

Trinity RAC Meeting Minutes
Trinity Office of Education
Weaverville, CA
August 17, 2009

In attendance at full RAC meeting

RAC members – Group A

Steve Hodge, Tom Walz

RAC members – Group B

Arnold Whitridge, Joseph Bower, Jerry Hauke

RAC members Group C

Jim French (chair), Raymond Patton, Patrick Frost

Members of the public

NW CA RC of D – Byron Hadwick

Shasta-Trinity NF – Shawn Hee, Rita Vollmer, Ray Mooney, Lance Koch

Shasta-Trinity SFMU District Ranger – Donna Harmon

Six Rivers NF – Julie Ranieri, Bill Rice

Watershed Research and Training Center – Nick Goulette

TCRCD – Alex Cousins, Mark Dowdle

Ascend Wilderness Experience – Scott La Fein

RAC Coordinator, FS – John Heibel

TCCAM videographer – Joseph Kasper

TC WMC & TC Ag Dept. – Mark Lockhart

5 Counties Salmonid Program – Mark Lancaster

AmeriCorps, Watershed Stewards Project – Bo Kimball, Danny McKnight

The meeting was called to order by Jim French at 6:40 pm without a quorum.

In discussion Alex Cousins reported that some monitoring of RAC projects has begun with him, Danny McKnight and Bo Kimball while the committee waited for John Rourke to make a quorum. The committee set dates for field trips to monitor downriver and Weaverville Basin RAC projects. Members will meet at Jim's office at 9:00 am on Tuesday, September 22 to look at 5 to 6 projects on Musser Hill. On Tuesday, October 6 members will meet at 8:00 am at the TCOE and join downriver members at 9:00 am at the Salyer Guard Station to monitor downriver projects.

RAC Coordinator John Heibel said in his opinion if John Rourke participated in the discussion and voted by phone that it would be acceptable. Jim French contacted John Rourke by cell phone at 7:05 pm, whereupon John participated in the discussions and voted on speaker phone.

We now had a quorum.

Moved to approve:

Jerry Hauke moved to approve the Non-Roads Non-Fuels funding as requested with the elimination of the 2010 Westside Broom Removal for \$31,000. Joseph Bower seconded the motion and the RAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Moved to approve:

Joseph Bower moved to approve the Fuels funding with these adjustments: Mad River Brushing and Chipping for \$20,000, Mad River Admin Site for \$32,000, Tules Plantation Thin reduced to \$50,000, Jones Stewardship for \$50,000, Hayfork Forest Health projects combined for \$100,000, WCF Garden Gulch for \$30,000, WCF East Branch Fuels Reduction divided into 2 phases for \$70,000, and North Lake Roadside Fuels Reduction is adjusted to \$40,000. Ray Patton seconded the motion, and the committee unanimously approved.

In discussion:

Mark Lancaster described the 5 mile road to Arbuckle Mine in great need of resurfacing. This, the Musser Hill Road, drains into last Chance Gulch, carrying high amounts of sediment, creating large rill and gully erosion. With the forecast of El Nino the road will pass from decay to rapid decay, resulting in a larger project if postponed. The fire crews from last week's fire couldn't make it up that road. He proposed restoring, cleaning ditches and culverts as an RCD project. This project was brought up to the subcommittee who decided to recommend it to the full RAC even though there wasn't a written proposal, due to its urgency.

Moved to approve:

Joseph Bower moved and Arnold Whitridge seconded the motion to approve the subcommittee's recommendations for the 4 Roads projects. There was a "friendly amendment" to clarify that RAC was authorizing Chairman Jim French to sign the approval form for the Musser Hill Project and to recommend a scheduling swap between it and the Tule Thin Phase I, recommended by RAC in April 2009, to allow the Musser Hill work to be done this fall.

Some points of discussion:

*Colleen O'Sullivan provided an update on the Weaverville Community Forest (see attachment).

*Pat Frost reported that the RCD has been watering the trees planted in September on Oregon Mountain.

*The committee pledged to back out RAC money if any economic money comes in.

*On the subject of member attendance, a suggestion was made to fill a RAC position with a supervisor.

* Pat Frost, TCRC and RAC member, expressed his feeling of constraint tonight; he voted only because there was a need for a quorum. In the same spirit of full disclosure Jim French added that he sits on the Ascend Board.

Approving the minutes to prior meeting was tabled until next meeting.

Projects					Original \$ Amount	Approved \$ Amount		
non-fuels/non-roads								
Mad River and Lower Trinity YCC Program					32,960	32,960		
Hayfork Basin Trails & Youth Crew					35,439	25,439		
Clean Forest Project					30,000	5,000		
Summer Field Camp					6,600	6,600		
Indian Valley Summer Camp					20,000	20,000		
McKenzie Gulch Trail Construction Ph. 1					15,000	15,000		
Weaverville Basin Trail Maintenance					5,000	5,000		
Trinity Co. Weed Man. Ed. Outreach					2,600	2,600		
2010 Knapweed Removal					26,000	26,000		
Ascend Wilderness Exp.					11,400	11,400		
Shasta/Trinity Fish Trails					20,000	20,000		
Opening Trail Maintenance PCT					10,000	10,000		
						179,999		
fuels								
Mad River Road Brushing and Chipping					20,000	20,000		
Mad River Admin Site Thin KV Fuel Reduction					32,000	32,000		
Tules Plantation Thin					50,000	50,000		
Jones Stewardship					50,000	50,000		
Hayfork Forest Health 1 (SFMU and Watershed Center)					116,000	100,000		
WCF Garden Gulch					30,000	30,000		
WCF East Branch Fuels Reduction					140,000	70,000		
North Lake Roadside Fuels Reduction					40,000	40,000		
						392,000		
roads								
Denny Area Road Rehab					100,000	100,000		
China Gulch					40,000	50,000		
Big Mountain Rock Stock					4,500	4,500		
Musser Hill Road Rehab					50,000	50,000		
						204,500		
					\$ allocated	179,999	non fuels-non roads	
						392,000	fuels	
						204,500	roads	
					total =	776,499		