

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

**Topic:** Expanding the Role of Tribes, States and Communities in Cooperative Conservation

**Session number:** 37

**Morning**

**Facilitator:** Elaine Marquis Brong

**Location:** 132

**A. Major Repeated Themes Raised in the Discussion.**

- Sustainability
  - culture, economics, environment – three legged stool.
- Champion
- Community organization and support.
- Tearing down turf.
- Funding.
- Institutional change.
- Increased private corporation involvement.
- Leadership.

**B. National-level Practical Actions**

- Fully utilize Section 6 of ESA. Example – Arizona and USFWS.
- Strengthen NEPA planning section on coordinating with local plans.
- Consider impact of economic globalization on conservation.
- Develop a link between the bottom up process and top down initiative.
- Streamline in working with different states and groups to achieve a common goal.
- Develop mechanism/databases for sharing of knowledge between organizations.
- Need to inform local officials about cooperative conservation initiatives so that they understand the end point and endorse it.
- Insert conservation themes into existing training for elected officials.
- Redirect existing budgets down to more collaborative processes. Pool budgeting for multi-year utilization. Need better public knowledge of budgeting and monitoring on conservation.
- Make collaborative processes more useful to empower groups.
- Include conservation in public education.
- Provide more proactive funding mechanisms for local groups to function. Provide flexibility and long-term commitment in terms of funding for these organizations.
- Institutionalize support at all levels, local, State and Federal.
- Tribes need funding in order to build capacity and be active participants.
- Local communities need funding in order to build capacity and be active participants.
- Develop rural poverty directorate/department.
- Tie conservation education into “No Child Left Behind.”
- Federal government and Congress need to eliminate turf battles.
- Develop a better process for distributing funds based on performance (success vs. political process).

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

- Provide funding for land management with land acquisition.
- Get more resources to those areas under private ownership.
- Develop multiple models for marine environment, which is different than terrestrial environment.
- Develop success based “Certification” process for NGOs.
- Compare funding against the costs of not doing.
- Develop collaborative partnerships.
- Continue exploration of co-management of Federal lands.
- Need to get line items for restoration vs. earmarks.
- Need to develop cooperative conservation as a bi-partisan issue.
- Need to establish local level support/collaboration in order to gain bi-partisan support.
- Integrate CRP with CRMP process.

**C. Local-level Practical Actions**

- Tribes need funding in order to build capacity and be active participants.
- Local communities need funding in order to build capacity and be active participants.
- Need to establish local level support/collaboration in order to gain bi-partisan support.
- Integrate CRP with CRMP process.

**D. Particularly insightful quotes from participants**

- Put pressure on Congress to change the way they do business.
- Conservation thru earmarks is not sustainable.
- Cooperative conservation does not replace conflict – it must embrace it.
- Break up Federal “Turf.”

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