

Roundtable Agenda

MORNING

8:00 am	Welcome and Introductions
8:45 am	Environmental Analysis and Decision Making Overview
10:00 am	Break and Mingle
10:30 am	Table Discussions on EADM Improvement Opportunities
11:45 am	Lunch



Roundtable Agenda

AFTERNOON

1:00 pm	Top EADM Improvement Opportunities in the SW Region – Working Groups Session Overview
1:15 pm	Innovating to Meet EADM Improvement Opportunities – Working Groups Session #1
2:15 pm	Break
2:30 pm	Innovating to Meet EADM Improvement Opportunities - Working Groups Session #2
3:30 pm	Working Group Report Out
4:00 pm	Engaging More Stakeholders on EADM
4:15 pm	Leadership Remarks and Closeout





United States Department of Agriculture

Environmental Analysis and Decision Making

Enhancing our Ability to Make Effective and Timely Decisions



Forest
Service

Southwestern
Region

2018

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Goal



Increase the health, diversity, resilience, and productivity of our national forests and grasslands



National Environmental Policy Act 1969

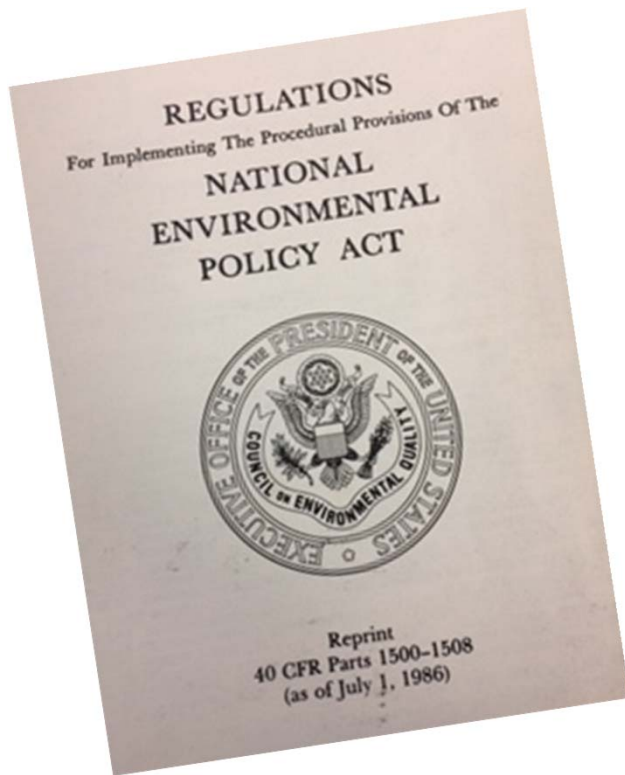
Purpose:

*To declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable **harmony between man and his environment**; to promote efforts which will **prevent or eliminate damage to the environment** and biosphere and stimulate the **health and welfare of man**; to enrich the understanding of the **ecological systems and natural resources** important to the nation; and to establish a **Council on Environmental Quality**.*

(Sec. 2)



Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ)



Develop national policies to foster and promote the improvement of environmental quality to meet the conservation, social, economic, health, and other requirements and goals of the Nation.



CEQ Regulations

- Information available to the public
- High quality, accurate scientific analysis
- Concentrate on issues that are truly significant
- NOT to generate paperwork
- Protect, restore, and enhance the environment

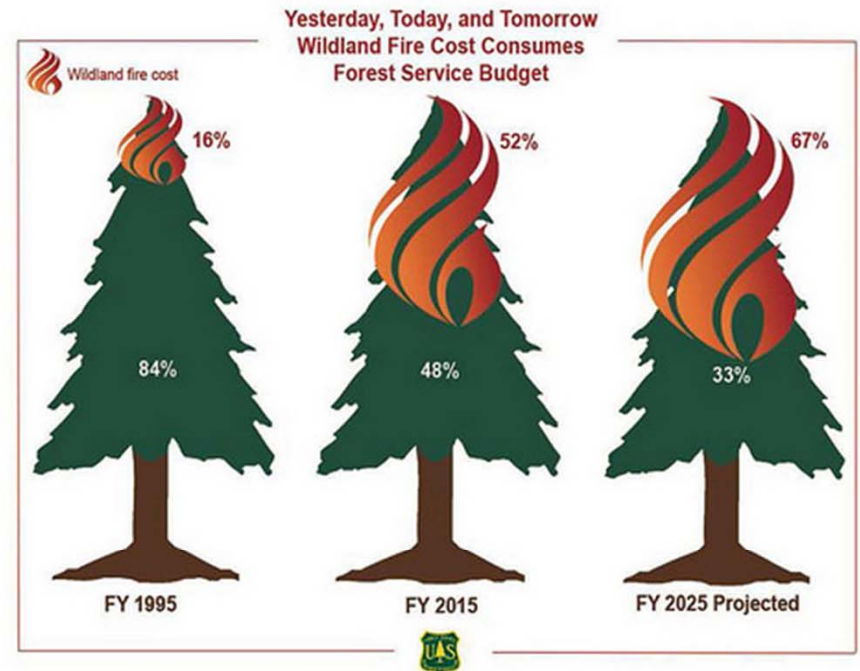


A Compelling Need

- Fewer Resources on the ground
- Increased Expectation from Congress, Partners, and Public
- 6,000 Expired Special Use Permits
- 80 Million Acres of Land at Risk
- Infrastructure in Need of Repair



A Compelling Need



A Compelling Need



- Excessive Documentation
- Categorical Exclusions
- Length of Analysis
- Minimal Acres cleared



What have we been hearing from you?

