

# Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee

Meeting July 1, 2002

## Members Present:

### Group A

Lee Disney  
Keith Glover  
John Hossack  
Tony Johnson  
Ken Stephens

### Group B

Wayne Hirst  
Robyn King  
Peter Kitts  
Bill Martin  
Dan Seifert  
Tim Linehan

### Group C

Eileen Carney  
Russ Hudson  
Gary Huntsberger  
Marianne Roose  
Bruce Vincent  
Rita Windom

## Members Absent:

Tim Ryan – Group A

## Forest Service Present:

Bob Castaneda - Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Mark Romey (Staff Officer – Operations), Malcolm Edwards (District Ranger – Libby), Glen McNitt (District Ranger – Rexford), Ed Monnig (District Ranger – Fortine), Kirsten Kaiser - Facilitator, and Barbara Edgmon – Committee Coordinator

## Public Present:

Bill Bischoff, John Konzen, Ray Stout (Tobacco Valley News), Cathy Schloeder, Gregg Hoffman, Barry Brown, Charlie Croucher, Darryl Pfeifer, Freddy Sturgess, and Cam Foote.

Lee Disney, Lincoln County RAC Chairman, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes for the May 5<sup>th</sup>, and June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002 meetings were approved as written.

Steve Wegner, Forest Service Hydrologist, gave a presentation on watershed restoration and road storage vs. decommissioning. Photos of restoration projects before work began, during the construction phase and upon completion gave an overview of types of projects that can be accomplished. Steve provided a handout on the Monitoring Results of Watershed

Restoration Activities in Quartz Creek that is part of the Bull Trout Recovery Area.

Discussion on the Kootenai NF roads that need to be brought up to BMP standards followed. At the next meeting the Forest Service will provide answers to these concerns:

\*Condition of China Basin road system – Mark Romey

\*How much of the Kootenai NF annual budget is hard money for road maintenance – Bob Castaneda

\*Miles of roads per square mile on the Kootenai NF – Kirsten Kaiser.

Lee Disney asked RAC members to be thinking about presentations they would like given by subject matter experts. RAC members would like to have presentations on the following topics:

- TMDL
- Forest Service Contracting process and administration
- Fish and Wildlife Services funds for food storage

Dan Seifert will check on bringing Jim Bauermeister of the State of Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to give a presentation on the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) process.

Ed Monnig, District Ranger for Fortine Ranger District, gave an overview of the projects submitted by his district. Proposed projects will provide a variety of opportunities in recreation, roads, timber, fisheries and wildlife.

Glen McNitt, District Ranger for Rexford Ranger District, presented projects prepared by his district. Projects provide an array of opportunities and economic return to local resource dependent communities.

Lee Disney reported that he had talked to Cliff Walker from the Forest Service Regional Office in Missoula, and had learned that RAC Title II funds must be committed to a project by September 30<sup>th</sup>. Funds that have been committed to a project but not spent can be carried over to the next fiscal year.

Rita Windom stated that the Lincoln County Commissioners need to report to the Governor of Montana how much money will be allocated to Title II funds for RAC disbursement by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

A discussion followed on how to vote on projects for funding. The following concerns were voiced by RAC members:

- What type of projects will groups not approve?
- What projects have been received?
- How are priorities decided on?
- Divide projects by district so each community gets some benefit.
- Separate projects into two types as road improvement, maintenance, decommissioning work & watershed improvement projects must receive 50% of Title II funding under.

Lee Disney would like to prepare an expense account for Fiscal Year 2003 as RAC expenses will not be covered by the Forest Service next year. RAC members need to be thinking about field trips, travel reimbursement, meal expenses and other expenditures that could be made next year.

The RAC voted to hold a special meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Supervisor's Office at 6:30 pm. Topics to be covered are:

\*Presentation of proposed projects by Three Rivers and Libby Ranger Districts.

\*Discussion on how to select projects.

Lee Disney recognizes that not all members can attend every meeting so it is up to the Groups to keep their members informed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

submitted by  
Barbara Edgmon  
July 11, 2002