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**MEETING NOTES**

**2-3-2 Partnership Meeting, Thursday, Jan. 16**

**Where**: Zoom Call (in-person cancelled due to weather)

**When**: 9:00 am – noon

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

**Wed. March 18, 10 am - 12 pm:** videoconference

**Wed. May 20, full day:** Banded Peak Ranch (near Chromo)

**ACTION ITEMS:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action** | **Responsible Parties** | **Timeline** |
| **Determine date and location for manager coordinated planning meeting in March (6th or 13th)** | **Page Buono** | **Early February** |
| **Engage new committee members** | **Committee chairs** | **ongoing** |
| **Facilitate and schedule committee meetings** | **Committee chairs** | **ongoing** |
| **Coordinate development of committee work plans** | **Committee chairs** | **Deadline Jan 31 (email to Page and Dana)** |
| **Continue Small Diameter Timber Conversation (industry, non-traditional harvest areas, information, wildlife concerns)** | **Biomass and Markets committee;**  **Matt T., Paul M., Jamie B., Garrett A.** | **Prior to May 20 meeting** |
| **Follow up with CFRP planning group** | **Page Buono** | **Feb.5th** |
| **Consider 2-3-2 collaborative structure (in light of geography expansion, potential CFLR, and in general)** | **Executive Committee** | **Prior to May 20 meeting** |
| **Research policy for R2 and R3 collaboration on setting and meeting targets** | **Executive Committee** | **ongoing** |
| **Propose annual leadership meeting event (forest supervisors, state foresters, state leadership)** | **Executive Committee** | **Prior to May 20 meeting** |
| **“Welcome Kit” for new federal, non-profit and private partners** | **Education and Outreach Committee** | **2020** |
| **Engage new key partners** | **Full membership** | **ongoing** |

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**February 10 Carson NF meets about PODS, Feb 29 Rio Chama Congresso at Ghost Ranch**

**NOTES:**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

* **MSI:** Aaron Kimple, Mike Remke, Dana Hayward, Anthony Culpepper, Page Buono
* **CSFS:** Adam Moore (Alamosa Field Office, Mercedes Siegle-Gaither (Pagosa Springs - AFF partnership/NRCS), Damon Lange (SW Area Manager – Salida Field Office), Mark Loveall (CSFS – Durango Field Office), Tim Reader (CSFS Biomass Specialist, Wood Products Utilization and Marketing – Durango Field Office)
* **NM State Forest Service:** Mary Stuever (Chama District)
* **Santa Clara Pueblo:** Garrett Altmann (GIS Coordinator/Project Manager), Daniel Denipah (Forester)
* **USFS SJNF:** Fred Ellis (Pagosa Ranger District - Fuels), Matt Tuten (Pagosa Ranger District - Forester)
* **USFS RGNF:** Sid Hall (Fuels Specialist), Andrea Jones (Conejos Peak RD – District Ranger)
* **USFS SFNF:** Jamie Bennett (Cuba District Ranger), Paul Martinez (Forester), Jeremy Marshall (USFS SFNF Lead District Ranger for Tres Piedras, El Rito and Canjilon), Paul Martinez (Timber)
* **Collaborative Forest Restoration Institute:** Mike Caggiano (Research Associate)
* **Forest Stewards Guild:** Matt Piccarello (Assistant SW Director), Esmé Cadiente (Collaborative Forestry Project Manager)
* **Trout Unlimited:** Garrett Hanks (SW Public Lands Coordinator)
* **Wildfire Adapted Partnership:** Bill Trimarco (Archuleta County Coordinator Firewise of SW CO)
* **Chama Peak Land Alliance:** Caleb Stotts (Executive Director)
* **Senator Michael Bennet’s Office:** Erin Minks (San Luis Valley Regional Representative)
* **Trollworks:** Gordon West (founder CEO and CTO – Silver City, NM)
* **New World Orange Biofuels:** Jim Bryant (VP & COO - Longmont, CO)

