

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE
of the
Laurentian Vision Partnership**



Meeting IV

Wednesday, September 20, 2006 – 9:30 A.M.
Iron Range Resources
Mineland Reclamation Office, Chisholm, MN

Objective

To review the status of major activities and actions decided at the July 25, 2006 – Laurentian Vision Partnership Meeting, and prepare the agenda for the October 31, 2006 or new date to be determined for the Laurentian Vision Partnership Quarterly Meeting.

A. WILDLIFE CORRIDOR DESIGNATION ALONG MESABI RANGE – JEFF HINES, MDNR

- Tie to EIS scoping – all mining, highways and others – MDNR and MnDOT
 - Cumulative impacts issue
- Travel corridors of wildlife/big mammals running north and south
- 115 mile long corridor is affected
- Barriers – what are the impediments?
- Thirteen existing corridors along the Mesabi Range
 - Of these, three will be affected by the mining expansions as proposed
- Presentation at next meeting?
 - Regional focus
 - What is a corridor?
 - Criteria
 - Evolving landscape ecology issue
 - Integrate in future Charette processes
 - Designate temporary and permanent corridors

Action:

- Agenda item – January meeting
- Information presentation
- Identify as a future topic at the next meeting – Jeff will give a brief introduction
- PowerPoint and handouts with a map of corridors to be provided in January

B. WORK GROUP COORDINATOR UPDATES – DAN JORDAN

Facilitating Regional Visioning

- **Handbook**
 - Chris Carlson has time to work on it again. She has resigned in Oregon and has time to complete this work.
 - Target date - next meeting draft

- **Logo/tagline**
 - Decision at next meeting.
 - Three designs were developed, members contacted for input and the preferred version available for review and approval.
- **Brochure:**
 - Chris Carlson completing instead of JPG.
 - Will be coordinated with Web page development.

Communications Strategy Implementation

- **Web Site**
 - On hold until brochure is done in next 30-45 days.
 - Web site is to be completed and unveiled in January.
- **Regional Group Meetings**
 - Hold off until brochures are ready.
 - Hold the meeting during the last quarter of 2006.

C. DELIVER TOOLS & RESOURCES – MARTY VADIS/TIM PASTIKA/DAN JORDAN

I. Mine Map Dissemination Update

- Tim: tie to regional meetings, will update at the next meeting.

II. Underground Mapping

- Tim: short update

III. GIS Collaborative – Phase III

- September 13th meeting was postponed
- Rescheduling – review draft USDA application for concept development
- USDA grant – October 14th deadline
 - Working on it
 - ARDC
 - Iron Range Resources
 - ESRI
- Dave Yapel has left ARDC for a position with a private company
- ARDC made a commitment to continue its role/lead this effort
- Need to institutionalize for consistency

Action:

- Dan Jordan and John Chell to provide an update at the next meeting.

IV. GIS Wetland Mapping

- Talk to John Chell – presentation from the last meeting carry-over to this meeting.

V. Area-wide LVP Map (update)

- Goal:
 - Update and place on a Web site and update every quarter thereafter
 - Add logo
- Article in Twin Cities Business in November sometime that highlights the project activity and is expected to use the map

- VI. Rangewide Elevation Data Mapping (update)**
 - Stakeholder contacted to determine interest
 - Mining companies have budgeted for or already completed the work. Spring '07 not appropriate.
 - Future approach possible.
 - Vendor presentation will be coordinated with planning for Fall '07 or Spring '08.
- VII. East Range Charette (update)**
 - Spring '07 event
 - Terry Lowell – Dan Jordan will call him to present and update.
 - Chris Carlson could be more involved in the Charette planning and event itself.
- VIII. Keewatin/Taconite Area Charette Interest (update)**
 - Tie to Minnesota Steel and US Steel initiatives
 - EIS completion first
 - New superintendent at US Steel

D. TARGETING PRIORITY PROJECTS

- I. Iron Range Resources Innovation Grant Program**
 - Draft guidelines were reviewed at the last LVP meeting and member comments solicited.
 - Regional groups can now submit in partnership with mining companies
 - Awareness & collaboration is a key criteria. Iron Range Resources expects applicants will notify and work with the mining company, within the mining company itself, and with community leaders, landowners and mineral rights owners.
 - September 30th deadline
 - Review and approval in December by IRR Board
 - Other projects:
 - Wind (approved)
 - Pit Lake prototype – phasing/site? (discussion continues)
 - LVP design review role if proceeds?
 - Bio-mass (proposed)
 - One to two more expected
 - Will ask for LVP input on the projects in October

E. SUB REGIONAL GROUPS UPDATES

- I. CIRI – not represented today**
- II. East Range Readiness – not represented today**
- III. Quad Cities – Tiffany Anderson**
 - Brief handout by Tiffany
 - Brought back Innovation Grant program guidelines and reviewed with City officials. Project was designed and approved by Eveleth City Council.
 - Not aware of biomass project.

- Future Charette suggestion – have an invited group of Quad Cities representatives to participate in a part of the East Range Charette
 - Introductory part and/or
 - Public check-in part
 - Might want to include some representatives of the Keewatin/Taconite areas as well

IV. Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board – Doug Learmont

- Scott Coleman is the new Superintendent at KeeTac
- Reminders made on future sub-regional meeting on LVP.
- Focus lately:
 - Canisteo water project
 - Excelsior Energy Project – public involvement process/EIS
- Itasca County – revised ordinance & planning
 - New mining overlay zone to be expanded
 - Joint Powers Board is pushing this with County – pay attention to mining corridor needs
- Would like to share new data/maps with the County group. Will talk with Tim Pastika on this.

F. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2006 - LAURENTIAN VISION PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Presentations:

- John Chell (15/15 – 1st)
 - Wetlands
- IMA/Frank Ongaro (15/15 – 2nd)
 - Current issues – overview
 - Dan will invite
- Ernie Lehman – Non-ferrous Mining (10 – 3rd)
 - Brief in October/November
 - Presentation
 - Dan will follow-up

G. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Wednesday, November 1st
- 9:00 to 12:30 P.M.

H. MEETING PARTICIPANTS

- Anderson, Tiffany eveleth@evelethmn.com
- Hines, Jeff jeff.hines@dnr.state.mn.us
- Hiti, Brian brian.hiti@IronRangeResources.org
- Jordan, Dan dan.jordan@IronRangeResources.org
- Koepke, Jon koepk002@umn.edu
- Lasky, Randy rlasky@northspan.org
- Learmont, Doug dlearmont@2z.net
- Pastika, Tim tim.pastika@dnr.state.mn.us