

Custer-Gallatin National Forest Working Group (CGWG)

Meeting Agenda

August 12, 2015 (1:00 pm)

The Community Room, Gallatin County Courthouse, 311 W. Main, Bozeman, Mt.

Time	Topic	Lead	Outcomes
1:00	Opening and introductions	Prinkki/Atwood	Welcome, introductions, agenda reviewed, ground rules clear, June meeting minutes approved
1:10	Public comment	Atwood/Prinkki	Allow for Public comment/questions
1:20	Consent Agenda: Minutes Membership applications Financial report/disbursements	Atwood/Prinkki	Vote on consent agenda items: individual items can be segregated for discussion and vote.
1:30	Protocol for CGWG requests for information	Prinkki/Atwood/	Authorization to officially represent CGWG in requests for information from DNRC, Forest Service, other agencies
1:45	Strategic and Organizational Planning (1 st of 3 meetings) Gary Severson, High Point Resources, will begin the process of assisting the CGWG in strategic and organization planning	Atwood/Prinkki/ Gary Severson	Increase the capabilities of the Custer Gallatin Working Group (CGWG) to enable them to assist the Custer Gallatin National Forest (CGNF) achieve higher levels of performance.
3:00	Break		
3:20	Strategic and Organizational Planning	Severson	
4:50	September meeting plan	Atwood/Prinkki	Location, Agenda items, assignments for February meeting
5:00	Adjourn		

Meeting was brought to order by Chairman Prinkki at 1:00 pm.

Members and guests in attendance introduced themselves and quorum was established with fourteen (14) members present.

Those in attendance:

John Prinkki, Carbon County	Gary Severson, High Point Resources
Jim Hart, Madison County	Mary Erickson, Supv. Custer Gallatin Natl. Forest
Jeff Schmidt, Red Lodge Ski Area	Alex Sienkiewicz, USFS, CGWG Liaison
Brent Sinnema, Camp Creek Cattle Co.	Liz Dellwo, Senator Daines' Office
John Beaudry, Stillwater Mining C.	Darcie Warden, Greater Yellowstone Coalition
Jackie Musgrove, Society for Range Mgmt.	
Mike Christianson, Member at Large	
Scott Brennan, The Wilderness Society	
Kevin Germain, Big Sky Chamber	
Jerry Furtney, RY Timber	
Kerry White, Citizens for Balanced Use	
Joe Skinner, Gallatin County	
Joe Josephson, Greater Yellowstone Coalition	
Bill Wallace, Sweet Grass County	

Chairman Prinkki invited comments from any citizen present, there were none.

The consent list agenda was presented which included the following items for approval:

1. Minutes from the June, 2015 CGWG meeting
2. Invoice from Beartooth RC&D for admin services January-June, 2015 (\$3,264.25)
3. Member Roster revision, re-assigning the Society for Range Management to NGO category

Mike Christianson moved approval of the consent agenda items, seconded by John Beaudry. APPROVED by voice vote.

Chairman Prinkki opened a discussion concerning information requests to the Forest Service and other organizations by members of the CGWG, the issue being one of transparency and proper standing when making requests on behalf of the Working Group. Mary Erickson added that for the Forest Service she and staff were very comfortable with informal, free dialog on issues and general questions, but data requests required a more disciplined protocol to assure efficient response from the appropriate internal resources.

After discussion it was agreed that any data request from or on behalf of the Working Group would be communicated by memo, signed by member(s) of the Executive Committee, and delivered to Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor or to Alex Sienkiewicz, USFS Liaison to CGWG to insure proper handling. Chariman Prinkki requested that a brief policy statement outlining this protocol be drafted for insertion in the CGWG Operations Manual.

High Point Resources, Gary Severson

CGWG has engaged High Point Resources to assist the Working Group with an analysis of its structure, to clarify and strengthen its mission and values statements, and to develop more specific strategies and a work plan for the 2016 year.

Mr. Severson presented information about his background, and his recent experience with collaboratives in the Western United States which have similar objectives or operating approaches as the CGWG.

During the afternoon he presented information on his approach to the engagement and offered preliminary observations about steps that may be taken by CGWG to bring greater focus to their efforts and the relationship with the Forest Service and others.

A draft statement of purpose and methods will be developed for member review prior to the September 9th meeting. In addition, a survey will be conducted to identify skill sets present among the members that will be relevant to CGWG actions in the future, resulting in a skills matrix that may be used to identify critical skills which need to be recruited to the Working Group, or accessed externally.

Mr. Severson will return in October for the monthly meeting to finalize work on those items, and move the discussion to Strategy development and creation of a work plan.

Next Meeting: September 9, Bozeman, Montana – location to be determined.