

## **Kootenai Stakeholder Coalition General Meeting**

**(June 19, 2016)**

### **Attendees:**

#### Board Members-

Robyn King, Yaak Valley Forest Council  
Dawain Burgess  
Bill Martin  
Paul McKenzie, FH Stoltze Land and Lumber  
Ed Levert, Lincoln Co. Forester  
Amy Robinson, MWA  
Mike Petersen, The Lands Council  
Tim Dougherty, Idaho Forest Group  
Jerry Wandler, Troy Snowmobile Club

#### Non-Board Members-

Dave Marsh, DNRC  
Jessie Grossman, YVFC  
Doug Ferrell, Friends of Scotchman Peaks  
Ashley South, MWA  
Tina Oliphant, Kootenai River Development Corporation  
Chas Vincent, Montana State Senate Dist. 1 Representative

#### US Forest Service-

Chris Savage, Kootenai National Forest  
Bryan Donner  
John Gubel  
Kirsten Kaiser  
Stacey Thornbrugh

Following a welcome and introductions, Chair Robyn King opened the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were unavailable and will be sent out later. (Task completed – March minutes sent and received)

## **Common Ground Committee-**

Jessie Grossman, Chairman of the Common Ground Committee than discussed the next steps needed to implement the recently approved KFSC agreement. The fact sheet on the stakeholders and the agreement is completed. Presentations have already been given to the Society of American Foresters at both the Libby Chapter meeting and the State meeting in Helena. Amy said the handout and upgrade of the power point were nearly complete.

Tina asked what are the next steps following this outreach or where are we going with this. The answer given was that we would be working with the FS and taking congressional action if needed.

A discussion ensued over how to handle incidental expenses involving the implementation. Ed mentioned that the county is all right with handling the funds although he wasn't sure if they fully understood how. Paul McKenzie asked if having the county handle the funds would affect contributors tax exemption status. Ed said he would check on this.

Robyn and Chas said that they were going to attend the Pacific Northwest Economic Conference in Calgary to present on our collaborative group.

## **District Reports-**

**Libby District-** Jessie and Ed reported that the Flower Cr. Project had slowed down and the district was preparing another alternative. The East Reservoir Project is waiting on Judge Christianson's decision although road building is proceeding. This decision is not expected until July at the earliest.

Stacy Thornbrugh came in later and reported on the Libby District's sale program. They are doing an in-house review of Miller West Fisher Sale.

The district hopes to finalize the Flower Creek alternatives by July 18. They will be sending out possible dates soon for a field trip.

**Three River District-** Kirsten handed out the district's current sale program. Active sales include Grizzly, Sparring Bulls, South Fork Fuels and Buckhorn sales.

The district plans to sign the Record of Decision shortly on the Lower Yaak/O'Brien project. They are in the beginning the NEPA process for the Starry Goat Project which will include over 91,000 acres.

**Eureka District-** Bryan said that the Young Dodge Sale is mostly completed although the ROD was appealed to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit with the more limited scope of adverse affects on grizzly bear because of large openings. Bryan discussed other projects on his handout including Galton, Ten

Lakes Travel Management and Pinkam/Meadows. Paul McKenzie, team leader for the Pinkam/Meadows stakeholder team reported on the field trip with the district on May 19.

**Cabinet District-** John reported on the status of the Helwick, Dry Creek and Elk/Rice timber sale projects. He hopes to implement the Helwick project by August 2016. Dry Creek and Elk/Rice would be sold in 2017. Doug Ferrell, team leader for the Cabinet reported that their team was very pleased with how well the district was collaborating with them.

### **State of the Forest- Chris Savage**

Chris started out by mentioning what a huge undertaking the Oly project has been and in particular the stewardship aspects that the district is incorporating. Chris responded to a question of how much volume was under contract and he reported there was 132 MM BF under contract and 12 or 16 MMBF under litigation. The Forest is on track to sell 58 MMBF this year if Oly sells. No injunction has been filed on the East Reservoir project to stop the road construction.

Chris said the draft on the Young Growth project is expected by August and a field trip is planned 2 to 3 weeks later.

Three law suits are in place over the Montanore Project from Earth Justice, Clark Fork Coalition and Libby Placer. The purchase of Mines Management by Hecla will make dealing with the project and lawsuits much simpler.

Chris said that the over the snow portion of their Part B of their travel planning effort is scheduled to start by 2019 upon completion of the biological opinions from the USFW. Part A will be done at the project level. A forest plan amendment could result.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:30** Next meeting to be announced at a later time.

Ed Levert, Secretary/Treasurer