



## BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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### Minutes – September 23, 2015

#### ITEM NO.

Call to order – Gold Nugget Museum, 502 Pearson Road, Paradise

1.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

2.00 Roll Call – **Members:** Jim Shary, Vance Severin, Trish Puterbaugh, Teri Faulkner, Peggy Moak  
**Alternates:** Charlotte Ann Hilgeman

2.01 **Guests:** Mike Crump (Coordinating Committee), Thad Walker(Chico Velo), Mary Sullivan(Plumas NF). Megan Mallowney (Lassen NF), Sarah Reynolds (BCRCD), Lindsay Wood, Nick Repanich, Sam Dresser (Host), Rich Faulkner, Kevin Wright, Ray Sousa

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#### 3.00 **Consent Agenda**

3.01 Minutes of 8-24-15 were approved.

#### 4.00 **Agenda**

4.01 Self-Introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates and Public

4.02 Mary Sullivan (Plumas NF): Lumpkin Fire Update

Mary Sullivan gave an update on the Lumpkin Fire. It burned about 1000 acres; possibly salvage timber opportunities. Randy Gould and his team are working on that. The Fire did not affect the Forbestown Fuels Reduction Project.

4.03 Thad Walker gave a presentation on the economic and social advantages of Bicycle Trails/Tourism plans, providing several examples of successful collaborative ventures. Further discussion might include recommendations for amendments to the General Plan to focus on collaborative efforts between the County, partner cities and towns, recreation and park districts and local colleges to design, create and map hiking/biking/multi-use trails in and around Butte County. It is important to look ahead and have design and NEPA planning, plus buy-in from all stakeholders, so that when grant opportunities become available, shovel ready projects are in the pipeline.

4.04 Mike Crump reviewed the meeting between Butte County and the Feather River Ranger District to take advantage of the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant money for planning recreational trails. Since no dirt will be disturbed in this endeavor, the Feather River Ranger District can use CEQA and NEPA docs already largely completed for this purpose. Execution of the grant includes plans to contract with the CCC and USFS biologists to identify roads and trails listed on Table 2 of the TMP, and the Butte County Resource Conservation District will coordinate assessment of the workload and equipment needs. Trails will be prioritized according to benefit.

4.05 Jim Shary provided an overview of the Lassen NF Open House on the high Lakes area that took place in Chico on 9-16-15. It was fairly well attended and informative, and provided opportunities for folks with differing views to meet and discuss opinions, concerns and options.

4.06 Letters of interest were submitted and considered by the FAC for Alternate position appointments to be recommended to the Board of Supervisors. Repanich was nominated for Motorized Recreation

(Severin), 2<sup>nd</sup> (Faulkner), approved 4-0. Wood was nominated for Watershed/Environment (Puterbaugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> (Shary), approved 4-0.

- 4.07 Announcement of USDA Sierra Cascades Dialog Session scheduled for Thursday, October 15 in Sacramento. Teri Faulkner volunteered to attend the Session. Expense reimbursement for the Session was authorized by Coordinating Committee members Crump and Moak. Report on the Session to be provided by Teri at the October meeting.
- 4.08 Sarah Reynolds of the BCRCD announced OHV volunteer work days for the last two Saturdays in October at Milsap Bar and Rodgers Cow Camp. The cleanup will be for the general campground area as well as campsites, and may include minor maintenance. Thirty volunteers have signed up.
- 4.09 A Draft Letter from the Board of Supervisors to Randy Moore, Regional Forester, and to the Lassen and Plumas Forest Supervisors, was developed by the Coordinating Committee based on a series of FAC meetings where Forest issues were discussed. Trish Puterbaugh objected to some of the contents of the letter, in particular the reference to allowing trees of more than 30" to be harvested if there are thick stands of them, using instead a 40% canopy guideline. Since Trish was not present at the FAC meeting when these points were discussed, it was recommended that she contact the Board directly at their meeting of 9-29-15 to state her position on the letter and the process for drafting the letter, which she did. FYI, the item was pulled from the Board's consent agenda and the points of concern discussed by the Board prior to the approval for issuance of the letter by a 4-1 vote.
- 4.10 SOPA Review – Current Quarter: Discussion & required FAC action for projects affecting Butte County listed in 2015 SOPA Reports for Lassen and Plumas NF's. Discussed proposed SOPA flow chart and SOPA Tracking (Chair) Action: Approve proposed SOPA procedures on a draft basis, understanding that more refining of the spreadsheets and process are likely to be needed, and designating Trish Puterbaugh as the point person for distributing the SOPA to FAC members for review.  
Motion: Shary, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Severin, Approved 4-0
- Mary Sullivan (Plumas NF) announced that the Plumas NF OTS proposed plan is to be released to the public on September 29, with meetings for public discussion held 10/15 at the Feather River Ranger District, 10/8 at the Mt. Hough RD, and 10/14 at the Beckwourth RD.
- 4.11 Next meeting will be October 26 in Chico. Start time will be 5:00 PM
- 4.12 Public Comment (THE COMMITTEE IS PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW FROM TAKING ACTION ON ANY ITEM PRESENTED IF IT IS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.)