**Highlights of 7/23/15 SBEADMR Working Group Meeting**

In lieu of detailed meeting notes at this point, below are highlights of the 7/23/2015 SBEADMR Working Group meeting:

**Update on Work of the Science Team and Opportunity for Fall Field Trip with Science Team**

Clay Speas provided an update on the work of the Science Team (USDA Forest Serve Rocky Mountain Research Team, Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) and CSU’s Geography Dept). This summer the team has been establishing permanent reference plots in areas on the GMUG where there has not been salvage logging and in other areas where logging has occurred to gather research on the effects of tree removal on forest regeneration. This research will help inform the adaptive management strategies of the proposed action over time.

**There will be an opportunity for the Working Group to go on a field trip with the Forest Service and the Science time in September** to view the reference plots and learn from the Science Team how it will report the monitoring results back to the Forest Service and community stakeholders and how the information can assist in treatment design for priority areas over the life of the project.

***Save the Date: Friday, September 18, 2015 is the tentative date set for the Science Field Trip in the Lake City area. Stay tuned for more information and logistics on the proposed trip.***

In addition, the Science Team (Team) is developing a GIS mapping tool to assist in identifying priority watersheds and potential treatment areas. FS staff will meet with the Team in early August to discuss how the review of the GIS optimization tool roll out will be conducted through the Science Team (possible date, how the Forest Service would receive and act on stakeholder comments, etc.). It is hoped that the GIS based analysis will be completed prior to the release of the Final EIS and ROD.

**Opportunity for Collaboration during Implementation and Monitoring**

Appendix E: Public Engagement in Adaptive Implementation of the DEIS outlines a detailed process for the adaptive management approach proposed for SBEADMR. The plan calls for utilizing all levels of public engagement from merely providing information to actively engaging stakeholders in a collaborative process. To date most of the work of the Working Group has been focused on sharing information and resources and building relationships among diverse interests. Based on the process outlined in Appendix E, the group agreed there is an opportunity to move forward toward a more collaborative effort for the implementation and monitoring of the adaptive managementapproach.

**However**, there was agreement that going forward an adaptive management collaborative group would need to be “tightened up” in terms of reaching formal and mutual agreement on such matters as its organizational structure, its specific mission or role, decision making process and identification of “seats at the table” to ensure broad representation and a balance of diverse interests.

There was discussion on the appropriate group or entity to try and help organize such a collaborative group to meet the Forest Service’s intent to actively engage the public in the implementation and monitoring. It was suggested that the SBEADMR Working Group was the appropriate entity because of the group’s expressed interest in the project and work accomplished to date. A “thumbs up/thumbs down” poll was called on the proposal that the SBEADMR Working Group move forward and try to develop a formal organizational structure and framework for a group to work collaboratively on the adaptive implementation and monitoring cycles as outlined in Appendix E. The poll was a unanimous “thumbs up”.

To help move that effort forward, a subcommittee comprised of members of the working group agreed to do some “leg work” reviewing sample collaborative contracts/compacts, Memoranda of Understanding, etc., various decision making models and consider diverse interests (not individuals at this point) that should have a seat “at the table”. Some examples have already been provided to the Working Group that will be reviewed. If members have other models to share please forward them to Susan Hansen at [shansen42@gmail.com](mailto:shansen42@gmail.com). The subcommittee is to report back to the Working Group at a meeting in early October with some recommendations for the group to consider. Members who volunteered to work on the subcommittee to date are: Johnathan Greenspan, citizen at large; WCC, conservation community; Craig Grother, recreation; and Nancy Fishering, industry. It was also suggested a local government official be recruited to work with the subcommittee.

**Protocol for Requests to Distribute Materials/Articles to SBEADMR Working Group**

The group discussed recent concerns over certain materials being forwarded by request to the Working Group via email. The group agreed it was unfair to expect the PLP Coordinator, Chris Miller, to make the call on what was appropriate and what was not appropriate. A “thumbs up/thumbs down” poll was taken and it was agreed that no longer would materials/articles be forwarded. If individuals had information they wished to share it should be presented/distributed at a Working Group meeting or the individual requesting information be forwarded should be personally responsible for distributing the information.

**Next Meeting of SBEADMR Working Group**

The next meeting of the SBEADMR Working Group will be scheduled in early October in conjunction with the Science Team’s meeting with the Forest Service.