

LKL Working Group
Conference Call Notes 6/1/2021

Note: the recording started a bit late, so I may have missed names, participants etc. TL) Attending by phone: Ron Leach, Kevin Warner, Shelley Grail, Maddie Rain, Roland Mason, Dr. Armstrong, Susie Orr, Curtis , Sheriff Gallowitz, Deputy Scott Leon

Representatives in Kevin (FS), Shelley Grail (FS), Maddie Rain (CPL), Roland Mason (County Commissioner)

Maddie Rain, Center for Public Lands at Western Colorado University, will be working on a proposal with options for the group to choose from.

Dr. Armstrong, WCU, spoke to having another student to help the group. She has reached out to current students, but has had no definitive response. She would like to reach out to new students for a two-year involvement. Another option would be a short-term team. Madeline thought the two-year idea would work well with Maddie's piece.

Susie Meredith Orr, CVEPA – The Gunnison County commissioners have put a sunset clause into use of CR 3 east of Marble, expiring at the end of this year. They will be looking at results of the current plan and gives added importance to data collection. Dr. Armstrong agreed and spoke to the types of data, research data collection and quantitative information to be collected.

Ron suggested a separate meeting with the FS to develop the questions and information to be collected. Shelley agreed and said that the goals and solutions need to be developed as part of that. Ron said one piece of data he is collecting is the number of truck/trailers parked in the town each day. There is also a traffic counter set up in Crystal. Shelley asked her crew to document things as well. Kevin said they hoped to conduct a motorized mixed-use study on the LKL through the regional office. This will look at both licensed and unlicensed vehicles. There will also be a look by CPW at wildlife impacts, including research previously done in other areas. Hydrology impact basic information and research has also been requested.

Ron said that John Groves, the local CPW officer, was at Beaver Lake over the weekend. He was checking fishing licenses and talking to people.

Sheriff Gallowitz reported that the new deputy has been in the field with his training officer. Deputy Leon.

Roland Mason appreciates the efforts of the FS and everyone working together on this issue. A formal letter was sent by the county to the FS asking that this issue and working together stays a priority. They will be taking a hard look at what next season might look like.

Ron reported that John Armstrong, CVEPA, was in Marble to look at the issues. There were no ATVs at that time, but there were 10-15 vehicles parked near the Gold Pan Gallery illustrating that there is a large increase in hikers as well as OHVs. Susie reported that CVEPA has asked for interested people to

volunteer to help with the education efforts. Ron thanked the various entities for being part of the calls. He and Roland will be working on that education effort. There will be a meeting for citizens with the commissioners in Marble on Tuesday, June 15. The council is meeting tonight (June 1) with discussion around the educational piece on the agenda.

Kevin reported that the FS will be looking into the land boundaries at the base of Daniel's Hill to see what options might be available for possibly providing parking. Shelley commented on the increased use in pedestrian traffic and the need for parking for pedestrians. Marlene said that many of the pedestrians are only going to the Mill, not all of the way into Crystal.

Ron asked for more information on the traffic counter. Marlene said there are two of them and motorized vehicles are counted. They are not broadcasting the locations due to past vandalization.

Roland asked about an update on the parking program at the Mill Site park. Ron explained that, in the past, the parking has been used by truck/trailers bringing in ATVs. The town has not had the resources for parking control or enforcement. The town is going to try to calm the parking mayhem. He said the town would like to change behavior with the educational efforts – speed, respect.

The next conference call will be Tuesday, July 6 at 1:00 p.m.