Meeting Notes from The Forest Plan Revision Meeting held in Thompson Falls on July 11, 2005

1) Concern that dissenting opinion in collaborative groups will derail the entire process as dissenting individual(s) will object to what the group agrees upon.

2) Desire for more winter use and Snowmobiling areas.

3) Economics/ Funding as it relates to continuing the Forest Plan Revision and implementation

4) Desire for access behind gates in order to retrieve big game that is harvested

5) What are the Impacts to access in regards to snowmobiles versus wheeled vehicles.

6) Desire for Horse access area

7) Americans with Disabilities access

8) Access for firewood gathering

9) Fire suppression in Non-motorized areas. How is fire suppression going to take place if there in no access of motorized use in these areas.

10) Multiple use instead of wilderness

11) What is public's role into the future and the planning process?

12) Effects of roads on fisheries, hydro, etc...

13) Tree Density and its relationship to water yields as per irrigation use. Would like it considered in Forest plan revision/implementation.

14) Management of weeds.

15) Monitoring of increased recreational activities.

16) What is considered consenus. (If 10 people are present in a group and 7 agree one way and only 3 agree another way, does the majority rule?)

17) There was a recommendation to use a professional mediator to try and facilitate consensus

18) Consensus of the Thompson Falls group was to try and use mediators to facilitate the meetings.

19) Proposed wilderness bordering private property and the management activities of both areas. Is active management against the wilderness boundary appropriate.

20) Why do people want Wilderness?. Want to be able to access wilderness with traditional means, such as being able to drive to Wilderness areas.

21) What % of people use wilderness and what are the age groups that use it?.

22) Will funding be adequate for monitoring in the E.M.S?.

23) The timeframes that are established for the Revision seem too short to accomplish

Summary

Access and wilderness dominated the discussion. Concerns voiced over the potential for reduced access to National Forest Lands with motorized vehicles and equipment for a variety of activities and management. WUI, watershed, IRA designation also discussed.

Next Public meeting is scheduled for July 27 at the Cabinet Ranger District.