



San Juan Headwaters

FOREST HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership Virtual Meeting Agenda for Friday, March 20, 2020

Location: Virtual Meeting – Join via Zoom (link distributed via email to Partners)

Regular Meeting: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM (flexible for virtual meeting)

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome and Introductions, Zoom Use

In attendance – Dana Hayward (MSI), Anthony Culpepper (MSI) Herb Grover (Audubon/Volunteer) Fred Ellis (Pagosa Ranger District Fuels), Al Phister (Volunteer), Matt Tuten (Pagosa Ranger District - Timber), Mercedes Siegle-Gaither (NRCS), Bill Trimarco (WAP), Ed Millard (Montezuma CO IBCC), Jerry Archuleta (NRCS), Emily Hohman (TNC), Caleb Stotts (CPLA), Brett Wolk (CFRI), Doug Seacrest (SJWCD), Keith Bruno (Audubon Rockies), Robin Young (CSU Extension), John Whitney (Senator Bennet), Mandy Eskelson (MSI/WEP)

Unique meeting environment. Making our meeting useful despite our physical disconnect.

9:10 – 9:30 Committee Updates

Strategic planning has been postponed due to lack of participants and current circumstances.

- Finance Committee – Actions: finalize budget; approve and sign MSI contractor's agreement.
 - AC will reach out to the committee to complete budget
 - Dana working on agreement with finance committee
- Education and Outreach (Dana, Bill, Keith, Anthony, Robin, Herb, Matt T)
 - Meeting in January with a loose plan of action items
 - CAFA - extended until Sep, with work done by Aug
 - Preparing for advertising blitz Aspen Springs Pagosa Highlands to get folks lined up for the summer.
 - Organizing and lining up contractors (there have been changes to the contractors, people have left and there are new ones)
 - Combine CSFS and NFPA assessment forms to simplify use in the field; trying to get all counties in SW CO to use the same form. Archuleta County and CSU Extension onboard. The only difference in form would be the logo.
 - Still more money available that we can get work done this year. Discussion to change/expand area and up the income level (~\$37k).
 - Newsletter Request

- Dana is sending out request for content. We are aiming for quarterly. The next will go out in May.
- Science
 - Weminuche Audubon Society to expand bird monitoring out at Jackson Mtn
 - if there is a membership meeting in April to provide overview and to recruit more members to monitor on Jackson Mtn
 - working to plan a tour in May.
- Planning Tx and Proposals (Matt T, Bill T)
 - Working on developing the prioritization/mapping meeting
 - CPLA is planning on work in Navajo and Blanco basins, ~couple hundred acres; in flux with COVID-19.
 - NRCS – site visits are in flux due to COVID-19
 - EQIP – 20 landowners have applied for 2020; outreach has been completed and there has been positive response; likely more work online for 2021
 - Fuels projects and Rx is in flux, moratorium on Rx
 - 800ac for Rx fire Brockover, May
 - Mastication at Chimney Rock, May
 - Mastication at Left Echo >900 ac
 - Mastication on Big Branch and Blue Creek: in the system waiting on snow
 - Rx 2300ac on Archuleta Creek: planned for this fall
 - Early stage of NEPA for mechanical Tx for Turkey/Brockover; 2500 ac to merge other NEPA and CEs on that landscape
 - Early stages and SJNF will be in touch re engagement.
 - Harvesting with Pagosa Creek; Jackson Mtn
 - Pagosa and Huerto – Matt T and Mike R had a poster on these treatments with the SWRI workshop
 - Adaptive Silviculture for Climate Change – group putting in for a climate adaptation proposal to complete monitoring out at Jackson Mtn as part of the ASCC.
 - Concern as to how the current issues will impact contractors
- Legislation and Permitting
 - Early stages of conversations with 2-3-2 on economic incentives, Bill T will update the collaborative as needed

9:30 – 9:40 Watershed Enhancement Partnership and Resilient Archuleta Connectivity

