



## 4FRI Stakeholder Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 27, 9AM-12PM

Pinetop-Lakeside Arizona Game and Fish Department  
2878 E White Mountain Blvd, Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ 85935

### Recording

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Qyle04olddPvzW3VhA7PcX27nmVttgBf/view?usp=sharing>

*Participants:* Brett Crary, Patrice Horstman, Hannah Griscom, John Richardson, Andrew Dropik, Amy Waltz, Itamar Goldminz, John Pelak, Tabi Bolton, Travis Woolley, Christine Mares, Devon Suarez, Lisa Bolton, Scot Rogers, Amber Dorsch, Lynn Kringbaum, Melanie Colavito, Greg Smith, Meaghan Miller, Elizabeth Johnston, Josh Miller, Rob Lever, Anne Mottek, Pascal Berlioux, Mary Lou Zimmerman, Tom Mackin, Chris Johansen, Stephen Flora, Nicole Kennan, Tracy Bazelman, Joel Jurgens, Jay Smith

*Facilitation:* Carrie Eberly and Jessica Archibald (Southwest Decision Resources)

**9:00 Welcome and Agenda Review** - Southwest Decision Resources (SDR)

**9:05 Approve January 24th, 2024 Stakeholder Group Meeting Minutes** - SDR

- Approved.

**9:10 Review Action Items**

**Action Item** **Lead** **Status**

Action Item	Lead	Status
Provide formal response to CIWG letter	Scot R.	Ongoing
Discuss additional Industry meeting	Jay, Joel, James, Pascal	Ongoing
Coordinate meeting between Industry and FS 4FRI team	Industry Group, 4FRI Team	Ongoing
Aquatic/watershed restoration monthly updates	Brett, Mary Lou, Scot	Ongoing
Coordinate future report out to SHG about recent efforts with the region for Pri-Opt	Pri-Opt WG	Ongoing

Contact John if you have any questions about the DFFM RFP opening Jan 31	All	Ongoing
Post bioeconomy rating press release to Basecamp	Jay S.	Ongoing
Post updates to Basecamp about G to Z IRCS as available	Scot R.	Ongoing
Coordinate with Melanie, Travis, Scot, Brandon about future internship funding/opportunities brainstorming	Eli J.	Ongoing
Contact SDR if you are interested in participating in 4FRI Steering Committee and/or hot/cold chair	All	DONE
Email SDR will additional ideas for SHG meetings	All	DONE

- CIWG Letter
  - Scot R.: Will be sent in an email by the end of day. Will be in the mail sometime shortly after.
- Industry meeting
  - Carrie E.: To provide some context - held a workshop in January 2023 about shifting to implementation. There has been discussion in this group since May or June for that industry meeting, and a need was also identified in January.
  - Pascal B.: There has not been any action. Jay and Pascal spoke about it in Washington DC together. Jay and Pascal need to get together to think about how to make it happen. Spoke with Brad Worsley about this subject too - believe that with this whole conversation, also with Randi Fuller at region, there is a desire for industry roundtable this year. Will probably put all these items together to move forward with a 2024 roundtable. The ball is in Pascal's court to reach out to Jay and put together teams - Joel, James, etc.
- Aquatic and watershed monthly updates
  - Brett C.: Complete. Folks are welcome to recommend changes, but otherwise the hydrology folks are happy with what we are presenting
- Pri-opt
  - Amy W.: Ongoing - had a great meeting and have a timeline for future report out. Immediate step is to report out to the full pri-opt group.
- DFFM RFP
  - John R.: Still open, please email John or call if you have any questions.
- IRCS
  - Scot R.: Haven't been any updates, but there will be soon.
- Eli J.:
  - Melanie C.: Ongoing, one meeting more to come.
- Hot/Cold Chair

- Carrie E.: Complete - Joel Jurgens reached out.
- Email SDR for SHG ideas
  - Carrie E.: Complete.

**9:19 Call to the Public**

- None.

