

**Bureau of Land Management  
Boise District Resource Advisory Council (RAC) Meeting  
September 14, 2017  
BLM Boise District Office  
3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705  
Field Trip to Four Rivers Field Office**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Boise District RAC Members Present

Eric Yensen Ph.D, Ric Raymond, Tina Reay, Karen Steenhof, Donna Bennett, Michael Gibson, and Rochelle Oxarango.

BLM Advisory/Staff Present

Lara Douglas, Aimee Betts, Tanya Thrift, Michelle Ryerson, Amanda Hoffman, Mike Williamson, Keri Steneck, Matt McCoy, Brent Ralston, Cindy Fritz, Pam Murdock and Raul Trevino.

**Introductions – Lara Douglas & Karen Steenhof**

- Today will be the field trip to Four Rivers Field Office, where we will discuss issues that may be important in informing the development of the Four Rivers Resource Management Plan.
- Explained how the day was going to go, talked logistics.
- No public present for the public comment period.

**Boise Foothills Learning Center**

- David Gordon, representing Ridge to Rivers, spoke about the cooperative work being done in the Boise foothills with recreation. Spoke to some of the challenges, including the use of eBikes and other user conflicts.
- Keri Steneck, BLM Boise District Fire Prevention and Information, talked about fire prevention efforts in the wildland urban interface. Explained how skewed our fires are towards manmade v. lighting. She also discussed her cooperative efforts with local gardening stores and media to encourage firewise landscaping.
- Cindy Fritz, BLM Boise District Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Supervisor. Spoke to the work and partnerships they were going on fires that have occurred on the Four Rivers Field Office in recent years.
- Matt McCoy, Four Rivers Assistant Field Manager, spoke to Special Recreation Management Areas within the Office.

**Driving from Boise Foothills Learning Center to Curlew ACEC**

- On the drive, Pam Murdock and Brent Ralston gave a talk to RAC members within their respective minivans about the Land Use Planning process and how it relates to some of the special designations like Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs).

**Curlew ACEC off Little Freeze Out Road**

- Matt McCoy talked spoke about the history of the Long Billed Curlew ACEC management and OHV and target shooting recreation in the area. Discussed challenges with Curlews being shot

and increase in user-created OHV trails as the Treasure Valley population has gone up (supported by aerial photography).

- Brent Ralston, Acting Four Rivers Field Manager, talked about challenges of managing isolated tracts of BLM land surrounded by private land, which this field office has plenty of. The RAC discussed land exchanges, disposals, and easements as methods of improving manageability and enhancing public access.
- Lara Douglas, BLM Boise District Manager, spoke about the issues related to recreation shooting in the Boise Foothills and within the BLM isolated tracts.

#### Lunch at New Plymouth Kiwanis Park

- Raul Trevino, BLM Boise District Wild Horse & Burro Specialist, gave an update on the Wild Horses within the BLM District. Most questions revolved around the strangles outbreak at the Boise Corrals and the timeline for release of horses onto the Horse Management Areas within the Soda Fire. At this time, the corrals remain closed to visitors and adoptions.

#### Little Willow Oil & Gas Lease

- Arrived at natural gas lease site and was given a presentation by \_\_\_\_\_ of Alta Mesa Company of how the operations on that site happen. He and Amanda Hoffman, Birds of Prey NCA Manager, spoke to the issues faces with Oil and Gas leases and where the Four Rivers Field Office is with permitting and potential development. (Hoffman worked previously for BLM New Mexico and has experience with oil & gas leases.)
- Pam Murdock discussed wind and solar renewable energy. Discussed potential for leases on the field office, but explained the infrastructure is lacking for any large scale projects.

#### Back at the District Office

- Review the field trip. Indications are the RAC members enjoyed it and learned some things about the Four Rivers Field Office. Discuss agenda items for the Nov. 17 meeting.
- Complete travel vouchers

#### Next RAC Meeting – November 17, 2017

Minutes certified by:

Karen Steenhof  
Karen Steenhof  
BDO RAC Chairman

11/17/18  
Date

L. D. 11  
Lara Douglas  
Manager, BDO

11/17/18  
Date