WEP Website -

"<http://www.mountainstudies.org/sanjuan/smp>"<http://www.mountainstudies.org/sanjuan/smp>

- WEP planning meeting last Friday March 13
 - Report from Herb
 - Completion of Phase 1 focused on community engagement
 - Upcoming public meeting, how to hold and if/when
 - critical to entry into Phase 2
- Joint public meeting and other opportunities in the future

- From Mandy/Al
- The original meeting was to be 15 April
 - Sending out a poll to determine a May/June date
 - Combo meeting Zoom/in person to have multiple platforms.
- Agenda – 1st hour each group presents on goals and objectives for 2020, 2nd hour a group activity
- Seeking input on what a joint meeting with SJHFHP and Resilient Archuleta can look like.
 - Robin: there is a need to talk collaboratively across the groups and to showcase a project that crosses over all groups. Jackson Mtn is possibly an opportunity for groups to show they are enhancing each other.
 - Matt T: if there is a need for the San Juan to share plans for Jackson this can be facilitated
 - Jerry, NRCS is helping facilitate WEP and there is great alignment with groups.
- History of WEP
 - Stream Management Plan was the start of this group, now renamed the Watershed Enhancement Partnership
 - County Commissioners have provided \$2800 to WEP.

9:40 – 9:50 Opportunities for Earth Week involvement

- Resilient Archuleta is looking into hosting a virtual Earth Day celebration
 - Robin – there is a lot of opportunity to promote actions on your own; does not want to miss the opportunity despite not being able to have live/in person events; can use radio and newspaper to engage the public; a chance to think outside the box; keeping this crisis in perspective but what can we learn and grow from it
- SJH has participated with Earth Week in the past: coordinated speakers involved with Earth Day
 - our issues (forest, fire, water) do not care about COVID-19; we need to think beyond the current concerns
- Keith – we need to roll the current energy of Earth Day planning into something else; a showcase of how we can be resilient as a community

9:50 – 10:50 Science Forum Debrief

Please fill out the survey.

- Working to promote the accountability of data reporting
- How do we engage with scientific information and make meaningful decisions based on that information?
 - Herb: an annual meeting like this would be very useful
 - Next time expand to engage the community and incorporate into outreach goals
 - Great outreach opportunity.

- Matt: We did target community members to be at the meeting; content is tricky; if we expand to more of an outreach event then care is needed in development of content.
- Bill: Some feedback that there was “too much science” perhaps from the gen public
 - That's a good thing!
- Keith: was able to get wildlife monitoring protocols from Front Range collaboratives and can be used to inform local efforts.
- Robin: would like to see more like this; great networking lunch
- Jerry: Nice to see people there that we do not normally have present
 - County Govt; great opportunity and something we would like to continue.

10:50 – 11:00 Closing, Next Steps, Other Business

- Strategic planning in April
 - Review current, consider work prioritization, identity, communication, funding
 - Prework to be sent early April (Dana to send guiding documents to help with strategic plan review and process)
- CLTL student research in progress
- Website input requested
 - Adding data and reports page
 - If you see something that could be improved, please let Dana know.
- MSI Forest and Fire Learning Series Postponed, State of the Forest in the works
 - Was the first 3 Wed in April Ecological and Community Resilience, postponed
 - We are going to retool into a “state of the forest” series of web meetings; could be in a web interview format.
 - Thoughts/input is welcome.
 - Perhaps have speakers present from their home bases; YouTube/webinar series; Facebook live; Zoom/Teams
- Connectivity and problem solving during COVID-19 public health challenges
 - It is hard to replace the one on one interactions; but we should continue to use the virtual meeting space

Other Updates

- Caleb: CPLA is a diverse group of stakeholders
 - always interested in workshops
 - materials available for private landowners and managers.
- Jerry: NRCS office is closed to the public and the only way to reach them is to call and make an appointment
- Robin: Extension is closed to foot traffic so calls and emails
 - CSU: has closed all in person opportunities.
- Bill: WAP is going to continue with site assessments; all outside and can keep distance from homeowners; no events