**9:20 DFFM Update - John Richardson**

- See [this report](#) for updates on Good Neighbor Authority efforts in the 4FRI Footprint.
- Additional updates:
  - In discussion with A-S about projects on that forest specifically around Black River.
  - Have a heritage survey with Kaibab-Tusayan (out for bid, end of 2025)
  - RFP - extended to April 15 - had to add some contract authority. If you have additional questions, reach out to John.
    - BPM005934 - Wildland Fuels Reduction, Forestry Management and Timber Sale Preparation
    - [https://app.az.gov/page.aspx/en/bpm/process\\_manage\\_extranet/11421](https://app.az.gov/page.aspx/en/bpm/process_manage_extranet/11421)
  - Two District Forester positions open - 2 assistants, and a handful of foresters. Recruitment has been going well to date. AZstatejobs.gov
  - DFFM is also hiring a second GNA Coordinator.
- Questions
  - Lynn K.: What percent of all those projects is BLM land? So glad you are doing so many acres.
  - John R.: None of that is on BLM - Christine Mares can answer if speaking incorrectly. No work on BLM in 4FRI footprint. All of it is on Forest Service land.
  - Carrie E.: Can you send table and map of these projects if available?
    - John R.: Absolutely will have Christine and GNA team put that together.
  - Travis W.: Of 6800 acres completed to date - is that this year or since the initiation of agreement?
    - John R.: Since initiation of agreement.

**9:26 Industry/Implementer Updates - All**

- Pascal B.: Nothing.
- Greg S.: Brad in the Valley today, nothing.
- Devon S.: Since last spoke, quick update, did move out of Roosevelt due to weather and road conditions. More updated numbers than DFFM. 700 acres remaining - not sure when we will be back. At Poco Pino - 250 acres completed. Will look to wrap up this season over there in late April - will go back after owl season. Future is uncertain for Suarez Forestry, not sure where we are headed.
- Tabi B.: Couple of things working with TNC - getting projects ready.

- Sawmill Springs - innovation whole tree chipping. Hoping to get started quickly, but still some hurdles. Exciting project and more data/discussion coming - hoping folks can use data to plan for biomass in the future.
- Hawk and Little Wing - Upper Rio - 2500 acres coming online quickly.
- Ongoing discussions about future work in Bill Williams footprint. Hoping to reach out and talk with contractors soon - not quite there yet.
- Joel J.: Working on a great deal.
  - In process of finalizing agreements with Kaibab on Sawmill - should be signed within next 2-3 weeks, then will start direct implementation.
  - Working with Kaibab on agreement to support Bill Williams footprint - a little longer out but during this Fiscal Year.
  - Working with Coconino County and Forest to do work in the Upper Rio on Hawk and Little Wing.
  - Number of other things going on.

### **9:30 Working Group Updates - All**

- Communication WG - Tayloe Dubay
  - Carrie E.: Chatted with Neil Chapman. He is working with Tayloe to find the best ways to document successes beyond acres treated. Thinking about what that could look like, thematic categories of successes, etc.
- Industry/Biomass WG - Brad Worsley/Pascal Berlioux
  - No additional updates.
- Multi-Party Monitoring Board WG - Stephen Flora
  - Last couple of meetings discussed final budget, getting that squared way for work in FY24. Total funding ended up being \$261,000. Can move forward with planning for work. With ground plots, believe doing planning this spring to set up ground plots for the field season. Working with FS and trying to meet GIS needs.
  - Other monitoring projects going on - vegetation, remote sensing, working with U of A and others on Coconino and Kaibab.
  - Wildlife surveys are done in May, and the planning is underway for songbird monitoring.
  - Water projects - one area added was snowtopography last year. Measuring snowpack in treated areas and starting to get some analysis and results from last winter. Starting to see results and how those treatments impact the canopy, clumped treatment, etc. Continuing to collect data this winter but no results yet - started slow, but picked up recently. Looking at setting up second site on Coconino. Two sites originally proposed, but looking at second site with different aspect of treatments. Had a couple meetings with Coconino and other stakeholders.
  - Looking at monitoring for streams and spring restoration.
  - Had a couple presentations on aquatic restoration review for Rim Country and adaptive management efforts.
  - Couple of field trips coming up.

