



PARTNERSHIP IN PRACTICE

A quarterly newsletter from the Lassen National Forest

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Welcome!

The Lassen National Forest would like to welcome you to our first Partnership in Practice newsletter! This quarterly newsletter will be used to communicate about topics of interest to our partners, share our successes, and generate ideas for future partnering opportunities. Please take part in the survey below to let us know what you'd like to see in future newsletters.

New Partner Contacts on the Lassen



Introducing **Bobette Jones**, our new Eagle Lake District Ranger! Bobette started her career on the Eagle Lake District as a seasonal timber and wildlife technician, then as an ecologist. Most recently, she served as a Regional Ecologist with the USFS in Oregon, where she applied knowledge gained while earning her PhD in Integrative Ecology with her project and program development experience to work on landscape-level projects across multiple jurisdictional boundaries. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, backpacking, stand up paddle boarding, and walking her dogs in less crowded areas. Please welcome Dr. Jones!

Bobette.Jones@usda.gov

“I enjoy working as a natural resource manager and learning this land, past and present, and the interdisciplinary nature of my work.”



Lejon Hamann is detailing in as the Hat Creek District Ranger! Lejon is a US Army veteran (serving as a parachute infantry mortarman) and a Presidential Management Fellow. He has worked with the federal government for more than a decade, employing the knowledge he gained during his Master's program to his work as a USGS Hydrologist and USFS Partnership Coordinator and Natural Resource Specialist. In addition to serving his country, Lejon loves traveling and adventuring, having visited 30 countries on five continents, kayaked the Mississippi River from Minnesota to Louisiana, and thru hiked the Appalachian Trail. Please welcome Lejon!



Lejon.Hamann@usda.gov

"I am thankful for this detail and the opportunity to learn from all the folks of Hat Creek Ranger District and the Lassen National Forest."



Introducing **Stephaney Cox**, the Lassen National Forest Partnership Coordinator! Stephaney's professional experience includes environmental compliance management on large-scale renewable energy infrastructure projects in the Southwest, wildlife mortality surveys at wind energy facilities in the Midwest, mesocarnivore surveys and environmental education in the northern Sierras, and program management for socioeconomic development projects in Cambodia. Stephaney will serve as a liaison between partners and the Forest. In her free time, Stephaney enjoys competing her two Belgian malinois dogs in obedience and scent work, finding geocaches, and exploring the Lassen's trails and waterways. Please welcome Stephaney!

"I'm a big believer in the old saying- 'If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.' I look forward to working with partners and LNF staff to achieve shared successes ."



Stephaney.Cox@usda.gov

Amber Marshall is our new Public Affairs Officer! Amber began her federal service as a proud member of the US Navy. Her passion for public land and spending time outdoors led her to New Mexico, where she first joined the US Forest Service on the Gila National Forest, and has since served as a Frontliner, Support Services Specialist, Public Affairs Specialist/ Fire Information Officer, and Public Information Officer. When not at work, Amber can be found hiking and kayaking in the great outdoors, trying new and exotic recipes with her husband, retro gaming with her family, and attending a variety of concerts, art exhibits, and festivals. Please welcome Amber!

Amber.Marshall@usda.gov



I have always sought out opportunities to communicate the voices and hard work of the people I work with ."



Announcing the 1st Bi-Annual

Partnership in Practice Symposium



A day of information sharing, thought partnering, and networking

We need your help to settle on a day in mid to late October!



Fill out a Doodle Poll now to select the day that works best for you:

