

Core Team Meeting:

Dates (8:30 – Noon)

1/9/07

1/17/07

1/23/07

2/14/07

9:00 – 12:00 Regional Office Auditorium 2/20/07

Ralph updated the Core Team about the upcoming briefing with the Deputy Regional Forester and Regional Forester about the draft recommendations we have come up with. RF Cables wants Director Sherwood and Ralph to prepare Q&As to be ready for press questions. The RF wants to make it clear to the Core Team and the press that he (and the Forest Supervisors) will take a careful look at the recommendations, but no commitment to proceed will be given or guaranteed.

Dave – I agree. It wouldn't be reasonable for the RF to do otherwise given and that it wouldn't be appropriate for him to make decisions without line officers, forest supervisors.

What is the weight of the Chief's 10 year challenge? It carries a lot of weight internally but because it's not funded, it doesn't carry a lot of weight in the field. What is the weight of Wilderness? Wilderness funding carries as much weight as will recreation. Recreation is in competition with what congressional delegates are feeling needs to be addressed, such as the Katrina of the West. (Beetle Kill). Denver Post came out with an article about the cost of fighting fires. Either you know up front that your going to have fires and fire season. When fires hit everything else becomes lower priority.

Literature review on latest research visitor use. Related to permit systems – Ralph has taken a strong interest the permit system and has received a Grand Canyon video for their permit system.

Forest Service WMWM 2/6 – 2/9. February 7th presentation of our draft recommendations as an opportunity to get some feedback from the Wilderness Managers.

All core stuff is on the website is included:

<http://fs.fed.us/r2/recreation/wilderness>

What is going to capture the attention of the Regional Directors and Forest Service Supervisors? Goal is to have the report but have the back up support the recommendations. Look at the language and replace the language with the Forest Service lingo?

Need some substantive discussion behind the bullets. We need to have rationale behind the recommendations by group.

Unresolved issues – wilderness in Colorado or Magnet areas? Fees and Funding.

Recommendations should be what the public will accept. What can we do in these recommendations to make specific recommendations to put some of the fees (if not all) go back

to specific forests – use friends groups instead. The fees that concessionaires charge are out of line.

Craft an expression for how can we get Wilderness areas more money. Whatever fees are collected should remain with the forest where it is collected.

To new ways of funding – REA dollars. At our next meeting (1/17) Pam DaVore would come how can we capitalize on REA dollars to fund Wilderness. Cindy Dean now oversees the outfitting money and she will present on 1/23. How can we capitalize on outfitting dollars and use them back in Wilderness if the service is provided in Wilderness. Once you get down to regional level there is nothing wrong with a line item budget for Wilderness.