

 <p>Front Range Roundtable Fuels Treatment Partnership</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting</p>	<p>Wildlife Working Team</p>
<p>Created by: Terra Lenihan</p>	<p><i>Meeting Minutes</i></p>	<p>Tuesday, April 22, 2014</p>

Meeting Name	Monthly Meeting #18
Meeting Date	Tuesday, April 22, 2014
Meeting Time	10:00 AM - 2:30 PM MDT
Venue	USFS-RO
Attendees	Terra Lenihan (Beh Consulting), Rick Truex (US Forest Service), Casey Cooley (Colorado Parks and Wildlife), Lynne Deibel (US Forest Service, ARP), Janelle Vallederes (US Forest Service, PSICC)

Meeting Notes

1) Welcome

2) Reorganize our agenda

1. Ideas for Tier 2 roadshow – bump
2. USGS involvement – next meeting
3. Final plans for 2014 field sampling
4. What to do if we get additional funding
5. Work plan through 2015
6. SPA update – Rick
7. Janelle – nothing to add
8. Meeting with RMBO has gone very well. The SPA is in its final stages of completion and signature – will talk about that today.

2) Integrating aberts into protocol

3) Update from Rick – have been meeting with RMBO, good shape in moving that forward. One more meeting. Agreement has been completed; will be processed soon. Needs to be signed by RO folks before work can occur. Mike Welker has agreed to stratified the PSICC part. Lynne said we need to work out a few things with RMBO; but overall in good shape. We wrote into the agreement – suggesting if we can we would work in the aberts squirrel – contingent on Felix and Jenny providing some info. If so we need 2-3 page protocol describing what we want done. May not be possible. Rick will seek feedback and thoughts on if we; what about scheduling a separate call with Jenny and Felix this week. We could try. Lynne suggested putting message out and see what we can do via email. If we don't do it this year we may not be using RMBO next year but still an opportunity to do abert's next year. Casey asked for clarity on aberts. Rick explained the reasoning. They are not sure how to sample. Big challenge their field crews already stretched. For a subset of sites this summer as many as 25%, decrease # of points on avian protocol (~16, go to 12 or 10) and rather sample 10 or 12 and integrate aberts sign surveys. In concept they are ok with that, but they don't have experience with that. Casey asked if we have dismissed the camera trap as a pilot" to see if that works? And we're going with call site survey? Have we had that discussion? Rick said we're thinking the sign surveys – we haven't done anything with the cameras so we can integrate

something with RMBO protocol. Possible to survey squirrels next year under a different protocol is possible, but they are looking at integrating it into all one umbrella with RMBO. Casey asked about the pine squirrel – they are going to collect that data this summer? Rick said they are going to collect the pine squirrel data. Abert's was deemed as a very important species.

Lynne could try to do the 28th. Or try to do via email. It's an option. Rick thinks we send a note out; let them know we think it's important but they would need to take the lead. Rick to send an email and copy everyone. Seems like Felix and Jenny are best poised to capture the methods to pass along to RMBO. Casey asked if that would be the same as their feeding sign protocol. Rick said it would be point and area based surveys. What if we could have this pulled together by May 12? If they can't do it by then that would be our answer.

What if we get additional funding this year in the next 3-4 months:

Janelle asked if RMBO can do extra sites for us? No. we'd have to have it now to do anything effectively with it next year. They are already stretched thin. Lynne thought we can put them in this agreement and they would carry over next year for 2015. What about buying cameras and equipment Lynne suggested. Casey suggested – if Abert's squirrel is going to be piloted anyway, what if we break it off and do that separate to the RMBO agreement – maybe they don't implement the pilot stuff. Rick said it doesn't have to be RMBO but we need to be attentive about the who, what, where, etc. Casey has been thinking about the camera trap stuff for squirrels, but if we think it through we could put out cameras (Casey and his field crew) could do that. He doesn't have the equipment right now. There's talk about trying to get some of that equipment in his

Janelle asked if we need any of that \$ for analyzing that data in the future? RMBO will analyze that and do the basics. Rick said at some point we will need to allocate through annual funds to do temporal data analysis. Rick said we need to have top 3-4 ideas available for that extra funding. ie buying cameras as part of long-term CFLRP.

Lynne said we could secure that \$ into existing agreement; it's allocated and available until 2016. She asked what folks think about making equipment purchases. We would need a plan for using them. We need to be accountable for this \$. Rick said the most obvious would be to have 1 camera per sampling method grid cell. Casey said we would try it out with a handful before we go buy a lot of them. That is why he is suggesting Casey, Jenny and Felix could they get enough on the ground to see if it would work?

- 1) Development by us and implementation by RMBO survey of abert survey
- 2) Integrate cameras (may not be with RMBO)

Casey wants to talk about funding. We have an allocation of funding. Rick explained the Understory team v Wildlife team – LR team decided to not fund Understory this year, fund Wildlife team this year, and swap years. We do 120 sites per year. Lynne explained that in next 6 months the LR team would come up with a master plan of how the money would be allocated over the next years.

Rick thinks we need to have this discussion with a broader group. Abert's squirrel. Rick is ok with having less robust with the abert's if we can integrate it into the same protocol this year. We need Felix and Jenny and rest of group to be at the table. We need their input on protocol. Rick can take a stab at capturing that and sending it to the broader group today. Lynne is thinking Felix and Jenny take the lead and this is what we need by X dates, can they meet that? If they can get a 2-pager together then Lynne can review it.

May 20 – Felix and Janelle likely unavailable. Casey can't do that week either. Can we send a doodle out. Memorial Day week or the first week of June. May 29-June 9 Lynne on leave. May 27th? Not for Rick?

Lynne is working on editing the project outline for our team. Gali had taken a few notes – we would not invent new protocol. How does this work with Abert's? We are not inventing new protocol but blending? We are tailoring existing methods to meet our needs.

Casey was interested in knowing that the road show was? Are we waiting on that? Lynne described it's a brainstorming session of how to get funding on some of our tier 2 species.

Rick do we redo the May meeting to get as many of us as we can.

Next Steps:

- Rick will capture next steps – abert's squirrel needs from Jenny & Felix
- Capture cameras pros/cons
- Additional funding pros/cons
- Rick will send to us all
- He will send to broader group tomorrow morning
- Terra to send a Doodle to reschedule the May 20 meeting. Thursday's not good generally for Lynne.