
Goals:

- Work together to organize Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives
- Prep for next Strategic Planning Session
- Review Housekeeping Items

Members Present:

Allan Songstad, Stop the Priest Lake Siphon
Amy Anderson, Selkirk Conservation Alliance
Betty Gardner, Priest River
Cody Montgomery, Idaho Wildlife Federation
Eric Berntsen, Kalispel Tribe*
Erin Plue, Trout Unlimited
Hank Jones, Fishing Guides on the Priest River
Jennifer Ekstrom, Idaho Conservation League
Jon Quinn Hurst, Selkirk Conservation Alliance *

Ken Haagman, Priest Lake
Kyle Maki, Idaho Wildlife Federation
Paul Sieracki, Inland Empire Task Force
(Environmental)
Sean Stash, Boating Access on Priest River,
Walt Grows, Trout Unlimited*

Facilitators:

Hannah Anderson, Lead Facilitator
Marika Panagiotou, Facilitation Support

**Indicates Proxy*

Minutes

Welcome and Overview

Hannah Anderson, Facilitator, welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda and goals for the day.

The Facilitator provided note cards to the group and asked them to answer the following questions: *What is the worst possible outcome of working together in this collaborative?* and *What is the best possible outcome of working together in this collaborative?* She guided the group through a reflection of their accomplishments thus far as a collaborative. She reviewed what makes a successful collaborative, she asked the group to reflect on how their goals and intentions for the PRWG may align with those descriptions.

Strategic Planning – Goals & Objectives Workshop

The Facilitator continued the process of placing goals, subgoals, and objectives on a sticky wall. She led the group through the organization of objectives that were previously placed in a “parking lot.” She explained that a Work Plan and a Strategic Plan are two different documents. She shared examples of each and explained that where a work plan is more specific and helps identify specific steps such as how to get funding and how to complete tasks, a Strategic Plan is broad and helps identify what the organization is and what it is trying to do.

The Facilitator then led the group through review of the preliminary organization of major- and sub-goals by general theme/topic, noting that any and all could be re-written, removed, or re-organized at the steering committee discretion.

Discussion ensued about how to fix temperature and flow in the river. There was disagreement about whether dam removal and the bypass option should remain as options to be evaluated or if they should be dropped now. Discussion was as follows:

- We can't make strategic decisions without scientific data. Would be doing a disservice to PRWG's vision statement.
- There isn't enough information yet to throw out concepts for restoration. Must look at all alternatives to repairing the temperature of the river.
- Discussing the removal of the dam and bypass option could create resistance from the community when we have other options we can explore.

Conversation continued on placement of objectives, until all items were discussed.

Strategic Planning – Next Steps

The Facilitator will assemble a strategic planning framework and flag objectives that are duplicates or may need additional discussion. The group will review and approve Hannah's work. This draft will be sent to the Technical Expert panel to get clarifying information.

Technical Expert Assistance

The Facilitator explained the benefit of having a panel of technical experts. The group should agree on a list of 3-5 people from different organizations and send questions about strategic plan ahead of time. Ecology experts are not relevant this early in the process. The focus should be on how to structure the strategic plan and what to include.

The group agreed that the following people would be important to reach out to for initial guidance:

- Michelle Richman, IDWR
- Todd Higen or Bob Steed, IDEQ
- Andy Dux or Rob Ryan or Merrit, IDFG
- Joel or Colton, IDL
- Joe or Brian, Kalispel Tribe
- Kevin or Brandon, USFS
- Brittany Morlin or Ken King, USFWS
- Francine Meija, USGS

The Facilitator explained that it would be helpful to have someone who has been part of a similar collaborative for 5-10 years, has a deep understanding of the strategic planning process, and can provide thoughtful feedback and insight. It was suggested that Henry's Fork Watershed Group would be a great reference, and Mike Lawson specifically may be a good resource as one of the founding members.

The group decided to send a draft of the strategic plan to the panel of technical experts to review ahead of time, with the option of providing feedback via email/comment, or to attend the next Strategic

Planning meeting. They group agreed this would provide flexibility for these agencies, and show respect and appreciation for their time.

Next Steps & Housekeeping

Next Steps:

Hannah will take approximately two weeks to organize the Strategic Plan. Then PRWG will aim to give feedback to the facilitators within one week, followed by an additional week for Technical Experts to review and offer feedback.

Steering Committee Field Trips:

The group completed a survey of field trips. Hannah went over possible dates of field trips.

- June – River Exploration | Best availability for the group was the week of the 17th
- July – Casual / informal float | Best availability for the group is the weeks of the 15th and 22nd
- August – Project Field Trip | Best availability for the group is the weeks of the 5th, 12th, 19th

Eric volunteered to call Colton Finch to coordinate a tour of the river in the week of June 17.

Tribe Update:

Kalispel Tribe update comment period has been extended to June 15th for East River.

Comment Opportunity: Use of Bull Trout in the Middle Fork East River

The group would like to comment on this project and felt it should be a simple and straightforward response, not needing a dedicated Task Force. Erin and Sean volunteered to take a stab at the comment letter and will circulate to the group for review.

The remaining housekeeping items were postponed due to time restraints, but should be addressed at the next meeting with priority, including:

- Communication discussion: Emails, Newsletters, Website Corrections
- Protocols enforcement and violations
- Data Catalog

Adjourn