**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.

**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
       - 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

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

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