

## Priest Workgroup in Priest Lake, ID

### Meeting Notes

04/26/04

#### **Attendees:**

Forest Service: Gary Ford, Jodi Kramer, Dave Cobb and Camilla Cary – Notetaker.

Public: Richard Benscoter, Wendy Booth, Margy Hall, Mike Sackett, Bob Savage, Lucas Wingert, Craig Hill and Tom Holman

Jodi welcomed the group and went over the agenda. This meeting is a wrap up meeting of the work done thus far. The group will suspend meetings until fall when the revision team will be reporting back to them on how their comments were used in the development of the draft Forest Plans and draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The group was given the choice to either review last week's results and capture any major changes or review all the desired condition statements and capture major changes or clarification or not do anything with the DC statements but submit to the revision team as is. It was the consensus of the group to leave the statements as were written and submit to the revision team. If anyone sees a need to change a statement that they made, they can contact Jodi.

Jodi went over the handout concerning workgroup purpose and process. This was in response to Mark Sprengel's request on clarification of the process. This handout will be posted on the website when finalized.

Gary Ford explained that the Forest Plan Revision Team plans on working through the summer to develop alternatives, standards and guidelines, and management areas and come back in the fall or early winter and show the groups how their information was used to date.

The group discussed field trips and several people felt that having two field trips would be very helpful. They would like one in the summer, probably on a weekday and one after Labor Day that could probably be on a weekend. The topics for these field trips would be to view activities already underway at the district level. One of the suggestions was the Kalispell project, as it has many varied issues and would fit well into a field trip. It would show how the Forest Plan management direction is used at the site-specific/project level. Another suggestion for a field trip would be to discuss forest health issues and how streams and restoration are related. A larger public meeting would be held in addition to the workgroup meeting to let the public know about how all the public comments that were received were used.

Dave Cobb will discuss these field trips with Kathy Murphy and the group and public will be notified by mail. Also, posters and news releases will be sent out for further public notice of the field trips once scheduled.

Jodi handed out a workgroup process evaluation sheet for the group to provide feedback on their thoughts and ideas about the workgroup process. This document will also be on the website for those that missed this meeting and would like to complete one and will be mailed out to all workgroup meeting participants.

The group then came up with several very good ideas on how to get more information from the community. These included:

Forest Plan Revision Team members, rangers or local district personnel could meet with the local groups (i.e. Chamber of Commerce, Lion's Club, Search and Rescue, etc.) and give an hour presentation. This would be

after key issues are identified. Sensing could be used to obtain more feedback from community members. It is very important that all groups be included in these meetings and not pick just a few.

Forest Plan Revision Team members could put together a cover letter with issues and explain the sensing process and send to all groups. This would eliminate the necessity for Team members to attend meetings. The individual groups could do a sensing and send the information back to the team.

The responses would be value statements. The groups are not equipped to respond to scientific questions. The Team would need to provide parameters.

The Team could have someone from the Priest group review forms before giving to local organizations. That way confusion on questions could be avoided.

Jodi asked for volunteers to review any products developed for the project. This will ensure that products are easy to understand and follow.

It was reaffirmed that the field trips would be open to all members of the public and not just the Priest GA group.

Dave Cobb, on behalf of Kathy Murphy, thanked the group for all their hard work.

Any updates that happen through the summer will be posted on the website.

Per Mike Sudnickovich's request, a calendar of upcoming events and specific information will be added to the website also.

See you in the fall!