



4FRI Stakeholder Group Meeting

Agenda

August 24, 2022, 9 am – Noon

https://nau.zoom.us/rec/share/Zk_pYhlpv0rQQ1dJeNDEFycra622YAiuUffT87PSA8xbFXjfw7upOkVypQK9G1Tp.4li416Umi6AUMyyN?startTime=1661356169000

ZOOM meeting protocols:

- **PLEASE ANNOUNCE YOURSELF IN CHAT BOX OR ON THE PHONE**
- Co-chairs will manage participant engagement
- No video please
- Keep speaker on MUTE
- Use chat box to communicate your questions or comments to the group and to introduce yourself and affiliation.
- Please refrain from private messaging as it becomes part of the official transcript.

Attendees: Brad Worsley, Melanie Colavito, Greg Smith, Jay Smith, Amy Waltz, Allen Reidhead, Anne Mottek, Becky Kirby, Bob Seidler, Brian Nowicki, Brienne Pettit, Cerissa Hoglander, Christine Mares, Dave Dorum, Dick Fleishman, Eli Jensie, Elvy Barton, Franklin Zyriek, Gavin Jones, George Stedeford, Ian Fox, Joel Jurgens, Justin Schofer, Judy Palmer, Kara Kirkpatrick-Kreitinger, Keith Brekhus, Keith Johnson, Lacy James, Luke Thompson, Mark Nigrelli, Mike Hanneman, Michele Ralston, Mike Martinez, Neil Chapman, Nicol Branton, Patrick Moore, Randy Fuller, Robert Trujillo, Shaula Hedwall, Steve Reiter, Tabi Bolton, Tami Conner, Tom Holl, Tom Mackin, Tracy Bazelman, Travis Woolley, Todd Schulke, Tom Torres, Paul Chapman, Floyd Hardin.

9:00 Approve minutes from the INSERT DATE Stakeholder Group meeting— Hot Chair Name

9:02 Review action items from the INSERT DATE Stakeholder Group meeting — Hot Chair Name

Action Item

Lead

Status

1.	None from April recorded		
2.			

9:04 Call to the Public – Brad Worsley

9:05 USFS updates – Tami Connor

- update from Mark today on Rapid Assessment.
- Rim Country EIS
 - i. Objection period completed; response letters signed by Elaine. Aug 12 published federal register, wait 30 days for signing. Virtual ceremony on basecamp.
- Projects:
 - i. Road work – 16 different projects with \$10 million, mostly surface work. Road contracts coming in much higher than planned (inflation, fuel prices). Regional office offsetting increases. Main priority – paving portion of 300 road (Rim Road)s

- ii. Mechanical thinning – 30,000 acres awarded across whole footprint.
 - 1. 9k on east side
 - 2. 4k on KNF
 - 3. 17k on CNF
- iii. Hazardous fuels reduction – 18,000 acres across 4FRI
- iv. Rx Fire – 40,000 – 50,000 acres this year before the pause.
- v. 2023 projects and budgets populated now (new formatting, etc)
- Comments/ Questions:
 - i. Need more on Tonto – is the 9K all A-S (yes, confirmed by Tami).
 - 1. DFFM has GNA agreement with Tonto for 9564 acres, from Christine Mares.
 - ii. Also, Brad is speaking on the Signing Ceremony, send any thoughts to him to share.
 - iii. Most of those acres are not offered yet, to be clear, still waiting on almost 23k acres.

9:10 Agenda

Co Chair responsibilities:

- Changes and new need – there is a lack of admin and paid-for facilitation, which does put more burden on the co-chairs. Need to recognize that as we need co-chairs, there are co-chair responsibilities that include agenda development and note-taking.
- Greg Smith not doing it next term, need a new hot chair.
- This is Brad's last session.
- **Melanie Colavito offered to swing in early to hot chair, following Brad**

Engagement survey – Melanie Colavito. PPT shared on basecamp. Key findings and questions captured here. Questions at end, please.

