

Minutes Jan 5, 2006

RAC meeting 2819 Dahlia Klamath Falls, Or.

Attendees: Hank Mroczkowski (chair), Gary Johnson, Lani Hickey, Pete Talbott, Bill Duke, Melvin Dick, Don Gentry, Clair Thomas, Anita Ward, Craig Bienz, Fred Rasmussen, Amy Gowan(DFO), Cindi Nolan (RAC Coordinator)

Steve Kadel (sp), Lisa Swinney, John Neeling, Michelle Delouse (sp), Jerry Anderson, Brett Johnson, Dave Hogan and Dan Brown

Meeting started @ 9:30 am

Pete Talbott moved to accept the minutes from the June 22, 23, 2005 Prioritization meeting.

Gary Johnson- Second

Passed

Lani Hickey asked for an update on the NEPA issues on lands other than the National Forest Lands.

Amy gave an update as per her investigation of this matter - She found that some counties already have plans in place that they are using. Also the Regional EIS has been signed but that it is not site specific. Bottom line, yes, a proponent would have to have a NEPA to treat weeds on other than NF lands.

Replacement Members- nothing said @ this time

The DFO thanked everyone for attending and for staying with the movement as we have expanded from our once a year commitment.

Amy- as we look forward to our final funding cycle, the RAC and the forest would like to put their money into areas where it will have the most impact. Therefore we have scheduled a workshop for proponents to assist them in writing a successful proposal.

The Workshops will be ...

Klamath Falls Jan 18th @ the SO building

Lakeview Jan 19th @ the IO building

These workshops will start at 9 am and go until approximately 3pm.

Amy- the Forest now has a review panel chosen by the Forest Supervisor. This Panel will assist in making decisions on what projects the Forests will be putting forward for funding in 2007. This panel has set up criteria by which they will be grading the projects to see how viable they are.

Reviewed the map showcasing the RAC funded projects from 2002-2006. (The group wants to know if we could group this map with the map for the forest that shows the different projects they have completed on the forests).

Back to the Criteria...

Bill Duke pointed out that some watersheds do not have watershed analysis and therefore it would be to a disadvantage to some project proposals should they just go by the criteria set for the review panel.

Craig Bienz – Understand “Critical Watershed “and the national fire plan condition class may be misunderstood by some. Also assessments would not include private lands.

Lani Hickey- If this project is not in an area with a watershed analysis this may be stated somewhere in the proposal so as not to eliminate this project from the running.

Don Gentry – I feel comfortable with the internal process for the FS.

Bill Duke- use these criteria as a guide not as a deal breaker.

***Decision - These Criteria will be used as a guide.**

Replacement Member (revisited)

Amy (DFO) we still have one replacement member position open. Not sure what group (group B- Environmental)

Introduction of New Replacement Member (we do not have final papers back from the Secretary of Ag) Brett Johnson who will represent Commercial Timber in

group A. Brett works for Jeld Wen and comes to us on a recommendation from Craig Ditman (a past member).

*We would like to know what RAC members would like or have the time to participate in the upcoming workshops.

Klamath Falls Jan. 18th – Lani Hickey, Hank Mroczkowski, Bill Duke

Lakeview Jan 19th – Craig Bienz, Bill Duke

Monitoring Report

Hank - discussion on the Criteria for monitoring.

Don- The long form looks to be sufficient to answering what the RAC wants back from the proponents.

RAC will go over monitoring plans and send feedback.

*Cindi – E-mail form to RAC members.

Discussion...

Pete would like to see percentages, dollars spent to amount of work done.

Anita still would like to see actual amounts not just a percentage.

Project Update

Paradise Watson NEPA project – the Chair shared the letter from Karen Shimamoto the forest Supervisor regarding the decision not to send this project forward for funding at this time. She stated that she would like to see some partnership dollars leveraged and a clear objective stated in the implementation.

* No discussion

Dave Hogan stepped up to give an update on some culvert projects the RAC has funded (Paradise Creek fish Passage FL-03-403). They have been able to leverage other dollars to combine with the RAC funds (the RAC dollars funded the design) that will enable them to implement this project.

The nomination of the Weir project power point presentation - The Chewaucan Watershed Restoration Project has been nominated by this RAC for the NFCSC award for outstanding projects from a RAC.

Paisley Large Woody Debris Project update

Amy explained why this project was in question.

She shared with everyone Carolyn's request for a stability report from Rich Pyzik (the lead on this project). Rich completed his report and there was to be action taken but in the interim we have had extreme cold and wet weather causing some movement of the wood but nothing has caused any damage to any of the three structures in question.

Dave Hogan also gave us a better understanding of what is occurring in the river.

The plant Material Collection (Lake County)

Gary Johnson - of all the projects we have funded, I am mostly disappointed with this project.

RAC agreed with Gary's comments.

*The RAC has instructed Cindi to go back to the proponents with questions...

Species of plants - How many?

Were there conditions that postponed this project?

How many people worked on this project? (The only # reported back to us is 3)

Shared with the RAC the allocations to states and counties

DFO - reauthorization update - congress should be meeting in February

RAC wanted to know if they could help. Get the word out as often as possible about the importance of the RAC and the accomplishments with Title II dollars

News on status of projects - There will be some money coming back to the RAC for reallocation. There has been some savings in the implementation and some projects are not still viable.

*Cindi will e-mail the RAC when a final dollar amount is determined.

Discussion as to how the RAC would like to reallocate the funds in question.

Bill - Either roll it over or schedule another meeting to determine action.

Anita- We can always call a meeting and if we don't need to meet we can cancel.

*Gary Johnson – Motion to roll over dollars to fund in the 2007 funding cycle.

Lani Hickey- second

Discussion, risk to do that

Pete Talbott – If we do roll it over, may be a mistake at this point

Gary Johnson – If we do roll it over this could possibly have a greater benefit on doing entire watersheds or lands tied to critical watersheds.

Pete – can we go back to the '06 projects if we wait until June to decide on this?

Bill – I think those projects will come back to us in '07 for funding.

Gary Johnson – I raise the question

Hank (chair) there is a motion on the table to roll these dollars to '07.

Vote was called by chair.

It's have it

2 abstained (Clair Thomas and Anita Ward)

The motion carries

Public Comment – none

Craig Bienz thanked the subcommittee members (Hank Mroczkowski, Bill Duke and Pete Talbott) for their hard work.

It was determined by the chair that there would not be another meeting scheduled at this time as the decision was to not do anything with the returned dollars until June 2006.

*Prioritization meeting is set for June 19, 20, 2006

The meeting will take place in Klamath Falls as last years meeting was in Lakeview.

Action Items

E-mail monitoring forms to the RAC

Project dollars summary – report back to RAC how much was returned for reallocation. Klamath/Lake Counties

Screening Criteria needs to be sent out to the RAC and poss. Proponents when the review committee has a completed list. (Used only as a guide)

Melvin Dick, Anita Ward and Hank would all like to receive copies of the Paisley Weir project nomination PPT.

The Klamath Noxious weed project is does not appear to be on the map. After talking with Dennis Griffen, the map specialist for the Fremont-Winema, he pointed out to me that he has referenced the project in the legend as it covers the entire forest. This appears to be the best practice regarding this type of project.

The meeting was adjourned at 2pm.