

**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:** 44

**Afternoon**

**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.*

- **Leadership - personal involvement, commitment and trust**
- **Targeted outreach and inclusion of range of participation**
- **Incentives**
- **Funding**
- **Trust from all participants**
- **Demand cooperation**
- **Personal involvement by all leadership**

**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.*

- Personal involvement by all leadership
- Give time to work out things – no artificial deadlines
- Build incentives for agency personnel and reward people for cooperating
- Rewards for universities. Academia typically rewarded for writing papers; reward instead for actually getting projects done
- Need meaningful measurable results
- Support from top down for bottom up developed projects
- Allow FACA relief (allow feds to collaborate)
- Trust of top leadership
- Commitment of top leadership
- Tie budget increases to proven partnerships
- Continued funding for successful projects
- Provide funding to make change and leverage more resources

**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.*

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- Provide interagency teams to train local groups in cooperation and how to get assistance
- Establish interagency teams, MOUs, and have horizontal and vertical buy-in and alignment
- Use local connection to involve key stakeholders
- Mutual accountability from stakeholders
- Give locals tools, data, and expertise to do their job; be facilitator instead of telling them how to do their job
- Establish a trusted local leader
- Report to public as work is being done, not just at the end
- Market purpose, progress, and successes
- Value of relationships – there is strength in diversity
- Community defines their own future and how they relate to government and how government relates to them
- Share successes (books, CDs and web)
- Duplicate CC conference at state level

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

- In a democracy we need to have informed citizens – we need long term education.
- Reward people for good practices and positive contributions instead of cleaning up messes.
- Federal agencies need to hold themselves accountable from top to bottom to walk the talk
- A lot of people have the desire but not the skill.
- Develop at the bottom but support from top.
- Need user friendly mechanism to educate public on opportunities for one-stop shopping for federal assistance
- Turbo tax of govt programs. Needs simple way of getting basics of programs to the public
- Get trained or get lost.
- Beyond ideology to effectiveness.
- CC give me a belief in democracy again
- TOP LEVEL TIME SHOWS INTEREST

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