- Lynn K.: Do you have any monitoring active on A-S? Where are field trips you have mentioned?
  - Travis W.: In terms of work, trying to develop some projects, particularly in vegetation on the Rim. Field trips in the past been doing around first EIS and Chimney Springs.
  - Stephen F.: Other field trip potential will be spring sites - don't know details yet.
- Comprehensive Implementation WG - Hannah Griscom
  - For those new to the conversation - the CIWG is a group of stakeholders engaging primarily on stream and channel restoration projects. Have been mostly focused on Kaibab and Coconino since inception - primarily because Rim Country wasn't completed yet. We're really looking for more groups and stakeholders capacity in A-S and Tonto to ramp up stakeholder engagement in those areas.
  - This is a timely question about what is happening on that part of 4FRI - as a stakeholder group haven't heard a lot of folks talking about ramping up work in that part of 4FRI - would love to get more engagement. I know there is already a lot of good work happening - but there is a lot of latitude to get more work done in the south and east.
  - Contact Hannah with any questions about CIWG.
  - Updates
    - Focused with FS on three primary restoration areas - Lake Mary Watershed, Clark Draw, Hoxworth Springs.
    - Did some road mitigation around Hoxworth.
    - FS is ramping up planning for Lake Mary Watershed in terms of other areas to tackle for that important water source for Flagstaff.
    - Several springs on the Flagstaff Ranger District - tackling with field trip in May, focusing on how we are going to do that work.
    - Final area focused on again with the Coconino in the Mogollon Rim district will be doing Buck Springs and Houston Draw this coming year. Doing a lot of planning for further work.
    - Coconino has gotten a grant to do millions of dollars of work - trying to help where we can as partners.
    - If SHG is interested - Hannah can share data for field trips with folks.
  - Carrie E.: Are there any partners or stakeholders you can put in touch with Hannah?
    - Rob L.: Starting this spring - Thompson Ranch Spring - large stream restoration project. Trout Unlimited, NFF as partners. Even have some private funding for that - \$1.7 million starting this spring. Had several field trips with local stakeholders. Black River has more work for us where the live streams are. That project is multiphase - starts at headwaters of Thompson Creek (off of West Fork of Black River). Using non-merchantable wood as stream structures.
    - Lynn K.: Several years ago tracks in the Lakeside District was involved in doing some monitoring sites that had been done 10-15 years ago. Collected pictures and data of things that happened over the years with White Mountain Stewardship and Blue Ridge. Tracks has people who like to hike If FS would like

- to use them, Lynn would be a good contact. Have a big one-day event on June 1. Monitoring is something they are interested in.
      - Rob L.: Another interest area is South Fork - looking at Trout Unlimited, AZ Game and Fish Department, hiring contractor for NEPA for that. Near Springerville - in the footprint of Wallow.
    - Carrie E.: Are there ways stakeholders can get involved? Are those posted to the SHG?
      - Rob L.: No, we have not, but we can. Especially at Thompson Ranch and Black River- lots of room for partners. Large amount of projects in this area - lots of need for partners. Talking about doing restoration of stream in conjunction with timber harvest near Horton Creek. Stephanie Coleman would be good point of contact.
      - Scot R.: Will have MaryLou - who is going to be liaison to CIWG - made a note for her to connect with Stephanie to connect between CIWG.
    - Hannah G.: Is tracks more interested in monitoring or implementation?
      - Lynn K.: Monitoring more likely. Can't confirm people just yet. About to start trail work.
      - Hannah G.: We have friends of N AZ Forest up here who are real work horse - just curious if we have similar resources on A-S and Tonto that we could call upon for this kind of work.
      - Carrie E.: Stephanie may have a better idea of partners in the area.
    - Hannah G.: Still very interested in getting formal response written a year ago about aquatic restoration capacity. Know that has been discussed - we would appreciate a summary from forest as to how or if they are addressing capacity.
      - Scot R.: Will be in your inbox by close of business by and in mail end of week.
  - Prioritization and Optimization WG - Amy Waltz, Travis Woolley and Brian Nowicki
    - Amy W.: Had a great meeting - key updates:
      - Scot has been working hard to get path forward - successfully agreed to do QWRA across all 4FRI landscape - tier to requirements of WCS and FS guidelines.
      - Stakeholders are excited for that scale - that continues the momentum we've had past 12 years- leveraging cross-boundary restoration.
      - Very small team setting up the technical side of things - Amy, Scot, Travis, Brian, and some fuels managers from the four forests - will prep for QWRA.
      - Opportunity to inform QWRA analysis with stakeholder values - translate to the model (depends on spatial available, scale of value, etc.).
      - Look forward to presenting that to the SHG.
      - We can move pretty quickly now - through April will set up next steps and then reengage the WG - then fire staff will disappear, but hopefully, co-leads can work with SHG to hone in on values appropriate for QWRA.
    - Travis W.: Longer-term view and question raised by FS staff. As Richie Sinkovitz says - QWRA provides insights not answers - helps provide why. Once we have a QWRA - it is really about strategy development and using those strategies to develop why we are

