

**From:** Kelly, Brendan -FS brendan.kelly@usda.gov   
**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Question on PPA Table  
**Date:** April 30, 2021 at 12:01 PM  
**To:** Larry Desjardin larrydesjardin@yahoo.com  
**Cc:** Woodbridge, Michael -FS michael.woodbridge@usda.gov

BK

Larry,

The attached email and documents were related to a draft construction timeline for different areas within the proposal if the final decision was to implement the proposed action. If a no action decision is made then there isn't any follow-up work to the NEPA and Forest leadership doesn't have to account for future year specialist time. If the proposed action was chosen then it triggers multiple more years of work from specialists to implement the project given the design criteria for the project. Since the Forest leadership plans 1-5 years into the future for potential projects to identify capacity they needed the info to feed into their overall potential future project planning list. Final decisions aren't made about future years project list priorities until right before that year starts (or sometimes even during the year during big fire seasons) since things are continually changing depending on what NEPA decisions are made across different program areas any given year along with base operations. They would similarly have this type of info for vegetation management, fuels projects, grazing, powerline, etc type NEPA. In order to make decisions about new projects that could span multiple years they have to have an idea of what potential workloads could be with existing projects that are in the planning phase to factor overall forest personnel capacity into the equation. The overall program of work list is constantly changing. An example of a last minute big workload we had to account for this year is implementing the Burn Area Emergency Response restoration work for the Middle Fork, East Troublesome and Mullen fires. This requires different resource specialists time which impacts other projects that were originally planned for their time.

I was tasked with identifying potential implementation workload priorities which were given to the trails that got the most interest from the public and could be approved for funding by the town through their 2A budget process because that funding source was a known source for this project and they could be available sooner than other funding sources. Other funding sources like CPW grants take at least a full year to get because you apply one winter and don't receive the grant until the following winter meaning it would be a couple summers before those types of funding sources would be available. We would be applying to that grant after the decision was signed so we couldn't implement CPW grant funded trails until at least 2 summers after a signed decision. Pending the 2A budget approval process we could potentially implement those projects the first summer after a signed decision which is why they were prioritized higher on a construction timeframe which identified what trails specialists could be asked to help with final layout. Additionally the amount of specialists time for final layout was factored into the equation to put a number of potential days each trail could require for contract prep if we were implementing the project. If a trail crossed a stream we would be working with our hydrologist on exactly where a bridge was located as an example. Essentially it is a work capacity exercise so leadership would know potential workloads into future years if the proposed action was selected. Again, if no action was selected there would be no future specialist needs. This isn't related to the NEPA decision process, just a future workforce capacity planning tool if we were having to implement the proposed action.

I'm happy to chat on the phone if you need more clarification.

Brendan



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**From:** Larry Desjardin <larrydesjardin@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 2:31 PM

**To:** Kelly, Brendan -FS <brendan.kelly@usda.gov>

**Subject:** [External Email]Question on PPA Table

[External Email]

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Hi Brendan,

I hope you are doing well, and getting to enjoy some of this pleasant spring weather.

I want to say that the contract you sent me between the city and the Forest Service further exonerates the Forest Service, as I expected. It puts the onus on the 2A committee to define the eligible trails. As I previously stated, I never had the perception that the integrity of the USFS' evaluation would be compromised by sources of outside funding. It never occurred to me.

On the other hand, it is fair for the USFS to use known funding to juggle priorities. This is why I want the 2A funding issue cleared up going forward. I did notice that in the attached document you referenced the existence of 2A funding (or lack of it) in setting priorities in the Preliminary Proposed Action table. Can you let me know the significance of this particular priority setting?

Thanks!

regards,  
Larry

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**From:** [Kelly, Brendan T -FS](#)  
**To:** [Umohries, Tara -FS](#); [Turiya, Artemisia - FS](#); [Bennett, Rita L -FS](#)  
**Subject:** Updated prioritization of trails in Mad Rabbit  
**Date:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 3:13:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [Mad Rabbit PPA User Created Trails Table 18Sep2019.xlsx](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[Mad Rabbit Preliminary Proposed Action Table 22Sep2019.xlsx](#)  
[Mad Rabbit PPA Infrastructure Changes Table 18Sep2019.xlsx](#)

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All,

I have attached an updated version of the Mad Rabbit PPA table. I prioritized the trails as 1 (first priority this fall, most desired by trails community, 2A funds to plan / implement which are on a timeline), 2, or 3 (don't have 2A funding support, more issue areas (wetland, Forest Plan), motorized which aren't the highest priority by motorized community and don't have 2A funding).




This should set a framework in the ID team meeting to prioritize specialist time and figure out which trails can be finalized this fall including final layout. What we can't get to this fall we will be able to finalize next year before we go to contract to implement in FY21. We will have this displayed on a projector during the meeting to update it in realtime with specialist input.

Hope this helps. I'm going to fine tune prioritization with Tara based on past input I may not know about regarding a particular route.

Brendan

 **Brendan Kelly**  
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