

**CMR Stakeholder Group
October 4th, 2010
Lewistown, MT**

The CMR Stakeholder Group met on October 4th, 2010 at the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Building in Lewistown Montana with 33 people in attendance. Facilitator Bill Milton opened the meeting at 10:07 a.m. with introductions and the following grounding questions. (1) Did you go to the meeting in Malta last month and if so what are your reflections or thoughts about the monument? (2) What are your expectations for this meeting today? (3) How do you feel about being here today? Each person in attendance had a chance to answer.

The general consensus of those questions was:

Did you go to the meeting in Malta last month and if so what are your reflections or thoughts about the monument?

There is fear of change and uncertainty as well as frustration and anger toward the federal government for not being heard.

What are your expectations for this meeting today?

To work on better organization of the group focusing on mission/ purpose statements and focus area boundaries and to find a common foundation or place as well as to get to know other members of the group better.

How do you feel about being here today?

Most people felt that they were willing to participate and that the group could have a promising outcome.

Bill's overview:

This is a diverse group of individuals who if they have the patience to stay together will do well and go far. The key is to listen, which is a very hard practice to learn. Bill felt that even though it is hard to sit through the introductions and that members may not agree with one another, everyone will have the chance to be heard.

This session ended at 11:40 am and the group broke for lunch

The group reconvened at 12:35 pm

Terry Selph gave a presentation entitled

"History of CMR (Pre- Fort Peck Game Range)"

This presentation highlighted the area we know today as the CMR from the days of the glaciers to about 1959. This included:

- ❖ Diversion of Drainage around the glacial lobe and through the Shonkin Sag area down to the Arrow river to join with the Missouri;
- ❖ Judith River, Hell Creek & Bear Paw formations;
- ❖ The first people, territories controlled by early Montana tribes;

- ❖ Running Buffalo;
- ❖ Troubles such as Indian Bureau orders all roaming tribes to their reservations in 1875, 1876 Battle of the Little Big Horn, 1877 Flight of the Nez Perce;
- ❖ Present Montana reservations, Military Presence, Louisiana Purchase in 1803;
- ❖ Lewis & Clark in 1805, The Fire Boat, Mountain Men & Trappers, Fort Union;
- ❖ Steam boats on the Missouri, Musselshell River;
- ❖ Cowboys, Cattle, and rangelands and Huffman;
- ❖ Taylor Grazing Act;
- ❖ Homesteaders;
- ❖ Fort Peck Dam.

After the presentation there was a short discussion of some of the materials presented. This concluded at about 1:08 pm

The group then broke out in to 6 working groups of of 6 people each.

These groups were given about 30 minutes to working on the following questions;

- 1) What are the boundaries of the landscape on which the group wishes to focus its efforts?
- 2) What is the core purpose of the group?

Bill noted that the purpose should follow these 3 guidelines: (1) can remember it (2) motivates (3) unifies.

Group Answers to the questions:

What are the boundaries of the landscape on which the group wishes to focus its efforts?

Group 1: CMR + 6 counties that center around the CMR; 2 to the North and 4 to the south.

Group 2: Core area of HWY 200,2,191,24 but flexible

Group 3: CMR core focus – FWS management landscape

Group 4: 6 counties

Group 5: CMR + 6 counties + new narrative

Group 6: Focus on management assessments within the CMR boundary but sensitive to and aware of the effects on people and resources outside of the CMR boundary within the CCP analysis area.

“The larger group then agreed to the following as a starting point.

Group deals with issues related to the CMR and the effects of those issues on the 6 counties and vice-versa.

What is the core purpose of the group?

Group 1: To provide guidance and input to the CCP.

Group 2: Influence the development and implementation of the CCP and in doing so foster dialogue and understanding from the prospective of the various stakeholders.

Group 3: Facilitate communication among stakeholders and achieve mutually beneficial goals. Ensure the sustainability of the CMR refuge, resources, and local communities.

Group 4: To provide input to CMR management

Group 5: Stakeholder forum to ensure long-term health (environmental, economical, & social) of the CMR area.

Group 6: Ensure vitality of CMR, support people, and build communities.

The large group then came back and voted on their favorite 2. The votes were in and the top 3 were looked at again and the group then voted for 1. This proved harder and the group could not decide on one so the top 3 will come back to the next meeting.

This session ended at 3:00 pm

Barron Crawford gave the group a status report on the CCP process and public meetings. He stated that there were roughly 34 people in attendance at the Billings and Great Falls meetings and 58 at the Bozeman meeting. He stated that there were a lot of questions and that after the comments the remaining time was spent answering the questions. He talked about the step down plans (cultural resources, fire management, habitat management, invasive plant management, paleontological resources, public use, transportation, wilderness management) and the comment period. He noted that there had been a lot of inquires into an extension and that it was unknown at this time if an extension would be granted. The deadline is currently November 16. If a 30 day extension is granted the deadline will be December 16. He also reminded the group of the upcoming dates for the public meetings and where they were to be held.

Next meeting information:

November 1st in Malta from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Linda Poole and Pat Anderson are in charge of arrangements.

The group adjourned at 3:45 pm.