



Platte Valley Habitat Partnership

Workshop 4: Public Lands Focus November 2, 2012

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Collaborative Leadership Program

Ruckelshaus Institute, University of Wyoming



Overview for November 2nd Meeting



- Reading List, including Habitat Guidelines that Daryl worked on – See email.
- Jessica to draft Interests (into Objectives), Criteria of Success and Options (Strategies) - 9 am.
- Invite Dan Tinker to provide information re. mule deer habitat improvement treatments on forested lands -10 am.
- Need maps - Find out what WyGisC can offer re. vegetation layers, watershed, migration routes – Shawn Lanning 11 am.
- Data from USFS (Wendy), BLM historical Data (Mike) and Conservation District (Cody and Mae from UW Extension) re. current and historical conditions 12:30 – 2:30 pm
- NRCS web soil survey information (Mae?).

Platte Valley Habitat Plan Collaborative Process

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Gain common understanding of issues, definitions and process.	Mule Deer Nutritional Needs, Vegetation Ecological Dynamics, Potential Improvement Actions. Focus on Private and Public Lands in Separate Meetings	Determine what steps PVHP wants to take to address habitat improvement in Plan #1	Determine Monitoring Variables to track change. Monitoring logistics. Create Adaptive Management Feedback Loops in PVHP	Draft Plan Review Publish Plan May 2013 New: Step 6 Implement Plan and Collaboratively Adapt
August	December	February	Late March	

Collaboration and Collaborative Learning



Decision-Making Method

Before the group decided on process, we discussed a simple decision-making methodology to discover the level of agreement for any aspect of PVHP's future deliberations using thumbs:

- ❖ Thumbs up – the participant agrees to what is proposed
- ❖ Thumbs level – the participant may be able to live with what is proposed but needs more information.
- ❖ Thumbs down – the participant cannot agree to what is proposed.
- ❖ If there is even one thumb down, whatever is proposed cannot (yet) be enacted by the group. If there is a mixture of thumbs up and level, more discussion is encouraged to allow more learning, and possibly more agreement to be established. A majority of thumbs up, with some level, none down, means the proposal can move forward.

Outcomes of the Process so far.

1. Decided to create a Platte Valley Habitat Partnership that collaboratively learns about habitat issues for mule deer and other species in the Platte Valley and agrees on methods and projects that will improve habitat. (Situation Assessment).
2. Decided to create a first iteration of a habitat plan, which serves as a living document and a tool that documents the learning over time from project implementations and monitoring using adaptive management to discover what works, what does not work and new initiatives undertaken as a result.
3. Decided to use the Process proposed by Jessica in May 2012 with amendment to create the first Plan. (Most thumbs up, one thumb level).
4. Focus on two subjects (private lands and public lands) to narrow down on possible options that take related issues into consideration.

Guidelines

1. We all have an interest in the Platte Valley and its wildlife and will use respectful behavior.
2. It's okay to disagree.
3. We will not interrupt others or distract others with side conversations.
4. We will seek to understand while seeking to be understood.
5. We will all participate in making this a successful meeting – no one dominates or withholds information.
6. We will follow the agenda and honor time limits.
7. We welcome all ideas and comments that build or clarify ideas.
8. If possible, we will turn off cell phones, laptops and pagers. If we can't, we will take the call outside the room.

Habitat Plan

General Overview of the Draft Plan

- Overall Draft Goal(s)
- Draft Objectives based on Interests
- Criteria for Mule Deer Habitat Improvement
- Strategies based on Options
- Action Items based on Federal land and private landowner suggestions.
- Monitoring Variables and Methodology

Meeting

December

December

December

January

February

March

Review Objectives, Criteria and Options Document

- Homework for December Meeting: Read and be prepared to discuss in stakeholder groups.

Next Meetings: December 6 (Private lands) and December 7 (Public lands)?

Next Time for Public Lands:

- Elizabeth Spaulding, JD, Ruckelshaus Institute, UW:
Integrating this collaborative process within NEPA.
- Narrow down acceptable Strategies/ Options for mule deer habitat improvements
- Additional information needs?

