



San Juan Headwaters

FOREST HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Meeting Agenda & Notes for Friday, December 13th, 2019

Location: Pagosa Ranger District Office, Pagosa Springs, CO

Regular Meeting: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EOY)

MEETING AGENDA & NOTES

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome and Introductions

Aaron – Huge thanks to the group for all of our hard work over 2019. Partner of the Year is built on the efforts of this group. Thanks!

In Attendance

Aaron Kimple, MSI; Herb Grover WAC; Al WAP; Bil Trimarco WAP; Matt Ford Clean Forest Energy; Anthony Culpepper MSI; Jimbo SJCA; Tim Haarman Banded Peak; Mark Loveall CSFS; Steve Hartvigsen Volunteer; Matt Tuten SJNF; Keven Kung SJNF; Dana Hayward MSI

9:10 – 9:30 RMRI news and CLFRP (60%) update

- Draft agreement between USFS and regional collaboratives
- Science Committee

RMRI – went through decision making process on Monday 09 Dec and the SW CO proposal was unanimously selected for funding; we have unknowns with where and how funding does materialize and how prioritization happens; kick off in January.

Kevin Kung – local media is carrying the RMRI announcement; has been approached with citizens concerned regarding Pagosa’s omission from the proposal. Direct question “Why Dove Creek is more important than Pagosa Springs”. If we are going to use terminology like focused or transformative, we should have a discussion in the collaborative.

Caution to the group that given the funding at hand there is significant match requirement (50%) and this match will stretch the SJNF budget from other areas where it serves the public.

- AAR (After Action Review)
 - This is a place to pause: why were we excluded? What are our factors?
 - We are the longest standing colab on the San Juan
 - Other colabs want to secure funding
 - How do we evaluate how good or bad we are; how we are performing.
 - An opportunity to ask some serious questions of the effectiveness for the group.

AK – The hope is that the good work done on the west end will help carry over to Pagosa. RMIR was designed to create focus and transformative change.

SJHFHP has done a good job with prioritization; we are not getting this (RMRI) support but we need to build the local support.

Matt Ford – How do we develop a consistent message?

Bill Trimarco – Echo messaging point. Point of other communities in the region have local support compared to Archuleta Co.

Reflection

Jimbo – industry on the west side perhaps appealing to SJNF leadership; perhaps the Pagosa industry is not at the scale of the west end; there is timber and local govt involvement in DWRF

In this District there is not a major res/ag driver.

Nothing we have done has brought the interest from national env org, eg. Center for Biological Diversity

Lone Pine EA (which is driving the work on the west end) has had numerous objections; we have been tighter with our process to keep science and transparency upfront.

AK – industry is perhaps the driver; but RMRI did look at the success of this colab; our success built the opportunity

With RMRI will come with come with more scrutiny; we perhaps can do things not in line with RMRI

When people refer to work happening on the SJNF there is no distinction in community or District.

Matt Tuten – is likely an overall gain for the forest as a whole; but more money is not the answer; there are other sources

Kevin – we have connections to the broader efforts of the SJNF; charge – to stay one step ahead of what is happening

Bill – we do need to focus on strategic planning for messaging

CFLRP

The proposal is in draft and will be put forward to RO/WO mid-January with decision (review of FACA) in March/April.

We have been building a collaborative process for the CFRLP; this retooled the process into drafting committees.

Rio Chama – is in process for the SE corner of the District; communicate with Matt Tuten on that proposal; included the Santa Fe, Carson, Rio Grande, and San Juan. There is not the same collaborative structures but there are many (more) stakeholders.

There will be a stakeholder support letter that will be circulated soon for partner/colab sign off.

Agreement with Colabs (see attached)

- Nine goals; how does Headwaters get to/implement the goals.
- Who does this bind? What is the negative outcome we are trying to avoid?
 - There is no single decision from a stakeholder that drives a decision
 - Creating a dialogue that is proactive
 - How do we define what success is?
 - How do we monitor our efforts?
- This is how colabs and how the Forest acts
- This is different in that it does not have language that if you are a part of the colab up must support the Colab.
- Tempers the behavior of stakeholders to not unanimously speak on behalf of the Colab
 - At the same time we need to have dissenting voices.
- There are many colabs on the San Juan, with unique voices, how does the SJNF take in these voices, how does it and the colabs deal with dissenting voices
- There is a push for support or no support from Colabs.
- There is a default to consider only the positives in the work we do; but we often tend to gloss over the negatives.

