

**05232018**  
**2-3-2 Meeting**  
**Taos, NM**

**Next Meeting via video conference: July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (10 am-12 pm); In Person – September 20 (TBD South Fork?)**

- Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/2700570886>
- Or iPhone one-tap :  
US: +16699006833,,2700570886# or +14087403766,,2700570886#
- Or Telephone:  
Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):  
US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 740 3766 or +1 646 876 9923  
Meeting ID: 270 057 0886

**Action Items:**

- MSI:
  - Create MailChimp for 2-3-2
  - Publish website (share link)
  - Request website content
  - Continue to refine map- combine with Opportunity Map and work from NMFWRI
  - Plan videoconference for committee report outs – July 18, 10:00am to 12:00pm
- All:
  - Meet with committees, define measures of success
  - Send partnership mission, photo, and contact info for website to Page
  - Send stories, photos, resource links, suggestions for website to Page
  - Send newsletter subscriptions to Laurel
- Executive Committee:
  - Set Transboundary Tour date for 3<sup>rd</sup> week in Oct.
  - Continue to plan field site visit

**10:20-10:50 Introductions, and tour recap (see tour schedule)**

**TOUR ATTENDANCE:**

Matt Tuten, Jeremy Marshall, Chris Furr, Anthony Culpepper, Bill Trimarco, Garrett Hanks, Eini Lowell, Adam Moore, Carmen Austin, Mary Struever, Andrea Jones, Marcus Kauffman, Paul Orbuch, Susan Rich, Jeremy Marshall, Rachel Conn (Amigos Bravos), Laurel Sebastian, Page Buono

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chris Furr, Carson NF  
Matt Tuten, San Juan NF, Pagosa Ranger District  
Anthony Culpepper, Mountain Studies Institute  
Bill Trimarco, FireWise of SW Colorado  
Garrett Hanks, Trout Unlimited  
Alan Barton, NMFWRI  
Eini Lowell, USFS Research Forest Products Technologist (Oregon)  
Adam Moore, CSFS, Alamosa Field Office  
Carmen Austin, New Mexico State Forestry, Las Vegas District

Mary Stuever, New Mexico State Forestry, Chama District  
Ernie Lopez, New Mexico State Forestry, Cimmaron District  
Andrea Jones, Conejos Peak Ranger District, Rio Grande NF  
Caitlin Barbour, VISTA with Chama Peak Land Alliance  
Marcus Kauffman, Oregon Department of Forestry  
Laura McCarthy, The Nature Conservancy  
Ellen Roberts, CO State Forest Service Contractor  
Paul Orbuch, Contractor for the 2-3-2  
Susan Rich, New Mexico State Forestry (forest and watershed health coordinator)  
Tim Reader, Colorado State Forest Service, Durango (forest products program specialist)  
Joe Duda, CSFS, Fort Collins (Deputy State Forester)  
Randy Johnson, Consultant, Colorado State Forest Service (forest product loan program)  
Laurel Smerch, Headwaters Alliance (out of Creede), Rio Grande Headwaters Focus  
Jeremy Marshall, Tres Piedras, Carson National Forest  
Mike Barry, Mora Valley Wood Producers Co-op, High Desert Forest Solutions  
John Olivas, Mora Valley Wood Producers Co-op, CFRP advisory panel  
Laurel Sebastian, Mountain Studies Institute  
Page Buono, Mountain Studies Institute

#### **10:50-11:10 Introduction to the 2-3-2:**

- The Rio Grande, San Juan and Chama Watersheds
- Rio Grande, Carson and San Juan National Forest
- Overlapping and separate partnerships united by watersheds and forests
- Partners span federal and state agencies, nonprofits, contractors, and independents
- Greatest accomplishments: awareness of what is happening in the region (across boundaries), shared resources (ex: Prescribed Fire Training Exchange was able to fill a whole week of activities with partners despite fire ban), Rio Arriba funds secured, challenging the assumption of geopolitical boundaries, creating relationships and helping to find funds across boundaries (creative partnerships)
- Comment: Should we track acres treated?
  - Resource Conservation Partnership Program: Chama Peak Land Alliance (East Rio Arriba has done great job tracking work being done on the ground)

#### **11:15 to 12:00 Presentation: “Biomass Enterprise Development through a Collaborative Process”: Marcus Kauffman and Eini Lowell**