going where. Provides transparency. WCS was asking similar questions - this helps with a comprehensive strategy that has a why attached to it.

- Scot R.: Basically a heatmap that shows risk especially for wildfire. There are analyses that exist at regional level - now there will be one for each individual processes. Can tweak tools and values. Amy is right - just need to sharpen/hone in on values, a lot of work done already.
- Carrie E.: Any ideas on timing? May SHG?
  - Amy W.: Think we should give an update at May - might not yet be values workshop quite yet, but need to bring everyone along with the process. May know more at the end of this month.
  - Travis W.: Richie's ears must have been burning, sent a calendar invite for another meeting. May would be great to reengage SHG and what next steps would be.

#### **10:06 Socio-Economic Opportunities and Impacts of 4FRI-Related Activities - Travis Wooley, TNC**

- TNC as an organization broadly has developed over last years about 20-30 goals to understand what we can do to conserve land and waters - with that has come a set of metrics.
  - Many of these metrics are restoration treatments, acres of land preserved, miles of waterways - regarding this also have a metric that speaks to how our work impacts socioeconomic factors (jobs, direct economic impact to community and broader society)
  - In this case looking at how 4FRI restoration effort and activities on the group - thinning, prescribed burning - create economic opportunity (jobs, contracts, equipment, etc.)
  - TNC wants to track this information - decided to contract with somebody - similar work to MPMB with Conservation Economic Institute - working with Anne and CEI again. Doing surveys of industry - a broad suite of contractors and activities.
  - This is a TNC product - but good information that could set up as a monitoring program. We will share it out with MPMB and SHG.
- Anne M: It isn't FY23, it is calendar year 2023.
  - Will support industry efforts. Important that all participate. Need a census of all contractors in 2023.
  - Study in 2017 showed \$150 million in regional output. That was a while ago - would be good to see how changes.
  - Appreciate your cooperation and spreading the word.
- Travis W.: Thanks for that Anne, this is really helpful to our story and what 4FRI is accomplishing and how industry is a key component!
- Devon S.: Quick question - have spoken with Anne about this - follow up question, does this survey only track last calendar year of activity? Wouldn't it be more beneficial to track since last survey? Maybe last year was down year compared to previous-
- Travis W: Great point, one thing is that it is really hard to get that much data - to ask that of industry and do the modeling is a big ask. What we had done previously internally - taken 2018 to acres treated as a proxy, but there are some issues with that. What we've asked is help

understand how we might be able to estimate every year and not do full survey with big investment in research.

- Anne M.: Perfect, Travis. That was our plan, then estimate on years not doing actual data collection.
- Travis W.: Chose this year because had funding, but compared to higher impact years, lower - how do we balance and understand? Appreciate those insights - if others have thoughts, please share with Anne and Travis.
- Devon S.: Our efficiency keeps growing, may get more acres with less employees. Interesting to look at that too.
- Scot R.: Are you tracking FS too?
  - Anne M.: Yes.
- Scot R.: FS has economists asking similar questions - want to make sure tied in.
  - Travis W.: We are using different models but similar efforts.
  - Anne M.: Maybe we could talk offline about this and make sure on same page - see if should connect with your folks as well.
- Carrie E.: Timeline?
  - Travis W.: Most surveys complete this spring, looking at October for final report, will share updates as have them if sooner.

