

San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership

Notes: July 19, 2016

Attending: Kevin Khung, Fred Ellis, Bob Frye, Bev Warburton, Aaron Kimple, Jerry Archuleta, Liam Godmintz, Ben Bailey, Bill Trimarco

Notes:

- I. Pre-tour discussion
 - a. During the June meeting there was a discussion of meeting coordination funding needs.
 - i. At the end of June PAWSD voted to support the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership
 - ii. It appears that funds from the USFS State and Private Forest Branch has made funds available. They have been committed to the San Juan National Forest and Aaron is currently working to commit the funds to the headwaters.
 - b. Bill Trimarco updated the group on an effort to involve local community members and potentially students in Wildfire Awareness by developing a citizen brigade. Participants would contribute \$5 and would be involved in educational/informational opportunities. San Juan Headwaters can help promote the brigade.
 - c. Summer meetings: Summer meetings can be hard to attend with all the distractions that come with summer. Do we consider reducing meetings to alternate months in the summer?
- II. Turkey Springs
 - a. History
 - i. Light Burn in the 80's
 - ii. Prior thinning/ mastication
 - b. Issues
 - i. Proximity with Pagosa Lakes Properties
 - ii. Winds move southwest toward the subdivision
 - iii. Forest health concerns
 - iv. Resilient forests and communities
 - c. Goals
 - i. Uneven age stand
 - ii. Protect PLPOA
 - iii. Increase Forest Resilience
 - iv. Reduce chance of canopy fire
 - v. Set the stage for applying fire
 - vi. Improve habitat and diversity
 - vii. Secondary – Water Runoff
 - d. Activity
 - i. 1,010 acres

- ii. Removing 65% of oak
 - iii. Removing 75% of regeneration
 - iv. Follow with Fire
 - v. \$278/ acre
 - vi. The amount of dollars limits the amount of work possible
 - e. Next Steps
 - i. Interact and inform PLPOA members
 - 1. Interact with Larry Lynch to offer a learning opportunity
 - 2. Do we bring someone from Deer Valley to discuss their experience?
 - ii. Informational Packet
 - 1. To be handed out to PLPOA members
 - iii. Longer-term
 - 1. Red cards for key members of the community
- III. FourMile NRCS Project
 - a. Issues
 - i. Disease
 - ii. Density
 - iii. Species Arrangements
 - iv. How do we move private lands toward goals?
 - 1. Need to work with the land owner
 - 2. May require 2 entries
 - b. Goals
 - i. From the Landowner
 - 1. Currently there are no structures on the property
 - 2. Improved accessibility
 - 3. Aesthetics – saw neighbors work and want to move towards that appearance
 - 4. Improve wildlife habitat and presence/ visibility of wildlife
 - 5. Can help secure insurance and the ability to sell property
 - ii. From the NRCS
 - 1. The goals are very similar to the goals the USFS has for Turkey Springs.
 - 2. The difference is that in FourMile water and water infrastructure protection is more of a primary goal
 - c. Needs
 - i. A way to measure social acceptance
 - 1. The hard sciences are important for understanding forest health and fire issues.
 - 2. We need a way to measure the social aspects of forest work. Are we increasing social acceptance for: treatment, prescribed fire, managed fire
 - ii. We need to collect data to a central location
 - 1. Jerry and Bill will contribute their information