Roads/Trails Meeting Notes 12-12-2023

Timothy Wagner has volunteered to be a co-lead for this committee. He put together a PDF document that is also available on the website that covers many topics and details from this meeting. This committee will work to develop goals and a mission statement to define the boundaries of what the group will cover. For example, boat ramps under recreation, but is wading access trails or recreation? ATV recreation will be covered under this committee and not under recreation.

Rusty Faircloth is representing the ATV community. He wants to be active in the committee but had something come up and was unable to join this committee meeting.

Mountain Home Highway District is willing to meet with us in Mountain Home in January 2024 to discuss working with us. They maintain the main road and stream crossings. Some requests for funding and/or information on potential solutions will need to go through the highway district and not this committee or collaborative.

Tim walked through some of the research that he has done. This info is in the PDF. He covered what data is available for traffic, accidents, USFS Prairie rd impact report (2010), and some USFS research on roads as sediment sources for streams.

Randy Davison noted that dust abatement (likely magnesium chloride) did help dust during summer, but became very slick when wet. Since the roads are used year round this type of dust abatement in particular doesn’t seem like a good idea.

Prairie Rd grade

The current understanding is that the culverts along this steep section of road are concentrating the water that then scours the loose sediment. The 2010 USFS report only described the issues, it did not provide any potential solutions [www.southforkboise.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Prairie\_Road\_040710.pdf](http://www.southforkboise.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Prairie_Road_040710.pdf). The group had a few ideas on potential projects to reduce erosion and sediment including; seeding with native high root density plants, spreading the water back out from the culvert with French drain or culvert with holes type systems, or adding more culverts. After we get the Mountain Home Highway District in the loop we will be able to start researching the feasibility potential solutions.

General road maintenance

There may be some aspects of general road and parking area maintenance that could be improved (with funding obtained by the collaborative). We can discuss with the highway district what they are interested/willing to look into. Some potential ideas include crowning the road, re-grading and/or re-surfacing parking areas etc.

We will need to touch base with Rusty to see if he has connections that may know of any problematic trail crossings. If not, an inventory may be needed starting with the highest priority streams. Stream priority is being developed by the habitat committee for review by the whole collaborative.