

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2008

Attendees:

FENW: Dave R., Marilyn, John T., Rick, Currie, and George

USFS: Cindy Ebbert

Meeting Minutes – Currie will provide minutes from the October Annual Meeting and the October Board Meeting. Update: Secretary's PC crashed taking all files with it – will chat with Currie about the receiving the minutes (again).

Treasurer's Report

- As of December 8, the Full Year 2008 forecast was to result in \$10,448 in cash at the end of the year, an improvement of \$689 from the September forecast and an increase of \$2,038 from January 1.
- The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Business Items

Membership

- The November membership drive continues its success. As of December 8, dues totaling \$4,825 had been received, an increase of \$2,125 over 2007.
- A total of 133 memberships have been recorded during the year, of which 20 are new memberships.

Summit County Grants

- Awards have been received from Frisco (\$250) and Silverthorne (\$500). Dillon did not award any monies.
- Update: also received \$2,500 from TSF and \$250 from Breckenridge by the end of 2008.

Noxious Weed Treatment Projects

- Updates:
 - On January 14, 2009 FENW received \$10,000 from NFF Ski Conservation Fund.
 - Given the funding from NFF, it was decided not to request funding from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. George will advise RMEF of our continued focus on weed mitigation and the positive benefits to the local elk population.
- Pulling for Colorado – ***Board Motion: Authorize up to \$500 for the 2009 project.***

Trail Projects

- Agreed to schedule 4 trail projects in 2009.
- Agreed to work a National Trails Day joint project w/FDRD at Acorn Creek on June 6.
- Currie agreed to follow-up with Cindy Ebbert to plan the other 3 projects.

Wilderness Volunteers – Summit

- There continue to be problems with on-line reporting that is filed with FDRD and purportedly used by the USFS. Marilyn suggested a meeting with FDRD to determine solutions. Meeting timing is TBD.

Wilderness Volunteers – Eagle

- Objectives for 2009 include:
 - Assist with training and updating training material;
 - Eagle “team” will liaison with the FENW BD and assume responsibility for the organization. However, the key teammembers need to be identified.
 - Julie King has taken responsibility for maintaining the Training Manual.
- Ken Harper will attend the next FENW Board Meeting. Update: Ken’s coming to the Feb 17 meeting.

Other Projects

- NFF Wilderness Stewardship (due 2.2.09) – could focus on campsite inventories which is a goal consistent with the USFS 10 Challenges. Further information required. Update: decided not to submit a grant request.

Tools & Equipment

- As of December 8, \$4,528 was spent during 2008 and a total of \$11,036 has been spent during the course of the project; the project completion date is Dec 31, 2009.
- Of the \$4,528 spent in 2008, \$1,042 was covered by the initial \$7,550 advance received in 2007. The remaining \$3,486 will be submitted to State Trails for reimbursement. (George)
- Consider searching for a maintenance contractor to clean & sharpen the inventory in the Spring (George)
- It will be challenge to spend the remaining \$3,964 in 2009 on tools & equipment. Consideration will be given to constructing a second tool shed; timing TBD.
- There is a need to purchase GPS units and organize/conduct an appropriate training program. Suggestion is to buy 5 units; George to follow-up with John T.

Web Updates

- Hosting Direct payment has not been made and the outstanding balance (\$54) must be resolved. Update: Payment was processed on Dec 28.
- Only one payment has been received through the FENW PayPal account. We need to publicize this payment option in upcoming newsletters.

Other Funding Opportunities

- It was agreed to pursue funding opportunities with local companies (e.g. banks) or outdoor companies (e.g. REI). Further details are TBD.

Next Board Meeting will be on February 17 at the Eagles Nest HOA Community Center at 6:00.

George Resseguie,
Secretary/Treasurer

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, Cyndi, Dave, George, John, and Marilyn.

USFS – Jan Cutts, Cindy Ebbert and Brian Lloyd (Eagle/Holy Cross District Ranger)

Meeting Minutes – Minutes of the August 28 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- As of the meeting date, cash on hand was \$13,632 and \$12,513 in expenses has been recorded (includes uncashed checks). A key expense item for this period was payment to Weed Busters (\$9,277.25).
- FY forecasted cash on hand decreased \$342 from previous forecast as follows because grant funding requested from The Summit Foundation (TSF) totaled \$2,704 rather than the total grant amount of \$3,050. The decrease resulted because expenses projected in the grant were when training was combined with Friends of the Dillon Ranger District. Reimbursement from TSF is pending. (Update: TSF check for \$3,050 received October 1.)
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Discussion with Jan Cutts and Brian Lloyd regarding 2009 Eagle County plans

- Brian and Jan attended to discuss FENW's plans for 2009 and beyond. At issue:
 - The FENW/USFS (Beth Boyst) agreement regarding establishing an operating a Volunteer Wilderness Program concludes in 2008.
 - About 26 volunteers participate in the program, but their preferred focus is on trail patrols; there seems to be little interest in working on trail maintenance or campsite restoration projects, and there have been frequent 100% cancellations of previous commitments to work on trails and campsites.
 - The overall Wilderness Volunteer Program is a success and it would be shame to see it terminated.
 - The Eagle/Holy Cross District has staffing adequate for trail maintenance efforts; also, they effectively work with the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps for trail maintenance. Accordingly, there is limited need for a FENW program to supplement their efforts.
- Brian wants to ensure there would be no competition for grant funding between Eagle and Summit Counties; all agreed this would not be a problem.
- For next steps, Currie and Cyndi will challenge the attendees at the Volunteer Recognition Party in October to step up and lead the Wilderness Volunteer Program with particular focus on training and coordination. The BD will work with the Eagle County volunteers through the winter to establish a leadership plan.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle County

- Volunteer recognition party will be scheduled on October 24 or 25, probably in Minturn. Cyndi expects between 15-20 people to attend and all FENW BD members will be invited. *Board Motion: Authorize Cyndi to spend up to \$425 for refreshments and related supplies and travel expenses for the party.*

Business Items

Annual Meeting

- Meeting will be held starting at 6:00 on October 9 at the Frisco Rec Center; George will pay the \$35 fee in advance of the meeting.
- All BD members will attend except George and possibly Cyndi who is scheduled for jury duty.
- Currie will handle procurement of food & beverages.
- Topics will include: annual reviews of completed trail projects; discussion of the Travel Management Plan status and/or the Hidden Gems initiative; introduction of the new DRD Ranger and a report from a USFS representative; and, a demonstration of tools used on trail projects.

