

RAC Meeting Notes- September 16, 2009

RAC Members in Attendance: Barbara Ferguson, Patrick Emmert, Kirby Molen, Shane Krogen, Charles Peck, Chris Oberti, Charles Horst, Loran Martin, Roger Welton, and Bea Olsen. Forest Service representatives: John Exline, Robbin Ekman and Sue Exline.

2009 Approved Project	Proponent
Generation Green Youth Stewardship Project	Central California Consortium U.S. Forest Service
Wilderness Trail Crew	Sierra National Forest High Sierra Ranger District
Snowmobile Stream Crossing Construction	Sierra National Forest High Sierra Ranger District
Sierra RCD/BCHC-SJSU Wilderness Work Projects	Backcountry Horseman
Public Noticing Fees	Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office
Junction View – Kings Canyon Scenic Byway	Sequoia National Forest Hume Lake Ranger District
Chanwanakee Water System	Sierra Resource Conservation District

Meeting came to order at 6pm, September 21, 2009. Purpose of the meeting was to review projects that were funded in 2009 and have a status on project monitoring.

Chanwanakee Water System-Project has not gotten underway.

Snowmobile Stream Crossing Construction-Project has not gotten underway.

Grant to High Sierra Volunteer Crew-Received a Financial Assistance Award Grant on July 29, 2009 for \$28,702.00. To date the crew has worked to clean up illegal marijuana cultivation sites and camps and has been compensated for 17, 414.00. Remaining money to be obligated in FY10 is \$11,288.00.

Volunteer Pass thru funds for Dinkey and High Sierra VIS Stations and Kokanne. Two volunteers at Dinkey, three at High Sierra and two at Kokanne. 85 days were funded with RAC funds.

Junction View-Kings Canyon Scenic Byway- The District is working with CalTrans on an encroachment permit. Working on graphics for interpretive signs. Unspent funds will be carried over to FY2010 to complete work.

Sierra Wilderness Work Project-Backcountry Horseman. Funded for three work projects on the Sierra National Forest--**Edison Work Party** - 20 workers participated, worked over 856 hours during 6 day project clearing down trees, hauling replacement bridge timbers and rebuilding water bars. **Crown Valley Work Party** - 12 riders participated, worked over 728 hours in 7 days clearing, rebuilding and brushing the Geraldine Lake Trail. The third project did not materialize due to several factors including lack of feed for horse and Forest Service time to monitor project. Forest Service employees Micki Didier, and Debbie McDougald monitored the Edison and Crown Valley projects. \$7500 from the Grant was used (of the \$11,000). Remaining funds will carry over into 2010.

Wilderness Trail Crew-Robbin Ekman will provide an update on the work the wilderness crew accomplished this year.

Update on other prior year funded projects: John Exline (DFO) gave a quick update and presented a report to the RAC committee outlining the completed work on the Hume Lake Ranger District on the Sequoia National Forest for the Horse Corral Creek Trail Bridge project that was funded in FY06, The Kanawyer Trail Project funded in FY 07 and the Kanawyer Trail/Deer Meadow Trail re-construction project funded in FY08. All projects have been completed and the left over funds had been returned to the RAC.

Other Issues:

Barbara Ferguson brought up the issue that her daughter had been hiking in the forest (Burnt Corral loop over to Dinkey Wilderness) and found the trails in terrible condition. She has requested that the Sierra NF explain why the forest is in such bad condition and why the High Sierra Trail Crew was not allowed to do trail work in the Sierra NF. John Exline (DFO) will take the concern to the Forest Supervisor.

RAC discussed the process for accepting nominations for the 2010 funding cycle. The committee agreed that the process application would be the same with the exception of having proponents first contact the Forest Service (District Rangers) and also to address the issue of monitoring. New instructions will make note of this situation.

Need to advertise for new members for the RAC. Will put out an announcement out through November 18, 2009

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.