

Blue Mountains Forest Partners

Full Group Meeting

June 21, 2007

Present: George Meredith, Irene Jerome, Mat Carter, Jeff Fields, Charlie O'Rorke, Mike Billman, Glen Johnston, Eric Wunz, Brooks Smith, James Johnston, Tim Lillebo, Karen Coulter, Emily Platt, Mike Bilman, Art Andrews, Mark Webb, Maia Enzner, Scott Turro, Diane Browning, Karen Steer.

Meeting Summary

The meeting started at 4pm with introductions and approval of last meeting's minutes. Karen Steer introduced Maia Enzner to the group. Maia is Sustainable Northwest's Director of Policy and Stewardship, and is transitioning into Karen's role in the collaborative as Karen transitions out.

Communications

A. BMFP now has an email list-serve! This will help with sharing information between group members, as before the email list that Diane sent out presented some challenges. From now on, the group will receive/send emails from the following address: **bmfp@googlegroups.com** Things to keep in mind:

- Anyone can post a message to the list-serve. Information must be relevant to the group. If you are posting an 'fyi' regarding a project you are working on or an issue you would like feedback on, please ask that people respond to you directly (and not back to the full list-serve). *See our communications protocol in the Operations Manual for more information on this.*
- Keep in mind that when you reply to an email from this list-serve you are responding to everyone.
- If you do not want to be on this list-serve, or if you know of anyone who should be on it but was accidentally left out, please let Karen or Diane know.

B. BMFP also has a website! The address is: www.bluemountainsforestpartners.org. This website is for storing and sharing information such as meeting minutes, research and science documents, project information, resources, etc. Please let Karen know if there is anything you would like posted on the site.

Fundraising

During the May meeting, Karen announced that BMFP was awarded a \$15,000 grant from the National Forest Foundation Community Assistance program. Funds can be used for: staff support, the Science Forum, Communications, and a field visit to another community collaborative group. The Fundraising Committee (Karen, Emily Platt, George Meredith, Mike Browning) will have a more refined workplan and budget to share with the group at the next meeting.

George Meredith (BMFP treasurer) will meet with Steve Dahl (G.R.E.A.T), who is serving as the fiscal sponsor for this grant, to discuss grant administration. We will likely have a bank account set up for BMFP, with George given the authority to draw on the account. More information on this at the next meeting.

Science Forum

Emily Platt is taking the lead on organizing the Science Forum. This event will take place in late summer and be 1-2 days, with time in the field. Topics covered will be those relevant to forest restoration, thinning, old growth restoration, etc. There will also be papers distributed before the forum. Contact Emily (Emily@gptaskforce.org; 360-521-7973) by July 5 (or asap!) with:

- Thoughts on issues to cover, papers to read in advance, researchers and others to invite, and other input.
- Days in August and September that you **absolutely cannot** participate in

Economics Forum

We discussed having the Economics Committee organize a forum similar to the Science event, but focused on economic and community issues. This could include restoration treatment costs, equipment information, biomass utilization, examples from other restoration businesses. Possible presenters include the forest energy commission, Sid Graves, Jim Walsh. Mike Billman is the chair of this committee and will jumpstart this effort.

BMFP Operations

An overview of the Operations Committee was presented (this committee was first introduced during the May meeting, and individuals volunteered or were nominated for the committee. This subcommittee met earlier in the day to solidify roles, responsibilities, composition and workplan (contact Karen if you would like a more comprehensive summary of that meeting). Key items discussed (and organizational diagram below):

