**Meeting Notes**

September 18, 2013 – 9:30am – 12:00pm

Location: West Point Veterans Hall, Hwy 26 x Bald Mountain Road, West Point

Meeting Facilitator: Brandon Sanders

Action items highlighted in Yellow

| **No.** | **Agenda Item** | **Est. Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **I.** | **Call To Order** 9:45 | *9:30 a.m.* |
| **II.** | **Participant Introduction** : Cathy Koos Breazeal, Brandon Sanders, Peter Zaragova, Bill Haigh, Susan McMorris, Robert Smith, John Hofmann, Erik Kleinfelter; Leland Meyer, John Heissenbuttle, Katherine Evatt, Kendal Young, Reuben Childress, Chuck Loffland, Bob Carroll, Pat McGreevy | 9:30 5 min. |
| **III.** | **Modifications and/or Approval of Agenda**  Dan Macon unable to attend; replace his presentation with Rim Fire Discussion | 9:35 5 min. |
| **IV.** | **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**  Corrections:  \*Foothill Conservancy is actively creating the online data collection tool.  \*Under Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant proposals: Foster and Mattley projects belong to Amador and Calaveras; Bailey is Calaveras. | 9:40 5 min. |
| **V.** | **Status of Active Action Items**   1. Revisit MOU between FS and ACCG – J Hofmann and Katherine Evatt – some action, needs more work 2. Recruitment for Finance work group – Brandon Sanders will work with Cathy Koos Breazeal 3. U Michigan research – informational only; Brandon can help coordinate contact info 4. Avoided cost analysis – SNC will make report. Timeframe Nov. 5. Followup Sierra Forest Initiative in Plumas – brainstorm ideas for barriers to success. Get ideas to Trystan – looking for regional scale high level B Sanders can help facil. 6. SNC grant submissions – reviewed. 7. Buena Vista biomass followup – Wilensky – status – B Sanders will call Steve Wilensky re CBD | 9:45 5 min. |
| **VI.** | **ACCG Work Groups** |  |
|  | 1. **Admin Work Group** – C Koos Breazeal  * NFF GRANT – see back of agenda –proposed duties; developing MOA between AFSC and ACCG * New member liaison – recommendation that current members mentor or liaise with new members. * Recommend revisiting ground rules developed about 5 years ago/considerate of clock * Admin recommendation regarding Finance – should it be an ad hoc committee or a standing work group – discussion needed. Susan willing to track in-kind numbers for Cornerstone leverage. * Conference call line needed for occasional con calls – Kendal will check for future after October; use SNC line for October Admin call * Cathy out of state - 9/20 to 10/14. Admin workgroup has her contact information. | 9:50 5 min |
|  | 1. Facilitator Assignments reviewed:  * October 2013 – Susan McMorris * November 2013 – Katherine Evatt * December – likely no meeting * January 2014 – Peter Zaragoza * February 2014 – Rick Hopson * March 2014 – open * April 2014 – Teresa McClung * May 2014 – Kendal Young |  |
|  | 1. **Planning Work Group –** K. Young  * Planning meeting 9/11 – focused on CFR report * Next 10/9 County Admin Building, Room C, Kendal will notify of time * 9/24 Foster Firs field trip - meet Amador 0900. Focus on riparian conservation * Field trip - Sourgrass – cancelled due to Rim Fire. No additional trips in Calaveras till post fire activities wind down * Monitoring workshop -- ~ November Kendal will send out a Doodle poll | 9:55 5 min. |
|  | **C. Finance Work Group –** P. Zaragoza and S. McMorris | 10:00 10 min |
|  | * Workgroup Status; function of the group * Continued discussion from Admin work group report. Since there are no grants coming directly to ACCG, what should be the functions of the Finance. Discussion concurred that the primary function for now is collection of in-kind data. Katherine would like a report back from Peter and Susan on the functions outlined in MOA. Susan and Peter will meet and report back to admin work group. John Heissenbuttel recommended all work groups revisit their functions in MOA. Katherine volunteered to pull functions into table with space for recommendations and send to Susan and Peter. Kendal recommended we now looking for continuation/replacement of NFF grant, since it is only a year. Brandon said SNC is addressing as well. * John Hofmann – regarding letters of support – we do not have a mechanism to follow up on progress or success of a project after sending the support letter. |  |
|  | **D. Operations Work Group –** J Heissenbuttel | 10:10 15 min. |
|  | 1. Contractors Meeting report  * Initial meeting 9/13 between contractors and FS. The group identified 4 tracks: 1 - a real need to inventory/survey local contractor capacity; 2 - contracting 101 session with CO’s and local contractors to understand solicitations, understand flexibility, offer places for clarity in solicitations; 3- options to tailor stewardship contracts – can some be broken out; 4 – define best value for FS. * John and Rick will work out a plan. Katherine is researching other CFLR projects in US and there is an NFF webinar tomorrow. Lots of variation geographically. Looking how local benefit is defined and weighted - varies 16-50%. * Robert Smith – some of the issue is contract language; some is is long term financial need. 10 year projects often fall back to large scale backing because of upfrontt costs like LTO, long term equipment investment risk, insurances; need long term financial backing; family owned businesses can save 23% right up front because of less insurance requirements. * Susan – can contractors get together for group umbrella coverage, like NRA covers gun clubs. John Heissenbuttel will follow up Robert- too many ACTION – John Heissenbuttel and Rick Hopson will come up with time table. * AGENDIZE FOR OCTOBER |  |