**9:00 am – 9:15 am: Welcome & intro to the 2-3-2**

* 2019 work and accomplishments of partners
  + completed over 30,000 ac of treatment
    - over 20,000 ac timber/mechanical
    - 15,000 prescribed/managed fire
    - Lots of working together on prescribed fire.
  + 1st ever TREX in CO in SW CO, supported by 2-3-2 partners
  + Amazing effort by all partners on Rio Chama CFLRP
    - 2-3-2 will be a key player if accepted
  + 3-year action plan developed
  + Mapping efforts have grown
  + Firewise up and running in Rio Arriba County
  + Community work done with PODS
* Considerations moving forward
  + Need to consider funding beyond Cohesive strategy moving forward
  + Building more structure around committees
* 2-3-2 background (for new attendees)
  + Shared interests in the connected San Juan and Rio Grande watersheds that service communities downstream
  + Interest in getting work done to protect headwaters and resources and ensure community needs are met in the future
  + State, regional and private lands partners came together to consider how to have a collective impact
  + Carson, Rio Grande, San Juan NF – considering engaging a 4th forest, the Santa Fe (4 forests + 2 states + pirate lands)
* Questions?
  + Does geography need to be adjusted to include the Santa Fe NF (including Cuba ranger district)?

**9:15 am - 9:45 am: Updates**

* Updates:
  + Adam Moore (CSFS)
    - 140 ac planned mastication at La Jara Reservoir in 2020
    - CAFA projects in 2019 and 2020
  + Mercedes Siegle-Gaither (CSFS)
    - private landowner connections
    - Good Neighbor projects with the USFS
  + Fred Ellis & Matt Tuten (SJNF)
    - burn planning
    - CAFA grants (with Bill T. and Mark L.)
    - Draft EA for salvage in Rito Blanco watershed and Buckles Lake area
    - Working on CFLR for Rio Chama
  + Sid Hall & Andrea Jones (RGNF)
    - Burning west of Antonito, plans to burn on the Carson and Rio Grande this spring.
    - Working on salvage sales on the south end and completing salvage sales; challenge moving the sales
    - RMRI proposal submitted
  + Jamie Bennett (SFNF)
    - Interested in working with rural communities regarding concerns with catastrophic wildfire and watersheds
    - Santa Fe has PODS for all districts
  + Jeremy Marshall (SFNF)
    - Supporting Blanca Mill
    - Working with mule deer and Rio Grande Water Fund
    - Willow and timber sales with a local operator (1100 acres)
    - 3 new foresters hired and a forestry tech in Tres Piedras
    - Challenged by current MSO injunction
  + Matt Piccarello & Esmé Cadiente (Forest Stewards Guild)
    - Weeklong collaborative burn on Wind Mtn (East of Tres Piedras)
    - Community Wildfire Protection Plan update
    - San Juan TREX involvement
    - CFLR
  + Garrett Hanks (TU)
    - Smaller scale restoration work in geography
    - Funding for new staffing to cover watershed health issues in the 2-3-2 geography
  + Bill Trimarco (WAP)
    - New Resilient Archuleta group to forge more partnerships
    - Private landowner defensible space
    - Weed control rebate for private landowners
    - CAFA
  + Caleb Stotts (CPLA)
    - Central part of CFLRP area, partnerships, collaboration and getting things done on the ground.
    - Personal background in fire and restoration
    - Rio Grande Water Fund in Navajo and Blanco basins
    - New forester for CPLA Nick Dolochek
    - Want to know more about forest markets and timber for commercial harvesting on private lands.
  + Erin Minks (Senator Bennett’s Office)
    - Bringing dollars to the CO region and partnering with NM (Mark Udall)
    - Bennett has sought additional funding for CFLRP programming and will renew, sign on to, and lead a letter requesting levels of funding for programs. Requests can only come from citizen action groups, like the 2-3-2
  + Gordon West (Trollworks)
    - Continuing biochar R&D and manufacturing
    - Pilot project in El Rito with N. NM College funded by CFRP mobilizing to heat a school building
    - Partners will have the opportunity to tour this spring
  + Jim Bryant (New World Orange Biofuels)
    - Biomass project working in the San Luis Valley
    - Cuchara Ranch and Blanca Mill to develop biomass utilization plans
    - Focus on high value carbon products and fuels and moving the region and industry up the value chain from commodity fuels and products with thin margins
    - Aiming to get to know more people in the region and who is doing what work related to biomass and forest health

