

4FRI Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday, May 5, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

MINUTES

Du Bois Conference Center
2500 South Pine Knoll Drive
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ

Call-in Number – 1-877-686-0400 – participant code 7747488210

ATTENDEES:

- 1) Allen Ribelin – Northern Arizona Loggers Association
- 2) Larry Stephenson – Eastern Arizona Counties Organization
- 3) David Tenney – Navajo County
- 4) Steve Gatewood – GFFP
- 5) Jerry Drury – A/S N.F.
- 6) Molly Pitts – NAWPA
- 7) Rob Davis – Forest Energy
- 8) Pascal Berlioux – AZFRP
- 9) Henry Provencio – USFS 4FRI team
- 10) Don Berry – WMSCMB
- 11) Bruce Greco – ERI
- 12) Paul Summerfelt – City of Flagstaff FD
- 13) Heath Hildebrand – Renegy
- 14) Bonnie Stevens – ERI
- 15) Ed Smith – TNC
- 16) Todd Schulke – CBD
- 17) Anne Mottek Lucas – Mottek Consulting
- 18) Shaula Hedwall – USFWS
- 19) Sara Reif – AGFD
- 20) Ethan Aumack - GCT

9am-9:15am: Introductions and agenda review

9:15am-9:30am: Steering Committee / USFS update

- Washington Office briefing
- Facilitator hiring update
- Communications

Washington Office Briefing. Don Berry, Todd Schulke, Dave Tenney, Rob Davis and others reported on their briefing to the USFS Washington Office Briefing. Henry asked what our suggestions might be to further what we are doing. David said that it was very positive and that they are committed to flexibility and to moving this thing forward. Really appreciated knowing what's going on and really liked the concept of cooperation that is going on. Ethan Aumack added his positive perspective of the issue.

Ed Smith provided an update to the facilitator hiring process. They are in the interview process and it looks as though they are good through the end of the year in terms of funding for the facilitator. Ethan stressed that the goal is to move toward self facilitation. Need for continued funding and the alternatives if funding is not permanent.

Communications: This will be a standing agenda item in all future meetings. Ethan reported on this and stressed the need for transparency and the need to always consider ongoing FACA concerns. Really working to get to a single space for all information on meetings, etc.

The Coconino Supervisor Earl Stewart noted that this is a novel approach and it is difficult to develop and maintain trust. It is a frightening place for a lot of us to go. To be successful there is an operational side. There is a sense of great urgency. Time to put work on the ground.

Henry Provincio presented. Began with the note that he is sick to death of hearing that we can't. If you think we can't, change your mind or get out. Time to move forward. Noted the Anderson project. Started in 1997 and then the bickering and fighting started. People did not engage seriously or professionally. The EIS ended up being 700 pages. Took eight years for this EIS and we want to get the current project done in 18 months. Going in circles, back stabbing, will not work for us. Looked at it as laying track. Path forward, Draft EIS 1st end date is winter of twenty twelve. The success of this project will depend on everyone, from those here to the District and SO levels. Discussed funding and contract issue processes. Identified technical experts and are now looking at the RFP from contractors before the end of the year. 2.4 million acres is not a one bite process. The strategy will drive the process and is critical to our success. Summer Of twenty eleven we can designate the next EIS area. Hope to award contract(s) in the fall of twenty eleven and repeat this process in following years. Adapt to what works and doesn't work. Success is not the paper. It will be out in the field restoring ecological function on the ground. Paper doesn't help the ecological aspect at all. Several questions were entertained and responded to. Drop the "can't" and replace it with CAN! Deadline on RFI is within the next two months. Input will be possible up to the NEPA process. At

that time, it is imperative that the specialists be allowed to do their work without conflict and distraction. You might not all agree with this, but that is the way it really has to be.

Chris Knopp, A-S Supervisor, reported on the Washington Briefing noting that the day was productive followed with a jovial evening.

9:30am-10:30am: Foundational documents

- Discuss latest draft of 4FRI Charter

Ed Smith provided coverage of the 4FRI Charter. All information from this discussion is contained on the document changes made during the discussion period. Discussion as to what to call the oversight group. Is it best called a Steering or Coordinating Committee? Consensus to call it a Steering Committee. Discussion followed on word usage and structure with the substance of those comments inserted into the working Charter document. Significant discussion focusing on the role of communications within the group. Bonnie Stevens, I would take the entire page and throw it back to the communications group for a complete re-working. As it is, it just won't work for our best interests.

10:30am-10:45am: Break

Larry Fisher – Next steps on drafting and revising edits to the 4FRI Charter –Current edits should be sent to Diane Vosick by 5/10. Drafting committee will meet on 5/12. Revised Charter draft will be sent out on 5/14 to the broader stakeholder group. Steve G. and Anne L. will review and send back to drafting committee 5/17. A final revised version of the Charter will be sent out to the large stakeholder group on 5/19 for review and comment. Present revised Charter for agreement at the 5/26 (or next) collaborative group meeting.

Ethan Aumack– approval for minutes from the last March meeting will be approved at the next large stakeholder meeting, along with minutes from the 5/5 meeting.

10:45am-11:45am: Foundational documents

- Discuss latest work surrounding the MOU

The current version of the MOU is not likely to serve the original desired purposes. The Steering Committee will refine a list of needs within and values offered by the collaborative process, and get these back to the Forest Service for review and continuation of the discussion.

11:45am-12:15pm: Lunch

12:15pm-12:45pm: Strategic Plan

- Review and discuss draft outline, next steps

The Steering Committee will continue to coordinate with the Forest Service in developing out a Strategic Plan that describes ongoing work and facilitates better coordination of collective efforts.

12:45pm-1:45pm: FLRA Working Group

- Review and discuss latest FLRA draft, next steps
- a. The FLRA proposal is nearing completion
 - b. Proposals have been reviewed by the regional office – the 4FRI proposal was ranked 2nd
 - c. Some issues surfaced in the review process needing additional attention, including road management. These issues will be dealt with by the USFS
 - d. Henry will circulate the review to stakeholders by COB 5/5
 - e. Any and all additional input from stakeholders will be due to Henry by COB 5/6

1:45pm-2:00pm: Break

2:00pm-2:30pm: Landscape Strategy Working Group

- Review and discuss latest outline, next steps
- a. The first analysis area has been preliminarily identified
 - b. The project area boundary will be refined later
 - c. The LS WG is working to finalize an outline for the LS
 - d. ForestERA is working to update forest structure data layers to represent 2009 conditions
 - e. The group is working to define a partitioning strategy for analyzing current forest conditions
 - f. Datasets for the entire area and for the first analysis area were displayed
 - g. Next steps:
 - Establish a consistent meeting time
 - Develop an ordered set of tasks
 - Meet with the 4FRI to coordinate activities
 - Discuss and decide on landscape ecological subunits
 - Revise LS outline considering 4FRI EIS needs
 - h. LS will be consistent with and build upon the FLRA LS

2:30pm-2:45pm: TNC climate change workshop

- Summarize workshop and briefly discuss possible integration with 4FRI

Ed Smith updated the group on the recent climate change workshop and how workshop results might feed into and support the 4FRI process

2:45pm-3:30pm: Updates from Communications, Industry Engagement, and Science and Monitoring Working Groups

a. Communications

- The WG will be moving forward with development of a website
- The WG is developing a fact sheet for review by the stakeholder group
- Next meeting is on May 12 to focus on Charter language and website

b. Industry Engagement

- Next meeting is May 20 in Eagar to focus on desirable contracting characteristics

c. Science and Monitoring

- The group is working to define research, monitoring, and adaptive management priorities following the completion of its efforts to assist with the FLRA proposal

3:30pm-3:45pm: Wrap-up and next steps