Noxious Weeds

- John intends to prepare a funding request to the NFF/Ski Area Conservation Fund for \$12,000. The scope will include work in both Eagle and Summit Counties for the Eagles Nest Wilderness and, possibly, adjacent non-Wilderness areas.
- A new concern regarding weeds invading disturbed soil areas where extensive tree cutting has occurred will have to be addressed in future grant requests. The weeds typically "arrive" the third year after the soil has been disturbed initially.
- The Summit Foundation (TSF) will make their decision on our request for \$2,500 in December.
- Depending on funding decisions by the NFF/Ski Area and TSF, we may prepare a request to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (must be submitted in January 2009).
- Marilyn suggested FENW sponsor a "weed consortium" session including the USFS, towns, HOAs and other interested parties. Alternatively, FENW could send letters discussing weed mitigation strategies to the same parties. Further details will be discussed at upcoming BD meetings.
- John will lead a weed pull with the Vail Mountain School (11 year olds) on October 26.

Grant Status (other than noxious weeds)

- Vail Resorts has launched a "Vail Resorts 360" corporate giving program. FENW will submit a funding request (amount TBD) in the Spring 2009; Marilyn will coordinate preparation of the grant.
- Some interest in submitted a grant request to the State Trails activity for signage material and related construction/installation. Timing for the grant submission is November 1. George will follow-up.

Membership

- Dues received to date total \$4,015, and increase of \$1,315 over 2007.
- The October newsletter will include dues reminder notices. This process was very successful in "jump-starting" the 2008 membership drive, including \$2,720 received in April for renewals and new members.

Fundraising – Efforts will focus on the membership drive in the October newsletter.

Website Update – Will be discussed at an upcoming meeting (TBD).

Tools & Equipment

- George reported that there are virtually no losses of tools other than minor breakage. Monthly inventories have indicated only a couple of items that are missing, but explanations are available in those cases.
- Tool Committee (George, Cindy E., Guff VanVooren, and Kurt Steuer) meeting will be scheduled by the end of October to review the 2008 program, suggest improvements, and arrange a tool maintenance day.
- The saw blade has been given a name by the Silverthorne Elementary School third graders: "Tooth Monster".
- Request received from FDRD to purchase smaller tools for Trail Crew Leaders to carry with them; George R. will follow-up with VOC.
- George to contact VOC in October to determine best plans for a tool maintenance day.
- Marilyn suggested obtaining insurance for the tools and the storage shed (total value exceeds \$10,000). George R. will follow-up with local agencies.

Newsletter

- Reminder notice (post card) for the Annual Meeting (Oct 9) will be mailed next week (Marilyn/Dave).
- A newsletter will be prepared and distributed by the end of October (Marilyn/Dave); all articles and pictures should be provided as soon as possible after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Project Planning for 2009

- Cindy Ebbert is planning for 4 FENW projects in 2009; project sites are TBD. Member suggestions will be requested at the Annual Meeting in October.
- Cindy does not anticipate any FENW funding for materials will be needed in 2009.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Summit

- Cyndi will work with FDRD and USFS folks regarding Volunteers' reporting trail monitoring results. At issue are how the data reported are utilized and how the PC-based reporting process could be simplified. Further details are TBD.

Advocacy

- Currie will prepare an Op-Ed article for the Summit Daily regarding proper uses of snowmobiles. The article is in reaction to the death of a snowmobiler last year in the Elliot Ridge area.

Other Items

- *Make A Difference Day in Summit County – October 11* – Interest was expressed in FENW sponsoring a project that is doable in the short time period available (about 3 hours). Accordingly, focus may include a project in a non Wilderness area. Cyndi and Cindy Ebbert will discuss further to determine whether anything can be done in the short time remaining before the event.
- *USFS Wilderness Volunteer Workshop* – The workshop will be held in Golden on December 12-13; BD members interested in attending need to advise the USFS by October 27.

Upcoming Meetings

- The FENW Annual Meeting is Thursday October 9 at 6:00 the Frisco Rec Center.
- The next BD meeting will be on October 23 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie, Secretary/Treasurer

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, Cyndi, George, and John.

USFS – Cindy Ebbert and Jan Cutts (new District Ranger)

Meeting Minutes – Minutes of July 24 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- As of July 31, cash on hand was \$23,555 and \$2,590 in expenses has been recorded.
- FY forecasted cash on hand decreased \$3971 from previous forecast as follows:
 - Added grant funding from The Summit Foundation (TSF) 2006 Grant (\$3,050) that was never requested!
 - Revised forecast to recognize any funding from the recently submitted TSF grant request and a possible Vail Valley Foundation grant (total of \$4,000) will not be received until 2009.
 - Deferred a possible fall fundraiser (\$2,000) until 2009 because of the newly available funding from The Summit Foundation.
 - Expenses increased by \$1,050 for brochure printing and additional forecasted admin costs.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Discussion with Jan Cutts, the new Dillon Ranger District Ranger

- Jan comes to Summit County from the American River Ranger District in California. She has 18 years' experience with the US Forest Service, all in California. She has been in the County for 2 weeks and is looking forward to working with FENW to achieve our goals and objectives.

Business Items

Noxious Weeds

- John Pickering is actively spraying this week; this probably will be his only visit here during the summer season. John T. is coordinating the spraying program with John.
- For 2009, John T. is concerned with an increased presence of noxious weeds in areas where dead/diseased lodgepole pines have been cleared. Future grant requests will include focus on added treatment requirements.

Grant Status

- George to research specifics for allowable costs related to the NFF Meet the Challenge grant.
- Agreed to submit grant requests to the NFF/Ski Area Conservation Fund (John T.) in October, and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation next January.
- Decided not to submit a grant request to Colorado State Trails in November.
- Currie will follow-up with Vail Resorts regarding a possible grant request.

CCSA/Hunter Patrol w/USFS

- Feedback is needed from the USFS regarding the future of the CCSA/Hunter Patrol arrangement; further information is TBD pending the involvement of Jan Cutts/DRD staff.
- Cindy Ebbert is developing a snowmobile patrol program, including education/outreach, installing signage, and implementing some kind of monitoring plan. Further details are TBD.

Membership

- Dues received to date through August 28 totaled \$4,015 which is an increase of \$1,315 over 2007; estimated total dues for 2008 are \$4,465.
- The next dues "campaign" will kick-off with the September newsletter.

Fundraising

- FENW Paypal account has been established. George must provide details to Rick to get a link established on our website.
- Currie is continuing to follow-up with John Fielder regarding a possible fall fundraiser.

Tools & Equipment

- Tool Committee (George, Cindy E., Guff VanVooren, and Kurt Steuer) meeting will be scheduled by the end of September to review the 2008 program, suggest improvements, and arrange a tool maintenance day.
- There was positive feedback from the Town of Silverthorne regarding the presentation of the saw blade/signed photo of the blade in use at the August 13 Town Council Meeting. We are still waiting for the Town to name the blade!

