



Region 6 Forest Collaboratives Workshop

Collaboration Across Boundaries: Sharing Knowledge & Advancing Solutions

MARCH 30-31, 2016 • BEST WESTERN INN PLUS • HOOD RIVER, OREGON

Wednesday, March 30th

All sessions in the Columbia Room unless noted otherwise

-
- 8:00 am Registration opens
- 9:00 am Welcome ~ Andrew Spaeth, Forest Program Director, Sustainable Northwest
- 9:30 am Keynote address ~ *Conserving Western Working Landscapes: Why Collaboration Matters*
Speaker: Dr. Susan Charnley, Research Social Scientist, PNW Research Station, U.S. Forest Service.
Healthy working landscapes are critical for conserving biodiversity, ecological processes and functions, and natural resource-based livelihoods that revolve around ranching and forestry. This talk explores why collaborative conservation is the best way to conserve working landscapes in the West.
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:30 am Presentation ~ *A Science Foundation for Restoring Pacific Northwest Forests*
Presenter: Dr. Ryan Haugo, Senior Forest Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy Washington Field Office
This talk will cover analyses of regional forest restoration needs, and the recently published seven principles for restoring fire-prone landscapes, and provide a real-world example of translating the principles of restoration into on-the-ground action in the Tapash Manastash-Taneum project.
- 12:00 pm Networking lunch (*Shoreline Room*)
- 1:00 pm Introduction of Science, Policy, and Collaborative Operations Tracks (*Columbia Room*)
- 1:15 pm Track sessions (*Select one of the following*)
- Science** ~ Landscape Scale Planning and Analysis (*Columbia Room*)
Discussion Leader: Dr. Ryan Haugo, Senior Forest Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy Washington Field Office
Facilitator: Andrew Spaeth, Forest Program Director, Sustainable Northwest
Session goal: Explore current approaches and tools that are being used to plan restoration at a landscape scale. What are the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches? What barriers do collaboratives face in

landscape planning and analysis? Participants will have the opportunity to discuss how these approaches and tools might be utilized on forested landscapes across the Northwest.

Policy ~ In search of NEPA Efficiencies within the Forest Service (*Mountainview Room*)

Discussion Leader: David Seesholtz, Research Liaison, USDA Forest Service

Facilitator: Dr. Marc Stern, Associate Professor, College of Natural Resources and the Environment, Virginia Tech

Session goal: This presentation will cover several ongoing National efforts within the Forest Service that are looking at ways to improve how the agency accomplishes its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Collaborative Operations ~ Facilitating Effective Collaborative Dialogue (*Mt. Adams Room*)

Discussion Leader: Karen Hardigg, Special Initiatives Coordinator, Wallowa Resources

Facilitator: Dr. Emily Jane Davis, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Oregon State University

Session goal: This session will focus on understanding the role and benefits of a facilitator, and distinguishing facilitation from other necessary capacities to maintain a functional collaborative group. We will explore how these roles come into play through common meeting dilemmas.

2:30 pm **Break**

2:45 pm **Track Sessions** (*Select one of the following*)

Science ~ Integrating Aquatic Restoration & Riparian Buffer Management (*Columbia Room*)

Discussion Leaders: Crystal Elliot, Restoration Ecologist, Trout Unlimited;

Dede Olson, Research Ecologist and Team Leader, USDA Forest Service;

Facilitator: Jamie Tolfree, Collaborative Coordinator, South Gifford Pinchot Collaborative, Pinchot Partners

Session goal: Discuss ways of incorporating aquatic restoration into collaborative planning. What resources and tools can be used in aquatic resource management? What aquatic priorities are most important to consider, and do these vary among landowners? What is the range of management approaches?

Policy ~ Working with Federal Partners: Policies and Practice (*Mountainview Room*)

Discussion Leaders: Tracy Beck, Forest Supervisor, Willamette National Forest;

Cecilia Clavet, Senior Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy;

Karen Hardigg, Special Initiatives Coordinator, Wallowa Resources

Facilitator: Dylan Kruse, Policy Director, Sustainable Northwest

Session goal: This session will provide the opportunity to learn about the Forest Service budgeting process and agency relations. How do agency budget prioritization processes interface with forest collaborative efforts? What are the opportunities to reduce the impact of partner turnover within the context of forest collaboration?

