



Enterprising People

An Enterprise Program Newsletter –
Supporting communications between Enterprisers
and our partners



Issue 63, October 2015

Enterprise Program Update

*From Laura Nance, Acting Director,
Enterprise Program*

FY15 was a wonderfully productive year for our Program in many dimensions. In the financial metrics, I am very pleased to share with you there was a program-wide cash increase for the 2nd consecutive year adding over 9% to our cash reserves in FY15. The cash reserve is a critical component of our financial profile and a requirement for us to operate within the Working Capital Fund. With this year’s 9% growth, our overall reserve increased to 35% of our operational expenses; which is one indicator of a very healthy financial position for our Program.

In addition, two units that closed with an annual net loss in FY14 (A&B and TEAMS), both closed FY15 with a positive net. For TEAMS, this marks a significant turn-around following 5 consecutive years of operational deficit. TEAMS added over a million dollars to the cash reserve in FY15. I know TEAMS employees pushed extra hard through the year and made some very difficult choices necessary to deliver these financial improvements in FY15. I thank you all for your hard work and effort.

I am confident FY16 will be another amazing year as we continue to evolve our Program to be an even greater asset to the Forest Service.

Cheri Ziebert Receives a Sustainable Operations Best of the Best Award

Contributed by Integrated Resources Enterprise Unit

On September 11, 2015, Sustainable Operations announced that Cheri Ziebert, Visual Information Specialist with Integrated Resource Enterprise Unit, was amongst the recipients of its FY15 Sustainable Operations *Best of the Best* Awards. Cheri was

bestowed an “Outstanding Partner” of the Sustainable Operations Collective by developing creative communication designs in support of products that educate and encourage behavior change in sustainable operations.

“Cheri continues to exceed our expectations and push the envelope on creativity and originality in her design work. Her style is consistent, and her work has helped Sustainable Operations become the nationwide program the agency now enjoys,” said Aurora Cutler, Communication Specialist with the Sustainable Operations Collective.

Cheri works collaboratively at all levels of the Forest Service from the local unit, regional, and national offices to create high quality, professional visual design and graphic products.



As an Enterpriser, Cheri is outstanding in her field with her unique skill combination and creative and graphic abilities. The Forest Service’s Enterprise Program works well for her because it affords a wide array of creative and artistic opportunities and visual design challenges agency wide.

Over the years, Cheri has inspired others by her innovative and creativity in designing strategic business graphics, a special category separate from traditional graphic design and illustration.

Congratulations Cheri!

Frank Leoni, Engineering Technician of the Year

Contributed by Robyn Morris, TEAMS Enterprise Unit

Congratulations to Frank E. Leoni who was recognized by Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief, for his work on the Spring Mountain Recreation Area. He not only acted as a Union representative-he helped to preserve historical structures and provided mentoring to local prison inmates, youth camps, and young engineers. Great job Frank!

Peru's Forest Service Moves Forward with TEAMS' Assistance

Contributed by Colleen (Chaz) O'Brien, Integrated Resource Enterprise Unit

Colleen (Chaz) O'Brien has had the unique opportunity to work across government and country boundaries with her work on the Peru project. Since 2012, she has worked on organizational designs and processes to decentralize authorities to the regions. Areas of focus include land use zoning, managing the forest and wildlife patrimony, and forest concessions design.

"Peru represents the marriage of my education working with Aboriginal Communities in Australia, my years in private sector state and local government land use planning, and the totality of my FS work and experiences in natural resource and organizational planning."

The Peru project is the creation of a national portfolio of forest and wildlife natural resources, managed and held in the public trust. As an analogy, it is a "galaxy" system design, with various actors performing as "the sun" within a variety of "universes" that comprise a national forest and wildlife resource management portfolio. Grounded in lessons learned from USFS realities after 110 years, decision making authority for forest and

wildlife is now directly in the hands of the Forest Service (SERFOR) in Peru.

Chaz's work has been focused on designing and engineering this system with the people of Peru and International Program.

"With your support, I have had the extreme honor of working with actors from all parts of the galaxy. I have had the life changing opportunity to provide design and consultation for the emergence of this system from concept to legal framework, and the initiation of implementation planning and design."



Feliz Cumpleanos, SERFOR! Chaz is on far left.

