

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

Topic: Improving Certainty and Incentives for Stakeholders

Session number: 38

Morning

Facilitator: Catherine Barner

Location: 262

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.*

INVEST IN PEOPLE—Training/attitudes

--incentives & rewards

--communication/education/economics

LEVELS OF GOVT—Coordination/alignment/up and down/integration

REGULATIONS—simplification/ledgibility/flexible/no “one size fits all”/ safe harbor from litigation

How do you create incentives for change?

Tensions created between conflicting goals—urban sprawl vs. the benefits of progress.

Looking to value added for complying with regulatory process.

Local administration works better than federal control.

Various govt. levels and interagency ability to coordinate in decision making process.

Private land use needs incentives for investment and protection from litigation.

Reward rather than penalize.

Simplifying the regulatory process and language.

Govt does not always have the dollars—teamwork and leveraging

Policy of Feds needs to align with local

Personal attitude adds to success.

Integrate local knowledge with science and economics to apply to local landscapes.

Ability to be flexible and make decisions on local level.

Defining “Success” to each group at the outset.

Conflict vs collaboration mentality

- 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.*

Education, training, flexibility of Govt EEs

Outcome vs. rule based programs.

Be willing to consider that one size does not fit all in the regulatory environment—what works in coastal Mississippi may fail in the Rockies.

Look outside our borders when looking to projects, policies or incentives.

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Incentives at federal level for state/local education to influence attitudes in environmental protection.

Simplify regulations—more legible & flexible

Funding

Remove liability

Harmonization

Understand local landscapes

Integrate functions between local and Federal (particularly middle management)

Training—guidance on how to be a good partner—reward

Reconcile economic/social disconnect (ie WV has rich forests and yet state has extensive poverty)

Outcome based programs & regulations—science, social science, economic & role of scale (local vs territorial)

Cost Sharing

National network of education

System to provide closure

Empower local Federal staff—reward for flexibility

Integrate planning/education/communication/best practices

Funding for forest lands

- 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.*

Pilots easier to get off the ground then easier to sell to others and easier to see immediate results.

Local officials are easier to hold accountable.

Locally important issues increase participation and instills the ethic of valuing the results.

Mentality of how each component of the environment interrelates

Incentives may be locally driven.

Local Action: Education/technical assistance/funding/safe harbor/take local considerations into consideration/honor local vision/use ombudsmen/form effective local teams/common ground for local development and conservation to coexist/clear goals and objectives of partnership (both local and Federal)/remove liability for land owners who do the right thing

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

Those pesky locals need to be part of the discussion.

We're all in this together.

Reward the new order.

Anytime everyone is willing to cooperate, you can resolve anything.

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