



Enterprising People

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



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Enterprise Program Update

From Bill Helin, Director, Enterprise Program

In the December issue I mentioned that I had been reading *A Sand County Almanac*, and how much Leopold's words made me again realize why I joined the Forest Service. Recently I had the fortune to read another great book. It is called the *Big Burn*, written by Timothy Egan. The book centers on the mammoth fire of 1910 but it is much more than a description of that event. The book depicts, in a way I had not read previously, events surrounding the creation of the Forest Service, interrelations between Gifford Pinchot and Teddy Roosevelt, and more. The fire and its aftermath were a seminal event for the agency; in many respects we continue to live in its wake. It helped form part of the agency's identity, how we collectively see ourselves. Although almost all of the account is based on fact, Egan's opinions are evident in parts of the book. Taking his opinions as you wish, I highly recommend this book.

The Enterprise Program annual meeting took place from February 7 -11. It was a good and productive session. The meeting covered many topics and was unlike those in prior years which focused on reports by the Enterprise Units (EUs) about their previous years' accomplishments and financial

(Continued from previous column)

standing. This meeting focused on in-depth discussions of two important topics. One topic was based on the results of two prior leadership development sessions, specifically the Flame Model (see description below). A key action from this discussion was to further describe how the Enterprise Program, as a whole, would look as a more cohesive organization. To be clear, there is no push to become one big unit and there is already a fairly high level of inter-working between EUs. A primary reason to become yet more cohesive is because of the strength in having a greater degree of program-wide collaboration.

A second topic discussed in this meeting was safety. The Enterprise Program continues to have an excellent safety record. An action item coming out of the meeting was to explore how to build on our good record and help ensure we continue to remain safe.

As you carry on the important work you do in service with our agency partners, continue to be great ambassadors for the program. The program is in a solid place and, while there will be challenges facing the agency with downward budgets, the good work you do will help keep the program strong.

The Flame Model

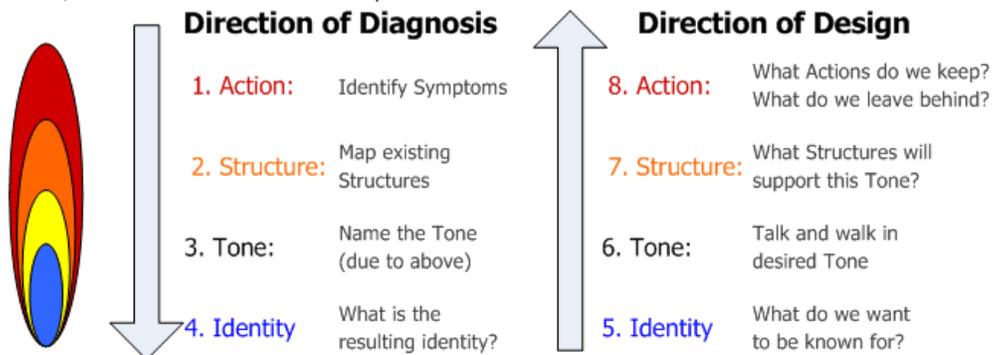
This model, developed by Dialogos, is based on a concept of a flame, which is most visible at the top (actions) and burns most intensely at its base (identity). During two Enterprise Program leadership development sessions and the annual meeting, attendees first diagnosed the current situation and then, starting with what the group determined should be the Program's core identity, began to design the desired future state. Finally, attendees compared the current and future states and began to determine what key shifts would be needed to reach the Program's future condition.

Actions: What are people doing

Structure: Procedures and processes

Tone: Atmosphere, mood

Identity: Core vision, mission and how we identify ourselves



AMSET Assesses Bull Fire

The Bull wildland fire burned over 16,000 acres in three days on the Sequoia National Forest in July, 2010. The fire burned into several interagency wildland and urban interface areas, as well as defensible shaded fuel breaks adjacent to homes in the Kernville and Riverkern communities. The Adaptive Management Services Enterprise Team (AMSET) was tasked by the Washington Office to assess the effectiveness of the fuels treatments in mitigating damage to private property, and the effectiveness of the fuel treatment zones to stop the spread of fire to these areas.



