

REACT MEETING NOTES

Sept. 24, 2008

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Wyoming State Museum Multi-Purpose Room

2301 Central Avenue

Barrett Building

Cheyenne, Wyoming

**I. Attendees:**

- A. Mary Peterson, Forest Supervisor, Medicine Bow Rount National Forests, Thunder Basin National Grassland, Phil Cruz - US Forest Svc (MBR), Alan Dubberley, Curtis Lund, Leslie Kedelty – WY Travel & Tourism, Brian Kelly – US Fish & Wildlife, Cheyenne, John Emmerich – WY Game & Fish, Lesley Smith – BLM Recreation & Travel Mgmt, Susan Child – WY Office of State Lands (OSLI), Domenic Bravo - WY Dept. State Parks & Cultural [Resources](#), CO-Chairs, Milward Simpson – SPCR, Sharon Kyhl – US Forest Svc  
Guests: Nellie Simon - State Forestry Division, Tess McGinty – WY Conservation Corps

Deleted: Resrouce

Deleted: s

**II. Old Business**

- A. Minutes approved from April 22, 2008 meeting
- B. Teton Science School/Conservation Fund Update – Simpson/Kyhl
1. Jack Shea will be meeting with Larry Selzer, CEO of the Conservation Fund in DC in October.
  2. They will announce final awards in November.
  3. Work session scheduled with REACT for Dec.17. The work session will focus on strategy and roles/responsibilities.
- C. Project Front Door Update – Dubberley: Diane is working with Travel Industry Association to build a foundation and develop a master plan. This will be one of the items discussed during the Governor's Conference On Tourism in Cheyenne this January. \*See ProjectFrontDoor.com for more information.
- D. Wyoming Conservation Corps: Nick Agopian will be leaving the program and will be working for Devon Energy in Cheyenne. Tess McGinty addressed the group and will be managing the program this coming year. ([tessmc@uwyo.edu](mailto:tessmc@uwyo.edu). 307-766-2889.) WCC signed 6 contracts already and a total of 19 projects already identified. They now have a 7 member Advisory Board. They are working up project selection criteria that REACT will review next spring. They want to develop a stronger leadership development program. This year they had 33 students and 24 projects with 7 agencies and 26,000 hours of service. They already have 24 projects lined up with State Parks over the next 2 years. They hope to have 5 crews – 40 kids this year and 30 projects. They are looking for additional projects now! America the Beautiful Pass for all volunteers will be available for work accomplished on Federal Lands, provided each agency fills out the appropriate paperwork that Sharon Kyhl will give to Tess to give to agencies they work for.
- E. Recreation Fee Info – Update – Kyhl – The proposed legislation has had no additional readings since this summer.

- F. Climate Change – Update on Workshop held in June, and information on future workshops – Kyhl – The workshop was well-attended and the Governor has requested we consider a follow-up workshop. Temple Stevenson from his planning office is working on the issue. In addition, the Drought Taskforce is being re-tooled to encompass climate issues including global climate change.
- G. Film Permits – update - Kyhl – Some confusion on whether or not a permit is needed by currently permitted Outfitter Guides. If they are commercially filming as a business (selling), they need a permit. Specific rules apply in Wilderness. In general, no filming (or photography) is allowed in wilderness unless there is an exception at the local level. Each forest needs to be contacted for specific criteria. It is imperative that potential film/photographers contact each unit for specific direction before proceeding. REACT does not make decisions related to specific agency policies.

### **III. Committee Reports**

A.Future Generations - Milward Simpson, Director, SPCR led discussion on “Kids in Nature” efforts.

- 1) State Parks is launching an initiative called “Wyoming Kids Extreme” – will potentially involve a partnership with Nintendo. First event will be a “Fire & Ice” snow sculpture event at the Cheyenne Depot Plaza this winter
- 2) The governor has indicated he would support a statewide initiative. Milward will coordinate a small group of government & non-government stakeholders to create a proposal for him
- 3) Mike Snyder is coordinating a NPS Rocky Mountain States Partnership with State Parks to utilize Junior Ranger and Teacher Ranger Teacher programs
- 4) Clearinghouse of opportunities – Milward will forward the “Best Practices Survey” that the steering committee of National Association of State Parks Directors (NASPD) and the NPS put together. He will also forward information on pending national “No Child Left Inside” legislation. Several REACT members mentioned various other initiatives they are aware of and/or involved in including:
  - National Diet Council,
  - Project Archeology
  - Jan. '08 Partners Outdoors Conference “Unlocking the Fun and Benefits of the Outdoors to All Americans, and Especially Youth”.
  - WY Game & Fish’s Wildlife in Learning Development curriculum (WILD).
  - BLM’s Take it Outside program,
  - Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland’s “Live the Miracles of Nature” program.

