

## Meeting Synopsis

On Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Burney-Hat Creek Community Forest and Watershed group met and accomplished the following: (1) approved the October 2015 meeting notes and corresponding action items; (2) did a visioning exercise; (3) received a “bird’s-eye” overview of USFS opportunities for CFLR work; (4) received updates from the private landowners and funding working groups; (5) and identified potential topics for the group’s next meeting. The group will meet again in January, 2016 to review and prioritize USFS opportunities for CFLR work.

## Meeting Attendees

Don Curtis	Shane Larsen	Bruce Ross
Crystal Danheiser	Doug Lindgren	Todd Sloat
Ann Grasso	Wendy Markham	Shawn Wheelock
Ryan Hadley	Alden Neel	Paul White
Kristy Hoffman	Brian Noel	
Pete Johnson	Patricia Putterbaugh	

## Action Items

- **A. Reeves-Jolley** to circulate SLMBD meeting notes once available online. [Not yet posted.](#)
- **A. Reeves-Jolley** to reengage McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park. [Ongoing.](#)
- **C. Danheiser** to engage Danny Cluck, Lassen entomologist, in the CFLR conversation re: bug kill.
- **C. Danheiser** will bring a map of the Plum project area and any other areas the group will discuss to future group meetings.
- **C. Danheiser** to distribute a summary of potential CFLR recreation projects to the group for discussion, specifying which projects would require new NEPA.
- **C. Danheiser** to prepare maps displaying layers of interest for the group to consider in its prioritization of CFLR projects.
- **A. Reeves-Jolley** to forward an electronic version of the logging/snowpack letter to the group. [Done.](#)
- **T. Sloat** to present more details based on an SPI model of a spring-fed watering cistern that will be presented to the private land owners for further discussion and then to the full group.
- **Group** to decide whether or not Sierra Institute, as the group facilitators can use CFLR funds to coordinate the private landowners working group. [January meeting.](#)
- **C. Danheiser** to report back on the opportunity to pursue 2017 planning funding under the Chief’s Initiative.
- **A. Reeves-Jolley** to coordinate monitoring update from Michelle. [Webinar 1/5/15.](#)
- **A. Reeves-Jolley** to distribute CFLR report to group prior to meeting. [Done.](#)
- **J. Kusel** to coordinate report back from Assemblyman Dahle on next steps for Burney Power. [On January agenda.](#)
- **A. Reeves-Jolley** to administer Doodle poll to schedule next full-group meeting. [Done.](#)

## Contents

<b>Meeting Synopsis</b> .....	1
<b>Meeting Attendees</b> .....	1
<b>Action Items</b> .....	1
<b>Meeting Notes</b> .....	2
Introductions and Opening Business .....	2
Collaboration.....	3
<i>Group Visioning, Part 1</i> .....	3
<i>Presentation on the Spectrum of Participation</i> .....	3
Updates.....	4
<i>USFS/CFLR Opportunities for Collaboration</i> .....	4
USFS Personnel Updates .....	4
Four Corners.....	4
Recreation Opportunities .....	5
Big Lake .....	6
<i>Tribal Priorities for the Landscape</i> .....	6
<i>Private Lands Subcommittee Update</i> .....	6
<i>Funding Working Group Updates</i> .....	6
<i>SCALE Meeting</i> .....	7
Closing Business.....	7
<i>Identification of Potential Meeting Topics</i> .....	7
<i>Next Meeting</i> .....	7

## Meeting Notes

### Introductions and Opening Business

- Meeting protocols reviewed.
- October meeting notes accepted by the group; action items reviewed
  - “SLMBD” stands for U.S. Forest Service Region 5 Sustainable Landscape Management Board of Directors. The Purpose of this meeting was a Regional USFS brainstorm session on USFS collaboratives and Regional issues; **ACTION ITEM: A. Reeves-Jolley** to circulate meeting notes once available online.
  - October action items reviewed.
- November meeting agenda approved.

## Collaboration

### *Group Visioning, Part 1*

- Several years ago, many group members identified their goals for the group encompassing “the whole enchilada,” i.e. their goals were and remain multi-faceted and include each component of the triple bottom line (equity, environment, and economy).
- Individuals shared some of their goals for the group over the next year. Goals articulated included:
  - Bring more rec and tourism to the area
  - Potato Butte OHV Project
  - Employ local youth
  - Help ID Future Prop 1 Proposals
  - Learn about the group (new members)
  - Offer fire perspectives and local history and trends
  - Draft CE of 4 corners project II
  - Rebuild/maintain/build new bioenergy facilities
  - Outreach/educate local community about collaboratives (forest health/forest management)
  - Accomplishments on the ground
  - Fuel treatments in the WUI
  - Develop long=vision/persuade state government about CO1 impact from wildfire
  - More watershed restoration projects
  - Increase fire suppression/protection across all landscapes
  - More prescribed fire... everywhere
  - Did we do what we said we'd do? Monitoring Group...
  - Multi-ownership forest health projects
  - Maintain/build new bioenergy facilities