Fire crews work to build the Burma Road shaded fuel break in 2006 on the Sequoia National Forest land adjacent to private homes.

The Bull Fire Fuels Treatment Effectiveness

Assessment was completed on October 1, 2010, highlighting the cooperative efforts led by the Kern River Valley Fire Safe Council in protecting communities in the Kern River area. The assessment is a technical report that evaluates how the fire burned, and the fuels treatments implemented to protect homes. The assessment is available on-line: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia/>. A follow-up report for public viewing was prepared and will be available on the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center website.



Fire crews use the shaded fuel break to keep the Bull fire from damaging private property in July 2010.

Enterprise Support for Haiti

Denise Hann recently represented TEAMS, the Enterprise Program, the Forest Service and the United States in an effort to assist Haiti with its Feed the Future (FtF) initiative to improving Haiti's agricultural productivity in targeted high-potential zones. Denise felt honored to be part of a multi-agency team that assessed the threats to agricultural productivity posed by Haiti's river and hillside systems. In two trips the team assessed areas known as Limbé – Plaine du Nord Corridor, and the Cul-de-Sac and the Cabaret–St. Marc corridor.

Of the 14 days of the assessment, 11 were spent surveying the plains and the watersheds to which they belonged. The team participated in discussions ranging from individual tenant farmers to the Minister of Agriculture and his senior staff and USAID senior technical staff. In all of these discussions, the linkages of stream system conditions and the productive plains were emphasized as well as watershed management.

Denise reported, "Listening to testimonies at the farmer's cooperative was incredibly moving to me. As three mothers stood up and shared that their children were able to go to school because of funds they received from selling cacao with the support of USAID brought me to tears ...to know we really are helping and making a difference....is life changing".

The team identified initiatives such as technologies that both stabilize hillsides and increase revenues; technologies that turn hillside run-off from a liability into an asset; public-private partnerships that strengthen tree crop value chains; stronger private sector providers of inputs; and model farms and extension systems that have extended production technologies outside the project areas. The initiatives would help further and strengthen FtF objectives.

The team strongly concurred with the basic premise that the plains productivity targeted under the FtF program are dependent upon management of the river systems associated with the agricultural plains and there are a number of ongoing initiatives that FtF can build upon to achieve accelerated impacts.



Denise Haan, TEAMS Enterprise, meets with a cacao farmer's cooperative in Haiti in an effort to assist with the Feed the Future initiative.

Prescott NF Fire and Vegetation Analysis

Above and Beyond

Ecosystems (A&B) partnered with Adaptive Management Services Enterprise Team (AMSET) in December 2010



to make fire and vegetation presentations to the Prescott National Forest Leadership Team.

The presentations and supporting reports represented fire behavior, fire ecology, vegetation, opportunities, and values at risk in both the Hassayampa and Chino West analysis areas. Data generated from this project will lead to development of long-term fire management plans, inclusion in possible NEPA analyses, and tools for collaborative planning with adjacent communities.

The project will continue through 2011 analyzing the Agua Fria Grassland starting in April 2011.

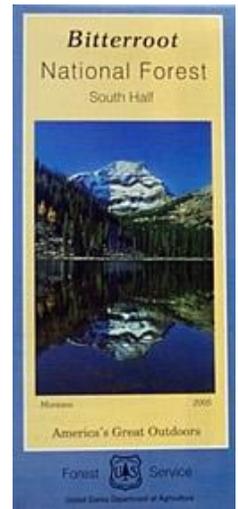


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Visit the National Forest Store online at, <http://www.nationalforeststore.com>. The store is open weekdays from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm, Mountain Time. You can also contact the Store via email, fs_national_forest_store@fs.fed.us, or by phone, (406) 329-3024.

From the Editor

Enterprising People is a quarterly publication focusing on Enterprise teams and their partners. Both Enterprisers and partners are encouraged to share topics and ideas or join our electronic mailing list by contacting editor Kristi Bray at kabray@fs.fed.us. **If you're interested in contributing to the next issue, please send your submissions by May 11, 2011.**

Produced by
Recreation Solutions



Wagoner, Arizona (top, circa 1890 and bottom, 2010): Comparison of historic conditions that could be referenced with current photos to highlight vegetation change on the Prescott National Forest.

