

DRAFT AGENDA

USFS Wallowa Whitman National Forest – Forest Level Collaborative

Blue Mountain Interagency Fire Center, LaGrande, OR.

10 AM to 2 PM, Thursday June 7, 2012.

- 10:00 AM Welcome and Introductions
- Northeast Oregon County Commissioners
- 10:15 AM Rationale and intended benefits from a Forest Level Collaborative on the W-W NF
- Northeast Oregon County Commissioners
 - Monica Schwalbach, WWNF Forest Supervisor
 - Maia Enzer, Sustainable Northwest and Nils Christoffersen, Wallowa Resources
 - Open discussion with all participants
- Desired outcome: Consensus on value in organizing the collaborative, and testing its value and benefit.
- 11:00 AM Summary of interim structure and funding
- Nils Christoffersen, Wallowa Resources and Maia Enzer, Sustainable Northwest
 - Questions and discussion
- Desired outcome: Understanding on initial structure and funding, and points of contact during first 12 months
- 11:15 AM Short term goals and process for Forest Level Collaborative
- Maia Enzer – facilitator
 - Will include short review of operating principles from the Malheur and Umatilla National Forest Collaboratives
- Desired outcome: Consensus on short-term goals (first 12 months) for the collaborative – including goals relevant to projects and process, and longer-term operating structure. *We will not word-smith operating principles or goals at this meeting. We may appoint a working group as relevant to work on this following the meeting.*
- 12:00 Noon LUNCH Break
- 12:30 PM Overview of WWNF Watershed Condition Framework and Terrestrial Condition Framework
- WWNF Staff will provide overview and facilitate discussion on framework and desired input from the collaborative
 - Will help identify some specific field project opportunities, as well as social values needed for the framework analysis
- Desired outcome: Understanding of the analysis and planning frameworks, and the contributions our collaborative can make to this level planning. Emergence of ripe opportunities for collaboration to have success on the ground.
- 1:30 PM Summary and Next Steps
- Summary of accomplishments
 - Agreement on next series of meetings to meet short term goals, and priority tasks
 - Plan summer field tour of potential project site.

CLOSE

FOREST LEVEL COLLABORATION
 JUNE 7, 2012 FIRST MEETING
 Northeast Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center

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Warner, Fred	fwarner@bakercounty.org	Baker County
Kerns, Jan	jkerns@rconnects.com	Baker County Natural Resources Advisory Committee
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USFS Wallowa Whitman National Forest – Forest Level Collaborative

First Meeting - 7 June 2012

Blue Mountain Interagency Fire Center, LaGrande, OR.

DRAFT SUMMARY OF MEETING – 18 June 2012

Rationale and intended benefits from a Forest Level Collaborative

Cost / Benefit of Forest Level Collaboration in relation to County-level collaboration, and the appropriate structure between the two.

Meeting discussion:

Site specific collaboration at the County level should be maintained and expanded, allows for greater specificity with respect to actual conditions and needs on the ground and within each community. County level is also best level to determine need / value of addressing multiple landownerships within a specific watershed.

Forest Level Collaboration would focus on larger scale planning and priority setting across the entire forest, allowing stakeholders to understand and contribute to planning. Ideally this level collaboration will also leverage additional resources for management of the WWNF – including but not limited to opportunities under the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program. Consensus at the Forest level on broad items will allow counties to focus on specific elements. It can also be structured to generate additional stakeholder support for County level collaboration – where regional and national stakeholders are unable to join each County process.

Focus on Wallowa Whitman National Forest as a whole, its conditions, its benefits.

Meeting discussion:

Forest Level Collaborative will focus on the national forest system lands within the Wallowa Whitman National Forest. Within specific project analysis areas, adjacent land under other ownership will be considered as relevant to the specific project in question.

Develop and promote balanced solutions from a diverse group of stakeholders.

Meeting discussion:

The Collaborative needs to include a broad diverse set of stakeholders and seek to generate as broad an alignment of interests as possible to generate the desired efficiency and leverage benefits to the WWNF. Towards this end, the Collaborative will be open and transparent in its operations, with guidelines for participation and engagement established in the Operations Manual.

Malheur NF – Forest Collaborative - Promotes successes on the ground and gets things done; started small and worked toward larger scale projects (40,000 acres). Allows for focus on ecosystem restoration principles and needs. Agreements occur up front.

Summarize interim structure and funding for first series meetings

The three Northeast Oregon Counties (Baker, Union and Wallowa) are acting as the founding conveners for the WWNF Forest Level Collaborative. Someone other than the USFS needs to act as the convener.

With concurrence from the Northeast Oregon Counties, Wallowa Resources and Sustainable Northwest secured funding from National Forest Foundation and the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities to support the launch of this collaborative.

