

**Winema and Fremont Resource Advisory Committee
Minutes for July 2, 2003
Lakeview Interagency Office**

Present: Hank Mroczkowski
Gary Johnson
Sherm Radtke
Alan Withers
Fred Rasmussen
Pete Talbott
Bill Duke
Jane O’Keeffe

Mary Baker
Don Gentry
Clair Thomas
Chuck Wells
Susan Baker-Schloth
Anita Ward
Craig Ditman
Bill Aney

Absent: Steve West
Rick Brown

Guests: Karen Shimamoto, Fremont-Winema Forest Supervisor
Jane Cottrell, Fremont-Winema Deputy Forest Supervisor
Orlando Gonzales, Bly District Ranger
Jim Walls, Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI)
Don Lucas, Lakeview Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
Gene Fiebich, Lakeview SWCD
Don Collier, Lake County Community Services
Kevin Moore, Chiloquin Ranger District
Faye Weekley, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Mike Connelly, Klamath Basin Ecosystem Foundation
Rick Ragan, Chiloquin District Ranger
Jordan Aney, LCRI, ASE student
Caity Machado, LCRI, ASE student
Jessica Hopper, LCRI, student

Agenda Review and Introductions:

Clair Thomas introduced his students, Jordan, Caity, and Jessica. Jordan and Caity are working with the Apprenticeship in Science and Engineering program. Jessica was with this program last summer, and this year working with the LCRI group. The students are working with Clair on the Chewaucan Watershed Monitoring project. Forest Supervisor Karen Shimamoto was introduced at the meeting, and RAC members and guests did introductions as well.

Review and Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting:

Minutes from the September 12-13, 2002 meeting were approved.

Old Business: September RAC meeting follow up; charter reauthorization; nominations for new replacement member.

There were a few follow-ups to the September meeting minutes. Susan Baker-Schloth was moving, and resigned her position as replacement member. She has since returned to Lakeview, and resumed her position with RAC, as no replacement action had taken place.

RAC members voted to give DFO Aney the authority to approve projects up to 5% over contract cost; he did not have to do any changes with any of the FY02 projects, supported or not by the RAC. There is also no need to revise 3.67% overhead rate.

The May field trip was not done. One of today's objectives will be to set up a time for a field trip to see FY03 projects in progress.

DFO Aney discussed possible revisions and proposals to the RAC charter. One proposal is to formally change the RAC's title to Fremont-Winema Resource Advisory Committee. This is to reflect the change with the forests' official name change. There is also a proposal to allow replacement members to vote. This would assist in the need for quorum voting to take place, when regular members are absent.

The Forest Supervisor and County Commissioners have recommended Craig Bienz as a replacement member.

Election of a new chair was held. A previous meeting's suggestion was to alternate chair between Klamath and Lake County. The floor was then open for nominations. Pete Talbott had first and second nominations; Pete chose to decline. Chuck Wells had first and second nominations. Nominations closed. Vote was unanimous for Chuck Wells as chairperson.

Updates on FY02 and FY03 projects:

DFO Aney showed a power point presentation on the progress of the FY02 and FY03 projects.

FY02 Status Summary:

42 projects funded

26 are completed with 12 more under contract

One project recommended by RAC, but not approved by Forest Supervisor (at the request of the Ranger District) was Silver Lake's Wildlife Tree project.

Photos of projects, before and after treatment.

Breakdown on FY02 Title II dollars as of 9/30/02 (*see attached sheet*)

FY03 Projects

37 projects approved and funded on 10/01/02

6 projects completed

16 more under contract

Remaining projects are in preparation

RAC members would like to have local employment with projects. On awarded contracts, they would like to have the contractor's name, business or personal, the community they area from, and the value of the project. This information is currently

available from the Forest Service contracting department, and the DFO will see that this information is provided with future progress reports.

DFO Aney discussed some key areas that the RAC members discussed with the Interdisciplinary Team on the Winter Restoration and Salvage project. The areas which the RAC members wanted alternatives looked into were: snag retention, tractor logging—which would equal more local contracting than the helicopter logging does not, old growth management areas, and salvage in back country areas. End results were 3 out of 4 areas were addressed. One area, salvage in back country areas, would garner too much attention and controversy, therefore, will not be addressed or changed.

