

Next meeting: Next Meeting September 14, 1 PM, SCCD

**Joint NEWFC/CNF Bi-monthly Meeting Minutes**  
July 20, 2010

Forest Service attending: Linda Fee, Laura Jo West, Rodney Smolden, Craig Newman, Tom Pawley

NEWFC Board Attending: Attending board: Lloyd McGee (president)), Ron Gray (treasurer) Tim Coleman (secretary), Russ Vaagen, (vice-president), Maurice Williamson, Dick Dunton, David Heflick, Derrick Knowles, Serena Carlson (executive director), Jeff Juel

Others attending: Claudia Michalke, Tania Ellersick, Chuck Gades, Russ Larsen, Scott Nielsen, Dean Hellie, Sheila Stalp

Agenda:

Introductions; Review Agenda

1. Lloyd's time
2. Laura Jo's time
3. Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act
4. Title II funding
5. Tania Ellersick Presentation
6. East Wedge Project
7. Kettle Face Project
8. Projects Update
9. Next Meeting

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1. Lloyd's time

NEWFC is pretty close to reaching agreement in the Kettle Face Project. Outstanding is fire use to treat fuels in mesic forest stands – results from this activity will help inform future projects. The Coalition will engage in East Wedge Project in August. We are looking at other projects to determine where the Coalition will engage in collaboration. Yesterday, coalition members met with Forest Service staff to discuss replacing Equivalent Clearcut Analysis (ECA) with a new model for determining cumulative watershed impacts. NEWFC will apply for Title II funding for project monitoring.

Q. Are you making your decisions regarding activities regarding the scoping letter that went out?

A. No. We decided to do a field trip this fall to discuss parameters.

Q. What are the issues with WEPP?

A. The problems with Hanlon is the model doesn't determine peak water yield (timing of peak flow, etc.) and regarding the broader definition of water yield.

Q. Has NEWFC revamped its Restoration Management Zone?

A. Yes, and the latest RMZ map was given to Katie at Three Rivers.

2. Laura Jo's Time

Elizabeth Brann, who replaces Don Gonzales, will be reporting next week. Applicants are being sought to replace Fred Way (recently departed for Fremont-Winema). We have

a new forest plan in the planning phase and in the interim we will do what we can to stay within parameters of the existing plan. The Forest Service is taking climate change very seriously at a national level. We are developing objectives for retaining forest resiliency, adaptation procedures, reducing carbon footprint, etc. Stand by for more information.

Comment: Lloyd thanked Laura Jo for renewing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Forest Service and NEWFC.

Q. How is the Forest Plan going to be brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We have a restoration plan – it seems prudent to incorporate the CFLR Project into the Plan. Will the Plan address the Desired Future Condition?

A. We are discussing this and tomorrow there will be a review of the plan. We'll see how the plan aligns with CFLRP.

### 3. Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act

A committee has been established that is reviewing CFLR projects and that is expected to score each proposed project. The committee is going to throw out the low and set aside high scores and discuss the middle and then add back in the high-ranked projects. There are 5 proposals being proposed in R6 and CNF's is ranked #2.

### 4. Title II Funding

The Forest Service has proposed throwing out ECA and replacing it with WEPP. NEWFC is hoping to get Title II funding to help cover our participation in this monitoring process. The Forest Services wants to throw out ECA and use a different system like WEPP. In addition to WEPP the Coalition will seek funding for Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project restoration plan monitoring procedures, and reforestation prescriptions regarding Misery Project.

Q. Could you elaborate a bit more regarding monitoring and data gathering?

A. It has been difficult to get harvest prescriptions for regeneration prescriptions. We'd like to gather data re Misery Project as to what was carried out, its effectiveness and determine if outcomes are as was anticipated and use that information adaptively for future projects.

Q. Did you collaborate on Misery Project?

A. NEWFC came in half way through it. Tania and Maurice were involved.

### 5. Tania Ellersick Presentation

Tania is doing graduate work at Yale. Her studies focus on tree physiology using regression analysis to determine age, tree height, diameter, light levels in post harvest units compared to non-harvest units. Tania would like to establish long term (1/10 acre) monitoring plots if there is interest in her doing so.

### 6. East Wedge

Claudia reported that SCCD staff reviewed a preliminary draft Proposed Action with FS staff. All the planning team members have been hired and are all out in the field today. She would like to engage the Coalition (and other public interests) in planning in early August to review and contribute to their draft PA.

Q. Are there any contingency funds (Don referred to earlier) likely to be availability?

A. No, no funds have come in yet but they do often come through and provided there are specific target outcomes such funds might be available.

Q. Are there Title II funds available for these?

A. Maybe.

Q. Have you been working with the Colville Tribe?

A. We are trying to get them engaged with historical and archeological services..

Q. Was recreation assessed?

A. Been involved with Tri County Motorized Recreation.

Q. Is there a proposed action?

A. There is a preliminary draft PA. We look forward to working with the Coalition and discussing this project on August 5th.

#### 7. Kettle Face Project

NEWFC had a field trip with CNF staff to look at restoration objectives including use of prescribed fire. NEWFC doesn't want to see those units thrown out and much prefers some collaborative agreement. The project decision should be out on the street by mid-August.

Q. Is WEPP being used?

A. Not sure, but the question is what would WEPP be used for? Typically it has been used to determine sediment yield.

Q. Do you know when Kettle Face will be out on the street for sale?

A. Expect it out in 2011. Kettle Face is a Healthy Forest Restoration Act project and as such activities will be solely fuels-reduction, roads reclamation and forest restoration.

Q. If Kettle Face becomes a Forest Landscape Restoration Action project can you do new road construction or do you need road construction to be paid for by other money?

A. Yes (There was a difference of opinion here that FLRA does not permit road construction, however FS reads this as road construction is permitted provided roads are closed after project completion.)

#### 8. Projects update

- Scotchman and Finn: Scotchman is expected to be offered July 28 and Finn, August 4.

- Summit Pierre might be offered this winter. Summit Pierre has all the signatures except the Secretary's approval.

-Power's Lake: Jeff attended a meeting addressing road access and those being proposed to be turned into trails.

Q. Has the Coalition's Restoration Zone criteria changed.

A. No, but what has changed is RZ allocations. In Kettle Face we found areas that previous mapping determined was non-WUI when in fact it was WUI. Also, there is a steep, rocky unroaded slope south of Deadman Creek that could only be treated with helicopters. And given how difficult it would be to access it (for timber or fire fighting), it made sense to put it into Restoration while moving other acres within the project boundary into Active Management.

Every project has a transportation management assessment with it and that has been required by policy since 2005. The Forest Service is getting pressure from national and regional office to do more project roads analysis.

9. Next Meeting

September 14, 1 PM, is our next scheduled meeting.

Adjourn: 3:11 PM