

**Meeting Notes – Libby Geographic Area Working Group
10/20/03 – Ponderosa Room**

- Agenda included:
- A. “Perceived hurdles” of implementing Forest Plans.
 - B. Desired Future Conditions of the GA (brainstorm)
 - C. Narrowing Revision Topics to those agreed upon
 - D. Next Meeting is set for **Nov 24th** at 6:30PM - Ponderosa Room
(will incl 1-2 topic speakers, specialists)

The KNF Forest Plan **Revision Topics** are: 1. Vegetation. 2. Fire Risk. 3. Timber. 4. Wildlife. 5. Watershed & Aquatic. 6. Roadless/Wilderness. 7. Access/Recreation

Information Requests: definition of road management levels.
Biomass utilization.
Copy of recreation survey results.
ATV policy.
Community-based forestry.
Timber production of KNF over the decade.
Governor’s conference results (Bob Zimmerman).
Copies of comments from larger meetings.
(see also WEBPAGE: www.fs.fed.us/kipz for many links to information)

Recreation/Access DFC Ideas:

- ♣Ski area on treasure mt
- ♣Mapping for ATV and snowmobile groups
- ♣Everything for everybody
- ♣Area(s) for motorized experience
- ♣Road reclamation (why?)
- ♣Inventory of closed roads
- ♣Use closed roads for recreation (all uses)
- ♣Change closure periods for more recreation use
- ♣Identify roads for specialized recreation
- ♣Bike trail to Troy (Old Hwy)
- ♣Improve River Road trail
- ♣Access to ALL drainages (ie, don’t close off entire drainage with one gate)
- ♣Restore watersheds with road decommissioning
- ♣Maintain ALL existing trails
- ♣Education about road closures
- ♣Futility of commenting on DFC
- ♣Better access to trails (communicate road mgt with trail use)

- ♣ Turner Mt – continue to operate
- ♣ Maintain trails to at least current levels
- ♣ Maintain trailheads with other activities (ie, timber harvest etc)
- ♣ Specific areas for ATV use
- ♣ Support hunting activities in FP (large part of local economy)
- ♣ Have this group look for solutions
- ♣ More recreation opportunities for older Americans
- ♣ More handicap access and “recreational driving”
- ♣ Opportunities to drive to the top of mountains
- ♣ Provide non-ambulatory access for hunting

Wood Products & Timber

- ♣ Work on details of appropriate amount from right places
- ♣ Look at markets and economy
- ♣ Strategic analysis for future of industry & forest
- ♣ Sustained yield
- ♣ Keep area around Cabinet Wilderness as no harvest zone
- ♣ Manage health of forest & utilize by-products
- ♣ Healthy forest = healthy economy
- ♣ Stewardship program – do it economically viable
- ♣ Better use of small diameter wood products
- ♣ Maintain forest health thru thinning in non-economical areas
- ♣ Value added timber products (furniture etc.)
- ♣ Biomass (utilize as fuel)
- ♣ Healthy forest fuel reduction (reduce fires)
- ♣ Harvest enough timber to maintain one mill in area
- ♣ Fund KNF to truly manage it
- ♣ Encourage small log utilization for mills that use them
- ♣ Reduce cost to mill – make it attractive to set up
- ♣ Encourage local small wood product industry
- ♣ Educate about trees growing back (maintaining forest)
- ♣ Educate differences in management (state, private & federal)
- ♣ Firewood cutting access – publicize open roads
- ♣ Funding to bring firewood close to town
- ♣ Community based forestry
- ♣ Appraisal rates & fee schedules (how developed?)

“Work on solutions to concerns and integrate concerns to get to solutions”

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