

NFGEL STEERING COMMITTEE
Conference Call Notes
Tuesday, July 29, 2014, 10-11am pacific

Attendees: Tom Blush
David Gwaze
Keith Woeste
Valerie Hipkins

Absent: John Crockett (committee chair)
Barbara Crane
Larry Stritch
Gary Man
David Levinson

Agenda:

- (1) Charter. The revised Charter (based on comments received during our WO meeting) is attached. We will review again (last time?) and decide on a timeframe for presenting to SLMBOD.
- (2) Update on SurveyMonkey tool.
- (3) Update on latest projects and activities.
- (4) Decision needed on next physical meeting. If we meet physically in Placerville (as suggested at our WO meeting in May), the meeting would take place the week of OCTOBER 27th. How many members can actually travel to P'ville that week to attend a steering committee meeting? We will discuss during the conference call and decide if and when that mtg will occur.

Committee Membership

John Crockett is replacing John Exline as the NFGEL Steering Committee chair. Exline was on a 120-day detail and has returned to his home position. Crockett has begun a 120-day detail as the Assistant Director of Integrated Vegetation Management in the Forest Management staff.

Charter

Valerie had distributed via email to the committee the revised charter incorporating comments from the last NFGEL meeting held in the Washington Office. David Gwaze and Keith Woeste had some final suggestions for wording changes. No further comments were received prior to the meeting via email by the absent committee members.

Action Item: Valerie will make final edits to the charter and brief the Forest Management Director, Bryan Rice during the Forest Management retreat August 19-20, 2014 in Ft. Collins. After the briefing, we need to get onto SLMBODs agenda to progress with obtaining signatures.

Update on SurveyMonkey

Valerie is in the very early stages of developing a survey. The target date for finalizing survey questions is still by the close of FY14.

Update on latest projects and activities

Valerie presented the current, ongoing projects in the lab, and also discussed the on-going staff activities.

Physical Steering Committee Meeting

As per the decision made at our physical Steering Committee Meeting in Washington DC, Valerie had put out a doodle poll to finalize the date of our next physical meeting. The plan is to always have the annual physical meeting in October of each year. For FY15, the meeting will be in Placerville, CA. Based on doodle poll results, the meeting will be held the week of October 27th.

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Since the doodle poll, several members have let Valerie know that they can't come to this physical meeting. It was decided on the call that we must have 5 or more committee members present (not including the NFGEL Director) to hold the meeting.

Action Item: Valerie will email the committee asking for their commitment to attend the meeting. If we can't get 5+ members to make a commitment to attend, we will postpone the meeting until October of the following year (2015, FY16). If we postpone the physical meeting, Valerie will arrange for a phone/vtc meeting to be held during October or November with the goal of reviewing the FY14 NFGEL accomplishment report.

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Action Item: Valerie will post all NFGEL Steering Committee meeting notes to the NFGEL website.