

Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
August 25, 2003

Members Present:

Group A

Lee Disney
Tim Ryan
Ken Stevens
Tony Johnson
Keith Glover

Group B

Robyn King
Peter Kitts
Bill Martin
Tim Lineman
Wayne Hirst

Group C

Eileen Carney
Rita Windom
Russ Hudson
Bruce Vincent

Members Absent:

Marianne Roose*
Gary Huntsberger

*Designates replacement members

Forest Service Present:

Bob Castaneda – Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Malcolm Edwards – Libby District Ranger, Mike Balboni – Three Rivers District Ranger, Gary Altman – Engineering Tech., Mark Romey – Operations, Sandi Mason – Facilitator, Barbara Edgmon – RAC Coordinator, Willie Sykes – Public Affairs

Public Present:

Marie Cripe, Bruce Zwang – Kootenai Winter Sports, Don Clark and Ed Levert

Meeting Notes:

Lee Disney led the RAC in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

A motion to accept the minutes from the August 4th, meeting was approved.

Bob Castaneda addressed the RAC on the following topics:

- Presented the letter from the Lincoln County Commissioners to the Governor of Montana stating the Commissioners have designated \$600,000 to the Lincoln County RAC for 2004.
- There have been 5 applications received for the two replacement vacancies. Bob will confer with the Lincoln County Commissioners before a selection is made.
- The USDA Office of General Council has reviewed the law establishing the RAC and has found that there is no provision that would allow replacement members to vote in lieu of appointed members if they are absent.

Mike Balboni informed that an easement for the Callahan Creek Trail could not be secured from Stimson Lumber Company therefore the project approved for 2003 could

not be completed this year. Mike proposed to use the balance and complete the Phase II of the Old Hwy 2 road resurfacing.

Malcolm Edwards asked the RAC to consider using excess 2003 funds (if there are any) to gravel the parking lot at Turner Mtn Ski Area. Turner is managed by a non-profit group and this work is above the terms of the FS permit.

The RAC reviewed a handout that contained the current status of 2003 projects including which projects are in contracting to be advertised for bid. Projects are estimated for costs and hope the bids come in close to projected costs.

Motion made to fund \$12,000 graveling of Turner Mtn parking lot with available funds from 2003. If there are not excess funds from 2003 the project drops or will become a 2004 project if approved. Motion carried. Rita Windom will loan the \$12,000 for the project to allow completion before adverse weather arrives.

Motion made to take the \$28,000 balance from the Callahan Creek Trail project and apply to the Old Hwy 2 project Phase II and repay Callahan project from 2004 funds. Motion Carried.

Motion made to drop the Crystal Lake fish screen project as it is not an enhancement to FS lands.

Motion made to approve the following projects:

Streams –

Project Name	Location	Type	Funding
#1 Pipe Creek Fisheries Habitat	Libby	Watershed, fish habitat restoration	\$8,600
#6 Syrup Creek Restoration	Libby	Watershed, fish habitat restoration	\$5,600
#19 O'Brien Creek	Troy	Watershed restoration	\$25,000
#20 W. Slope Cutthroat Genetic Sample	Troy/Yaak	Restores Water Quality	\$9,000
#37 Dodge Summit	Troy/Yaak	Watershed/trails	\$30,000

Roads:

Project Name	Location	Type	Funding
#5 Granite Creek	Libby	Road BMP	\$50,000
#21 Garver Lookout BMP	Troy/Yaak	Road/Watershed	\$58,650
#29 Mt Marston	Fortine	Road	\$71,000
#32 N. Fork Meadows Rd	Troy	Road/Fish/Watershed	\$89,310

Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion made to move project #31 Old Hwy 2, Phase II from classification as a roads project to recreation/other projects. Motion unanimously approved. Project # will now be #36 under recreation/other.

Motion made to consider project proposals that have partners as priority projects for funding. Motion unanimously approved.

The Turner Mtn road project proposal is for work that is beyond the requirements of the permit to meet BMPs. This project is for public safety. Motion made to move Phase I of the project to recreation for the amount of \$41,763 and leave Phase II under roads. Motion unanimously approved. Phase I project number in recreation is #37. Turner Mtn Phase II will be considered for funding for 2005.

Motion was made to approve the following projects:

Recreation, Weeds, Thinning, other:

Project Name	Location	Type	Funding
#14 Airport Target Range	Libby	Recreation	\$45,500
#36 Old Hwy 2 Phase II	Troy	Recreation	\$49,000
#02 Sheldon Mtn Trailhead	Libby	Recreation	\$20,200
#37 Turner Mtn Phase I	Libby	Recreation	\$41,763
#23 Wolverine Cabin	Fortine/Eureka	Recreation/Historic Preservation	\$25,000
#19 Noxious Weed Control	Rexford	Weeds	\$ 500
#29 Garver Weed Inventory/Spraying	Troy	Weeds	\$ 6,000
#15 17 Mile Road Noxious Weeds	Troy	Weeds	\$ 2,100
#34 Administrative Costs for RAC		Admin	\$ 8,400

#13 Pre-commercial Thinning Program	Libby	Fuel Reduction	\$24,000
#24 Pack Rac	Eureka	Fuel Reduction	\$15,400
#27 Garver Area Fuels Reduction	Troy	Fuel Reduction	\$14,700

Motion unanimously approved. Tim Ryan abstained from voting on the fuel reduction/thinning projects.

Rita Windom announced that a request for proposals to be funded under Title III will be advertised for 45 days.

The September 8 RAC meeting will not be held. The next meeting will be on October 14, 2003 at the SO starting at 6:00. **Note: Tentative date of October 28 for the next RAC meeting.**

- Agenda topics for the next meeting:
- Field trips for 2004
 - Receive project proposals earlier in the year
 - Revision of proposal form

Notes by Barbara Edgmon
September 3, 2003