

Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee
Kootenai NF Supervisor's Office
July 13, 2006

Members Present:

Group A

Russ Hudson
Lee Disney
Keith Glover
Ken Stephens

Group B

Wayne Hirst
Robyn King
Tim Linehan
Bill Martin
Peter Kitts

Group C

Eileen Carney
Rita Windom
Marianne Roose
Gary Huntsberger
Steve Newman*

Members Absent:

Bruce Vincent-excused
Steve Garrett*-excused

Vacant*

Ralph Heinert-excused

*Designates replacement members

Forest Service Present: Paul Bradford – Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Malcolm Edwards – Libby District, Betty Holder – Fortine District Ranger, Russ Gautreaux – Three Rivers District, Annie Dueker – Rexford District, Cami Winslow – Staff Officer, and Barbara Edgmon – RAC Coordinator

Public Present: John Konzen – Lincoln County Commissioner, Alvin Benitz, Bruce Zwang, Clifford Kipp – MT YCC and Gary Altman

Meeting Notes:

Roll call was taken by Sandi Mason. Handouts from this meeting will be mailed to RAC members not in attendance. Lee Disney led the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes from the May10, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

Cami Winslow introduced Paul Bradford, the new Kootenai NF Supervisor. Paul spoke to the group about the tough funding situation the USDA is facing, budgets are likely to keep going down, and the Forest Service needs to work hard on building partnerships. The reauthorization for PL106-393 has not passed thru Congress so funding is uncertain for the coming year. Paul thanked the RAC members for their hard work and dedication.

Cami Winslow provided a Legislative Update on the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. If the Act is not extended payments to states will be determined under the 25% Fund Act of 1908.

Voting RAC members received a voluntary survey from Debra Whitall who is working on a Ph.D. RAC members were asked to complete the survey and turn in at the end of the meeting.

Motion made and approved to fund an additional \$9,600 (contingent on funds being available) for completion of the Wolverine Cabin project on the Fortine RD.

Motion made and approved to fund an additional \$3,000 (contingent on funds being available) to complete the Ant Flat Trail project on the Fortine RD.

Motion made and approved to fund an additional \$12,100 (contingent on funds being available) and use excess funds (estimated at \$8,000) from the Turner Mountain Parking Lot project to move a fuel tank out of a riparian zone at Turner Mountain Ski Hill on the Libby RD.

Motion made and approved to fund an additional \$14,300 (contingent on funds being available) to purchase easement rights and complete bridge design on the C Branch Road project on the Rexford RD. 2 no votes and 1 abstained from voting.

Betty Holder presented the following projects for Fortine RD:

#	Name	Amount
O-23	N Dickey Lake Boat Docks and Slips	\$30,000
O-24	S Dickey Lake Bank Stabilization Repair	2,500
O-25	Sunday Falls Dispersed Site	3,000
O-26	Viewing /Interpretive Sites Along Roads to 10 Lakes	16,000
O-27	Timber Lake Physically Challenged Access Trail & Fishing Platforms	7,525
O-28	Weasel Lake Physically Challenged Access Trail & Fishing Platforms	6,860
O-29	Youth Conservation Corps – Fortine RD	13,200
O-30	Fortine Integrated Weed Management	15,000
O-31	N Lincoln County Fuelwood Program (to be submitted under Title III)	15,000
O-32	Brimstone Unit 29	35,750

Betty advised that the District did not have any projects for Roads/Waterways as engineering is short staffed and cannot take on any new projects.

Clifford Kipp from Montana Conservation Corps submitted a proposal for funding of 2 weeks for the Youth Engaged in Service program on the Fortine RD. Lincoln County youths, aged 13-16, work on various types of projects and receive an award if they complete the program. MCC provides the supervisor with Clifford on site for several days. Youths learn about conflict resolution, working as a team, accomplishing goals and are educated about natural resources.

#	Name	Amount
O-14	Fortine RD Trails #358 & #339 – Youth Engaged in Service	\$4,200

Annie Dueker presented the following proposals for Rexford RD:

#	Name	Amount
O-15	Stonehill Pictographs Fencing Mitigation	\$4,100
O-21	Lowest Pinkham North RAC	23,500
O-22	Youth Conservation Corps	13,700

Malcolm Edwards presented the following proposals for Libby RD:

#	Name	Amount
RW-09	Midas Creek Fishery passage Culvert	\$27,200
RW-11	Fisher River Restoration Part 1	45,000
RW-12	Fisher River Restoration Part 2	13,000

MT DEQ does not want any more FS timber sales in the Fisher River area without mitigation work on the river.

Roads are stored not decommissioned or obliterated.

Russ Gautreaux presented the following proposals for Three Rivers RD:

#	Name	Amount
O-16	Handicapped Hunter Roads Weed Control	\$4,000
O-17	Obermeyer Weed Control	2,500
O-18	West Troy Sale Weed Control	4,000
O-19	Garver Timber Sale Weed Spraying	3,000

O-20	Northeast Yaak Project Area Spraying	7,000
O-33	Troy Area Firearms Range (presented by John Konzen)	56,100
RW-03	Beetle Creek , North Creek BMP	32,650
RW-04	Pete Creek Chip Seal	71,700
RW-05	N.F. O'Brien Fish Passage	73,210
RW-06	Baldy Mountain BMP	92,625
RW-07	Yodkin Watershed Restoration	35,500
RW-08	Vinal Creek Restoration and Trail Reconstruction	8,800
RW-10	Gus Creek Watershed Restoration	11,000

John Konzen, Lincoln County Commissioner, spoke about the benefits of having a designated shooting range in the Troy area. Currently target practice is happening all over the place which is unsafe and litter is left behind. There could be economic impacts if events are held that will bring visitors to the area.

Lee Disney handed out a proposal for the RAC to consider that “would take this years funding and put it all into a large forest stewardship management project that the Yaak Valley Forest Council would pick. The details would be worked out by this board to meet our goals”.

Rita Windom advised that there would be a fly-in to Congress in September for County Commissioners and School Superintendents to show support for the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

Next Meeting will be August 2, 2006 at 6 p.m. in the Forest Supervisor's Office.

RAC would like the Rangers to prioritize their projects for the next meeting.

Notes by Barbara Edgmon
July 25, 2006