

**B-D Working Group
Draft Meeting Record**
Thursday, October 15, 2015
Butte-Silverbow Archives
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

BDWG Members Present: Maureen Connor, Tony Colter, Pete Nelson, Nathan Korb, Dave Schulz, Darcie Warden, Nick Gevock

Committee Members: Nick Jose

Forest Service: Scott Snelson

National Forest Foundation: Karen DiBari

Action Items:

- Karen DiBari will send out Bolle Center for Collaboration article about collaboration to the group.
- Karen DiBari will share letter from Nick Gevock with group.
- Darcie Warden will send letter regarding membership and Karen DiBari will send it on to the group.
- Scott Snelson will think about timeline with staff and the FLT committee will further refine the resiliency filters document.
- Resiliency Committee will meet with Scott Snelson and Alex Dunn.
- Karen will email maps prepared by Nathan Korb.
- NFF will update membership list.
- NFF will make reservation at Metal Bank for 11:30 a.m. lunch in their back room.

**Upcoming Meeting Dates (generally 3rd
Thursday of the month):**

- November 19, 2015
- December 17, 2015 – BY PHONE
- January 21, 2016
- February 18, 2016

Minutes:

1. Welcome, introductions and approve minutes
 - Minutes approved pending one change regarding fire borrowing.
2. No Public comment
3. Updates/ Announcements
 - Anti-collaboration comments in this region in media
 - Referenced Martin Nie article
(http://www.cfc.umt.edu/bolle/files/Nie_Metcalf_Bolle_Litigation_Perspective_Oct%202015.pdf)
 - Peter Nelson was a reviewer
 - Paper concludes that collaboration is consistent with National Environmental Policy Act (additive to the public engagement process)
 - Lack of definition about collaboration from the Forest Service (FS) has created some problems
 - Opinion pieces by critics of collaboration in the newspapers
 - Action Item: Karen DiBari will send out Martin Nie about collaboration to the group
4. Policy Updates
 - Softwood Lumber – whole Montana delegation requesting flexibility from FS. Meeting with Canadian embassy.
 - Working on wildfire funding
 - FS accomplishment reporting is a problem

- For example East Deerlodge Valley Landscape project claims 20mbf but will only be 5 mbf saw log, the rest post and rail, firewood, etc.

5. New members

- Action Item: Karen will share letter from Nick Gevock with group. Nick will add a statement regarding the operating protocols.
- Action Item: Darcie Warden will send letter regarding membership.
- Action Item: Karen DiBari will contact Karen Laitala to determine if she is still interested.
- Decision: Darcie Warden and Nick Gevock both approved for membership.

6. Review of “Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest (BDNF) Resiliency Criteria”

- Scott Snelson shared a draft document and explained it:
 - Built on a model used on the Chugach NF.
 - 0-2 scale (0 has no value)
 - Includes elements from last national strategic plan.
 - Proposed process:
 - a) Run project through filters (to give a relative ranking)
 - b) Match to capacity/budget.
 - c) Develop prioritization and timetable.
 - d) NEPA schedule
 - FY17 program of work due March 1 – this will include a 3 year plan.
 - Process for filling in table
 - Want to use similar definitions.
 - Forest Leadership Team Committee filled in document – FS interested in making sure this is a transparent process – would like input on how to make that happen.
 - Incentivizes integration of projects and “reaching across silos.”
 - Fuel Hazard Categories
 - 0 – No impact
 - 1 – non WUI
 - 2 – all WUI or combination
 - Action Item: Request for definitions.
 - Suggestions: small group take the projects BDWG is interested and score.
 - NEXT STEPS:
 - Action Item: Scott S. will think about timeline with staff.
 - Action Item: Committee will meet with Scott and Alex.
 - November Meeting – BDWG run through main projects (integrated landscape) – Resiliency Committee will take the first stab at it
 - January Meeting – Joint BDWG- BDNF FLT Meeting?
- Resiliency Committee
 - Nathan
 - Tony
 - Maureen
 - Pete
 - Nick Jose
 - Scott Snelson
 - Alex Dunn
- Review of maps – Nathan Korb
 - **Action Item:** Karen will email maps to the group.
 - Discussion: people like the approach Nathan took
 - Group still working on how to define lodge pole resiliency.
 - Probably more agreement on mid-elevation.
 - Discussion about the importance of fir restoration and its ecological value as compared to lodge pole.
 - Harder to defend lodge pole treatments as restoration.

7. Boulder Lowlands update with BDNF and identification of next steps

- After decision memo have a Boulder committee meeting with Dave Sabo and Bruce Higgins about monitoring objectives and questions.

8. Selway Meadows

- Weirs are in final design stage.
- Have to reconstruct funding because of fire borrowing.
- Maybe still possible this fall.
- BDNF highly interested in longer term planning on integrated resource objectives.

9. Project Updates

- No other project updates.
- East Deerlodge Valley Landscape – Litigation is expected.
 - BDNF working to respond to comments.

10. Next Meeting

- November Agenda
 - Range presentation
 - Pintler Face
 - Resiliency Model
- Meeting schedule
 - Cancel December in-person meeting and consider a phone call/ adobe connect instead.
 - Consider joint meeting with the Forest Leadership Team in January
 - Consider meeting in-person every other month and have phone calls on the alternating months
- Other:
 - Action Item: NFF will update membership list.
 - Action Item: NFF will make reservation at Metal Bank for 11:30 in their back room.