A future project could create a 200-300-foot wide fuel break, which would help protect new plantations on private land.

The Forest Supervisor signed the Winter Decision memo on May 29, 2003. Appeal period ends July 14th, with an optimistic sale date of July 29th. The salvage is to remove 15.7 million board feet. The decision was made to leave all the trees with 30% live crown (with any green needles), a conservative approach. Gary Johnson had heard from Frank Puddy, F.S. Forestry Technician, that it is a 1684-acre sale area with 320 acres set for tractor logging.

Subgroup Caucusing to review Klamath County Proposals

Reports from ongoing projects—LCRI—Chewaucan Monitoring and LCSWCD—Paisley Weir:

Jim Walls, LCRI, gave updates on the Chewaucan Watershed Monitoring, in its second year of monitoring. The monitoring database is currently on their web page @LCRI.org They started work earlier this year than last year. There was \$13,000 carry over from last year, and it looks to be under budget again this year. When asked about budget costs, Jim noted that some costs were to cover office space rent, administration fees, general liability, and insurance. There will be adjustments yearly, as equipment costs were first year expenses, and other costs will drop accordingly. College students from last year are all back again, some gaining college credits from the work they are doing. There is a high level of enthusiasm from the students with their job. In August a group of foresters will come to gain knowledge of what's been done, and then training others. The Ford Foundation will then provide money for Richard Hart to conduct this training. The group will stay at the dormitory at Paisley, providing some money to the Paisley School.

LCSWCD: Gene Fiebich and Don Lucas discussed the Paisley Town Weir and the changes that have been made since starting the project. Initially they were going to put a fish screen in Bagley Ditch at the bottom of the stream. They discovered that there would be too much daily requirements and cleaning with this method. The engineers and LCSWCD looked into a point of diversion up ½ mile. This diversion requires a change of water rights where the water is being diverted. For the easement to take place there are currently two to three more landowners to go through. OWEB money has been granted and used on this project in the past, and they have also applied for the grant again this year. RAC members asked about the lack of contributions from private landowners shown in the project proposal. Don stated that it was an oversight, and that J-Spear Ranch would be using their equipment to put in pipeline. Jane O. stated the SWCD needs to list contributions by private landowners. What SWCD is asking for is more dollars to go towards more engineering costs. DFO Aney pointed out that this is a request to change proposal, and there needed to be a RAC discussion and recommendation. The Engineer and John Merwin will be here tomorrow to discuss why the changes and validate the project proposal.

There were no public comments.

Evaluation of '04 Klamath County Proposals:

Rick Ragan and Kevin Moore discussed Chiloquin Project Suite, concentrating many projects in one watershed, primarily Hog Creek Basin, to make sure it was taken care of. Discussions/comments on projects:

- v Thousands and Thousands of Willows—willows are dependent upon the stream; the width of the stream, height of vegetation; they are to keep the banks intact for width and temperature. NEPA is close to being finished, and the nursery stock is coming this fall.
- v Hog Creek culvert replacement to help Hog Creek meadow. The culvert will reduce peak flow and is designed to be efficient for water transfer and fish passage. This culvert will also help to prevent failure of road.
- v Chiloquin Urban Interface, in cooperation with Chiloquin Fire Department and Department of Forestry. Trying to work around high priced contractors. Also working to protect the cultural resource area of the Edison Chiloquin Trust Land.

Kevin Moore also discussed Klamath Ranger District proposals. The Great Meadow Weir repair is needed as the structure value will be lost if it is not fixed. The dam keeps the meadow wet longer than if it wasn't there.

Orlando Gonzales, Bly District Ranger discussed both Lake and Klamath County proposals for his district. Mike Connelly answered questions and discussed both the Denny Creek and Copperfield Draw restoration projects. Faye Weekly represented the Brownsprings Creek project.

Meeting will continue tomorrow, beginning at 8am.