

**Northwest Colorado Stewardship (NWCOS)
 Planning Committee
 September 27, 2005
 Meeting Summary**

Action Items

Keystone	Send sector meeting materials out as soon as possible—get them to Rick and Jane before Friday.
Keystone	Send out revised sentence on consensus from letter to John Husband to Planning Committee for review
Keystone	Ask Booz Allen Hamilton to send digital copies of complete impact analyses to be posted to NWCOS website
Keystone	Find out about passing funding for Socioeconomic Analysis through Keystone.
Keystone	Contact Wes, Mike Frazier, and Rick Hammel about vacancy on Planning Committee.
Keystone	Send out agenda for October 12 meeting as soon as possible.
Jeremy Casterson	Send the Planning Committee’s letter to John Husband to relevant members of Colorado congressional delegation (by email).
Jeremy Casterson	Ask Booz Allen Hamilton to report to NWCOS on October 12 what data are being used, what data are missing, what data are weak or old (to the extent possible).
Jeremy Casterson	Write a paragraph to Jeff, Suzanne, and Ann about need for NWCOS matching funds.
Planning Committee	Respond by 5 tonight to Kristi’s changes to John Husband letter

Attendance

Jeremy Casterson, Jeff Comstock, Stephen Flaherty, Suzanne Jones, Reed Morris, Marianna Raftopoulos, Jane Yazzie, Kristi Parker Celico, and Heather Bergman

Agenda Items

- Input to BAH on Tutorial for Impact Analysis
- Review Final Schedule
- Finalize the Husband letter (AGAIN)
- NWCOS Debts—money to cover CSU
- Jane’s Position on the PC
- Future Role of NWCOS/Funding Issues

Input to BAH on Tutorial for Impact Analysis

One participant stated that it would be helpful to see a sample impact analysis, preferably the analysis from the 1989 RMP for the Little Snake Resource Area. Jeremy responded that the analysis from the 1989 RMP is about 100 pages long, making it impractical to provide this in hard copy. The group agreed it that would be sufficient to see the impact analysis for one resource from the 1989 RMP in hard copy, and that Keystone would ask Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH) to send samples of other complete impact analyses to be posted on the NWCOS website.

Another participant stated that NWCOS would like to see a summary of the data that BAH will be using, to know where there are no data, and to know which data are weak or old. The group would also like to know where there is no sound science guiding the analysis and/or where there is competing science that might hinder the analysis. One participant stated that this information might not be available at this stage of this analysis, but that Jeremy would ask BAH staff to report this information to the extent it is known.

Review of Final Schedule

Some participants raised concerns about having a deadline right after Thanksgiving. It was clarified that the group will have two weeks to review the document in question before Thanksgiving, so it was agreed to leave this deadline as it is.

One participant raised concerns about meeting on Friday, February 17. Kristi said that date was a mistake—it was supposed to be February 15. It was stated, however, that the 2006 dates are not set in stone because we are not yet sure about when particular documents will be made available.

Finalize the Husband Letter

The group reviewed the revisions to the letter from the Planning Committee to John Husband. One participant stated that the letter has raised concerns that NWCOS members do not agree about what the Protocols actually say about consensus. Kristi reviewed what the Protocols said.

NWCOS Debts

Jeremy stated that BLM is expecting NWCOS members to provide \$10,000 toward the costs of the socioeconomic survey. NWCOS matching funds were part of the agreement with BLM's State Office to get their buy-off on a more expensive socioeconomic analysis. Jeff stated that Moffat County could probably come up with \$5,000 and that other groups should contribute as well. One member of the energy sector stated that his company will not be contributing to this fund, but he said that it is not opposed to other NWCOS members contributing. However, he stated that it would be discussed at the energy sector meeting.

Suzanne stated that she might be able to provide some funding, but that she would prefer to give the money to Keystone than to give it directly to CSU. One participant stated that he believed that The Nature Conservancy had committed some funds, but no one from TNC was on the call to verify this. Jeremy agreed to write a paragraph to the group restating the need for matching funds from NWCOS. Kristi agreed to ask the finance staff at Keystone if funds could be passed through Keystone.

One member suggested that NWCOS participants who are not associated with an organization be asked to give \$50 or so toward this cause. Another participant said that it might be more appropriate for private individuals to give money to offset the cost of meals or other NWCOS expenses. It was agreed that NWCOS as a whole would need to approve any blanket request from all members for funds.

Jane's Position on the PC

Jane's position on the Planning Committee ends in October, and a replacement is needed. Because the Protocols do not prohibit someone serving again, Wes McStay or Mike Frazier could do it. Rick offered to fill the position himself. Kristi stated that there needs to be a broad announcement of the opening before it is filled. She said she would contact Wes McStay, Mike Frazier, and Rick Hammel to see who is interested. Another participant suggested that Jean Stetson might be interested. Kristi suggested that the citizen workgroup discuss this issue at their sector meeting.

Future Role of NWCOS/Funding Issues

Kristi stated that if NWCOS is going to carry on past February, the group (and in particular the Planning Committee) needs to think ahead about funding. Jane reported that she sent a letter of inquiry to a grantmaking organization and signed it with the names of the entire Planning Committee. Although a couple members of the Committee did not remember agreeing to this in advance, everyone felt that it is okay that it was done. However, the group also agreed to be very careful in the future to be sure that everyone is aware of and in agreement with any correspondence that they have "signed."

Other Topics

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Jeff told the group that the Juniper Water Conservancy District (JWCD) is studying past water rights and water quality issues along Yampa River (because that is where the majority of wild and scenic stretches are). The Moffat County Land Use Board assigned a subcommittee to work with JWCD to get some comments together on the water quality issue.

Sector Meetings

Jeff Whilden has agreed to do convene the meeting of the motorized recreation sector. Keystone is still working on finding someone to convene the wild horse sector meeting. Keystone will send out draft agendas and other materials to assist all the individuals who are convening and leading the sector meetings. These materials include a worksheet that the sectors are strongly encouraged to complete because they will help ensure that the discussions on groups' concerns with Alternative C will be comparing "apples to apples."

One member of the group requested that Keystone send out the agenda for the October 12 NWCOS meeting as soon as possible. Kristi stated that Keystone is working on the agenda already, but that more information from other folks (BLM, BAH, etc.) is required before the agenda can be finalized. Keystone will send out the agenda as soon as it is ready.

FOIA Requests

A member of NWCOS has expressed concerns about the possibility that other NWCOS members are submitting Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to determine what

waivers have been given on oil and gas leasing stipulations. This individual feels that it is a waste of BLM staff time to do this when the individual companies in NWCOS would be willing to tell anyone what waivers they have received. To some, FOIA requests are viewed as confrontational and may have negative implications for relationships in NWCOS. Kristi reiterated that NWCOS has a “no surprises” rule and urged participants to tell NWCOS what relevant actions they may be taking.

Kristi stated that she and Jeremy have a phone call every week to discuss what documents, comments, etc. have been submitted them to be sure that both Keystone and BLM are aware of all items coming from NWCOS members.