##### **See Website for Powerpoint (to be posted soon):**

- History of relationship (through Tim Reader)
- Eini: Three versions (third=story book), final = integrated handbook for biomass utilization, model/framework developed over a period of time
- Request/action: play with tools and offer feedback on website

##### Resources from presentations:

- Community Biomass Handbook IV & Biomass Facility Economic Modeling (*Enterprise Development for Integrated Wood Products Manufacturing*)  
<https://indd.adobe.com/view/aafadf4b-a962-40ba-ab84-d0c284420289>

- The model that accompanies the guidebook that Marcus illustrated is here
  - <http://owic.oregonstate.edu/biomass-enterprise-economic-model>
- Wood Fuel Calculator
  - <http://woodenergyproject.com/calculator/>
- Community Biomass Handbook; Thermal Energy
  - <http://woodenergyproject.com/CommunityBiomassHandbook.pdf>
- Video Diary of the John Day Forest Collaborative
  - <https://spark.adobe.com/page/bG8wBdrKy9vGO/>

#### Eini Lowell Presentation Highlights: Community Biomass Handbooks

- Ideas come, feasibility study often rejects it, idea stagnates
- Feasibility tools are things early-on in process that can help determine whether this is worth pursuing vs. “its dead in the water” (go, no-go framework)
- Interactive calculators (financial models) – OSU integrated, Thermal Wood Energy = USDA, USFS
- Both “ebooks” provide case studies/stories
- Tools for engaging the community, business, foresters/forest managers, etc.
- In addition to helping design a process, it’s important for all partners as it highlights the various “angles”
  - I.e., how to develop/establish social license
- Offers a “who’s who” of Biomass (who knows what, who needs what)
  - Forest knowledge, business knowledge, community knowledge
- Benefits: address conflict, minimize risk, honest evaluation of impacts
- Gage benefits to community – jobs created, etc.

#### Marcus Kauffman Presentation Highlights: Biomass Enterprise Economic Model

- Guidebook to help develop new markets and support existing markets
- Model helps look through costs, scale for new projects- returns profit, equipment needed
- Biomass has thin profit margins: expensive to harvest, process etc.
- Model in OSU website: desktop based (Jar file): *Save your work*
- Version is updated regularly- start fresh by downloading each time
- After you plug in some numbers and RUN CALCS, go to ECONOMICS, edit values as needed
  - Haul costs and sale prices can be incorporated in cost of material
- Can get third party evaluation for free: *contact Tim Reader*
- Model was validated by engineering firm: accurate with natural market variation
- Could be used on forestry side to estimate benefits, labor created in economy etc.
- Put together 3 video stories on successful businesses: Oregon Dept. of Forestry biomass website: see link above
- Randy Johnson: remember to get the key players in the room when proposing projects: facilities manager, president of a college, etc.

**12:00 to 1:00 NETWORKING LUNCH**

**1:00 to 1:30 Outreach Committee Update: We Share your Stories**

Role of the outreach committee (Mary Stuever)

- Committee not able to write content for partners, but can help edit final message, get it out to the world via new website, newsletters

Newsletter, logo, story template (Page Buono)

- Newsletter came out from MSI, as 2-3-2 doesn't have a mail chimp yet: coming soon
  - Plan to release quarterly
- Send events, story snippets etc. to Page
- How to make external?: can be forwarded to partners' listservs, or ppl can subscribe

Are we ready to open meetings to public?

- yes, we have the executive committee to make nimble decisions when necessary
- Don't lose site of objectives, deliverables in meetings- getting distracted by public discussion
- Maybe add public comment period at meetings to involve public
  - Comments not official: we can guide people toward engagement with their local watershed group

Website (Page Buono): <http://232partnership.org/232/>

- Map designed to show partnerships, organization within the 2-3-2 landscape
  - As you zoom in, you get more detail- actual forest treatments etc.
- Paul Morey: can we highlight collaborative work- at least filter?
- Private lands are a challenge- private data can't be shared in detail (NRCS data)
- Searchable, archivable blog with stories from the 2-3-2
- Page will need logos & contact information for partners listed (mission from website)
- Need to compile resources (documents and links) to share (ex. Information on timber sales, community biomass handbook etc.)
- 2-3-2 members can add large files onto All About Watersheds website, and then we can link:
  - <http://allaboutwatersheds.org/groups/2-3-2/2-states-3-rivers-2-regions-cohesive-strategy-partnership>