B.Environmental Quality and Open Spaces - Mary Peterson, Discussed possible ideas of what REACT’s role could be ensuring protection of environmental quality and open spaces. REACT decided to focus on:

1. Conserving Open Space by individually being involved in "Building the Wyoming We Want" local or regional sessions. Jeff Fuller will be the state coordinator for this effort and will be setting up a series of town hall meetings around the state. It will be important for agencies that are part of REACT to be involved in these meetings and to share ideas about conserving open space in WY and the benefits thereof.

2. Responsible Development to ensure Wildlife Conservation. John Emmerich shared information about the Western Governor's Association work on the Western Renewable Energy Zones (WREZ) Initiative (geothermal, wind, solar) through the new Western Wildlife Habitat Council established during the WGA conference in Jackson, WY this past June. Work being done to identify key wildlife corridors and core areas of crucial habitat (Core area sage grouse management concept). [REACT will sign on to the Governor's Executive Order re- Sage Grouse protection.](#)
3. Water and Energy Conservation. REACT discussed ways for Travel and Tourism to increase education and awareness of green practices in hotels and restaurants for water and energy conservation. Recommended increased information to service providers to appeal to "green" tourists and invite speakers to future Travel and Tourism conferences to discuss ideas and benefits of conservation practices for the services industry.

Deleted: REACT will sign on to the Governor's Executive Order re- Sage Grouse protection.

**C. Coordinated Recreation Program** - Leslie Kedelty – Held six Signage & Turnout Sign workshops in partnership with FS Center for Design and Interpretation – received good comments, hope to continue this year. I-80 Summit VC – redoing exhibits with Roybal Contractors.

Curtis Lund – Fee Database – need to validate agency contacts and pilot with a few agencies to test for errors. \*If you have potential “Beta-Testers” for this effort, please forward names to Curtis. This will tie in as a “consumer piece” to the sweeping WYGISC project at UW. They identified 31 data layers and UW has thus far delivered 25. Hope to launch at the end of the year. There will be clickable maps.

**D. Recreation Fee Coordination** - Update of Fee Repeal & Expanded Access Act – No proposed fees for Forest Service. Lesly Smith (BLM) said they would be submitting some new proposals in the future.

**E. Travel and Access; OHV Coordination** - OHV MOU – Kyhl – The MOU is being routed for signatures.

#### **D. New Business**

A. Wind energy & Transmission Lines – Impact on Recreation – This is a huge issue with SHPO due to viewshed. Since the REACT meeting, it has come to our attention that there will be a 2-3 day Wind Energy Symposium sponsored by the Governor's office, BLM, FS, State - late Fall.

B. Bill to eliminate RTP funding –Expect no news until new administration is in place.

C. Building the Wyoming We Want - Encourage involvement at local level.

D. Federal Agency Project overview

BLM Hot Sheet review – Lesley handed out Hot Sheets that are available on the website.

Forest Service Plans – Travel management planning still ongoing.

Shoshone and BT Forest Plans at various stages of completion.

Deleted: New Items- Award for Nick Agopian - Sharon to take care of

V. Next Meeting –

1. Work Session with Teton Science Schools, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 a.m. – Noon, Multipurpose rm – Barrett Building.
2. Regular Meeting - January 27, 2-5 pm, Little America following Governor’s Travel & Tourism Conference.

(Do we want a dinner speaker before the Legislative Reception?)

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Alan Dubberley sent Travel & Tourism Conference Agenda to help schedule January Meeting for Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2pm – 5pm. Legislative Reception follows.
2. Alan to send agency contact list for fee database development for each to review – If you have potential “Beta-Testers” for this effort, please forward names to Curtis Lund
3. Kyhl to finalize date for December Meeting with Jack Shea and resend Teton Science School Conservation Fund Proposal.
4. Kyhl to send Tess w/ WCC information on America the Beautiful Pass
5. Simpson to send agenda on Climate Change Workshop to be held in Iowa.
6. Kyhl to send final SIGNED copy of REACT MOU.

Deleted: ¶

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

7. Kyhl to send final Conservation Fund Proposal (Teton Science Schools)
8. REACT will sign on to the Governor’s 8/1/08 Executive Order #2008-2 re- Sage Grouse
9. WCC will work up project selection criteria that REACT will review next spring.
10. Kyhl will give paperwork to REACT member agencies re- America the Beautiful Pass for all volunteers for WCC work accomplished on Federal Lands.
11. Kids in Nature – Milward will forward the “Best Practices Survey” that the steering committee of National Association of State Parks Directors (NASPD) and the NPS put together. He will also forward info. on national “No Child Left Inside” legislation.
12. Milward will coordinate a small group of government & non-government stakeholders to create a proposal for the governor. He will be contacting some REACT folks for this effort.

Deleted: 7. Kyhl to follow up on award for Nick Agopian.

Deleted: 8.

Deleted: K

Deleted: 9

Deleted: 10

Deleted: 1

Deleted: 2

Deleted: 3

Deleted: .

Deleted: may

Deleted: .

Deleted: 14. Fee Database – If you have potential “Beta-Testers” for this effort, please forward names ¶ to Curtis Lund