



BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE

Recreational & Aesthetic Resources Working Group

January 27, 2003

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Headquarters
21905 64th Ave. West
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

AGENDA

1. Review / revise minutes / agenda
2. Review action items
3. PME's (January 15th teamlet report)
4. Studies:
 - R5: Aesthetics – Review and comment on study plan
 - R11/15: January 7th teamlet report
 - R16: Visioning Study Draft – Review draft of report from Nov. 6th exercise and begin to identify underserved / unmet needs
5. Continue reviewing first draft of PME's
6. Set agenda / location for next meeting
7. Evaluate meeting



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USFS Office, Mountlake Terrace WA 98273

FINAL MEETING NOTES

Mission: *“To develop alternative solutions and recommendations addressing recreation, education and aesthetic resources related to the Baker River Project and its operations leading to a settlement agreement.”*

Team Leader: Andy Hatfield (PSE): email is andrew.hatfield@pse.com and phone number is (360) 853-8341.

PRESENT

Chris Lawson, Ann Dunphy (US Forest Service), Brian Adams (Skagit County), Jim Eychaner (IAC), Susan Rosebrough (NPS), Cary Feldmann and Andy Hatfield (PSE), Bruce Freet (Environmental Agreements) and Dee Endelman, facilitator (Agreement Dynamics), Tina Theyel (Louis Berger), Rob Mohn (Louis Berger) and Dawn Schink, notetaker.

2003 SCHEDULE

Feb. 24, Mar.24, Apr.28, May 19 (third Monday), Jun 23, Jul 28, Aug. 25, Sept.22. Oct 27, Nov.17 (third Monday), December 15 (third Monday). Assume Forest Service Office in Mountlake Terrace unless otherwise specified.

CONFERENCE CALL LINE: ALL WERE REMINDED, ESPECIALLY DURING THESE WINTER MONTHS, THAT THE CONFERENCE CALL LINE WILL BE OPEN DURING ALL THESE MEETINGS. PLEASE CALL 1-866-280-6429 AND ENTER PARTICIPANT CODE: 144995 #.

All meetings are from 9:00 to 2:30 unless otherwise specified.

January 27, 2002 Agenda – USFS Office/Mountlake Terrace

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

1. Review / revise minutes / agenda
2. Review action items
3. PMEs (January 15th teamlet report)
4. Studies:
 - General study status update
 - R5: Aesthetics – Review and comment on study plan
 - R11/15: January 7th teamlet report
 - R16: Visioning Study Draft – Review draft of report from Nov. 6th exercise and begin to identify underserved / unmet needs
5. Review cross resource workshop matrix
6. Set agenda / location for next meeting
7. Evaluate meeting

NEW ACTION ITEMS

- Chris: button up with Ann, Andy, and Jim regarding R12 “observation” part of report, by email 1st, by Jan 31st, then call.
- Chris: check results of Non-Highway..Vehicles Survey(NOVA) to supplement info from R9.
- Ann & Andy: work on Visioning roll-up and send to PSE.
- Andy: get a CD together with list of pictures on page 5 of R5 plan, once list is agreed to.
- All: give comments to Andy with list of pictures (R5) by February 5, 2003.

REPORT ON OLD ACTION ITEMS

- ALL: Reviewed Aesthetics Study plans and is ready with comments by the Jan 23 meeting.
- Andy: Sent out updated ownership maps before next meeting. This is still in process of being revised.
- Ann: Got Chris a map layer of USFS landslide analysis (historic and unstable soils layer on SRI). Joetta and Paula are working on it.
- Andy: Check with Cheryl re: DNR road access.
- Chris: Got together with Glacier to discuss access/objectives to include on roads layer of GIS map.
- Chris/Tony: Continued to evaluate land-use information (February timeframe). We have already collected everything that we need to satisfy FERC requirements.

STUDIES

Chris distributed a studies update & reviewed the status of each.

R9: ELECTRON MONITORING

The group discussed types of seasonal patterns of use, vehicle type and number of visitor use. Report to be completed by 2/03.

R12: SITE INVENTORY

Chris asked for feedback on expectations regarding report since this is currently a database. Ann said she was looking for “red flags” for cross resource implications. Group members requested a summary of the database, how the study took place, and observations of characteristics & patterns of use regarding clusters of sites. The observations should be linked together with the site inventory.

