**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
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|  | **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
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|  | 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
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|  | **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
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|  | **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.
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| **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.
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|  | 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
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|  | 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
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|  | 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
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| **VI.** | **Old Business** | 20 min. |
|  | 1. [NFF Funding Opportunity](http://www.nationalforests.org/conserve/grantprograms/capacitybuilding/ccls)
* Application is in, we are awaiting feedback
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|  | 1. Community Review Committee Follow-up
* Did not meet
* **ACTION**: Will meet immediately following this meeting
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|  | 1. Meeting Locations
* **ACTION**: Teresa McClung will look into the hospital to see if they have meeting rooms and telecom resources
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| **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.
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|  | 1. Upcoming Events/Meetings/Conferences
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| **X.** | **Current Meeting Action Items Review** |  5 min. |
| **XI.** | **Adjourn – *Next meeting in Amador County on August 21st***  | *12 noon* |