SBEADMR Working Group

Thursday, February 19, 2015

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Pioneer Room, Montrose County Fairgrounds

AGENDA

Spruce beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR)

**Welcome and Introductions** – Susan Hansen, Facilitator

**Item No. 1: Follow Up on Range of Alternatives Discussion and Question**

*a) Review FS staff explanation of Line Officer’s prerogative to propose a “preferred*

*alternative” based on a mix of components of the action alternatives analyzed in the DEIS to see if there are any questions or further discussion of the explanation that was offered*

*b) Follow-up on 1/8/15 “thumbs up/thumbs down” poll to ask those who responded with a “thumbs sideways” what the “thumbs sideways” meant for them in terms of the range of alternatives and why*

*c) Explore further the suggestions that we look at two or three different categories based on our level of agreement:*

*1) treatment in spruce-fir in WUI – general agreement*

*2) treatment in spruce-fir & mixed stands outside of WUI; balance of economics of mix of treatments*

*3) treatment in aspen stands*

**Item No. 2: Place Holder: An Opportunity for the Conservation Community or Other Interests to Share Recent Comments/Concerns Submitted to the FS on Proposed Action (tentative)**

**Item No. 3: Follow Up on Adaptive Management Approach**

*a) Review “Selection of Priority Watersheds for Treatment” (FS handout attached)*

*b) Ask the FS staff to walk a sample project through the various steps of the Iterative & Monitoring Cycle (IMC) in the Adaptive Management approach to demonstrate how coarse filter and fine filter attributes would be prioritized and/or selected at the various stages in the cycle to determine where and what treatment would be applied; to reinforce the opportunities for public input and feedback in the iterative process, etc.*

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*c) Suggest developing a comparative list of advantages of the adaptive management approach compared to the traditional NEPA project specific approach given the urgency of managing the spruce beetle epidemic/aspen decline conditions*

*d) Ask those who are still uncomfortable with the adaptive management approach why they are uncomfortable – what assurances would they suggest to gain confidence in the approach over a multi-year period*

**Item No. 4: 2014 Aerial Survey – Significance of Survey on Proposed Action**

**Item No. 5: Review PLP’s Proposed Outreach Plan for SBEADMR**

**Item No. 6: Follow-Up Items/Questions from Earlier Meetings**

1) Draft Language for First Objective under Goal of Recovery

**Item No. 7: Schedule Next Meeting and Identify Items for Agenda**

**Closing Comments and Adjourn**