**Meeting Notes**

July 17th, 2013 – 9:30am – 12:00pm

| **No.** | **Agenda Item** | **Est. Time** |
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| **I.** | **Call To Order** | *9:30 a.m.* |
| **II.** | **Participants Introduction**   * Steve Wilensky, Apple Farmer * Bill Haigh, BLM * Leland Meyer, Amador County Veterans Organization * Michael Dondero, Concerned Citizen * Pat McGreevy, Calaveras Parks and Rec. * Teresa McClung, Calaveras Ranger District * Kendal Young, Calaveras Ranger District * Rick Hopson, Amador Ranger District * Robert Smith, Smith Grinding * Tim Tate, SPI * Matt Waverly, SPI * John Heissenbuttel, Heissenbuttel Natural Resource Consulting * Kimberly Grissom, Blue Mountain GIS/CSUS * Cliff Edson, Calaveras Supervisor District 1 * Peter Zaragoza, CIMC * Reuben Childress, Foothill Conservancy * Addie Jacobsen, Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch * Katherine Evatt, Foothill Conservancy * Susan McMorris, Blue Mountain Community Renewal Council * Cathy Koos-Breazeal, Amador Firesafe Council * Amy Rocha, NRCS * Ed Smith, TNC * Brandon Sanders, SNC * Eric Kleinfelter, CDFW | 5 min. |
| **III.** | **Modifications and/or Approval of Agenda** |
| **IV.** | **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**  Laurence Crabtree was misspelled |
| **V.** | **Status of Active Action Items** |
| **VII.** | **ACCG Work Groups** |  |
|  | **A. Admin Work Group** – B. Sanders | 5 min. |
|  | 1. Workgroup Update  * Met to formulate the agenda * Working to advance biomass feedstock discussion * ACTC has a conference room that can accommodate 20-30 people; this has video conferencing capability; potential other-end users would need to have similar resources available in order for that to work * Meeting room is free; Firesafe Council can provide insurance * Calaveras RD has video-conference capability |  |
|  | **B. Planning Work Group –** K. Young | 5 min. |
|  | 1. Workgroup Update  * Met on the 9th with the Monitoring workgroup; built out more on the social and economic monitoring component * Plan to schedule additional meetings in the fall to advance that discussion * Met on the 10th with the Planning Workgroup which included SNC grant discussion as well as a field trip to Foster Firs * Next Planning WG meeting on August 14th * Location for the 8/14 meeting TBA |  |
|  | 1. Future Field Tours  * Two potential dates for field trips * August 1st East/West Arnold Shred; completed project done by Smith Grinding; may also look at a meadow restoration project just outside the ACCG boundary (Garden Meadow) * August 8th possible field trip to Indian Valley to view meadow restoration project * Field trip tomorrow, Thursday July 18th to Mattley Meadow; meet at the Hermit Springs Fire Station and carpool from there. * Kendal sent around an announcement and the info is also on the blog * Kendal would like to see a show of hands for those planning to attend\ * Request made that field trips be forecasted further out to allow folks to do more advanced scheduling * Calendars will be posted on the blog ideally a month in advance * Taking notes on the field trip has also been seen as helpful. * May want to consider making field trip notes available to the full group |  |
|  | **C. Finance Work Group** | 5 min. |
|  | 1. Workgroup Lead Recruitment  * Susan and Peter met after the last meeting * Group may want to consider a staff position for ACCG * Finance workgroup needs to be proactive in terms of tracking funds and being aware of what is out there in terms of funding sources * In terms of in-kind tracking, there is not a specific recommendation in place at this point * We need more robust tracking of in-kind support |  |
|  | **D. Operations Work Group** – J. Heissenbuttel | 5 min. |
|  | 1. Workgroup Update  * Desire to gather contractors to go over available contracts * Current available contracts were not actively pursued by locals. * Calaveras RD advertised a stewardship contract for Medusa but did not receive any bids; repackaged that one and sent it back out * USFS is using best value/local contractor aspect of bid scoring for stewardship contracting * Suggestion that the group have a full discussion on barriers to access contracts by local contractors at a future meeting * Suggestion made that we hold an evening meeting so that contractors can attend without missing work. * **ACTION**: Operations workgroup will organize a meeting with the contractors and other interested members to go over contracting issues and related items. |  |
| **VIII.** | **New Business** | 90 min. |