Goal of doc is an agreement of the tone of how colabs and SJNF interact.

Expression of intent (aspirational) not an agreement.

Science Committee

To work across all of our Collaboratives, to bring in local and academic expertise for our operations across the SJNF and colabs.

- There is support in the colab for this.

9:30 – 9:50 Round Robin Committee Updates

- Science
- Events and Outreach
- Planning, Tx and Proposals
 - CAFA grant (Due Jan 6)
 - There is a plan to speak with CSFS to determine landscapes that standup; Lower Blanco has come up due to the work on SJNF around and density of WUI; proposal for 30-40 ac of Zone 3 defensible space and 10 of Zone

1; 5-10ish properties a year; there is possible EQIP fund from NRCS; the application is mostly ready; the ask is a letter of support from the group.

- It is a cost sharing program. The owner pays full amount then reimbursed at 75%.
 - Herb Grover is the WAP ambassador for the community and a “mini CWPP” has been completed for the Lower Blanco.
 - WAP will be recipient and will not affect the SJNFHP budget.
 - Will not affect the other CAFA due to being very distinct areas.
- Legislation and Permitting
 - o Proposition DD was passed, and the funds are to be allocated to water related projects; the state forest group is seeking how it direct to forest

CSFS Update – new AFF forester for the critical watersheds around Pagosa. Mercedes Sigel-Gaither

9:50 – 10:20 Budget update (finance committee) (see attached)

- 2019 Budget Review
- 2020 Budget in progress (to be approved January)

We are developing an education/outreach calendar and associated activities with rough numbers for cost; Edu Committee will meet in early Jan and Finance will meet thereafter; as budget for approval will be presented for the Jan meeting

10:20 – 11:00 2019 End of Year Review *break if needed 10:20-10:30

- Survey Results (see attachment)
 - o 6 responses; small data set
 - Should we reopen for more responses?
 - o Top three successes
 - CAFA
 - Education
 - Collaboration
 - o Top three assets
 - Aaron
 - Diversity/partners
 - Collaboration
 - o Goals not met
 - Much of the same ones we speak to often (Watershed Assessment, increase participation, funding)
 - Prescribed fire was not mentioned in the goals not met.
 - How to message for future fire; we did not meet some of our goals for outreach.
 - Clarification was given regarding comment about CSU/CFRI comment; take home is more transparency of how we are communicating efforts to the group. “traveling road show”

- Broader perspective on where we are going; better understanding of where the public rests with projects. How to better hear concerns and critique from the public not engaged with SJHFHP
- Interface with Resilient Archuleta

Partners Needed

- CPW, Pagosa FPD, Pagosa Peak School, Archuleta County, Audubon of the Rockies, San Juan Outdoor Club
- Others – PLPOA, School Dist (expand involvement), Mtn Bike community

Goals for Annual review

- Presenting information internally to the SJNF; science informing staff without a resource background
- Partner with new branch of Pueblo CC in Pagosa.

Opportunities for next year

- Education
- Funding
- Branding
- Other opportunities – going to a reaching out to other organizations; going to the audience; presentations to the Rotary Club

In order to produce a better story line for our impacts, in community, Dana will be reaching out to partners for direct feedback.

- End of year report - Dana will be working on report and go directy to stakeholders for input

11:00 – 11:30 2020 calendar and focus

Feedback is need re timing and Dana will request.

- CFRI will present at the Feb science meeting
- Likely a second science focused meeting in the Fall once the Science Committee has been stood up
- Two cross-collab meeting Spring/Fall
- April is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day; possible event in Pagosa to table
 - What would make 2020 a success?
 - 2020 Goals
 - Actions to reach 2020 goals

To Steve's point re committee communications there needs to be adequate rep during the strategic planning process.

11:30 – 12:00 Other Business

- CSU Conservation Leadership Through Learning students interested in studying SJHFHP
 - o Timeline, commitment, outcome
 - Information will be gathered directly from stakeholders by students and CFRI, will be an opportunity for an outside perspective
 - Travel or Sype interviews; 30-40 min interview from 6ish stakeholders March
 - Outcomes – report and presentation on Colab;
 - o Collab buy-in
 - There is general support to engage with the class
 - There is a “pay it forward” aspect; promoting the next generation for collab engagement

- February in house science forum planning (online survey in January)
- SJNF Cross Collaborative meetings slated for 2020
- Strategic planning March 2020