#### **10:30 BREAK**

#### **10:40 USFS Updates - Scot Rogers**

- See presentation with budget and fiscal year 2024 updates [here](#). Key takeaways included:
  - Budget trends over time
    - Tick upwards from 2010-2022 in budget
      - 2021 show first targetted dollars from disaster relief funding
      - 22,23,24 all from BIL and IRA
      - Three ficsal years represent first 3 yeras of that funding
      - FY 25 and 26 is end of road for IRA - main funding source for salary and
    - From 2010-2022 - spending about \$26 million on salary and fleet. In 23 and 24, that number dropped down (different accounting structure, challenge filling positions). Salary is not just Scot, also people in the woods - fire, timber crews, survey work, etc.
  - FY23 vs 24
    - 2013 - \$123 million allocated for 4FRI
    - 2024 - \$48 million. 4FRI asked for\$ 97 mill from BIL and IRA, and as an agency asked for \$900 million as priority landscapes. 4FRI got close to half - this is an agency committment to 4FRI though not what hoped for.
    - Big drop in roads funding and engineering funding
      - In 23 -\$15 million, in 24- \$3 million. Awarded contract for FR 300, work hasn't started, but money was obligated in 23 - will start in 24.



- That dropoff is challenging - won't be able to pave rest of 300 and other needs aware of. Will be able to maintain for access into upcoming sales.
      - Lynn K.: how many miles are you paving?
        - 9.3 miles. Cost of that was much higher than anticipated - inflation, costs, etc.
- Program of work - fuels (non-commercial, mastication, prescribed burning, beneficial fire management from natural ignition)
  - 2010-24 - trend line of improvement over last 13-14 years.
  - Prescribed fire pause based on New Mexico - timing of that pause was in the fall when did majority of burning. Pushed quite a bit of work into FY24 - 94,000 acre mark. Doesn't include opportunity for managed fires or spring fires. Will easily exceed 23 - expect the number to be quite high, but where we land exactly is TBD.
- Type of sales:
  - 6T- traditional work just focused on commercial value. Revenue generated goes to Treasury and some to local forests.
  - IRTC - integrated resource timber sale - also commercial sale, identified value, instead of going back to Treasury, keep funding in sale unit and then work is done by harvester (road report, wood removed, etc.). Net 0 gain to gov, instead receive stewardship.
  - IRSC - Integrated Stewardship - value of wood does not offset cost, then government subsidizes that additional stewardship.
- Historical timber offerings
  - FY2010- 24
    - Last FY offered 29,000 acres, this year slated for offering of 44,000 acres General upward trend. 44,000 would be most acres offered in history - quite impressive.
    - Of that 44,000 - a big part of that is partners. Talked about success of SHG - though only received \$48 mill - with all match, \$10-12 mill coming from partners (Coconino = \$7 mill alone). May not seem relevant to the east side - the way 4FRI manages budget - any opportunity to offer funding on one side helps the other. Speaks to community of work and engagement we have.
    - Actual implementation - 37% of 44,000 coming off of partners sales - largest number we've had. This is why confident saying 44,000. Also why still on track despite funding allocation being received in March.
    - Partners bring capacity to table and in many cases have less onerous contracting times - moves things forward quickly.
- Number one goal with allocation was not to disrupt FY 25 and 26 to provide consistent offering schedule with range between 35,000 to 45,000 acres. To do that, needed to continue to fund outyear surveys - funded survey and implementation work upfront. Also adjusted IRTCs to 6T - didn't have upfront cost to do that stewardship work.

