



BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 25, 2018—5:00 P.M. Meeting

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, Teri Faulkner, Trish Puterbaugh, Peggy Moak
Alternates: Vance Severin, Jim Shary, Bob Gage, Angel Gomez, Pete Moak (voting Alt)
Invited Guests: Barry Ceccon (California Fish & Wildlife); Aaron Wright (California State Parks); Matt Beatley (Plumas County Sheriff's Dept.); Jack Storne (Butte County Sheriff's Dept.); Adam Hill (Lassen National Forest); Chris Holland (Lassen & Plumas National Forest); Russell Nickerson, (District Ranger, Almanor Ranger District, Lassen National Forest), David Brillenz (District Ranger, Feather River Ranger District; Plumas National Forest), Laura Page (Congressman LaMalfa); Dennis Schmidt (Coordinating Committee, Public Works); Dan Taverner (NRCS and Ag/Timber FAC Applicant)
- 2.02 Self-introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Guests, and Public – 5 Min.
-
- 3.00 **Consent Agenda**
- 3.01 Review and approve minutes of 5-21-18 – 5 Min.
- 4.00 **Agenda**
- 4.01 Roundtable discussion with law enforcement agency representatives – Butte County Sheriff, Plumas County Sheriff, State Parks, Fish & Wildlife, Lassen & Plumas National Forests – 60 min.
- Any use of OHV Grant Funding for staffing/equipment? (encouraged)
 - Proposed hours/days of law enforcement coverage – focus areas? Weekends and holidays? Nights?
 - Coordination between USFS, Sheriff and others to ensure most robust coverage
 - Citations issued last season (number and type)
 - Areas of concern for each agency
 - Plans for controlling resource damage via law enforcement and other actions
 - Any other information?
- 4.02 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- Russell Nickerson (District Ranger): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – 15 Min.
 - Plumas NF Feather River Ranger District, David Brillenz (District Ranger): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – 15 Min.
- 4.03 Applicant for Ag/Timber– review qualifications and consider recommendation
- 4.04 Feather River Ranger District Collaborators' Meeting/FAC Meeting Dates: Discuss June 5 meeting and debrief
- 4.05 Roads, OHV Grants Update – Dennis Schmidt
- 4.06 New Business – Considerations for upcoming meeting agendas: Next meeting is July 23, 2018 - Chico, 5:00 PM
- South Feather Water & Sewer District - Recreation and Water Projects
 - Butte County Fire Safe Council
 - Other
- 4.07 Public Comment (THE COMMITTEE IS PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW FROM TAKING ACTION ON ANY ITEM PRESENTED IF IT IS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.)

Kory Honea – Butte County Response 2016

At Monday night's Forest Advisory Committee meeting, Committee members and the public raised several concerns regarding the law enforcement plans via both USFS operations and OHV grant applications, and I am hoping that you all can provide some information and insight on this matter.

- 1) Will the USFS Law Enforcement personnel and the County Sheriff's offices be coordinating with each other to maximize coverage, especially of high impact areas and high impact weekends? –

Yes, we have been coordinating with both USFS and SPI already this year to plan operations for our current patrol areas and new proposed patrol areas. The county is requiring SPI to open gates closed for years so OHVs can access areas that have been inaccessible for a long time. We are anticipating the increased noise, pollution, erosion and other environmental damage that will occur when these areas are open. Our proposed grant will allow for more patrol vehicles and a greater LE presence than has been available in the past.

- 2) Will the County Sheriff's and USFS patrols also be utilizing OHV (Razors, quads) for patrols in the High Lakes where they are essential to catch violators (jeeps are too slow). -

Yes, we acquired a RAZR last year and have quads available. We will be using these this season to patrol the High Lakes. This will require some specialized training due to the difference in handling and off road capabilities of these vehicles.

- 3) Folks also wanted to know how many OHVs are/will be on hand for each Sheriff's Department, assuming successful grant applications this go round. In other words, a current equipment inventory of OHV, snowmobiles and 4WD used primarily for this purpose, so they can compare it against the list of requested equipment. It was difficult for them to evaluate the needs of the grants we looked at since we don't know what the current inventory is of equipment. –

We have two older Ford Expeditions with limited off road capabilities, 3 snowmobiles, 1 RAZR and Quads available. The quads aren't specifically tasked to OHV as they belong to our Special Enforcement Unit, but we have use of them.

- 4) The FAC is particularly concerned that efforts be concentrated on controlling resource damage (people driving through meadows, around barriers, or off of designated trails), vandalism, theft, littering, damaging campgrounds or fire rings, burning garbage, etc., as opposed to focusing on use of helmets and seatbelts, recognizing that this will require more stringent and comprehensive law enforcement presence, especially in the High Lakes area and camping/driving around the Granite Basin/Bucks Lake areas. –

We will be enforcing all laws and increasing patrols in these areas. We will be conducting training so the deputies patrolling these areas are familiar with environmental laws as well as helmet and registration laws. We expect to see an increase in citations for environmental crimes due to the increased patrols and training. We will still be stopping and citing people for the other violations as well. Several citizen groups have expressed their desire for us to continue and increase enforcement of helmet, registration and seatbelt laws.

