

Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

March 20, 2009

In Attendance: Group A - Troy Ziegler, Bruce Cole, Bart Wojceichowski, Jerry Hamilton; Group B - Hadley Roberts, Dick Hauff, Dan Mulick, Bert Doughty; Group C - Bob Cope, Earl Skeen, Adrienne Trapani, Mike England

Forest Service: Forest Supervisor/DFO - Bill Wood, RAC Coordinator Kent Fuellenbach, Rangers - Chris Grove, Kimberly Nelson, Russ Bacon, Mike Foster

Note Taker: Mardi Rhodes

Introduction of RAC members and visitors – Cope

Review February 24, 2009 Notes

- Mike England moved to approve minutes of February 24, 2009. Hadley Roberts second. All in favor – minutes approved with amendments.

Forest Supervisor Update

- Update on stimulus submittals
 - Nationwide the FS submitted 5 billion dollars worth of proposals
 - Had hoped to be able to tell us today what projects on the S-C were approved, but we don't have that information yet.
 - Not at liberty to share detailed information about what projects we have proposed. The Secretary of Agriculture has told us not to.
 - Some of our projects that were submitted for stimulus are also on the RAC list. If a project gets approved through RAC and then gets funded by stimulus, the RAC project would be taken off.
- At our last meeting there were some public projects we had some misgivings about. We promised to get further information on those, so we are prepared to discuss.

Comments from CIRAC Chair

- At the very least today, we need to start prioritizing.
 - Employment
 - Youth involvement
 - Partnerships with other agencies
 - Sustainability

Kent

- We have received the Title 2 money \$1,006,240
- Under FACA, we are required to publish a notice in the Federal Register for the meeting to be official. Notice must be sent to the Federal Register 20 days before the RAC meeting. We need to re-approve last meetings projects.

- Dan Mulick moved to re-affirm and officially approve the projects agreed to last month. Troy Ziegler second. Hadley Roberts second. All in favor – minutes approved with amendments and all projects approved February 24th re-approved.
- Kent discussed the RAC Project Analysis Flow Chart

State, County, Group or Public Projects

- Floodplain Handbook
 - Information/Education
 - Fish and Game – asking for \$10,000
 - The majority of the committee thought the project was valuable and desirable, but may not comply with Title 2 and other proposed projects have higher priority benefits to Forest resources and the local economy.

North Zone Forest Service Projects

- Salmon River Road Portable Toilets
 - Prices increased due to the total bid increasing every year. We have added in one more round of servicing during the peak period. Change in cost to \$8,000
 - Clarify the date for the end of season.
 - Mike England moved to approve as long as the season runs through the end of November. Dick Hauff second. All in favor – **project approved for \$8,000 contingent that the toilets stay until at least the last day of November.**
- NZ Resource Management – Mentoring
 - Approximately 18 individuals
 - The RAC would like to back this, but there are some obvious errors in the math and some additional funding sources need to be addressed
 - Break down into three different proposals (K. Nelson).
 - Bruce Cole moved to approve \$120,000. Adrienne Trapani second. All in favor – **project approved for \$120,000**
- NZ Five Culvert Restoration
 - Require simple NEPA and some design work
 - 2 in Leadore, 3 in Hughes Creek drainage
- NZ Firewood/Slash
 - Another component of a YEP project
- Racetrack Meadow Fence
 - Came out of the Salmon Moose project
 - Realign the road to former location, put in two culverts, and add jack fence to keep ATV's off the meadow
 - No NEPA needed
- Hughes Creek Stream Restoration Project

- YEP Project
- Panther Creek Riparian Exclosure
 - YEP Project along with Upper Salmon Basin Tech team
 - On private land, does not require NEPA
 - Property owners on board
- Panther Creek Stream Restoration
 - YEP Project along with Upper Salmon Basin Tech team
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 - Property owners on board
- NZ Trail Maintenance
 - 3-way project between FS, Back country horsemen, and YEP
 - Steen Gulch, Carmen Creek trail, McKim/Bear Valley Trail
- NZ Weed Management
 - Weed inventory along with spraying and maintenance of program
 - STEP/SCA/YEP in partner with CWMA
 - This project is independent of other weed projects
- Wallace Lake Campground Toilet
 - Replacement
- Meadow Lake Campground Toilet
 - Adding a toilet
- Newland Picnic Area Toilet
 - Replacement
- Big Deer Creek Trailhead
 - Does need NEPA
- Salmon River Road Fire Rings
 - Semi portable fire rings
- Lemhi Little Springs Riparian Exclosure
 - Protect ESA spawning fish redds
 - Does not need NEPA
- Blackrock Road Stabilization
 - Road conversion to a motorized trail open to all vehicles
 - Dozer work to narrow road a little to fix drainage issues
 - End goal is a trail that can be accessed by snowmobile groomer and search and rescue
 - No NEPA needed