**9:45 am – 10:15 am: 2019 in Review**

* Survey results

Positives Constructive Feedback

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Momentum | * Engage more diverse partners |
| * Lots of interest in working across boundaries (building on trust and partnerships | * How can we better advance initiatives (author our own accomplishments, develop annual workplans, an assign committee and member tasks and maintain accountability) |
|  | * How does the 2-3-2 facilitate implementation? |
|  | * Additional accountability and structure for committees desired |
|  | * Increase resource sharing |

* Comments
* “Establish diverse, robust industry to utilize small-diameter products”
  + Garrett Altmann (Santa Clara Pueblo)
    - consistent with tribe goals to develop industry surrounding small diameter products
    - Small diameter utilization is something that can be maximized throughout the season
      * Conley’s Lumber Mill (Española) – fuel wood sustains. Keep it simple with smaller diameter products like fuel wood, Latillas (green wood), Vigas
        + mentioned in proposals, but little action so far
      * Big opportunity for the 2-3-2 to increase involvement for rural communities and people that could be valuable stakeholders
      * Don’t overlook the small diameter! Leverage potential for partners
      * Cuba ranger district agrees
  + Adam Moore (CSFS)
    - Many questions about harvesting Latillas
    - Feedback of “no more spots in NM to get them.” Inquiry is always for spruce in 3-6” diameter class, and that’s the next generation of trees
    - Where does the requested small diameter exist? Look for and identify non-traditional harvest areas, then inform
      * WC/Santa Fe/Ruidoso ski areas: high density so trees aren’t growing fast or big enough
      * Could the USFS leases get ski areas on board for harvests?
      * Valles Caldera – logged in 50’s. Small diameter in this area also.
      * Road access in ski areas and Caldera.
      * Harder to access at higher altitudes.
      * Hazardous fuel reduction an opportunity to link it with.
  + Jamie Bennett (SFNF – Cuba)
    - * areas along roads with small diameter spruce
      * Lynx habitat challenges with small diameter spruce, wildlife
        + Discuss how to overcome: component for spring meetings
  + Paul Martinez (SFNF)
    - Working to talk with people trying to buy Latilla permits. Large market in the SFNF area
    - Current NEPA process for acres is to reel operators into polygons 1st before fuel wood
    - Guiding contractors is challenging with vacancies in the Jemez, Cuba, and Coyote areas
    - Working to get right work done in right location
    - Cuba just outside of range for profitability for Conley mill. 3 other operators in Coyote area also willing to come that direction
    - Travel distance and road regs are a barrier!
  + Matt Tuten (SJNF)
    - Bill Moore Cash Lumber LLC north of Española (Hernandez) currently hauling ponderosa off of PRD. Mixed haul of saw timber and small diameter
      * Interested in exploring contract opportunities closer to home – help connect.
  + Important to Identify committee where this conversation continues
    - Carry this forward! Energy and need.
    - Series of meetings for coordinated planning this spring with the goal of identifying opportunities for contractors in the geography.
    - Matt T., Paul M., Jamie B., Garrett A.
* #1 goal 2020: share resources, prioritize project areas, consistent messaging, education, and outreach.
* Implement! Work together vs. talk together.

