

**White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation
Day 2 Breakout Session Compilation**

Topic: Accelerating Cooperative Conservation as a way of Doing Business: Building Capacity, Skills, and Practices Across Organizations

Session number: 35

Morning

Facilitator: Mamie Parker

Location: 121

This summary cannot be more than two pages; allocate space as needed among the categories.

A. Major Repeated Themes Raised in the Discussion. *A grouping of ideas repeated with some frequency in the session and brought up again during the group summation process. Also includes diverging views and/or questions about the topic.*

- Define Cooperative Conservation – where do we go from here
- Celebrate Success
- Conservation Education - Land **and** water
- Barrier Busters – to work together
- Funding

B. National-level Practical Actions *that could be taken by the Federal government, national NGO's, and other national organizations. Diverging views and/or questions are also noted.*

- Statutory underpinning needed
- Establish as people's (nonpartisan) vision
- CC needs to be top down and bottom up

- National CC conference every 3-5 years
- Establish national goals to define vision considering equity, environment and economics
- Establish national performance metrics to measure success
- Establish annual report documenting results
- Establish database to showcase approaches, resources, successes, and lessons learned.
- Establish national conservation educational curriculum

- Difficult to partner with government processes, rules, and regulations. Need to break through complexity – change our bureaucracy
- Review FARs and cooperative agreements for disincentives for CC
- Need institutional incentive for agencies to work together
- Need to change culture in agencies
- Need to get rid of govt bureaucracy that prevents us from partnering. Need to reevaluate this in the govt sector.

- Embed funding and time in legislation

This document represents the views of the individual participants and does not reflect group consensus.

- Agencies need to recognize pathways to get funding to on the ground situations
- Need to create incentives investments on the part of agency funding sources in CC mechanisms that exist within their agencies

C. **Local-level Practical Actions** *that could be taken at the local or community level by Tribes, state and local communities, private citizens, and local organizations. Diverging views and/or questions are also noted.*

- Establish regional CC conferences using existing regional forums and including volunteers (scheduling and scholarships with an eye to volunteers)
- Implement conservation education program
- Need to build in training and incentives for those who are good at CC. Need to find broker within agencies to do this collaborative work and be able to reward these who. Make it be an agency expectation across the board.

D. **Particularly insightful quotes from participants** that capture the essence of key points made during the group's discussion.

- CC should embrace the “3 Es” – Equity, Environment, and Economics
- Make CC pay so people will invest in CC
- Start with low hanging fruit
- It's all our responsibility. Did not start and will not end with this president. It's a bottom-up thing – it's the people's vision (that this president is promoting).
- Need to get rid of govt bureaucracy that prevents us from partnering. Need to reevaluate this in the govt sector.

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