



Meeting Notes
February 22, 2018, 1:00–4:00 P.M.
Rock Creek Hegewald Center, Stevenson, WA

Purpose: To discuss and rank retained receipt restoration project proposals so that the Collaborative's recommendations are available to the Forest Service when deciding which restoration projects to implement on the south end of the GPNF in FY 2019.

Participants:

Jacob Anderson, Klickitat County
Erin Black, South Zone Planner, GPNF
Nicole Budine, Cascade Forest Conservancy
Missy Cummins, WSU Extension
Karen Douglass, Skamania County School District
Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, Saving Skamania County
Jeremy Grose, SDS Lumber
Jurgen Hess, Friends of Mt. Adams
Rick Larson, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Tom Linde, Gifford Pinchot Accountability Group
Ethan Lockwood, Collaborative Support Resource Assistant, GPNF
Jay McLaughlin, Mt. Adams Resource Stewards
Jeffrey Mocniak, Individual
Andrea Montgomery, Botanist, Mt. Adams Ranger District, GPNF
John Moody, Individual
Lisa Naas Cook, SGPC Coordinator
John Nakae, Silviculturist, Mt. Adams Ranger District, GPNF
Brendan Norman, Mt. Adams Institute
Liz Oberhausen, PSU Graduate Student working with Mt. Adams Ranger District
Ryan Ojero, Washington Trails Association
Dave Olson, Restoration and Stewardship Staff Officer, GPNF
Tim O'Malley, Individual
Emily Platt, District Ranger, Mount Adams Ranger District, GPNF
Emily Stevenson, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Program
Jim White, Underwood Conservation District
David Wickwire, Recreation Program Manager, Mt. Adams Ranger District

Through an email vote prior to the meeting, SGPC members agreed to define voting eligibility for this meeting as attendance at 2 of the previous 4 collaborative meetings, or subcommittee meetings, during October 2017 through January 2018. All voting members were asked to complete a preliminary ranking spreadsheet and send to Ethan the day before the meeting.

Project proponents shared 2-minute summaries with the group. Discussion focused on whether projects were scalable and had limited alternative funding sources. For full project descriptions, see 2019 Project Summary document sent out before the meeting.

Project Discussion

- **13 proposals were considered with a total funding request of \$490,659.**
- SGPC has \$350,000 in retained receipts for implementation in FY 2019. This is up \$100,000 from last year.
- Up to \$70,000 (20%) may be considered for projects off Forest if they demonstrate restoration benefits to NFS lands. Three off-Forest proposals received; total of \$86,039. (See #8, #10, and #12 below.)

1. Lower Falls Stairway

This project was removed from consideration on 2/21/18 after learning that the FS identified alternate funding.

2. Lower Trout Creek Restoration

Scalable, does not have alternative funding at this time. Wind River watershed a high priority for FS. This project (Phase 3) would finish work included in GPNF Watershed Action Plan.

3. Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument Invasive Plant Treatment

Does have some funding (20k) through RMEF, looking to supplement funding. Scalable to some degree.

4. Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Road Water Quality Enhancement

Brushing has been removed from proposal. Scalable.

5. Non-Commercial Thinning of Young Stands

Non-commercial = cut and leave trees to manage stands for habitat improvement and for timber. Scalable. The requested amount is a reduction from last year.

6. Post-Fire Planting and Seeding on Mt. Adams

Area that has burned 3x in recent history, burned very hot (last in 2015), and does not have natural seed sources nearby. Pollinator projects have produced seeds for the project. Scalable.

7. SGPC Restoration Through Collaboration

Alternative funding sources: received full NFF funding for 2018 which may allow RAC funds to extend into first quarter of 2019; anticipate Forest Collaborative Infrastructure Pilot funds sometime in Summer 2018 (allocated in 2017-19 WA Capital Budget). Scalable.

8. Rock Creek Bridge Replacement (Off-Forest)

Bridge from the 80s, on state land, with FS easement. Request for project design only.

9. Skamania County Forest Youth Success

Roughly \$30,000 per summer work crew. Using remaining Title II funds this year. Could be scaled up, not really effective to scale down.

10. South GP Invasive Plant Management Project (Off-Forest)

Wind River business park, old nursery in Stabler now owned by the County. Adjacent to GPNF areas where invasive treatment has occurred.

11. South GP Invasive Plant Management Project

Treating of areas where geographically-constrained funds do not reach (e.g., quarries and burn areas).

12. Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve Upland Habitat Enhancement (Off-Forest)

Adjacent to GPNF; hasn't had much habitat enhancement; important wildlife corridor for elk, Oregon spotted frog, 150 bird species.

13. Water Quality Erosion Control/Sanitation Work

Work by Skamania County Corrections Crew; erosion control on trails and clean-up of dispersed sites and campgrounds. No additional funding available from County at this time.

14. Wildlife Closure Gate Replacement

First request for this project to replace a vandalized wildlife gate; cost reflects high quality material that should last for several decades; local contractor preferred if possible.

Funding Discussion:

- Prior to the meeting, 12 SGPC members filled out a spreadsheet to rank the projects, suggest funding amounts, and compare projects using the retained receipt criteria. The results are attached at the bottom of the notes and served as a starting point for the funding discussion.
- Some mentioned that many projects were equally important in their view and the ranking value in this chart shouldn't be seen as a definitive assessment of one project's value over another (for example, one project ranked 3 may be as important as 4, 5, etc.) Lower Trout Creek and Water Quality/Sanitation Work were initially ranked lower, and several commented that the need for these was not reflected in these initial rankings.

Projects Recommended for Full Funding:

- Interest in fully funding the top three ranked projects (Skamania County FYS; South GP Invasives on- and off-Forest) as they reflected shared values of the group.

- Lower Trout Creek: As the final phase of a project that would conclude work in the Watershed Action Plan, it was recommended for funding.
- Water Quality Erosion Control/Sanitation Work: Though preliminary rank was lower, the group decided to fund, given increased use on the GP and lack of other funding sources.
- Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve Upland Habitat Enhancement (Off-Forest): Group interested in funding as many projects as possible; lower-cost project; mid-range priority.

Projects Recommended for Partial Funding:

- Both MSHNVM projects (Road Water Quality and Invasives) were partially funded with the intent of supporting as many projects as possible and the possibility that the Pinchot Partners, with available funding that exceeds requests this year, might consider adding some additional funds.
- Restoration through Collaboration: Recommended at scaled-down amount of \$10,000 because there may be a small amount of retained receipt funds carried over into 2019 and other grant funds will support some work into 2019.
- Post-Fire Planting and Seeding on Mt. Adams: Recommended for partial funding because project is scalable and group wanted to fund, at some level, as many projects as possible.
- Non-Commercial Thinning of Young Stands was reduced as it was scalable. Last year, the group funded it at higher amount and wanted to fund other projects as well.

Projects Not Recommended:

- Wildlife Closure Gate Replacement: Group did not recommend this project for funding at this time for a few reasons: gate is damaged but still in place at this time; not highly time sensitive project; wondered if Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) might be a possible source of funding. Recommended submitting a proposal next year with a match included. (Note: After the meeting, Dave Olson checked in with Carol Chandler, the WA FS representative at RMEF funding meetings, and she said it is unlikely the org will fund gate closures. They used to fund these, but haven't done so in the past several years because of member concerns over restricted access. A letter of support from local RMEF members might help, though still a tough sell.)
- Rock Creek Bridge Replacement: Not recommended for funding for several reasons: lowest ranked project; covers only design, not construction and implementation; concern that design cost was too high; not highly time sensitive.

Final Funding Recommendations

Project	SGPC Priority Rank	Amount Requested	SGPC Recommended Amount
9. Skamania County Forest Youth Success	4.4	\$65,397.00	\$65,397.00
11. South GP Invasive Plant Management Project (Off-Forest)	5.1	\$18,039.00	\$18,039.00
10. South GP Invasive Plant Management Project	5.7	\$56,490.00	\$56,490.00
4. MSHNVM Road Water Quality Enhancement**	6.5	\$38,605.00	\$17,000.00
5. Non-Commercial Thinning of Young Stands***	6.2	\$81,000.00	\$62,000.00
14. Wildlife Closure Gate Replacement	6.2	\$20,110.00	\$0.00
12. Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve Upland Habitat Enhancement (Off-Forest)	6.1	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
6. Post-Fire Planting and Seeding on Mt. Adams	5.9	\$23,086.00	\$18,086.00
7. Restoration through Collaboration****	6.1	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
3. MSHNVM Invasive Plant Treatment*	7.5	\$9,932.00	\$4,966.00
2. Lower Trout Creek Restoration	8.4	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
13. Water Quality Erosion Control/Sanitation Work	9.2	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
8. Rock Creek Bridge Replacement (Off-Forest)	10.6	\$60,000.00	\$0.00
		\$490,659.00	\$349,978.00*

*District Ranger to determine allocation of remaining \$22.