Website Update

- Will be discussed at an upcoming meeting (TBD).

Newsletter

- Next newsletter will be mailed mid-September; Marilyn will coordinate. BD members should submit items to Marilyn as soon as possible. Newsletter will include the dues reminder notices that were so successful in the Spring Newsletter.
- There will be a focus on including pictures in this edition of the newsletter.
- The Bitlers will be in charge of mailing the newsletter.

Communication

- Recent coverage in the Summit Daily has been terrific; thanks, Dave.

Project Planning

- Cindy Ebbert provided an update on the work the USFS/Rocky Mtn. Youth Corps is doing to build a new bridge in Mesa Cortina. Cindy is working with local homeowners in Ruby Ranch and an outfitter to provide materials for the bridge. The Board agreed to purchase materials as well: *Board Motion – provide up the \$350 in funding to purchase lumber for the new bridge.*

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Summit

- Recognition party will begin at 6:00 on September 20 at the Eagles Nest Property Homeowners Association Community Center. All W. Volunteers, participating folks from the USFS, and BD members will be invited.
- Refreshments will be similar to the 2007 party – Hearthstone Catering will provide the food; George R. to buy the beer/wine.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle

- Campsite cleanup and rehabilitation was very successful – 20 sites were completed. Work was handled by 3 volunteers from Eagle County and 2 from Summit County.
- Cyndi will handle logistics for a recognition party, including determining how many volunteers plan to attend (there must be at least 10) and finding a site for the event.

Advocacy

- FENW will provide feedback to the State regarding a proposed rule to govern roadless areas in Colorado's eight national forests (Currie). The public comment period ends on October 23. Further details are TBD.

Mileage Reimbursement Policy

- BD agreed for George to develop a policy that will reimburse some costs for any travel outside Summit County. Presently, the IRS allows for \$.14 per mile or actual costs; a challenge will be to decide how to document actual costs. George to provide a proposal at the next BD meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- Summit County Wilderness Volunteer Recognition meeting is September 20 at 6:00 at the Eagles Nest Property Homeowners Community Center.
- The next BD meeting will be on September 25 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.
- The FENW Annual Meeting is Thursday October 9 at the Frisco Rec Center.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie, Secretary

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, Cyndi, Dave, George, John, Marilyn, and Rick

Meeting Minutes – Minutes of June 26 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand was \$24,114 at July 24; \$2,030 in expenses have been recorded YTD 2008.
- Nominal change in cash on hand from June was \$20 in dues.
- Forecast reflected, for the first time, anticipated grant funding from The Summit Foundation (\$2,500), a Fall Fundraiser (\$2,000) and Vail Valley Resort Fund (\$1,500). Funding was offset by an increase in the match for the NFF/Ski Area Resort Funding (from \$1,150 to \$2,500). Also, further discussion with the USFS is required regarding \$2,000 for Hunter Patrol funding.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Business Items

Noxious Weeds

- "Pulling for Colorado" event on July 12 was a terrific success.
- FENW will utilize 2 backpack sprayers as much as possible; far cheaper than hiring a contractor and very effective along trails and borders of trail heads.
- Another weed treatment contractor (Paul Schriener) will be contacted about working in Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan areas next year. (John)
- Hal Pearce is the new USFS weed coordinator, replacing Wayne Nelson. John anticipates meeting with Hal in Summit County next week.
- Lots of work needed in Eagle County. Efforts will begin to identify someone to take the lead in organizing weed mitigation through personal contacts and working through the Environmental Editor of the Vail Daily. (All)

Grant Status

- Marilyn will lead preparation of grant requests for The Summit Foundation and the four towns. Grants will request funding for noxious weed mitigation, wilderness volunteers, and other related projects. Timing is to have the grants finished by August 15; a review meeting is scheduled a 3:00 on August 12 at the Silverthorne Rec. Center.
- Currie will follow up with Vail Ski Resorts regarding a funding program that supposedly will become available in August. Currie also will lead preparation of any grant request.
- Planning should begin for preparation of grant requests for NFF/Ski Area Conservation Fund and Colorado State Trails immediately after the grants for TSF and the towns is completed (George/John).
- Grant submission timing for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is January 2009.

Membership

- Dues received to date through July 24 totaled \$3,965 an increase of \$1,265 over 2007; estimated total dues for 2008 are \$4,465.
- The next dues "campaign" will kick-off with the fall newsletter.

Fundraising

- George will work to establish a PayPal account for FENW by the end of July. Rick then will design a link from the FENW website to PayPal for donations & dues. Note: PayPal charges a 2.5% processing fee for any funds processed.
- Currie will follow-up with John Fielder regarding participating in a fall fundraiser. Also, Vince White-Petteruti has expressed an interest in managing a Fielder event if the proceeds can be split 50/50 with his 501 (c)(3) endeavor – Domus Pacis Family Respite. Currie will follow-up with John to get a firm plan before discussing whether to proceed with Vince's suggestion.

Tools & Equipment

- Tom Brennom will assist George in getting the Crosscut Saw Company to return/exchange a saw blade that is not considered usable in our Wilderness areas. Next step is to send a letter to the owner of Crosscut Saw requesting reconsideration of their stated position; letter will be sent in the next two weeks.
- FENW will present a picture of our new saw blade in use (Cindy/Kurt Steuer) to the Town of Silverthorne at the next Town Council meeting (August 13) and take the saw to the Council for pictures with the Mayor and Council members. George to coordinate logistics. Cyndi to get a picture framed.

Website Update

- Website still needs work; we must have a detailed review at an upcoming meeting.

Newsletter

- Next newsletter will be mailed mid-September. Marilyn will coordinate.

Communication

- Rick suggested that BD members contact FENW members without an e-mail to add contact information that will enable a more complete electronic distribution of information. Next step is to divide the list among BD members (timing TBD).
- George will provide an updated membership listing to everyone by July 28.
- Dave Raymond has purchased the camera, case, memory stick. All agreed it is important to have the camera available for all FENW projects to document/publicize all that we do.

Project Planning

- FENW Gateways project is scheduled for Sunday, July 27 with focus on trail maintenance at Mesa Cortina. Darlene Quinn will represent the USFS; Currie will coordinate.
- Cyndi will lead a campsite rehab project next weekend; volunteer and USFS participation is TBD for now.
- Cyndi will lead a trail maintenance project in Eagle County on August 2. Team will be the Wilderness Volunteers and a partnering organization.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle/Summit

Projects ongoing in both counties; Cyndi is coordinating everything.

