MONTANA WILDLIFE AND TRANSPORTATION

STEERING COMMITTEE WORKING MEETING

Jan 19, 2022
Meeting Notes

ATTENDEES:

- Steering Committee (Committee): Ken McDonald (FWP), Deb O'Neill (FWP), Dwane Kailey (MDT), Tom Martin (MDT), Kylie Paul (MSWP), Stephanie Adams (MSWP)
- Agency Staff: Dustin Rouse (MDT), Bill Semmens (MDT)
- Planning and Implementation Team (PIT Crew): Deb Wambach (MDT), Nick Clarke (MSWP), Brooke Regan (MSWP), Linnaea Schroeer (FWP)

Agenda and Discussion:

1. MT Free Press articles conversation
    a. The group discussed the articles and discussed communication approaches the group could undertake. Discussion and/or steps included:
        i. PIT crew will reexamine the communications whitepaper it had drafted
        ii. SC could communicate on the processes once closer to complete
        iii. Could work to kick off short-term low-hanging projects to move forward at a faster pace to show results to the public, like with Missoula Regional Connectivity Group or MDT biologist ideas, and then communicate on those
        iv. Could have an article written about several MDT projects that have occurred over last several years and also about the work the SC is doing
        v. MDT plans to repurpose FTE for grant writing, and another for non-project related public information officer

2. Data and Information Working Group – mapping tool update/discussion – there will be various documents coming from them, so we'll wait to discuss it all until Feb 11 meeting

3. Roles and Responsibilities for project implementation
    a. Walked through edits made last meeting and continued going through draft document
    b. This process/document will be dynamic
    c. Discussed semi-annual time frame from receiving/reviewing proposals. Discussed how small-scale projects fit into time frame and process, and whether they should be considered separately.
    d. Discussion of switching from baby bear, mama bear, papa bear to Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 , or small-scale, mid-scale, large-scale
    e. Prioritize/project concepts/selection cycle – the 2nd and 3rd bullets can be folded into the selection criteria.
    f. SC will have quarterly project updates. Discussion about SC review of scope changes.

g. Sponsorship process was discussed. A range of concerns exists from MSWP's perspective, suggested perhaps another similar approach can be considered such as a proposal document. Need for further discussion but tabled for the moment.

4. Second Summit – do we want one in future?
    a. Need be clear on goals – educate others, celebrate success
    b. Before we have one, we want to have process set up, flowchart, and share all we've implemented since first summit. Would also like to have a couple projects on the ground or in planning beforehand.
    c. Big capacity and resource lift to organize in-person summit. Instead perhaps let's do a webinar/online program - would be great rollout for process, D and I product, celebration, and would be much more feasible for PIT crew and SC to organize.
    d. Could do 2023 or 2024

Standing agenda – approaches to communications with the public

Upcoming - Project selection criteria