



**Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI)
Executive Committee Meeting
Best Western Fossil Country Inn, Kemmerer, Wyoming
June 25, 2013 – 1:00 p.m.**

WLCI – Executive Committee (EC) members/alternates present:

- Mark Nelson, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Alternate
- Frank D’Erchia, U.S. Geological Survey, Alternate
- Wally Johnson, County Commissioners
- Mark Sattelberg, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Don Simpson, Bureau of Land Management,
- Mary Thoman, Sweetwater County Conservation District
- Chris Wichmann, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Alternate
- John Keck, National Park Service
- Rachel Feigley, U.S. Forest Service, Alternate

WLCI – Coordination Team (CT) members present:

- Michele Windsor, Bureau of Land Management
- Pat Anderson, U.S. Geological Survey
- Justin Caudill, Wyoming Department of Agriculture
- Amy Nicholas, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Jim Wasseen, Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Erica Cressall, Bureau of Land Management
- Genevieve Skora, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Others present:

- Pat Aullman, U.S. Representative Cynthia Lummis’ Office
- Sandy DaRif, U.S. Senator John Barrasso’s Office
- Reagen Green, U.S. Senator Mike Enzi’s Office
- John Kilpatrick, U.S. Geological Survey
- Zack Bowen, U.S. Geological Survey
- Eric Norelius, Bureau of Land Management
- Renee Dana, Bureau of Land Management Retired, Associate Member
- John Linn, County Commissioners, Associate Member
- Mark Storzer, Bureau of Land Management
- Jeromy Caldwell, Bureau of Land Management

Meeting was called to order at 1:12 by Chairman Mary Thoman
Introductions were made.

Old Business

Review of February 2013 Minutes

Determined that if there is no comments made within 5 working days to minutes then to finalize and send

Associate Letter

Associate letters were mailed to former members of the board inviting them to continue to participate in WLCI and the Executive Committee (EC) meetings. A response was received from Renee Dana, John Linn, and John Emmerich expressing interest in continuing to participate with WLCI.

It was determined that an associate member will be defined as a former executive committee member, coordination team member, or an individual designated by the EC and these individuals will not have any formal voting privileges.

Associate Member nominations are submitted by EC members

If there are any comments or updates that need to be made to the associate letter, please send to Erica.

Website Update

Natalie Latysh is currently finishing the new beta site and will be implemented once the final version has been reviewed by the communications team. Once the new beta site is completed and launched, an email will be sent out alerting all WLCI contacts of the website change. Once the new site is launched, the previous executive meeting minutes will be uploaded to the site.

Sponsorship Flyer

Minor edits were indicated on the flyer. Once the edits have been completed it will be sent to Mark Storzer for review. Also send to Park Service and Forest Service to see if there are any comments. The final flyer will then be sent out to the EC by July 15th

Once the flyer is finalized it will be provided to all field managers and offices to be used to inform potential sponsors about WLCI's conservation activities and to get involved. This flyer and related WLCI information products will be used at industry meetings or conferences. If anyone is attending a meeting or conference within the industry field, if possible consider having a coordination team (CT) or EC member attend as well.

Communication team needs to identify additional flyers or fact sheets that exist or will be developed to help inform and promote WLCI to potential sponsors. This list will be prepared by July 15th and will be discussed at the next EC meeting in September.

Budget Update

The majority of WLCI's funding comes from Healthy Lands, please convey to your offices and staff that when completing an application for funding to convey how the project is affecting the area on a landscape scale and list any supporting funding.

The Ruby funds must be obligated by 2015. There will be an upcoming Ruby sub-committee meeting in August. Eric Norelius will provide a spreadsheet of Ruby funds and their obligations for the next EC meeting.

Mary Thoman has asked that percentages be listed in the legend on the pie charts to be more easily seen.

New Business

Changing of the Guard

Don Simpson selected as the new Executive Committee Chair at 2:56pm

Selection of Vice Chair

Motion made by Mary Thoman for WY Department of Agriculture. 2nd made by Wally Johnson. Motion Carried. Jason Fearnough is selected to be the vice-chair

Annual Report

The annual report is provided on the website. Project proponents must turn in their reports November 1st of the project year. The summaries from the project proponents make up the annual report and we need to ensure that these summaries are relating back to a landscape scale.