- Participation:
- Lessons-learned. Trust with FS, SHG. Minimize controversy.
- Majority think revisiting foundational documents is important; equal amounts said they lack familiarity, or they provide enough guidance.
- Self facilitation is effective. But comments suggest it's exclusive.
- Workgroup – good feedback.
- Scale – keep at 2.4 million acres
- **Celebration – yes! (BRAD's Oct 20th!)**
- Capacity – Majority said yes; majority said orgs would continue, majority as personnel time. Note responses start to dwindle – 28.
 - i. **Majority responses want to move to quarterly meetings, zoom and in-person.**
 - ii. **Also need for field trips.**
- Missing – smaller logging contractors; tribes.
- Implementation – largest proportion for optimization and prioritization, effectiveness monitoring and adaptive management, also implementation monitoring.
 - i. **Revised MOU for implementation.**
 - ii. Structure should be ad-hoc working groups, or engagement within specific forests/districts.
 - iii. MPMB important to ensure attention use of science and monitoring results.
- Forest Service Decision Space
 - i. Participation in implementation prioritizations
 - ii. Engagement from Forest-level staff, less with region

- NEXT STEPS for stakeholder engagement
 - i. Longer facilitated meeting to develop strategic implementation**
- Other discussion:
 - i. Large scale is important for consistency. But is there also an interest at local scales.
 - ii. There is a need to not get bogged down at the do nothing stage? How do we address some of these comments. And address the need to diversify leadership roles.
 - iii. 4FRI was really good with FS work; but the collaborative power seems to stop there. Industry would like to engage at not just the FS. For example, policy makers, elected officials.
 - iv. Suggestion to move forward on facilitation for implementation MOU, and implementation engagement intent and outcomes.
 - v. Shared stewardship and Wildfire Crisis Strategy initiatives and infrastructure act, and inflation reduction act. Possibility for this group to coordinate cross-boundary opportunities?

Rapid Assessment (Mark Nigrelli)

- Methods (see ppt)
- Outputs include Data, Maps, Tables and Report
 - i. ALL 4FRI (2.4 million acre):
 - 1. Completed/ongoing activities: 2010 – 2022
 - 2. Planned Activities: 2022 – 2026
 - ii. Westside analysis:
 - 1. Completed/Ongoing: 2000 – 2022
 - 2. Planned Activities: 2022- 2026
- Key Discussion and Question Points – next steps?
 - i. Draft report out for FS review, share-able in September. Then, opportunity to work with SHG optimization/prioritization group.**
 - ii. Explanation of completed vs rewarded, and tabular versus spatial. Some questions on how 2021 will be populated – a little confusing right now in the master table that includes the completed year. But will be filled in.
 - iii. Also clarity on where and why departs from the USFS 4FRI Restoration Strategy, due to implementation limitations from operational features and species survey.
 - iv. Fire since 2000 on west-side – lots, but still measuring degree of moderate to high severity (about 80k acres so far). Not know the effectiveness of both treatments and fire on expected desired conditions – work for prior/opt group and co-production.

MSO Monitoring and what's initiated in the Rim Planning Area (aka Leadership Forum Update?) (Shaula Hedwall (FWS), Becky Kirby (USFS – R3), Gavin Jones (RMRS)).

- Note ppt will be shared on basecamp.
- Monitoring:
 - i. Track habitat trends, and measure where owls are, habitat structures they use in existing forest.
 - ii. management experiments to test effects of mechanical and Rx fire treatments on owls. Currently in 4FRI Phase 1 (burn only, and mechanical thin and burn) and FWPP (Dry lake hills, Mormon mtn).
 - iii. Progress is slow. Treatment delays in implementation, funding delays for expensive treatments. Currently, no treatments planned in rim country, because of acknowledged delays.

