

Butte County Federal/State Land Use Coordinating Committee

October 25, 2017 from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Auditor-Treasurer Conference Room

25 County Center Drive, Suite 125, Oroville CA

Minutes

- 1) Self-Introductions (committee members and public) – Members present: Dennis Schmidt, Paul Gosselin, Peggy Moak.
- 2) Discussion of FAC proposed support letter for BC Fire Safe Council SNC Grant– MOTION: Approve issuance of support letter from Coordinating Committee. (M: Gosselin, 2nd Moak, Approved 3-0)
- 3) Develop answers to draft questions from BLM for conference call 11/7 establishing the basic perspective of the County as a Cooperating Agency with the BLM.

Questions with Answers Developed for consideration:

DRAFT INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR COOPERATING AGENCIES

As you think about some of the questions that I ask, please try to keep in mind that the RMP is likely to be in effect for decades. So, please think long term, whether that is in terms of your special expertise {or jurisdiction}, your geographical location, your agency's [tribe's] interests, or anything else that you are thinking about.

- What has been your experience with the BLM to date?
 - Attended public meetings on NCIP
 - BLM Reps presented at Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting - NCIP
 - BLM Law Enforcement presented at FAC meeting on enforcement issues
 - Problems with construction of West Branch bridge by Whiskey Flats – BLM thus far non-responsive to needs and no coordination up front that would have avoided this issue
 - Underutilization of dispersed BLM lands – what is the plan for these parcels?
- Given that your special expertise as a local government agency is planning, public input, road maintenance, emergency response, fire safety, where do you see your agency overlapping with the BLMs' planning process and eventual outcomes?
 - Coordination is needed to identify road system /BLM connectivity and determine maintenance responsibility for roads going through and to BLM lands, as well as critical egress routes in the event of emergencies
 - Include analysis of movement of fire equipment
 - Planning is needed to identify critical areas on BLM lands in WUI zones for fuels reduction and other fire prevention treatment
- What are your specific interests, as they relate to the BLM planning process?
 - Enhanced recreational access, trails development, linking of checkerboard BLM lands through private lands via easements for trails/roads
 - Land swaps encouraged in checkerboard BLM owned areas
 - We'd like to see a complete history of land acquisition/disposition in Butte County

- Public safety, fire prevention
- Enhanced facilities and use and protection of Forks of Butte Creek BLM recreational area
- Increased tourism via better advertising of recreational opportunities and improved facilities
- Are there specific goals you have (needs, desires) that you want to explore with the BLM?
 - Bridge specifications to enable firetruck and equipment access to critical areas
 - Law enforcement or other provisions (campground hosts?) to ensure proper use and safety of semi-primitive camping/picnic areas
 - Consider MOU with Butte County Sheriff for patrolling higher use areas
 - Trails maintenance and fuels reduction along trails & WUI (Magalia 40 acres, etc.)
 - BLM Representatives in attendance at monthly Forest Advisory Committee meetings to provide updates on planning/proposed projects/existing projects and issues
- Do you have specific regulatory consultations that need to be addressed as part of this RMP process?
 - Conformance with Butte County's General Plan 2030
 - Road maintenance, easements, CalFire requirements (include WUI fuels reduction)
 - Identify authorized uses on inventoried BLM lands (hunting, fishing, OHV, hiking, biking, equestrian, grazing)
- What's most important to you in the eventual BLM RMP, EIS, and ROD?
 - Open communication between BLM managers and Butte County Government, with consideration for needs of citizens pertaining to safety and recreational access
 - Development of additional trail systems with connectivity to existing trails
 - Maintenance of land and facilities, fuels reduction, public safety
- Can you think of specific social or economic considerations that the BLM should be aware of?
 - Due to remoteness of BLM lands from BLM headquarters, consider reimbursement agreement/MOU for County to clear hazards from BLM roadways to benefit the public/preserve ingress/egress
 - Significant demand for access to Feather River by locals could be better met, i.e. 270 acres off Dean Rd. between Paradise and the FR could be developed for better parking and access to the river.
 - For BLM parcels located immediately adjacent to homes/trailer parks, develop plan for defensible space to protect the residents
 - Readily available, online, quality maps with GPS coordinates, access & authorized use clearly defined for BLM lands
- Are there other specific issues or needs that you want the BLM to know about as they go forward?
 - BLM retention of bridge at Whiskey Flats over the West Branch of the Feather River, even if the BLM property in that area is sold or otherwise disposed of. Also preserve recreational access to the river

4) Comments on other public lands projects – MOTION: Utilize FAC Draft letter regarding Lassen OSV EIS to update and add 12" snow depth issues, and add economic numbers, and send the revised letter to the Board of Supervisors for approval at their November 14 meeting. (M: Schmidt, 2nd Gosselin, Approved 3-0)