

Next meeting: January 19, 1 PM, SCCD

Joint NEWFC/CNF Bi-monthly Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2010

Forest Service attending: Laura Jo West, Rodney Smolden, Ed Maffey, John Bueller,

Reed Heckley

NEWFC Board Attending: Phil Carew, Lloyd McGee (president)), Russ Vaagen (vice

president), Ron Gray (treasurer), Tim Coleman (secretary), Serena Carlson (executive

director), Derrick Knowles, Jeff Juel, Dick Dunton, Maurice Williamson, Steve West

Others attending: Claudia Michalke, Scott Kethcum, Sheila Stalp, Doug Seymour, Phil

Aune, Staci Hanlon, Chuck Goddis

Agenda:

Introductions; Review Agenda

1. Forest Service Updates - Laura Jo West
2. NEWFC Updates - Lloyd McGee
3. Landscape Restoration Strategy Report Update
4. Stewardship Projects Retained Receipts Discussion
5. 2011 Projects and Timber Sale Updates
6. Public Comments

Discussion:

1. Forest Service Updates - Laura Jo West

District Ranger Linda Fee is moving to Montana (Kootenay NF) and Steve Rawlins will

be Acting DR until her replacement is in place. Elaine Corpsman (sp?) from Malheur NF

will be filling the role of deputy forest supervisor. There are a lot of human resource

issues and data management within the agency at this time. We have a commitment from

R-6 to continue Proof of Concept through to 2012. Internal discussions are underway

relative to strategic budgeting as we transition away from POC. Mary Wagner is moving

to Chief's office as Assistant Deputy Chief.

Q. 9565-535 road closure in Deadman Creek watershed was part of a negotiated settlement of Deadman Project. Why was it been dropped from the SOPA?

A. Rodney: we'll look into that.

Q. What is the timeline re Forest Plan

A. We are revamping timelines and exploring splitting out CNF from ONF-WNF. There

are too many questions about that process. Laura Jo will talk to Margaret about it

tomorrow. Expect draft to come out next spring following the '82 planning rule.

Q. You said POC funding will continue through 2012 and that you plan to go back and

look at strategies. One POC objective was extensive collaborative outputs – will those be

externalized re a report?

A. Absolutely - we'll have to be very clear about what the sideboards are – we don't

want to create expectations that can't be met.

2. NEWFC Updates - Lloyd McGee

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Lloyd recently attended a multi-stakeholder collaborative discussion including Chumstick, Clearwater, etc, a total of 10 different groups. Comparatively, we are all

working at different levels. NEWFC is working on ground-level projects. The Clearwater collaborative is going to DC to lobby for legislation to get retained receipts

for NEPA and planning – they would like NEWFC's endorsement of this initiative.

NEWFC would like more information as to what happens with retained receipts and are

their available funds to use on future NEPA.

Lloyd attended Society of American Foresters (Albuquerque, NM) and got a chance to

talk about NEWFC to Chief Tidwell. SAF's national conference will be held in Spokane

in 2012.

The Coalition is also working on 2011 Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration

Proposal for the Colville. A committee of 3 NEWFC and 3 CNF are collaborating on this

proposal. We expect to have a final draft by February. Tom Pawley, Karen Honeycutt,

Jim McGowan, Jeff Juel and Maurice Williamson will be representing the Coalition.

Current project work includes Power Lake, East Wedge and Kettle Face.

- Doug Seymour said the Tribes are in collaboration to come up with a set of project

recommendations. There is a lot of planning but no projects – that is a problem.

Carbon credits will be considered and insects and disease. C-Tribes are following a

Integrated Resource Management Plan, recently revised, that guides actions through

2014.

Phil pointed out that building resiliency into the forest was a key to restoration.

The Coalition and others met with Undersecretary Harris Sherman that Rep.

Cathy

McMorris Rodgers helped arrange. The group asked Mr. Sherman for his assistance to fund Colville National Forest as a pilot project to improve planning efficiencies that could be exported to other forests.

Q. Funding issue – for what projects did you seek funding?

A. The letter requested \$2.5 million for East Wedge and Kettle Face.

3. Landscape Restoration Strategy

Restoration Strategies working group includes Forest Service, scientists and NEWFC

collaborating to develop mesic restoration prescriptions and strategies. Maurice is

interface with UCUT and Colville Confederated Tribes for this endeavor.

4. Stewardship Projects - Retained Receipts Discussion – Ed Maffey

When crafting contracts the FS doesn't know yet what the "best value reward" will be.

Retained receipts can only be used for restoration work and can only applied to salaries

associated with prescribed burning. IE: If Three Rivers RD does a project

Stewardship

dollars can be transferred to a project in Newport RD or somewhere else in the Forest.

Funds cannot be used for sale preparation but can be used for contract preparation –

unless the project was litigated or it never sold in which case the Forest would have to

repay those dollars out of its appropriated budget.

Q. Wasn't Stewardship supposed to seed other projects?

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A. No, that was not what those dollars are intended for.

Q. Can Kettle Face dollars be used for another sale – is it limited to mandatory work in

the sale area

A. Yes, and the objective is not to create a surplus; rather, to break even.

There is \$300K in retained receipts at this time. R-6 maintains ultimate authority to reallocate

Colville receipts that could be used for Fremont-Winema projects – money doesn't have to be used in the forest where it was collected. As contracting

officer, Ed's

job is to insure project area restoration work is done prior to money going to other projects. Designation by Description prescriptions are only applicable to

Stewardship

sales.

Q. How much goes to KV?

A. Essential KV is collected upfront for reforestation. In a Stewardship Project salvage

sale the Forest Service is authorized to collect funds up to \$100K.

Q. What happens when you get an appraised value but projects sales are bid up?

A. We use excess for other projects.

5. 2011 Projects and Timber Sale Updates

Ed passed out a list of current projects. For 2011 the Forest is funded for 32 mmbf.

Three projects have already been sold in FY 2011. Summit Pierre has lots of loose ends

that are being tied up – it is close to being ready. There will be two more projects:

1)

Summit-Pierre and 2) Sand Creek. Road construction and reconstruction are the limiting

factors as to when project activities can occur. So, for instance, if a project is sold in

February by the end of that fall all road work can be completed and logging can be done

during winter months. However, if a project is sold in October there is a much longer

waiting period before roadwork can be completed. Timing is important to purchasers.

Over the last couple of years the Forest has been pushing 80-90% of projects as Stewardship contracts.

6. Public Comments

None

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Adjourned: 2:30 PM