### *Presentation on the Spectrum of Participation*

- Using the International Association of Public Participation’s principles of public participation, public participation can range from Informing, Consulting, to Collaborating.
- As a project travels towards collaboration on that spectrum, there is a direct relationship with the resources involved (time, money spent on facilitation, etc.), as well as the level of decision making power that the public has.
- From Sierra Institute’s perspective, Collaboratives have the most success when the term “collaboration” is well defined by both FS and non-FS parties and used with deliberation; i.e. instances of education aren’t labeled as “collaboration.”
- Other, non-collaborative, types of public participation are valuable and effective for particular situations; the key aspect to this spectrum is that all parties are clear and consistent regarding what type of participation is being solicited/offered during different phases of projects.

## Updates

### *USFS/CFLR Opportunities for Collaboration*

#### USFS Personnel Updates

- G. Mayer will be solely focused on timber duties during the upcoming year.
- K. Fallon has accepted a position with BLM and is no longer with the USFS.
- C. Danheiser will be taking on USFS/CFLR responsibilities and will serve as the group's main FS point of contact. The District is committed to bringing in other specialists to provide information/answer questions as appropriate.

#### Four Corners

- 2008 Bencher and 1992 Long Valley Fires burned through this project area
- Review of accomplishments:
  - NEPA-approved pre-commercial mechanical and hand thinning is all complete; burn piles have also been constructed within the 5,000-acre project area.
  - The original NEPA was for 1,000 acres of fuels treatment, but the area was too dense to use fire safely. That is why methods above were used.
  - Mastication/burning and retreatments are the long term next step for forest health.
  - Some untreated areas were left as-is due to various reasons.
- Remaining areas:
  - 20K potential project acres remain within that general vicinity, USFS wants to know what the group wants to do next and where. Project boundaries are currently undefined.
    - Does the group still want to still focus on timber? What about recreation? Water quality? Meadows?
  - There are other small pre-commercial and commercial thinning opportunities, high fuel-load needs throughout.
- Discussion on additional work/projects in this area:
  - New name: D. Curtis suggested "Crossroads."
  - Flat-head borer and western pine beetle have infested this area and death is wide-spread.
  - The area involves two main ecosystems: mostly 5-needle pines to the north and pine/oak to the south.
  - In order to minimize cumulative effects, the USFS suggests to use a very focused CE vs multiple small CE to accomplish project objectives.
  - CE allow for urgency-oriented projects and are a great tool if used in combination with an EA and/or an EIS.
  - Field trips are needed to pick priority area.
  - T. Sloat suggests to include McArthur Burney Falls Memorial State Park within the new project boundary, esp. from funding perspective. **ACTION ITEM: A. Reeves-Jolley** to reengage State Park.
  - There is a portion of the area already thinned in the SE corner (shown in purple) that needs re-treatment/mastication.

- Clarification- Do beetles actually decline after thinning? Yes, to a degree.... Also, cutting sooner allows for the projects to pay for themselves when small diameter timber is still green. There is also a fire-fighting component to this as well.
- **ACTION ITEM:** C. Danheiser to engage Danny Cluck, Lassen entomologist, in the conversation re: bug kill.
- Dinky uses a model of collaborative pre-project surveys to ID project areas that fit the group's wildlife concerns.
- Where is the fire threat the most serious? Fire hazard data needed.
- The group sees simultaneous need for a CE and an EA; there is Lassen FS precedent for overlapping a CE and EA as long as the same issues are being analyzed.
- USFS: If we put this on Program of Work for 2017, something else might need to come of the work plan; the group will need to prioritize how to spend CFLR funds
- Surveys for this area are no longer current and the needed wildlife and heritage surveys will need to be updated
- T. Sloat- Privates can respond more quickly because they have different compliance obligations.
- D. Curtis: Plum is a large area with a lot of problems, but the group needs more information to prioritize it in comparison with other projects.
- USFS: Plum is on the Lassen's 2016 Program Of Work; it also covers large enough areas to allow for landscape scale restoration. The project area contains 17, 140 acres and is east of the Lost Fire Burn Area.
- **ACTION ITEM:** C. Danheiser will bring a map of this area and any other areas the group will discuss to future meetings; she is taking the lead on Plum in place of D. Mayer.
- In June/July 2016, USFS will be setting FY2017 priorities; FY2016 priorities re: staff time are already allocated.
- The 3K area does not have to be contiguous; R. Hadley recommended that Black Ranch Road, high insect infestation areas, and a community fuel break be the priority areas for the CE.
- The next step will be formal group recommendations at the next meeting after the FS presents the information requested by the group. **ACTION ITEM:** C. Danheiser to bring GIS layers regarding past and current projects within the CFLR footprint, forest health/insect and disease, fire history, fire modelling, wildlife, current and potential recreation sites, meadows, other natural resources layers, etc. to the next group meeting.

