

**GRANT COUNTY ECO WATERSHED PLANNING GROUP
OCTOBER 1, 2014 MEETING**

SUMMARY MINUTES BY VICKY ESTRADA

MINUTES

-GIS Mapping

-As Follow-up to last meeting, GIS information on landownership and land activities were overlaid and mapped by Adrienne Miller of NMFWRI. Agency GIS information was provided by USFS, State Forestry (both state and private project work), BLM, and TNC (prioritization and fire risk mapping). Additionally 5th and 6th code watershed boundaries were included to assist group in selecting a priority area for currently planned and future project work based on these watershed boundaries.

Each participant, using different colored markers, identified those areas that were highest priority for current and future treatments on the map. Once all had identified their areas, we reviewed the map, highlighting the areas of overlap and discussing the differences. Based on this discussion, one multi-watershed area was identified that the group agreed reflected the overall priority area for the planning group. Mistakes on the map were noted and it was agreed that I would have Adrienne make corrections as well as adding the priority project boundary to the map. This will be emailed to all before the next meeting.

-Western New Mexico University (WNMU) GIS Involvement

Based on discussions between Gabe Ramos and Dr. Shepard (president of WNMU), WNMU is interested in involving the GIS department in the watershed group. However, given the current staffing, equipment and GIS capabilities that exist at WNMU currently, it was agreed by the group that the best way to involve WNMU at this time is to link up Kathy Whitman (GIS Staff at WNMU) and NMFWRI GIS specialists in a training capacity whereby Kathy could work with the institute to identify next steps in equipment and staffing and receive one-on-one training with institute staff.

-Repository/Storage Site

It was agreed that a repository was needed for GIS data, information and maps. NMFWRI could potentially host the storage site or have editing permissions on an arc gis site. This will be further discussed at next meeting. It was suggested that we put Adrienne on a future agenda so that she can answer group questions about options.

-CWPP Update

Ralph Pope is being contracted to update the current Grant County CWPP. He is currently gathering information for update and has met with USFS and BLM. He next plans to meet with Volunteer Fire Departments

-Follow Up

Participants were asked to think about potential partners that could be involved in collaboration based on the priority project area defined. Additionally, before the next meeting they were asked to send me the factors they used in identifying highest priority areas. We will review these at the next meeting. GIS repository will also be discussed further at next meeting.

Meeting participants Included:

Denisha Lucero, County Administrative Assistant for the
*Gabriel Ramos, County Commissioner/Chair of Grant County Eco Watershed Working Group
*Art Telles, Natural Resource Officer, USFS Gila NF
Tonya Vowles, NM State Forestry
Mick Deubel, GilaNet
*Joe Mondragon, citizen
*Ralph Pope, Consultant – Southwest Native Ecosystems Management
*Glenn Griffin, Gila Tree Thinners
*Leroy Holguin, Fire Management Officer, USFS Gila NF
Randy Villa, Grant County Fire Management Director and Volunteer Fire Department
Supervisor
Martha Cooper, TNC
Vicky Estrada, consultant representing NMFWRI

*Grant County Eco Watershed Planning Group Members