



# AGENDA

February 3, 2012

Yates Building, McArdle Room (1<sup>st</sup> floor)  
 USDA Forest Service Headquarters  
 1400 Independence Ave. SW  
 Washington, DC 20250  
 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Eastern Time

Conference Number: 1-866-675-7534; Passcode: 874608#

*Reminder: Agendas, Notes and Handouts are available at [myfirecommunity.net](http://myfirecommunity.net) – WFEC Neighborhood*

<i>Attendees</i>	
<p><b>Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Kaage – NWCG</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Douglas MacDonald – I-Chiefs</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glenn Gaines - DHS</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Erickson - ITC</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Karels - NASF</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kirk Rowdabaugh - DOI</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mary Jacobs – NLC</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Yates – NACo</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Harbour – USFS</li> </ul>	<p><b>Support Staff:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roy Johnson – DFO – OWF</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shari Shetler – Exec. Sec. – OWF</li> </ul> <p><b>Others:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caitlyn Pollihan</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Stutler</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenna Sloan</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patti Blankenship</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Smith</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caitlyn Pollihan</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danny Lee</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Zupko</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Walker</li> </ul>

#	Topic
1	<b>Welcome/Introductions</b>
2	<p><b>Meeting Objectives &amp; Expectations</b></p> <p><u>Description:</u> Outline the objectives and expectations of this meeting</p> <p><u>Outcome:</u> 1. Understanding what we need to accomplish</p> <p><u>Reference Material:</u> 1. Final Agenda</p>
3	<p><b>CSSC, RSCs Program of Work for 2012</b></p> <p><u>Description:</u> 1. Opportunity for the subcommittee chairs to join us in the Yates Building – update on the activities from earlier in the week – be prepared to identify any critical decisions or issues that WFEC should address</p> <p><u>Outcome:</u> 1. Informed on progress toward development of the Cohesive Strategy Program of Work – deliverables, resources, timelines</p> <p><u>Reference Material:</u> 1. TBD</p> <p><u>Key Points:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan reviewed the Cohesive Strategy Timeline that was developed during this week's CSSC/RSC Chair meeting.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science Team is participating with the Regional Strategy Committees on their calls, etc.</li> <li>• How manage the scientific documents at the end of this process?</li> <li>• End of Phase II report – liked the intent and the words included there</li> <li>• Need for peer review as part of the data quality act.</li> <li>• As we begin to move into the analysis, we will set up a first peer review of the basic qualitative tools – looking for some insight from some outside people</li> <li>• More extensive review comes later – after the Phase III report to be able to assess how the tools and models have been used successfully</li> <li>• Identify immediate opportunities and execute those opportunities – applies to all of the subcommittees – if there are things that we can be doing, we should be</li> <li>• Funding needs and staffing for the RSCs</li> <li>• Each of the regions have submitted programs of work</li> <li>• They are all in line with the overall program of work. The regions are going back through their POW to identify funding and resources necessary to implement their POW</li> <li>• Critical to provide the support to the regions</li> <li>• Opportunity in 2 weeks to see what all 3 regions proposed program of work along with the budget necessary</li> <li>• WFEC would make a recommendation that would float up to WFLC for budget for this year</li> <li>• Ryan – who makes that decision – we have seen some of the preliminary figures</li> <li>• Is it an agency decision?</li> <li>• Who makes the decision?</li> <li>• Tom – has some funds to contribute</li> <li>• Will look at what the regions are proposing and how it can be used – will bring that back to WFEC for discussion and decision</li> <li>• First need the information identifying what is needed</li> <li>• If we can get a sum of what the POW for Cohesive Strategy Phase III is, we can look at how to provide that funding.</li> <li>• Tom and Kirk can see what is available through the two departments</li> <li>• WFEC can identify what the appropriate investment along with the appropriate POW is</li> <li>• Governance Issues – need to clarify the governance in terms responsibilities, etc.