Roundtable Agenda

7:30 a.m.  Check In and Networking
8:00 a.m.  Welcome and Meeting Overview
8:30 a.m.  National Overview and Introduction of Environmental Analysis and Decision Making
9:15 a.m.  BREAK
9:30 a.m.  Regional Overview and Perspectives
10:35 a.m. Breakout Session #1 – Identify Challenges Partners Face in Environmental Analysis and Decision Making Efforts
11:45 a.m. Break for lunch on own
1:00 p.m.  Breakout Session #2 - Brainstorm Solutions to Address Challenges and How We Can Work Together to Implement Ideas
2:15 p.m.  BREAK
2:30 p.m.  Collecting Diverse Perspectives for Successful Solutions
3:30 p.m.  Partner Reflections on the Environmental Assessment and Decision Making Effort
4:00 p.m.  Close Out and Next Steps
4:30 p.m.  Adjourn
Northern Region Environmental Analysis & Decision Making
Cadre Members

- Julie Schaefers, Ecosystem Assessment and Planning Director - EADM Point of Contact
- Christine Dawe, Renewable Resources Management Director
- Tammy Fletcher, Regional Wildlife Program Manager
- John Gubel, Kootenai NF District Ranger - NEPA LOT
- Rob Gump, Bitterroot NF Planning Staff Officer
- Craig Kendall, Flathead NF Watershed & Fisheries Program Manager
- Clint Kolarich, MT/DK NEPA Strike Team Leader
- Chandra Neils, Idaho Panhandle NF Soil Scientist - Facilitator
- Bill O’Donnell, Dakota Prairie Grasslands Forest Supervisor - NEPA LOT
- Chris Partyka, Lolo NF Environmental Coordinator
- Timory Peel, Regional Planner - EADM Content Manager
- Rebecca Rasch, Regional Social Scientist
- Katie Renwick, Regional Assistant Planner
- Dan Scaife, Idaho Panhandle NF District Ranger
- Matt Shaffer, IDT Leader Tally Lake, Flathead National Forest
- Karen Smith, WCW Central Zone Field Leader
- Kim Smolka, NPCW Regional Coordinator
- Brian Sweatland, Regional NEPA, Administrative Review and Litigation Specialist
- Katie Van Alstyne, Regional NEPA Specialist
Why do our environmental analysis and decision making processes take so long?
How can we improve our environmental analysis and decision making processes?
Breakout Session #1:
Identifying Challenges Partners Face in EADM

What do you see as challenges to efficient and effective environmental analysis and decision-making by the Forest Service?
Breakout Session #1: Identifying Challenges Partners Face in EADM

Framing Questions

Barriers: Why is this challenge important – what are its impacts and who/what does it affect? What is getting in the way of effective and efficient EADM?

Evidence: What evidence of the challenge can you cite? Can you provide some concrete resource values- or place-based examples of the challenge?

Desired Outcome: How will things work when this challenge is addressed?
Breakout Session #2: Generating Solutions to Identified Challenges

Breakout Session Topics:

1. Exploring Staff Management: What are solutions for managing turnover, improving training, and building capacity?
2. How do we focus analysis to reduce paralysis and prevent overwriting analysis documents to litigation?
3. How can we effectively and fairly incorporate public (and agency) input into decision making?
4. How can the Agency improve systems for employee and leadership accountability and authority?
5. Exploring Categorical Exclusions (CEs): When are they the right tool? How can they be improved? What are people’s hopes and fears about CEs?
6. How can we tier project-level decision making to forest plans, landscape analysis and monitoring?
Breakout Session #2: Generating Solutions

FRAMING QUESTIONS

**Scale:** At what scale is this challenge most apparent?

**Examples:** Do you know of examples of successful solutions in response to this challenge?

**Solution:** How can this problem be prevented or addressed? What tools or resources are needed?

**Who:** How could the Forest Service address this challenge? How could partners support an effective response to this challenge?
World Café: Collecting Diverse Perspectives for Successful Solutions

FRAMING QUESTIONS

1. **Strengths and weaknesses** of the proposed solution?
2. Do you see potential to **apply this solution to any of the other challenges** identified in the morning, or more broadly?
3. **What** is the most appropriate scale to apply this solution?
4. **How would this solution help you** in your work on National Forests & Grasslands?
Reflections

- What are you **excited** about from today?
- What are you **concerned** about?
- How would you like to **engage** in the future?
THANK YOU!
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