| **VI.I** | **~~Presentation: Dan Macon, Livestock Grazing for Fuel Reduction~~**  **Substitution roundtable discussion: Rim Fire**   * J Heissenbuttel – CDF wants clarification that BAER is soil-burn severity, not regarding timber. Moonscape, no seed trees left. SPI estimates 100 million board feet lost. Salvage capacity will be stretched. * Bob Carroll – guess that tree mortality is higher; crown fire can give complete mortality and soil not so severe. * K Young – veg severity map just coming out. Lifetime of work gone in many respects; taking toll on FS staffers. Post ‘87 fire plantations – mixed – some treated areas looked fine, others like no treatment done at all. Veg severity maps and ‘87 fire - 150,000 acres – source from Becky Estes * K Young - a lot of sensors were placed ahead of fire by Carol Ewell. Fire still burning, still in suppression mode. Data coming * K Evatt – how do you differentiate losses between backfires and wildland fire. Info from last weekend’s SNA conference: SFPUD repairs cost estimate $30 million. CO2 emisions 30 milionl metric tons. 50,000 acre run one day – not characteristic. PM2.5 SpareTheAir.com has regional hourly readings. * Robert – toxic peat fumes off old growth areas, mold, bacteria also contributing to poor air quality and working conditions * Kendal – air quality research being done * John Hofmann – Yosemite Let burn Policy – is there any overlap. Kendal – 60,000 acres into the park. Katherine– can we invite Becky Estes to talk. Interesting statistic -- when the hit the park, the acres burned daily went way down. * Erik – what % is private. Kendal has # - he will send.. Sunday Bee Forum section has big article. * Pat McGreevy – Coast to Crest trail – fire concerns in canyon. Shads Lake summer night issues, Ponderosa Way CC bridge – big bonfires; open fire ring escapes are an issue. Can we do a better job in education.? | 10:25 30 min |
| **VIII.** | **Discussion Items** |  |
|  | 1. CFLR Reporting Process reviwed by K Young Due 11/15. Questions 4,5,7,8,9 need feedback numbers - email to Katherine, Cathy, Kendal. Monitoring – pile feedback – Katherine; #7 key accomplishments – additional to FS info -- of each group; #9 – FSC data; #8 – total acres treated – they get from FS database; include non FS projects within Cornerstone project area. To respond to some questions, members need the Cornerstone Project area shape map – Kendal will send; Katherine – are we reporting all lands? Kendal -- differentiate and then can highlight entire collaborative . AGENDIZE OCTOB ER 2. Leverage funds are ACCGs non-cornerstone efforts. ACTION ALL | 10:55 15 min |
|  | 1. MACA/Environmental Benefits/Moke Fund Discussion, K Evatt   Due November . Bathymetric analysis Tiger Creek after bay underway. NFF moving to set up Moke Fund – people can list projects needing funding, matching with funders. MACA costing less, so funds available to create this platform. Integrated Regional Water P. needs more watershed projects, will reopen for new projects ~ Jan. 2014 | 11:10 10 min |
| **IX.** | **SNC Proposals/Support** | . |
|  | 1. Discussion on SNC Grant Proposals Support, K Young 2. B Sanders – Forest Service Bailey project has been issued an invitation to apply, hope to move forward for December 4-5 SNC meeting in Amador. 3. B Sanders - Lily Gap Phase 2 looking good. March Board meeting because CEQA/NEPA crosswalk. 4. Category 1’s have priority over planning Category 2’s, but still in hopper. 5. Letter of Support - Take all projects off except Bailey – group supports; amendments to letter; CKB send electronically to Kendal 6. 3 SNC rounds – December, March, June; possibility of additional $1 million avail due to failing 2008 project | 11:20 25 min |
| **X.** | **ACCG Partner Reports** | 11:45 10 min. |
|  | 1. Brief updates from those in attendance 2. Erik Kleinfelter – deer hunting opens 9/28; hunter check station 29th Hwy 4; ag and grazing leases at Cosumnes River preserve. Kendal asked about FS area in Tuolumne under closure – will there be refunds for deer tags. May impact D6 with increased usage, potential fire. Erik shared a press release – – cannot exchange deer tags based on rules established. Emergency closure decision – decided not to close hunt zone as a way to help winter herd response. 3. Katherine– Great Sierra River Clean-up this Sat -- EBMUD areas, Middle Bar, Pardee, Camanche; FHC - Moke will be working on 10/19 at the Electra run and North Fork; sign up on website. NFF webinar tomorrow. Community forest money available to purchase land, stipulation to keep it open to public, Katherine send email to Cathy. 1:1 match . 4. Kendal – Ramsey not appealed, staff working to put to bid, hope this calendar year start; Robert –heard VIPER being called in for post-fire work and not locals. Kendal will check. 5. Reuben – Mokewise process begun – looking at diverse solutions for water supply and historic issues. 6. Chuck – “The Return to Indian Valley” Field Trip with Coke, FHC, American Rivers 9/26; Calle Cat bid closes this week, award end of FY. 7. Bob Carroll – Calle Cat split into two projects – Calle and Copy Cat; thinning handwork Silver Lake WUI started this week. 8. Cathy – So. Sierra Rx Fire – Clovis – 11/5-6; No. Cal Rx Fire 12/5-6, Redding. 9. Brandon – December 4-5 – SNC board meeting in Amador, maybe National hotel. Tour Wed. Need tour ideas --River, recreation?? Venue ideas; Need businesses to help sponsor event; 10. Bill Haigh – illegal dumping issues – this week BLM partner swith Nevada County for tire amnesty week – 1100 tires collected on Monday, 800 tires Tues already 11. Susan – she & Peter want special meeting social/relational soon. |  |
|  | 1. Upcoming Events/Meetings/Conferences |  |
| **XI.** | **Current Meeting Action Items Review** | 11:55 5 min. |
| **XII.** | **Adjourn – *Next meeting in Amador County October 16th Room D of Health and Human Services Building, 10877 Conductor Blvd x Lower Ridge Road.*** | *12 noon* |