**Amador Calaveras Consensus Group Planning Meeting** June27, 2018

Calaveras Ranger District

**Participants:** (16 attendees)

Joe Aragon, Heidi Beswick, Jan Bray, John Buckley, Ray Cablayan, Zac Croyle, Marg Donnelly, Matt Hilden, Rick Hopson, Pat McGreey, Alaina Osimowicz, Pete Padelford, Carina Robertson, Tony Valdes, Robin Wall, and Terry Woodrow.

* **Arnold Avery Project**
* Project implementation tentative for Jan/Feb 2019.
* Arch survey 800 acres completed in the last two months.
* Wildlife survey are near completion.
* Silviculture Rx changed to accommodate ACCG collaborative input.
* Decision Memo is currently in draft.
* 70 acres of WUI nest to private property ; prescription to remove non-pine species; area is 80% cedar and oak.
* **Comments on Arnold Avery Project**
* Background info: CSERC stated after years of meetings; Forest Supervisors pushed for best available science to get projects done on the ground.
* CSERC requested additional information on owls in Feb 2018: location of PACs, presence of owls, etc.
* CSERC provided written comments on the project.
* CSERC will not oppose the project moving forward over the proposed tree diameter treatments.
* Foothill Conservancy suggested using fuels modelling in PACs to help support fuels reduction treatment to protect PACs.
* Suggested edits to the project CE document were presented and acknowledged by FS.
* **Comments from private landowners:**
  + Pine beetle issue is critical to get timely treatments applied. Sometimes the collaboration slows down getting the job done.
  + We would like to see “guidelines” to help us with our own projects reach shared objectives.
  + The is a “tinder box” behind our property. We have a sense of urgency to complete Arnold Avery.
* **Comments from DR**
  + Need commitment from group (ACCG) for moving forward with projects even if certain key folks miss meetings.
* **Misc. Comments**
  + Can we put Mattley Meadow on ACCG general meeting agenda in roughly 3 months from now?
  + Winton Road is dominant ridge with a lot of hazard trees along road.
    - Can seek grant that includes fed & private landowners.
* **Last Chance (Carinna)**
  + Getting 10 acres completed/day.
  + Goos example of how fast work can get done with simple approach and group buy in.
* **Arnold Avery Project meeting on July 10, 2018**
* Project specific to discuss proposed treatments in PACs.
* Meeting open to all ACCG and community members.
* **Mattley Meadow** (Zac Croyle)
* Meadow on FS and private lands.
* Private lands is grazed by cattle.
* Cornerstone accomplishments for meadow/aquatics have been met and exceeded; Mattley Meadow project currently not on forest program of work.
* Aquatic BA pending.
* FS is working with Plumas Corp and NFWF.
* SNYLF present in meadow; proposed action will be updated to exclude areas with frogs present.
* **Action Items:**
  + Zach to contact Jim Wilcox
  + Joe, Tony, Heidi, Robin to form task group to process “best practices”
* **Shimkey Project**
* Proposed in 2000 then dropped du to tree diameter treatment.
* Project considered again in 2018 for a potential Farm Bill project.
* **Last Chance Project**
* 310 acre fuel break project.
* Contract work implemented on May 5, 2018.
* Three people working two machines completed about 200 acres by end of June.
* **Winton Road** (Pat McGreey)
* West Point to Hermit Springs.
* Winton Fuel Break crossed 4-5 FS lands that have dead pines (hazard trees) that could fall on road.
* Area in need of Hazard Tree Treatments.
* Potential for grants to include private property landowners to help remove trees along roadway.
* **CE Process Discussion**
* What needs to be addressed to include collaborative involvement for future CE projects?
* Consider early discussions with collaborative and FS Specialists to discuss the questions/concerns with project to iron out concerns outside the Planning Group.
* **Collaborative Process**
* Hemlock Project is a model to follow?
* There is no written ACCG process in moving projects through the collaborative process.
* Collaborative Process and Zone of Agreements not in place but continue to be discussed.
* Challenges include that not all that want to provide input on projects are consistently present at the Planning meetings.

**Scottiago Hazard Tree Project** (Rick Hopson)

* Arch surveys, report, and CE Checklist near completion.
* Expect decision by end of 2018.

**Scottiago Forest Health Project** (Rick Hopson)

* Expect project Scoping by mid-July 2018.
* ACCG suggested to include larger clumps.
* PAC treatment still in discussion.
* Will discuss project at next Planning meeting.

**Amador District Update:**

* View 88 biomass piles: working with National Wil Turkey Federation to remove piles.
* Two recent wildfire on the district.
* NFWF grant awards to be announced in mid-August 2018.

**Calaveras District Update:**

* ¼ acre fire at the end of Utica Road on June 26, 2018: probably from campfire.
* Calaveras District Ranger met with Calaveras County to discuss potential MSA.

**Follow-ups:**

* FS will present Mattley Meadow update at the full ACCG meeting in September 2018.
* Scottiago Forest Health Project IDT Leader will send out marking guidelines to Planning Group.
* Amador District Ranger will provide update to ACCG on Scottiago Forest Health Project tree marking.
* FS will send out Zone of Agreement interest to Planning Group.

**Next ACCG Planning Meeting: July 25, 2018**

0900-1500 at the Amador Ranger District

In office discuss of Scottiago Forest Health Project; no field trip planned

*Please remember to bring:* lunch and snacks