

Otero County Planning Group Meeting

June 17, 2015

Summary of Minutes

Participants

Present - Rick Merrick, Frank Silva, Mark Cadwallader, Vicky Milne, Peter Haraden (USFS), Dave Nunnolley, Susie Galea (Mayor of Alamogordo), Loretta Benavides (USFS) and Vicky Estrada

Field Trip to Two Goats Project Area

We stopped at two different sites within Two Goats project area to compare the variation in thinning treatments. We then went to an area where the county had thinned approximately 7 acres. We then walked up a hill to see one of the approx. 400 acre area units that were thinned and chipped. We could see the other approx. 400 acre area that was thinned from this vantage point. Loretta took pictures of treatment areas and group on site.

Review/Compare Interstate Stream Commission List of Projects with Working Group Project List–

Vicky handed out a list of projects submitted for Otero County by various partners. Starting with City of Alamogordo, we reviewed the projects identified on this list, and located them on the Working Group Focus Area map. We went through this same exercise with all organizations that had projects in the area that were present (USFS, and State Forestry).

Overview of Current Agreement and Memorandum's of Understanding

Mark Cadwallader passed out copies of the Stewardship agreement between USFS Region 3 and New Mexico Forest Industry Association and the Stewardship Agreement between USFS Region 3 and the National Wild Turkey Federation. He also briefly mentioned the Tribal Participating Agreement. We agreed that we wanted to have representatives from each of the organizations involved in these agreements, come to the next working group meeting to share with the group what types of projects could be funded under these agreements and what was the process to obtain the funding.

Next Meeting Items

Next Meeting of Working Group will be held at Cloudcroft Ranger Station on July 29th at 10:00.