Round 1, Board 1: Serving the Region in 2023

1. What would we like SOFAR to accomplish in 2023?

Increase information exchange and integration with OWPR, EDCWA, others....

Coordination

Reaching out to agencies that may be passed over during the course of developing a project.

Coordination of efforts between agencies that may be impacted by a project.

CALDOR

Review critical infrastructure that needs protection post Caldor

Collaboration around Caldor Restoration NEPA

For me, helping with Caldor Recovery is highly important. Lester

See that planning for restoring fire is prominent in the Caldor restoration effort

feedback on the NEPA process for GTR 270, so it is supported by community

BIOMASS

Facilitate the successful siting of a biomass facility in EDC that includes a related wood products campus.

On the Ground

Get the proposed action and decide how it will happen - clearing lots, clearing hazard trees (esp around cabins, roadside hazards, powerlines, beyond tracks and beyond rds

Outside Caldor burn - needs in crystal basin area. USFS has 7-8 project areas. How to coordinate that work in larger landscape vision?

Private Lands

SOFAR should continue to recognize the importance of private lands in the scope and scale of proposed projects.

communication

Increased transparency and advertisement of work accomplished to date.

Recap of pass goals and what are future goals.

Pass goals and how do these goals fit within the communities.

More education and outreach to public about what SOFAR does and how they could help.

We need to make sure funding for facilitation of SOFAR is secured.

2. How can SOFAR best serve the needs of the region? What are those needs?

Better communication about projects being developed and how they impact local communities.

SOFAR is becoming a silo. We need to catch up on things before we start communicating.

Better coordination with private landowners.

2 kinds of landownership - private landowners like Grizzly Flat and USFS land cabin owners. Needs/priorities are different. Primary res v 2ndary res.

Reforestation - priority for cabin owners is lot clearance, approval for rebuild. Cabin owners want to partner.

Help implement at GTR 270 - use thoughtful overarching guidance. don't be duplicative. Synergetic.

Additional Scientific Talks/discussions/paper presentations -- builds shared language/understanding in a neutral way/space

Establish a strategy for coordinating efforts among partners.

Fire adapted communities - rural western county - what can we do to help entities out there? FSCs and other community groups.

Public needs education about haz trees - public safety.

reforestation in tandem w fuel redux and seasonal/weather limitations. Long term results for forest resilience.

SOFAR membership should include soils and hydrology representatives.

Danger for public use - need to clear more quickly to have roads open for public and USFS and contractors.

Better shameless self promotion. SOFAR have a platform to show projects that have been completed and inform public about successes. SOFAR tells the story - help leverage funding.

SOFAR could serve as a facilitator or integrator of projects

support and coordinate the many fire safe councils with map making and project proposal completeness.

host a comprehensive map of projects (including fire safe council driven projects) on the SOFAR website.

SOFAR should consider expanding its boundaries to include the Consumnes River drainage.

Round 1, Board 2: Serving the Region in 2023

3. How can SOFAR drive and support on-the-ground work?

Cont'd participation and support for projects and needs. Prescribed burn association engagement.

Track and map on the ground implementation projects to represent matching funds to increase grant application competitiveness submitted by member

Use SOFAR for post fire utilization and how land management activities will be done.

Discuss whether or not SOFAR should change its organizational structure to a non-profit so that it can be a fiscal agent and drive on-the-ground work.

Could cultivate other fiscal sponsors for partners to work with - expand the base of fiscal sponsors that we can engage

Question/concern about differing priorities from a new FS supervisor.

Use upcoming projects as a trigger to reach out to on-the-ground volunteers.

Bring back the SOFAR liaison or identify who that liaison is

Second the above comment...

Will need to engage new USFS supervisor. To give them insight into range of perspectives and desires as they set priorities.

Solicit volunteers, use SOFAR to reach out to broader spectrum.

Use Farm Bill allowances to expedite NEPA.

Agree with this post

Potential partner: Sugar Pine Foundation - tree planting in basin and moving into west slope of the county. based in Tahoe.

Georgetown strength- truly all-lands approach with BLM, USFS as drivers. Multiple grantees working towards a common goal. FSC grant from CalFire, BLM work.

Posting helpful links to different jobs.

4. What value does/can SOFAR provide that does not exist elsewhere?

provide conduit of communication between stakeholders in the area w USFS. How USFS is prioritizing work, so ppl know what to expect.

Convener of ideas; forum to exchange ideas

Agree with this post

Convener of ideas - Forum for exchanging ideas among a variety of managers, implementation partners, and stakeholders

Who is the face of SOFAR? USFS doesn't have the bandwidth. Need a face - point person to go to existing other community meetings.

Communications committee to fill gap of "face"

USFS *had* a SOFAR liaison - very valuable

Round 2: Measuring Success

- How will we know that SOFAR is successful?

Other agencies, collaboratives, and the general public know what we do.

When you have enough strategic acres treated in areas that it can provide a meaningful different when/if tested.

Acres planned and treated in the most effective locations to increase resilience

It will be measured when the next fire occurs.

Cannot be measured in acres treated but rather over time through a series of projects to achieve the resilient desired condition.

What are the measures of success for 2023?

In-person meeting or field trip

Capture investments made and funds leveraged

Accurately capture and map acreage treated and planned; dollars invested. Push out annual one pager update.

Refocus on moving forward with Caldor recovery and continue mitigation projects unrelated to Caldor to protect against additional wildfires.

Accurately capture acres treated and planned

Forward progress has been made on advancing biomass facilities and wood related product businesses, such as a fiberboard business, in EDC

Balance between Caldor Recovery and non-Caldor projects within the SOFAR boundary

Increase of acreage treated over previous years.

Cabin owners allowed to rebuild cabin, including if their lot is unrebuildable, they're offered in lieu lot

SOFAR attendance (75 people attended in the past), and regular entity attendance, excitement! Breadth of perspective.