**10:15 am – 10:45 am: Planning updates**

* Aaron Kimple (MSI) Work of all partners is getting this area lots of attention. Rural communities have been overlooked in the past. Coordinated efforts are brining attention to the needs of this area and concerns of rural communities. Also looking at forest action plans in both states. Shared stewardship MOUs = opportunities!
  + RMRI
    - Washington office USFS and Wild Turkey Fed
    - Goal: put more funding in a targeted area to have a more extensive impact on the landscape
    - SW CO selected in Region 2
    - Still questions about next steps. State of CO and USFS committed funds and both committed to leverage funds with other potential donors.
    - Proposal was built around rural community centers in the forested landscape: buffers around communities, critical resources, and connection corridors.
      * Hopefully an example for how we can do work in rural communities elsewhere. Bring lessons learned through RMRI to 2-3-2 landscape.
    - Rio Grande RMRI not funded, but helped inform Rio Chama CRLF
  + CFRP
    - Decided not to move forward
    - Lots of momentum (TNC, Mike R, Mike C., Mary S., Page B., Caleb S.) to keep
    - Identifying a common need, building partnerships and relationships
    - Also considering other funding opportunities
    - Mike Remke (MSI): RMRI moving CFRP proposal idea forward on San Juan side of things (mapping and modeling), and we should think about ways it applies to 2-3-2 landscape. Identify and prioritize areas of “low hanging fruit” when it comes to mapping to identify where do work and where that work can deliver wood products. Use CFRP to strategize moving work forward on the ground in the future
    - Caleb Stotts (CPLA): Wanting more input from partners when it comes to treatment prioritization.
      * Reach out to Caleb if you are knowledgeable about the region
  + CFLRP (Rio Chama & San Juan)
    - San Juan - Pagosa RD to Dolores RD submitted Wednesday 1.15, designed to dove tail with RMRI. Targets Ponderosa Pine and watersheds including a focus on San Juan River Cutthroat Trout
    - Rio Chama - 4 forests, 2 states and 2 regions make this a unique proposal supported by foresters, district rangers and non-profits. (Support from regional foresters Cal Joyner and Jennifer Eberlien)
      * 2-3-2 is the collaborative designated to guide and coordinate
      * Forest Stewards Guild is the immediate liaison between USFS and the 2-3-2 collaborative
      * Started with San Juan - Chama Watershed partnership, bumped up to 2-3-2 to take it big. Partnership of partners really works!
      * Recognized need to strengthen 2-3-2 committee structure: fit in line with CFLRP
      * Offers 2-3-2 opportunity to make sure functional structures are in place for doing the work its partners are aiming at.
    - If CFLRP goes through, partners may need to consider changes to 2-3-2
      * Geographical change (adding SFNF)
        + Between the San Juan Watershed Partnership, Rio Grande Water Fund and the 2-3-2, the geography we are working in really has already expanded.
        + Partnerships and relationships are critical in this landscape
        + Mary Stuever (NM SFS): partners should still think about expanded the landscape regardless of the CFLRP. There are true connections on the landscape to the north part of the SFNF
        + A good question to consider regardless, as connectivity of the landscape is clear
      * Rethink composition of executive committee (ensure right representation)
      * Collaborative structure: is need for a charter or something more formal? TBD
        + Water, Industry, and economy are all connected on the landscape
        + Avoid creating different goals on the same landscape
      * Goals and work should expand beyond a 10-year CFLRP
    - Consideration of a “Welcome Kit” for new federal employees, non-profits and private partners to bring people immediately up to speed (Education and Outreach Committee)
      * Challenge of moving forward with so many partners
    - Encourage more regular conversation among leadership
      * 2018 VIP cross-boundary meeting and tour
      * Ideally the 2-3-2 would host an annual meeting and/or mid-year phone conversation with the 3 forest supervisors and 2 state foresters
      * Due to changes in regional foresters and state leadership, another event should be considered
        + Executive committee to discuss and bring back to collaborative
  + Forest Action plans
    - Mary Stuever (NM SFS)
      * This week NM has a meeting and call with CSFS considering what can be done to align forest action plans
        + Using many of the same layers and weighted analyses
      * Opportunity to provide info from NM standpoint about watersheds
      * Shows maturity of collaborative efforts of the last decade
    - NM stakeholders gathering tomorrow (1.17)
      * Threats (6) and themes (8)
      * Strategy – what do we need to do as a community
      * Final Doc by June 2020
    - Damon Lange (CSFS)
      * Hoping to have draft done by end March, meeting June deadline
      * Also embracing connectivity
      * MOU in CO adopted, discussion of moving forward

