



BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes – May 18, 2015

ITEM NO.

- 1.00 Call to order – Auditor-Treasurer Conference Room, 25 County Center Drive, Oroville
- 2.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- 2.01 Roll Call – **Members:** Frank Stewart, Chair, Jim Shary, Vice-Chair, Teri Faulkner, Trish Puterbaugh, Peggy Moak
Alternates: Pete Moak, Charlotte Ann Hilgeman, Nani Teves, Bob Gage
Public: Rich Faulkner, Jay Lowe
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- 3.00 **Consent Agenda**
- 3.01 Minutes of 4-27-15 were reviewed, discussed and approved.
M-Faulkner, 2nd Shary, Motion Approved 4-0
- 4.00 **Agenda**
- 4.01 Self-Introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates and Public
- 4.02 SOPA Review – Current Quarter: Discussion & required FAC action for projects affecting Butte County listed in 2015 SOPA Reports for Lassen and Plumas NF's. Chair Stewart reminded each FAC member to review quarterly SOPAs for the Lassen and Plumas NF as they affect Butte County residents for their area of interest, follow up with the USFS personnel listed in the SOPA to ask to be on their "scoping list" and report as to whether the FAC should be involved or recommend a comment letter. A motion was made for Trish Puterbaugh to draft a comment letter on behalf of the County and circulate it to Frank Stewart and Peggy Moak for comments, with the result being forwarded to the Coordinating Committee for review and revision as deemed appropriate.
M-Stewart, 2nd Faulkner, Motion Approved 4-0
- 4.03 Jim Shary discussed the National Visitor Use Monitoring Program as it related to Lassen and Plumas National Forests. There is information presented in a number of categories, and Jim wanted to highlight that the purpose of 71.6% of visits on one report was recreation, with fishing representing 27%. The age distribution supports family use as the highest percentage. Bob Gage pointed out that the monitors performing the survey most often did it at parking lots and on the roads, therefore missing a large number of visitors and possibly skewing survey results as hikers, bikers, equestrians, etc. may not have been fully represented. INFORMATION ONLY
- 4.04 Teri Faulkner shared that Thad Walker, a member of bicycle riding organization Chico Velo, has reached out to the FAC and the County to see what common goals we might have for increasing tourism and recreation by creating or improving additional bike trails within the county, including on public lands. Thad is planning on attending the June meeting. INFORMATION ONLY
- 4.05 The Butte County RCD reports they have over 1,200 OHV Volunteer hours as of now, and another volunteer group going out this weekend. She expects OHV volunteer hours will be well over by 1,500 next week! There are just a few roads left that haven't been looked at. the County and Forest Service will start working on roads in the near future in the French Creek area. This summer she would like to

have a work group day to replace signs and trail markers. There are still have about 30 days or until we will know about next year's grant.

- 4.06 The FAC members were asked to review the Detailed Proposed Action in Support of the need to change items in the Notice of Intent for the Forest Plan Revision for the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra NF's (Peggy's 4/27 e-mail) to come up with a proposed plan for Coordinating Committee to work with, in preparation for a coordination session with the Plumas and Lassen NF on the upcoming Forest Plans and on the Travel Management Plan for each Forest. Considerations: Motorized and non-motorized recreation, access to trailheads, staging areas for horses, motorcycles, OHV. Protection of meadows, streams and other sensitive areas. Utilize USFS Land Management Planning Handbook and Draft Plans already published for So. CA Forests as guides. Jim Shary shared his points for the economic/tourism aspects. Time was limited, so the Committee was asked to bring in ideas for the June meeting.
- 4.07 New Business – considerations for next meeting agenda:
- Road planning session – formalization of plan to be proposed by CC
 - Other elements of Lassen & Plumas Forest Service Plans for coordination efforts
 - Discuss July meeting (Peg will be gone on vacation!)
 - Nani Teves announced her resignation due to an upcoming year-long absence from the area
 - Peggy will update County FAC website: Names, agendas, minutes
 - How to get solid public use #'s for Lassen and Plumas?
- 4.08 Public Comment: It was suggested that we work through Congressmen Dahle/Gallagher to see about getting a portion of the cap & trade \$\$, and utilizing biomass projects for grant funds/fuel reduction. Also, the County should check on Rural School \$ that are coming to the County to fund Title 3? It was commented that RCD Grants have stopped.
- 4.09 NO ITEM
- 4.10 Discussion item: Next meeting will be Monday, June 22 at 6:00 PM in Chico, at the Chico Public Works Facility

Meeting was adjourned at 8ish.