

Notes from the Meeting of the Lead King Loop Working Group
October 10, 2019

Present: Ron Leach & Ryan Vinciguerra, Town of Marble; Marlene Crosby, Gunnison County; Manette Anderson & Chris Cox, Town of Crystal, Corinne Truesdale & Maddie Rehn, Western State University; Rich Doak, Shelley Grail and Rob Stewart, Forest Service representatives, Sheriff John Gallowitz, Undersheriff Scott Jackson and Deputy Scott Leon, law enforcement and Terry Langley, notes.

Ron gave a history of the LKL working group and explained that the group is looking at the impacts of increased usage as well as management options. The group is being assisted by both Corinne and Maddie from Western Colorado University.

Sponsoring Agency Designation – The group is a loose-knit group of staff from the various agencies and entities. In order to become more formal and to be able to apply for grants, Ron said that there is a need for one of these agencies to become the designated sponsoring agency. Jim Arts said that he felt the FS and the county have enough to do and that Marble should be the lead agency. Maddie Rehn explained that the term she uses in these types of efforts is “convener” and that any member that is a 501 3c member could be a signer – for instance, the university. The land is managed by the Forest Service and Ron wants to be clear that they have the final say on any decisions and options. Discussion of the towns continuing to take the lead in keeping the group going followed. The group needs to formulate a mission statement or charter that addresses the needs and responsibilities of each agency. A business plan, budget, goals & deadlines would also be helpful.

Maddie works as a program manager for WCU in the center for public lands as program manager. She and Corinne explained what they bring to the project, including a framework for collaboration, a plan that is a starting point and incorporates needs of the town, visitors & surrounding areas. This would involve defining the story of what is happening: issues, values to be protected, relevant data, action items.

Issue identified preliminarily include the deterioration of the road, public facilities, trail head parking, signage and access limitations.

Funding – Gunnison County has committed \$5,000 and the town of Marble has penciled in \$5,000 in their proposed budget. Grant opportunities would be available once the problem is identified and objectives clarified.

It was agreed that another face-to-face meeting is needed to begin the more formal process. That will be on Nov. 13, 2019 from 12-4 p.m., location tbd. At that meeting we will formulate the focus & mission statement and take that to the public for input. Additionally, this meeting will include determining how the group operates, formulating ground rules and how to work with public. If needed, there will be a conference call on Oct 30, 2 pm.