- One caveat - 44,000 is our best bet today - fire season coming down the line, feel good about this number, but it is a ceiling. Represents 1000 acres less than we were at last October.
- Questions and discussion:
  - Lynn K.: Where does biomass from Kaibab go?
    - Sawmill is slated for Novo Power
    - In some cases burn, some cases haul to other sources in Flagstaff area. This is an issue for sure.
  - Anne M.: Just so I'm clear, Scot. Of the 119,794 acres completed in FY 23, how much of this was Rx fire acres vs thinned acres?
    - This is non-commercial burn and managed wildlife - does not include commercial acres completed or offerings.
    - Overall accomplishment was 134,000 including commercial piece.
  - Pascal B.: What is the difference between acres offered and awarded? For example, last year 29,000 were offered but we know 22,000 were awarded - 8000 delta here. Do you consider an acre offered by FS once the FS signs it into partnership or do you consider it offered after that partner has put it on market?
    - Scot R.: Extremely complicated. Changes from day to day - this chart specifically uses those that 4FRI including partners have been put out to industry to bid on through variety of contracting mechanisms. As look backwards in time - looks different. 29,000 should be what is offered, but it is not what all is sold - which in turn affects treatments.
    - Pascal B.: There are some intricacies about what fiscal year is at play.
    - Scot R.: Target is number treated - but depending on agreement, there are different roles. When an agreement is signed can claim those acres. For DFFM is different. In terms of pipeline piece - showed big bump in 22 and 23. We were asked big questions about where money went, reality is that the money went to partnerships and work that is coming in 24, 25, 26. 160,000 acres expect to be treated in 4 fiscal years all accomplished by partners - that represents more than 4FRI has done any previous years. That is where the budget decline is something that we need to keep an eye on.
  - Pascal B.: Not sure everyone knows REPI program - was opportunity to work with jump on board with existing opportunities right around areas with other criteria to meet to obtain dollars. Once you have signed REPI agreement with DOD - does that become standard acres you can offer for any of the pipeline?
    - Scot R.: Don't have to treat differently.
    - Pascal B.: Will Camp Navajo partner? Stewardship?
      - Scot R.: Some projects - Johnny's, Marshall.
    - Jay S.: REPI is readiness environmental protection integration- has to have nexus to some sort of DOD facility or landscape.

- Amber D.: Operates similar to other agreements - can advertise.
- Amy W.: Thank you - really liked this presentation and visuals were amazing. Haven't seen this stuff presented in a long time. Shoutout - know it was a rough year for budgeting - appreciate the work for you guys to advocate for \$48 million - just wanted to acknowledge that and thank you for the presentation.
- Pascal B.: In 15 years involved in 4FRI - it is the first time with high quality forward looking project with budget. FS never been clear on 4FRI budget and direction. As you were presenting, was thinking to myself what one guy can do in one job - really want to flag that - pleasure to have you in this position.
- Pascal B.: We are mid-way through the year - sent a letter to Congress and Senate recently. Last year had 40,000 acres of program of work - produced around 25,000. This year again with funding being delayed - you have been able to produce a year of work - so know that you have been working upward - a lot in the pipeline. How realistic is it in your mind right now that we will have all these acres awarded (advertise, etc. ) by the end of the FY?
  - Scot R.: They should be offered and awarded by end of FY.
- Pascal B.: Do you monitor on a month-to-month basis - would it be appropriate to ask you to report to this group or to SC -check in on acres awarded vs projected? This is best way to make sure we execute is to make sure we do it on a month-by-month basis.
  - Scot R.: That info exists in the monthly report - also happy to be available for additional communication needs. The 4 Forest Supervisors are laser-focused on that number. Need to communicate out to industry and broader stakeholders.
  - Pascal B.: As valuable as report is, few people read it. If Scot proactively shares that info in the group with the FS, will be better.
- Rob L.: Think doing better job in 4FRI as all four forests in coordinating how do those things together. Its getting to be more exacting. A-S is having separate ops called on biweekly schedule. My sense is that 4FRI in general - thanks to Scot and Brett and others - the coordination is quite a bit better. Now can coordinate better because we know with enough time to fix it. Slippage last year was more weather and less coordination challenge
- Pascal B.: This is visible from outside - focus on executing program of work has made it to core - in total contrast to 3-5 years ago. Very comforting for chances of 4FRI - only way to make it work. Please share progress as you move forward.
- Anne M.: What is the typical contract period for those let in '24? Do they vary?
  - Amber D.: Majority are three years, dependent on complexity of project.
  - Scot R.: Do have opportunities for extension - many if not all go through this - based on economic situation. Not uncommon to see those extended to 5 years.
  - Pascal B.: What is the upper limit?
    - Amber D.: This is on a case by case basis - based on performance of operator, complexity of sales, restrictions (owls), fires, etc.

