

## **BIC General Meeting**

**April 30, 2021, 2:30pm - 5:00pm**

Hybrid meeting: Zoom and In-person in Burns, Oregon

**Members Attending:** Paul Anderes, Anthony Botello, Sarah Buddingh, Marcie Carter, Nils Christofferson, Courtney Crowell, Dan Dorrان, Patty Dorroh, Nick Goldstein, Bill Harvey, Joe Hessel, Julie Keniry, Todd Kimball, Mark Kirsch Maura Laverty, Bill Lind, Amanda Lindsay, Peter Maille, Scott McConnell, Heidi McRoberts, Tom Montoya, Nick Myatt, Todd Nash, Lisa Northrop, Mark Owens, Sam Palmer, Steven Pozzanghera, Julia Riber, Kevin Robinette, Susan Roberts, Carl Scheeler, Tom Schoenfelder, Kristen Shelman, Tony Svejcar, Craig Trulock, Eric Watrud, Howard Teasley, Leisa Cook

**Interested Parties Attending:** Arthur (didn't catch his last name), Lindsay Warness, Mary Williams, Pam Hardy, Michael O'Casey, Ferris Paisano, Kathleen Cathey, Amy Patrick

**Facilitation Team:** Laurel Singer and Nate Midgley, National Policy Consensus Center

### **Convener's Welcome:**

- Commissioner Susan Roberts welcomed the group and expressed thanks for the member's on-going participation.
- Representative Owens seconded Roberts' sentiments and welcomed Lisa Northrop of the USFS back to the fold.
- Northrop expressed her gratitude for being back and commended the group for the work it had accomplished.

### **Forest Health Desired Condition Presentation:**

- The **Forest Health Subcommittee presented their final Desired Condition document** to the full BIC group. Commissioner Sam Palmer discussed the process that the group worked through to arrive at this stage after addressing the revisions suggested in the wake of the last meeting.
- **The group addressed one final consideration** that Commissioner Todd Nash had forwarded that they weren't able to deal with properly in the subcommittee meeting. Nash's suggested revision was moved to a different section of the document.
- Howard Teasley of the Nez Perce Tribe, who wasn't able to provide document revisions prior to the deadline, provided a few comments on the document. Overall it fits within the general parameters of the Tribe, though Teasley said he would have to take it back to leadership for final approval. It was reiterated by the conveners that at this stage the group is trying to identify any red flags with the document, and that there is still time for consultation with the various decision makers, including tribal and agency leadership.
- The group then called the vote for BIC members and **the group have consensus to support moving the document forward to the next stage.**

## Subcommittee Report Backs:

- The **Socioeconomic Subcommittee** gave an update on their recent work, with brief mention being given to Peter Maille’s Risk Opportunity Index, Scott McConnell’s implan modeling, and the Ecosystem Workforce Plan county templates. Julie Keniry mentioned that Peter and Scott’s work will be incorporated into these templates, and that they have also been working on graphics about noncommercial contracts—in order to provide some sort of timeline and information on where they are going. The group reiterated that it would track how economic conditions have changed overtime, and how different forest plan revisions can impact economic outcomes.
- The **Access Subcommittee** reported back about their work dealing with the Desired Condition document revisions provided by Harney County. Laurel will send out a revised document for subcommittee members to provide further redline edits back to Laurel no later than Friday, May 21. They mentioned that they also developed language to address set-asides in the document to reflect the group’s preferences.

## Moving Forward:

- Lisa Northrop posed the question: **what’s going to happen to BIC after the Desired Condition phase is over?** How can the group create opportunities to continue to have dialogue, so that future steps in the process can be handled in a more amicable way? In the short-term the USFS will take the Desired Condition documents and develop Standards and Guidelines, which will be returned to BIC for consideration once finished. In the interim, what can the BIC do to stay engaged?
- Representative Mark Owens expressed his desire for the group to spend some **time in the field looking at projects**. Carl Scheeler brought up the Ellis Project as example related to elk security that could be a useful place to observe a productive project. Eric Watrud of the FS provided additional details of the project.
- In addition, Craig Trulock of the USFS mentioned that the **biological opinions of the FS are expiring** soon, so the BIC could work together to tackle the important and contentions science questions such as stream bank alteration.
- Trulock also suggested that as the subcommittees finish up their work on the Desired Condition documents they could try to identify issues where they might be able to address persistent concerns or places they could do some additional work.
- The **BIC Steering Committee will begin to develop suggestions** about what some of these next steps should be.
- Finally, Representative Owens asked the group to **help keep Laurel Singer on** by providing money. The USFS has agreed to produce half of the cost, but the remainder (approx. \$27,000) needs to be provided. Nick Myatt will check with ODFW, Bill Lind will check with NOAA, Courtney Crowell will check with State Agencies, and Joe Hessel will check with ODF. Commissioner Anderes will send out a formal email with the ask to the group members.

### **Next Steps Overview:**

- To accommodate Memorial Day holiday, the next full BIC meeting will be pushed back to Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-5pm. To be a hybrid zoom and in-person meeting in Wallowa County.
- Access subcommittee to meet June 4<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. prior to full BIC meeting.
- The Steering Committee meeting will be held Weds. May 19, 7 – 8 a.m. to develop a proposal for framing potential issues that could be addressed through workgroups.
- Commissioner Anderes will send out an email to the group officially asking for a total of approx. \$27,000 to cover remaining half of costs for facilitation services. Nick Myatt will check with ODFW, Bill Lind will check with NOAA, Courtney Crowell will check with State Agencies, and Joe Hessel will check with ODF.
- Access committee will send red-line of newly revised desired conditions document to Laurel by cob Friday, May 21.

### **Chat Resources:**

#### **Laurel Singer to Panelists (3:20 PM)**

**[https://www.pdx.edu/policy-consensus-center/sites/g/files/znldhr3416/files/2021-03/USFS\\_Next\\_Steps\\_presentation\\_to\\_BIC\\_3-26-21.pdf](https://www.pdx.edu/policy-consensus-center/sites/g/files/znldhr3416/files/2021-03/USFS_Next_Steps_presentation_to_BIC_3-26-21.pdf)**

**This was a presentation given by USFS at our last meeting that also identified next steps moving forward**