- 5) Can you provide data on how many citations were issued last year in the off-road venues, and for what infractions? –

According to our records we wrote 8 citations last year. 3 for registration, 1 helmet, 1 environmental (parking in a meadow) and the rest were combination cites reg/helmet.

- 6) How much time is currently authorized for patrols in these areas that are funded with the regular budget (not OHV grants)? –

When are fully staffed with deputies in the Designated Area Deputy (DAD) positions, those deputies conduct routine patrols in the OHV areas as well. Currently, due to the recent staffing shortage we only have one deputy assigned to the DAD program. He patrols Jonesville area and the Cohasset/Forrest Ranch area as time permits. As our staffing increases, we will be able to re-assign deputies to the other DAD positions in the outlying areas and increase patrols of OHV areas.

Response from Todd Johns, Plumas County:

1) Yes, we make every attempt to coordinate with USFS. I will mention that in regards to the High Lakes, sometimes we do patrol on the same day only in different areas. But we do attempt to give areas the best coverage possible. Seems the S.O. and USFS are always short staffed on most weekends so we do our best.

2) Yes. We do patrol the area with UTVs, primarily a RZR and Yamaha Rhinos on occasion. Our High Clearance Jeep is our primary vehicle though. I have never had to chase somebody down, to date, but I suppose it is a possibility.

3) The Plumas County Sheriff's Office currently has 1 High Clearance Jeep, 1 RZR (assigned to the Quincy area which includes the High Lakes as well as Bucks Lake) and 2 Yamaha Rhinos (assigned to Chester/Greenville and Portola) that it utilizes for OHV summer activities. We currently utilize six snowmobiles. 2 x 2015 Arctic Cats that are utilized in Chester, 2 x 2009 Arctic Cats that are utilized in Quincy and 2 x 2012 and 2014 SkiDoo Snowmobiles that are utilized in Portola. One of the SkiDoo snowmobiles was obtained from Asset Forfeiture and the rest of our equipment has been purchased with In-lieu of funds, not grant funds. I have requested grant funding this year to replace the two older Arctic Cats.

4) This has always been our focus. Our program focuses on safety and education with a strong emphasis on resource protection to protect the sport. As such I encourage my guys to make as many contacts as possible in an effort to educate the public. We issue very few citations, unless it involves blatant public safety issues. In instances where we witness resource damage, we collect evidence, contact violators, when possible, and turn all information over to the USFS. Our reason for this is that they (USFS) have the ability to inflict more stringent laws and regulations regarding resource damage then we can. We have done this in the past and it seems to work very well. When we discover other crimes, such as littering etc. we deal with it ourselves. I would also like to mention that we continuously help to manage the trails in the

High Lakes areas. We carry a saw, shovels and cutters in our jeep or RZR during patrols and help open trails in an effort to prevent new trails from being made. We have also pulled large rocks into areas to prevent erosion as well as cutting dangerous trees and overgrowth. While trail maintenance is obviously not our primary job, I feel it is important to participate to help keep each area open to motorized use.

5) So last year 2014/2015 we made two arrests in the High Lakes area for weapons violations. We wrote no citations and gave several warnings for helmet violations, double riders on ATVs etc. I also turned over information on three cases of resource damage to USFS. Two cases originated in the High Lakes and one case in the Grayeagle area. If you would like more specific numbers I could get them to you but it won't be until next week sometime. I am happy to do so but felt it was important to get this information to you. Again, our program focuses on education and not so much on writing citations as listed above.

6) I'm not sure I completely understand your question here but if I do the answer would be 0. This doesn't mean that we wouldn't respond to calls as needed, but the only discretionary funding that I have is my In-Lieu funding. I would not be able to use that funding for regular patrols in this case, it would be held as a reserve to be utilized in cases where we had to respond to an area for a OHV/OSV specific call.

I hope this is the information you were looking for. It is summarized; please feel free to email me or call me if you have additional questions. Sgt. Todd Johns
530-283-6392

From: Davis, Clay R -FS
Cc: [Brillenz, David B -FS](#); [Schramel, Elizabeth A -FS](#); [Lefever, Lisa - FS](#)
Subject: Thank you for joining us
Date: Wednesday, June 6, 2018 2:03:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[Input Form.xlsx](#)

Thank you for taking the time to join us in Oroville for the organizational meeting for our Feather River Ranger District Collaborative. I felt we had a great opening conversation on a wide variety of topics and then identified two very important interest areas for our first two sub-committees and/or working groups.