- G to Z Update
  - Referenced IRSC update - where value of timber doesn't cover cost of work - when talk about IRSC generally during or after typical harvest occurs.
  - 4FRI board has turned over all rocks we can find - staffing, industry capacity, etc. over the last 6 months to identify new opportunities.
  - G to Z IRSC references the survey and preparation work that traditionally the FS does - heritage, botany, owl, timber cruising, boundary marking, etc. Varies on location what is needed.
  - 4FRI is looking at two G to Z IRSC one on Coconino one on Kaibab - nearby each other but two separate sales. Kaibab - 10,000 planning acres and Coconino is 12,000 acres. Total of 22,000 acres for G to Z approach.
  - Looking to have request for information in April, August post-solicitation, October proposals due, and November awards.
  - A few important things:
    - Need everyone to participate in request for information.
    - Looking at a transportation haul subsidy.
    - Preparation and survey work - different than how industry has assisted in the past.
    - Can have different operators with different line items within the contract.
    - It will be confusing - different from what has been done - that is what request for information is about.
  - Target deadlines:
    - April first week: Request for information
    - June: Site visit
    - August: Post-solicitation
    - October: Response due
    - November: Award (FY25)
  - Important to know - these sale areas are FY 26, 27, 28 work. Won't disrupt FY 25 or 26. This is about increasing pace and scale and capacity.
  - Working on more consistent and flat offering schedule
  - Carrie E.: This feels like a pilot - envision could do this more in the future across the four forests?
    - Scot R.: Yes.
  - Carrie E.: Request for information - do you envision that they have an idea about that if they don't typically do - right contacts, etc.? Does site visit allow for bringing in other contractor?
    - Scot R.: Yes. Request for information does not mean commitment or preclude people from participating.
  - Pascal B.: This is not new. Did a to z in Oregon - industries that would be interested in bidding onto those would have to acquire internal capacity or subcontract - essentially a tool to accelerate how acres are prepped without being constrained by hiring process. Has been successful - we will see who is interested in AZ - typically not the kind of

project where local industry would be the targeted industry - probably looking for people with more resources to manage and hire many subcontractors. One issue would be how qualified bidders are to succeed - a little more complex than buying 700 acres.

- Scot R.: We can do multiple awards under the contracts. This is not the first time agency has done it - been done in Oregon and California - but close to first time. Lots of different opportunities for 4FRI industry group.
- Itamar G.: Several G-Z projects already awarded in R5, R6. Opportunity to learn from their experience.
- Scot R.: Employee on Kaibab did the Oregon one - we have the right expertise to learn from those other examples.
- ArcGIS Online Map Update
  - We are actively working on developing an online map - user friendly, public oriented. Some that shows baseline for 4FRI things, risk, past and future treatments and something people can play with.
  - Months out from being available, but as product developed, will share with this group to see. May channel the communication group with this. Hopefully this visual aid will help with showing the public.
  - Melanie C.: Awesome, also appreciate presentation before. The SWERIS- received funding to map all treatments nationally for past treatments and wildfire. We have a prototype that is already available - can share that in the next couple of months. Want to put this on your radar as a resource.
  - Pascal B.: Since we were doing kudos to FS - a guy to be acknowledged is Brett Crary - doing fantastic job keeping finger on the pulse and cleaning up the record of what has been accomplished.
- Structure and capacity of the 4FRI Team
  - There are now four people on 4FRI Team
  - Chris doing public affairs and other things. Lots of jobs for each of them.
  - That is 4 people compared to the 13 people that were used to during planning. The capacity is different now - focused on implementation - where that work happens is at the forests and district level.
  - As a strategy 4FRI is not going away - it might be needed to connect with forest level or district level - that is not to signal that the 4FRI is stepping away from strategy, just a reflection of where funding needs to go for implementation and the status of where we are in implementation.
  - Carrie E.: The SHG foresaw this, what is the role and capacity of SHG as moving squarely into implementation? Want to plant a seed - how you all want to participate at implementation level? What is the capacity recognizing that work is happening at the Forest levels? How do these layers play together? There are many stakeholders that participate at regional level compared to on-the-ground. Maybe this is something that you all noodle on.

