

MEETING SUMMARY DRAFT

What happened in this meeting?

- *Guidelines for Communication were established.
- *Approved Meeting Agenda.
- *Overview of Values Statement.
- *Overview of RPWG Process Framework and Process Principles.
- *Group Brainstorm of Potential Values.
- *A schedule was approved for next two meetings.

The River Protection Work Group for the Piedra River conducted their second meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. Approximately 25 people were in attendance. Tami Graham facilitated the meeting. The meeting began with introductions of the attendees.

Tami explained the importance of communication guidelines for effective group meetings and asked participants for their input on the RPWG “Guidelines for Communication”. The group determined the following:

- One conversation at a time, No side conversations
- Be a good listener first, then ask questions later, seek to understand
- Asking clarifying questions, if you don’t understand
- Focus on issues, not people
- Keep open mind
- Don’t be afraid to share views

Tami reviewed the meeting agenda for the evening and was agreed upon by those present. The proposed outcomes for this second meeting include:

- To continue to orient interested stakeholders to the River Protection Workgroup project and the local effort.
- To review organizing materials (map and initial information sheet) and gain a common understanding of key information.
- To begin development of a collective values for the Piedra focus area.

Tami presented the meeting summary from the last meeting. Tami invited the group to make comments, changes or suggestions to notes. In the section on Steering Committee: Bruce Whitehead suggested changing “Invited” to “Darlene”. John Taylor suggests adding Kuehn to Kevin’s last name.

Tami gave an overview of how the Values Statement will be developed; through input of what values are important to RPWG participants. Steve Fearn commented that it is important for the group to find ways to protect values while allowing water development to exist. Suzanne Somers of CWCB stated that her agency is interested in supporting local

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*find meeting agenda, handouts, summaries, key resource documents, maps, a glossary of terms, etc

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stakeholder processes and allocates money to support local stakeholders having a voice on how water is managed in local watersheds.

Tami Graham presented an outline of the RPW Process Framework, Model & Goals, Consensus and Project:

RPW Process Framework

Phase I

- Introductions
- Agreement on process
- Decision to proceed

Phase II

- Discussion of important values to protect
- Field trips, speakers, gathering facts
- Generating opinions, including understanding tools
- Discussion of options

Phase III

- Continue discussion of options
- Reach conclusions for the future
- Define action plan
- Review the next step, which is the “Regional Discussion” of 5 basins; discuss how the work and findings of the RPW for the Piedra River relate to the Regional Discussion

Goal of Group

- Eleven or twelve meetings to look at the segment of Piedra River, which has been suitable, eligible to be designated by USFS as Wild and Scenic.
- Community discussion to be drafted in to report by meetings 3 or 4. This report will look at the various protection levels options.
- RPWG Report will go to USFS, Senators, elected officials, website and will determine values (what do we care about when you look on map) and the level of protection.

Consensus-What is consensus?

- Includes steps so that all views are heard and considered.
- Recognizes that differences of opinion are natural/expected.
- Group makes a good faith effort to reach a decision that everyone can support.
- Consensus does not mean everyone agrees with the decision...but they can support it.

Process Principles

- Everyone has a seat at the table.

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- Respectful dialogue.
- Find solutions that meet as many needs as possible.
- Respect opinions even if you do not agree.
- Ask for clarifications, questions if needed.
- Use of accurate facts and information.
- Lots of interaction-consensus, collaboration and possible negotiations.
- Fair open transparent.
- Available tools and data.

Tami Graham and Ann Oliver presented the background on the Initial Information Sheet. The Initial Information sheet looks at current and future protection tools, not just Wild & Scenic. It was mentioned that the 1970's original Wild & Scenic Act identified some rivers as specific rivers Congress wanted to look at for this level of protection. Eligibility is defined as excellent water quality; it is free flowing and it does have outstanding remarkable values. Suitability is not the same as designated Wild & Scenic. Congress must pass an Act before a river is designated Wild & Scenic. The *San Juan Public Lands (USFS/BLM) 2007 Draft Land Management Plan* found 3 river segments totaling 50.12 miles in the Piedra Watershed above Highway 160 to be "Preliminarily Suitable" for the Wild and Scenic River (WSR) status.

Jimbo Buickeroo gave a definition of 10D (Pink areas / polygon on the USFS Map). These areas protect and maintain river corridors as the forest is not suitable for forest development. Ann Oliver thought there might be potential discrepancy in mileage. Ann noted that the reaches are mapped well but mileage might be incorrect – mismatches in USFS information. The group decided not focus on mileage for now but on how things are mapped (See page 10 of Information Sheet).

Tami then facilitated a brainstorm of potential Values (suggestions from RPWG participants):

- Incorporate open space under economic.
- CO River Cutthroat native species to Piedra, all other introduced.
- Cutbow hybrid prevalence in streams around here - only Navajo and Weminuche strains of Cutthroat are pure. Conservation populations are pure strain.
- Falls Creek not Fall Creek
- Need to do update on Flora-Pagosa Sky Rocket-no known occurrence –proposed critical in this area of focus. Bladderpod is sensitive species. Bruce Whitehead asked if there is no known to habitat area or how do we determine if it is critical habitat? US Fish and Wildlife recommends boundaries as it is botanical area already for Bladderpod.
- Healthy Natural Landscape – changing landscape-add beetle kill? Take out largely healthy, leave rest alone right now....
- Beetle Kill impact and part of natural landscape –put it under other important information page 10.
- Mention river otters are introduced and native to the area.
- No mountain goats in Piedra drainage.

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- Moose are not native, introduced to Creede area
- Lynx reintroduced
- Black swift, other birds are of special concern.
- Last wolf around here in 1940's, last grizzly killed 1979 in South San Juans.
- Add forest products to economic section.

Tami reviewed the Land and Water Protections that are currently in place. The group thinks that "weeds" does not belong in "Reasonably Foreseeable Economic Development" and should be moved to different area that makes sense. Tami then suggested holding off on Value Statement until next meeting. The group agreed. Tami asked if there was anything on maps that needed clarifying.

The RPWG took a 10 min break to look at maps at 7:47pm.
The RPWG resumed meeting at 7:56pm

It was determined in the map reading break that the map should read "suitable". Bruce Whitehead suggested that the group should verify that this didn't change in the special management area. Jimbo Buickeroo agreed to look at this. A group participant had another map question: The 3 special areas - what are they managed for? USFS said they are 1) Bladderpod 2) research natural area (focus on research and natural processes, is grazed), and she was not sure of the area on Weminuche creek. She (FS official) stated that the width of blue line misleading-just shows reach not accurate mileage wise.

Tami Graham reminded the group of the upcoming meeting schedule:

Nov 10- Field trip

- 3rd rifle season don't dress as deer or elk, Wear bright colors.
- Bring your own lunch.
- Refer to map and tour notes handout.
- Invite any interested parties.

Dec 6 – Regular Meeting

Ross Aragon Community Center, Pagosa Springs 5:30-8:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

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