

# Custer-Gallatin National Forest Working Group (CGWG)

## Meeting MINUTES

### December 9, 2015

The Community Room, Gallatin County Courthouse, 311 W. Main, Bozeman, Mt.

Time	Topic	Lead	Outcomes
1:00PM	Opening and introductions; Agenda discussion, Meeting materials: Minutes, Membership applications	Prinkki	Welcome, introductions, agenda reviewed
1:10PM	Consent Agenda: Minutes Financial report/disbursements	Prinkki/Atwood	Vote on consent agenda items:
1:15PM	Membership applications	Prinkki/Atwood	Review and vote on membership applications
1:20PM	Custer Gallatin Forest Plan Subcommittee report; Agenda/meeting schedule Discuss media campaign	Prinkki / Brennan	Review and discuss 2016 CGWG Forest Plan subcommittee meeting schedule and agenda with defined outreach campaign
1:40PM	Review of CGWG Operations Manual to use as 'roadmap' for how the CGWG will determine appropriate levels of involvement in the CGNF Plan Revision	Prinkki / Brennan	Understanding among members of how we will use the Operations Manual to guide our engagement in the Forest Plan Revision process that CGWG will follow
2:00PM	CGWG 2016 Action items: 1. Administration 2. Forest Plan Revision 3. North Hebgen 4. Bridger Farm Bill	Atwood / Prinkki	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish subcommittees</li> <li>2. Define scope of work</li> <li>3. Set goals and calendar</li> <li>4. Financial plan</li> </ol>
3:00PM	Break		
3:15PM	Resume discussion	Atwood / Prinkki	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish subcommittees</li> <li>2. Define scope of work</li> <li>3. Set goals and calendar</li> <li>4. Financial plan</li> </ol>
4:45PM	Set next meeting date/agenda	Prinkki / Atwood	
5:00PM	Close, if not sooner		

#### Attendees:

John Prinkki, Chair  
 Jim Hart, Vice-Chair  
 John Beaudry  
 Jeff Schmidt  
 Bill Wallace  
 John Bailey  
 Kerry White  
 Scott Brennan  
 Jerry Furtney  
 Darcie Warden  
 Kevin Germain  
 Joe Skinner  
 John Beadry  
 Darcie Warden

Teri Seth, USFS  
 Ashley Sites, USFS  
 Mariah Leuschen-Lonergan, USFS  
 Virginia Kelley, USFS  
 Ken Coffin, USFS  
 Don Bachman  
 Gary Severson, High Point Resources  
 Alex Sienkiewicz, USFS  
 Bob Allen  
 Earl Atwood – Beartooth RC&D

(14 Members)

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Prinkki at 1:05 pm. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves. Chairman Prinkki invited comment from any public members in attendance (none offered).

The meeting agenda was reviewed and approved.

The consent agenda, consisting of minutes from the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and the current financial report moved for approved by John Bailey, seconded by Bill Wallace, and APPROVED..

No membership applications were presented.

Under subcommittee reports, Chairman Prinkki opened discussion with the members concerning the formation of additional subcommittees to address CGWG priority projects including the Forest Plan Revision and the Bridgers Bangtail projects.

Lisa Stoeffler (Forest Service) was called on to provide an update concerning the scope and expected timeline for the Bridgers Bangtail project. The project needed due to active populations of beetles (Mountain Pine, Douglas Fir, and Spruce), and will generally incorporate a timber harvest strategy similar to that used in the South Bridger Interface. Objectives include reducing mortality from disease and insects, and to reduce the potential for wildland fires.

The Forest Service would like assistance from CGWG to prioritize project areas which will increase the efficiency of the project. There are some heritage resource concerns that will also benefit from CGWG review and input. The project will be scoped in early Winter 2016, with analysis over the Spring and Summer months in 2016. A Decision would be expected in the Fall 2016 with treatments under contract during the accessible months of 2017 and 2018. Chairman Prinkki called for volunteers to make up the subcommittee for this project, with the goal of having the subcommittee roster developed by the January meeting.

Chairman Prinkki called upon Gary Severson, High Point Resources, to update the group on the strategic plan and lead discussion about next steps. Having accomplished the update to our Operations Manual, establishing an skills inventory for the group, the next step in our process is to resolve our priorities for action in the 2016-2017 timeframe. Mr. Severson started the exercise by asking each person in attendance to say a few words about their expectations of the CGWG collaborative in the coming one to two years in terms of accomplishment and relationship with the Forest Service. Notes from those remarks were taken to be incorporated in the consultants report at year-end. The next part of the exercise was designed to identify and prioritize specific actions that would become the work plan for the Group. Mr. Severson led the group in an open discussion using templates to record the actions and resources needed for incorporation in his report back to the group in January.

The four key actions identified by the group members were:

- CGWG Administration
- Forest Plan Revision
- North Hebgen Project
- Bridgers Forest Health

Details under each key action were noted and will be assimilated in the consultant's report.

At the end of the meeting, Chairman Prinkki reminded members to consider roles they could fill on subcommittees and to let him know as soon as possible concerning their preferences and availability.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl Atwood