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on August 28 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,
George Resseguie, Secretary

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, Cyndi, Dave, George, John, Marilyn, and Rick
USFS – Cindy Ebbert

Meeting Minutes – Minutes of May 15 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand was \$23,071 at June 26; \$1,274 in expenses have been recorded YTD 2008.
- Nominal change in the June forecast from May included:
 - Additional \$230 in dues was received in the first half of June.
 - Overall forecast inflow O/ (U) expenses are \$8,239, and improvement of \$230 from the May forecast.
- IRS Form 990 report was filed on May 22.
- Discussion addressed providing \$2,000 to the USFS for Hunter Patrol funding in 2008 and to arrange another Challenge Cost Share Agreement (CCSA) this year. Given the significant paperwork requirement for the CCSA and the present USFS opinion that funding will not be needed this year, perhaps nothing will be done. However, FENW believes there is significant "visibility" associated with our funding the Hunter Patrol. Cindy E. will follow-up with USFS staff.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Business Items

Noxious Weeds

- "Pulling for Colorado" event on July 12 will be a state-wide effort in noxious weed mitigation; FENW will provide a supporting role because the pulling sites in Summit County are not in the Wilderness. ***Board Motion: Authorize spending up to \$40 (for a total of \$140) for printing, supplies, and other administrative support for the event.***
- FENW will include information in our website and other communications. (John/Rick)
- FENW purchased 2 backpack sprayers rather than rely on borrowing from a HOA; also, FENW will evaluate GPS units from Friends of the Dillon Ranger District to determine effectiveness for identifying weed locations.
- USFS has requested a Job Hazard Analysis and signed Volunteer Agreements, as appropriate (Cindy E.)
- Hal Pearce is the new USFS weed coordinator, replacing Wayne Nelson. John anticipates meeting with Hal in Summit County during July.

Grant Recaps/Challenge Cost Share Agreement

- CCSA invoice (\$1780) received from USFS for reimbursement. This is the final invoice in the present cost share agreement (total of \$5,000 reimbursement). Development of another agreement is TBD; see notes above in Treasurer's report.

Grants, continued

- Marilyn is following-up with Wilderness Sports regarding the Patagonia Grant (\$750); details will be provided at the next BD meeting.
- George will investigate the possibility of submitting grant requests to companies providing noxious weed treatment chemicals.
- George will prepare a calendarized schedule for grant submission timing and distribute before the next BD meeting.
- Agreed to submit grants for weed mitigation program funding to Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and National Forest Foundation during the Fourth Quarter.

Membership

- Dues received to date through June 26 totaled \$3,945.
- Estimated total dues for 2008 are \$4,445 an improvement of about \$1,745 over 2007.
- The next dues "campaign" will kick-off with the fall newsletter.

Fundraising

- George will work to establish a PayPal account for FENW; timing, by next BD meeting. Rick then will design a link from the FENW website to PayPal for donations & dues. Note: PayPal charges a 2.5% processing fee for any funds processed.
- Currie will follow-up with John Fielder regarding participating in a fall fundraiser. Also, Vince White-Petteruti has expressed an interest in managing a Fielder event if the proceeds can be split 50/50 with his 501 (c)(3) endeavor – Domus Pacis Family Respite. Currie will follow-up with John to get a firm plan before discussing whether to proceed with Vince's suggestion.

Tools & Equipment

- To date, \$4,033 has been spent on purchases of new tools and another \$1,500 will be needed. ***Board Motion: Authorize spending up to \$1,500 for purchases of new tools & equipment; all funding will be from the State Trails grant. Also, ensure the grant funding allocated for Tool Management and Grant Administration (total of \$2,012) can be used to buy tools and equipment.*** (Update: Confirmed with State Trails project staff that the funding allocation can be revised.)
- Funding reimbursement from State Trails for tools and equipment will be requested by the end of July.
- George continuing to work with Crosscut Saw Company to return a saw blade that is not considered usable in our Wilderness areas. (Update: Crosscut Saw is unwilling to take the blade back or allow an exchange. George to discuss next steps with Tom Brennom.)
- Discussion regarding a presenting a saw blade to the Town of Silverthorne at a Town Council meeting to recognize their funding support . Next steps, TBD.

Website Update

- Review will be scheduled at an upcoming BD meeting. (George/Rick)
- Website will be used during the summer for publicity.

Newsletter

- Next newsletter will be in the fall.

Communication

- George to update e-mail listing and send it to Rick, Dave, the Bitlers, et.al. Goal is to increase electronic communication with FENW membership.
- All agreed that more pictures are needed to document FENW project successes, send to the Summit Daily, etc. ***Board Motion: Authorize Dave to spend up to \$200 for a camera, a camera case, and a memory stick/card of appropriate capacity.***
- Dave will organize and maintain a file of press releases, SDN articles, etc. He also will prepare "Thank You" articles for the SDN

Project Planning

- FENW Gateways project is scheduled for June 28 with focus on trail maintenance; specific worksites are still being identified with the USFS.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Summit

- Total of 23 volunteers attended training, which was coordinated again with FDRD. Feedback was positive. Cyndi and Guff Van Vooren to discuss process improvements for the 2009 training session.
- Cyndi plans to have a wrap-up party later in the year and will include a Thank You advertisement in the SDN at the end of the season.
- Some added scheduling effort will be required for campsite rehab date(s) because Darlene Quinn was injured recently.
- There are no plans to have volunteers do any weed identification this year.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle

- Total of 26 volunteers, including 8 new people, attended training in Minturn. The USFS (Sam Massman) was very helpful in getting the Minturn Town Hall for the training venue and to allow use of the Holy Cross Ranger Station for a make-up session.
- An overnight campsite rehab project is planned for Missouri Lakes in the Holy Cross. Cyndi is signing up volunteers.
- Anne Esson has agreed to continue doing weed monitoring.

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on July 24 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie, Secretary

Total participants: 23

Wilderness Volunteer Program

Summit

Ranger Patrol

- Saved \$600⁰⁰ in ad costs

10 New Volunteers

I did not do any advertising this year. Instead I contacted people that I had met on the trails that were interested in joining us. Also, many friends of returning Volunteers joined this year.

FDRD paid for the majority of the training [all advertising, printed material, maps, breakfast and training venue] The training went well, good evaluations, some areas for growth were identified. I felt that there was some miscommunication between the FDRD action team and myself. There was more confusion this year concerning FDRD and FENW and what each organization does for the forest. Guff and I met last Thursday to discuss how to improve things for next year.

FENW supplied lunch [estimated cost \$160.00] plus LNT cards, blue pocket Wilderness Cards, and dog leashes for Volunteers.

I still have the wrap-up party to pay for and the thank you ad for the paper. The thank you ad included all WVP volunteers as well as people who worked on our trail projects, tools, campsite/weed surveyors and our sponsors.

Campsite Surveyors

Darlene Quinn the Wilderness Ranger was recently injured so I will have to reschedule at least one of the campsite rehab dates.