Collaborative Operations ~ Collaborating Post-NEPA: Integrity in Implementation (*Mt. Adams Room*)

Discussion Leaders: Marko Bey, Executive Director, Lomakatsi Restoration Project;

Dr. Will Butler, Associate Professor, Florida State University;

Judd Lehmann, Timber Program Manager and Contracting Officer, Fremont-Winema National Forest

Facilitator: Pam Hardy, Central Oregon Field Coordinator, Oregon Wild

Session goal: This track will discuss ways of incorporating project implementers into the collaborative process. What opportunities exist for collaborative members to engage with those doing the work to build a stronger understanding of the goals and outcomes of the project?

4:00 pm **Break ~ Hotel check-in**

- 4:30 pm Evening keynote & reception ~ *Trust Ecology: Relationship Building for Resilient Collaboration*
Speaker: Dr. Marc Stern, Associate Professor, College of Natural Resources and the Environment, Virginia Tech
(Appetizers and no-host bar in the Shoreline Room)
- 6:00 pm Dinner on your own

Thursday, March 31st

- 7:30 am Breakfast (*Shoreline Room*)
- 9:00 am Welcome ~ Kaitlin Berger, Forest Program Intern, Sustainable Northwest (*Columbia Room*)
- 9:05 am Presentation ~ *Collaborating at Arm's Length: Agency Engagement in Forest Collaboratives*
Presenter: Dr. Will Butler, Associate Professor, Florida State University
This presentation explores approaches for engaging in collaborative landscape-scale ecological restoration while balancing the tensions of agency authority and levels of engagement in collaboration.
- 9:30 am Track sessions (*Select one of the following*)
- Science** ~ Variable Density Thinning (*Columbia Room*)
Discussion Leaders: Cheryl Friesen, Science Liaison, USDA Forest Service;
Dr. Joan Hagar, Wildlife Ecologist, US Geological Survey;
Klaus Puettmann, Professor of Forestry, Oregon State University.
Facilitator: Kirk Shimeall, Executive Director, Cascade Pacific RC&D
Session goal: We will present the “state of the science” related to the ecological implications of thinning within moist forests: can creative retention patterns in 40-80-year old, west-side forests accelerate the development of stand structures and plant and animal communities associated with older forests? Can we call this “restoration?”
- Policy** ~ Forest Plan Revision Process and the 2012 Planning Rule (*Mountainview Room*)
Discussion Leaders: Susan Jane Brown, Staff Attorney, Western Environmental Law Center;
Lindsay Warness, Forest Policy Liaison, Boise Cascade Company
Facilitator: Karen Hardigg, Special Initiatives Coordinator, Wallowa Resources
Session goal: This session will provide an overview of the 2012 Planning Rule, and provide an update on the Forest Plan Revision process. Collaboratives will have an opportunity to share information and ask questions of partners in various stages of the revision process.
- Collaborative Operations** ~ Agency Engagement in Adaptive Management and Multi-party Monitoring (*Mt. Adams Room*)
Discussion Leaders: Marc Barnes, Senior Project Manager, Integrated Resources Management;
Bill Gamble, District Ranger, Wallowa Whitman National Forest;
James Johnston, Monitoring Coordinator, Blue Mountains Forest Partners
Facilitator: Andrew Spaeth, Forest Program Director, Sustainable Northwest
Session goal: The presentation will explore the role of forest collaboratives and agency partners in advancing an adaptive management approach to national forest system management. Panelists will discuss agency monitoring requirements and initiatives and forest collaborative multi-party monitoring plans. How is the agency assessing whether or not they are achieving their goals? How does the collaborative process inform that conversation?
- 10:45 am Break

11:00 am Track Sessions (*Select one of the following*)

Science ~ Post-Fire Science: Current Research and Applications (*Columbia Room*)

Discussion Leader: Dr. Chris Dunn, Research Associate, Oregon State University

Facilitator: Mark Webb, Executive Director, Blue Mountains Forest Partners

Session goal: Learn about the current state of post-fire research in the Pacific Northwest. Explore where and how recent research is being applied on national forests in partnership with local forest collaboratives.

