**Meeting Notes**

**March 19, 2014 – 9:30am – 12:00pm**

**Location:** Amador County GSA Building, 12200B Airport Rd, Jackson

**Meeting Facilitator:** Susan McMorris

Action items highlighted

| **No.** | **Agenda Item** |
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| **1** | **Call To Order** |
| **2** | **Participants Introduction.** P McGreevy, B Haigh, B Carroll, R Hopson, K Young, T McClung, K Zeman, A Rocha, L Meyer, C Koos Breazeal, S McMorris, J Heissenbuttel, J Hofmann, K Evatt, R Childress, S Wilensky, M Waverly, T Tate, E Kleinfelter, V Campa, R Carr Wong, Petere Zaragoza. |
| **3** | **Modifications and/or Approval of Agenda**  Laurence Crabtree and Susan Skalski will not be present, so their time was shifted to Steve Wilensky. |
| **4** | **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**  with the addition of the biomass discussion results and attendees. |
| **5** | **Status of Previous Action Items**   1. Monitoring Group formation – updates - Kendal 2. Ad hoc Rx Fire committee update – K Evatt has contacted Dinkey for Native practitioner assistance; C Koos Breazeal met with Fred Velasquez and secured Karuk and Greenville assistance; herbicides talk scheduled; CHIPS has a Native trained group; Tuolumne has active fire crew but not native practitioner. Peter & his agency are available; Bill Haigh offered the BLM staff at the Cosumnes River Preserve.. John Hofmann recommended sourcing ranchers who used prescribed fire. 3. Ops WG –J Heissenbuttel will get operator list to T McClung for timber sales meetings 4. Insurance for loggers – J Heissenbuttel (Associated CA Loggers referral) no co-op but have referrals from ACL 5. Grazing field trip – C Koos Breazeal - dates to Lee Hazeltine – will get back to group 6. Red Fir presentation for blog – B Estes - sent 7. Red fir GTR type document – Kendal - ecology group is working on it. 8. J Heissenbuttel – writing chairman report for contractor meeting. |
| **7** | **ACCG Work Groups** |
| **8** | 1. **Admin Work Group** – C Koos Breazeal 2. Facilitator assignments - volunteers needed June - December 3. We will attempt to have an educational presentation at each upcoming ACCG meeting. Ideas so far – KEvatt- add Rim Fire lessons learned with USFS. T McClung will arrange. R Hopson will contact Bruce Shindler from OSU. J Heissenbuttel- suggested private lands approach with Forester Steve Debenedet & Stacy Standish, Sr. environmental scientist for CA F&W.(E Kleinfelter can help get Stacy). S Wilensky – 1000 acre demo forest with CALFIRE – what is planned? T Tate – Stewardship lands status. |
| **9** | **B. Planning Work Group –** Kendal Young  1. 2/24-27 Monitoring workshop update - 36 participants. Lots of work done; questions pared down from 60 to 50 in the core groups; 4/15 next meeting 930 to 3. K Evatt and J Hofmann did the socio-economic follow-up; sent to Kendal (?). Kendal gave a synopsis on the guiding purpose of management actions across the Cornerstone. Foster Firs – R Hopson – do we want to give formal comments or come back on April meeting re proposed action? Draft is close; one more IDT team meeting. He will send to planning group for review; not ready for blog posting yet.  2. Planning work group meeting report out – next meeting 4/9 location TBD. Field trip 4/22/14 |
| **10** | **C. Finance Work Group – open**  1. Recruiting for this group – look within everyone’s group |
|  | **D. Operations Work Group –** J Heissenbuttel & R Hopson reviewed Operations Work Group meeting – attended by SBA, FS contracting officers, several contractors. A full report coming from John and Rick. |
| **11** | **Presentation –** Bob Carroll, Herbicides. FS Silviculturist since 1988. 32 studies since 1979; publication 2011 – 25 years of Managing Vegetation. [presentation will be posted on blog] We will be inviting Bob back to continue the discussion. Issues raised: Address distinction between release conifer growth and invasive plant issues. No studies on goats; has some on sheep and cattle. Only 2 sheep studies. Fuels management may have different results than for releasing conifers.  GTR 231 publication URL: <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr231/> |
| **13** | **Presentation – Rim Fire Lessons Learned – Industrial Forests – Tim Tate** **& Matt Waverly** SPI started recovery at the end of September and went full speed till end of November and intermittently through winter. 40% through salvage operations. 6-7 more ops planned in early/mid April, then two cable operations; mostly ground based systems which will run salvage till early/mid August and cables continue another 60-90 days after that. Wind down fee operations and FS will have sold roadside sales and keep same operators.  To break up hardpan and hydrophobic soils, they have done tilling behind logging ops – not all clear cut. Sequenced work from black to brown to green. Of 16000 acres - 9000 acres were true black no living trees; 3500 acres moderate damage (remove 30-50% of trees); post harvest will be somewhat mosaic. Remaining 3500 acres light damage, remove 10-20% of trees and leave remainder survivors. Trying to be as conservative approach as possible – if crown and cambium damage certain point, willing to give the trees a chance.  Planting only about 10,000 seedlings this year due to available seed stock. Next year, 1.2 million scheduled and 2016 another million. Drought has contributed to lack of impacts in burn area, some erosion, but not massive movement or gorges; very little pipe plugging, but potential will remain for next winter, not so much on company land due to tilling by end of fall all ground treated and mitigated, but rather on public land – that will be at risk next year.  Lessons learned: more fuel breaks needed; USFS did pretty good job along 4, 88, 108 & against WUI’s on shaded fuel breaks, but not enough. We need to change the way we think the interior of Stanislaus NF is supposed to look. We cannot afford that type of neglect any longer. Need to think wide, strategically placed, very open shaded fuel breaks across the landscape of the forest. Otherwise we simply cannot stop fires like the Rim.  Question: Is SPI exporting logs to China?  Response: They are prohibited from exporting their logs to China because they purchase federal timber.  Question: Fire intensity – what treatments made a difference?  Response: The fire was pretty indiscriminate.  Response: Teresa – they have a study Sept/Oct and Becky was involved in that and can speak.    Question: Matt – how can we increase pace and scale? FS limited by budget; if there was a mechanism by law and acceptable to all parties, they could to hit the ground quicker. Large scale categorical exemptions could make it happen. |
| **14** | **Avoided Cost Analysis –** J Hofmann - report nearly out. |
| **15** | **Wilseyville & SCALE updates –** S Wilensky – they have traversed phase 1 and 2 environmental reports for Wilseyville, due diligence completed, 1 item remaining that the county surveyor has to record but there is no surveyor at this point). Steering committee is working to expedite. Start up expected early 2016; met with Planning, Building Dept ,Environmental Health, Air Pollution, and Public Works. Commissioning procurement plan; CHIPS board prepared to receive recommendation based on agreeable forest practices.  SCALE – meetings and proposals with NFF, SNC, and USFS R5. NFF has agreed to give some funds towards coordination of work between the 3 CFLRs and develop common mutual aid between the 3 groups; some money coming and need discussion for SCALE; cost of meetings & phone; J Kusel has come up with a detailed community benefit detail for Dinkey. Goal to have some administrative capacity with relation to other projects. |
| **16** | Action Items Reviewed |
| **17** | ACCG Partner Reports CHIPS hired 10 more and interview 4 more.  Peter – reminds us we are working hard and also need to spend some quality time |
| **18** | Upcoming Events/Meetings/Conferences/announcements |
|  | **Adjourn – Next meeting in West Point, April 16, Veterans Hall** |