I need to meet with Cindy Ebbert on the campsite surveys and see what procedure she wants done for the Wilderness Grant.

Noxious Weed Monitors

I am not sure we have any Volunteers doing Weed identification this year.

Total Participants: 26

Eagle WVP

Ranger Patrol

8 New Volunteers

The only advertising that was done this year was one little article in the Vail Daily. It was mainly word -of- mouth and friends of returning volunteers that helped us get the information out.

\$250⁰⁰ for 7 people

Estimated training cost is \$360.00, this included a light breakfast, lunch, printing manuals at Copy-Copy, office supplies, FENW business cards, and write-in -the -rain books. This does not cover my reimbursement for 225 miles to and from Eagle.

Sam Massman is the Wilderness Specialist. He is very excited about our program. I had 8 Forest Service staff at our training. I even had one volunteer comment on his evaluation how important this program must be for the Forest Service to have so many staff members attend the training. The training went fantastic, the evaluations were 7 and higher out of 10. The FS was extremely helpful in getting the Minturn Town Hall for the training venue. They also let me use the Holy Cross Ranger station for a make-up training session.

Campsite Surveyors

They have been surveying for 2 years and now want to do some rehab. We set up an overnight campsite rehab project for Missouri Lakes in the Holy Cross. Sam Massman had 10 slots and I have 7 volunteers already signed up. I also have one new volunteer that is interested in learning campsite inventory. Sam is taking the lead on that program which is great.

Weeds Monitoring

Anne Esson is back this year and will continue to do weed monitoring. Unfortunately, she has already reported seeing 2 foot tall Yellow Toad flax on a trail.

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, John, Rick, Dave, and George
USFS – Cindy Ebbert

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from March 27 and April 15 meetings were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand was \$22,959 at the end of April; \$1116 in expenses have been recorded YTD 2008.
- Changes in the May forecast from April included:
 - January balance decreased to \$8409.72 resulting from reconciliation of 2007 for CCSA and IRS 990 reporting.
 - Receipts from Fielder event in 2007 were deposited in 2008.
 - NFF Meet the Challenge \$500 grant and FENW match were included.
 - Additional \$845 in dues were received in the second half of April; also forecast included \$500 in anticipated dues in 2nd Half 2008.
 - Overall forecast inflow O/ (U) expenses are \$8,009, and improvement of \$994 from the April forecast.
- IRS Form 990 report will be filed by the end of May.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Business Items

Noxious Weeds

- "Pulling for Colorado" event on July 12 will be a state-wide effort in noxious weed mitigation; FENW will provide a supporting role because the pulling sites in Summit County are not in the Wilderness. *Board Motion: Authorize spending up to \$100 for printing, supplies, and other administrative support for the event.*
- FENW will include information in our website and other communications. (John/Rick)
- FENW Noxious Weed Mitigation Program will begin in late June; focus will include treatment at trailheads, and trails to Wilderness boundaries.
- FENW will buy 2 backpack sprayers rather than rely on borrowing from a HOA.
- USFS has requested a Job Hazard Analysis and signed Volunteer Agreements, as appropriate (Cindy E.)

Grant Recaps/Challenge Cost Share Agreement

- CCSA invoice (\$1780) has been submitted to USFS for reimbursement. This is the final invoice in the present cost share agreement (total of \$5,000 reimbursement). Development of another agreement is TBD; George to follow-up with Ken Waugh later this year.
- Dave will research further whether FENW projects are eligible for REI grants.

Grant Recaps, continued

- Marilyn is following-up with Wilderness Sports regarding the Patagonia Grant (\$750); details will be provided at the next BD meeting.
- George will investigate the possibility of submitting grant requests to companies providing noxious weed treatment chemicals.
- Keystone/Breckenridge grant request has been denied. Funds requested (\$4,000) for decking and signs now may be covered by the USFS. Vail Resorts, however, has indicated a similar program will be initiated in August for Eagle County, and has encouraged FENW to submit a grant request. Currie will follow-up with Vail Resorts regarding program criteria/parameters to determine our next steps.
- George will prepare a calendarized schedule for grant submission timing and distribute before the next BD meeting.

Membership

- Dues received to date through May 15 totaled \$3,715.
- Estimated total dues for 2008 is \$4,215 an improvement of about \$1,000 over 2007.
- The next dues "campaign" will kick-off with the fall newsletter. Consideration will be given to: increase the minimum amount from \$10; establish a family membership level (e.g. \$25-\$35); and, link membership levels to some type of benefit/reward (no hats or shirts!).

Fundraising

- Per input from Rick, George will work to establish a PayPal account for FENW. Rick then will design a link from the FENW website to PayPal for donations & dues. Note: PayPal charges a 2.5% processing fee for any funds processed.
- John Fielder has expressed an interest in participating in a fall fundraiser. Currie will follow-up with John to get a firm plan.

Tools & Equipment

- Tool Committee (Kurt Steuer, Guff VanVooren, Cindy E., & George) met in April and determined tool buy requirement for the 2008 season. ***Board Motion: Authorize spending up to \$3,000 for purchases of new tools & equipment; all funding will be from the State Trails grant.*** This is in addition to the \$1,500 authorized at the April BD meeting.
- Funding advance from State Trails (\$5,000) for tools and equipment will be requested by the end of May
- George will provide a listing of the tool buy to the BD this week. Goal is to have all tools & equipment on hand by June 1.
- George continuing to work with Crosscut Saw Company to return a saw blade that is not considered usable in our Wilderness areas.

Website Update

- Review will be scheduled at an upcoming BD meeting. (George/Rick)
- Website will be used during the summer for publicity..

Newsletter

- Next newsletter will be in the fall.
- Dave would like to start gathering material during the summer projects – pictures, details, successes, etc.

Communication

- Plan to publicize FENW projects in the Summit Daily.
- Brochures will be accumulated and, if needed, more printed. All BD members will advise Dave of any “stashers”. Also, Cindy E. needs to be provided brochures for the Dillon Ranger District lobby display.