Story template (Matt Tuten)

- We have a set of questions to prompt story and provide "guts of the story" with photos: Who, what, where, why related to the 2-3-2
- Communication committee can edit and post
- Firstxample story:
  - Linkage of San Juan and San Luis Valley through salvage timber sale
  - Timber frame house builder is using Wolf Creek Pass salvage spruce- Mountain Valley Lumber bought the sale and will sell it to him

### **1:30 to 2:00 Proposal for a Transboundary Meeting**

- Draft proposal for tour to demonstrate success of 2-3-2 (document sent out via email)
- Goals/outcomes:
  - boast about our unique cross-boundary partnership
  - Could push the MOU forward to work on prescribed burning across boundaries – regional forester support
  - Tie in support of Farm Bill that funds NRCS work and other partners – Invite NRCS chiefs?

- We can model a two day tour that tells a few compelling stories so that when extra money or relevant legislation comes in, then can remember us and what we do
- Third week in October is the target for now: October 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> (19<sup>th</sup> is state foresters meeting)
  - Check hunt holidays
- We have a unique setup with landowners dedicated to conservation
  - Examples- unique elk exclosure experiments, Rx burning on private and public land
- The concept of a Transboundary meeting was supported by the group
- It was proposed that the meeting would be held the third week in October
  - The group supported the timing
- **Potential sites:** submit ideas to Paul Orbuch
  - Blanca Sawmill – demonstrate market for 2-3-2 wood products
  - Tres Piedras/Tio Gordito – (Carson) State, federal, and Mule Deer Foundation projects.
    - Wildlife and/or WUI emphasis.
  - Private land project options around Chama, NM.
  - Bureau of Reclamation diversion sites (Chromo, CO/Oso Diversion in the Navajo or Blanco private land and San Juan NF, or Willow Creek in NM where Azotea tunnel ends – Demonstrate forests-water connection between states.
  - Echo Canyon/Jackson Mountain– Forest Health Company work w/ 2-3-2 - created description based prescription to test giving more autonomy/trust to contractor
  - Wolf Creek Pass (Rio Grande) – Extensive spruce beetle kill to illustrate fire danger and need for 2-3-2 coordination on insect and disease issues. (good neighbor work there too)
  - Pagosa Springs (San Juan) – WUI or other treatment demonstrating recent success with 2-3-2 resources./ Rx (TRES work planned here in future)
- A draft agenda for the meeting would be circulated by end of June for review

## **2:00 to 2:20 Proposed Project on the San Juan National Forest: Blanco Basin Vegetation Management Plan [Matt Tuten]**

- San Juan wants to thin forests across boundaries
- Wanted them to use the 2014 Farm Bill categorical exclusion authority as test/tool
  - Allowed USFS to work without NEPA process
  - Near WUI, in high fire frequency areas, protects old growth
  - Needs to use collaborative partnerships to implement (SJHFHP, CPLA)
  - Has anyone used this Farm Bill authority?
    - Laura: Project along hwy 150 on way to Taos Ski Valley- did save some time in that it wasn't otherwise a forest service priority until people stepped forward to voice it as priority fire break
      - Made a list about every meetings where project was discussed to track partnership contribution
  - Collaboration needs to be more than just pre NEPA collaboration- needs to include partners through the whole process
  - Rio Grande Water Fund has funding to potentially help treat the same area
  - Watershed improvement could dovetail in by combining multiple categorical exclusion categories

## **2:20-2:30: Define a process for incorporating NEPA input early in process**

- How do we share that information:
  - Running project update form/forum at meetings
  - Doesn't need to be as detailed as local watershed group meetings
- Help brainstorm opportunities, challenges etc.
- Science and TRAM Committee can draft a proposal for Executive Committee to review

2:30-2:45 Break

**2:45 to 3:45** Round-Robin project updates

Norman Vigil, RASWCD: RCPP Signed

- Regional Conservation Partnership Program signed April 22<sup>nd</sup>: funds now available
  - East Rio Arriba Soil and Water Conservation projects-
  - \$2.2 million for financial and technical assistance; \$1 million for NRCS program
  - Moving forward with grant allocation, applications being accepted
  - Looking for help with monitoring, mapping etc.