Nepal Earthquake Relief

Contributed by Shannon Smith, TEAMS Enterprise

From April 27th – May 31st, 2015, Anthony Olegario worked directly for the Nepal Earthquake Crisis Response Management Team (RMT) as the Communication & Records Coordinator. As part of the Operations section, Anthony managed, organized, distributed, and archived all records and communications associated with the disaster response. Anthony also tracked incident response personnel in the field, provided daily inputs to the expansive RMT communication list, and acted as an information source to U.S. Government external partners and the general public. He also processed and distributed incoming cables, reports, and correspondence from the field, ensuring that appropriate RMT members received the latest information.

Greater Sage Grouse Conservation and Recovery

Contributed by Adam Shaw, AMSET Enterprise Unit

AMSET specialists recently provided extensive GIS and Fire and Fuels analysis and information to Region 4 in support of the Forest Plan Amendment decisions for the Greater Sage Grouse. Key specialists from AMSET include Michael Dardis, Chris Clervi, Lucretia Smith, Teresa Sue, Chris Barrett, and Tim Metzger. On September 22, 2015, the Department of Interior announced that the Greater Sage Grouse would not require protection under the Endangered Species Act. This announcement described how the conservation plans and protections within provide sufficient protections to avoid listing the fascinating bird.

Fire Behavior Assessment Team Spreads the Word!

Contributed by Alicia Reiner and Carol Shaw, AMSET Enterprise Unit

The Fire Behavior Assessment Team, that collects fuels, fire behavior and fire effects data on **active** wildland fires, was recently featured in news articles on CBS, Inciweb and the Fresno Bee. The FBAT program is managed within AMSET and is made up of largely on-call Forest Service members who are from other EUs, Research Stations, Western Wildland Environmental Threat Center, the National Park Service, Universities, and various other regions. FBAT data and video are used to support land and fire managers with science-based measurements from active wildfires. FBAT goals include: fuel treatment effectiveness evaluation and wildfire data for improving fuel consumption, fire behavior and fire effects models.

FBAT video and AMSET's Carol Ewell, were featured on <http://www.cbsnews.com/videos/how-cameras-help-firefighters-stay-ahead-of-wildfires/>

FBAT story on Inciweb:

<http://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/article/4456/28285/>

Janet and the Bats

Contributed by Cindy White, TEAMS Enterprise Unit

TEAMS personnel recently worked at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst military installation which was proposing to expand the area of the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Firing Range. During the summer of 2014, Natural Resource personnel for the Joint Base recorded bat calls that were acoustically identified as being from northern long-eared bats (*Myotis septentrionalis*).



As such, and as part of the environmental review and permitting process, the US Fish and Wildlife Service required presence/absence surveys be conducted for Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bats (*Myotis septentrionalis*), both listed by the USFWS, of the proposed project area prior to project implementation. In July, TEAMS Wildlife Biologist Janet Moser (pictured) assisted a permitted contractor with mist netting and acoustical detection of bats. The work was done at night and required that four sites be netted for three nights at each site within the proposed Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range Expansion Area. Although no federally listed species were detected acoustically or netted, the project was successful (and fun too).

Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison National Forests, Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Sudden Aspen Decline Management Response EIS

Contributed by Adam Shaw, AMSET Enterprise Unit

Specialists from Vegetation Management Solutions, Heritage Services Group, TEAMS and AMSET have been cooperatively working with the GMUG on analyzing an adaptive management approach to address some of the areas of the forest affected by spruce bark beetles and sudden aspen decline. The Draft EIS was released in June 2015, and the Final EIS is expected this winter. The analysis looks at effects on landscapes as well as specific drainages, and will support the Forest's responses to changing conditions related to the beetle epidemic and sudden aspen decline over the next decade. This effort demonstrates another creative way that the Enterprise Units can work together to provide a product that the Forest Service requires.

Fighting Fire with Safe Planes

Contributed by Jim Morrison, Safety System Enterprise Unit



Jim and Lori in front of Tanker 118

Safety System Enterprise (SSE) has supported the Safety Assessment and Oversight portion of the new implementation of a Government Owned/ Contractor Operated HC-130 H airtanker. As part of our ongoing support, the SSE team accepted the assignment of Acting Aviation Safety Officer for the

new HC-130H airtanker program Initial Operations Capability phase (IOC). All SSE members, Jim Morrison, Gary Morgan, Eric Shambora, Lori Clark, have conducted 1-2 two-week assignments at the McClellan Air Station, CA providing aviation safety oversight for this new phase of air-tanker operations.



