

Memo to SBEADMR Working Group

May 1, 2015

Below is a brief update on status of the release of the DEIS on the proposed Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR). Where do we want to go from here as a Working Group?

Release of DEIS

The Forest Service is on target to release the draft EIS between May 15 and May 22. Notice of publication will be posted in the Federal Register. There will be a 45 day comment period following the release. The PLP will post a notice of the release and a link to the DEIS on its website.

Proposed Meeting for the SBEADMR Working Group

The Working Group agreed to await the release of the DEIS prior to scheduling more meetings. Is there interest in a Q&A session, and when? The Q&A session would provide an opportunity to raise questions and seek clarification on specific issues within the DEIS. The group might also identify specific issues/topics they wish to pursue in more detail in subsequent meetings, i.e. socio-economic analysis, adaptive management approach, etc. as a result of having read the DEIS and prior to release of the final EIS.

We might ask the Forest Service to provide an update on the work of the Rocky Mountain Research Station and CSU on the literature review and GIS optimization model as outlined in their "SBEADMR Monitoring Project" proposal. We thought to convene such a meeting midway through the comment period would be a good time for folks.

Proposed Field Trip to Demonstrate Adaptive Management Approach in Selecting Priority Treatment Sites

Is there interest in a field trip for the SBEADMR Working Group this summer? There may be opportunities to look at how adaptive management and input from the working group's identified guidelines (coarse screen factors) would be applied in selecting priority treatment areas. It might be possible to schedule such a field trip before the comment period ends or later in the summer.

Please respond to Chris Miller at info@publiclandpartnership.org by May 15th with your interest in either scheduling a Q&A session for the working group in mid-June and/or a field trip as proposed above.....and any other thoughts you might offer as how to move forward.

Schedule of Remaining PLP-Coordinated Outreach Meetings regarding Spruce Beetle and Aspen Decline

- Telluride – Monday May 4th, 6pm, Wilkinson Library Program Room
- Lake City, June 25th, 7pm, Corsey Annex
- Ouray, TBD
- Delta County – North Fork – Tentatively June
- Montrose, TBD
- Grand Junction, Mesa University, TBD