



TO: Columbia River Gorge Commission

FROM: Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director

DATE: June 12, 2018

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION ITEM:** Executive Director's Report

"Gorge 2020" Management Plan Review and Update Process:

The *Economic Vitality Work Group* met for a second time on May 9, 2018. The members represent entities that have some aspect of economic activity in the National Scenic Area such as the ports, Gorge businesses, visitor's associations, county economic development entities, tribes, MCEDD, Skamania EDC, Business Oregon and Friends of the Gorge. The role of the work group is to review the Economic Development chapter of the Management Plan and provide comments to fill gaps and update information. They will also recommend 3-4 economic indicators that can be tracked as part of our Vital Sign Indicators initiative. The work group elected **Ken Bailey**, an orchardist and current Chair of MCEDD, to chair the work group and coordinate with Commission staff to set agendas and guide discussions at meetings. The work group anticipates 4-6 additional meetings in the next 6-8 months to complete their tasks.

Annual Summit with Four Treaty Tribes and the Gorge Commission:

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation have offered to co-host the annual meeting between the four treaty tribes and the Commission on October 31, 2018. Staff will be working closely with staff of CTUIR to develop the agenda. The main topic will be Gorge 2020 Management Plan Review, with a focus on First Foods and climate change.

Legal Descriptions of the Exterior Boundary and the SMA/GMA Boundaries:

The U.S. Forest Service has been working closely with Commission staff and Tenneson Engineering to finalize the legal descriptions for the remaining boundaries. We anticipate having them complete by August so that we can send notices for rulemaking to Washington Code Revisor and the Oregon Secretary of State, and proceed with rulemaking to adopt the legal descriptions at the November 2018 Commission meeting.

Quarterly Meetings with the Skamania and Klickitat County Commissions:

Krystyna was joined by Chair Lorrie DeKay and Commissioner Sondra Clark at the Klickitat County Commission meeting, and Chair Lorrie DeKay and Commissioner Keith Chamberlain at the Skamania County Commission meeting to provide updates on Gorge 2020 and the focus topic work group for economic vitality and natural resources.