



MINUTES FROM FRONT RANGE ROUNDTABLE

Q1-Q3 QUARTERLY MEETING

Date of meeting: Friday, March 8, 2013, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Location: American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St., Golden, CO 80401

Date minutes posted: May 16, 2013

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Meeting presentation(s): http://www.frontrangeroundtable.org/Roundtable_Documents.php

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ABOUT THE ROUNDTABLE

Speaker: Gali Beh, Roundtable Facilitator

- The Roundtable has been implementing its mission “to serve as a focal point for diverse stakeholders input into efforts to reduce wildland fire risks and improve forest health through sustained fuels treatment along the Colorado Front Range” since 2006.
- 2 primary goals: fire restoration and mitigation
 - 800,000 acres in lower montane are prioritized for ecological restoration.
 - 1.1 million acres are prioritized for fire risk mitigation, particularly in the wildland-urban interface (WUI).
 - 400,000 of these acres overlap in which ecological restoration and fire mitigation work can be done simultaneously. These areas are the highest priority for work.
 - The map comparing treatment accomplishments to the 2006 recommendations has not been updated since 2008.
- Roundtable Successes:
 - Launched the self-sustaining Woodland Park Healthy Forest Initiative
 - Helped submit a winning proposal to the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) for Front Range National Forests in FY10, FY11, and FY12
- Each year the Roundtable checks the progress on the long-term strategy by looking at the 10 initiatives under the 4 goals.
 - Last quarter was the 1st time initiative progress decreased. Progress toward increasing funding for forest treatment, increasing appropriate application of prescribed fire, and adopting a framework for prioritizing treatments all decreased.
 - Progress on other initiatives increased. Contract sizes and durations with stewardship on federal land and development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans for at-risk communities along the Front Range increased.
- Welcome to Sallie Clark, the Roundtable’s newest executive team member.
- 438 people, representing 150 organizations, have participated in the Roundtable. The Roundtable’s email list has 210 subscribers.
- The Roundtable will discuss how new goals will fit into the agenda moving forward later in the meeting.

NEWS

GOVERNOR HICKENLOOPER’S EXECUTIVE ORDER B 2013-002: TASK FORCE ON WILDFIRE INSURANCE AND FOREST HEALTH & EXECUTIVE ORDER B 2013-001: WILDLAND AND PRESCRIBED FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Speaker: Carol Ekarius, Coalition for the Upper South Platte

- The task force had its 1st meeting a couple weeks ago, and is currently figuring out its purpose.
- Other interests on the task force besides conservation include: mortgage bankers, homeland security, state fire office, state forest services, insurance companies, water quality control, air quality control, and county commissioners.
- Everyone involved recognizes there is a role for the insurance companies to help with addressing Front Range communities at risk of wildfire.
 - Insurance companies are starting to recognize they may need to be involved in light of some of the more destructive fires of late.
- The task force will meet one more time with just the task force members to decide on an agenda and primary goals. The task force meetings will be open after the next meeting.
- The task force was asked to come up with policy recommendations for improving relations between insurance companies, landowners, and other wildfire stakeholders.
- Carol will send out an update on task force progress and request input from Roundtable members and others once the task force's direction is more defined.
- The goal for the task force is to report back out in July on its findings.
- A Prescribed Fire Committee has been put together as well and is holding a stakeholder meeting today (March 8, 2013) at the Capitol, with a hearing on Monday (March 11, 2013).

NEW HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM

Speaker: Lisa Dale, Department of Natural Resources

- The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is proposing through legislation a new \$10.3 million hazardous fuels reduction program
- The bill will probably be introduced in the next 2 weeks to allocate 10 million dollars of new money.
- This will be a competitive grant program targeted toward local governments, homeowners, associations, and non-profits working with local governments or homeowner's associations.
- Money will go toward projects on state and private lands.
- 25% of money will go toward capacity building grants, and 75% will go toward on the ground projects grants. 100% match is required.
- Maps will be provided of current, recent, and proposed fuels reduction projects on federal land so applicants can show landscape-scale impacts with their proposals.
- Applicants will need to provide information on how biomass material will be used.
- This one-time money should be on the ground this summer.
- An Advisory Committee will fine tune and finalize the application process, review applications, and award funds.

