



Meeting Notes

April 18, 2019, 1:00-4:00 P.M.

Rock Creek Hegewald Center, Stevenson, WA

Participants:

Jacob Anderson, Klickitat County
Jon Paul Anderson, High Cascade, Inc.
Nicole Budine, Cascade Forest Conservancy
Gary Collins, Backcountry Horsemen of Washington
Karen Douglass, Skamania County School District
Kari Fagerness, Skamania County Economic Development Council
Sharon Frazey, Mt. Adams Resource Stewards
Jeremy Grose, SDS Lumber
Bob Hamlin, Skamania County Commissioner
Alex Hays, Skamania County Community Events and Recreation
Sommer Meade, Forest Youth Success Technical Advisor
Jeffrey Mocniak, Melchomy/Community Member
John Moody, Community Member
Dean Myerson, Friends of Mt. Adams
Lisa Naas Cook, SGPC Coordinator
Brendan Norman, Mt. Adams Institute
Ryan Ojerio, Washington Trails Association
Emily Platt, District Ranger, Mount Adams Ranger District, GPNF
Anjolene Price, Hampton Lumber – phone
Greg Robertson, Biologist, GPNF
Emily Stevenson, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Program
Troy Stump, High Cascade, Inc.
Jim White, Underwood Conservation District

Welcome, introductions, review meeting purpose and process (*Lisa Naas Cook and Emily Platt, District Ranger*)

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 Zone of the **GPNF in FY 2020**. SGPC has \$50,000 in retained receipts for implementation in FY 2020.

Brief project summaries by project proponents and Q&A

High Bridge Park – \$6,900 - County land along Wind River in need of restoration. Off-road use and unrestricted human traffic have damaged native plants and created erosion problems. Proposal to define public parking area, provide fencing, create bioswale, plant native vegetation. Partners with MCFEG, UCD. Other funding opportunities available. Applied for RCO grant, but did not receive it. Is scalable. May be able to work with Forest Youth Success on portion of project.

Restoration Through Collaboration – \$40,000 - Can use for facilitation of collaborative processes that advance restoration work including development of stewardship plans (will likely be discussing Middle and Upper Wind in FY 20), retained receipt proposal process, annual meeting to assess restoration accomplishments/goals, and discussions about restoration in field and meetings. All work falls under process monitoring. No recreation planning, NEPA, environmental monitoring. Currently, have collaborative facilitation funding only through Feb. 2020. Other funding opportunities we'll be exploring, though not secured at this time: RAC grant, DNR funds, NFF grant. Hopeful for state budget approval for DNR collaborative capacity funding. Project is scalable.

Emily Platt provided update on RAC: Reauthorization moving slowly. Possibility to use funding for collaborative. If don't have RAC formed in time, Forest may still be able to fund projects based on what had historically been recommended by committee. This would be a last resort in order to not lose the funds.

Action Item: Emily will check when funds need to be obligated by.

Forest Youth Success – \$36,608 - Funds one crew for next summer. Has restoration impacts on the ground with dual benefit of supporting Skamania youth. Program running since early 2000. This is the only funding identified for this project other than SRS Title II which is still unavailable until RAC approved. Typically, grants fund supplies and not wages for youth workers which makes finding other sources difficult. Explored Workforce in previous years and WIA (Workforce Investment Act), but there are not enough funds in this area. Different situation here than PAC Mountain Workforce on the North which pulls in population of I-5 corridor and east. Project is not scalable.

South GP Invasive Plant Management Project – \$15,000 - Funding for county to hire staff to treat weeds at rock quarries. Emily P. shared that costs to purchase rock off-forest are much higher than on-forest. If not funded for a year, would have negative impacts resulting from break in treatments. High restoration benefit. Carol Chandler with FS usually finds money to support program. Project is scalable.

Project Discussions (See proposal spreadsheet below)

Group's first proposal was for total funding for Forest Youth Success (FYS) and High Bridge with greatly reduced amounts for Invasives and Collaborative Facilitation. FYS needs full funding to operate crew and is vital to community. High Bridge is one of the only accessible areas to the Wind River, and there is a lot of damage there.

Alex Hays shared that High Bridge proposal could be reduced to \$4,800 due to recent decision not to place culvert, but build bioswale instead. County will continue to look for other funding.

Alternate proposal was for greater support for Invasives and Collaborative Facilitation with partial funding for FYS and small amount for High Bridge. Damage of skipping a year on Invasives would be detrimental. Maintaining some base level of support for Collaborative Facilitation is important for the whole group to continue work on projects. Although High Bridge Park is important, there are other funding opportunities. Group supportive of funding small amount for High Bridge Park and write a Letter of Support for next grant proposal (probably RCO).

Group voted on Proposals 3 and 5. Received 6 votes each. Half the group wanted full funding for FYS, and half supported funding Invasives and Collaborative Facilitation at a slightly higher level. Discussion on the large proportion of total funds that FYS needs—ranked as top priority, and needs 73% of the entire funding pot to operate one crew. Discussed possibility of diversified funding sources. Idea for Go Fund Me Campaign. Karen informed us that the school district has not

used this mechanism to date. Other ideas to request funding from local businesses and organizations, since this is such an important program: Friends of Mt. Adams, local Education Foundation, High Cascade, or SDS Lumber. Proposal offered to meet in the middle on FYS at \$33,600 and assist FYS with community fundraising support to secure remaining \$3,008.

Final agreement on Proposal 6:

\$33,600 Forest Youth Success

\$9,700 Restoration Through Collaboration

\$1,000 High Bridge Park

\$5,700 Invasive Plant Management

Decision: Recommend funding amounts above with collaborative commitment to (1) work with FYS to raise additional \$3,008 needed and (2) write letter of support for High Bridge Park Project with their next grant proposal (likely RCO). Majority in support; two neutral votes that wanted more funding for Collaborative Facilitation (minimum of \$10,000) and one neutral vote that wanted full funding for FYS.

PepperCat Stewardship: Request to redirect instream restoration funds from Pine Creek to Rush Creek (*Emily Platt and Greg Robertson, GPNF Biologist*)

\$65,000 instream restoration project. Since first included in the plan several years ago, learned new information about Pine Creek—it is a high gradient transport reach and may not be optimal for Bull Trout Restoration. Identified Rush Creek as more optimal reach, Tier 1 watershed that would have greater ecological impact. Same type of instream work in a different location within the project area.

Decision: Approved by group.

Next Steps and Announcements

- Lisa to send collaborative's FY 20 retained receipt project recommendations to Emily P. by April 22.
- Recreation Subcommittee Update (*Ryan Ojerio*): Subcommittee plans to develop comments on Draft Recreation Site Analysis Program of Work when released this month and share with broader group for approval.
- Zones of Agreement Subcommittee Update (*Nicole Budine*): Subcommittee had meeting on 4/16 to learn about FS early discussion of early seral creation in Upper Wind project and discuss plans for focusing next ZOA document on this topic. Field trip this summer will look at project area.
- Field Trip Dates: Need to switch a few dates from regular third Thursday to work with FS staff schedules this summer. Lisa asked members to complete doodle poll by COB 4/19 to determine field trip dates.
- [Early Seral Biodiversity Science & Management Workshop](#), June 10-11, Corvallis. Timely topic given discussions we'll be having about this on Upper Wind. Let Lisa know if you're interested in attending.

Next Meeting: May 16, 1:00-3:30 P.M., Hegewald Center, Stevenson (Portion of meeting to include DNR sharing results of Little White Landscape Evaluation as part of WA 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan effort)

