



COLORADO BARK BEETLE COOPERATIVE
Draft Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
10AM – 2PM Friday, July 19, 2013
Colorado Mtn. College
107 Denison Placer Rd., Breckenridge, CO

List of Attendees:

Don Kennedy	Denver Water	don.kennedy@denverwater.org
Abbie Cobb	NWCCOG	acobbcbbc@gmail.com
Sally Edwards (phone)	Xcel energy	sally@montanasky.net
Grete Gansauer	Colorado Wildlife Federation	grete.gansauer@gmail.com
Jan Cutts	USFS	jcutts@fs.fed.us
Rich Edwards	CSFS	rich.edwards@colostate.edu
Marcus Selig	NFF	mselig@nationalforests.org
Tim Reader	CSFS	treader@lamar.colostate.edu
John Rich	Citizen	
Dan Gibbs	Summit County BOCC	dang@co.summit.co.us
Steven DeWitt	The Lodgepole Project	steven@stevendewitt.com
Howard Hallman	FHTF/Greenlands Reserve	future1946@yahoo.com
Mike Eckhoff	CSFS	mike.eckhoff@colostate.edu
Rob Davis	Forest Energy	rdavis@forestenergy.com
Brad Piehl	JW Associates	bpiehl@jw-associates.org
Liz Mullen	NWCCOG	lmullen@nwccog.org
Bruce Ward	Choose Outdoors	Bruce@chooseoutdoors.org
John Ring (phone)	BLM	jring@blm.gov

Following are the actions/expected actions arising from the January 18, 2013 meeting:

- *April 2013 meeting minutes were approved.*
- *Bruce Ward will work with Eagle County photographer Steve DeWitt to define what a partnership with the CBBC would look like and report back to the group.*
- *Abbie will send email to CBBC to determine who will be attending the Collaboratives Summit in Montrose on October 28 & 29.*
- *Jan Cutts, Jan Burke, Howard Hallman, Tony Cheng, and Brad Piehl will coordinate to work on the October 2 & 3 CBBC field trip. Brad will head up that coordination.*
- *Bruce Ward will coordinate with Lyle Laverty regarding the Communications WG. Abbie will also help with this.*
- *Someone from the CBBC will contact Rick Cables about participating in future CBBC meetings.*

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM. All were welcomed by Brad Piehl (Sloan on leave) and introductions made.

- M/S/P Dan Gibbs/Rich Edwards to approve the minutes of the April 2013 Steering Committee meeting.

High Elevation Fire Behavior

Many of the recent CO wildfires have resulted in research that is showing new data/assumptions for CO. Brad Piehl's slide show with information about changing wildfire behavior is attached. A "new normal" is beginning to emerge, especially after wildfire. Perhaps it is time to redefine what resiliency is and what regenerating lodgepole forests look like, depending upon treatments. Based on these different scenarios, it is very important to focus treatment on zones of agreement (ZOA's) surrounding our communities. More of these ZOA's need to be identified. The project that CFRI and Tony Cheng are working on for the CBBC is looking at these issues.

Wood Utilization Working Group

Rich Edwards distributed the minutes from the April 25 Wood Utilization Working Group meeting. The mission of the group is to inform the CBBC Steering Committee on wood utilization policy and projects. Mike Eckhoff is working with the group and was introduced to the CBBC. Mike updated the group on his new position with the US Forest Service as Biomass & Small Wood Utilization Coordinator. This is Susan Ford's former job slimmed down to halftime status (with full time duties). The other half of his duties will still be for the Colorado State Forest Service, focusing on the CO Wood Utilization & Marketing Program and Outreach Division. Mike's new federal duties will include: general grants assistance, problem solving, and resource supply-demand issues. He showed the group a new camping stove (sold at REI) that uses wood chips for power as well as charging a battery on the stove.

The Beetle Kill Recognition event in Golden went well.

