

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

Topic: Improving Certainty and Incentives for Stakeholders

Session number: 38

Morning

Facilitator: Gregory Bourne

Location: 260

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.*

- Need for Market Based Incentives
- Balance Tension of regulation (too much vs. too little) How do we “Incentives”
- Protection of Species?
- How do we enable local leadership?
- Need to improve cooperation between agencies
- Incentives for information sharing.
- Ties between uplands and oceans.
- Need incentives to get past “Fear Factor and facts on outcomes
- Need a holistic approach and not improve one resource at the expense of another.
- Need to ensure enforcement mechanisms are still in place
- Need strong leadership now and in the future to improve certainty.
- Incentives for increasing species recovery projects

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.*

- Develop common protocols regulations
- Remove barriers to Federal Partnerships so they can participate fully in collaborative efforts
- Federal Land management agencies spend money on non-federal lands to accomplish multiply objectives.
- Develop offshore incentives to offset detrimental marine effects
- Make delisting work as well as listing (ESA)
- Setting National priorities implement locally
- Violent agreement on the need for one jurisdiction on ESA.
- Develop a national framework for watersheds to the oceans.
- Balance between small and large land ownerships
- Using Farm/Ranch Saving accounts
- Tax credits for land/species conservation

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- Need to seek continuity of vision given diverse communities of places and interests
- Easier to raise money in populated areas this is not always where the greatest need for action.
- Not always dealing with long term landowners- sometimes they are corporate giants, where profit margins are the most important.
- Funding Sources can be in conflict (soybean subsidies and protecting prairies)
- One size does not fit all
- Ocean issues are coming
- National Priorities locally-driven
- Variation in Private/ Public
- National Interests vs Local

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.*

- Local partners must develop common vision at the outset
- Clearly identify and engage constituents
- Improve accountability, integrating all major interests
- Federal/State/Local interagency cooperation
- One-stop shop for information
- Develop cost-share arrangements
- Establish wetland mitigation banks
- Utilize conservation easements and link to long term investments such as IRA
- Simplify outcomes
- Pool resources to community
- Share working models within the same landscape (knowledge, labor and equipment)
- Build on the Gulf Coastal Plan Ecosystem Partnership concept
- Identify locally driven values for endangered species, allows community to recognize value of species then assign a dollar value to the species.
- Interagency cooperation and coordination, building on Utah Partners in Conservation
- Improving communications to the general public will improve engagement

D. **Particularly insightful quotes from participants** that capture the essence of key points made during the group's discussion. "I got into this for self-protection, but maybe this collaboration is a better way to meet my needs"; "In 25 years I've never met a landowner who woke up in the morning and said I really want to wreck this place. They should not be fearful of regulation.;" "I'm a lawyer, I can tie almost anything in knots. I believe the notion of cooperative conservation is to agree on the objective and then find a common sense way to get there."

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