Project Planning

- First project is June 7 – the Acorn Creek Trail Project w/FDRD. FDRD likely will handle publicity. Cindy E. will be involved with coordination.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Summit

- Training was held on May 10; feedback to BD members has been very positive. Cyndi will provide an update at the next BD meeting.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle

- Training is scheduled for June 14 in Minturn.
- ***Memo: Board Motion @ March meeting: Authorize spending up to \$400 to print training manuals and flyers, order supplies, etc. for the June 14 meeting.***

USFS Wilderness Volunteer Workshop (Ralph Swain)

- Further details provided to the BD from Ralph through Cindy E.
- Initial timing is October 17-19.
- Much more work, particularly marketing type efforts, will be required than originally believed. Next steps as follows:
 - All agreed that the only way FENW can take this on is to have a person outside the BD agree to lead the effort because no one has time for the additional work.
 - FENW event planning model should be similar to the Fielder event in 2006.
 - Efforts will be prioritized for a Fielder event rather than hosting the Volunteer Workshop.
 - George will contact Vince White-Petteruti by May 18 to determine his interest in handling the project. If Vince is not interested and no one else is identified to lead the effort, it is likely that FENW will decline for this year.
 - All agreed we must advise Ralph ASAP of our plans. (Currie)

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on June 26 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie, Secretary

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, John, Rick, Dave, Cyndi, George, and Marilyn

Meeting Minutes – No meeting minutes were available for review. March 27 minutes will be reviewed at the May BD meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand was \$23,318 at the end of March; however, only \$333 in expenses have been recorded YTD 2008.
- The April forecast indicates the following:
 - Anticipated receipts for grants/A-Basin total \$18,359.
 - Receipts from dues increased to \$2,870, a \$630 increase from March.
 - Projected funds available total \$30,900.
 - There was no change in forecasted expenses.
 - Overall forecast inflow O/ (U) expenses are \$7,014, or \$2,656 less than Y/E 2007.
 - April/March inflow O/ (U) expenditures issue to issue showed a \$630 improvement from March, due to added dues receipts.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Business Items

Noxious Weeds

- "Pulling for Colorado" event on July 12 will be a state-wide effort in noxious weed mitigation; FENW will provide a supporting role because the pulling sites in Summit County are not in the Wilderness; John is coordinating the project in the County.
- FENW will include information in our website and other communications. (John/Rick)
- FENW will purchase 2 backpack sprayers for use on trails; also will obtain 2-3 GPS units for use in identifying/logging areas of weed infestation (George).
- We again will use John Pickering for weed treatment/spraying in the Wilderness; a contract will be signed in April/May (no competitive bidding process is required in 2008).

Grant Recaps/Challenge Cost Share Agreement

- Cash request for the remaining \$1,780 of the \$5,000 total value of the Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the USFS will be submitted in April. (Update: filed April 30.)
- Research into REI as a possible grant funding source indicated one member of any project team for which funding is requested must be an employee of REI. No further action planned.
- Marilyn will follow-up with Wilderness Sports regarding the Patagonia Grant (\$750).
- George will discuss the possibility of submitting grant requests to companies providing noxious weed treatment chemicals.
- Currie will follow-up with Vail Resorts regarding a grant program later this year (similar to grant program at Keystone/Breckenridge).
- George will prepare a calendarized schedule for grant submission timing.

Membership

- Dues received to date through April 15 totaled \$2,515, a significant improvement over 2007.
- April reminder notice of key upcoming project/meeting dates was distributed.

Fundraising

- Consider establishing a PayPal account for dues/contributions similar to Continental Divide Land Trust. Rick will investigate.
- Currie will follow-up with John Fielder regarding a fall fundraiser.

Tools & Equipment

- Crosscut saw blades are ready for tuning; 2 blades are "gems"; the other is not. George to try to return the 3rd blade for an upgrade. Board Motion: *Authorize spending up to \$250 to have 2 blades tuned by USFS service provider.* (Update: total cost was \$153.37.)
- Tool Committee (Kurt Steuer, Guff VanVooren, Cindy E., & George) will meet in April to determine tool buy requirements (update: meeting held on April 24). Board Motion: *Authorize spending up to \$1,500 for purchases of new tools & equipment.*

Website Update

- Agreed the BD should review the website content together and provide updates to Rick on a "real time" basis. Because of Rick's recent surgery, only a "band-aid" review will be conducted at the May 15 meeting; a more detailed review/update will be planned later this year.

Newsletter

- Dave mailed reminder cards with key project/training/meeting dates to all members in April.

Communication

- Plan to publicize FENW projects in the Summit Daily.
- Mailing labels, return address labels, stamps, & envelopes available for "Thank-You" letters.
- George to update Outdoors Colorado and FDRD websites w/project information.
- Cyndi to provide digital pictures of the WV Program training event to Dave.

Project Planning

- First project is June 7 – the Acorn Creek Trail Project w/FDRD.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Summit

- Training is scheduled for May 10 and will again be a joint endeavor with the FDRD. Board Motion @ March meeting: *Spend up to \$350 to provide lunch for 30-35 people at the training session (update: spending totaled \$222.69).*
- Cyndi is organizing volunteers for 2008; 2 new volunteers and 8 returnees identified so far.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle

- Training is scheduled for June 14 in Minturn.
- Board Motion @ March meeting: *Authorize spending up to \$400 to print training manuals and flyers, order supplies, etc. for the June 14 meeting.*

USFS Volunteer Event (Ralph Swain)

- USFS handles most of the administrative workload for the event.
- Beaver Run will be an outstanding site for the event.
- FENW involvement will be limited to organizing a welcome reception, including providing food & beverages, and providing bagels & coffee each morning.
- The BD has concerns regarding workload to be required. Further details are needed from Ralph, including possible funding; Currie to follow-up.

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on May 15 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie,
Secretary

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Dave, Cyndi, George, and Marilyn
Others – Cindy Ebbert (USFS)

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the February 28 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand was \$21,061 at the end of February; however, only \$298 in expenses have been recorded YTD 2008.
- The March forecast indicates the following:
 - Anticipated receipts for grants/A-Basin total \$18,359.
 - Receipts from dues are expected to total \$1,880 a level similar to prior years (preliminary March data indicates, however, a significant increase).
 - Projected funds available total \$29,910.
 - Forecast expenses will be revised to reflect new funding for Eagle County Wilderness Volunteer (WV) Program of \$750.
 - Overall forecast inflow O/ (U) expenses are \$6,025, or \$3,600 less than Y/E 2007.
 - Beginning in April, an "issue to issue" forecast schedule will be presented.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Business Items

Grant Recaps

- The Summit Foundation (TSF) and State Trails – Agreed to wait until the Fall Cycle to submit grant requests. George to discuss TSF audit requirements with Lee Zimmerman.
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – Agreed to submit a grant request in January 2009.
- NFF Ski Area Conservation Fund – Agreed to again submit a grant request for noxious weed mitigation in the fall.
- Keystone/Breckenridge – Awaiting response from the resorts; requested \$4,000.
- Vail Resorts in Eagle County may have funding available after August 1; Currie will follow-up with the resort.
- Patagonia grant (\$750) never materialized; no further actions planned.
- NFF has provided \$500 (FENW must match) for 10-Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge projects in 2008. FENW's efforts will focus on campsite surveys in the Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness area.

Membership

- Dues received to date through March totaled \$1885, significant improvement over 2007.
- Focus will be on "working" the membership listings with Newsletters and dues reminders.