</li> <li>• A small task group will bring recommendations to WFEC</li> <li>• Communication group needs to be stood up as soon as possible</li> <li>• Stand up Writing group also as soon as possible</li> <li>• Established a task group to work with the website manager to work with the webmaster for forestsandrangelands.gov to make the Cohesive Strategy more prominent</li> <li>• Barriers – produce a list of regional barriers that we can forward to the WFEC in the future for resolution</li> <li>• The stakeholder interaction is so important and critical to success</li> <li>• Staffing is needed to help the RSCs to build on what we have done so far and needs to continue after September or even February next year</li> <li>• National and Regional action plans – felt those would come after OBM approval of the Phase III report</li> <li>• We have some different types of action planning going on – one set is the plans for implementing immediate opportunities, etc. the second set is the plan for activities that need to be developed based on the approval of the Phase III report which will identify alternatives and next steps which will result in national and regional action plans</li> <li>• Where is the meat? It is going to come from January through September</li> <li>• Think the meat is the answer to what the FLAME act was asking for</li> <li>• Produce something that is very tangible</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steps d, e and f are really going to nail down some specifics</li> <li>• So the Synthesis and Report are the specifics</li> <li>• Perhaps beyond Phase III is a continuous iterative process for implementation of the alternatives – instead of identifying a Phase IV or III ½!</li> <li>• Need to also have a conversation on how we would proceed with political pressure to “hurry it up”.</li> <li>• One of the highest things on the list for WFEC to respond to is finalizing the communication group as well as the re-chartering of the sub-committees</li> <li>• CSSC has an opportunity to look at these draft documents and put together more of the product versus the process steps</li> <li>• Danny – have had many conversations with the CSSC and RSCs – many meetings, conference calls, etc.</li> <li>• The chart does not depict all of the activities going on within all of the boxes that you see</li> <li>• A lot of challenges and a lot of work being done</li> <li>• People have been generous in contributing data, time, analysis, etc.</li> <li>• Relying a lot on the generosity of individuals to do this</li> <li>• Lots of conversation about how important this is – money to support these efforts really shows the support and level of importance that this has</li> <li>• Some of these conversations related to if we are going to fund things or not need to be accelerated</li> <li>• Need this to be a priority</li> <li>• Immediate follow-up for CSSC is to organize and validate the notes – display the critical issues – define the tangible products</li> <li>• Can we commit to the regional coordinator position? Heard this from all three regions.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Follow-up Action:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-charter subcommittees – February 17</li> <li>• CSSC, RSCs and CSCW Program of Work – February 17</li> <li>• List of regional barriers that were identified during Phase II – proposal on bringing these forward for WFEC resolution/next steps – February 17</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Public Comments</b> None</p>
5	<p><b>Cohesive Strategy Communication Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judith will be the lead</li> <li>• Erin will participate for DOI</li> <li>• Will update the proposal and develop their program of work – February 17 WFEC call</li> <li>• Judith acknowledged all the great work that the RSCs have accomplished related to outreach and stakeholder engagement</li> <li>• Need a good way to deal with all of the great feedback coming from the stakeholders</li> <li>• Will take time and resources to accomplish those things</li> <li>• Lots of communications work to do</li> <li>• With Erin coming on board will be full time for a year and Judith – will that meet Mary’s proposal for the middle ground scenario that went before WFLC – this is a minimum level of staffing</li> <li>• Need to assess the situation and perhaps bring other people to do work</li> <li>• WFEC had a commitment to resource this activity – have we met that? Concern might be that this is too federal centric. Perhaps some anxiety about some additional specificity</li> <li>• Representative from NASF and I-Chiefs have not been identified</li> <li>• Jim E. – comfortable with Mary’s leadership and the federal participation</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mac – indicated that I-Chiefs is NOT seeing that as a federal centric activity</li> <li>• Jim K – everyone feels like they are tied in</li> <li>• Ryan – tend to have a lot of concern about cooperation, etc. this particular part of the effort is transparent with the need to continue the communication and cooperation</li> <li>• The WFEC has met our staffing commitment</li> <li>• Mike Z – regional perspective – communicate to our constituents and stakeholders – less need for a power point to use – has to be tailored to the audience – may be a group in southern Alabama – these may be different than the needs of WFEC</li> <li>• Joe – shared the same concern</li> <li>• Jim E – have a power point that gives a status of the whole process</li> <li>• We all have opportunities to address many large groups and it would help to have the same key points</li> </ul> <p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WFEC has met their communication staffing commitment</li> </ul> <p><b>Follow-up Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal and Program of Work will be submitted for the February 17 WFEC call.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Identify Follow-up Agenda Items for the February 17 WFEC Meeting and March Meeting</b></p>
7	<p><b>Open Discussion</b>  <u>Jim E.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking at the ForestsandRangelands.gov – one of the great links is the success stories</li> <li>• Important that the regional folks get information posted there</li> <li>• We talk about immediate opportunities – perhaps incorporate some of those when they happen</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>FACA Reporting Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributed a spreadsheet that identifies what we are responsible for reporting</li> </ul> <p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSSC, and RSCs should use this as guidelines for what we need to report</li> </ul>