

CPPC Monthly Meeting Notes 8.23.22

Attendees: Pam Hawk, Peter Dykstra, Melissa Speeg, Darcy Batura, Larry Leach, Gary Berndt, Mitch Long, Judi Hallisey, Martha Wycoff, Keegan Flegler, Vince Pruis, Tom Krepank, Jane Kiker, Phil Hess

Note taker: Tonya Morrey

Updates:

Taneum Earmark

- Ranked 2 nationally, but partly funded
- Requires \$20 mil, \$8mil short
- In process of putting in Land and Water Conservation Fund application for next year (FY24)
- Earmark request was advanced but unsuccessful

Recap on Goals for Checkerboard Partnership

- Formed 3 years ago to find conservation solution/strategy for Central Cascades Forest lands managed by The Nature Conservancy
- Cabin Creek: ranked thru Forest Legacy project and on clear path for funding
- See above for Taneum
- Come a long way to find solution for trickiest area, the Cle Elum Ridge

Original Timeline

- View updated slides

Celebrate CPPC Victories

- Finding a pathway forward for the Cle Elum Ridge
- Some of the last checkerboards in the Central Cascades
- Cabin Creek will be county trust lands managed by DNR

Teanaway Community Forest (TCF) Questions Response (Larry)

- 8 responses to anonymous survey
- Kittitas Conservation Trust (KCT) applied for Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grant thinking county would take ownership
- County uncomfortable moving forward, but DNR is positioned to take ownership with KCT as community partner
 - 10k acres did not feel like too heavy of a lift to add to existing 50k acres on TCF
- Recently submitted budget request covering TCF and an expansion
- Moved from local ownership model to public agency rather quickly
- Decision/changes in TCF must go through advisory committee and public comment process in order to have the most community input as possible
 - Committee can also make requests
- Need conversation about how phase 1 of Cle Elum Ridge has different management needs than TCF before deciding to make an addendum to TCF management plan

- Martha: suggests adding something acknowledging CPPC
- Gary: suggests reeducating on how the TCF advisory committee makeup and input is
- Nicky: suggest adjusting application for advisory committee
- Mitch: TCF is massive, Cle Elum Ridge brings it closer to the communities nearby which opens opportunity for more engagement and outreach
- Darcy: time to work more closely with TCF, do they talk about what we are up to during their advisory meetings?
- 6,000 acres treated by DNR since they've acquired lands
 - Fuel breaks, commercial thing, etc.
- DNR helps to facilitate mastication on Cle Elum Ridge

Timeline Activity:

- Must have projects lined up to use grant money should we be awarded with funds
- Future activities: weed control, trail rehabilitation, community meetings, traveling to Olympia and reaching out to legislatures, organize CPPC member tours of Cle Elum Ridge and/or TCF (possibly extend next meeting for a tour)
- Most critical roles?
 - A lot of government work happening right now. Create/learn talking points, legislative tours on ridge, one pager for legislatures
- Next TCF advisory committee meeting is October 20th from 3-6 pm
 - Public Lands Day October 24th from 10 am to 1 pm: maybe CPPC can participate and do some work
- Not as much to do right now, ball is not in our court
- Need for members to help out with fundraising
- Need for members to work on understanding the TCF better
- Reconsider how we engage with people outside of the CPPC to garner more community support
- Could make another video showcasing community support

Other Discussion:

- Gary: connection to \$10 million of funding for fire mitigation