



**MEDA Tourism and Recreation Working Group
Conference Call
September 1, 2011
10:00am**

ON THE CALL: Mike Strang, Ray Trumpower, Racene Friede, Victor Bjornberg, Tracy McIntyre, Paul Lachapelle and Gloria O'Rourke

CONTINUATION OF REGIONAL TOURISM SUMMIT DISCUSSION

The Tourism and Recreation Working Group continues to pursue the idea of regional tourism summits. The purpose of the summits would be to educate the public, legislators, business owners and local government officials on the impact of tourism dollars to the local economy. Webb Brown and/or Racene will report on this at the next meeting.

MEDA Fall Conference Update

The working group will present for 30 minutes during a breakout on Friday morning, October 7th. Title: Connection to Montana's 2nd Largest Industry. Tracy, Victor and Mike will facilitate/organize the session.

AREA UPDATES

Racene:

- Glacier Park received snow last night.

Mike:

- Montana's Biggest Weekend – rodeo and fair in Dillon this weekend. A family is being filmed for a documentary on the event.
- Fan Tour – starts in Drummond, goes to Dillon, Lima, Ennis, Helena, Butte and back to Drummond so that everyone can

Tracy:

- Lincoln County Fair – had worldwide attendees.

Victor:

- Montana Branding Workshops – working with six tourism regions to locate two workshops per region for a total of 12 workshops. Timeline is for October and November.
- Rural Dynamics/Community Development Conference September 13 – 15, in Great Falls, featuring USDA/RD programs and others that are at work in the western region.

Paul:

- Pre-Conference meeting on September 13th -
- Paul would be happy to share a presentation on how to hold unique events that draw in people from beyond your own region.

Ray:

- Planning board just approved 120 units for RV parks between Sidney and Fairview - which are already full.

NEXT MEETING

Face to face meeting during MEDA conference, October 7th. The next conference call will be Thursday, November 3rd at 10:00am. Dial in: 712.432.0175 pin 217279.

Ray Trumpower
Mona Madler
Mike Strang, Chair

Jim Rexhouse
Daryl Schliem
Julie Johnson
Sam Korsmoe
Jim Davison
Gloria O'Rourke

Tracy McIntyre

Paul Lachapelle
Racene Friede
Victor Bjornberg

Fairview Chamber, etc.
SMART
Gold West Country
Sanders County Development
Corp.
Bozeman Chamber of Commerce
MT Heritage Commission
Madison County EDC
Anaconda Local Dev Corp
MEDA
Eureka Rural Development
Partners
Extension Community
Development
Glacier Country
Montana Office of Tourism