

Draft Meeting Notes
KVRI Board / Forestry Sub-committee – April 7, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.
Boundary County Fair Grounds – Memorial Hall

In Attendance:

Doug Nishek, U. S. Forest Service (USFS)
Dan Dinning, Boundary County, KVRI Co-chair
Brad Smith, Idaho Conservation League
Kevin Greenleaf, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho (KTOI)
Norm Merz, KTOI
Stan Galloway, Idaho Dept. of Lands
Russ Hegedus, Idaho Forest Group
Joe Madison, USFS
Mike Stephens, Land owner
Sid Smith, U.S. Representative Risch
Judy Morbeck, U.S. Representative Labrador
Karen Roetter, U.S. Senator Mike Crapo
Kevin Knauth, USFS
Brett Lyndaker, USFS
Gary Aitken Jr., KTOI Chair, KVRI Co-chair
Ed Atkins, Corp. Ag/Land Owner
Sandy Ashworth, Social, Cultural, Historical Interests

Patty Perry, KTOI & KVRI Facilitator
Janet Satchwell, KTOI & KVRI

Patty welcomed those in attendance and introductions were made.

Presentation:

Patty presented an overview of the Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative (KVRI) as a community based approach for addressing resource issues with collaborative partners. KVRI received designation under the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act for program funding on the Bonners Ferry Ranger District which focuses on forest resilience, forest restoration, watersheds, fisheries, wildlife, and timber.

The Boulder Creek Project will require planning for the Access Amendment standards for motorized road density and percentage of core habitat for grizzly bears. During previous meetings, aquatic resources, vegetation, fuels, recreation, and wildlife habitat have been discussed.

Brett Lyndaker discussed the Boulder Grizzly Bear Management Unit (BMU) which requires 55 percent of the unit to be classified as core habitat (land that is at least 500 meters from a motorized route – includes railroad routes). Five scenarios were drafted, and each scenario (or a combination) could be developed to meet the core requirement acreage needed in this BMU – four of the scenarios involve roads that are currently gated. Roads would be classified as being placed in storage by the FS.

It is desirable to consolidate 'islands' of core areas in to the larger core areas when planning for this BMU. Maintaining two-way access from Twentymile Pass along Boulder Creek to Katka on FS Road 408

is important to meet the needs of the community and recreational users, and keeping areas open that will continue to allow for the use of the trail systems that exist.

This discussion with the District FS staff has helped the committee understand their forest management challenges while trying to meet the community needs as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Janet Satchwell
KTOI/KVRI Admin. Assistant