- Melanie C.: Having this as a discussion at a later date would be good. We put thought into this 2-3 years ago. Had same theme - but haven't made a distinct change - but think it might warrant a specific time to discuss.
- Pascal B.: Struggling with being the guy what people don't want to hear, but we have had that conversation 3-4 times. This was one of the very things that brought SDR. Personal perspective - we have a lot of capacity to do the work that needs to be done - not a lot of spare time to do work not necessary. People need to understand difference that there is between planning and implementation - planning is where people contribute perspectives on science, what restoration is, values to protect - we have gone through that. That has resulted in record of decision - now we are in phase of implementation - it is extremely regulated. No room for collaborative input into how FS manages contract. No room for input on offerings. No input on contractor. Not in same space anymore - when it comes to implementation, one of the most valuable things is stay out of the way of processes into which we don't have input.
- Pascal B.: Monitoring for effect or process - we should be very clear of where we have value and where we could be a roadblock. SHG value is planning and monitoring. When it comes to technical bugs of implementation, contracting, etc. quite honestly our main role is stay out of the way. It is starting to work - let it be noted - 4FRI is starting to really work - let's stay out of the way - let them make it work.
- Carrie E.: Also warrants a discussion from the FS perspective.
- Amy W.: Another conversation would be helpful. There has been lots of turnover - understanding history of 4FRI would be good opportunity. We have high capacity stakeholders/partners - need to daylight the different between partners and stakeholders. Where can partners without bank plug in?
- Scot R.: There might be a need, where we are at in the life cycle, to outreach to partners in the implementation arena.
- Carrie E.: More discussion can come.

**11:45 Stakeholder Disclosures**

- Melanie C.: I wanted to mention that ERI and SWERI reps were in DC last week meeting with delegations in AZ, CO, and NM, as well as agency leadership. If anyone wants more information, don't hesitate to contact me.

**11:50 Review Action Items**

Action Item	Lead	Status
Coordinate industry roundtable	Pascal, Jay	
Coordinate future report out to SHG about recent efforts with the region for Pri-Opt	Pri-Opt WG	Ongoing

Contact John if you have any questions about the DFFM RFP opening Jan 31	All	
Post bioeconomy rating press release to Basecamp	Jay S.	
Post updates to Basecamp about G to Z IRCS as available	Scot R.	
Coordinate with Melanie, Travis, Scot, Brandon about future internship funding/opportunities brainstorming	Eli J.	
Send SDR table of updates, map, and link to the RFP to include in notes	Christine M., John R.	
Contact Hannah if you are interested in field trips or CIWG	All	
Send field trip dates to SDR for posting on the 4FRI website	Hannah G.	
Contact Lynn if interested in tracks help with monitoring	Rob L.	
Share updated about Thompson Ranch and West Fork Black River restoratin oportunities on Basecamp	Rob L., Stephanie Coleman	
Provide information on A-S about stream restoration	MaryLou Z.	
Contact Anne and Travis if you have questions or thoughts about the socioeconomic impact study for 4FRI	All	
Coordinate about socioeconomic impact study	Scot R. and Anne M.	
Share PDF PowerPoint with SDR	Scot R.	DONE

**12:00 Adjourn**

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**Steering Committee Meetings (second Tuesday of each month)**

- **2024:** 1/9/2024, 2/13/2024, 3/12/2024, 4/9/2024, 5/14/2024, 6/1/2024, 7/9/2024, 8/13/2024, 9/10/2024, 10/8/2024, 11/12/2024, December no meeting

**Stakeholder Group Meetings (fourth Wednesday of the month, except December)**

-**2024:** 1/24/2024, 3/27/2024, 5/22/2024, 7/24/2024, 9/25/2024, 12/4/2024 (modified for Thanksgiving)

	<b>2024 Steering Committee</b>		<b>2024 Stakeholder Group</b>	
	<b>Hot Chair</b>	<b>Cold Chair</b>	<b>Hot Chair</b>	<b>Cold Chair</b>
January	Neil Chapman	Pascal Berlioux	Neil Chapman	Pascal Berlioux
February	Neil Chapman	Pascal Berlioux		

March	Neil Chapman	Pascal Berlioux	Neil Chapman	Pascal Berlioux
April	Pascal Berlioux	Melanie Colavito		
May	Pascal Berlioux	Melanie Colavito	Pascal Berlioux	Melanie Colavito
June	Pascal Berlioux	Melanie Colavito		
July	Melanie Colavito		Melanie Colavito	Joel Jurgens
August	Melanie Colavito			
September	Melanie Colavito		Melanie Colavito	Joel Jurgens
October				
November			Joel Jurgens	
December				