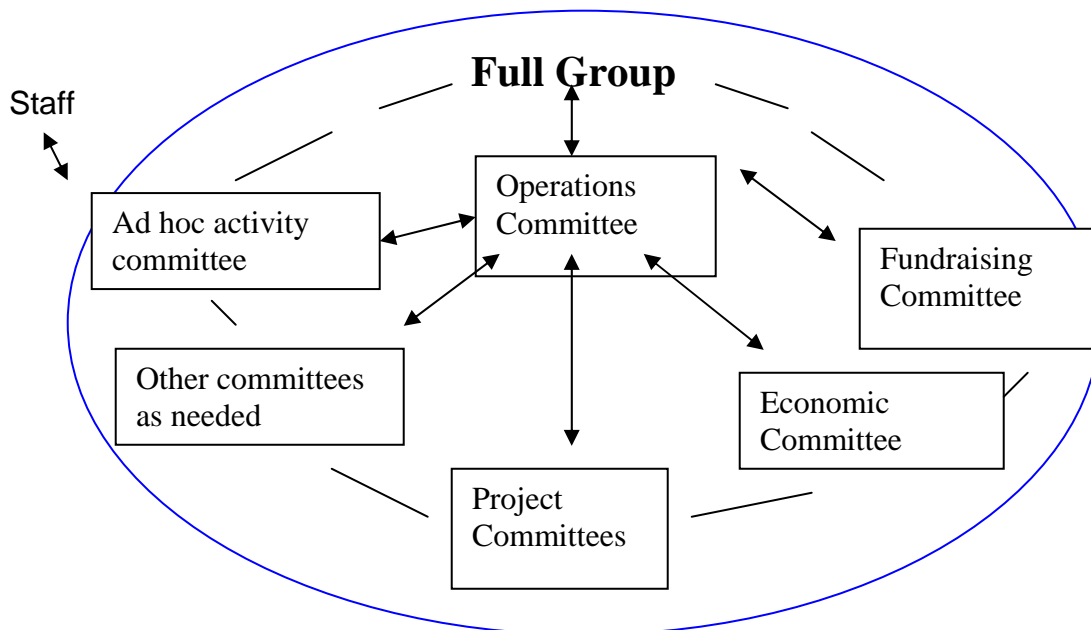
- This is a diverse group that represents the various interests of BMFP. The committee consists of: Tim Lillebo (co-chair), Mike Billman (co-chair), George Meredith (treasurer), Irene Jerome, Jeff Fields, Mark Webb. They

will sit on this committee for a 6-month period (until January 1). The full group will then evaluate how this is going and make any necessary adjustments.

- Roles: liaison to the group in between meetings, help set meeting agenda, work with chairs of other subcommittees, budget development and fiscal responsibility, media relations, leadership on strategic priorities, ensure that process is moving forward.
- Decision-making: The Operations Committee is not a decision-making body. The full group maintains decision-making authority (as described in our Operations Manual), and also elects the Operations Committee.

The Operations Committee will meet over the phone and in-person during the next month to begin developing a 6-month workplan related to landscape-scale project prioritization, and other strategic issues. Please contact the co-chairs or Karen if you have any questions or comments.

Organizational Diagram:



Staff: logistics, facilitation, coordination

Full group: participate in meetings and committees; elects Operations Committee, overall collaborative decision-making, defines strategic priorities

Operations Committee: Works with staff; meeting planning, leadership on strategic priorities, liaison to full group, work with committee chairs, budget management, media liaison.

Other committees – develop and design initiatives, makes recommendations to full group.

The full group agreed by consensus to the composition and terms of the Operations Committee.

Dad's Creek Subcommittee Report

The Dad's Creek Subcommittee met earlier that day. The meeting was productive, but not enough information was provided to have substantive conversation on project activities; as such, there was little to bring forth to the full group for discussion. The following points were covered during the subcommittee meeting (please contact Karen Steer for a more detailed meeting summary):

- We need to look at site-specific information so that we can make site-specific recommendations. We will try not to set overall project sideboards without first getting a better sense of the project area, stand by stand level, needs and issues.
- The Forest Service will continue gathering information and mapping possible treatments to present to the group.
- The subcommittee will make its recommendations after a field trip to the project area. Sites will be selected that are representative of the overall characteristics in the project area.
- Specific sites and the kind of information we need:
 - Fisheries (what fish are where)
 - Hydrology
 - Wildlife
 - Silviculture information
 - Soils (what are sensitive)
 - Sensitive and invasive plant species

The field trip will take place on July 23, from 8:00 am until 5pm. This will include:

- 3/4 of the day in the field and 1/4 in the room
- FS specialists and 'ologists
- Visits to "representative" areas—not unique areas.
- A flagging exercise in the commercial/non commercial areas, where each participant will flag trees they think should be removed and/or kept (light green areas of the map)
- Focus on looking at areas of most probable agreement, then areas of more controversy.

- Make sure we capture decisions, agreements, and outstanding issues while we are in the field so we can use it when we come back into the room later in the afternoon.

Shirrtail Damon Subcommittee Report

Per Mat Carter's request, the Scotty Damon project name was changed to 'Shirrtail Damon', which better describes the project area.

The subcommittee met earlier that day and reviewed the draft PIL that was written using the Dad's Creek PIL as a template. The subcommittee made some minor comments. A revised draft will be sent to the Forest Service for some additional information. The final Draft will be sent to the full group for a final recommendation decision at the next meeting.

Next Steps

Meeting – we will not have a full group meeting in July, given all the work that the subcommittees need to accomplish this coming month. The next full group meeting will be on August 16th, from 4 – 7pm. An agenda will be sent out as the date approaches. Please contact Karen, Diane or the Operations Committee with ideas for the next meeting.

Thanks everyone!