



MINUTES

Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group, Plumas Corporation Management Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, March 1, 2010

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Plumas Corporation office

Staff: Jim Wilcox, Leslie Mink, Terry Benoit, Gia Martynn, & Kara Rockett (*absent*)

Others present: Julie Newman, Ben Letton, John Hafen

Members:

Chair- Kevin Pond

Vice Chair- John Kolb

Project & Design Chair – Ryan Nupen

Finance Chair– Dennis Heiman (*absent*)

Monitoring Chair– Terri Rust

Education Chair- Wade/Hoffman

Others-Dan Martynn, Holly George (*absent*), Mark Steffek, Joe Hoffman,

Todd Hillaire, Lori Powers

1. Review/Approve March 2010 Agenda – all approved
Review/Approve January 2010 Minutes- Joe motion to approve; Todd second; all approve
2. Committee Reports
Finance- Dennis Heiman
 - a. SEP RWQCB – Dennis report back
 - b. National American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA)- *max award \$1 mil; 1:1 match required, using Red Clover-Poco as match, but still don't have confirmation if funding will come through; applying for Red Clover-Dotta and Meadowview/Rowland*
 - c. Section 6 (USFWS) and other nongame funding sources – *Terry has been communicating with Julie; Section 6 focus on T&E; may be potential funding for Spanish Creek projects*
 - d. *Also, applying to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Red Clover – Clover Valley Ranch property (Beartooth).*
3. Project & Design- Ryan Nupen
 - a. Valley Floor Flood Control Plan update from DWR (Todd Hillaire) – *2006 pass Prop 84, 1E, Flood Safe Program mostly focused on levies in Central Valley, state has given assurances that they will take responsibility in maintaining Fed projects in perpetuity. First, did inventory-State Flood Control Plan – plan that ACOE turned over to DWR; describes all flood control facilities, includes atlas (NFFR is included, only ACOE project in the system) Part of a larger process, will report on status/condition of each, to be reported to the Legislature at the end of 2010. Goal is to develop an integrated flood mgt plan that includes state infrastructure, as well; how to develop a sustainable system, improve the system, etc. May have implications for upper watershed. Jim asked if floodplain restoration will be included in the plan? Concepts were discussed and can be addressed by regional working groups. Different work groups will formulate concepts: stewardship, O&M, etc. \$5 billion to address immediate problems; hydrologic models of Sac Watershed; slurry walls in levies. Areas of 10,000 population or more, 200 yr. event levy standards now required. Prop 1E, ? if funding would be available for floodplain work in upper watershed. Leslie voiced concern that the upper watersheds are not included in the discussions. They have heard the need, but have already selected candidates for work groups. Don't need an actual person on the committee, just want to be sure that Sierra floodplains are part of the integrated approach for flood control management. Will be opportunity for input. Todd will let us know.*
 - b. California Dept. of Fish and Game representation – *Lori and Julie both at meeting; Lori has also let Amber Rossi know. They will rotate to be more present in CRM.. New office in Quincy at the County Annex building near FRC. Julie handed out list of local F&G personnel contact info. Discussion on permits and NEPA/CEQA compliance for Red Clover-Poco project.*
 - c. Update on Spanish Creek projects- Meadow and American Valleys - *Forum funded for conceptual design development; funding for Meadow Valley for resource surveys, env.*

Documentation, and permits. Design for Meadow Valley completed, 2 miles from Green's Flat gravel pit to Spanish Ranch bridge at Kellett's. County to do work on bridge, either culverts or longer bridge expanse. John K. asked if beaver mgt. is part of the overall plan? Interim plan to deal with existing dams and work with F&G for a long term plan. Most beaver activity is in American Valley. First step will be to do an inventory. Goal is to put process in place that can deal proactively with beaver related issues, before we are in crisis mode. Historical approach has been they are not native and just get rid of them. Trapping and moving was tried on Wolf Creek, was not successful. Need to accommodate their presence without compromising the restoration or infrastructure. Leslie asked if the state recognizes them as native now? Lori didn't know, will check with Terri Weist. Gene pool may not be native, but their presence in the morphological landscape is evident.

