

Executive Summary

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Wasco County Forest Collaborative Group

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- The goal of the meeting was to provide the USFS with the group's priority ranking of proposals using retained receipts. Kameron Sam informed the group that there are more than sufficient funds for all of the projects and they would be implemented. Input on priorities from the group would be still be helpful in order to concentrate the USFS's energy and resources. With the relief of sufficient funds in mind, the group reflected on the rankings submitted by committee members. At first glance, it appeared that the ranking was all over the place. With some perceptive effort, the group settled on a distinction between first and second tier priorities. The criteria for first tier was five or six marks in any proposal's ranking from one to five. The four proposals in the first tier were: Noxious Weed Treatment; Eastside Planting; Logout Brushing/Erosion Control and Gate Creek Ditch. After further discussion, Upper Eight Mile Thinning/Piling and Crow Thinning/Piling were added on the merit of their capacity to continue to generate retained receipts. The six remaining proposals fell into the second tier, but that doesn't mean that they won't be done. For example, the two proposals for trail maintenance are low cost and involve partners. Those two proposals will be accomplished without overloading USFS's resources or capability.
- Update on the Fire Workshop. Everyone going on the workshop is to meet at the Barlow Ranger District office in Dufur at 9:00 AM, Wednesday November 16th. The agenda will be sent out this Monday.
- We will be starting the process for continuing our funding beyond June 2017. We are waiting on information about OWEB grants and if the State Legislature will provide funding to collaborative groups in their budget. We will also be applying to the National Forest Foundation.
- I offered the group an opportunity to go through a conflict negotiation process I would be exposed to the following week in Boston. I made the offer but found out this morning that there is a change of plans for my Boston trip....so that opportunity will have to wait until 2017.
- Kameron Sam invited all interested on a field trip to Crystal Clear Restoration project. Given the rapidly closing window for good weather, the date was set for Thursday, November 17th. Anyone interested, please contact Casey Gatz.