**Matt Tuten, San Juan NF:** Pagosa Creek mixed conifer project, change over in fire staff may allow for more burning starting in fall, doing lots of spruce salvage (currently dying- hoping to get ahead of it), JR Ford's company has just started a new biochar production facility, JR Ford also has a few side businesses spurring off (firewood, high quality wood mill etc.)

Anthony Culpepper, MSI: working with Matt Tuten on several monitoring projects, participated in TREX, San Juan TREX next fall

Bill Trimarco, FireWise of Southwest CO: going into 2<sup>nd</sup> year of biochar trials with JR Ford. In tri-county area – 200 mitigation projects for Firewise. Some limitations with contractors, but trying to pull them from elsewhere, people are being educated in process. Low income free mitigation project in progress in Pagosa Springs

Garrett Hanks, TU: Recent changes in staffing which makes it harder for people to participate in these meetings, but they're working on finding funding for a new position to get NEPA clearance for more watershed restoration projects tied into thinning, grazing projects etc. Hoping to be more involved in on the ground activities.

Adam Moore, CSFS: Good Neighbor project in progress in Cumbres Pass areas (Los Pinos), capital projects in Conejos Canyon for this fall, secured funding for CWPP for treatment projects

Mary Stuever, NMSFD: Developing a video series on wildfires, fire exclusion, collaboration, how to deal with fires, ecology, treatment options: 3-5 minute videos. With NRCS, developing Ecological Site Descriptions for RCPP funding. Leading effort to develop landscape scale management plan that is targeted toward small land owners- toolbox of default forest management plans for local area. Working to put projects on Forest Service land. Supplemental funding to enhance RCPP project. Working with NRCS to offer technical forestry counseling. Forest Health Initiative has lots of projects. Personally, Mary is working on Cottonwood Divide National Scenic Trail (work with adopted sections of the trail) June 16<sup>th</sup>: adopters training.

Tim Reader, CSFS: Woody Biomass Grants announced last week- CO received 2 in Region 2. MBA students from CSU will be tasked with creating one viable business model. Loan program applications continue to come in- need to find more funding

Joe Duda, CSFS: Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment tool accessible- in the process of using the platform for reporting where insects, disease, and treatments are done- used for federal reporting internally, but accessible externally eventually- 1 year at least.

Laurel Sebastian, MSI: Bridging the Divide event with San Juan Headwaters and partners. June 22 (5-8pm) Free food, beer, and presentation at Wolf Creek Pass; June 23 (9am-3pm) Full day tour of West Fork and Million Fire burn areas.

Jeremy Marshall, Carson NF: Hoping to be more involved. Tio Gordito and Alamosa burn in future. Building capacity. New Timber Management Assistant.

Emily Hohman, CPLA (via Aaron, MSI): TRES was successful even without burning, Trout Stucker Ranch social event and day tour of Chama Diversions on June 22nd, Attending the Fire Learning Network Meeting during meeting.

Aaron Kimple, MSI: Participating in Forest Health Advisory Council (CO) created by governor, avenue to promote initiatives in states and goal of bridging the water and forest communities together too. Opportunity to back governmental immunity for Rx fire, improving markets etc.

### **3:45 to 2:45 Rapid Committee Updates**

Fire Management/ Efficiency

- MOU progress: San Juan grants and agreements people are overwhelmed by the concept, but there is support

Executive Committee:

- Met in March – hugely helpful for tour and meeting organization
- Identified committee decision making protocol
- Working on pre-NEPA protocol

Biomass Committee:

- Center for Collaborative Conservation work is underway
- Workplan in progress
- Tim Reader, Aaron Kimple, Ellen Roberts attended Society of American Foresters
- With logo, will pursue local wood products label
- Outreach to builders underway – want video, print outreach to push that
- Support letter for Gordon West after last meeting- approved for Technical Assistance Award
- Excited to use new tool from today
- Biomass Evaluation on website
- Need help- let Bill Trimarco know if you want help
- Newsletter include legislative updates relevant to group

TRAM (Technology, Research, Assessment and Monitoring) Committee:

- Garrett and Aaron still need to define words in the mission statement
- Mapping process is part of this committee- in progress, on website
- San Juan NF looking at monitoring of mixed conifer forest thinning project
- Goal of joining CFRI and NMWFRI methods

Habitat

- No new updates

Funding and Support

- No updates