

Beaverhead-Deerlodge Collaborative Organizing Committee
Meeting Notes
October 5, 2011
Butte Archives

Present: Chris Marchion, Bruce Farling, Dave Schulz, Dick Owenby, Jim Flynn, Tony Colter, Dave Myers, Karen DiBari, Charlie O’Leary, Randy Smith, Laurie Schmidt, Maureen Connor, Rick Sandru, Parke Scott

Not present: Paul Olson, Sam Sampson, Chuck Mark, Barb Cestero

Notes prepared by Karen DiBari

Introductions

- Karen DiBari provided a brief overview of the National Forest Foundation (NFF) and her role as facilitator
- With members of the organizing committee starting first, each person around the table described their answer to why a Beaverhead-Deerlodge collaborative is a worthy effort at this time. All expressed interest in participating in the group (with the exceptions of Randy Smith and Bruce Farling, who served on the Organizing Committee and are now stepping down due to time constraints)
- Discussion about the desire to reduce litigation and appeals, and work with the Forest Service to develop projects that gain broad support from different interests. Points made include:
- Important to maintain open communications with all interests and to be transparent as to the group’s activities by working with the newspapers and other media.
- Any member who joins would need to agree to the Code of Conduct.
- Recognition that certain interests are not represented
 - ski industry
 - mining
 - appellants and litigants
 - local community (such as a Chamber of Commerce)
- The group decided to maintain its current structure and size and to actively seek input from people who aren’t on the group as well as to bring in expertise when needed.
- Group discussed having each member be a “contact” for certain interests

Name/Purpose of the Group

- Karen DiBari provided an overview of the purpose statement, code of conduct, and structure (see attached PDF of the powerpoint presentation)
- People like the purpose statement
- Discussion about whether “collaborative” is the right name
- Code of Conduct: group discussed whether or not to operate by consensus

Overview of Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF Issues

- Dave Myers provided an overview of the diverse ecosystems and management issues around the Beaverhead Deerlodge NF
- The revised Forest Plan was signed in 2009 and is in litigation
- There’s a collaborative project underway in the Boulder area – interested in input regarding where the Forest should prioritize next.

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, December 7, 2011, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m., Butte-Silverbow Archives
- Agenda will include:
 - A presentation from Dave Myers:
 - Overview of the Forest Plan
 - Budgeting for priority areas on the Forest
 - Programs of work
 - Top 10 issues and projects
 - Science that drives Forest Service work (the “current thinking”)
 - Name of the group
 - Review decision-making processes used by other collaboratives and decide how this group wants to make decisions
 - 2012 meeting plans and focus of work