

Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative

General Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2017 / 10:00 a.m.

Gold Beach, Oregon



Attendees: Kim Hunter, USFS, Gary Grotian-Agness Citizen, Theresa Bird-Kal Audobon, Tina Lanier-USFS, Mike Miller-CCPLA, Kailey Clarno-USFS, Kendal Martel, Curt Boice-County Commissioner, Kelly Timchak-Curry County Watersheds, Rich Nawa-Klamath Siskiyou Wild

Agenda Topics:

- June Field Trip
- Next Collaborative Project
- Multiparty Monitoring

1. Field Trip Discussion:

The forest service will be meeting next week to talk about the details and logistics of the two field trip sites and committed to providing information to the collaborative by May 26th.

There was a discussion about the presentation that will be given by the Forest Service Team the morning of the field trip at the Agness Community Center. For the presentation, there will be a broad overview of each of the project elements within the Shasta Agness project: unique habitats, riparian, and recreation. In addition, there will be an update on the NEPA process status and timeline as it moves into an EIS. Finally, there will be a question and answer period specific to the project. Tina noted that they may not have a lot of specificity with where they are in the project but will be able to talk about it in concept. Also, once the EIS is out, they will have a map to go look at specific project areas. During the actual field trip, an objective would be to look at a unit, the prescription, and talk about the pros and cons of that prescription, as well as any potential options or alternatives. Also, Trent Seager give a brief talk about best practices on documenting the field trip and information to be listening for to be used for the public comment period and future engagement.

Logistics:

There will be a carpool from the Gold Beach OSU extension office leaving at 7:45 a.m. to drive to Agness. Please let Kendal know ASAP if you want to be in that carpool so we can coordinate vehicles and space. Sustainable Northwest will be renting a van, but we will probably need another vehicle or two. If you would like to volunteer to drive, please email Kendal ASAP.

Safety considerations:

- Be aware of the risk of poison oak/ivy and bring any medicine.
- Bring plenty of water. (SNW will try to bring a big jug in case)
- Dress in layers to prepare for changing weather.
- Wear comfortable CLOSED TOE shoes.

Discussion on Roads Component of Project:

A member had a question about the road down to the recreation area to Shasta Costa, there had been a discussion about making the road better to prevent future issues.

The road crossing at Billings Creek was highlighted as a potential sensitive issue that would warrant future discussion. It was also noted that it would be valuable to in the future, look at any roads that could create any potential social anxiety around sediment issues or closures of motorized access in the Agness area and flag them for discussion. Even though there will not be a site visit to roads during the field trip, some of the road issues will be covered in the recreation piece of the morning presentation.

The group discussed specific roads units that the group had in mind for further discussion:

- The Shasta Costa Creek Road which is an example of a road that carries issues around social license.
- The Billings Road which may carry issues around sediment.

It was noted that there was a Forest Service RAC project done for sediment reduction in Billings Creek. **Kelly Timchak agreed to find that information and shared with the group.**

Discussion on Riparian Component of Project:

Tina asked if the collaborative wanted to see a riparian area within one of the specific field trip units or an area for that could be potentially designated for aquatic restoration. The group showed the most interest in learning more about any logging being done in riparian areas/LSRs, as well as fuels treatment, habitat work and non-commercial treatments. There was also a comment that some groups have expressed concern around water temperature and how that will affect aquatic habitats. These are being documented as flagged concerns for shared learning around riparian components of the project, and it would be helpful for the group to work with the FS to identify the spectrum of options from no-cut all the way to treatment.

2. Next Project

The coming objective is to create a living document that lists criteria by which the collaborative will measure potential projects as they are offered. One potential question to ask would be “Will this project cover the three objectives that were focused on in the Shasta Agnes project like riparian, recreation and unique habitats.

There was additional discussion of specific project areas and the following list was discussed:

- Signal Butte-Half of Signal Butte is managed by the Forest Service and the other half by the BLM. A potential objective for the WRCFC would be to facilitate a management project as a cohesive whole and get both agencies involved as they both have a directive to manage the area for rare plants, as well as vehicle issues. This already falls under the collaboratives recommended project scope. **Rich Nawa agreed to update a project form that Kendal created last year so that information could be shared with the group. Kendal will reshare that document with the group.** Also, it was noted that the BLM has put out a new resource management plan that addresses their half of the area. Since decisions have been made, it may be a good project to figure out how to implement those decisions.
- Sudden Oak Death- There is a SOD Task Force meeting May 16. Kelly Timchak agreed to talk to the organizer to see what the process is for a committee to submit an idea for a project. The collaborative is part of the communications and civic engagement subcommittee. It was noted that most of the SOD issues are on private land right now, and that there could be value in providing land owners with the tools needed to identify SOD on their land.

3. Multiparty Monitoring:

- There was a discussion about how the WRCFC will work with the FS to incorporate adaptive management into the Shasta Agness project leading into the EIS. The needs would be to develop metrics for pretreatment data, understanding what the FS's specific methods and standards are around conducting adaptive management so that can be integrated into the plan, so it can be tied into the measures for the purpose and need. Kailey noted that if they don't utilize adaptive management during the EIS then it might be difficult to do it later, so the group will need a clear list of monitoring questions soon.
- There was also discussion around the fact that quantitative monitoring is expensive and qualitative monitoring (going out in the field together and addressing questions of social values) is less expensive and possibly more relevant to collaborative work. However, in order to integrate monitoring into adaptive management it needs to be quantitative.
- There was discussion around the need to stipulate in a MPM Protocol template that the Forest Service agrees to work with the collaborative on doing monitoring.
- It was also noted that the Forest Service generally doesn't do controls (no treatment) and the no action alternative generally isn't monitored.
- Kendal will refine and share the excel document of monitoring questions, indicators and needed resources to reshare with the group.
- Trent Seager will be working Kendal and the collaborative to develop a draft MPM protocol based upon successful examples from other collaboratives. The group will plan to discuss the MPM protocol in the July meeting.