

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting

Time: May 27, 2020 03:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Desired Outcomes
3:30	Join ZOOM and Roll Call Adopt previous meeting notes	Set expectations and clear goals for teleconference meeting. Join a little early if possible, so we can troubleshoot any tech issues people may have
3:45pm	Adopt Purpose Statement and Charter	Review final materials (distributed 5.22.2020) and adopt. Any final discussion.
4:00pm	Updates on volunteerism during COVID	Explanation of BLM and USFS agreement opportunities. Updates from nonprofit partners on when/how to resume volunteering. Revisit project list.
4:45pm	Donation Collection	Discussion of donation needs, Rec Forum's ability to help collect
5:00pm	Post-Memorial Day update from land managers	What trends did we see over Memorial Day Weekend? How is Kittitas faring compared to other counties in region?
5:30	Adjourn	

- Intros and Memorial Day Weekend observations
 - In attendance: Gene Reed, Eva Tyler, Crystal Smith, Deb Essman, Wayne Mohler, Kristin Ashley, Kathy Young, Ellie Belew, Doug Kilgore, Zac Bales, Anne Merrill-Steskel, Kevin Clements, Bryan Peterson, Karen Behm, Bradley Gasawski, Ken Austin, Ted Jackson, Mary Morgan
 - Non-member partners: Madison Ford, Allie Tripp,
 - Observations:
 - Lots of people on the Colockum, mostly respectful and no tight groupings
 - Gas stations were packed with watercrafts
 - Many vehicles heading into state lands, but none were local. I-90 traffic was standard for Memorial Day.
 - Many people packed into Roslyn, few of them masked
 - Previous use on LT Murray, many vehicles not on Green Dot roads
 - Pretty respectful of distances while roadbiking on the west side
 - Some pretty irresponsible firearm use in Table Mountain area (pass on to LEOs)
 - Parking lot at Umptanum Falls (not Yakima canyon side) was overflowing, people parking on the road in both directions. Little/no mask use, large number of motor homes
 - John Snyder announced camping SHOULD open in a week at the most recent Outdoor Recreation Round Table meeting (state legislature)
- Proposed action to accept notes
 - No objections
- Proposed action to approve charter and purpose statement
 - Any discussion:
 - Question from Ted whether this is meant to be submitted to Kittitas County for our ability to recommend actions
 - Make sure Ken Austin and EMBA are added back!
 - Proposal for approval
 - Ellie proposed
 - Agreement
 - Ted abstained as this is his first meeting
- Updates on volunteerism during COVID
 - BLM needs 2-4 people to sign up in the next couple of weeks
 - Either one full day (Weds) or two half days (Weds/Thurs)
 - First or second week in June
 - Help with Liberty campground prep and cleanup
 - Sanding/painting tables
 - Brushing roads
 - Weedwhacking
 - Cleanout of fire rings
 - BLM provides tools and PPE (although volunteers are encouraged to bring facemask and gloves)
 - Contact Diane Priebe at dpriebe@blm.gov
 - USFS volunteer agreements

Commented [SH1]: Pass on to LEOs

Commented [SH2]: Nicky to create a sign up sheet on the google drive (ask for full name, best phone contact, etc) so we know when people have committed to fill a need.

Add boilerplate language about gear/safety

- District can enter into 5 year Cost Share agreements with organizations so their members can operate under the umbrella of an agreement
 - USFS still figuring out eligibility requirements
 - If you/your org are interested, please contact Brian, or reach out to Nicky and Susan for referral to USFS staff
 - Brian.speeg@usda.gov
 - Kim.larned@usda.gov
 - 1-2 volunteers (per day) to help with sanding and staining picnic tables in Teanaway Valley starting at Beverly campground
 - June 15-16
 - All necessary PPE and equipment will be provided, as well as a USFS employee to guide volunteers
 - Volunteer waivers will be available day of or emailed out beforehand
 - 4-6 volunteers to help brush out Pete Lake trailhead
 - June 23-24
 - Preference for volunteers who can commit to both days
 - Meet @ forest service office and drive to trailhead. Volunteers must drive their own vehicles at this time.
 - All necessary PPE and equipment will be provided, as well as a USFS employee to guide volunteers
 - Volunteer waivers will be available day of or emailed out beforehand
 - Also some need for volunteers with carpentry skills to help construct sign boards/signage. Would work in USFS carpentry shop with existing materials
 - Kevin Clements: is a carpenter by trade, has several Ruffled Grouse Society members who are also retired carpenters
- Nonprofit volunteers:
 - WTA is testing safety guidelines with paid staff right now
 - Will begin fielding experienced volunteers as lands go through Phased Reopenings
 - Altering Volunteer Vacation trips from backcountry to frontcountry
 - Not onboarding new volunteers at this time
 - EMBA
 - Can operate volunteer workparties of 8 volunteers w/crew lead
 - Greenway
 - Not currently fielding volunteers, has field crews and trail crews back on the ground but testing safety protocols
- Donation Collection
 - Eva willing to help coordinate
 - Look for more public location
 - Group to distribute posters
 - Ted: most clubs and organizations have not been meeting, so don't have a good sense of what they may need!
 - Evergreen currently working on making/providing EMBA neck buffs/facemasks for volunteers and workers

- Land Manager recaps of Memorial Day Weekend:
 - USFS
 - Extremely high use
 - Closed campgrounds pushed people into dispersed areas (French Cabin Creek, but also new areas were established)
 - Law Enforcement was on the ground, but then pulled into the HWY 97 incident
 - Greater presence will be in place this weekend to educate people about LNT
 - If the state moves to Phase 2, USFS can open campgrounds
 - Concessionaire opening larger campgrounds June 5
 - BLM
 - Hopes to be able to open for camping week of June 8
 - Went pretty well, anticipate use slowing after Memorial Day
 - States:
 - All on Tapash Sustainable Forestry Collaborative meeting
 - Nicky will ask them what their upcoming needs look like and send follow ups to group mailing list
- Other Outreach needs
 - Recreate Responsibly Coalition (<https://www.recreatorresponsibly.org/>)
 - Good publication materials, outreach pieces, LNT education, etc
 - Please distribute among your groups to help disperse the messaging!
- Project list
 - Please sign your group up for sites that are important to you/them!
 - Nicky will work with Land Manager Consortium to update sites in need of work and sites that have been addressed
- Action Item reviews:
 - Nicky to post notes from previous meetings
 - Final purpose statement and charter approved and will be posted to website
 - Nicky to create google drive sign up sheet for stated volunteer dates
 - Eva and Nicky working on donation collection reup
 - Continuing sign ups to Project List
 - Nicky to update charter with email addresses