Success:

- True Public Engagement
- Leadership and Staff Accountability
- Consistent Interpretation/Application of Policies and Procedures
- Science Based Analysis
- Implementation



What have we been hearing from you?

- What would you like to get out of this meeting?
- What barriers to efficiency and effectiveness are you most interested in discussing?
- What kinds of innovations and solutions are you most interested in discussing?
- What concerns do you have related to this effort?



Our Commitment

- Stewardship
- Science Based Analysis
- Timely Decisions
- Thorough Analysis
- Accountability
- Partners



Questions or Comments?



What have we been hearing from you?

Engagement
Process
Accountability
Technology
Monitor
Collaboration
Implement
Risk-taking
streamline
Staffing
Learning
Other Laws
Science
Training
Traditional knowledge
Leadership
Partners
Consultation
Research
communicate
efficiency
Common sense



Table Discussion

- Are we missing anything?
- What opportunities for improvement rise to the top and why? Examples?
- If we had to focus our work to a couple opportunities, where can we make the most difference?



Top Improvement Opportunities

- A. Front-end Collaboration
- B. Adaptive Management
- C. Appropriate Risk
- D. Team Capacity / Composition
- E. Efficiency with Quality



Breakout Group Discussions

- What are the potential **strategies** for addressing the challenge/opportunity?
- What are the **tools** needed to implement strategy?
- **Who** will need to make changes to achieve the desired outcome?
- **Feasibility** of implementing strategy?



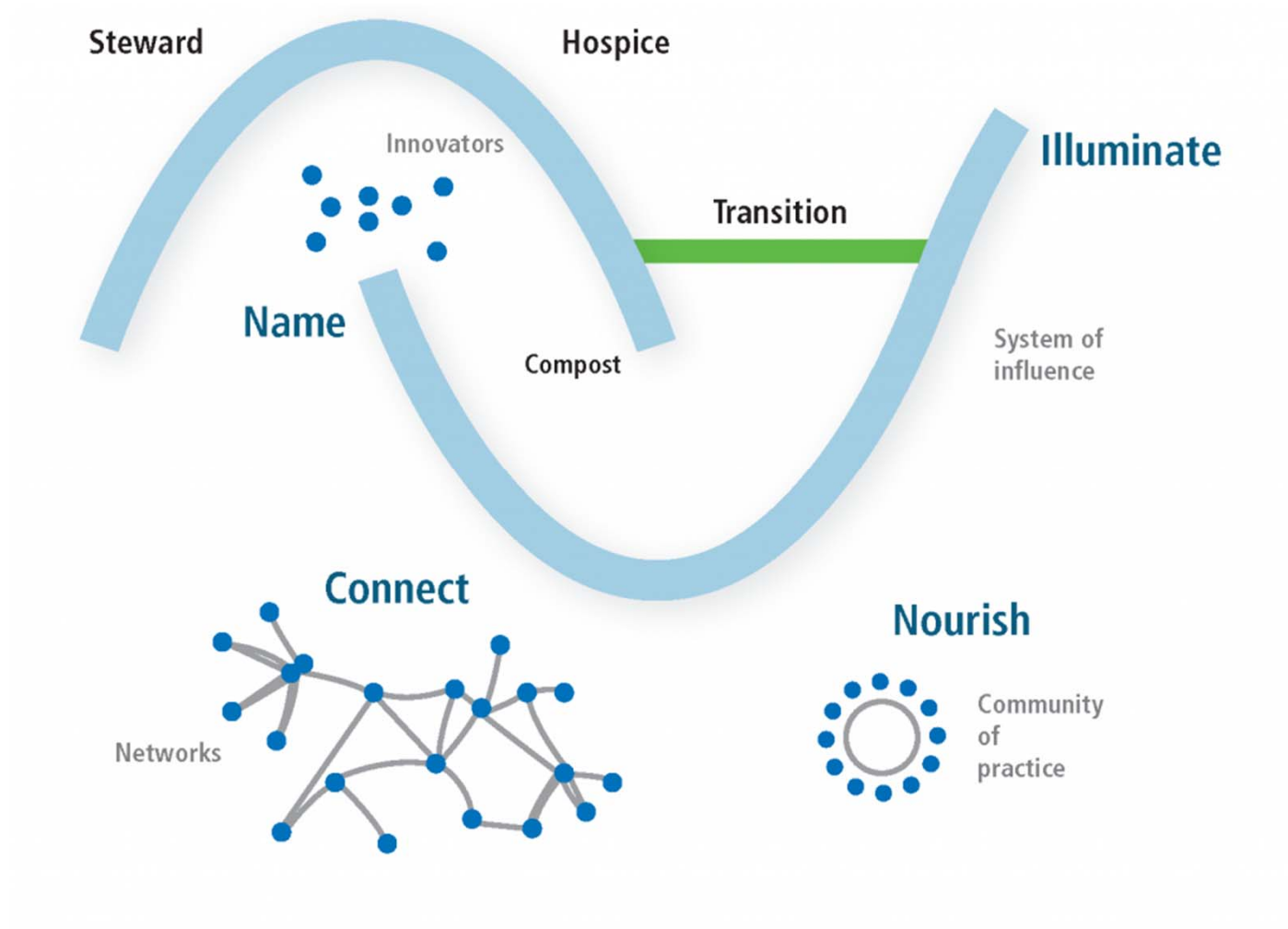
Next Steps and Closeout



NEPA is not the problem

- We don't say no
- We don't prioritize
- We don't have capacity (time and people)
- We are risk averse
- We have high turnover and our employees don't get appropriate training in NEPA
- There is no accountability to timelines
- Planning lacks clear intent





THANK YOU!



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