

Wood Industries Network Meeting Notes

September 21, 2010

Wood Industries Network (WIN) Meeting

Attendees: Todd Haines, Ryan Vigil, Chuck Hagerdon, Costley Beaver, Matthew Silva, Jeanne Dawson, Victor Wyant, Ian Fox, Matt Allen, Matt Reidy, Cynthia Spidle, Jim Norwick, Mike DeBonis, and Eytan Krasilovsky.

Updates:

EMNRD – Forestry Division: Todd introduced Ryan Vigil the Bernalillo District's new FMO and discussed that some S&P Forestry monies were unused since they needed applicants within days of the notice. Todd also discussed a WUI program that required 50-50 landowner match.

Lava SWCD: Cynthia updated the group on the Candy Kitchen project. She mentioned that many landowners cannot afford the 70-30 program match. She is actively looking for interested landowners to treat acres and spend the project monies. Todd mentioned he knew an interested landowner and thought Ramah Navajo Forestry could assist.

Chuck Hagerdon: Chuck discussed that at the Fire Chief's meeting they also couldn't find interested landowner's for WUI treatments. On the Lobo Canyon project Chuck mentioned that the Firewise Plan is in draft form and they are moving forward with the State to become an official Firewise community. To that end, a Firewise committee is being formed.

Ramah Navajo Chapter – Forestry: Costley updated the group on the status of their work with ongoing work on the reservation as part of their CFRP, work on the State Land Office Fuelbreak southwest of Bluewater Village part of the Bluewater II CFRP, EQUIP work on the Silva Ranch, and their plans to begin work on the Bluewater CWPP implementation project (also on State Land Office lands northeast of Bluewater Village). On the Bluewater CFRP, the Ramah Forestry crew is working on removing the heavy fuels from the site.

Rose Springs Timber: Matthew Silva provided the group with an overview of the past 6 years of forest restoration at the Silva family ranch through the lens of collaboration. Matthew noted that this required engaging with several cost share programs and working with over 30 listed partners.

Mt. Taylor Ranger District: District Forester Jeanne Dawson gave the group an overview of the 7 ARRA (Stimulus) funding task orders on the district. The District is now selling log decks from the Corral area. The Regional Office showcase area will soon get thinned by Restoration Solutions through the 2009 Stewardship Agreement with the National Wild Turkey Federation. In addition, the Red Canyon IDIQ will get thinned this fall. Silviculturalist Victor Wyant added that although difficult at the moment, the District is working on new forest thinning NEPA while the ARRA projects and Travel Management efforts are ongoing. Another priority for the district is designating areas for fuelwood removal.

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Cibola National Forest – Forest Timber Manager Ian Fox introduced a new actor on the District, Mike Cooley from Heber AZ. Mike is working on the 2008 Stewardship Contract on the District. He received an FPL grant to establish a mobile in-woods cant unit for logs <12” dbh while logs >12” dbh are going to Heber for dimensional lumber. Mike Cooley is also looking for a railroad spur east of Gallup.

Mt. Taylor Machine – Matt Allen updated the group on the Bluewater CFRP, Mt. Taylor’s new CFRP, the pellet mill in Albuquerque, new equipment, and the FSA’s Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) program. Matt also mentioned that the log deck quality has improved greatly and that Brent Racher deserves kudos for all the good work on the ground and with partnerships.

State Land Office (SLO) – Jim Norwick updated the group on the SLO’s partnerships with the SWCD’s around the state, the ARRA funded project between Angel Fire and Black Lake, the Bluewater CFRP fuelbreak and the Bluewater NMAC projects. The Bluewater CFRP fuelbreak is in progress and Ramah is working on removal. State Forestry is also adding dollars to extend the fuelbreak.

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) Proposal Discussion:

Eytan Krasilovsky initiated the topic of a CFLRP proposal for 2011 from the Cibola focused on WIN, continuing to build local restoration capacity, and the remaining ponderosa in the Bluewater NEPA from 2003. The group generally agreed to the idea. Ian provided specifics and some sideboards:

- the Cibola could commit to a 5 year proposal based on acres and financial commitments from the forest. Ian also felt this would be attractive to the CFLRP panel as it wouldn’t tie up as much of their funding
- Ian relayed encouragement and support from both the forest supervisor and from District Ranger Reidy
- use the existing National Wild Turkey Federation stewardship authority for implementation
- unlike 2010 CFLRPs, try to focus treatment dollars on building capacity for local wood harvesting, hauling, and utilization businesses
- build trainings into the proposal.

Victor added that watershed, wildlife, road, and stream treatments should also be part of any CFLRP proposal to diversify the project.

Next Steps:

Forest Guild is working with the Cibola on structuring a partnership to move a CFLRP proposal forward. WIN meetings will probably be on hold as the CFLRP proposal moves forward. The CFLRP proposal effort will require a lot of input from WIN members throughout the winter.