

Draft Meeting Notes  
Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative  
July 15, 2013 – 7 p.m.  
Board Meeting – University of Idaho, Boundary Co. Extension Office

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Ron Abraham, (Alt.), Kootenai Tribe of Idaho & KVRI Co-chair  
Dan Dinning, Boundary County Commissioner & KVRI Co-chair  
David Anderson, Mayor City of Bonners Ferry & KVRI Co-chair  
Robyn Miller, Conservation  
Bob Blanford, Business & Industry  
Tony McDermott, Idaho Fish & Game Commission  
Ed Atkins, Jr., Corporate Agriculture/Landowner  
Sandy Ashworth, Social/Cultural/Historical  
Dan Scaife, (Alt.), U.S. Forest Service (USFS) – IPNF

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

**Agency/Others in Attendance:**

Tim Dougherty, Idaho Forest Group/Timber Supply  
Aaron Calkins, U.S. Congressman R. Labrador  
Karen Roetter, U.S. Senator Mike Crapo  
Jake Garringer, U.S. Senator Mike Crapo  
Kurt Pavlat, USDA - Bureau of Land Management  
Sid Smith, U.S. Senator Risch  
Ed Robinson, Idaho Department of Lands  
Wayne Wakkinen, Idaho Fish & Game  
Kennon McClintock, The Nature Conservancy

**Opening:**

Ron Abraham opened and welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting; introductions followed.

The group approved the draft meeting notes from the June 17 meeting, by consensus.

On behalf of board members, Dan thanked Tony McDermott for his eight years of involvement, honesty, and commitment to KVRI during his tenure on the Idaho Fish & Game Commission. A certificate signed by the KVRI co-chairs was presented to Tony “In recognition and appreciation of your devoted leadership and hard work in our community, and the dedication to continuing an outstanding partnership between the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and the Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative. Thank you!”

Tony let the group know that it’s been a benefit, privilege, and a huge honor to be part of the organization. Explaining in his opinion, the collaborative is a unique organization not found in other parts of the country and it represents the best of what we have as a democracy. The group is looking out for the common interests of the people in North Idaho and especially Boundary County.....noting that common interests are very different than special interests and this group is a special model.

A signed card was presented to Tony on behalf of KVRI, and carrot cake in his honor was shared by all. We are appreciative of his commitment to the collaborative and wish to say "Thank you, Tony" for a job well done!

Tony shared that Brad Corkill of Cataldo is the newly appointed Idaho Fish & Game Commissioner for the Panhandle Region and he provided a brief background....mentioning that Brad is a lifelong hunter and angler.

### **Committee Updates:**

#### **Wildlife-Auto Collision (WAC) Committee Update – Robyn Miller**

A draft work plan was presented. The six projects include: variable message signs, storage shed, innovative signing, 'bookend' corridor signing, wildlife detection system, and outreach. The signage would be for use within identified wildlife-auto collision hotspots (study by Western Transportation Institute) in the county. The draft document presented will be made available on the Kootenai Tribe website [www.kootenai.org](http://www.kootenai.org) at KVRI – Documents. The committee received a grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to fund these projects along with cash/in-kind matches.

The KVRI board members approved by consensus the draft work plan and directed the committee to continue to work on each item to bring them to fruition.

### **Old Business:**

At the June 17 KVRI meeting the board directed that the remaining balance (approximately \$2,100) of a KVRI grant from TransCanada be transferred for the use by a Grizzly Bear Population study being undertaken in the Cabinet/Yaak Recovery zone. A copy of the memo, directing transfer of the funds, was provided and will be made available on the Kootenai Tribe website [www.kootenai.org](http://www.kootenai.org) at KVRI – Correspondence.

### **New Business:**

Janet presented a sketch and general ideas for providing KVRI information at the Boundary County Fair booth. Ideas, committee information and pictures will be solicited for display. The fair's theme is "It's Magic". The KVRI board meeting will be held August 12 to set up the booth and share a light supper. (Board member Sandy later contributed this fine idea as a theme for the booth....

*Better than Magic--The Power of Community Collaboration*

*with a subtitle along the lines "your neighbors working together...real people, real successes"*

Sandy – we like that. Thank you!!)

Patty mentioned that we hope to be able to introduce ourselves to the new Idaho Fish and Game commissioner - Brad Corkill soon. Tony spoke earlier of Brad's qualifications as the Panhandle Region's commissioner.

#### **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Committee – Patty Perry**

Bob Steed is in the process of obtaining monitors for those that did not work properly this past year – seven monitors need to be replaced. It is of utmost importance that we are able to get them in the streams so we don't miss this year's data.

#### **Forestry Committee – Patty Perry**

Information will be sent out on the Kreist project field trip scheduled for August 7.

**Correspondence:**

The Three Rivers Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest, Troy, Montana would like to invite the public to an open house and a field trip to review and discuss the proposed (Montana) Buckhorn Project. The open house will be July 23, 2013, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Yaak Community Center. The following day, July 24, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. they are planning a field trip to look at potential treatment areas in the (Montana) Buckhorn Project. Contact Mike Giesey, Team Leader, or Sarah Canepa, NEPA Coordinator, at 406.295.4693 for further information.

Patty shared an email from Bryce Esch, a master's candidate from the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Michigan. She is part of a team of five graduate students (working for the National Forest Foundation) who are visiting as many collaboratives as possible this summer to learn about their successes and challenges. They plan on being in this area July 29 – 30.

**Closing Comments/Meeting Announcements:**

Patty advised that Senator Crapo will be visiting North Idaho with a stop in Bonners Ferry on August 6. A community luncheon will be held at the Kootenai River Inn from approximately 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. – lunch will be available for ten dollars. Senator Crapo's staff members advised he will speak and will welcome any questions/concerns. Idaho Senators Crapo and Craig, and staffs were very instrumental in helping get KVRI off the ground. Information on the event will be made available in the paper.

The next meeting will be August 12, 2013, 5 p.m., at the pavilion (slab) at the fairgrounds. We will participate in booth set up and enjoy a meal together.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Janet Satchwell  
KTOI/KVRI Admin. Assistant