
SOFAR LANDSCAPE VISION WORKING GROUP

MEETING NOTES

JULY 26, 2017, 1300-1600 AT ENF SO

Timeline	Responsible	Action Item
7/28	Gina	Set up google doc with zones and desired conditions and send out link to edit to the participants of this group
7/28	Becky or Gina	Rename categories on straw proposal--GTR237 (via Heather)
8/15	Becky	For each zone, write description of desired conditions for Theme 1 and 2 and 7
8/15	Ben	For each zone, write description of desired conditions for Theme 1 and 3
8/15	Duane	For each zone, write description of desired conditions for Theme 4 (wildfire response)
8/15	Heather	For each zone, write description of desired conditions for Theme 5 (fire management)
8/15	Norma	For each zone, write description of desired conditions for Theme 6
8/15	Kathy S	Talk to SPI to urge them to review the notes and encourage them to participate and contribute to the desired conditions
ASAP	Kendal	Share meeting notes on web site and with other key stakeholders (SPI and SMUD)
Aug	Dana	Set up General Sherman project visit -- Late August / Early September
9/15	Kendal, Gina, Ben, Becky	Develop draft work plan for the group and subgroups that includes developing the key products and prioritizing which products the group would like to review as a group
Nov	Kendal	Convene Subgroup C, Wildfire Response post-fire season in November

NEXT MEETING: SEPT. 27, 2017, 1:00-4:00

Topics: Review Desired Conditions / Zone; Work Plan and Prioritizing Projects for Review

KEY OUTCOMES

Process: The Landscape Vision Subgroup A / Desired Conditions and Subgroup B / Spatial will all meet on the same day. They will sequence three meetings in one day.

1. Subgroup meeting
2. Common agenda: project information
3. Subgroup meeting

Zones and Desired Conditions: The group concurred on the naming and definition of 4 zones. Zones would be advisory on private lands. The group would develop desired conditions for each zone. The group has finalized seven themes for desired future conditions. Next, group members will describe the seven desired condition themes by zone on a Google doc. The group will finalize the conditions by zone at a subsequent meeting.

DESIRED CONDITIONS

Goal is to create desired conditions that will apply to different zones across landowners.

Goal is to have the collaborative support the conditions, yet define them so that the different landowners / entities will be able to use them. The level of specificity in the desired conditions will be a challenge that the group needs to identify.

Key parties who need to understand and ultimately support the desired conditions

- SMUD
- SPI
- EID

Desired Future Conditions, 7 Themes

The group reviewed several themes for desired future conditions identified previously capturing the three points of the cohesive strategy: (1) resident landscape, (2) adapted communities, and (3) fire response. Each management zone would have a desired condition for all 7 themes.

Themes

1. Vegetation structure: amount and distribution (1)
2. Fire behavior (fuel structure) and fire effects (fire return interval, severity) (1)
3. Wildfire habitat and TES management (1)
4. Wildfire response (suppression vs. management) (3)
5. Fire management infrastructure (fuel breaks, evacuation plans, incident management, etc.) (2,3)
6. Social and economic values and benefits (recreation, utilities) (3)
7. Watersheds (water quantity and quality) (soil stability and productivity) (1)

Sources of information for determining desired future conditions:

- Current agencies’ plans
- Best available science
- Expert opinion

Desired conditions will need to be presented in a format that is clear and easily interpreted by general public - (tabular/charts, cartoons or graphics, photos). Details can be included in appendices where needed.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

The group reviewed several zone concepts, beginning with the straw proposal that the work group looked at earlier in the year, a straw proposal developed via work group member Heather Campbell, drawing from GTR237, and WUI zones.

Private lands will be delineated. Zones will be advisory for the private lands.

ZONES Agreed-to Names	Work Group Developed Names (7/26/17)	Straw Proposal – GTR237 (via Heather 7/2017)	WUI Map
Defense – Built Community Zone	Built Community Zone	Defensible Space (within 100 ft. of structures)	Defense
Defense	Community Wildfire Defense Zone	The Built Environment (neighbors/houses)	Defense (0.25 miles)
Threat	General Wildfire Threat Zone	General Wildfire Threat Zone	Threat
General Forest Condition	Managed Fire Zone	Managed Fire Zone	No category

Southern Sierra Zones for Early Adopters

1. Community Wildfire Protection (WUI-Defense)
2. General Wildfire Maintenance (WUI-Threat)
3. Wildfire Maintenance
4. Wildfire Restoration

GENERAL SHERMAN PROJECT UPDATE

Dana Walsh provided an update on the project known as General Sherman.

- Project area surrounded by previous/recent treatments (implemented projects);
- Good records of treatment within the project area are lacking;
- Plantations in the north, mixed conifer changing to some red fir to the south.
- Project area currently at 9,000 acres, currently examining 6,000 acres mechanical; all area reviewing for prescribed fire.
- Need for Project - Strategic goal/desired condition, lots of recreation, high risk of fire starts and stand replacing wildfire.

Dana will coordinate a small project visit field trip planned for late August to the project area. The August 9th field trip will be in close proximity so this project could be mentioned.

PROCESS CLARIFICATIONS

The group clarified a few process issues.

Logistics and Ground Rules

- Will ask new people to get background info "off line" if general questions come up especially for issues already discussed
- Will be posting notes to website

Landscape Work Group Charge

- Two aspects of Landscape Group: Create Landscape Strategy AND provide input to projects as whether the proposal is moving the landscape towards the desired condition (NEPA input).
- Level of interaction on individual projects will vary depending on the location, type of treatment, size of the projects.

Future Discussion -- Project Review

- The group would like to continue reviewing projects and will discuss in the future how the group will decide which projects to engage in.

ATTENDEES

Heather Campbell, Becky Estes, Duane Nelson, Kathy Smith, Ben Solvesky, Dana Walsh, Jennifer Chapman, Kendal Young, Norma Santiago, Allen Speering
Facilitation: CBI Gina Bartlett

Subgroup Membership

Group A (Desired Conditions)	Group B (Spatial Analysis)	Group C (Wildfire Response)
Becky Estes	Ben Solvesky	Travis Thane
Pat Manley	Robert Scott	<i>Dave Pereira</i>

Mark Egbert	Kevin Vella	Heather Campbell
Duane Nelson	Jennifer DeWoody	Duane Nelson
Heather Campbell	Dana Walsh	Brian Veerkamp
Kathy Smith	Kendal Young	Jay Kurth
Richard Thornburgh	<i>SPI representative</i>	Kathy Smith
Kendal Young	Heather Campbell	Kendal Young
Ben Solvesky, Sierra Forest Legacy		Heather Campbell
Dan Corchran, EID		Mike Webb
<i>SPI representative</i>		
-- Names in bold and Italics have been suggested, but not confirmed.		