

**Southern Willamette Forest Collaborative
Implementation Advisory Committee**

Monday, Aug 6th, 1:00 – 2:30PM, Middle Fork Ranger District

“Coming together for healthy forests and communities”

Attending: Becky H., B.J. K., Chandra L., Fergus M., Katie M., Thalia L., Susan O., Kevin G., Kyle S., Michael C., Molly J., Rob M.
Staff: Sarah A-P

NOTES

Outlook stewardship projects update (Rob)

Rock IRTC (2017) – Road work on this 3 year project should be wrapping up soon, timber harvest to follow. The 3 year termination date can be adjusted with contract term extensions due to unforeseen events such as wildfire. Retained receipts are available AFTER the contract is finalized.

Rock IRTC

Total sale price, approx.	\$440,000
Embedded projects, approx.	\$ 60,000
Expected retained receipts, approx.	\$380,000

Burnt IRTC (2018) – This 5 year project was awarded to Roseboro. There were 3 proposals that all rated fairly high. Roseboro had the best technical proposal and highest bid price.

Burnt IRTC

Total sale price, approx.	\$2,360,193
Embedded projects, approx.	\$ 531,165
Expected retained receipts, approx.	\$1,829,028

Lessons learned:

- The selection committee included FS specialists for timber, roads, weeds and a collaborative representative. It was helpful to have expertise to evaluate the technical proposals.
- The Forest Service appraisal process was a little low.
- The proposals did not address benefits to local area beyond the addresses of the companies. There isn't a location in the proposal form to indicate % of local workers. It can be added into the narrative sections but purchasers need to know they can do so. Benefit to local workforce area is one of the evaluation criteria and very important to the collaborative, so the collaborative needs to help to spread the message to potential purchasers that they can include in their proposal the number of workers they have that live in the local area and other benefits to local workforce area. Measurable benefits can add weight to the overall proposal evaluation.

Stewardship Contracts Discussion

- The District has been told by the Region that they can edit the regional stewardship template.
 - Possibly add in a section for % of local workers or some way to indicate local workforce benefit? Will need to discuss more later...
- Local Area criteria can be changed with each stewardship project (similar to embedded projects)
- The collaborative will eventually need to consider how they plan to monitor stewardship projects
 - We already have templates for economic benefits from the Ecosystem Workforce Program

Thinking ahead:

- Restoration projects on District must be covered by NEPA. NEPA surveys take time, so the FS requires proposed projects to be submitted early to be included in the next season workplan. The District refers to this as turkeys to chocolate (Thanksgiving to Valentines) when new NEPA projects are proposed.
- The group discussed the large amount of retained receipts that will eventually be coming in. For FY2019 it might make most sense to embed one very large project. This would also reduce the burden on the Timber shop to prepare another stewardship sale.
 - Possible project - road 21 work that will be necessary for Youngs Rock Rigdon logging.
 - Rob and Molly will get together and discuss this option and whether or not there are NEPA ready large projects that can fit the bill.
 - Embedded projects can come from anywhere on the District
- Question: Stewardship qualifying restoration projects – some new folks had questions of what types of projects can qualify for stewardship retained receipts. Sarah recommended reading the Outlook handbook (available on the SWFC Implementation Advisory Committee webpage – link in footer) and then contacting her with questions. It is very important that everyone on this committee understand the basics of what qualifies as stewardship restoration projects
- Question: IRSCs (integrated resource service contract) Will Stewardship contracting service projects be IRSCs? Not necessarily – IRSCs trade goods for services – but, it would be good to review IRSCs and discuss if this is something the Committee is interested in. IRSCs can be a useful tool for costly fuels reduction projects.
- Next stewardship project area: almost all the timber sales in the Outlook planning area sold. There are maybe two more sales, and then the District will begin selling timber from the upper little fall creek area. Most likely that the stewardship project will come from that area.

Good Neighbor Authority update (Michael and Katie)

- Kyle Sullivan is the new GNA forester for ODF South Cascade District. Kyle will be coordinating South Cascade GNA projects and will be the main point of contact for the Collaborative.
- Right now, there are a couple of GNA contracts being developed on Forest. To do this, ODF and FS are creating a special contract agreement called a supplemental project agreement (SPA). There are two SPAs that are being executed.
 - The timber SPA gives ODF the authority to sell timber and keep the proceeds (called program income or PI).
 - The Service SPA funds ODF and ODF&W to provide restoration services to the Forest. Either by paying themselves or hiring outside contractors and managing the contract. The idea is to utilize extra KV funds to complete restoration projects.
 - Willamette has a big KV account and the SPA help to spend this money on the ground
 - Right now, this SPA is being used to fund road decommissioning work on the McKenzie
 - The Timber SPA includes 2 small timber sales on the Middle Fork and McKenzie Districts. These sales will be very straight forward and act as a test run for ODF to sort through the contracting and implementation processes. ODF hopes to advertise both sales for bid next spring. The Middle Fork FY19 GNA sale will be Cain Creek (in the Outlook planning area). Not sure acreage.
- GNA allows ODF to utilize state contracting procedures but follow FS rules – providing more flexibility than FS processes and free up funds for restoration projects earlier than FS.
- How will ODF determine restoration projects to be embedded or funded?? The agencies are considering creating a Forest level GNA committee that will determine what projects should be funded. The committee would include representatives from ODF, Forest, and Collaborative. When program income is earned some will be set aside to pay ODF for costs of administering the timber sale, and setting up future sales, and the rest will be allocated for restoration.
- This is essentially an extra pot of money for restoration work.
 - PI accumulates at forest level – and will spent on forest level but ODF and Forest have agreed that PI will be spent in the respective Districts (for now).
 - If there is one big project that the collab wants to do ODF can also manage the service contract to perform the work
 - ODF can either embed restoration projects in GNA timber sales, or earn PI (like stewardship retained receipts)
 - PI more flexible, can pay for NEPA studies
 - PI funds come in as timber is sold. ODF uses 2 year contracts for timber sales.
- GNA qualified restoration projects
 - “Watershed, forestland or rangeland restoration”
 - Ok to spend on private land as long as there is a benefit to the forest
 - Can GNA be used for experimental projects? As long as they qualify as restoration and the project is NEPA approved (if on Forest)

- Contracting mechanisms
 - Local area preference?
 - ODF doesn't have a local area preference mechanism but with the contracting procedures ODF can handpick contractors to bid on projects. If this mechanism is used, then the final selection must be made based on cost.
 - Request for proposals (RFPs) can be used to award contracts based on other metrics
 - Timber sales have to go for highest timber bid price
 - Service work contracts could use the selected purchaser option but would have to award to lowest price.

Next Steps

- The Committee needs to figure out restoration priorities on the District and how the committee will recommend the FS and ODF use the 3 pots of money (PI, Service SPA KV funds, and Stewardship retained receipts).
- The Natural Resources staff has a list of district NEPA ready projects – Molly and Rob can work to provide a list of NEPA projects
 - identify restoration projects
 - determine if there are any big projects on horizon (i.e. floodplain restoration)
 - Determine what types of restoration projects make sense as embedded projects
- NEXT MEETING: September 13th, 9:00 – 10:30 Middle Fork RD (unless it gets bumped due to fire season)