- The program in the bill will sunset after 5 years total, with a 2-year grant cycle. This includes distribution of funds, on the round work, and evaluation/monitoring. DNR is planning to build an evaluation component into the program.
- The Roundtable's role will be to talk to representatives at the Capitol once the bill is introduced and look toward local governments for support.
- There is bipartisan support in both chambers and the Governor is supporting the bill.
- Money from the grant must be spent in 18 months.
- The RFP should be released in May/June 2013, and the money should be awarded in June/July 2013.

CARPE DIEM WEST TRIP TO WASHINGTON

Speaker: Mike McHugh, Aurora Water

- Carpe Diem is a collection of utilities contributing money to forest and restoration projects around the West.
- The group took a trip to Washington DC to generate support and increase awareness about these issues.
- The group had a series of meetings with congressional staff, the Office of Management and Budget, the Western Governor's Conference, and representatives from federal agencies including the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Forest Service. These groups discussed how agencies could support forest and restoration projects and the role of policy and regulations. They also talked about specific restoration projects on the ground, focusing on water quality, supply, benefits, and the economic case justifying these investments.
- Overall, the discussions were well received, and people were surprised at the amount of work being done in the West.
- The Healthy Headwaters Workgroup is looking to expand and get more members signed onto the policy goals. Potential members include state or regional representatives from the West.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM SLASH SOLUTIONS & ROUNDTABLE MOU

Speaker: Gali Beh

- Announcement from Shirley Pfankuch
- Slash Solutions was formed by landowners in Northern Colorado to create a slash site to reduce wildfire risk using a profitable business model.
- Slash Solutions is planning a Community Forestry and Wildfire Awareness Day on May 4, 2013, and is looking for presenters in forestry topics. The Roundtable can email Gali with ideas for speakers as well as information on how to utilize logs dropped off at the slash site and how to dispose of ash.

GREEN BUILDING CODES IN BOULDER COUNTY

Speaker – Megan Davis, Boulder County

- Boulder County is working with the Consensus Building Institute, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the Colorado Chapter of the American Planning Association to plan a workshop on building codes.
 - Morning Session – if building codes work and how they are effective in the WUI
 - Afternoon Session - land use planners will discuss how to implement building codes
- The workshop will be in May, with a tentative date of May 17, 2013.
- More information will be sent out to the Roundtable.

JOINT FIRE SCIENCE RESTORATION FUNDING

- Colorado State University (CSU) researchers applied for funding for treatment and restoration projects in 2 National Forests on the Front Range, but the grant application was unsuccessful.
- Thank you to partners involved in applying for funding
- Any other ideas for funding sources or opportunities for this collaborative effort would be greatly appreciated.

FIRE LEGISLATION – SENATOR UDALL

Speaker: Jill Ozarski

- Stewardship Contracting and Good Neighbor Authority are both authorized to expire at the end of September.
 - Senator Udall wants to reauthorize both before they expire.
 - Stewardship Contracting Authority
 - Senator Udall is pushing to reauthorize in this in the Farm Bill. Changes will likely slow down reauthorization process or may stop it, so the most likely way to get reauthorization is to reauthorize the authority the way it is currently.
 - Good Neighbor Authority
 - Senator Udall has signed on to a bill to reauthorize and expand this authority to Western states.
 - This authority is controversial in some of the other states, so Senator Udall is also exploring reauthorizing the way it is.
 - Some other groups are concerned about allowing states to make management decisions and do treatments on federal lands