Beaverhead-Deerlodge Working Group Conference Call (BDWG)

A conference call was held with a group from Montana who has been working on mountain pine beetle issues in the lodgepole pine forests of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest out of Bozeman. The discussion focused on a short history of the BDWG and their lodgepole pine work, along with a walk-through some of their key desired conditions and principles. The BDNF is:

- 3.3 million acres
- 80% forested
- 50% lodgepole
- 1.5 million acres impacted by mountain pine beetle.

The BDWG members on the call were:

- Pete Nelson – Defenders of Wildlife, Bozeman MT
- Tony Colter – Sun Mountain Lumber – Deer Lodge, MT
- Barb Cestero – MT Director of Greater Yellowstone Coalition – Bozeman, MT

They are working on issues similar to what the CBBC is looking at:

- Resilient future forests
- Definition of resilience after disturbance in LPP forests and restoring heterogeneity
- Where are the ZOA at the big picture level? Watersheds, communities, stewardship contract areas
- Developing principles for restoration activities in LPP on landscape scale
- Other issues include litigation (different for CBBC), USFS agreement on landscape projects, lack of USFS funding

Guiding principles of the BDWG:

- Keep natural mosaic of landscape
- Enhance other species that have been excluded by wildfire
- Design projects to enhance the knowledge about many different types of treatments to see what works best in LPP

Where is the BDWG heading?

- Would like to stay in touch with the CBBC on management and science findings
- Maintain goal of economic opportunity and stewardship contracting so dollars can be put back into other types of restoration
- Salli Edwards pointed out that Xcel has developed a successful public/private partnership for funding power line work.

CSFS

The CSFS Colorado Forest Products Program has partnered with Colorado Proud in producing 8 30-second commercials to showcase CO businesses that use CO wood products. The commercials will begin airing in September on Channel 9. Brief clips from some of the commercials were shown to the CBBC.

Mike Eckhoff is now working with the CSFS and USFS.

The Lodgepole Project

Eagle County photographer Steve DeWitt made a presentation to the CBBC. Steve has been photographing in CO for 10 years and wants to educate people about what's been happening in the lodgepole pine forests through his photography. He plans to show his work in 7 US cities, each exhibit lasting 1-3 months. Steve is looking for a local partner, possibly the CBBC. As a partner, he would put the CBBC logo on his website, books, calendars, etc. and support the CBBC with photos as needed. Bruce Ward will work with Steve to better define what a partnership means and report back to the CBBC.

Forest Collaboratives Meeting

A meeting of all the CO forest collaboratives will be held in Montrose on October 28 & 29. Topics will include what the collaboratives are working on, funding issues, etc. The focus of this year's meeting will be on collaboration with industry. Two field trips are planned to look at some on the ground projects as well as the Montrose Mill. On October 30, a presentation of 5 landscape restoration projects (2 in NM, 1 in AZ, 2 in CO) will take place in conjunction with a CFLR meeting. Abbie will send out an email asking who from the CBBC will be attending.

CBBC Fall Meeting/Field Trip

The USFS is willing to work with the CBBC on developing a fall field trip to look at restoration projects in the Summit County area. Jan Cutts, Jan Burke, Howard Hallman, Tony Cheng, and Brad Piehl will work on this. Brad will coordinate the group. The field trip will occur on Weds., October 2, followed by a CBBC fall SC meeting on October 3. The new WRNF Deputy Supervisor Heather Provencio would like to be engaged in the field trip.

Working Group Reports

Vision WG – the group needs to develop a message it can communicate clearly. One suggestion was to define varying types of forest conditions and how to treat each of these “situations”. Each type could be identified as a “box” and a description of how to treat each of the “boxes” could be developed.

Communications WG – Abbie spoke with Lyle Laverty about working with the Communications WG. He is still interested but could not attend the July meeting. Bruce Ward will work with Lyle on this. Jan Cutts and Brad Piehl are also interested as is Abbie Cobb.

Other

- Rick Cables is now the VP of environmental activities for Vail Resorts. The CBBC would like to invite him to future meetings.

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The next CBBC Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 3, 2013, 10AM – 2PM at CMC in Breckenridge.