

Meeting Notes for KFSC Meeting on February 26, 2009

1. Young Dodge Report, By Ed Levert

Glen McNitt explained that the Y-D Team had been unable to reach consensus. That Ed's last minute proposal was not acceptable to the district. Jeff Juel said that the Lands Council was alright with Ed's proposal. However, other members of the team were not in favor of it.

Glen then made a proposal to the Stakeholders to do the following: He would give the Stakeholders 7 days to decide if they wanted to proceed on trying to find consensus on Y-D. If we agreed after 7 days to proceed we would then have 30 days to actually reach consensus or he would "split the baby". What he meant was that he would take half of the regeneration units and implement their prescriptions as proposed and he would take the other half of the units and leave untreated. If the Stakeholders agreed to pursue consensus and failed to accomplish that in 30 days the Stakeholders would support the project as modified. He then said he would send out the proposal to the Stakeholders in written form. (There was much confusion over this proposal, but when the smoke cleared this is what was intended.)

The project team met and decided that they wanted to try and reach consensus. However, the team did not want to "split the baby" if consensus could not be reached. The team felt this would be seen by outside environmental organizations as an arbitrary action by the Forest Service and even if the Stakeholders supported the action it would be very difficult to defend. Instead the team sent a letter to the Forest Supervisor stating this and suggesting that if we couldn't reach consensus we would hope that the Forest Service would consider those points where we actually did reach consensus.

The Y-D Team has met twice via conference call since the last Stakeholder meeting. We will meet face to face this Friday the 27th. My perspective is that we still have some difficult negotiation points to resolve, but the attitude of the team is positive.

2. Three Rivers Sparring Bull Project

Mike Herrin reported that much of his effort has been directed to completing the Grizzly EIS project. Hopes to have the document completed by end of summer and offer the project for sale in September.

On sparring Bull Mike is asking for KFSC involvement in the design and proposed action of the project this summer.

3. Libby Creek Reservoir project. Ed Levert gave an update on this project which has multiple partners, including Federa, State and Municipal with the City of Libby. The goal of the project is to reduce fuels, improve forest health and protect the Libby Watershed. Project may be accelerated with project teams conducting field trips in June with the potential for a 2010 implementation.

4. Betty Holder gave a report on the Galton project. Because of the issues within the project and community, Tracy McIntyre and her board decided to withdraw from being involved in the project. It was further discussed that this project is not a good KFSC project and that we would no longer be involved.

5. Cabinet District Report: Lee Kramer informed us that there is another group in Sander's county working with his District. It was decided that the KFSC would continue to be involved in projects on the Cabinet District. The team was identified and is composed of Sarah Lundstrum, Bill Martin and Tim Dougherty.

6. Economic Development & Biomass: It was brought up by John Konzen and Paul R. that if a specific economic development opportunity was identified that needed a specific amount of biomass from the Kootenai that a team would be assembled to work with the Districts in identifying the biomass available. Team members are Jerry Okonski, Jeff Gruber, Robyn King and Paul Rumelhart.

7. Salvage Sale Protocol. Mike Petersen informed the meeting about the progress being made on the Colville. In their protocol, new road building has been taken off the table, must use winter logging to avoid damage to soils and wild life/old growth are off limits.

Next meeting April 16, 2009