GUEST SPEAKER

Speaker: Dan Jiron, Regional Forester

- Thanks to this group. The Roundtable has made a lot of progress collaboratively over the years.
- Colorado has been dealing with climate change, insect disease, WUI for quite a while, and these issues have become more serious in recent years.
- Restoration and resilience are things we need to focus on looking forward in addition to continuing ongoing mitigation work.
 - Need to integrate current scientific thinking and come to a consensus to make good decisions going forward in light of issues like climate change and warming temperatures.
 - Collaboratives will be key to figure out questions moving forward.
- The Forest Service recently put out a report on increasing the pace on job creation and forest restoration to:
 - Create a framework to have a discussion about restoration
 - Increase the pace and scale of the work being done now
 - Outline where we are going in the future
- How do we sustain forests and communities – what can we learn from Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) projects?
 - These projects have been able to contribute to the economy and increase sustainability in communities through collaboration.
- Healthy Forest Restoration Act
 - Used to implement forest projects quicker.
 - Analysis is done quicker and becomes useful for future work.
- Forest Products Industry
 - Forest conditions are challenging in Colorado
 - There is low capacity to carry out work; most operators run family businesses.
 - The Forest Service has taken steps to create a more vibrant industry. Sales have picked up and mills have reopened in some areas.
 - With the mutual cancellation of contracts, the Forest Service has been able to look at where they are headed, the industry has been able to look at what is needed during uncertain economic times, and this strategy has been an essential tool to improve the robustness of the industry.
- Biomass
 - California put much stake in and implemented policies around biomass early on. California passed a biomass bill to put pilot forest restoration in and assign biomass wattage at these sites for community use.
 - Colorado is taking a leading role in biomass energy.

- 4 large stewardship contracts have been let out recently.
 - Colorado can use low value materials for electric generation.
 - Biomass energy helps with forest restoration.
- The Forest Service is having many budget challenges.
 - At the national level, the Forest Service is looking for areas where they can get a lot of return on their investments, so Mr. Jiron wants to demonstrate that the Rocky Mountain Region is a great place for investment.
 - The high number of collaborative efforts in Colorado makes a good case for investment.
 - Thinking out of the box will be important for continued restoration efforts.
 - Collaborating with the private sector can increase scale and investment.
 - Biomass can be useful to increase thinning and provide a source of electricity.
 - Building more partnerships can bring more resources to the work.
- As we integrate emerging science into forestry work, we need to consider how the land will look in the future. This means shifting thinking to how we want the land to look in the future and how we can get there. It also means challenging attachments to issues involved in forest management.
- Q&A Discussion
 - Role of citizen science (habitat monitoring, climate change, etc.)
 - The Forest Service is using citizen science in their work.
 - Example: General Technical Report GTR 220 – synthesis of science about the Sierra landscape. This report came out of collaborative work. Through the process, gaps in the knowledge base were discovered and the report helped change the discussion about the project. The process moved different stakeholders together to agree on challenges and moving forward on projects.
 - Something similar could be done in the Rocky Mountains involving citizen science as well as peer reviewed work.
 - Climate Change and Adaptation Process
 - This process has great promise for identifying values of concern and the tasks to address the problems, and could be a good way to prioritize where we need to focus. This process is going on in the Sierra Nevadas.
 - This process could be led by the Regional Forester and researchers in the form of a symposium.
 - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Education

- Reaching out to teachers could be a good way to introduce students to natural resource engineering through STEM curriculum.
 - The Roundtable may want to look at reaching out to elementary and middle school teachers, potentially through a symposium.
 - The Fire Ecology Institute for Educators is hosting a symposium at the Nature Place the last week in June 2013.
- Upper Monument Creek Project
 - This was a collaborative project using science, with the treatment done in December 2012.
 - This treatment met multiple restoration goals using a good restoration model that has improved greatly over the years.
- Sequestration's Impact on Forestry Projects
 - The Forest Service is still identifying what sequestration will mean for the agency, and will have to make decisions this year on how sequestration will impact restoration and recreation. More concrete answers will come in the next few weeks.
 - The Rocky Mountain Region has already budgeted frugally for this year.
 - The Forest Service will continue to support forest restoration contracts as best as possible.
 - It will be important this year to also look toward other resources in addition to federal money.
- Prescribed Fire
 - Mr. Jiron supports prescribed fire and encourages the use of it as one tool to improve forest health.
 - How prescribed fire is navigated is going to be challenging in light of recent negative impacts from the Lower North Fork Fire.
 - This collaborative can help by informing the public about the need for prescribed fire in an ongoing effort to work with communities to educate citizens.
- Symposium for Sharing Current and Emerging Science
 - A symposium could be a good way to share information and provide an educational forum on forest health and restoration topics that could help inform General Technical Report efforts and establish a vision moving forward. A symposium could also help identify gaps in knowledge.
 - A symposium could help revise forest plans using current science through the assessment process.

