

NFGEL STEERING COMMITTEE
Conference Call Notes
Monday, October 27, 2014, 10am - noon (pacific)

Phone Attendees: David Gwaze
Keith Woeste
Barbara Crane
Jan Schultz sitting in for Larry Stritch
Gary Man
David Pivorunas

Physical Attendees: John Crockett (committee chair)
(in Placerville, CA) Tom Blush
Valerie Hipkins

Agenda:

- (1) Review and discuss Annual Report
- (2) Review list of on-going projects and efforts for FY15. Discuss areas of priority. I will be sending out an updated list of on-going projects next week.
- (3) Due to this staffing limitation, NFGEL is not taking new projects until we stabilize our workforce in the lab. We will discuss staffing goals for FY15.
- (4) Our Charter was presented to SLMBOD on October 1st. Provide update on presentation and goal of obtaining signatures.
- (5) Decide on next Committee call.

Committee Membership

Jan Schultz (USDA Forest Service Eastern Region, Botany, Non-native Invasive Species & Special Forest Products Program Leader; on detail in the WO) sat in on the call for Larry Stritch who could not attend. The WFWARP staff group is in the process of naming a new committee member. David Pivorunas (Assistant TES Program Leader in the Watershed, Fish, Wildlife, Air, Rare Plants Director group) represented WFWARP on the call.

Review and discuss Annual Report

Valerie had distributed via email to the committee the FY14 NFGEL Annual Report. Valerie summarized the report during the call. Members indicated that the report was fine. David Gwaze would like to see more highlights from the Director in the beginning of the report. Valerie will post the report to the NFGEL website.

Review list of on-going projects and efforts for FY15. Discuss areas of priority. I will be sending out an updated list of on-going projects next week.

Valerie had distributed via email to the committee the list of ongoing projects in the lab, and also the projects in development. There are 23 ongoing projects, and 10 project ideas in development. The committee would like a formalized criteria matrix developed to determine project priority. Committee members will send matrix ideas and examples to Valerie within the next week. Valerie will develop a matrix by November 14, 2014 that she will forward to the committee for comment. A final matrix will be obtained by the end of the calendar year. On the next committee call in January/February, the committee will apply the matrix to the NFGEL projects.

Due to this staffing limitation, NFGEL is not taking new projects until we stabilize our workforce in the lab. We will discuss staffing goals for FY15.

A GS-9 Lab Manager PD is in classification, with the intent of on-boarding this fiscal year.

NFGEL STEERING COMMITTEE
Conference Call Notes
Monday, October 27, 2014, 10am - noon (pacific)

Our Charter was presented to SLMBOD on October 1st. Provide update on presentation and goal of obtaining signatures.

Committee members had no further comments on the Charter and felt it ready for signature. Response to the NFGEL presentation to SLMBOD was favorable, and the board recommended that the Deputy Chief's sign the document. John will route the charter to the three Deputy Chief's for signature.

Decide on next Committee call.

Valerie will initiate a doodle poll to arrange for the next quarterly committee call to occur in late January or early February.