Fundraising

- Goal is to raise \$4,000 for the next two years Wilderness Volunteers Project in Summit County.
- Agreed to have Currie contact John Fielder about a possible presentation in the fall.

Website Update

- Agreed the BD should review the website content together and provide updates to Rick on a "real time" basis. George to arrange at a future BD meeting.

Newsletter

- Dave will mail out a reminder card with key project/training/meeting dates to all members by April 15. The card will serve as the April newsletter. Will also have copies of the card available for FENW volunteers to hand-out while on trail projects, ranger patrols, etc.

Communication

- Thank-you letters will be provided on FENW letterhead to all folks sending in dues. Dave and George will send the letters.
- Back-log of thank-you letters for March dues will be sent by April 15 (Dave).

Project Planning

Tools & Equipment

- George will organize a Tool Committee (FENW/FDRD/USFS) to identify which tools & equipment need to be ordered. Plan is to have meeting in April, with all tools on hand and ready for use by June 1.
- Saw handles and tuning will cost about \$500 and will be funded by the State Trails Grant.
Board Motion: *Approved spending up to \$500 for getting 3 blades tuned and purchasing 3 sets of handles.*

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Summit

- Training is scheduled for May 10 and will again be a joint endeavor with the FDRD. **Board Motion:** *Spend up to \$350 to provide lunch for 30-35 people at the training session (update: spending totaled \$222.69).*
- Cyndi is organizing volunteers for 2008; 2 new volunteers and 8 returnees identified so far.

Wilderness Volunteers Program – Eagle

- Cyndi will be in charge of the program. Training is scheduled for June 14 in Minturn.
- Some inventory, such as T-Shirts, is available from 2007.
- Ranger District is very supportive of the program and volunteers are enthusiastic.
- **Board Motion:** *Authorize spending up to \$400 to print training manuals and flyers, order supplies, etc. for the June 14 meeting.*

Other Items

- Ken Waugh has asked for a FENW opinion regarding increasing access/camping fees (daily access, overnight camping, seasonal pass) at the Green Mountain Reservoir area. The fees will be dedicated specifically to Green Mountain. **Board Motion:** *Send a letter to USFS to support the fee increases (Currie).*
- Currie will get a quote regarding John Fielder prints that are suitable for framing. Prints may be used as recognition gifts.
- Further discussion is needed to determine FENW's participation with Ralph Swain (USFS) in hosting a fall meeting for multiple volunteer organizations. Currie to provide more details.

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on April 24 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie,
Secretary

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Currie, Dave, Cyndi, George, Marilyn, and Rick
Others – Cindy Ebbert (USFS)

January Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the January 31 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Received \$1,109 from the A-Basin Environmental Fund.
- Cash on hand was \$21,122 at the end of February; however, only \$239 in expense have been recorded YTD 2008.
- The February forecast indicates the following:
 - Anticipated receipts for grants total \$18,359; receipts from dues are expected to total \$1,880 a level similar to prior years.
 - Projected funds available total \$29,910.
 - Forecast expenses will be revised to reflect new funding for Eagle County Wilderness Volunteer (WV) Program of \$750, down from \$4,000 forecast previously; see further details below.
 - Overall forecast inflow O/ (U) expenses are \$6,025, or \$3,600 less than Y/E 2007.
 - Beginning in March, an "issue to issue" forecast schedule will be presented.
- The Treasurer's report was approved.

Business Items

Grant Recaps

- The Summit Foundation – Agreed to wait until the Fall Cycle to submit a grant request.
- Keystone/Breckenridge
 - Agreed to submit a grant request of up to \$4,000; Currie will provide more details.
 - Funding will be requested for new signage/bulletin boards, related repairs to existing signs/bulletin boards, and other related items.
 - Marilyn will take the lead to organize preparation of the grant request; other BD members will assist, as needed.
 - Grant submission deadline is March 21.

Membership

- Focus will be on "working" the membership listings with Newsletters and dues reminders.
- Agreed to review membership dues levels in the fall; a key is whether to increase the \$10 minimum amount required for membership.

Website Update

Rick has updated the website; a key for everyone is to attract FENW members and non-members to view the website.

Newsletter

- February Newsletter was mailed out last week (Cyndi).
- Because of cost considerations, the April newsletter may be replaced with some kind of a reminder card or other less expensive type of communication. Further discussion required.

Friends of Dillon Ranger District Annual Party – March 24

Agreed to use existing story boards for the FENW table (Cyndi); also have a handout with key project/training dates (George/Dave).

Communication

Several items were discussed as follows:

- Dave to put together a thank-you article in the Summit Daily for the contribution from A-Basin.
- Dave to send a thank-you to Michael Arnett for \$125 contribution regarding the John Fielder event last year.
- Consider designing some kind of WV cards with key FENW information to be handed out by the WV team on the trails.
- Consider some kind of “realtor” type of signage to be posted at trail heads whenever WV folks are on the trails.
- Dave will have more brochures printed at Copy Copy.
- Include costs for some of these items in the upcoming grant request to Keystone/Breckenridge (see above).

Project Planning

- Some key dates were agreed:
 - Summit WV Thank-You party – September 20; will reserve Eagles Nest Community Center (George)
 - FENW Annual Meeting – October 9; will reserve the Frisco Rec. Center (George)

Tools & Equipment

- Existing 3 FENW saw blades will be sent for tuning to California; Cindy E. has provided contact information. (Update: blades received in California on March 3; timing for return is TBD)
- Instead of buying a fourth saw blade, it was agreed to first buy the handles and related hardware for the 3 saw blades; Cindy E. to provide contact information and George will follow-up. (Update: communication info received.)
- George is going to form a small group of folks (FENW/USFS/FDRD) to coordinate upcoming purchases of tools & equipment; timing is to have all tools onsite by June 1.
- Going forward, all tool & equipment purchases will be reviewed with the FENW BD before orders are placed.
- George to organize a tool clean-up and tuning session in the spring; also, will contact the VOC to possibly have one of their tool expert to help organize and/or train local volunteers in tool maintenance. (Timing is TBD.)

Wilderness Volunteers Planning

- Training is scheduled for May 10 and will again be a joint endeavor with the FDRD.

Eagle County Planning

- The following strategy was agreed for Eagle County following a meeting w/USFS and volunteers; Cyndi and Currie attended.
- Revise the forecasted costs downward from \$4,000 to \$750:
 - Funding from the John Fielder event (\$300) will be the core for the program.
 - A year-end party will be held with estimated cost of \$300 (similar to the cost of the Summit WV year-end event).
 - Another \$150 will be included for miscellaneous items.

