

**San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership
Notes March 21, 2014**

Attending: Matt Ford, Bill Trimarco, JR Ford, Nicole Demarco, Jerry Archuleta, Kent Grant, Emily Olson, Noah Chutz, Bev Warburton, Thurman Wilson, Aaron Kimple

Who	What	When
Aaron	Pursue promotional materials	
Aaron	Roberta about radio	
Bill	talk with Roberta about tag team radio show for chip and slash	
Aaron	Update 1 pager and get to Bill, Kent, and Matt	
Noah/ Aaron	Develop Cit Sci flyer and distribute	
Aaron	Develop information on mulch purchasing program	
Bill/ Roberta/ Aaron	Write a PSA for fire awareness month	
Aaron	Finish EPA letter	
Aaron	Talk to Steve about Rio Grande Tours	

Decisions made:

- Aaron and Bill will try to do a radio show to talk about the efforts
 - The MOU was agreed to and signed
 - San Juan Headwaters will support TNC letter of support Wildfire Disaster Funding Act (WDFDA) (S. 1875 and H.R. 3992)
 - Expenditures were approved
- I. Welcome and Introductions (5 min)
 - II. Previous meeting notes (5 min)
 - a. Bill talked to SOS about Earth Day. The response was vague. Nothing has been finalized.
 - b. Bill can talk with Roberta about a radio show. Maybe Aaron and Bill can share the radio time.
 - c. Bill get flyers about chip slash
 - III. Updates (20 min)
 - a. Farm Bill Submission
 - i. The ski area mentioned that they are not asking for money for treatment within the permitted ski area boundary (they budget for that) – they would like to see more treatment on adjacent National Forest lands
 - ii. Information was submitted to the DNR for the Governor’s consideration on two potential areas for designation in our area – lands around Wolf Creek Ski Area

and an area identified high value to water supplies and high risk for wildfire damage in the Fourmile and Turkey Creek watersheds

- iii. Project treatment areas limited to 3000 acres
- iv. Western slope should get more project oriented money
- b. Keystone
 - i. Bill, Aaron, J. R., and Nicole attended
 - ii. Aaron attended the Post-fire break out session and discussed that having a group in place now helps fire response in the future.
 - iii. Community
 - 1. Mitigation needs to occur where people are. Those living in WUI should take responsibility
 - 2. Forest service should not be suppression oriented
 - 3. There is a need for proper grant timelines and criteria
 - 4. Need outreach and education
 - iv. Landscape scale
 - 1. A balance of tools would be helpful
 - 2. There should be more local control of treatment types
 - 3. Let wildfire do the work
 - 4. There is a need for education of industry
 - v. Outcomes
 - 1. There will be a formal document from event
 - 2. They may bring those groups together again
- c. American Forest Foundation
 - i. Got a call from AFF
 - ii. Looking for projects in the West
 - iii. May know in next couple of months
- d. Grant Applications
 - i. DNR grant submitted for Fourmile area
 - ii. CSFS grant submitted for Reservoir Hill
- e. The Nature Conservancy letter of support for the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act (WDFFA) (S. 1875 and H.R. 3992)
 - i. The WDFFA would establish a wildfire emergency funding process that is similar to the processes used to address other natural disaster emergencies. Essentially, it would fund a portion of the USFS and DOI wildfire suppression costs through a budget cap adjustment similar to that currently utilized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for other natural disasters under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1988. It would only apply to very large fires (mega-fires).
 - ii. Thurman supports because it is hard to predict how much money is needed for fires ahead of time in the normal budget process. A small number of large fires that threaten homes typically represent a large portion of the fire-fighting expenses in many years. In recent bad fire seasons the Forest Service has

- enacted “fire-borrowing” – taking money from other programs, including fuels treatment to balance the budget.
 - iii. Senators support
 - iv. Not for prescribed burning but could reduce the amount of prescribed fire and other fuels treatment dollars siphoned off to cover suppression spending overruns.
 - v. San Juan Headwaters agreed to support the TNC letter. Aaron will let TNC know.
 - f. The Nature Conservancy is hoping to hire a scientist in SW Colorado
- IV. Review updated MOU and sign (15 min)
 - a. Agreed and signed
- V. Budget and Expenditures (30 min)
 - a. Approved
 - b. Aaron showed a budget with an added column for what money we have committed
 - c. There can be challenges to getting grant money in at a timely manner
 - d. Thurman presented the idea that some costs need to be periodically reviewed and updated, such as cost of living increases and changes in overhead. It was agreed that MSI would discuss that further with the Partnership’s financial representatives (Bev and Steve) to come up with a joint recommendation.
 - e. Expenditures approved
 - f. There may be future money potential
 - i. with Farm Bill - \$4 million for Colorado
 - ii. Aaron should call Hershey to follow up on funding request
 - iii. El Pomar
 - iv. State Water Roundtable
 - v. Continue to participate Rural Philanthropy Days
- VI. Upcoming Events (10 min)
 - a. JR ordered 50 super sacks
 - i. Bulk at \$8.00/ yd
 - ii. \$20 plus \$15 deposit
 - iii. 400 to 50 pounds per sack
 - iv. Pay JR
 - v. For Earth Day, buy a super sack
 - vi. Sack at east side market
 - vii. Farmers market
 - viii. Aaron build a flyer for super sack - from our forest for our forest
 - b. Donation
 - c. May wildfire prevention month
 - i. Firewise will do WUI check points at subdivisions
 - ii. Write PSA - tag team with Roberta, Bill, Aaron
 - iii. Firewise is doing ambassador training over the next couple of weeks
 - d. Thank La Plata Electric for taking step to work with Tri-State
 - i. Thank your board member!

- ii. JR will be working with Tri-State
 - iii. LPEA election coming soon
 - e. Host West Fire Tour out of Wolf Creek
 - i. Drive up the Hunters Lake Road (above Big Meadows)
 - ii. One trip in June for the group and one in the fall for the community with the Rio Grande National Forest and RWEACT (the community coalition responding to West Fork Fire Complex effects)
 - iii. Nicole feels that the ski area would be supportive of using its facilities for the indoor portion of the fall tour
- VII. Citizen Science (30 min) – Presentation by Emily Olson and Noah Chutz
 - a. Emily Olson presented what Citizen Science offers the community
 - b. Noah presented what the thinking is for the SJHFHP Citizen Science program
 - c. Town Tourism Committee
- VIII. Action Items (5 min)
 - a. Promote super sacks
 - b. PSA's - Aaron, Bill, and Roberta
 - c. Check with Hershey
 - d. LPEA letter
 - e. Aaron print 1-pager - 150 print
 - f. Bill list of to go items for fire
 - g. Will work with Bill to promote Citizen Science
 - h. Matt ask Monica
 - i. Kent ask Colorado
 - j. Aaron change his e-mail address on one-pager
 - k. Aaron check with Steve about Rio Grande Tour negotiations