The FY2012 annual report was provided and many future updates were suggested. In the future a draft of the annual report will be provided by the January/February EC meeting and a final by the spring EC meeting. Some key elements need to be added:

- Map of projects
- WLCI Members
- Teams (listed and described)
- Financial Expenditures (general for public and detailed for internal)
- Project follow up (include description and costs)
- Project key (location, focus area, agency)
- Create a finished/polished product
- Include US Fish and Wildlife partners program description
- Description of partnerships involved in WLCI
- Use the FY 2012 annual report as template for FY 2013
- Recommended that Shelley Gregory put the report together

May 2013 was WLCI month on BLM Wyoming's Facebook and Twitter pages.

Coordination Team Updates

A list of coordination actions and on-going actions were provided for each agency affiliated with the coordination team.

Sub-Committee Updates

Summaries of Science and Technical Advisory (STAC), Communication Team (CommT), Data and Information Management Team (DIMIT), USGS Science Team, and Interagency Monitoring Team were provided.

Business meeting was conducted this past spring and another meeting will happen in the fall in order to narrow down the actions and short term priorities of WLCI. Updates will be sent as the meeting is planned. It is important to have EC members involved and also include local individuals in the WLCI area.

Need an updated member list for each team for the next EC meeting.

Conservation Action Plan (CAP)- Pat Anderson, Jim Wasseen

Progress has been made on CAP and most maps have been completed. More detailed information is needed to link conservation actions to our landscape priorities.

Please provide feedback/comments to Pat Anderson concerning Page 15 and the conservation actions on agriculture and other private lands section. Also provide comments on the organization of the entire documents and any improvements or re-organization that is needed.

Approval of 2014 Projects

| Project Name | County | Agency | Funding Requested | Suggested Funding |
|--|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Piney Creek | Sublette | Sublette County Conservation | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| Little Medicine Bow River Grazing Mgmt plan | Carbon | Medicine Bow Conservation District | \$90,000 | \$48,000 |
| Olson New Fork Stabilization | Sublette | Sublette County Conservation | \$70,000 | \$50,000 |
| Riparian Habitat Improvement Platte Valley | Carbon | BLM | \$30,000 | \$30,000 |
| Encampment River School Restoration | Carbon | Trout Unlimited | \$80,000 | \$10,000 |
| Upper Platte Valley Weed mgmt | Carbon | BLM | \$70,000 | Up to \$10,000 if matched with cash/in-kind |
| Replace Pole Top | Lincoln/Uinta | BLM | \$5,000 | Up to \$5,000 if matched with cash/in-kind |
| Threat Assessment for Red Desert to Hoback Mule Deer | Sweetwater | WY Coop Fish and Wildlife | \$18,950 | \$10,000 |

Mary motioned to accept suggested funding for the FY 2014 projects. Wally Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried

Proposed 2014 WLCI Event Calendar

A brief calendar was provided of when events will be planned and the schedule at which they are made. It was suggested to add quarterly reports to the CT's schedule of events.

September EC Meeting

Location will be determined by CT and an email will be sent out with the updated information. Date has been updated to include the 18th and 19th of September.

Create a Doodle Poll for next meeting times

January/February EC Meeting will be held in Cheyenne and a doodle poll will be sent out to determine the dates.

Actions Items:

Due date is for fall meeting unless otherwise noted

1. Erik Norelius - Provide a spreadsheet and pie chart of Ruby funds and their obligations for the next EC meeting
2. CT - Industry Flyer/Factsheet sent out by July 15th
3. Shelley Gregory - Communications Team provide prioritization of fact sheets/flyers by July 15th
4. Committee Leads - Updated member list for each sub-committee
5. Erica Cressall- Doodle poll for January/February meeting to be sent out in July
6. CT - Field trip and meeting location recommendation sent to Don Simpson
7. USGS/Natalie Latysh – Website Launch by August 1, 2013
8. Shelley Gregory– Annual Report mock up available for Fall EC meeting
9. CT – Expand the 2014 WLCI events calendar (include external and internal items), update provided during Fall EC
10. Michele Windsor – documentation on 2012 expenditures
11. EC – Comments on Draft CAP handed out at last EC meeting to Pat Anderson by 8/28/13
12. CT – Draft CAP bullet points
13. CT – meeting minutes will be distributed 1 week from EC meeting date

Adjourned 5:18pm

Upcoming Quarterly Calendar for WLCI

August 2nd – Sweetwater LPDT 9am – Game and Fish Office Green River August 7th – Carbon LPDT 10am – Medicine Bow Community Center

August 8th - Sublette LPDT 10 am – BLM Office Pinedale

August 14th – Lincoln/Uinta LPDT 10 am - Kemmerer Library

August 20th – 21st – Petroleum Association of Wyoming Annual Meeting and Trade show (Casper, WY)

September 18 – 19th, Executive Committee meeting, location TBD