**10:45am – 11:00 am: Spring Meeting Schedule**

* Managers coordinated planning meeting – Mid March
  + Executive committee of 2-3-2 along with natural resource managers
  + Discuss contract types, Rx burn plans, and sharing resources across the landscape
  + Plans for 2020 and beyond
  + Outcome: maps, specific projects, and plans to present to whole membership
  + Dates: March 6, March 13**,** March 16/17/18 – conflicts with week of 16th.
  + Hope to have this be an annual meeting – modeled after Rio Chama Congresso
  + Productive with or without CFLRP
* Full membership coordinated planning meeting (May 20, Banded Peak)

**11:00 – 11:30 am: PODS, Carson Highlight (Mike Caggiano – CRFI and Rocky Mtn Research Station)**

* PODS supporting the structure and planning of work on the ground
* Interest in making PODS more of a cross boundary effort: extending off of national forest land onto BLM, state land, tribal, and other areas to make objectives widely known. Applications for CWPPs and private lands
* Carrying the conversation beyond federal lands: coordinate relationship between federal, fire depts, private lands
* Reintroduce more good fire when it is the right time and in the right places
* PODS on the forests involved with 2-3-2
  + Carson NF: Used with 7 fires in 2019
    - planning with PODS, strategic response zone paired with quantitative risk assessment.
    - Justification tool for managing fires
    - ½ of fires used PODS pre-identified lines
  + San Juan NF
    - PODS integrating into strategic planning
    - Pods behind the Carson
    - Decision support tool to determine when and where it’s appropriate to get more good fire on the ground.
    - Hopefully PODS can help inform work done through RMRI
    - Fred Ellis (SJNF): looking at each of the PODs and drilling down to areas where fires can be managed within restrictions of the forest plan on the Pagosa District
  + San Juan, Santa Fe, and Carson
    - Developing information products – reports that get down to the essence of PODS and provide decision support
    - Maps
    - Assessment of flame length in a POD under a variety of conditions
      * Useful for likelihood of controlling fire and estimating impacts of fire in different vegetation types
      * CFRI tools being developed
    - Effort between Carson and SF on PODS work to really have a visual tool to plan and make decisions
  + Rio Grande and Santa Fe
    - Rio Grande PODS just behind the San Juan – where to go with it, how to use it?
    - Framework to help prioritize fuel treatments in recent RMRI proposal submitted
    - RGNF stalled with more work on PODS, still on to-do list, just not currently a top priority. Wanting dashboard info
  + Jamie Bennett (SFNF)
    - PODs applications in the “Cuba front range”
      * Able to use PODS maps to justify managing a lightning strike fire in an area that hadn’t had fire in over 100-150 yrs.
      * PODS helped tell the story about why the fire was let to burn while being managed
      * Helped communicate to assuage fears of local communities
      * Firehouse used for community meetings. Lots of support and backing (when Forest plan said to not let area burn – outdated 1981 – used PODS to justify management decisions).
    - Critical tool for managing fires across boundaries. Build capacity!
* Adaptive management is critical
  + Using this tool to help with planning, decision-making and operations processes
    - How does it inform communication chains? External communications with communities and fire depts as well as internal chains of decision and support.
  + Knowledge of projects on private land could strengthen and improve POD boundaries.
    - Using POD framework as a planning tool to identify private lands that have POD boundaries on or through them, then selecting projects (not out there formally yet).
    - Caleb Stotts (CPLA) - There is interest in developing better partnerships for cross boundary wildfire management and PODS could be an excellent tool
    - Bill Trimarco (WAP) - Incorporate with multi-hazard mitigation plans and CWPP. Could be something for a committee to look at – how can we work with Mike C. to move this into the private sector? Lots of entities and partners to engage. Funding to make it happen.