This funding allows for WR and SNW to provide for staffing and meeting costs associated with the first 12 months of the Collaborative. The initial funding proposal called for 4-5 meetings within the first 12 months, with at least 1-2 of these meetings being in the field. If the Collaborative decides to meet more often, the impact on staffing resources will need to be reviewed.

The USFS WWNF is a critical partner in this effort and is committed to providing the staff required to ensure its usefulness and success.

Its anticipated that some work of the Collaborative will be designated to specific working groups that will develop specific ideas and work items between meetings of the larger Collaborative.

The structure, roles and funding designated above are all INTERIM. The Collaborative needs to review these items and do the necessary work to plan for continuation of the Collaborative after the initial grant funding is expensed.

Meeting discussion:

- Interim Structure needs to be two way information exchange between all participants, as well as between the Forest Level Collaborative and the County Level Collaboratives
- This Collaborative will provide a forum for the WWNF to inform interested public on direction, priorities, constraints they are operating under; make those aware to people upfront
- Allows for feedback, build messaging and advocacy for voice to Washington or Portland Office when direction is not appropriate for the area.
- Occurs at multiple levels; WWNF, Forest collaboration, county collaboration etc.
- A team framework
- Its critical that the Colaborative work is focused on delivering tangible benefits on the ground
- Forest Collaborative: supportive toward county collaborative efforts, reaches out to a broader set of stake holders with information on county efforts developing broader support. This creates support for bottom up planning.

Reach agreement on short term goals for the collaborative - Invite group discussion and perspectives on short term goals. Open group discussion. See separate attachment.

Discuss operating principles – Maia Enzer, SNW, provided overview drawing from MNF and UNF. See separate attachment.

Introduce general process to agree on longer-term coordination and facilitation structure and funding.

The group brainstormed on the Mission, Goals, and Vision of the Forest Collaborative Group: Meet several times over next 12 months to develop Operation Manual and pursue one to two specific projects.

10 people identified as group members to take on task of developing the Operations Manual, with mission and goal, and guidelines. Prioritize projects (needs/conditions) in watershed(s) in tandem with Manual Creation

Establish Timelines – Tangible things we want to accomplish-for outputs of Collaborative Group

Group will develop MEASUREMENTS of Process/Mission/Projects

- Measuring progress?
- Metrics for Collaborative Group/Forest
- Follow-up/Feedback

Identified Elements of Operation Manual and progression for each Element. See separate attachment. Key elements include:

- Mission and Vision
- Principles of Collaboration
- Ground Rules
- Group Structure
- Communications
- Decision Making Protocols

Overview by USFS on Watershed Condition Framework and Terrestrial Condition Framework - **Not enough time at this meeting**

Generate consensus on one or two immediate project opportunities –

- Group discussion on social values that might factor into the priority setting.

How often we should meet to address short term goals. - **Monthly**

Priority tasks - **Operations Manual, Tangible things to accomplish, Prioritization of projects**

Plan summer field tour of priority project sites and next work meeting.

FOREST LEVEL COLLABORATION
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OPERATIONS MANUAL

Elements of an Operation Plan:

- Mission and Vision
- Principles of Collaboration
- Ground Rules
- Group Structure
- Communications
- Decision Making Protocols

Clarify and Articulate:

- Group Intent and Purpose
- Decision making process
- Process for resolving impasses
- Define Roles and Responsibilities of participants

So you can focus on projects and more efficiently and effectively in getting to implementation.

MISSION AND VISION

- Articulate your purpose, goals, and scope
- Addresses ecological, economic, social, and cultural objectives

PRINCIPLES OF COLLABORATION

- Recognition that it takes time
- Open, transparent, and inclusive process
- Diverse participation of local and distant stakeholders is important
- Commitment to monitoring and adaptability
- Build trust to go to scale overtime
- Focus on creating durable agreement

GROUND RULES (a sample)....

- No back room deals
- No personal attacks
- Commit to sharing concerns at meetings, no after the fact
- Focus on solutions and what CAN be done
- Verify rumors before accepting them as fact

GROUP STRUCTURE

Articulates and Clarifies:

Who:

- Participates in decision making?
- Provides information/technical?
- Facilitates, Convenes, and Staff?

Things to Consider;

- What defines Active participation?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of different types of participants?
 - Staff/Coordinator/Interns
 - Federal, State, County governments
 - Guests
 - Media
- Process for entrance and Orientation of NEW participants?
- Engaging Distant Stakeholders that Cannot regularly participate?

COMMUNICATIONS

Meeting Notifications

- When, where, how much in advance?