- Mike England moved to approve. Bruce Cole second. All in favor (Hadley Roberts abstained) – **project approved for \$40,000**
- Deadwater
 - Lingering project – road failure in 1997
 - Need funding for NEPA
 - Could have NEPA done in a month with the funding
 - Earl Skeen moved to approve. Mike England second. All in favor – **project approved \$20,000.**
- Ditch Creek Bridge Installation
 - NEPA is done
 - Bridge is here
 - Contract is ready to go
 - Need the money to complete
- Ditch Creek and Hughes Creek Road Improvements
- Lead Based Paint Abatement
- Salmon River Bridges NEPA
 - Requesting half the price of the NEPA, the other half would come from Recreation fee dollars
- Williams Lake Road Resurface and Drainage
 - 6.7 miles from end of pavement to boat ramp
- Deadwater Stabilization
- Fountain Creek Fill Stabilization
 - Several wash outs
 - Rebuild with larger rip rap
 - Replace culvert from Fountain Creek
- Forest-wide Dust Abatement
 - Allows the Forest to treat Deep Creek, Beaver Creek and some roads on the Yankee Fork District with magnesium chloride to reduce dust and stabilize the road surface
- Forest-wide Road Maintenance
- Twin Creek retaining wall
 - NEPA is complete
- Stormy Peak Road Resurfacing

South Zone Forest Service Projects

- Carlson Lake Fencing Project
 - Need to speak with permittees to get their concurrence
 - Bring more information to the next RAC meeting

- Pass Creek Range Improvements
 - Mud Lake Water development. The Forest has received \$75,000 for this project since it was submitted
 - Prioritize what needs to be done this year and what can be spread out over a few years. Get NEPA done. Find out what contribution the permittees will be making.
 - Four miles of fencing would be the number one priority - \$1.00 to \$1.50/ft. (\$31,680)
 - Big Creek \$16,000
 - Sands \$12,000
 - Coal Creek \$4,000
 - Earl Skeen moved to approve. Bart Wojceichowski second. All in favor – **project approved for \$65,000.**

- Pistol Creek Trail Clearing
 - Some avalanche debris

- Antelope Guard Station
 - Historical site
 - Would like to reopen as a guard station

- Sawmill Canyon Rec. Volunteers

- Leafy Spurge-Bug and Bomb

- Green Lake Access

- Horseshoe Mine I&E

- Custer Motorway Improvements

- Loon Creek Road Plan and Design

- Sleeping Deer Road Design

- Antelope-Copper Basin Road
 - Narrow portions needing fixed, some culvert installation
 - Lost River highway district is interested in taking this after it is fixed

- Sawmill Canyon Road Surfacing
 - Portable rock crusher project

- Marsh Creek-Cape Horn Road Surfacing
- Morgan Creek Road Surfacing

Other National Forest Projects

- SNRA – Redfish Lake Wind Throw
 - Removal and restoration from wind event
 - Need more information (S. Adams)

Post 2-24-09 Projects

- Sawtooth Valley Water Development
 - The well is in Custer County, but some of the line will go through Blaine County. The troughs will be in Custer County.
 - Go through the numbers and trim it up. Get the NEPA done and bring to next meeting with a full proposal.
- Challis High School Biological Treatment of Noxious Weeds
 - RAC and Custer CWMA have sponsored this successful project in the past
 - Hadley Roberts moved to approve. Bert Doughty second. All in favor – Earl Skeen abstained - **project approved for \$4,500.**
- Campground Hazard Tree Removal
 - Would be a contract and a timber sale
 - Need further information (Kimberly Nelson)
 - Maybe a Boy or Eagle Scout project participation
- Leave No Trace Training Course
 - Need further information (Kimberly Nelson)
- Newland Boat Ramp
 - Need major archaeological clearance – huge cost (Russ Bacon)
- Spring Creek Campground Tree Trimming
 - Need more information (Russ Bacon)
- Picnic Table at Cache Bar
 - Need more information (Russ Bacon)
- Add exit ramp at Cache Bar
 - Need more information (Russ Bacon)
- Update Scat Machine
 - Need more information (Russ Bacon)
- Chipmunk Ski Hill

- On private property – no direct benefit to resources on National Forest
- Does not qualify for Title II funding
- Trail Creek Road Dust Abatement
 - Multi year funding request
 - Not a Forest Service road – but crosses and provides access to the Forest
 - How much Title One money is going to the Lost River highway district? (Mark Stauffer or Mike Foster to check)
- Deep & Mud Creek Fencing (Wildhorse)
 - Reconstruction and maintenance (\$8,000)
 - Troy Ziegler moved to approve. Bart W Wojceichowski second. All in favor – **project approved for \$8,000.**
- Morgan Creek Drainage Cooperative Noxious Weed Project
 - Good leverage of dollars
 - Mike England moved to approve \$6,700. Bruce Cole second. All in favor – **project approved for \$6,700.**

The RAC did not have time to discuss all of the projects on the list. Projects not discussed in this meeting will be discussed in the next RAC meeting.

Chairman Cope assigned point values to the RAC

- RAC members will assign point values to the remaining RAC projects
- Based on the four criteria
 - Employment
 - Youth involvement
 - Partnerships with other agencies
 - Sustainability
- Committee come back with their top five or ten projects

Next RAC Meeting

- Monday, April 20th in Salmon at 10:00

Public Forum

- Earl Skeen has a couple of projects that he will be bringing to the group at the next meeting.