R13: VISITOR SURVEY

Chris said he has been analyzing information as batches of data have come in. Assuming he receives the last batch this week there will be an interim report by mid-February. Regarding section 3, Chris will include analysis in Needs Analysis. (R16).

R14: SECONDARY DATA

Chris noted this is data that gets fed into other reports, especially the Needs Analysis. Documentation for R14 will be a list of data checked & references reviewed.

R11/15: CAPACITY/SUITABILITY ANALYSIS (INCLUDING TRAILS)

Chris reported there have been 2 teamlet meetings. Chris summarized teamlet decisions regarding map layers. R2 is working on assembling layers of GIS map. R2 will have a draft by 2/3/03. Chris noted that we should schedule a teamlet meeting. We may be able to review the results on 2/4/03.

R16: NEEDS ANALYSIS

Chris reported that there is a internal working draft of the first 6 pieces of the Needs Analysis. We need to fold in, eventually, the results of the Visioning Exercise. Chris plans to have 1-6 Analysis complete mid to late February. The group agreed that Adoptive Management would be important to thinking of future needs.

VISIONING EXERCISE: Andy & Ann have created an outline and are compiling data from this exercise. Ann is working on mapping. Visioning report should be in draft form by March 2003.

R5: VISUALS AND AESTHETICS STUDY

The group reviewed Project R-5 study plan. The group agreed to give Andy input regarding sufficiency of pictures. Pending this review, the group approved the study plan. The schedule will slip by 5-6 weeks because original schedule has called for approval in December 2002. Study will have stand alone report from which excerpts will be extracted for PDEA. If parts are available for April draft, they will be included in PDEA. We will look for ways to compress schedule without comprising the study.

PME DISCUSSION

Teamlet Report:

Regarding January 15th teamlet meeting, Andy reported that the group further developed the following 4 PME's:

- Dispersed recreation
- Developed recreation
- Trails
- Education

The group also developed editing protocols. Andy asked whether he could soon accept the changes (to avoid PME's looking too messy.) No group member objected to this, so long as substantive stakeholder differences are still included in the text.

Bruce & Cary reviewed the FERC “on the record” rules. The draft PME's will not be part of FERC record, per Steve Hocking. Nevertheless, we need to keep track of concerns to avoid the need for future appeals.

The teamlet will meet on 2/3/03, and cover remaining PME's, matrix and mapping information.

March Workshop:

Dee reviewed the following changes:

1. Length: 2 ½ days
 - March 4: Noon – 4:30pm
 - March 5: 8:30am – 5:00pm
 - March 6: 8:30am – 4:30pm
2. Participants – open
 - Homework
3. Desired Outcomes:
 - Understanding of PME's being considered
 - ID & discuss areas of conflict & synergy
 - Interest based discussion of initial proposals
 - ID areas of project effect – Action Plan

CROSS RESOURCE MATRIX

Bruce reviewed purpose of the matrix, to identify areas of conflict/synergy between working group PME options. We will review these at 2/4/03 PME teamlet meeting. Anyone with comments should contact Andy.

HANDOUTS (Handouts to be posted on the web will be bolded)

- Studies Update 1/22/03
- Study R11/R15 GIS Layers and Scaling Teamlet 1/7/03 Meeting Notes

PARKING LOT

- Presentation of National Forest Plan
- Land management
- Forest Service presentation of SMS
- Hold periodic "outreach" meetings for feedback from other groups (hiking, horseback riding, etc.)
- Field trip- summer 2003?
- Review USFS Roads Analysis Report- 2003?
- Tie education piece to ALL Working Groups

EVALUATION OF MEETING

Things Done Well

- A lot of common ground regarding studies
- Disney entertainment
- Welcome to Rob and Tina.
- Cary was helpful in clarifying.
- Got out 45 minutes early.

Need for Improvement

- Need Mint Milanos

What's Hot?

- Studies completion
- PME Drafts

Studies Status

- Close to the end – done by March 1, except for Aesthetics and Visioning

TENTATIVE AGENDA

February 24, 2003 Agenda – USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Headquarters

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

NOTE: BRING LUNCH; BE PREPARED TO WORK THROUGH

1. Review/revise minutes/agenda
2. Review Action Items
3. Studies Update
 - General
 - Specific R16
4. PME Teamlet
5. PME workshop prep
6. Review PME 220 Aesthetics
7. Set agenda/location for March meeting
8. Evaluate meeting