
From: dwmacbevor@aol.com [mailto:dwmacbevor@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2007 10:23 AM

To: BIRCH Kevin R

Subject: Re: FFAC November Agenda

Kevin:

I have not been able to schedule myself to attend any of the meetings. I do appreciate the emails with the meeting notes.

I am a consultant for Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises on renewable energy development. One of the programs the Tribe has under development is a biomass power plant that is tied to fuels reduction and forest health thinning. This program also has memorandums of agreement with the adjacent Deschutes, Ochoco and Mt. Hood National Forest and Pringleville BLM District for stewardship agreements on forest health thinning and use of that material as a fuel supply.

My suggestion is that your group ask Warm Springs Forest Products to make a presentation regarding how it works on the reservation. I believe there is a significant potential for economic recovery of thinning materials as fuel supply for small biomass power plants. The recent Resource Portfolio Standards enacted in WA and OR set requirements for all utilities to have 25% renewable energy by 2025. This will establish a market in which small community based biomass power plants could compete as long as they had long term fuel supplies (10 years). Stewardship contracts for forest health thinning could supply that fuel. The Warm Springs Tribe has realized this potential and are already under construction for this power plant.

I am also on the Deschutes National Forest PAC and have been on the audit committee for implementation of the NW Forest Plan. I have walked the ground on fire recovery and fuel reduction projects on both the Federal lands and the Tribal lands in similar ecological settings. The one thing I can say is that the Tribe seems to be way ahead of the Federal land managers on getting the right program in place and working. The Tribe's forest management programs have resulted in healthier forest, while the Fed's are still planning. There is a lot to be learned by reviewing how the Warm Springs Tribe has shifted their forest management program from sustain production to sustainable ecosystems which also have timber and fuels production.

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