- Ecological Attachments in Our Lives
 - Everyone involved needs to look at what the land is going to be and what it needs using a scientific base of knowledge. For this shift, it is important to think about the future landscape rather than a specific prescription/treatment.
 - We all need to check in with our attachments and evaluate whether they are helpful or counter-productive.
- How do we leave the next generation the right information of what we knew and what we thought?
 - It is important to document what is happening on ongoing issues. This practice helps future staff to begin integrating what has been done with what needs to be done.
 - Engage children and citizens in the ecological change and process of renewal.
- Conclusion: Look at forest health with a longitudinal view and practice collaboration.
 - If we have a good sense of what we know, then we can work on gaps as we go forward; this will give us a good grounding in the future.
 - This helps all involved enter the decision making process more confidently.
 - This provides a support structure for forest plans and implementation.

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

THE AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB'S CONSERVATION & ADVOCACY WORK

Speaker: Leigh Goldberg

- Conservation advocacy
 - The American Alpine Club has been working on conservation for 111 years, with more resources becoming available recently to do this work.
 - John Muir was the 2nd president, so the Alpine Club has a long legacy of restoration work.
 - The club works with land managers in 3 key areas:
 - Public Policy - work in NEPA processes by representing the climber's perspective
 - Conferences - co-host conferences focused on sustainability and conservation
 - Funding – grant programs for local climbing communities to do grassroots conservation
- The Alpine Club is co-hosting their next conference in Alaska, focusing on sustainable practices in alpine environments.
- Thank you to Senator Udall for his support of climbing.

GUEST SPEAKER

SOCIAL DYNAMICS OF FIRE MANAGEMENT

Speaker: Dr. Sarah McCaffrey

- Fire management is a social process.
- Review of research perspectives on the public and fire management: General Technical Report NRS - 104
- Be careful of conventional wisdom because much of it has been debunked.
 - #1: They don't understand the risk
 - Actually, they do understand the risk, but risk is complex and subjective.
 - Actual decisions to mitigate fire risks are driven by probability x consequences, risk tolerance, and weighing the trade-offs with the benefits.
 - #2: Smokey has taught the public to think all fire is bad
 - 80% of people see prescribed fire and thinning as appropriate management, with a clear preference for active management.
 - There is no evidence that people see all fire as bad.
 - #3: New residents are less aware and less active in relation to fire mitigation
 - There is no consistent evidence to support this; newcomers are often more progressive and responsive to fire management practices.
 - Most people moving into areas of concern are from within the county or state, so most are aware of the fire risks.
 - Confirmation bias - people who own their property for a long time may have formed their notion of fire risk a long time ago and be less responsive to new information.
 - #4: Part-time residents are less likely to understand fire risk than full-time residents
 - No evidence for this claim.
 - If part-time residents are less active, then it is because of lack of time, not education. However, it is true absentee owners are less likely to be active in fire risk reduction.
 - #5: People don't take responsibility for their land
 - People recognize their responsibilities and expect to reduce the risk on their own property. People also recognize the risk is shared and are concerned about actions taken on adjacent properties, including federal lands.
 - Most people report doing at least some type of vegetation management, and many report working to make their house more fire resistant.
 - People's expectations of the government include managing the risk on government land, providing specific information on what people should do on their property, and helping with larger scale obstacles (such as disposing of materials).

- When threatened by a wildfire, about 50% of people wait to see what happens and don't follow recommendations to evacuate immediately.
 - #6 Experience will have a consistent effect
 - Experience with wildfire can lead to complacency, action, or no change.
 - Messages to take action are most effective after the fire if the public has already received similar message before the fire.
 - #7 Geographic or Demographic Patterns Exist
 - No relationship has been found between demographics and broad patterns.
- Communication Principles
 - Insurance
 - Most people indicate insurance is not an incentive to do something proactive to reduce wildfire risk.
 - Insurance companies tend to view their role as a source of education, not financial incentives, because they must comply with strict regulations, they compete in a very competitive market, and their expenses from fire are not that large.
 - What shapes public views?
 - Understanding=acceptance; there is a strong link between knowledge and support for a treatment method.
 - People can have positive views of ordinances if they perceive the risk as high.
 - Open communication is critical, especially when mistakes are made. Not having open communication is the number one reason people lose trust in an agency.
 - People are more likely to support prescribed fire when they know about the ecological benefits. This positive message is more effective than negative messages about wildfire risk.
 - Escape is a concern for people during prescribed fires.
 - Health problems related to smoke exist in about 1/3 of households, which correlates to the percent of people reporting smoke from prescribed fires as a problem.
 - Trust in an agency manager is a significant predictor of approval for forest management practices. Trust has 3 main components:
 - Competency – professional skill, objective, adequate communication, etc.
 - Benevolence – openness, sincerity, responsiveness
 - Integrity – fairness, consistency, transparency

