

**Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee Meeting
USDA Service Center, Shasta-Trinity National Forest
May4th & 5th, 2016**

Meeting Minutes

9:00 Call to Order, Housekeeping, Welcoming Remarks

Introductions

David Bergendorf, National Secure Rural Schools Coordinator
Marty Dumpis, Pacific Southwest Region Secure Rural Schools Coordinator
Dave Myers, Shasta-Trinity National Forest Supervisor and RAC Approving Official
Lesley Yen, RAC Designated Federal Official for Shasta RAC
Susan Erwin, RAC Coordinator
Shasta County RAC Members, including Ted James, RAC Chair
New Members, Emmett Koerperich, Ryan DeSantis, Dennis Heiman, Patricia Lind (not present). Ryan announced he will be leaving shortly for a job in Wyoming, but is thankful for being approved as a member.

Welcoming comments to new members and the existing RAC Dave Myers

Dave Myers presented certificates and letters to the new members that were present. He talked about his experience in Wyoming and Utah with RAC. He knows how valuable their contributions are.

Historical Perspective of Shasta RAC David Bergendorf & Marty Dumpis

David gave an overview of how RAC and Secure Rural Schools came into being from establishments of Payments to States in 1908 to Secure Rural Schools in 2000 after revenue streams from timber harvest were significantly cut. 1908 Payments to States are not just a handout, but were initiated to make up for loss of property taxes with federal lands, discourage the public from harming federal lands, and a perspective that federal lands should be a benefit, not burden to counties. SRS was established to help stabilize road maintenance funds after enactment of northwest forest plan and reduced timber yields.

747 counties received RAC payments in first SRS authorization (2000-2007). Fewer now. SRS and Title II RAC are in their 15th year. RAC is intended to foster economic opportunity in rural counties and foster collaboration. RAC is a Federal Advisory Committee; decisions require a quorum of members and are consensus driven. In 2015, 1908 Payments to States were triggered after the last RAC authorization expired. County allocations went from \$300 million under SRS to \$50 million under Payments to States. 4 months later in 2015, Congress passed a 2 year extension which complicated things.

Questions and Comments

-are there efforts to broaden the authority of RAC, i.e. allow RAC members from one county to serve another county when the other county doesn't have a quorum? A: Individual counties are reluctant to put local decisions in non-local hands. Lack of interest in RAC membership is a broad-based problem. Counties with a small population just don't have the population base from which to recruit.
-is there anything we can do as a RAC to create more jobs?
-how can the process of transferring funding be sped up, i.e. October –January when funds are unavailable. RACs can outreach for proposals before funds are released and begin agreement process once available.
-Title I and III are a very important source of funding for road maintenance in Shasta County. DB: There has been feedback nationally saying that distribution of Title III funds are too restrictive.

Review & Approval of Minutes-The minutes from the October 16, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously.

Confirm Voting Quorum-There is a quorum present and voting can proceed.

Category A Present Ted James Glenn Hawes Stan Leach Ken Showalter Steve Uhles	Category B Present Wendy Johnston Sylvia Milligan Genie Seely Dennis Heiman Ryan DeSantis	Category C Present Les Baugh Brenda Haynes Carol Perea
--	--	---

Category C Not Present
Sharol Schaefer
Terry Thomas

10:15 BREAK

10:30 Presentations

Maintenance of the Great Shasta Rail Trail, Burney Line
Shasta College Natural Resource Restoration Crews
Backcountry Horsemen PCT Maintenance
Shasta Forestry Challenge

April Gray
Eva Jimenez
Alan Hill
Diane Dealey-Neill

12:00 LUNCH

1:30 Meeting reconvened and presentations continued

Nelson Creek Fish Passage Improvement
Forestry Institute for Teachers
Lakeshore Hazardous Fuel Reduction

Joe Zustak and John Livingston
Ryan DeSantis
Pat Bell

2:45 Category groups discussed separately discussed how they would like to rank proposals and the amount of funding they'd like to see each proposal receive.

3:15 Full RAC discussion of proposals to forward and funding levels.

Final recommendation:

Forestry Institute for Teachers 2016	\$12,000.00
Shasta Forestry Challenge 2015	\$10,000.00
Maintenance of the Great Shasta Rail Trail, Burney Line	\$32,226.00
Backcountry Horsemen PCT Maintenance 2016	\$23,200.00
Shasta College Natural Resource Restoration Crews 2016	\$55,753.00
Nelson Creek Fish Passage Improvement 2016	\$22,500.00
Lakeshore Fuel Hazard Reduction 2016	\$0.00

\$155,679.00

\$103 did not get allocated, but no decisions were made about what to do with it.

The group had a discussion on using RAC funding to develop a forestry workshop for legislators, similar to Forestry Institute for Teachers. No funding was allocated for this, but everybody wanted to pick up the idea and conversation before or with a future RAC allocation.

A motion was made to re-elect Ted James as RAC Chair for an additional year was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Shasta County Title III Funds

Sue Crowe

Sue Crowe talked about Title III Funding for Shasta County. There was no new election decisions so the funding stayed at 8% and 7%. She talked about the Shasta County General Plan and said there were several categories that had funding for proposals to mitigate different things in each category, Title III funding could be used for those projects. Projects that mitigate fire and flood hazard. A suggestion was made to remove invasive weeds for drought response because weeds take up a lot of water. Proposals have to be sponsored by an agency. Some projects in the Shasta County Hazard Plan are being funded with Title III funding. \$55,000 of Title III was used to update the Shasta County CWPP. \$75,000 was used to reimburse Shasta County emergency services (OES).

4:00 Meeting adjourned