**11:30 – 11:45 am: 2020 Committee Workplans**

* Committees and members
  + Executive Committee: Aaron Kimple (chair) - wants to include additional members to represent the expanding geography
  + TRAM: Anthony Culpepper (chair) - wants extra voices. Can strategically wait and see about the CFLRP to better identify gaps in representation for this committee including Federal and State partners, would involve someone from the NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute at NM Highlands University; Consider CFRI participation
  + Education and Outreach: Page Buono (chair) – strengthen communications– add Dana H. to committee
  + Biomass and Markets: Bill Trimarco (chair) - add Jim B. and Gordon W. to committee
  + Fire Management, Capacity and Efficiency: Sid Hall (chair) – wants to add support and transition to a new chair with shared responsibility. Reach out to forest stewards guild, would be good to have forest representatives from the Carson and Santa Fe, Caleb involvement from CPLA. Committee needs more members.
  + Wildlife/Water/Habitat: TBD – Garrett Hanks
* Formalize committee structure more to have accountability, meeting schedules, and encourage more participation
  + Dana H. (MSI) to complete regular committee check ins
  + committees will be where the bulk of work occurs
  + Chair responsibilities
    - Coordinate development of 2020 work plan
    - Regular meeting structure to be encouraged
    - Recruit
      * Requests to the full membership can be circulated
    - Facilitate outreach to new members by identifying gaps and strategically offering invites
  + Wildlife/Water and Habitat Committee need
    - Mercedes S-G, Garrett A., Garrett H. (chair - will at least set up initial meeting) Jon W., Caleb S. (interested, can’t commit right now), Andrea J. wants to stay connected
      * trout and big game management
  + Challenges of FS policies for collaboration (Caleb S. comes from AZ with 4FRI experience) (for example, timber management policies on weighing timber specifically based on higher value timber)
    - Contracting differences between region 2 and region 3 could be a challenge moving forward
      * Agency is moving to simplify those things, but regions will move at different paces
      * Can regions 2 and 3 share responsibilities for meeting targets? Are forest supervisors willing to approach regional offices with need for better coordination here? Opportunity
        + Executive Committee to consider this issue
      * Relevant to biomass and markets
        + biomass and markets committee discussion
        + work with this idea at annual spring meeting
      * Contracting policy needs to be modernized
        + dependency on long term supply contracts creates challenge around this issue
        + Large capital project investments are long term, so it’s important to have predictable contracts
        + Contracting methodologies should be adjusted to match with long term investment strategies
        + Work done in the past with CPLA to do a biomass study with contracting in mind

What can we count on for the forest and what can we supplement with private lands?

Look at whole region and consider how biomass markets could be sustained

Info about the CPLA work is on the Box account under biomass committee - resources

* + - Ongoing process of improvement in region 2 especially as regulations relate to fire
      * “efficiency” desire to develop MOU for cross boundary regulatory issues with fire, why that is part of that committee name

**11:45 am – 12:00 pm: Conclusion & Next Steps**

* 2-3-2 Scheduling
  + committees do work between meetings - chairs schedule to dove tail with regular meeting schedule to bring content and completed work
  + Calendar on the website (committee chairs to include committee meetings)
* Other Scheduled Items
  + Feb 10 Carson NF meets about PODS
  + Feb 29 Rio Chama Congresso – recreation and management focus
* Newsletter
  + Consistent venue for sharing information. Considering structural ways to share info for newsletter
  + Committee meeting updates to be published in newsletter
* To be sent to partners: PowerPoint, PODS update, box link, strategic plan, templates and plans to committee chairs

**ZOOM INFORMATION**

Mountain Studies Institute: Forest Health Program is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: 2-3-2 Quarterly Meeting, Jan.16th

Time: Jan 16, 2020 09:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/826975565?pwd=Y1JyblJUYnJyc0xwZUNsQWFaZTcrZz09>

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