<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/eVQDk4Xd>

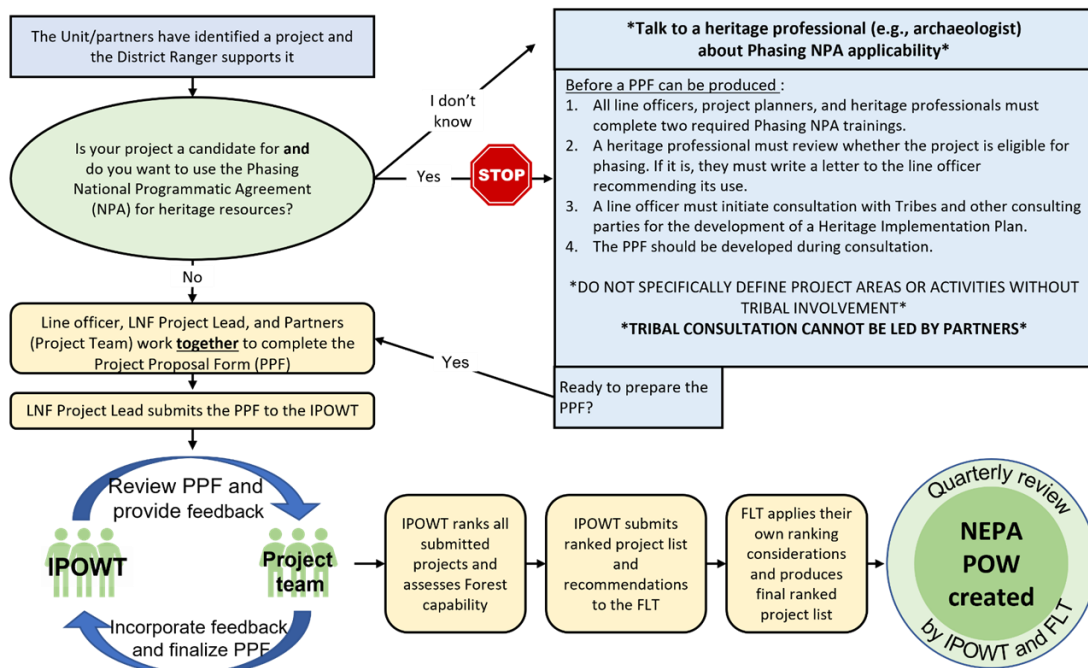
NEPA Program of Work Process

How does a project make it onto the

The NEPA POW is a list of projects whose planning efforts have been prioritized by the Lassen National Forest for the current fiscal year.

Partners and their forest contacts work closely together to define a project that meets national, regional, and forest-level management goals. Then LNF specialists and line officers work with the LNF Integrated Program of Work (IPOW) Team to move a proposed project through an approval process. The projects on the NEPA POW are vetted for NEPA readiness by our IPOW Team and a quantitative ranking system is applied to determine how projects are prioritized.

Lassen National Forest NEPA Program of Work Process



IPOW=Integrated Program of Work Team; FLT=Forest Leadership Team

Partner collaboration is built into almost every step of the NEPA POW process. At the PiP Symposium in October, we'll define where collaboration occurs and workshop ways that collaboration can be increased.

Please review the NEPA POW process document attached to the email and come to the PiP Symposium ready to share your ideas!

This NEPA POW only includes the top ten prioritized projects that are in the planning phase. The LNF is working on many other projects that are in the development, planning, or implementation phases.

FY23 NEPA Program of Work- July 23

Forest Priority	District	Project	Level of NEPA	Program Area
1	Forest	Dixie Fire Community Protection Project	EA	Veg/Fuels
2	HC	HC Recreation Enhancement Project	CE	Rec
3	Forest	LNF Ongoing PG&E Hazard Tree Reliability Project	CE	Special Uses
4	ALM	Colby Mountain Recreation Project	CE	Rec
5	EL	Pike's Point Boat Launch	-	Rec
6	Forest	LNF MVUM Update (5 Counties OHV)	EA	Roads
7	HC	Backbone	EA	Veg/Fuels
8	ALM	Upper Butte Creek	EA	Veg/Fuels
9	HC	Green Badger Restoration Project	EA	Veg/Fuels
10	ALM	West Lassen Headwaters Project	EA	Veg/Fuels

The NEPA POW will undergo a quarterly review in September. An updated NEPA POW will be shared in the November PiP Newsletter. Any changes that affect current projects will be communicated to partners by LNF Line Officers.





What do you want to see covered in the newsletter?

This newsletter is created for you by the Lassen National Forest to share information that partners need and are interested in. In the next newsletter we'll highlight the work of a partner project. What else would you like to see presented in this newsletter?

Please fill out [this Google form](#) or email Stephaney to make suggestions!



Partnership Research Notes

“Collaborative projects tend to be larger and more complex while displaying similar planning timelines.”

Dr. Chelsea McIver and Dr. Dennis Becker of the University of Idaho sought to answer questions about the efficiency and effectiveness of collaborative planning and implementation of projects undertaken on USFS-managed land, specifically in regard to increasing the pace and scale of land management. Researchers analyzed 410 projects that were planned and at least partially implemented over a 14-year period on all seven National Forests in Idaho. They utilized USFS databases to examine the relationships of pace (time between project initiation and decision), scale (number of acres per project), and efficiency (number of acres treated divided by the number of planning days) with whether the project took a collaborative approach, the NEPA level of the project, legal outcomes, and other variables.

Key takeaways:

- “Collaborative governance was not associated with significant differences in the time to complete a NEPA analysis” p.54; in other words, collaborative planning was neither faster nor did it take longer
- “Collaborative governance of forests is associated with larger and more complex projects” p. 56
- “There is a significant and strong relationship between collaboration and efficiency” p. 55; in other words, using a collaborative approach, more project acres can undergo planning in the same amount of time as a traditional (i.e., non-collaborative) approach.
- Collaborative projects are much more likely to be appealed and litigated (but this result requires more investigation)

Dr. McIver is currently working on a qualitative study using interviews and surveys to explore how available resources (staff, leadership support, knowledge of collaborative processes) affect collaborative outcomes.

The entire text of the paper can be found at <https://academic.oup.com/forestscience/article/67/1/49/6080199>

**Thank
You!**

Thank you for joining us for this quarter's PiP Newsletter! We look forward to receiving your feedback about the PiP Symposium dates and future newsletter content.



No one can whistle a symphony. It
takes a whole orchestra to play it.
— H.E. Luccock