Record Keeping

- Minutes
- Agreements/Disagreement
- Financial and In-kind

Electronic

- List-serve
- Website
- Google doc's

Things to Consider:

- Internal: project level, full group
- External: Media, interest citizens, policy makers, others

DECISION MAKING

- Day to day logistics/organization
- Projects
- Fundraising
- Media Communication
- Policy maker communication
- Turning points in the collaborative's "organization"

Project Level Decisions over simplified:

- Identify Issues/Project site
- Study, Discuss, walk the ground; repeat
- Develop recommendations
- Make a Decision on your recommendation as a FULL Group

➤ Things to Think About in Project Level Decision Making

1. Who Participates
2. Is "proxy" participation an option
3. Consensus ONLY?
4. If Consensus – Avenues if consensus/agreement isn't occurring
5. Re-visitation of Consensus/Agreement made? Will it occur and how
6. Documentation of Agreements and Dis-Agreements

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GOALS OF OPERATION MANUAL GROUP:

1. Complete Operations Manual in 12 months
2. Prioritize projects (needs/conditions) in watershed in tandem with Manual Creation
3. Utilize Science for:
 - ecosystem restoration
 - help shape “principles”
 - guidelines for science/stewardship
 - Stewardship Principles – sideboards
4. List from WWNF to help determine what to take on
5. SCOPE of focus? Forest, Watershed etc.....
 - Local collaborates take on more narrow project level specificity
 - Raise up local to the Forest Wide Collaborative
 - Currently Initiated Projects?
6. MEASURE of Process/Mission/Projects
 - Measuring progress?
 - Metrics for Collaborative Group/Forest
 - Follow-up/Feedback
7. Forest Group Addresses – Commonalities of Counties – ie. Dry Forest Types....
8. Establish Timelines – Tangible things we want to accomplish-for outputs of Collaborative Group
9. Crosswalk with local, county, and other relevant efforts
10. Aggressive Schedule
11. Transparent Group
12. Patience

Operation Manual – Group Members

1. Steve Edwards (?)	Private – Ecologist	sre@prxs.org
2. Lindsay Warness	Boise Cascade LLC	LindsayWarness@bc.com
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10. Nils Christoffersen	Wallowa Resources	nils@wallowaresources.org
11. Maia Enzer**	Sustainable Northwest	menzer@sustainablenorthwest.org

**Nick Myatt was not present at the meeting, but his represented suggested he might be interested in being part of this group. Nick needs to confirm his interest and availability.*

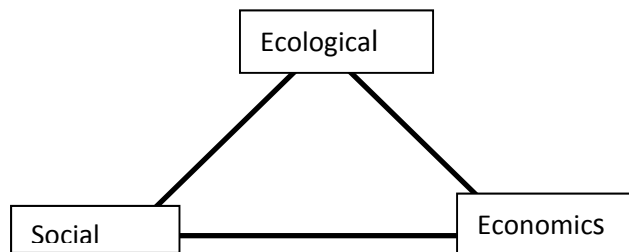
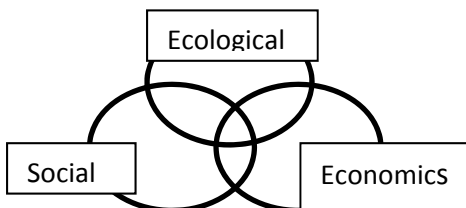
*** Maia Enzer is based in Portland, OR and will contribute via phone and e-mail between larger group meetings.*

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MISSION/GOALS/VISION

Brainstorming session:

- To develop and promote balanced solutions from a diverse group of stakeholders
- To Improve and Sustain local Ecological resiliency and local socio-econ health in/near Umatilla
- Healthy and resilient forests (wildfire, insect and diseases)
- Sustainable and predictable supply of goods and services (timber, grazing, mining, ecosystem services etc.)
- Focus on the WWNF as a whole; its condition, benefits
- The Forest ----The Land
- Mission is Land
 - Social
 - Economic
 - Natural Resource – Healthy-Productive
 - Sustainability
- Integration of People and Land
- Level of SCOPE of:
 - County, private, state and other lands?
 - Include Forest Plan Revisions?
 - Collaboration?
 - Vision?
- Limit Interpretation of Wording (ie: Resiliency – What does it mean?)
- Overlap of Ecological, Social, Economics Where is overlap? Make it bigger.



S. E. E. Social Ecological Economic

- Consider risk of Loss on Private Lands due to conditions across boundary.
- Community Health through the land but not at the expense of community
- Resilient System depends on Inter-relation of people and land
- VISION – What is it?
- Consensus vs. Alignment
- Understanding of Intent and Content
- A Mission/Process non-participatory public can understand
- Customs and Culture – define needs of these
- Keep it Achievable:
 - All Lands?
 - All Agencies?
 - Cross Boundaries? (consider bark beetle)
 - Planning vs. Implementation vs. Project level
- SCALE – 6 HUC Watershed with a Tier Down process to projects