- Treatments are generally acceptable provided knowledgeable people, preferably locals familiar with the area, do them.
 - Understand your audience and talk about their values.
 - Interactive communication is the key to behavior change.
- Communication During Fires
 - Transparency, setting realistic expectations, and interactivity are key to effective communication that will reduce uncertainty.
 - People are interested in: fire status, fire location, fire hazard/concerns, evacuation, and road closures. People seek this information from multiple sources, with interactive and official sources seen as more useful and trustworthy.
- Final Message: The public wants to know who you are, what you do, and why you are doing it. People want agencies to use science in decision-making and listen to local views.
- Q & A
 - Social media is generally not seen as trustworthy during a fire because it's usually not from an official source.
 - The majority of people support fire management work, so we need to find ways to leverage the silent majority while recognizing we most often hear the vocal minority.
 - It would be valuable to survey the Lower North Fork Fire community to see if perceptions have changed about prescribed fire.
 - Policies on how to do prescribed burns have changed since Lower North Fork.
 - Now more political risk aversion to using this treatment.
 - Even when there are mistakes, when agencies are open and transparent with their communication, trust will be easier to build again
 - There is now decentralized communication in this area at the local level, which adds more credibility for distributing information and is an important way to leverage local resources.
 - The community's definition of forest health may be different than yours, so forest managers may need to have a conversation with the community as to what forest health is.
 - Equal communication efforts may not have equal results, so you need to understand your audience and how you reach them.
 - Relationships built before a fire are very important because people will turn to the sources they are familiar with during a fire.
 - The bigger problems are often institutional rather than with public opinion, which evolves quickly with new information.

- ‘Not in My Backyard’ thinking can often be avoided if clear, honest communication is established
- Do people feel safer if they see work being done on the forest? Possibly.
- Identifying where people are getting their information from is very important for community communication.
- Mechanical treatments are more accepted closer to communities, whereas prescribed fire is more acceptable as areas get more remote.
- It is important to communicate that the forest is not fireproof, and that forest management changes the fire regime.
- Further documents: GTR-NRS-104; GTR-NC-267; GTR-NRS-1

PROGRESS UPDATES

FUNDRAISING/BUDGETING UPDATE

Speaker: Carol Ekarius, Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP)

- The Roundtable has not received payment from most organizations. The Research Station is again contributing to the Roundtable, and we are in better financial shape than a year or two ago. The Roundtable has \$49,000 for the year so far, with about \$5,000 in expenses to date.
- The Colorado Collaborative Award (\$50,000 prize) may be an opportunity for the Roundtable. However, they want the group to have an MOU, which the Roundtable does not have. How we present the story of the Roundtable may be a good topic for a future meeting.
- Helen Dyer from CUSP is available if others want to work as part of a grant writing/fundraising committee to bring in funds.
- The upcoming DNR Grant is not meant for collaboratives, but Carol will be talking to Lisa more about that possibility and urges other members to do the same.
- Expense Items: The National Forest Foundation (NFF) grant is over for landscape restoration, but CSU has picked up some of that funding.

Speaker: Gali Beh, Roundtable Facilitator

EXECUTIVE TEAM

- Their main goal is to fundraise, respond to letters of support, plan quarterly meetings, and manage Gali’s contract.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION TEAM

- This team is currently meeting monthly.
- Goals include: Limiting the wildfire risk in the WUI by developing a consistent communication and outreach initiative and working with insurance companies to standardize defensible space guidelines.

