**ACCG Planning Group Meeting, September 10, 2014**

**USFS Amador Ranger District Office**

**Draft Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:** Rick Hopson, Cathy Koos Breazeal, Gwen Starrett, Reuben Childress, Katherine Evatt, John Hofmann, John Heissenbuttel, Bob Carroll, Pat McGreevy, Chuck Loffland, Kendal Young.

1. **Introductions, Agenda Review.**
2. **Power Fire Reforestation Project, Low Herbicide Proposal Review**.

Bob Carroll presented the initial analysis and estimate of the magnitude of the reduction in herbicide use in the Low Herbicide ACCG Alternative as compared to the Proposed Action and concluded a potential 42-43% reduction on the 3 primary competing vegetations (Whitethorn, Deerbrush, Bear Clover).

Reuben Childress presented a similar proposal for the Rim Fire developed by Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions (YSS).

Group discussion followed. Assumptions/background information: 100 trees/acre = 60% stocking rate; Bear Clover area = 641 acres; spotted owl PAC area 125 acres; FS practice is to plant at 10-15 foot spacing in PACs to achieve 50% canopy closure as quickly as possible; YSS recommended planting in clumps of 3, with each third clump being a single tree; subsoiling is not the same as ripping; planting at 21’ spacing nets 98.7 trees per acre; 25’ spacing nets 69 trees/acre; 30-foot spacing nets 48.4 trees/acre; FS target for 60% stocking is 100 trees/acre.

The group appointed Reuben Childress to present the following recommendations to the ACCG body at the next meeting on September 17:

1. 5-foot radius spray
2. In Bear Clover areas:

* If stocking rate is met, no release
* No subsoiling
* Same as Proposed Action if stocking is not met

1. Planting arrangements:

* USFS Proposed Action Item A = YSS Items B and D (change to 25-foot spacing and 1/3 planted as single trees)
* Proposed Action Item B = no change
* USFS Proposed Action Item C = no change

1. **CFLR Cornerstone Annual Report**. Kendal presented categories for the annual report. He will send a spreadsheet to the membership and asks each member to fill in their hours and miles in the appropriate columns and return to him as soon as possible. The new reporting template has not been released yet; he will begin with last year’s template. Target of $2 million for match this year. Get Kendal your leverage amounts and send any field trip or other photos for inclusion in the report.
2. **Project Updates.**

* West Calaveras Thin is in the Objections time frame.
* Hemlock – some delays have occurred
* Mattley Meadow – field trip planned by 9/23
* Foster Meadow – field trip planned for 9/24; scoping comments review period

1. **Calendar.**

* Monitoring Work Group – 9/11, 0930 – 1500 hours, Amador HHS Building.
* Monitoring work Group follow up, 9/18
* Rick is planning some fire settlement work field trips before the snow; suggesting Upper Cole, East/West Panther; future thinning projects.

1. **Roundtable**. Dispensed with due to time.
2. **Review key elements**.
3. **Meeting adjourned.**