination with acres characterization (material available).
 - 3- 4FRI 1st co-Chair Pascal Berlioux asked Forest Service to formally commit to the action items. USFS R3 Deputy Forester Elaine Kohrman committed to a rapid assessment to define priorities, and to execute an optimization effort collaboratively, including fire and mechanical thinning.
 - 4- USFS to check if NEPA covers steep slopes mechanical thinning.

USFS indicated they would review NEPA to determine if mechanical thinning would be allowed on steep slopes.

Good Neighbor Project presentation – John Richardson, DFFM – Good Neighbor Authority allows the USDA Forest Service to enter into agreements with state forestry agencies to do the critical management work to keep our forest healthy and productive. They have entered into four good neighbor agreements in Arizona. He provided a brief overview of the status of each.

- **Baker:** 1,019 acres of timber stand restoration. Location: South and East of Baker Butte on the Coconino NF. Private contractor.
- **Hardscrabble:** 1,197 acres of mastication. Location: Southwest of Strawberry, AZ on the Tonto NF. Private contractor.
- **Sparky:** 108 acres of mastication. Location: Southeast of Young, AZ on the Tonto NF. Private contractor.
- **Little Springs:** 383 acres of timber stand restoration. Location: Northwest of San Francisco Peaks off Road 151 on Coconino NF. Private contractor.

Michele Ralston asked if any of these projects were anticipated to utilize inmate hand crews. Richardson indicated

that these projects will not as they are all contracted to private industry, but future projects well could. Joe Miller asked if these mechanisms have been utilized in neighboring states. Richardson indicated that indeed they are in contact, and indicated that each state operates a little differently, and they share experiences. Berlioux asked for a brief bullet point outline of the four projects to be sent to him for inclusion in the meeting minutes.

Industry Updates

Brad Worsley, Novo Power – Inventories are lower than preferred and they are open for extra material. They await PPA extensions which are very important. Employee retention is a concern. He expressed a desire to hear soon from the Forest Service more about next steps following the RFP cancellation.

Adam Cooley, New Life – indicated that there are no new updates.

Tabi Bolton, Campbell Global – Noted that the maps circulated earlier showed that Kaibab has zero offerings for the coming year. He is concerned that USFS sales are not keeping up with demand. Mike Hanneman indicated that he would send information about sales scheduled for 2022 when available.

Adam Reidhead – reported that they are harvesting 15-20 loads a day.

Working Group Updates

- Final Environmental Impact Statement WG – Amy Waltz indicated that they are seeking a regional review and feedback on comments on EIS. Scheduling a meeting has been problematic.
- Industry/Biomass WG - Brad Worsley indicated that the group intends to focus on prioritizing and optimization.
- Communication WG – Melanie Colavito underscored a call for newsletter items. Joe Miller indicated that there should be an update at the Steering Committee meeting next week.
- Multi-Party Monitoring Board WG – John Souther asked that any information or updates regarding 4FRI implementation from participating organizations should be forwarded to him ASAP for inclusion in a complete report. He reported that the analysis of data being completed by NAU, should be available in the coming months and is looking to be very interesting. Other monitoring efforts underway include post treatment drone imagery at Chimney Springs; songbird monitoring in the Rockies; spring monitoring project with the Grand Canyon Trust; snowpack monitoring. He noted that there is an effort to develop a national forest system national monitoring policy. There will be a public comment period in February or March of 2022.
- Stakeholder Engagement WG - Melanie Colavito reported that the group was scheduled to meet Oct. 18 but are rescheduling since it ended up conflicting with the post-RFP roundtable meeting. They will discuss next steps for stakeholder engagement as post-RFP cancellation details emerge.
- Comprehensive Implementation WG – Hannah Griscom reported on the WG recent meeting at which they discussed accomplishments in recent years, and considered work into the future. They hope to focus on sub watersheds.

Stakeholder Disclosures – All

Review Action Items

| Action Item | Lead | Status |
|--|---------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Innovations in fire management briefing SHG item – select briefing date, ID desired content | Tami Conner, Steering Committee | |
| 2. USFS indicated they would review NEPA to determine if mechanical thinning is allowed on steep slopes – report at Nov SHG meeting. | Tami Conner | |

Chris Jones offered that there is an After the Fire public meeting and invited participation this Friday and Saturday and shared a link in the meeting chat.

Adjourn – Adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

2020 Stakeholder Group Meeting Schedule – these dates are posted on the 4FRI website.

- Zoom - 11/17/2021, 1/26/2022, 2/23/2022, 3/23/2022, 4/27/2022, 5/25/2022, 6/22/2022, 7/27/2022, 8/24/2022, 9/28/2022, 10/26/2022, 11/16/2022
- Coconino NF Supervisor’s office – none until further notice

| 2021 | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Hot Chair | Cold Chair |
| January | Jay Smith | A Mottek |
| February | Jay Smith | A Mottek |
| March | A Mottek | M Colavito |
| April | A Mottek | M Colavito |
| May | A Mottek | M Colavito |
| June | M Colavito | P Berlioux |
| July | M Colavito | P Berlioux |
| August | M Colavito | P Berlioux |
| September | P Berlioux | N Chapman |
| October | P Berlioux | N Chapman |
| November | P Berlioux | N Chapman |
| December | NO SHG MTG | NO SHG MTG |

| 2022 | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Hot Chair | Cold Chair |
| January | N Chapman | J Whiting |
| February | N Chapman | J Whiting |
| March | N Chapman | J Whiting |
| April | J Whiting | B Worsley |
| May | J Whiting | B Worsley |
| June | J Whiting | B Worsley |
| July | B Worsley | G Smith |
| August | B Worsley | G Smith |
| September | B Worsley | G Smith |
| October | G Smith | |
| November | G Smith | |