- Forest Health and Wildlife Habitat: Kevin Vella, National Wild Turkey Federation; Ben Solvesky, Sierra Forest Legacy; Brooks Henderson, Butte County Resident; Greg Kostick, Trinity River Lumber Company; Joe Williamson, J.W. Bamford, Inc.; Dan Taverner, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS); Loren Gill, Butte County Fire Safe Council; Ken Wilde, Sierra Pacific Industries; Joanna Arroyo, Forest Service; Jason Vermillion, Forest Service; Eric Murphy, Forest Service, Clay Davis, Forest Service.
- Recreation and Access: Bob Gage, Backcountry Horsemen of California; Doug Teeter, Butte County Supervisor; Terry Faulkner, Paradise Ridge Fire Safe Council; Peggy Moak, Butte County Forest Advisory Council; Robin Lee, Forbestown Ridge Fire Safe Council; Joe Williamson, J.W. Bamford, Inc.; Thad Walker, Butte County Resource Conservation District; Michelle Ahearn, Forest Service; Eddie Ramirez, Forest Service.

I didn't have the chance to make it across to the Recreation break-out, but the Forest Health conversations were great. I am going ahead and attaching a copy of the stakeholder's comment form if you want to share anything regarding the meeting, things we discussed or didn't discuss, or if you have any ideas on other groups or individuals we should reach out to.

I'll be in contact again soon regarding specific details I've committed to sharing with the Forest Health group and anything else that comes up.

Thank you again, Clay



CLAY R. DAVIS
District Planner

Forest Service
Plumas National Forest, Feather River Ranger District

p: 530-532-8940
clayrdavis@fs.fed.us

875 Mitchell Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965
www.fs.fed.us



Caring for the land and serving people

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

33	Table 2 Trails Grant Work - Butte Co. RDC	Mary			Y		I												
34	Slapjack/Watdog Roads Decommissioning	Oswaldo			Y		P	P	I	I									
35	AmeriCorps Intern	Mary			Y		I	I	I										
36	2018/2019 OHV Grant Ground Ops & Maint	Mary			Y		I												
37	Granite Basin Recreation EA (Butte Co. RDC)	Mary			Y		I	I											
38	Flume Camp CERCLA Site	Steve			Y		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
39	Mill Sap Bar	Herman			Y		I												
40	Pondo Rehab	Eric			Y		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
41	Hydro - Road and Soil Surveys / Rptg	Oswaldo			Y		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
42	HDH Millet - Rd Decomm	Oswaldo			Y		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
43	Section 110 - Heritage	Jamie			Y		I	I											
44	Backlog Fuels Program	Steve			Y		P	I											
45	Road Use Permits	Herman			Y		P	P	I										
46	Watdog - Rd Decomm	Oswaldo			Y		P	P	I	I	I	I	I						
47	Slate Creek - Road Imprvmnt	Oswaldo			Y		P	I	I	I	I	I							
48	OHV Rd w/ Lassen and SPI	Rgr D			Y		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
49	District Veg EA	Rgr D			Y		P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I
50	Facilities Master Plan	Rgr D			Y		P/I	I	I										
51	Env Ed Program (S River Wtr Power)	Jo/Maria			Y		I	I											
52	Passport in Time	Jamie			Y			P	I										
53	Bear Proof Food Lockers - Little Grass	Mary			Y			P	P	I	I								
54	Dome Trail - Stairs - RAC	Mary			Y			P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I	P/I
55	Deadwood Hydro Permit	Mary			Y			P/I	P/I	P/I									
56	Swayne Cars Restoration	Jamie			Y			P	P	I	I								
57	Cemetery Restoration	Jamie			Y			P	P	I	I								
58	Heritage Excavation Write Up	Jamie			Y			I	I										
59	Oak Restoration (w/ Tribes)	Jo/Maria			Y			P/I											On Hold
60	Habitat Imp (Upland/Lowland Birds)	Jo/Maria			Y			P	I										
61	Grass Flat Meadow Restoration	Oswaldo			Y			P	P	I	I								
62	Jackson Ranch MOU/SUP	Jamie			Y			P	P	I	I								
63	22N61 Road CE	Oswaldo			Y			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
64	Sugarloaf - Rd Decomm	Oswaldo			Y			P	P/I										
65	On Top - Rd Decomm	Oswaldo			Y			P	I	I									
66	Small fuels projects CE(s)	Steve			Y				P	P	I	I							
67	Regular Baptist Waterlines SU	Mary			Y				P	P	I	I							
68	North Yuba - Brownsville (Water Dist)	Mary			Y				P	P	I	I							
69	Plantation Improvement	Jo/Maria			Y				P	P	I	I							
70	Oregon Creek - 3 Ponds - Monitor/Veg	Jo/Maria			Y					I	I								



**Plumas National Forest
Feather River Ranger District**



Stakeholder Input Form

Subject: _____

Remarks: _____

(Optional)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____