#### Recreation Opportunities

- A. Grasso asked the group if it was interested in recreation.
- D. Curtis: recreation was part of the original group's goals and fits within its socioeconomic CFLR goals.
- T. Sloat: The group earned RAC funding for recreation activities in the Hat Creek area a few years ago; the challenge is having one person able to focus on pushing those projects forward.
- W. Markham: The Potato Buttes OHV project is a way to move the OHV population off more sensitive areas like the PCT and minimize resource damage within riparian corridors due to OHV use.

BURNEY HAT CREEK COMMUNITY FOREST AND WATERSHED GROUP  
MEETING NOTES, NOVEMBER 16, 2015

- Big Pine campground doesn't accommodate larger RVs; as a result, RVs are pulling into the dispersed, river-front sites and are impacting soil/watersheds. W. Markham has surveyed visitors and confirmed that people are camping there because they can't fit elsewhere. In general, many Lassen campgrounds are outdated. Other projects, like restoring accessible fishing platforms, will also protect the watershed
- R. Hadley: Mountain biking trails are of interest.
- P. Putterbaugh, P. Johnson, D. Curtis, R. Hadley all voiced their support for projects that would redirect recreationists to less-sensitive areas.
- Other districts are committed to help these projects move forward, but again the group would need to prioritize how it would like to spend CFLR funds.
- Some projects will require new NEPA, others (such as restoring an existing trail) will not require new NEPA. **ACTION ITEM: C. Danheiser** will prepare a summary of potential recreation projects. The summary will specify which projects do not require new NEPA and could therefore be done in 2016.

#### Big Lake

- All that is left is mechanical in the riparian zone buffers. Information on this will be included in the FS summary of CFLR opportunities.
- This is one of the few meadows in the District that needs restoration.
- Sluicelock has tentatively been rescheduled to 2017 and Sunshine Plantation has been pushed forward to 2016. Logging Treatments and their effects on Snowpack
- S. Wheelock shared a letter from U. Nevada on research and if asking members for feedback by the end of the week. **ACTION ITEM: A. Reeves-Jolley** to forward electronic version of the letter and gather information from S. Wheelock regarding Snow Monitoring.

#### Tribal Priorities for the Landscape

- Section not covered at the meeting, M. Fierro not in attendance

#### Private Lands Subcommittee Update

- Snow Mountain is a strategic fuel reduction location with endangered species concerns as well potential joint NEPA/CEQA opportunity
- The group is also exploring the potential of installing a road-watering cistern on Tamarak Springs Road. **ACTION ITEM: T. Sloat** to present more details based on an SPI model will be presented at the next all-group meeting.
- P. Putterbaugh: Is the facilitators' time with this working group part of their contract with the CFLR? Are the meetings open to others? **ACTION ITEM: Group** decision regarding whether or not SI, as the facilitators, should continue to coordinate this working group at the next full-group meeting.

#### Funding Working Group Updates

- The group met in October. Funding needs and opportunities were identified, but how to move forward needs to be determined.
- Chief's Initiatives- could this help with planning \$? **ACTION ITEM: C. Danheiser** to report back.
- FYI: Shasta Trinity is putting a proposal for Chief's Initiative, this year's deadline has past.

BURNEY HAT CREEK COMMUNITY FOREST AND WATERSHED GROUP  
MEETING NOTES, NOVEMBER 16, 2015

- SRA grant update: Open for state lands, \$100K max, due on 1/7/15, projects that benefit communities will be ranked most highly. No match required, but it helps. S. Larsen will be contact the for this opportunity.

*SCALE Meeting*

- Sierra Cascades All-Lands Enhancement (SACLE) initiative met on 11/12/15.
- SCALE's purpose is to identify and address CFLRP/all-lands barriers to success.
- Engages with USFS Region 5 and seven California USFS Collaboratives.
- Barriers addressed have included: CFLR budget transparency, defining what is local, establishing how the USFS can implement contracting mechanisms that generate positive local benefit, and how to best go about socioeconomic monitoring (a CFLR requirement).

Closing Business

*Identification of Potential Meeting Topics*

- Map presentation that includes spatial information on past and current projects, forest health/insect and disease, fire history, fire modelling, wildlife, current and potential recreation sites, meadows, other natural resources layers, etc.
- The group will have a discussion on this information and begin to prioritize issues/ projects.
- Monitoring update from M. Coppoletta. **ACTION ITEM: A. Reeves-Jolley** to coordinate.
- CFLR report review and discussion, process for 2016 **ACTION ITEM: A. Reeves-Jolley** to distribute report to group prior to meeting.
- Report back from Assemblyman Dahle on next steps for Burney Power. **ACTION ITEM: J. Kusel** to coordinate.

*Next Meeting*

- The group determined that it will reconvene again on either January 11 or January 25.
- **ACTION ITEM:** A. Reeves-Jolley to administer Doodle poll to set next meeting date.