



BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes - October 27, 2014, 2014

ITEM NO.

- 1.00 Call to order – Butte County Library, Durham, CA
- 2.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America (if American flag is present)
- 2.01 Roll Call – Members present: Frank Stewart, Teri Faulkner, Jim Shary, Vance Severin, Trish Puterbaugh and Peggy Moak. Alternates present: Nani Teves, Pete Moak

Butte County Federal/State Land Use Coordinating Committee members present: Mike Crump, Peggy Moak

3.00 Consent Agenda

- 3.01 Minutes of 9-22-14 were reviewed and approved. (Faulkner) 2nd (Puterbaugh)

4.00 Agenda

- 4.01 Self Introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Guests and Public
- 4.02 Butte County OHV Ground Operations Grant (\$138,000, through 8-31-15), Plumas NF proposed Cooperative Forest Agreement – list of roads needed. (Mike Crump). Preliminary Routes and Draft Cooperative Agreement were included with agenda. Discussion of the group resulted in those interested in motorized recreation and use of dirt/gravel access roads in the French Creek area agreeing to contact 4WD and motorcycle groups to gain public input on roads that should be considered for repairs/maintenance (no improvements) using OHV grant money. Options will be discussed at an FAC meeting in approx. 2 – 3 weeks (time, date and location TBD; Peggy Moak to send announcement) where recommendations will be developed for consideration by the Coordinating Committee for submission of roads for the OHV grant. Another important aspect of the OHV grant is matching funds (\$90,000). The County plans to use the local Resource Conservation District to administer the grant, including locating and coordinating volunteers to help provide the equivalent of matching funds (\$22 per volunteer work hour credit) grant estimated 1920 volunteer hours for a total of \$42,240 of soft match. The remaining is primarily County work on French Creek and Concow roads.
- 4.03 A review and discussion of maps of USFS, State, BLM, Fish & Wildlife lands, parks, trails, and roads, and Plumas proposed Travel Mgt. Plan (TMP) resulted in a request that more substantially differing colors be used to indicate Federal and State land ownership in the varying categories. Parcels missing from the map can be added after validation by the County's GIS division.

Region – 5 of the USFS is starting the environmental analysis (NEPA) for five national forests in the Sierra's (including Plumas and Lassen NF) relating to "over-snow vehicle use" based on Subpart C of the Travel Management Rule. There will be Over-Snow Vehicle Use public meetings in November (Lassen NF on 11/5 and Plumas NF on 11/6) that Supervisor Teeter will be attending, with results shared at the November FAC meeting.
- 4.04 Item 4.04 (presentation on the General Plan) was tabled as the presenter was unable to attend.
- 4.05 Mike Crump provided a brief review of Coordinating Committee activity to date, which have primarily involved a request to the USFS for the least restrictive action on the Over-the Snow Vehicle Use, and passing on other concerns to the appropriate departments for direct response. As a representative of

Butte's Coordinating Committee, Mike has also collaborated with 4 surrounding counties to work together on ML3 road use by OHVs. The Coordinating Committee plans to be more active in elevating recommendations for comments to proposed USFS, F&W and BLM proposed actions, utilizing the information and recommendations of the FAC to do so.

4.06 The proposed Fisher Listing as a Threatened Species was discussed. (Comment period 10-07-14 through 1-07-15) It was decided that a presentation at the November meeting would be meaningful to this process; Chair Stewart will make arrangements for a presentation for the November meeting. F&W Service are holding a Public Hearing & Informational meeting in Redding on November 17th.

4.07 Chair Stewart indicated there were no projects listed in the 1st Qtr 2015 SOPA Report requiring action by the FAC at this time, and reminded all that they could receive the SOPAs via email or hard copies by mail by contacting Kim Earll, Lassen Environmental Coordinator (252-6638) and Terry Simon Jackson, Plumas Planning Staff Officer (283-7820) to get on their distribution list. Hard copy by mail is recommended.

4.08 Update on the Fish & Wildlife proposed designation of critical habitat for the yellow-billed cuckoo along the Sacramento River. The public comment period has been extended to January 12, 2015. Butte County sent a letter requesting a six month extension to May 14, 2015.

4.09 Mike Crump, Coordinating Committee, is working on getting Forest Service Managers to appear at joint meeting of FAC and Coordinating Committee, at a future date. Randy Gould, District Ranger for the Feather River Ranger District of the Plumas NF, will plan on attending the next FAC meeting on November 24.

4.10 Charlotte Ann Hilgemann shared information on Butte's #1 tourist attraction: Birding (Grey Lodge Wildlife Area; Snow Goose Festival), followed by Arts & Culture (#10 in CA) and recreational access.

4.11 Chuck Kutz, a resident of the Butte Creek Forks area, presented the challenges he has faced as a result of living next to BLM Forks of Butte Creek Recreation area that attracts vagrants and persons leaving campfires burning and abandoned. For the next meeting, Teri Faulkner agreed to meet with Chuck and prepare a synopsis of Chuck's concerns with proposed resolutions that he wants escalated to Butte County's Board of Supervisors regarding this matter.

4.12 A Public Service Message with links regarding Illegal Marijuana Cultivation on Public Lands has been posted on Butte County's Development Services Website at the request of Jim Shary and Supervisor Wahl. <http://www.buttecounty.net/dds/CodeEnforcement/CultivationMedicalMarijuana.aspx>

4.13 New Business: Discussed and agreed that future meetings will be scheduled to last no more than two hours, agenda items will provide time frames and that public comment should be limited to 3-5 minutes per speaker. Those planning to attend a scheduled meeting who need hard copies of the agenda provided at the meeting should contact Peggy Moak no later than the morning of the business day prior to the meeting; the hard copies will be brought to the meeting for distribution. Agendas will always be mailed by Wednesday of the week prior to the meeting; if an electronic version is not received by that date, please contact Peggy at pmoak@buttecounty.net.

Considerations for next meeting agenda:

- OHV Grant – road identification – 15 min
- Fisher Presentation – 20 min, 10 min Q & A
- Follow up on Butte Creek Forks BLM land use issue (Faulkner) – 10 min
- General Plan Overview as it pertains to public land access and enjoyment – 20 min
- Randy Gould, Feather River District Ranger, Plumas NF, on local NF vision – 15 min
- Update from Supervisor Teeter on Over the Snow Vehicle Use USFS Open Houses on Nov. 5 (Lassen, in Susanville) and Nov. 6 (Plumas, in Quincy) – 10 min

Public Comment was considered throughout the meeting on an informal basis.

4.14

Next meeting will be Monday, 11/24/2014, at 4:00 PM at the Golden Valley Bank in

4.15

Chico at 190 Cohasset Road. The following meeting will be held in Paradise, location TBD.