4. Monitoring- Terri Rust

- a. Statistical analysis of monitoring data – Discussion came after review of recent monitoring reports; plan would like to start applying some stat analysis to our data sets to see if the trends we are observing are statistically significant. Max diurnal temp graphs begged the question of needing some analysis. Could bring in outside help. Terri Rust suggested Kara look at a UC Davis report on stream parameters that were stat analyzed. More pressure coming to publish peer review paper. Better to do sooner to see if there is anything we need to change in our data collection. Need to get some funding to start. Some simple tests could be done to start. Difficult with wildland data collection to account for all variables. Might be opportunity to get some free help through university system.
- b. DWR Wish List- xsecs at Little Last Chance are done but still need to work up data; list was sent to Kevin and Todd. Reviewed list in meeting. Added request for post-project macro-invertebrate data collection on Red Clover-McReynolds. Todd will need to talk to Dave Bogner, only wildlife staff at DWR, time is limited. Whitehawk crossing is just about done, Kevin working on hydraulic model. Indian Crk. gage continuous data since 2006; don't use CDEC data (provisional), Todd will get us the link to get the processed data for our reports. Reference reaches in Last Chance want replicated for pre-project data set before Last Chance II is implemented. In 2011, will be asking for assistance with SCI sites if we secure RAC funding. Would Dave Grant be available to do any fish shocking this summer? Reassessing fish monitoring and what is feasible and comparable. Would like to look at Little Last Chance and Boulder Creek. Suggested snorkeling, but water clarity is not good enough. For LLC may be able to use a barge pulled from shore in deep pools behind the riffles.
- c. 2008, 2009, and Red Clover Monitoring Reports have been finalized and are available on website, www.feather-river-crm.org – Review completed at Monitoring Committee meeting in February.

5. Education- Rob Wade/Kristy Hoffman

- a. Youth Environmental Stewardship Summit (YESS) March 12th – 2nd annual for 7-12 grades
- b. Project WET & WILD Aquatic Workshop – April 2nd for Trout In The Classroom teachers; haven't had a WET/WILD training in the FR watershed for 12 years.
- c. Funding applications submitted to RAC and EPA 5Star Restoration Program for Learning Landscape Restoration Projects – to stretch/leverage SNC education funding for the watershed education program. Discussion of involvement of Audubon with the CRM and whether they might be a signatory partner. Avoid any duplication of efforts. Holding Biodiversity Days in May, may be good event to partner on.
- d. Big Meadows report is finalized and available on website.
- e. Carbon report is under review by Dale Johnson and Sherm Swanson at UNR (technical committee). Will be finalized by end of March.

6. Announcements:

- a. CRM 25 Year Anniversary Rafting Event- Saturday, May 1st – Announcement coming out soon. FRC donating rafts and equipment. Only 20 spaces available, will need to RSVP, first come, first serve. Will have lunch on the river; all are welcome to join us for lunch.
- b. Local Screening of Meadow DVD and Passion For The Land stories, May 18th – Tuesday evening, 6:30pm

- c. Feather River CRM 25 Year Anniversary Celebration June 11-12th @ Red Clover – Will have a camp out at the Red Clover project. Fishing is mandatory! BBQ and fishing Friday evening, fishing and nature walks Saturday. More info to come.
- d. CRM Applying for 2010 International Thiess Riverprize – the “Noble” prize of watersheds; Due in May; winner announced in October. Foundation out of Melbourne, Australia. First prize is \$250K, plus \$100K if you partner internationally with another watershed to build capacity.
- e. Calendar on website – Uses Google calendar; partners can input dates of their events, just contact Gia or Kara to get access. Would like to make it a watershed-wide, all partner calendar.
- f. Cattlemen’s Tour on June 19th will visit Red Clover Project on Goodwin Ranch.
- g. Scott Lusk’s (Range Conservationist on Beckwourth RD) son, Jedidiah, has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. They have started a website <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/jedidiahlusk/guestbook>, if you would like to send a note of encouragement or help in any way.
- h. John Kolb announced that he will be attending the CA Green Summit later this month- will report back at next meeting.
- i. Sequel to Ecology of Hope (1990) has just been released, Hope and Hard Times follows up on groups in Plumas County including FRCRM, QLG, and Maidu Stewardship.
- j. Gia needs partner stories for watershed newsletter!

Other info- John Hafen gave heads up on perched culvert work on N. Fork Feather River (5 identified: Soda, Rush, Granite, Old Mill Ranch, and Milk Ranch Creeks) funded by the RAC. More work to be continued using Storrie Fire funds, Lori Powers will be helping. John would like CRM to help w/ technical aspects.

Lassen NF contacted us on possibly using Storrie Fire funds to do restoration work on Yellow Creek in Humbug Valley. Submitted to Lassen and Plumas NFs to put on list. Not in burn area and on private lands, but is treating a resource that was affected by the fire. Have not started working outside the burn area to date. Little has been implemented on the ground to date. Lori said they were looking at research on whirling disease and the effects of fire adding sediment. John H. asked if project alternatives treat ditches? Focus is on main channel, but work on ditches may be included if Storrie funds can be used. Jim commended CFGD work on internal issues concerning whirling disease and proposal for work in Yellow Creek.

Next Mgt. Committee Meeting: May 3, 2010

Reasonable Accommodations: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact the Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Watershed Coordinator at (530) 283-3739, x107.