|  | 1. Call for SNC Grant Proposal Concepts  * **Amador FSC** – SNC funded two CWPP’s (Pine Grove and Pioneer Volcano); Mitchell Mine Project 🡪Large shaded fuelbreak starting at Pine Acres and connect into Sutter Creek-Volcano Road. Will pass through BLM land. NRCS also has a project close by. May be able to configure project to connect into other projects. Buckhorn Ridge Road BLM; Ingress/Egress and roadside edge clearing. Targeted sheep/goat grazing is also being looked at very closely. * **Amador RD** – Foster Meadow Pond and Plug Category 2 * **Calaveras RD** – Mattley Meadow Pond and Plug Category 2; half of Mattley Meadow is private land so that could get to the all-lands issue; NRCS may pick up the private portion of that project * **Calaveras RD** – Category 1 Bailey Project Stream Restoration; 50-75K; West Calaveras Thin 400 acres at 300K * **Calaveras Parks and Rec**. – Glencoe/Rich Gulch Shaded Fuelbreak; fuelbreaks conceptualized by Brian Mulhollen and Chris Post, involves a lot of BLM * **BLM** – Category 1 Central Calaveras Variance Program 50K; Phase II Lily Gap 150K; Tiger Creek Shaded Fuelbreak ~50K; All projects have NEPA * **ACTION**: Brandon will follow-up individually with project proponents to develop concepts further. |  |
|  | 1. Environmental Benefits Program Strategic Discussion  * ACCG may want to consider what it wants out of this effort. * Multi-faceted effort including Environmental Benefits Program, Avoided Cost Analysis, and Demand-Side Outreach efforts * Environmental benefits program is looking at various governance structures including cost forecasting * How do we want to be involved in these end-user discussions? * How can we achieve that given the pressures on everyone’s time? * Baybank.org was given as an example for governance structure * Forest service was given as an example that needs a third party in order to take receipt of these funds * Funds from this effort could prove complimentary to CFLR funds * Amanda Cundiff is still looking for projects. * **ACTION**: 15 minute discussion next meeting on Mokelumne Avoided Cost Analysis |  |
|  | 1. CFLR Annual Reporting Needs  * Annual reporting timeframe is approaching * Encourage everyone to be keeping notes as to their leveraged funds. * Last year ACCG put in over 4% of total CFLR match * Last year we had about $1M in leveraged funds * Both of these are lacking a lot of contributions, so the hope is we do better this year * Anticipate October/November timeframe * **ACTION**: Members to begin compiling in-kind information |  |
|  | 1. CSUS Researcher Kimberly Grissom  * Blue Mountain GIS (Calaveras-based company) * Finishing degree, needs to complete a series of projects * Last semester worked with Rick on restoration project * This semester and next need to complete two projects with a GIS focus. * Desire to work on an ACCG GIS-oriented project * Interested in the grazing/fuel reduction * Can help with monitoring, reporting, grant-writing, etc. * Can be a yearlong project or be two separate projects * Free service available to ACCG * Needs to have a proposal before September * Possible work in the context of GTR-220 * **ACTION**: Send project ideas to Kimberly |  |
| **VI.** | **Old Business** | 20 min. |
|  | 1. [NFF Funding Opportunity](http://www.nationalforests.org/conserve/grantprograms/capacitybuilding/ccls)  * Application is in, we are awaiting feedback |  |
|  | 1. Community Review Committee Follow-up  * Did not meet * **ACTION**: Will meet immediately following this meeting |  |
|  | 1. Meeting Locations  * **ACTION**: Teresa McClung will look into the hospital to see if they have meeting rooms and telecom resources |  |
| **IX.** | **ACCG Partner Reports** | 10 min. |
|  | 1. Brief updates from those in attendance  * Next week is the SNFCI meeting in Burney; the evening before there will be a meeting of the SCALE effort; anyone who wishes to attend that should talk with Steve W. July 23rd at 6pm in Chester * Suggestion was made to have a BBQ or something of that kind to have a little bit of fun and get to know each other a little better * CIMC is working with CHIPS to bring another person on board * Foothill Conservancy had a successful field trip to Indian Valley * BMCRC has been very busy; restoration completed on the community hall; community garden which started out under BMCRC is working on staying alive * Blue Mountain radio station is up and running; interviews done on Monday at 2pm * Amador FSC is struggling; Cathy has been furloughed and may not be present at these meetings for much longer. * NRCS received a bit more funding; in forest projects there is about $250K worth of work within the ACCG boundary; almost all high-priority forestry projects were funded as were the range projects * John H. is going to Alaska and will not be at the August meeting; John H. offered to host a BBQ * Amador RD will be doing an Indian Valley field trip in early August * Amador RD is now implementing a project under the CHIPS participating agreement * Amador RD received three appeals on the Callecat Project; negotiations did not change the situation; Appellants including Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility; Eric Holst from TU; Main issue was the desire to have road closures; * August 14th Planning Workgroup, bring your pre-applications; Mattley Meadow Field trip tomorrow, anticipate good turnout; meet at Hermit Springs at 9am or the Calaveras RD at 8am * Calaveras RD has a signed decision on Ramsey and they are in the appeal period right now; anticipate getting an appeal * Calaveras RD has seen an uptick in recreational use. |  |
|  | 1. Upcoming Events/Meetings/Conferences |  |
| **X.** | **Current Meeting Action Items Review** | 5 min. |
| **XI.** | **Adjourn – *Next meeting in Amador County on August 21st*** | *12 noon* |