About the SBEADMR Work Group

The Public Lands Partnership (PLP) sent a widespread invitation seeking individuals to work together as the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest continues their efforts on an Environmental Impact Statement focused on a spruce beetle epidemic and aspen decline management response - SBEADMR. The official invitation is as follows: The PLP is committed to a rich dialogue and concentrated efforts to increase public awareness and outreach, to better define and understand potential issues and concerns, and to clearly articulate objectives and process for public participation during implementation of the adaptive management approach to a landscape scale issue. The PLP is hosting a working group to meet during the next year to add value to the GMUG efforts on addressing the effects of spruce beetle and aspen decline. There are many community impacts that will occur due to these natural events including effects on public safety, wildlife, water, capturing the economic value of dead/ dying trees, recreation and tourism. In that effort, the PLP has scheduled a meeting on October 9th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Pioneer Room of the Montrose County Fairgrounds. The agenda for this meeting will include the following actions: • review the SBEADMR project with specifics on the outcomes and comments from public meetings and a recent science symposium and field trip • participate in an exercise to write objectives that will clarify the purpose of the project and will be clear on the sidebars that are in the Notice of Intent for this project • identify project related issues that may need further explanation and scientific input to achieve community and civic learning and therefore gain community trust • identify and develop opportunities to collaboratively engage the public in the adaptive management aspects of the implementation At this point, we have twelve community members willing to serve on this work group. We are seeking others who might not have volunteered or who might not even be aware of this project. We value and strive to include a diversity of interests, and a geographical representation from all points of the GMUG forests.