

Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
June 2, 2004

Members Present:

Group A

Lee Disney
Steve Garrett*
Ken Stevens
Tony Johnson

Group B

Robyn King
Wayne Hirst
Tim Linehan

Group C

Gary Huntsberger
Rita Windom
Marianne Roose*
Eileen Carney

Members Absent:

Tim Ryan
Keith Glover

Bill Martin
John Bosworth*
Peter Kitts

Bruce Vincent
Russ Hudson

*Designates replacement members

Forest Service Present:

Bob Castaneda – Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Malcolm Edwards – Libby District Ranger, Betty Holder – Fortine District Ranger, Mike Balboni – Three Rivers Ranger District, Mark Romey – Operations Staff Officer, Paul Stantus – Assistant Forest Engineer, Anne Dueker – Wildlife Biologist, Sandi Mason – Facilitator

Public Present:

Al Corda, Ed Nixon, Greg Seabloom, Debi Davidson, Bruce Zwang, Donna O’Neil, Tim Ekstedt, Gary Altman, Steve Wegner

Meeting Notes:

The minutes from the May 5, 2004 meeting were approved as written.

Mark Romey gave an update on projects as of 4/30/04 and the amount of carryover and the availability after 12/31/04.

Bob gave an update on excess/carryover. Briefly talked about Wolverine Cabin which may need an EA and it may or may not be accomplished under a Cat Ex. He will update the RAC at the July meeting.

Betty and Anne from the Eureka and Fortine RDs presented a number of proposals in the following areas: roads (BMPs), roads (water quality), roads (safety and health), noxious weeds, trails, environmental education and wildlife habitat improvement. It was a very nice PowerPoint and an explanation of proposals was included in the handout.

There were some questions/concerns on the magnesium chloride and effects on water quality surrounding the Young Creek Bay Road Dust Abatement proposal (O17). The

County Commissioners want to provide a permanent fix. May want to partner on the dust abatement project – will work with Glen McNitt.

There were some questions on the fuelwood program - concerns about closing the woods to firewood gatherers such as what's happening in Oregon and Washington. It's a very popular program here, especially with the elderly.

The County Commissioners want to check with other area groups who are working on signage for Highway 37 on the Lake Kooconusa Scenic Byway Signage proposal.

For the Ten Lakes Bear Resistant Food Containers – the members want to look for other partner opportunities. Robyn will provide Betty with a list of possible partners.

Malcolm presented proposals on the Bear Creek Road that would patch and level the road for drainage and overlay it with hotmix asphalt for the first mile. This road provides access to area residents and for recreationists accessing National Forest lands. Lincoln County snowplows this section during the winter for residential access.

The Bear Creek Road BMPs would reduce sediment production from road and improve the road to a reasonable and safe driving condition.

Barren Peak Recreational Lookout Restore proposal, this lookout is not used for fire detection but it is a local historical site and is rapidly deteriorating and might collapse without funds/service.

Libby/West Fisher Road #231, this proposal seeks to improve the county portion of the road by adding drainage features, gravel doing some brushing work to improve sight distance and reshaping the road for better drainage. It will improve access to National Forest lands.

Bruce Zwang presented the Turner Mountain proposal. Committee Chairman Disney asked Malcolm to resubmit the proposal. This proposal seeks to improve 1.9 miles of the Turner Mountain access road from the Pipe Creek Road to the Turner base area. This project will improve public safety, recreational opportunities and services for county residents and attract out-of-county visitors.

Representatives from the Lincoln County Sno-Kats presented a proposal to expand the existing parking lot at 17-mile and put in a vault toilet. This will expand summer and winter recreational opportunities in the area.

Debi Davidson presented a proposal to provide wave breaks to create a safe docking area for boaters to launch and dock their boats at the Marina.

Steve and Brian w/Plum Creek presented a proposal about the Fisher River Channel Restoration project. This plan will restore floodplain connectivity to approximately 3

miles of the Fisher River, reduce bank erosion, restore riparian function for woody debris and shading and restore upstream fish movement into Smoke Creek.

Mike Balboni gave an update on the Alvord Lake proposal. A proposal on the 152 acres and coming up with a proposal so it won't be subdivided into lots. It's in Plum Creek ownership right now and they are looking into selling it (may have an interested buyer). Mike will have more info on the proposal in at the July meeting.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 14, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the Supervisor's Office in Libby.

Next meeting topics will include:

- Update on proposals – any new
- Update on Young Creek Dust Abatement, Alvord Lake, Wolverine Cabin
- Updates, updates, updates

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Notes by Willie Sykes
June 10, 2004