

CE Coordinators Call Notes

2/17/2010

Roll Call: Carlos, Susan, Barbara, Becky, Rita, Steve, Babs, Michelle, Sue Baker, Sharon, Clare Long, Kristie, Safiya, Sue Cummings, Vicki, Iris, Julie, Jenny Taylor

Round Robin:

IITF- Carlos: Working on several projects including an Arbor Day Lecture Series, Native Peoples short stories that will highlight conservation education, and Earth Day celebrations

Northern Area- Susan: She is working with the State Assessment and Strategic Planning Teams to make sure CE is included, working with Stewardship Program to include CE component, and there is good work happening in the New York City watershed project

PNW-Becky: They received ARRA funding with the World Forestry Center to hire 16 interns for the Forest Inside Out project

Natural Inquirer- Babs, Michelle: several new editions are being worked on including Ecosystem Services, Student Scientist and a Fire Edition. There is a need to find funding for a Climate Change addition to print the Inquirer. EUGENE will be presented at a national conference and please think about EUGENE when developing your CE programs.

R1- Steve: Will be doing a presentation at the R1 Rangers meeting on CE opportunities and emerging trends and he will be briefing the new Regional Forester on partnerships and programs next week. The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center is doing two African American Month programs highlighting York, the slave on the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

RMRS/R2-Rita: The RMRS has an allocated \$10,000 in monies for CE projects and the call for proposals is out right now. R2 is heavily involved in the planning for National Get Outdoors Day.

R6- Sue Baker: One more session of Eagle View will be occurring

R8- Sharon: Forest, Oceans, Climate and Us (FOCUS) program will be occurring in Galveston, Texas this October. Safiya and Sue C., held a NAAEE guidelines training a LBL last month and she recommends this to all Coordinators.

National Forests in Texas are involved in planning the FOCUS (Forests, Oceans, Climate and Us) in Galveston, TX October 23.

Sharon is presenting a Customer Service Training at LBL next week.

LBL CE staff are helping out at a National Wild Turkey Federation National Meeting in Nashville, TN this week end (TH-Sun) giving presentations for children and staffing "The Roost" (a children's area) and attending some of the sessions for teachers.

A big thank you to Sue and Safiya for coming out to LBL last month to present the NAAEE Guidelines for Excellence to about 30 people. We are working on how to incorporate and use this material.

R9- Clare: They are finishing their last FFEC cohort this month. They are working a celebration of the 100 Anniversary of the Weeks Act. For the Forest Exchange Box, there are partners in Tennessee and Alaska exchanging with the local school.

R10-Kristie: They are working on a CE website with Digital Visions. The Chugach is finishing up its ICE plan. The Chugach is hosting Trail for Every Classroom with the Iditarod Trail. The Tongass is completing two new movies for its VCs.

More Kids in the Woods:

The Assistant Deputy Chief's review has been completed and recommendations to the Executive Leadership Committee were made this week. The final selections do not have to go to the Department this year which will speed up the process. Hopefully this process will be completed soon.

Pollinator Live!:

There will be online and live broadcast for the program this year between March 2010 and April 2011. There will be a webcast for teachers next month.

Kids4Trees:

Julie is working on developing a plan for this program through the next year so please let her know your thoughts and ideas based on your experiences with Steve and Karen. This program will be part of the 2011 the United Nations International Year of the Forest (UNIYF). Safiya will be attending a meeting with Steve, a member of the FS Research branch, and the NY City Mayor's office about a 2011 UNIYF kickoff event in New York City later this month.

International Year of the Forest:

Along with Kids4Trees, PLT and National Association of Conservation Districts are partnering with the agency for this celebration. These groups will be developing certain products and program elements for the UNIYF. Please send us your ideas on how we should participate for UNIYF. Cindy McArthur from the National Partnership Office is the Forest Service lead for this event. We will work with OC on developing a communications plan for the UNIYF. The local units need to decide on if and how they will participate.