The acting Aviation Safety Officers' have been busy with constructing a safety program, instructing classes, and maintaining close rapport with the new aircrew and maintenance contractor, tanker base personnel and others. For example, one acting Aviation Safety Officer took the Emergency Response Plan for McClellan Air Station, written by SSE, up to the Northern California Geographic Coordination Center and performed a mock drill with the Aircraft Dispatcher and Assistant Center Manager to see if there were any flaws in the plan. The Acting Aviation Safety Officer has also been creating Aviation Safety Officer's guide, Risk Assessments, and Emergency Response Plans. There has been lots of varied work accomplished by Safety System Enterprise crew for the new HC-130H "Herc" program which will be safer because of their efforts.

Clearwater NF Pipe Replacement

Contributed by ETS

Tom Laurent, ETS Civil Engineer, spent his summer in Elk City, Idaho. He was Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) for a contract which replaced a 10 ft diameter culvert on Elk Creek with a 23 ft wide bottomless arch on concrete stem walls. The existing culvert needed to be replaced because it was originally installed improperly, proved a barrier to fish migration, and was badly rusted.



Contractor works on culvert

The construction site is about 200 feet upstream from the American River which, along with the Red River, forms the South Fork or the Clearwater River. In-stream construction could only take place between mid-July to the end of August because of fish timing concerns.

The biggest challenge during construction was when groundwater was encountered at a depth much shallower than expected. The footing foundation was re-designed from geogrid to riprap, and work continued. The concrete stem walls were pre-cast, trucked to the site, and placed with an excavator. The finished bottomless arch provides fish passage for Steelhead and Chinook salmon, as well as happy resident fish, and widened the road to double lane over the stream.

The work was done just in time – on August 3 at least three wildfires started nearby and the Forest was closed by the first of September.

Business Highlight:

Socioeconomic Experts in Enterprise: The Rare Few

Submitted by Kristen Loughery, TEAMS Enterprise Unit

Social scientists and economists with TEAMS provide support at all organizational levels in the Forest Service and other natural resource agencies. At the forest level, they conduct social and economic analysis for project NEPA and forest planning, lead community socioeconomic workshops, and support public collaboration. At the regional and national scale, TEAMS social scientists and economists develop guidance and training materials, create socioeconomic databases, and advance new socioeconomic tools and methodologies. The social scientists and economists with TEAMS are active in the national Human Dimensions community as well as interagency efforts to promote and improve the use of social science in agency decision-making.

Our vision is to clearly and meaningfully articulate the connection between people and public lands, in order to empower the public and inform agency decision making. We are motivated to create effective and improved relationships and products. We are excited to collaborate with our partners to improve the use of socioeconomic information in decision-making. Our flexibility and availability to support partners' projects makes us stand out as an effective group.

HELLO!-Welcome New Employees Across Enterprise

Say Howdy to Charles Theodore Call, the newest Enterpriser. He was born to the Call Family (Kenton Call, AMSET) in August. He has big basketball hands and loves to go hiking. He loves to eat and sleep and play with his big sisters. He is named for Dad's favorite president.



Our newest Enterpriser!

Hello! Jennie O'Connor Card came to TEAMS from the Mt. Hood National Forest. She hails originally from Connecticut but calls Bozeman home now. She is one of TEAMS' newest Environmental Coordinators.

Hello! Joe David (pronounced da-veed) came to TEAMS from the BLM where he was a Planning and Environmental Coordinator out of Meeker, Colorado. Joe hails from Louisiana and now lives in Torrey, Utah. He is also one of TEAMS' newest Environmental Coordinators

Hello! To Amanda Patrick who joined the Enterprise Program on September 6th. Amanda brings with her over 19 years of experience working in the great outdoors. Prior to coming to Enterprise, Amanda was the Public Affairs Officer on the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois for three and a half years. Amanda is a Public Affairs Specialist and works to support projects for both Digital Visions

(DV) and Integrated Resources (InRe) as a member of DV.

Good-bye! Rob McLeod, project manager for Digital Visions, retired on August 29th with over 25 years with the Forest Service. Rob worked for the Bitterroot National Forest, Lolo National Forest, CIO as the Region One Customer Service Representative and Digital Visions during his career. We will miss Rob and his knowledge of Forest Service IT but wish him well on his new adventures!

Good-bye! To Cathy Woods who retired on May 1 2015. During Cat's tenure with Integrated Resources (InRe) she contributed to implementing Sustainable Recreation Framework and the 2012 Planning Rule.

From the Editor

Enterprising People is a quarterly publication focusing on Enterprise Units and their partners. Both Enterprisers and partners are encouraged to share topics and ideas or join our mailing list by contacting editor, Kathrina Magno, at kathrinaqmagno@fs.fed.us. If you're interested in contributing to the next issue, please send your submissions by **December 8, 2015**.