

BIC Intergovernmental Council Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: May 31st, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Held in Person and Zoom

Members in attendance: Bill Harvey, Bill Lind, Calla Hagle, Courtney Crowell, Craig Trulock, Dan Dorrان, Darcy Weseman, Eric Watrud, Heidi McRoberts, Lisa Northrop, Marisa Meyer, Nick Myatt, Paul Anderes, Shaun Mckinney, Susan Roberts, Steve Pozzanghera, Patty Dorroh, Charles Amerein, Sam Palmer, John Powell, Deana Wall, Corinne Sams, Sam Palmer, Kevin Robinette, Mark Metcalfe, Erik Tomasik

Invited Presenters: Julie Keniry (EOU REV), Nils Christoffersen (Wallowa Resources), Peter Maille (EOU), Scott McConnell (EOU),

Observers: Billie Jo George, Frances Preston, David Striar, Sage DeLong, Katy Nesbit, Margarete Craig.

Facilitation Team: Laurel Singer and Belen Vega, National Policy Consensus Center, PSU

Documents/presentations reviewed:

- Final Draft Socioeconomic Assessment – REV Team
- Communications and Engagement Strategies - Darcy Weseman

Summary of All Action Steps:

- REV team will make last stage edits then send the final version of the Socioeconomic Assessment to the BIC.
- Laurel will post the risk opportunity index on the BIC project page. [ROI-draft-final-report-5-31-22.pdf \(pdx.edu\)](#)
- Darcy will revise final version of the Statement of accomplishment of Phase 1 and supporting USFS Forest Planning Approach, integrating feedback from the BIC. The statement will be signed on behalf of the entire BIC, as decided by consensus. The full BIC does not feel the need to approve the revised version as long as the steering committee approves.
- Tribal Representatives will share the BIC statement and video script with their council for feedback.
- Darcy will share the revised video script with the BIC members

Presentation and Discussion of the Final Socioeconomic Assessment:

Julie Keniry from the REV team presented a draft version of the Economic Assessment to the BIC members. The presentation included three main sections: 1) the regional context, which has the main overview of the risk opportunity index, the IMPLAN work, and maps of who gets contract work through the various counties. 2) county-specific information 3) methods and sources.

- When talking about the history of the downfalls of the economic industry in the counties it is important to consider that litigation is a huge part of stopping the industry, more than

legislation. Litigation has stopped most of the projects on the forest. So, it is important to look into what has caused litigation in the counties and in the industry.

- Lisa Northrop stated that the REV socioeconomic assessment is needed as the BIC moves forward regarding the use of forest lands and resources. The data REV collected and assembled is very empowering for the BIC to find common ground and build projects that work for all.
- The risk opportunity index presentation was perceived as more of a trade-off analysis of the exposure axis to improve the resiliency axis in each county but they are not exactly related in this way.
- One way a county economy could be improved through Forest Management decisions is to increase the number or dollar amount of stewardship contracts to local vendors.
- Susan Roberts stated that the Socioeconomic assessment provides information each county can take to the Forest Service or the land managers when working on the land planning.

Action Steps:

- REV team will make last stage edits then send the final version of the Socioeconomic Assessment to the BIC.
- Laurel will post the risk opportunity index on the BIC project page. [ROI-draft-final-report-5-31-22.pdf \(pdx.edu\)](#)

Communication Strategy Discussion: Darcy Weseman

Statement of Accomplishment of Phase 1 and Supporting USFS Forest Planning Approach

It was suggested to make the following edits:

- Include titles when talking about desired conditions
- In paragraph 4, include a comma after including: "... the Blue Mountains Forest Plans, including, riparian livestock grazing, fisheries, hydrology..."
- To emphasize that not all the counties agreed with the decided conditions and there was a minority report.
- In the last slide of the presentation make a distinction between the committee meetings and the collaborative meetings. Talking about collaborative efforts it is important to mark the difference.
- In paragraph 2, after April 2019 instead of better understand, state: through coordination and identifying opportunities to approach force planning and management....
- Start the letter and add a sentence that states the purpose of the letter such as "this is a letter of support for moving forward"
- Participants had questions about how this letter should be used? Some of the ideas include a way to tell the public what BIC has accomplished and its history, and internally as a supporting document when looking for funds.

Video Storyboard

- There is a little bit of confusion about the purpose of the video. The video intends to promote the process for any entities that have similar challenges. Or is it more about describing that process that has led to ultimately completed forest plan revisions?

