

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

**Topic:** Reaching Across Boundaries to Promote Shared Governance

**Session number:** 51

**Afternoon**

**Facilitator:** James Moye

**Location:** 224

*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.*

- A national program
- Communication, cooperation, coordination VS. confrontation and competition.
- Leadership, metrics accountability
- Data transferability.
- Cooperative conservation must become a permanent element in all of our government and communities goals and decisions.
- Leadership must sustain its commitment to cooperative conservation.
- The shared governance means sharing power and sharing responsibility.
- Leadership must sustain that the shared governance means sharing power and sharing responsibility.

**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.*

- Commitment from agency heads on down to participate.
- There has to be mutual benefits. You can't try and get me there to do your work, you have to have the agreement that if both of us weren't there at the table, collaborating then the project wouldn't be taking off.
- Seek authorities for multi-year appropriations and spending on projects. You could develop a strategic plan and partnership for purpose. Maybe at a state or regional level.
- You have to have a process to get to the local level. There needs to be a national PLAN so that you could implement it at the local level.
- Sharing results, like this but perhaps on a regional level. What works what doesn't. Sharing with other federal agencies, with everyone who wishes to listen.
- There are national laws and regulations that are kind of one size fits all without any ability to vary that locally.

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

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.*

- Mentor program for new employees from the old in every kind of partnerships.
- Build up existing partnerships. Build up intercommunity relationships.
- Utilize natural models for our attempts at shared governance similar to how the ecosystem does-don't divide its functions amongst soil, water, wildlife, etc. Evaluate the ecosystem and not just the individual resources.
- Delegate and provide resources for field days in the interest of developing partnerships.
- Learn each others languages. Communities learn techno-speak and agencies need to learn to listen to stories.
- Have a decision-making process more suited to the collaborative environment.
- For anything to be successful then we must start at the kindergarten level with environmental education.

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

- For anything to be successful then we must start at the kindergarten level with environmental education.
- Getting sustainable resources requires sustainable representatives.
- The landscape is slower to respond than the politicians.
- The problem solving approaches for the past 20 years are different than the ones for the future will be. It is a way to dissolve some barriers of the culture. There are no incentives for motivators or no thinking outside the box. The approach isn't as proactive as it needs to be as well.

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