

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

Topic: Reaching Across Boundaries to Promote Shared Governance

Session number: 42

Morning (0954)

Facilitator: Lucy Moore

Location: 221

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.*

- Tension between national level policies and local interests...need to preserve federal responsibilities and regulations v need to include and empower local interests...expand opportunity for local input but not give away federal responsibility for federal laws
- Need for governing body to keep legal authority for decision making
- Need for leadership skills/training for shared governance process
- Need predictability and reliability of process...participants need to understand expectations and commitment.
- Need to preserve/ensure access and transparency of process
- Need for Programmatic Integration at federal level to include policy, procedures, authority...particularly OMB
- Provide realistic expectations
- Improve private landowner access to information through technology
- Streamline federal procedures

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.*

- Interstate compacts to facilitate cross-border environment collaborative spending
- Provide quality facilitation
- CEQ act as a repository...create "one stop shop"– website with guidance, facilitators, case studies
- Dovetail and cooperate with local communities (policy, regulations, procedures)
- Coordination within the federal family...consistent policies, regulations, procedures and funding
- Try to limit federal/state duplication and inconsistency
- Design regulations that focus on outcomes
- OMB needs to evaluate their rules to optimize cross-agency collaboration and consistency
- Increased allocation for state wildlife grants. Provide a roadmap for conservation of species at the state level.

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.*

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

- Need for leadership skills/training for shared governance process.
- Better planning at a local and regional level...need to cover natural systems
- Incentiveize local participation in something other than dollars.
- State and Local equivalent of the Economy Act
- Facilitate exemption from certain local regs
- Gift acceptance authority – make it easier for the local gov to accept volunteer work and gifts
- Recognition including market incentives, awards and endorsements
- Need for education and to promote success stories

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

- There are diminishing returns on taking regulatory approaches. Taking a shared government approach is a necessity if we are to meet our environmental goals.
- Benefit of shared governance is helping stakeholders/ALL “overcome me and move toward we” and understand it HAS to be shared.
- private landholders “match puzzle pieces” to take care of something as a group they couldn't do individually.
- “Motivation is not all that relevant as long as the objectives can come together.”
- Shared governance creates a “practice field for true participative democracy”
- Virtual conservationists connected by the internet.

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