



BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 23, 2017 -- Minutes

ITEM NO.

- 1.00 Call to order – Butte County Public Works Facility, 44 Bellarmine Ct, Chico, CA
- 2.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- 2.01 Roll Call – **Members:** Nick Repanich, Thad Walker, Peggy Moak
Alternates: Vance Severin, Jim Shary, Angel Korte (voting Alt),
Invited Guests: Calli-Jane DeAnda (Butte County Fire Safe Council); Wolfy Rougle (Graduate Student); Dick Waugh (Beckwourth Trail); Ken Smith (Beckwourth Trail); Daryl Bender (Hillsiders); Erick Stemmerman, (Acting District Ranger, Lassen National Forest, Almanor Ranger District); Clay Davis (Plumas National Forest, Feather River Ranger District); Dennis Schmidt (Coordinating Committee, Public Works); Tom Kelly (Butte County Fire Safe Council); Laura Smith (BCSO); Kurt Jordan
- 2.02 Self-introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Guests, and Public
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- 3.00 Consent Agenda
- 3.01 Minutes for September 18th, 2017 reviewed and approved. M-Walker, 2nd Korte. Approved 3-0
- 4.00 Agenda
- 4.01 Calli-Jane DeAnda, Butte County Fire Safe Council: Calli-Jane gave an update on the Fire Safe Council's Community Wildfire Protection Plan Landscape Level Plan. Landscape level planning is defined as involving more than 10,000 acres. The Fire Safe Council collaborated with Cal Fire on this protection plan, and worked with the Sacramento River Watershed Program for data coordination. She also mentioned the challenges and the cost of the CEQA process. She discussed the grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and answered questions from committee members regarding the grant. MOTION: Recommend issuing letter of support for Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant through the Coordinating Committee. M-Walker, 2nd Korte. Approved 3-0.
- 4.02 Wolfy Rougle, Graduate Student: Collaboration on Fire Mitigation Planning – Wolfy introduced herself to the group and presented information on an upcoming fire collaboration meeting scheduled for October 26th, from 9-11 AM, at 202 Mira Loma in Oroville. The subject will be "What steps would you like to see Butte County take to lose zero homes to fire every year?" and the meeting will involve several organizations, including Cal Fire and Fire Safe Councils.
- 4.03 Dick Waugh: Beckwourth Trail—Dick Waugh, with the Oregon-California Trails Association, gave a presentation to the committee regarding the historic Beckwourth Trail. The Beckwourth Trail is an emigrant trail that runs from Sparks, NV to Bidwell's Bar in Lake Oroville. The trail is named for Jim Beckwourth, who established the trail in 1851 to help bring people to Marysville. Dick spoke about how the Oregon-California Trails Association has been active in helping to find, map, and preserve historic trails such as the Beckwourth Trail. He showed several photos of the trail, showing differences between where it has been marked and where it is unmarked. He stated that Caltrans would begin posting auto tour signs along the trail, where possible. The long-term goal is to have the trail re-established so that hikers and others can travel the trail along its historic route from Nevada to California.
- 4.04 Daryl Bender, Hillsiders: Daryl presented to the committee regarding the Jonesville Snowmobile Park and the Hillsiders' perspective on the Lassen NF OSV DEIS. He gave a brief overview of the Hillsiders organization, mentioning that they groom over 200 miles of trails in addition to providing road access, clean bathrooms, and a warming hut. He mentioned that the snowmobile park involves several stakeholders, including Butte County and Lassen NF. The Hillsiders support option 4 of the OSV DEIS, as it has the least restrictive snow depth requirements and retains the most acreage as open to OSV travel.
MOTION: Draft comment letter supporting OSV DEIS alternative option 4, for submission to the BOS. M-Repanich, 2nd Korte. Approved 3-0

- 4.05 Forest Projects Review – Current Quarter: Discussion & required FAC action for USFS projects affecting Butte County residents’ forest management, recreational, environmental, socio-economic interests(Chair)
- Lassen NF Almanor Ranger District- Erick Stemmerman (Acting District Ranger): Erick gave updates on several projects, including the Jones Meadow Fuels Reduction, High Lakes Motorized Trail Re-routes, and Scotts John Quarry. Peggy discussed her experience attending the Field Trip that Lassen NF organized on October 20th. Erick announced that the next Acting District Ranger will be coming from the Plumas NF. The committee thanked Erick for his participation at the meetings.
 - Plumas NF Feather River Ranger District, Clay Davis: Clay gave updates on several projects, and mentioned that both the Jackass Bridge and Windy Cut Bridge are now completed. He also commented on the success of fuels reductions projects in slowing the Ponderosa fire.
- 4.06 Public Works Updates – grants, Roads, Four Trees –Dennis Schmidt provided an update on available OHV planning grant money and the possibility of a project on Four Trees Road.
- 4.07 BLM Letter acknowledging Cooperating Agency status – INFORMATION ONLY
- 4.08 New Business – considerations for upcoming meeting agendas: Next meeting is December 18, Gold Nugget Museum in Paradise, 5:00 PM **Please note: the November meeting has been canceled**
- Whitewater Recreation – January?
 - Terra Fuego Prescribed Burns as Forest Management Tool-February
 - South Feather Water & Sewer District - Recreation and Water Projects – January or later
 - Grazing studies – presentations on the science and practical application - December
 - Bio-Char Technology - December
 - Sierra Club Trails Guide – invite them to make a presentation
 - Tree mortality Update - February
- 4.09 Public Comment (THE COMMITTEE IS PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW FROM TAKING ACTION ON ANY ITEM PRESENTED IF IT IS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.)