- iv. Rim country study (Gavin Jones) This can utilize methods and data from California Spotted Owl studies, to inform treatments. (Gavin Jones). Won't be dependent on before-after-control-impact (BACI) study design, but will capture owls across existing range of conditions to test habitat utilization. Will then make inferences for changing conditions with treatments. Can develop owl usage relationships to habitat quality. May help inform treatment needs in poor habitat. Capture, tag and monitor via gps tracker.
- v. R3 MSO Management Strategy Development (Becky Kirby). Based on litigation on subsequent work (MSO Leadership Forum) to increase transparency and collaboration with partners to develop the tools to best meet the recovery plan. This is identified study need, also study will be replicated on South Sacramento Restoration Project. 3 yr study – to meet BO from Rim County. Analysis and Writing in fall 2025/2026.
- Questions and Discussion.
 - i. What's the role of imputed data, which has some problems with characterizing habitat? The habitat modeling is utilizing remote sensing, including LiDAR to provide higher quality owl habitat characteristic data.
 - ii. Appendices for Rim Country deals with tracking MSO habitat into the future. Will be building a dataset for that.
 - iii. Can this link to owl fitness levels? Are there key habitat places that may not be visited frequently, but are really important to sustainability of the habitat. Gavin also mentioned other study, looking more at habitat source and sinks ecological processes.

10:30 Industry Updates

- Nova Power PPA approval: SRP is moving through the process of board approval for their PPA. Extensions will be signed based on those approvals. That impacts how Novo can move forward; they can ensure that 50% of their fuel comes off of SRP watersheds. And 85% off of federal lands (not necessarily ponderosa pine). Burning the same amount of fuels for 15 years, but have increased efficiency to generate more power. But, was utilizing private lands. Updated pricing structure. Signed steward agreement with USFS to help with fuel surplus charges (when working on fed lands).
 - **4FRI celebration, 10/20, Noon, at Snowflake Facility!**
- Allen Reidhead – TriStar. NovoStar. Getting logs in, but some inhibition to the weather. Markets are holding. Starting General Springs, with Wild Turkey Federation, in September.
- Tabi Bolton – Campbell Global. TSI and meadow restoration projects. And Walker Hill Timber.
- George Stedeford – New Life. Kilns currently under construction. First logs come in mid Sept; lumber in Oct.
- Tom Holl – Canyon Creek logging. Expanded from Gibson Boys withdrawal. Picking up more work, and delivery to Novo Power.

10:45 Working Group Updates

- Final Environmental Impact Statement WG – Amy Waltz/Rob Nelson
 - Celebrate and close!! Thanks to ID and all the participants and leaders!
- Industry/Biomass WG - Brad Worsley/Adam Cooley
 - developing a roundtable event.

- Communication WG - Tayloe Dubay
 - No updates
- Multi-Party Monitoring Board WG – Bryce Esch/Cerissa Hoglander
 - NFF has an RFP for stream/aquatic monitoring on Rim Country – will add capacity to MPMB needs, with NFF support. RFP link: <https://www.nationalforests.org/get-involved/request-for-proposals> . Additionally, working with ARS (Ag Research Service) to id snowphotography to monitor snow pack and snow water equivalent and look for changes due to treatments.
- Stakeholder Engagement WG - Melanie Colavito, Pascal Berlioux
 - See above
- Comprehensive Implementation WG – Hannah Griscom
 - Field visits out to S. Kaibab, and on Coconino – newman canyon and clark’s well. Working with watershed folks on CNF and KNF.
- Optimization/Prioritization – Amy Waltz, Travis Woolley
 - meeting have developed key talking points, working with region to meet

11:00 Stakeholder Disclosures – All

11:05 Review Action Items

Action Item	Lead	Status
1. Announce celebration at Novo facility on October 20	Worsley	Complete
2. Determine plans for longer facilitated meeting on 4FRI future and/ or revised MOU	Colavito	Ongoing
3. Discuss potential changes in 4FRI SHG meeting schedule intervals for 2023	Steering Committee	Ongoing
4. Engage Rapid Assessment results with SH optimization/ prioritization group	Waltz/ Woolley	Complete
5. Officially close Rim Country FEIS group	Steering Committee	Complete

Adjourn –

UPDATE AS APPROPRIATE

2021-22 Stakeholder Group Meeting Schedule – these dates are posted on the 4FRI website.

- Zoom - 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

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	