National Science Teachers Association National Conference:

Vicki is our lead for this event in Philadelphia on March 18-21. We will have booth during the conference. Vicki is coordinating a Climate Change Symposium on Saturday of the conference which will feature two Forest Service Climate Change researchers. Safiya has free registration for a field person if they would like to attend this conference.

Misc. Info:

Vicki is still working with the US Climate Change group to get the Climate Literacy brochures mailed out to the field units who requested them.

Robert Bateman's Get to Know program will still have Sandy Frost as the lead from her position in the WO Wildlife Staff.

Cindy McArthur is FS lead for Wyland's FOCUS program.

Bill Woodland, WO YVH Program Coordinator in the Recreation Staff is the new Get Outdoors Day lead.

The CE Conference team will have a proposal to Safiya next week for approval. We are looking at October for this meeting so please send in your comments and concerns on the dates to Iris.

State Landscape Assessments:

Each state is being asked to complete a landscape scale assessment to tie into Secretary Vilsack's vision for national resource conservation. State and Private Forestry is the lead for this within the agency. Susan is working on making sure that conservation education is incorporated into these within the Northern Area. Susan will provide what information she has on this. Please check with your state(s) to see if you can have input into this process.

Forest for Every Classroom:

There is a national agreement with NAAEE to replicate this within the agency. Next week Safiya and Julie will be sitting down with Ansley, Brian and Sue Bumpus from NAAEE to discuss this process. Julie will be contacting internal folks who have worked with FFEC, TFEC and WFEC to identify needs for this program, ideas for NAAEE's role, and discuss how replications are proceeding. From this information we will develop expectations and a program of work proposal for NAAEE under this agreement.

There will be a conference call with key agency folks on this proposal before it is finalized. There will also be a discussion of roles and responsibilities for the agency and NAAEE. There will be an identification of tasks that are inherently Forest Service responsibility for the replication process and tasks that NAAEE can fulfill.

Steve brought up the FFEC meeting that was held in Vermont this past fall in which a potential task list was developed the last day. This meeting included the original partners Shellborne Farms and NPS with a discussion on the Vermont and New Hampshire replications. There was the work being done by University of Michigan to interview folks on the replication process so those folks need to be included in this discussion.

Discussions of ongoing efforts:

Steve- The first pilot replication through the partners' agreement was completed on the Helena National Forest last month. This Friday, February 19th, will be the wrap-up discussion with the group on how the

first replication. Steve will provide notes on this later. Seventeen teachers completed the course. The participants wrote a letter to the next class that is very powerful and Steve is sending those out to folks.

The next replication on the Helena is in recruitment phase and will start on April 24-25th. The region has entered into a Challenge Cost Share agreement for a western Montana replication with the Montana Natural History Center in Missoula. The focus sessions and recruitment will begin this spring for this effort.

Steve has been working with the Helena on refining the toolbox for FFEC. Several folks asked Steve to send this out to the CE Coordinator group.

Susan- In Vermont, the last cohort of 14 teachers finished up a week ago. These teachers will be completing presentations on their service learning projects. Susan then discussed several successful service learning projects.

The New Hampshire group has a different model by having a year with specific in depth teacher workshops or institutes after the FFEC training. Each FFEC participant then gets to bring along a friend to these sessions, which increasing the exposure of FFEC to educators. After this year, there will be a FFEC teacher session for a year.

Barbara- University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin DNRC have pulled together a team for replicating FFEC in the state. The Chequamegon-Nicolet will be the host forest for this FFEC. Barbara asked Steve to send a copy of the latest CCS to her.

NAAEE

There was a brief discussion on folks thought about NAAEE helping out. The discussion focused on the toolkit development. Steve is the keeper of the toolkit at this time.

Susan mentioned that Ester had filmed teacher interviews from the last cohort that were very powerful. Region 1 filmed that last session of FFEC training. One of the tasks that were discussed in Vermont for NAAEE was developing a promotional DVD that had Forest Service imagines and branding. Perhaps Sue Bumpus could work on this as one of the NAAEE tasks.

Next Call

March 24, 1300 EST & 1000 PST Call number is 1-800-369-1652 passcode 97972