

Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
August 4, 2004

Members Present:

Group A

Lee Disney
Keith Glover
Tim Ryan
Ken Stevens
Tony Johnson
Steve Garrett*

Group B

Bill Martin
Peter Kitts
Wayne Hirst
Robyn King
John Bosworth*

Group C

Gary Huntsberger
Rita Windom
Russ Hudson
Marianne Roose*
Bruce Vincent
Eileen Carney

Members Absent:

Tim Linehan

*Designates replacement members

Forest Service Present:

Bob Castaneda – Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Malcolm Edwards – Libby District Ranger, Mike Balboni – Three Rivers District Ranger, Guenther Heinz – Fortine Ranger District, Glen McNitt – Rexford District Ranger, Barbara Edgmon – RAC Coordinator and Sandi Mason – Facilitator.

Public Present:

Bruce Zwang and Gary Altman – Kootenai Winter Sports, John Konzen – Lincoln County Commissioner, John Knechtel and Greg Seabloom – Pacific NW Trails Association

Meeting Notes:

Lee Disney led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. The minutes from the July 14, 2004 meeting were approved as written.

The following changes were made to previously submitted project proposals:

- RW-12 Turner Mtn Access Road increase in request to \$101,354 as Libby Ranger District would not be able to fund the contract administration costs out of projected funding for FY05.
- O-20 Ant Flat & Weasel Lake Accessible Trails increase to \$7,500 for construction of a physically challenged trail to a 3rd platform at Weasel Lake.

The RAC reviewed the priority order agreed upon at the January 12, 2004 meeting. Prioritization of projects is as follows:

- An equal amount of funds will be distributed to each community/County Commissioner District.

- Priority will be given to those projects with partnerships
- #1 Streams
- #2 Road Restoration
- “Other” projects will receive 50% of funds in this order:
 - #1 Recreation/Wildlife Habitat Improvement
 - #2 Weeds
 - #3 Fuels Reduction/Thinning
 - #4 Other education (leverage with Title III), grazing/agriculture

Lee Disney reminded the group of voting procedures that each group needs a majority vote for a project to be approved for funding.

The Lincoln County Commissioners have allocated \$750,000 for Title II for FY05.

Rita Windom advised the projects O-30 & 31 North End Fuel Wood have been funded for \$15,000 to each Ranger District by Lincoln County.

The following Road/Water improvement projects were approved:

RW-19	C Branch Bridge	Eureka/Fortine	\$109,350
RW-22	Peck Gulch Campground Road	Eureka/Fortine	29,900
RW-13	Foothills Road BMPs	Eureka/Fortine	27,900
Sub Total			\$167,150
RW-02	Keeler Creek Restoration	Troy/Yaak	15,000
RW-06	Beetle Creek Restoration	Troy/Yaak	120,000
Sub Total			\$135,000
RW-12	Turner Mountain Access Road	Libby	101,354
RW-09	Rural Roads & Residences	Libby	37,291
Sub Total			\$138,645
Total			\$440,795

A roll call vote for project RW-01 Bristow Creek Watershed improvement did not have the majority vote and therefore was not funded.

The following “other” recreation, wildlife habitat improvement, weeds, fuels reduction/thinning, education projects were approved:

O-28	Clarence Creek SST	Rexford/Fortine	\$12,000
O-18	North End Weeds	Rexford/Fortine	20,000
O-24	10 Lakes Bear Proof Containers	Rexford/Fortine	6,000
O-17	Young Creek Dust Abatement	Rexford/Fortine	2,000
O-20	Ant Flat/Weasel Lake Trails	Rexford/Fortine	7,500
O-19	Stonehill Bike Trail	Rexford/Fortine	10,200
O-26	Powertrain Fuels	Rexford/Fortine	18,000
O-16	Lake Koocanusa Boat Ramp	Rexford/Fortine	6,500
Sub Total			\$82,200
O-03	Trailheads	Troy/Yaak	14,000
O-07	Garver Weeds	Troy/Yaak	6,000
O-10	Graver Fuels Units 1, 2, 3	Troy/Yaak	25,900
O-11	Shooting Range	Troy/Yaak	56,100
O-08	Bull Lake Signage	Troy/Yaak	1,050
O-04	Upper Ford SST	Troy/Yaak	12,000
Sub Total			\$115,050
O-13	17 Mile Parking	Libby	29,400
O-05	Noxious Weed Control	Libby	11,655
O-35	Historic Raven Roof Repair	Libby	25,000
O-01	Interface Thinning	Libby	26,000
O-14	Barren Peak Lookout	Libby	4,000
O-15	Lake Koocanusa Wave Break	Libby	15,900
Sub Total			\$111,955
Total			\$309,205

The RAC was informed that the Administrative Expense funds for FY03 & 04 have not been totally spent and that there is enough money to cover admin expenses for FY05. The RAC agreed to use the carryover money to cover expenses for FY05.

Bob Castaneda spoke about the reauthorization of PL 106-393. There is a plan to develop a CD to emphasize the RAC's accomplishments for FS Region One. Funds may be needed to hire a contractor to do the work. Rita Windom offered Title III or Road funds to support this effort.

Malcolm Edwards provided an update on the \$50,000 Granite Creek Road project. Most of the work has been completed but it will take more money to complete the project to the current trailhead. Malcolm asked that the RAC approve moving the trailhead 2 10's of a mile down the road and close that portion to motorized traffic. The RAC approved the revised plan.

Marianne Roose spoke about the Wolverine Cabin project. A field trip to the cabin occurred with interested groups included. The work will be considered as maintenance work so the project is moving closer for clearance for work to proceed.

September meeting topics will include:

- Update on approved projects
- Planning for the October statewide RAC meeting

Next meeting will be September 1, 2004 6pm at the Historic Raven Ranger Station. The Communities for a Great Northwest/Provider Pals will provide dinner.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Notes by Barbara Edgmon
August 13, 2004