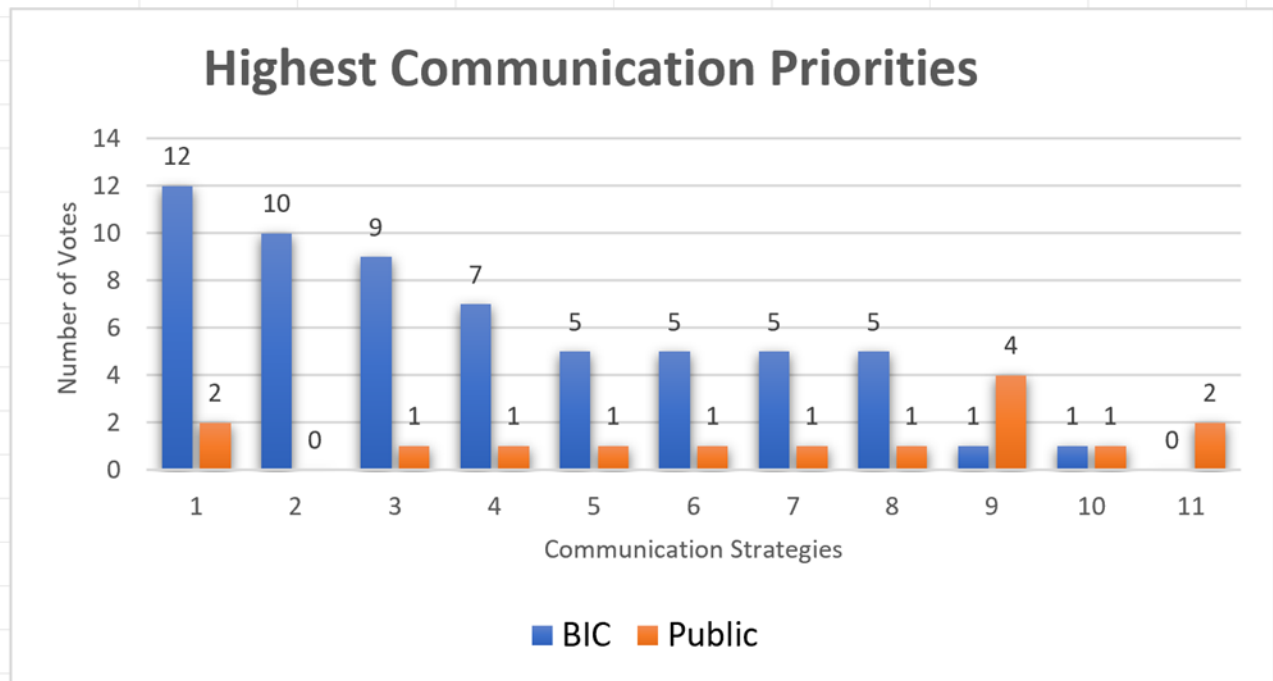
- Steve Pozzanghera stated that the purpose of the video should be to describe who the BIC is and to build awareness about the work that the group is doing, why, what makes it unique and the long-term goals moving forward.
- Important that the final product is concise and timely to capture everybody's attention, a maximum of 3 to 5 minutes.
- Add images and graphics to the video

Action Steps:

- Darcy will share the revised final version of the BIC Statement of accomplishment of Phase 1 and support USFS Forest Planning Approach with the steering committee.
- A consensus decision was made to have the letter signed on behalf of the entire BIC.
- Tribal representatives will take the statement and video script to the tribal council for review and will get feedback to Darcy.

Communication Strategy Poll Results

The BIC reviewed the communication strategy Darcy has developed and provided input as to the kind of engagement activities they would see as the highest priorities. The public observers both in zoom and in person were also asked to provide input on these priorities. The following graph summarizes the polling results.



List of Communication Strategies

1= Open Houses Opportunity for the public to drop by and have an unorganized conversation with members of BIC

2= Individual Stakeholder Meetings (deliberate relationship building)

3= Local community events (i.e., farmer's markets, county fairs). BIC members that are participating have information materials available to hand out.

4= Social media campaign each government entity can share about BIC and work being accomplished, how to get information, etc.

5= County NRAC's - Presentation/discussion at regular meetings.

6= Create and Distribute Brochure/flyer that highlights who BIC is, with QR code for where information is available and how people can provide feedback to BIC. Have available at offices, visitor centers, etc. (Also provide to key community partners/locations as appropriate.)

7= Forest Collaborative - Presentation/discussion at each Forest Collaborative Group's regular meetings.

8= Zoom "town hall". Virtual engagement about BIC, purpose, and updates on work moving forward, seek input on BIC activities

9= News release about who the BIC is, work done to date, why formed, future work, how to get information/share feedback

10= Radio Spot with Elkhorn Media Group or other

11= Targeted phone calls (individual or small group)

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, September 27, 2022 10 – 3 p.m. Location TBD.

The Steering Committee has decided to cancel full BIC meetings during the summer to enable the socioeconomic assessment committee to complete its work and for a new communication and community engagement committee to be formed to provide recommendations for implementing communication and engagement priorities.