Next Meeting: SGPC Annual Meeting on March 22, 2018. 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM at the Rock Creek Hegewald Center in Stevenson, WA.

SGPC Mission Statement

The South Gifford Pinchot Collaborative is a community-based partnership that participates in the development, facilitation, and implementation of projects that enhance economic vitality, forest ecosystem health, recreation, and public safety on the south end of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and in surrounding communities.

FY 19 Retained Receipt Project Proposals: South Zone GPNF

The following table is the aggregated rankings from 12 SGPC Members and is intended as a starting point for discussion.

The table has been sorted by **Average Rank** where a lower value indicates a higher priority for that project with a possible range of 1-14.

Average Funding (All) is the average amount of funding that was suggested and includes those who suggested No Funding for that project. **Average Funding (Excludes No Funding)** is the average amount of funding suggested excluding those who selected No Funding. **Count of No Funding** is a count of the number of times No Funding was suggested for the project.

The **Average Criteria Score** is the average of the 7 criteria across all results. A higher score shows a project with, on average, more agreement that the project addresses the project criteria and has a possible range of 1-5.

Project	Amount Requested	Average Rank (1-14, lower is better)	Average Funding (All)	Average Funding (Exclude No Funding)	Count of No Funding	Average Criteria Score (1-5, higher is better)	Retained Receipt Project Criteria (select from drop down)						
							1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Neutral	4 = Agree	5 = Strongly Agree	1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree
9. Shamania County Forest Youth Success	\$65,397.00	4.4	\$60,360.73	\$60,360.73	0	4.2	4.2	3.6	4.4	3.5	4.8	4.5	4.1
11. South GP Invasive Plant Management Project (Off-Forest)	\$18,039.00	5.1	\$17,304.64	\$17,304.64	0	3.8	4.3	3.4	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.5
10. South GP Invasive Plant Management Project	\$56,490.00	5.7	\$43,220.91	\$43,220.91	0	3.7	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.2	3.4
4. MSHNVMI Road Water Quality Enhancement**	\$38,605.00	6.5	\$27,239.27	\$37,454.00	3	3.6	3.6	3.9	2.8	4.0	4.1	3.4	3.5
5. Non-Commercial Thinning of Young Stands***	\$81,000.00	6.2	\$56,088.64	\$61,697.50	1	3.7	4.3	3.7	3.0	3.9	4.1	3.4	3.6
14. Wildlife Closure Gate Replacement	\$20,110.00	6.2	\$13,706.36	\$16,846.25	3	3.4	4.4	2.8	4.1	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.4
12. Trout Lake Natural Area Preserve Upland Habitat Enhancement (Off-Forest)	\$8,000.00	6.1	\$5,818.18	\$8,000.00	3	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.8
6. Post-Fire Planting and Seeding on Mt. Adams	\$23,086.00	5.9	\$19,789.82	\$21,768.80	1	3.5	4.0	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.1	3.4	3.4
7. Restoration through Collaboration****	\$20,000.00	6.1	\$11,090.91	\$13,555.56	2	3.5	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4
3. MSHNVMI Invasive Plant Treatment*	\$9,932.00	7.5	\$8,126.18	\$9,932.00	2	3.5	4.2	2.9	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.1	3.4
2. Lower Trout Creek Restoration	\$40,000.00	8.4	\$26,307.55	\$32,153.67	2	2.9	4.0	2.3	3.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8
13. Water Quality Erosion Control/Sanitation Work	\$50,000.00	9.2	\$31,722.36	\$34,894.60	1	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.1
1. Lower Falls Stairway (Lewis River)*****	\$93,300.00	10.3	\$17,300.00	\$57,666.67	7	2.3	2.9	2.2	1.9	2.4	2.3	2.6	1.5
8. Rodd Creek Bridge Replacement	\$60,000.00	10.6	\$7,727.27	\$42,500.00	9	2.3	1.8	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.7	2.2	1.8
total	\$583,959.00		\$345,802.82	\$459,355.31									
total w/o Lower Falls Stairway	\$490,659.00		\$328,502.82	\$401,688.64									

* MSHNVMI project split between North and South collaboratives. Full request is \$19,864.

** MSHNVMI project split between North and South collaboratives. Full request is \$77,210.

*** This project is scalable to \$40,500

**** This project is scalable to \$10,000

*****project has received alternative funding outside of retained receipts