

Environmental Analysis & Decision Making

Alaska Region Partner Roundtable

March 22, 2018



Roundtable Objective

Collect diverse partner feedback to inform EADM processes on local, regional and national scales.

Purposes

- Share why changes are important for achieving the USDA Forest Service mission
- Identify, discuss, and capture partner perceptions on barriers and solutions
- Explore what roles partners can play moving forward
- Support dialogue to strengthen relationships between partners and the USDA Forest Service
- Explain how partner inputs will be incorporated



Environmental Analysis & Decision Making Roundtables



Roundtable Agenda - Morning

8:00 a.m.	Check In and Networking
8:30 a.m.	Welcome and Meeting Overview
8:45 a.m.	Meeting Orientation and Logistics
9:00 a.m.	National Overview and Introduction of Environmental Analysis and Decision Making Effort
9:45 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m.	Regional Overview and Perspectives on Environmental Analysis and Decision-Making Effort
11:00 a.m.	Interactive session: Gathering Participant Ideas
11:45 a.m.	Lunch on your own



Roundtable Agenda - Afternoon

1:00 p.m.	Break-out Sessions Explained
1:05 p.m.	Break-out Session #1 and Quick Reports
2:15 p.m.	Break (exact time of break is subject to change)
2:30 p.m.	Break-out Session #2 and Quick Reports (<i>same topics as Break-out Session #1</i>)
3:45 p.m.	World Café Session: Ideas for further engagement
4:30 p.m.	Reflections and Close-Out
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Alaska Region Environmental Analysis & Decision Making

Cadre Members

- **Becky Nourse**, Deputy Regional Forester
- **Sharon LaBrecque**, Deputy Forest Supervisor
- **Perry Edwards**, District Ranger
- **Sue Howle**, District Ranger
- **Kate Baldrige**, OGC
- **Scott Langston**, Director of Acquisition Management
- **Dave Hays**, Acting Director of Ecosystem Mgmt, Planning & Budget
- **Robin Dale**, Regional Administrative Review Group Leader
- **Ken Post**, Regional Environmental Coordinator
- **Deyna Kuntzsch**, Resources & Planning Staff Officer
- **Kori Marchowsky**, Forest Environmental Coordinator
- **Pat Heuer**, Forest NEPA Coordinator
- **Marina Whtacre**, Forest Writer/Editor
- **Carey Case**, Interdisciplinary Team Leader
- **Greg Dunn**, Wildlife Biologist



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Gathering Your Ideas

- *What do you see as barriers to efficient and effective environmental analysis and decision-making by the Forest Service?*
- *What innovations or solutions could help improve the efficiency or effectiveness of the Forest Service's environmental analysis and decision-making?*



Breakout Sessions #1 and #2:

1. **Training (Lindsay & Sarah):** How can we prepare or equip Forest Service staff to conduct environmental analysis and decision-making in ways that enable us to care for the land and serve people more effectively?
2. **Analysis (Dru & Robin):** How can the Forest Service work with our partners to better frame our analysis needs to focus on truly significant issues?
3. **Performance (Maia & Sharon):** What performance measures can the Forest Service use to strengthen accountability and assess the efficacy of environmental analysis and decision-making?
4. **Policy and Consultation (Dave & Gregg):**
 - How can the Forest Service improve our consultation processes under the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, or other laws to improve interagency communication and enhance transparency?
 - How can the Forest Service reform our policies to improve implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act and other environmental laws?
5. **Partnerships and Collaboration (Perry & Sue J.):**
 - How can partners play a role in improving environmental analysis and decision-making?
 - How can the Forest Service best communicate with partners during project design, planning and implementation to assure awareness and engagement?
 - How can collaborative efforts support the Forest Service in improving project design?



FRAMING QUESTIONS FOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Barriers: *What is getting in the way of effective and efficient EADM processes?*

Evidence: *Examples of barriers and challenges*

Desired Outcome: *If things were working well, what would it look like?*

Strategies: *How do we get to the desired outcome and who would be involved?*

Tools & Resources: *What are some tools to implement the strategy?
Can we realistically achieve the proposal?*



World Café: Ideas for Further Engagement

FRAMING QUESTIONS

1. **Rulemaking Process:** What points in the process are important for focused engagement (e.g., are participants focused on formal comment process? Information sharing? Etc.)
2. **In-person engagements:** Are there upcoming events (meetings, workshops, conferences, etc.) that you know about that might be a good opportunity to share and discuss EADM efforts? Who else should be engaged who is not in the room?
3. **Leveraging partner networks:** What can each participant commit to do within our own networks to support further engagement? (For example, serve as a point of contact for a meeting).



THANK YOU!



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