- This team is entirely volunteer coordinated and facilitated by Megan Davis (Boulder County).

BIOMASS UTILIZATION AND SLASH SITES (BUSS TEAM)

- This team is probably not meeting – too many people were coordinating it. Tara could get this team going again.
- This may be an initiative that could benefit from the NRC grant money.
- May want to collaborate with another ongoing group to get the information instead of managing a team of our own. Much good work is going on, but we still have a biomass challenge on the Front Range.
- **Action Item:** Contact the former members of the BUSS team to find out where they are and what their interests are if they could get some funds. Hal Gibbs (USFS, ARP) will ask Mark to call Craig.

LANDSCAPE RESTORATION TEAM

- Goals include: Serve as CFLR monitoring group, develop an adaptive management process, and revise the monitoring plan.
- Monitoring results from this group are coming in. The adaptive management process is almost ready for review and addendums are being added to the monitoring plan.

WILDLIFE TEAM

- Rick and Lynn are the leaders of this team. Terra could take over Gali's role on this team. This team plans to finish work by February 2014.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

POTENTIAL GOALS

Speaker: Gali Beh, Roundtable Facilitator

- 40 Year Treatment Plan
 - We have the next 10 years planned out, but not the 30 beyond that.
 - **Action Item:** The executive team decided Jerri Marr (USFS, PSICC) and Glenn Casamassa (USFS, ARP) should bring data and maps of future work planned on forests to the May meeting. Based on this information, the Roundtable will decide how private lands fit into that vision. Roundtable agrees.
- Prescribed Fire Initiative
 - The executive team did not have a proposal yet; they wanted to hear ideas from the Roundtable. The science symposium may fit into this initiative.
 - **Action Item:** Rob Addington (Colorado State University) will talk to the Prescribed Fire Council to get ideas to better define this initiative.
- Policy Initiative

- **Action Item:** The executive wanted Megan Davis (Boulder County) to bring the idea back to the Community Protection Team and get their input.
- Gali's presentation at the Capitol
 - Legislators would like a field trip, but the Roundtable budget is limited. A field trip to Waldo or High Park could be the first step of a policy initiative.
 - We may want to combine this fieldtrip with the Roundtable annual field trip to save money.
 - A big expense is the bus, which CSU may be able to donate.
 - **Action Item:** CUSP can facilitate a fieldtrip in the Waldo area and showcase the Long John work (possibly with Forest Service staff). Mike McHugh is also willing to help facilitate.
- Representative Coffman's office notified Mike McHugh (Aurora Water) that congressional committees would be coming out May 2 for a field hearing to look at more money for forest health through the Farm Bill.
- Implementation Initiatives
 - West Boulder County Healthy Forest Initiative
 - **Action Item:** Gali is working on community outreach.
 - The main issue is lack of matching funds. The Roundtable would need to commit \$50,000 - \$75,000 like what was done for the Woodland Park Healthy Forest Initiative (this money came from a specific State Forest Grant that was matched by CUSP, so it may be difficult to duplicate).
 - Boulder County has offered to be a fiscal sponsor for this initiative, but the relationship is unclear currently.
- Map
 - The map of treatments and fires is from 2008 and needs to be updated.
 - **Action Item:** Hal Gibbs (USFS, ARP) will be in charge of coordinating the map update.
- Symposium
 - Water Research Foundation – Impacts of Wildfires on Water Utilities and Water Operations is on April 4th and 5th. The 1st day will be open to everyone.
 - Lisa Dale is coordinating a collaboration of the collaboratives and put on a similar event last fall.
 - Having an Association for Fire Ecology regional conference on the Front Range could be a way to bring in a symposium that has existing funding.
 - The Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) provides funding for conferences.

- The CFLR Coalition is working to get regional meetings together. This may be a place for the Restoration Institutes to step up for the Southwest Region. The Roundtable could help with a very focused scientific session.
 - The Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) is planning a field trip down to Flagstaff to see their CFLR project on May 21-24. All are welcome.
 - Conclusion: The Roundtable's role is probably better suited to support other entities, like the CFRI, in planning and hosting a symposium.
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- The next Roundtable meeting is May 31 – location TBA