Eagle County Planning, continued

- Cyndi will handle all training, utilizing Eagle County volunteers to assist, as needed.
- USFS will make copies of training material.
- All recruiting of added volunteers will be handled as "word-of-mouth"; no formal recruiting (i.e. newspaper ads, etc.) will be used.
- Many supplies, such as T-shirts, already are available; few additional purchases are anticipated.
- This is the third and last year of our commitment to the USFS to establish a volunteer group in Eagle County to support the Ranger District there. Plans beyond 2008 are TBD, pending the success of this year's program.

Other Items

- Currie will prepare an op-ed article for the Summit Daily regarding snowmobile safety and use after the recent Elliot Ridge incident.
- Currie will contact John Fielder to determine the possibility of obtaining signed posters for use at the Annual Meeting.

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on March 27 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.

Respectfully submitted,

George Resseguie,
Secretary

FENW Board Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2008

Attendees

FENW – Cyndi, George, Marilyn, and Rick
Others – Cindy Ebbert (USFS)

Treasurer's Report

- 2007 Year-end Results
 - Cash on hand totaled \$9,671, down from \$13,400 at the beginning of the year.
 - Receipts totaled \$24,691 and costs were \$28,420. Grant funding represented \$20,760 of the receipt total; the largest cost items were: noxious weeds (\$11,930), tools & equipment (\$6,414), and the Wilderness Volunteer program in Eagle County (\$3,772).
 - Treasurer's report of year-end results was approved with the understanding that inventory amounts (\$715.00) would be corrected to include Eagle County WV program and to exclude \$83.50 (double reporting) from the balance.
- 2008 Preliminary Forecast
 - Forecasted receipts total \$17,605, primarily a \$10,000 grant from the NFF/Ski Area Contribution Fund, and \$5,500 from State Trails for tools and equipment. Forecast is conservative and includes only minimal dues receipts (\$355).
 - Forecasted costs, based largely on 2007 actual levels, total \$23,435 with the largest cost items noxious weeds (\$11,150), tools and equipment (\$6,585), and USFS hunter patrol funding (\$2,000).

Business Items

Grant Recaps

- NFF/Ski Area Contribution Fund will contribute \$10,000 to the FENW Wilderness Ecosystem Improvement Project for noxious weed treatment; FENW is required to provide a 25% match in funding and volunteer hours. John Taylor prepared the grant and has the lead for this project.
- No other grant requests are pending at this time. Further efforts will be made to identify funding sources – George will review grant cycles for The Summit Foundation, State Trails, and others; Marilyn will research possible grant sources from companies such as Patagonia and REI.

Membership

- BD agreed to revise the dues payment schedule and focus on February and October for the two months where dues will be due.
- Cyndi K. and Joel and Mern Bitler will handle mailing reminder notes to the FENW membership; Cyndi will revise the present postcard verbiage.
- George will maintain an updated membership listing.
- All dues payments will continue to go to the Treasurer (George) who also will handle sending out "thank you" letters.
- Rick Warren will update the website to include the latest dues information and a downloadable form for dues payment.

Website Update

- Rick Warren is the new FENW webmaster and will ask each BD member to review the present website and provide suggestions to him regarding updates, revisions, etc. Timing is to have feedback to Rich by February 14.

Newsletter

- BD agreed to publish 3 newsletters in 2008 as follows:
 - February – Introduction of new BD members, tentative project plan, dues process, website info and membership update.
 - April – Final project plan, timing for volunteer party, annual meeting timing, and special events (like a John Fielder presentation).
 - October – Season wrap-up, dues process, special event schedule, and membership update.
- Cyndi K. and Becky Hopkins will prepare the February newsletter and distribute it by the end of February. All efforts will be made to distribute the newsletter electronically.

Communication

- Dave Raymond “volunteered” to lead this effort which primarily will focus on newspaper publicity. George will contact Dave to discuss new steps.

Project Planning

- Based on a presentation by Cindy E., BD agreed on the following project plan for 2008:
 - June 7 – Acorn Creek; joint project with FDRD and will provide some focus on the Ptarmigan Wilderness area.
 - June 28 – Gateways; likely will focus on trail maintenance, with a small team involved in repairs (as needed) to trail head signage.
 - July 27 – Mesa Cortina; continue basic trail maintenance work from 2007; this will be “Sunday” project.
 - August 23 – Mesa Cortina; demolition of turnpike. RMYC will follow closely with a team to construct new turnpike in the same area.
- Jonathan Kriegel will lead the trail maintenance projects again this year. Cyndi K. will work with FDRD to coordinate project timing and minimize scheduling conflicts.

Wilderness Volunteers Planning

- Training is scheduled for May 10 and will again be a joint endeavor with the FDRD.
- Cyndi K. will recruit volunteers from past participants and “word of mouth”.

Eagle County Planning/Grant Success

- Vail Valley Foundation did not approve our grant request, citing it did not “completely embody our mission of serving the Vail Valley through athletics, educational, and cultural endeavors”. The Foundation encouraged FENW to reapply during the next grant cycle “with more emphasis on education”.
- The John Fielder event in November provided \$280 in net proceeds, far below the \$4,200 results in Summit County. While the participants purchased a large volume of books, only about 25 people attended the presentation.
- It was agreed to continue to provide support to establish a FENW-type organization in Eagle County. As a key next step, Currie will be asked to organize a planning meeting with Michael Arnett, USFS, and others with the FENW BD to plan how to proceed.
- Cost outlays should approximate \$4,000 (using 2007 actual costs), and a robust funding strategy needs to be identified for Eagle County.

John Fielder Event

- Currie will contact John to determine feasibility for having a presentation in the Fall, similar to the timing in 2006. If John agrees to the presentation, George will contact Vince White-Petteruti to see if he is willing to head up the program. *Update: Currie advised that John has committed to a presentation for the Friends of the Lower Blue in the spring; consequently, it doesn't make sense to try to have another "Fielder event" in November.*

Ralph Swain/NFF Grant Proposal

- NFF grant proposal (\$10,000 for 9 non-profits -- \$500 for the FENW) was discussed in detail. The focus of the grant will be on 3 elements of the 10-Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge – Air Quality, Wilderness Education, and Recreation Site Inventory. Most of FENW's efforts are anticipated regarding the Recreation Site Inventory element in the Ptarmigan Wilderness (Acorn Creek area).
- Funding will total \$500 in matching funds from the NFF for supplies and equipment, training, and compensation for wilderness volunteers (Cindy E. confirmed with Ralph Swain).
- ***Board Motion: Agree to spend \$500 to participate in this program.*** Cindy E. will advise Ralph Swain; Cyndi K. agreed to take the lead for FENW.

Next Meeting

The next BD meeting will be on February 28 at 5:30 at the Dillon Ranger District office.