

Minutes of the Public Information Meeting
Concerning the Dolly Sods Area
Blackwater Falls Lodge, Davis, West Virginia
2 June 2004

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Phone Number
Rodger Ozburn	WV Div. of Forestry	304.293.2941x2475
Carol Whetsell	US Forest Service	304.478.3251x105
Wally Dean	CELRH-PM-PD-R	304.399.5868
Brian Ball	CELRH-PM-PP-P	304.399.5345
Nick McHenry	CELRH-EC-CE	304.399.5909
Frank Albert	CELRH-EC-CE	304.399.5760
Rick Meadows	CELRH-PM-PP-P	304.399.5388
Erich Guy	CELRH-EC-CE	304.399.5283
John Safstrom	WVDNR	304.478.2000x139
Jeff Holland	CELRH-EC-CE	304.399.5244

6:00pm – Setup for meeting begins, including preparing room, arranging handouts, and setting up projector and computer.

7:10pm – Rick Meadows introduces meeting presenters and introduces project.

7:15pm – Frank Albert presents the history of Dolly Sods ordnance project. Frank discusses the history of the area, enrollment in the FUDS program, and conception and implementation of the unexploded ordnance (UXO) Removal Action.

7:30pm – Erich Guy demonstrates the application of geographic information system (GIS) data to the Dolly Sods project, showing examples of mapping trails and ordnance locations with a possibility of finding firing ranges or locations. Erich then gives a presentation on Ordnance and Explosives (OE) Recurring Review, outlining the Aug. and Nov. 2003 field inspections. These inspections yielded minimal erosion problems, but provoked some concerns about properly marking trails. Some suggestions were made to mark some trails better and remove markings on trails that had not been cleared for ordnance. The review concluded that the 1997-98 ordnance removal action at Dolly Sods is still protective of human health and the environment. Recommendations for improving certain institutional controls and public awareness/education efforts were presented. Carol Whetsell asks for a new copy of the updated UXO warning sign, and for specific information on signs to be added and removed, which Erich was able to provide after the meeting.

8:10pm – Nick McHenry presents advocating public awareness and education on the Dolly Sods area. Nick discusses statistics of public use of the area and what risks the site presents to the public. A public awareness campaign had begun in 2003 for Dolly Sods.

8:15pm – Open forum was opened for questions and statements to be made

- Rick Meadows states that the contractor has been given the go-ahead to make informational video and area maps, but they will not be released until final assessment. 10,000 hard copies of the maps will be distributed. A digital version of the map will also be available for download from the USACE website.
- Rodger Ozburn asks whether Forest Service offices will get copies of map.
- Rick Meadows assures that all interested parties will receive copies of map.
- Erich Guy states that a hard copy of the “Draft Final Recurring Review Report,” of which a digital copy has already been provided on the USACE FTP site, is available. A hard copy is also available in the public repository located at the USFS office in Elkins, WV, or by contacting USACE Huntington District.
- Rick Meadows inquires whether everybody received a copy of the Public Awareness Plan. Meeting attendees reply affirmatively, but Rick gives John Safstrom a copy, just in case. Rick then asks if anybody would like a copy of the Recurring Review, and also gives John a copy of the Recurring Review.
- Nick McHenry passes out CDs of the May 25th 2004 version of the West Virginia Maneuver Area Dolly Sods Region Administrative Record.
- Rick Meadows passes out promotional items, such as whistles and water bottles with warning messages, designed as part of the public awareness/education campaign.

8:25pm – Meeting Adjourned