Policy ~ Third-party NEPA Contracting (*Mountainview Room*)

Discussion Leaders: Rodney Smolden, Forest Supervisor, Colville National Forest;

Mark Teply, Senior Scientist, Cramer Fish Sciences

Facilitator: Lloyd McGee, Washington Forests Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy

Session Goal: What is third-party NEPA contracting and how does it work? Agency partners, private contractors, and researchers will share their perspective on the topic and facilitate a discussion about the opportunities and challenges associated with this approach.

Collaborative Operations ~ How trust gets built (or not) in collaborative natural resource management (and what difference it makes) (*Mt Adams Room*)

Discussion Leader: Dr. Marc Stern, Associate Professor, College of Natural Resources and the Environment, Virginia Tech

Facilitator: Rachel Plawecki, Forest Program Coordinator, Sustainable Northwest

Session goal: Trust has repeatedly been identified as an important element of natural resource management processes and outcomes. This session will give an overview of Dr. Stern's recent research on forms of trust related to natural resource management. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss how these findings may be applied within their own collaboratives.

12:15 pm Networking Lunch (*Shoreline Room*)

1:15 pm Break-out sessions: Building Coalitions to Advance Strategic Priorities

Washington Forest Collaboratives Steering Committee (all WA forests) (*Mountainview Room*)

Discussion Leaders: Melody Kreimes, Natural Resources Program Manager, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board; Lloyd McGee, Eastern Washington Forests Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy;

Jamie Tolfree, Collaborative Coordinator, South Gifford Pinchot Collaborative & Pinchot Partners;

Facilitator: Andrew Spaeth, Forest Program Director, Sustainable Northwest

Session goal: Presentation and overview of the work of the Washington Forest Collaboratives Steering Committee. Advance conversations on two key priority areas for the committee: 1) policy, communications, and education; and 2) economic assessment.

Blues Coalition (Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla, Ochoco, Malheur, plus Deschutes) (*Mt. Adams Room*)

Discussion Leader: Kendal Martel, Forest Program Associate, Sustainable Northwest

Facilitator: Kaitlin Berger, Forest Program Intern, Sustainable Northwest

Session goal: Identify and discuss the primary science needs of forest collaboratives in Eastern Oregon. How might forest collaboratives in the Blues advanced a common understanding of scientific research and social values and share lesson learned?

Northwest Oregon Forest Collaboratives (Mount Hood, Siuslaw, Willamette) (*Columbia Room*)

Discussion Leader: Donald Ulrich, Research Assistant, Oregon State University

Facilitator: Kirk Shimeall, Executive Director, Cascade Pacific RC&D

Session goal: Presentation and overview of recent research conducted in Northwest Oregon by Oregon State University Extension. Identify potential opportunity to create a peer-learning network to advance priorities of west-side Oregon Forest Collaboratives

Southern Oregon Forest Collaboratives (Umpqua, Fremont-Winema, Rogue River-Siskiyou) (Columbia Room)

Discussion Leaders: Marko Bey, Executive Director, Lomakatsi Restoration Project;

Darren Borgias, Southwest Oregon Program Director, The Nature Conservancy;

Frank Burris, Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative Lead Facilitator;

George McKinley, Executive Director, Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative;

Stan Petrowski, President, South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership

Facilitator: Rachel Plawecki, Forest Program Coordinator, Sustainable Northwest

Session goal: Identify and discuss common challenges in Southwest Oregon faced by forest collaboratives that we could work together on.

2:30 pm **Break**

2:45 pm **Plenary Session: The Future of State and Federal Partnerships in Region 6 (Columbia Room)**

Panel Members: Brett Brownscombe, Natural Resource Policy Advisor, Oregon Office of the Governor;

Chad Davis, Senior Policy Analyst, Oregon Department of Forestry;

Aaron Everett, State Forester at Washington State Department of Natural Resources;

Debbie Hollen, Director, State & Private Forestry Region 6, USDA Forest Service;

Mary-Louise Smith, Director, Natural Resources, USDA Forest Service Region 6

Facilitator: Dylan Kruse, Policy Director, Sustainable Northwest

Session goal: The panel will share ideas and perspectives on the future of forest collaboration and state and federal partnerships in the Pacific Northwest. Panel member presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion.

4:00 pm **Closing remarks and adjourn**

This workshop was brought to you by:



With generous support from:

