

CE Regional Coordinators – Conference Call Minutes

– 1:30 p.m. ET

Call in 800-369-1652 passcode 97972

FPL			R2	
IITF	Carlos Dominguez-Cristobal		R3	
NA			R4	Carol Ryan
NRS	Barbara McGuinness		R5	
PNW & PSW	Becky Bittner		R6	Susan Thomas, Sue Baker
RMRS			R8	Sharon Waltrip
SRS	Claire Payne		R9	
R1	Julie Molzahn		R10	
WO-Detached	Barbara McDonald Michelle Andrews		WO	Harald, Sue, Iris

ROUND ROBIN

IITF – Carlos Dominguez-Cristobal: Two big activities: A celebration on May 20 with 4 area high schools. 28 students presented projects they had developed during the year, some of which will be considered for publication in a scientific magazine.

The second was that Carlos represents S&PF in the health and safety committee at IITF and will present a safety program related to schools. They are doing a job hazard analysis at the partner schools.

Northeastern Area –

NRS: Barbara McGuinness:

Thank you to Julie Molzahn for the iweb agreement.

R9 has a new CE position under Daryl Pridgen. Barbara and Susan Cox are on the selection committee. They are doing a program review of the tech transfer unit. At the end of June, Barbara McGuinness is attending the National Conference on Volunteerism in NYC where she will meet a lot of her partners in NYC.

SRS – Claire Payne: The Station is establishing a pollinator garden as a People's Garden.

RMRS-

PNW RS- Becky Bittner: A new program with "Forest Inside Out" that uses ARRA funding to hire student mentors for this program over the next two years. They are getting the mentors from the inner city youth program, who will learn how to mentor younger kids. They are getting close to completion of the next InvestiGator

Region 1 – Steve Kratville reported:

In addition to our Forest For Every Classroom summer institute, during this spring we have recently cosponsored the Montana Audubon Festival (emphasized pollinators), the 2010 Montana Water Summit, the 2010 Montana Environmental Education Association Meeting and Idaho Environmental Education Association meetings (R-4's Carol Ryan and Christine Romero attended parts of the meeting as it was in Boise). In May the Region worked with the Missoula Children's Theatre and other partners to host a "Gear Up For Summer" event to encourage family oriented outdoor activities, including a performance of the "Where Is the Great Outdoors School Assembly Program. The Northern Region helped the White House convene listening sessions in Missoula & Helena around "America's Great Outdoors (approximately 500 participants); including a youth listening session attended by about 70 youth participants. Every Forest and Grassland Unit has been busy with hosting local students for end-of-the year field programs through last week. Between National Trails Day and Get Outdoors Day every unit had some kind of event occurring; many continue to host events throughout the month.

And finally, we received notification that the Forest Service/Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) School Assembly Program "Where is the Great Outdoors?" was selected for the NAAEE national conference program in Buffalo, NY this fall. We are working with MCT to update the school assembly for the 2011 touring season that will be themed around the importance of water and water conservation.

Julie Molzahn: When Sec. Vilsack was in Montana he did listening sessions around the Great Outdoors initiative. He did not want people from agencies to talk or even to be in the tent. He wanted to sense what citizens want. One of the sessions was for "youth only." The Missoula Children's Theater Great Outdoors Theater was selected to present at the NAAEE conference. June 21-July 2 first Tribal Summer Camp that Safiya and Fred Clark in the WO funded. The Canada Get TO Know is bringing all USA Get to Know winners to Waterton Glacier NP lodge at the end of August. R1 will be the FS lead on that.

Two MKIW projects for this year launched on Get Outdoors Day.

A survey monkey has been made about sustainable operations and CE. The regional foresters from all the regions and the RMRS director said they want to focus on youth programs in FY 11. Brad is the contact, Julie is the team leader. Will there be a more formal letter from the Regional Foresters to get more ummph? As soon as people see optional reply they ignore it. This came from the Regional Foresters to the Forest Supervisors – that is what we have.

Define the messaging of sustainable ops: actions the FS takes in resource management and other activities that make our operations more sustainable. This is not just green team and recycling, but also includes sustainable resource management. More info can be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/sustainableoperations/>

Folks in 2 and 3 need to be aware that the CDT is beginning to develop a comprehensive management plan. It should have an educational component – trail education. Also the Pacific Northwest Trail from Glacier to Olympic NP. Julie is starting the comprehensive management plan for the Nez Perce

Region 3 – Jean reported:

New Mexico Forestry Camp had 34 campers in a successful week, June 6-11. A highlight was gaining access to a newly burned (less than a week old) area of the Santa Fe National Forest and a lesson on forest and fire ecology.

*After winning the state competition, two middle school students from Moriarity, NM are finalists in the National History Day film competition. The title of their film is, "The Smokey Bear Campaign, Igniting National Awareness."

Region 4- Carol Ryan:

A large Great Outdoors Day celebration this weekend in Salt Lake City. Working on getting nominations for the Gifford Pinchot Award.

Region 5 –

Region 6 – Sue Baker reported:

Oregon side of R6 doings:

1. The second National Get outdoors day was again held at the Vancouver Water Center in Vancouver, WA. Figured we had an overall total of 700-800 people attended (not bad seeing as it was the same day as the Rose Festival floral parade across the river in Portland, OR). 437 visited the CE booth, which focused on birds, using the "wheel of fortune". It was the first sunny, warm day in about a month!
2. The Willamette NF is working on CE's "niche" in the Forest. The PAOs are asking if it is their place to teach CE.
3. The "Value Rangers" are on the ground at 4 sites, sharing with the visiting public what makes that National Forest a special place and worth loving and taking care of.
4. Writing an info paper for RLT on the "Town Hall" proposal & implications for R6.
5. Participated in the 5th annual RiverFest.
6. Working with the new Scenic Area Fire Prevention Tech on providing teachers and kids the new Smokey Big Book materials. It's a big hit here.
7. One of their MKIW programs is already done – kids and climbing. It was great.

Sue Thomas: Just finished something for Migratory Bird Day. We want to start moving in the direction of putting more stuff on the internet and intranet. Kristi has done great work with the intranet site. There will be a summer program with North Cascades Institute on climate change. Student will attend a month long camp and then bring back what they learn to their schools and forests.

The portal is geared to be external sites. The Beaverhead-Deerlodge is the first forest that has gone this way. IF you go their intranet site you get pushed to their www site. To go to an internal site you need to give your e-auth.

Region 8 – Sharon Waltrip:

The Cumberland Ranger District of the Daniel Boone National Forest hosted a hands-on herpetology crafts event in May. The event complemented the activities held at Natural Bridge State Resort Park's Herpetology Weekend. Visitors made jumping origami frogs, climbing lizards, and snake-mobiles that they decorated to look like native reptiles and amphibians. 43 people participated over the two day event. Staff discussed the importance of native reptiles and amphibians, their habitat, and what they eat. Kids and adults all had a great time!

LBL had a Get Outdoors event at Golden Pond Visitor Center with 590 people that day. Visitors were interested, I think it is an up and coming event. People liked the idea that they could try out the kayaks, so it would be really good to have other opportunities to learn a new skill. We had folks do evaluations for a chance for a weekend stay at Energy Campground, but I don't know the results of the evaluation. Boy Scout leaders did a great cooking demonstration again this year. We teamed with the North American Butterfly Association for an annual butterfly count that week end also.

This was actually the third special event we put on in three weekends. Memorial Day week-end was very busy with our annual "River Days" event including an Old-Time Music Festival at the Homeplace. We had about 2,000 people attending over the 3 days.

Children's Day on the Farm was at the Homeplace on National Trails Day which was a fee-free day and sort of messed up our revenue. We had 500 participants that day.

Upcoming events include Independence Day 1850, Cool and Crawly Critters Day

Region 9 -

Region 10 –

WO – Detached – Barbara McDonald:

The Pinchot Awards: please think about nominating someone for the Pinchot Awards. The nominations for R&D come to Babs, and they only get one nominee. Their goal is to get materials to PNW for a climate change InvestiGator. In terms of Natural Inquirer they are waiting for the ecosystem services edition to come back from the printer.

Michelle Andrews:

Michelle is going to get some fresh eyes and ears to test the EUGENE website and give some feedback.

Washington Office –

Iris: Regarding the “strategic connection to Great Outdoors Initiative,” a group is discussing this upstairs and they will bring recommendations about how CE should correlate to this. The question perhaps is “where is this team?”

On Friday the National Garden Club poster contest ceremony is happening here in DC. There will be a little bit of hoopla.

This last year we had 34,000 entries. The winner Matalynn Clark was selected from 10,000 that were submitted in Virginia. The chief will honor the kid and the family, who will be invited to the ELT stand up on Friday. Thank you to all the CE coordinators who helped partner with Garden Club members to make the contest an increasing success. Next year is the 50th anniversary. In two weeks you will receive the package for the 2011 Poster Contest and hopefully you will use it and contact your elementary school teacher partners.

This year we had 29 Woodsy Owl licensees – this is quite an accomplishment considering that there is no public service campaign, but royalties are still increasing. The Woodsy Owl ABCs Spanish Version kicked off a few weeks ago and he will start working on the changes in the weeks to come, so hopefully that product will be available in the next fiscal year. The ABC teacher’s activity book that Roberta Burzynski is working on will go to editing soon. In August we will get the Smokey Bear video that has some children going on a camping trip and then trying to light a campfire without an adult. It is for pre-K through second grade. It will be at the cache and CE coordinators will get a free shipment.

CE conference: we are waiting for approval from the upper offices for the CE conference. We submitted the proposal one month ago. We have three proposed dates and three proposed sites. Denver, South Lake Tahoe, and Buffalo, New York. As soon as we hear anything we will send you guys so that we can set the date.

Note: Coordinators would like an update on the AD position. We will ask Safiya to send out a note.