

**Northwest Colorado Stewardship (NWCOS)
Planning Committee Conference Call
September 20, 2005
Summary**

Action Items

Keystone	Redraft letter to John Husband based on today's discussion and redistribute by end of the day on September 20. (Please note that Keystone did not get this out until September 21.)
Planning Committee	Read revised letter to John Husband and send comments to Kristi by Thursday. (Please note, due to Keystone's delay, we extended the deadline to Friday.)
Marianna	Prepare a proposal for public involvement/public information and submit it to the Participation Subcommittee for review. Schedule a meeting of this subcommittee if needed.
Keystone	Write ground rules on chart paper and post them at every meeting.

Attendance

Jeremy Casterson, T. Wright Dickinson, Rick Hammel, Steve Hinkemeyer, Stephen Flaherty, Suzanne Jones, Reed Morris, Marianna Raftopoulos, Jane Yazzie, Kristi Parker Celico, and Heather Bergman

Items Discussed

- Background (Updates)
- Process for Getting to Consensus
- Process for Improving NWCOS Life

Background (Updates)

Finance Update

Jeremy reported that Colorado State University (CSU) has received its funds from BLM for the Socioeconomic Impact Analysis. Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH) has not yet received its funds, but Jeremy expects things will proceed without problems.

Document Update

1. Final Alternatives Document: Jeremy stated that NWCOS will have a final alternatives document by the end of this month.
2. Letter to John Husband: The group discussed proposed changes to the current draft of this letter. The discussion centered around concerns about how to include in the letter reference to both the NWCOS definition of consensus and the definition included in BLM's PEP without suggesting that NWCOS will use the PEP definition instead of its own. Additionally, there were questions about whether BLM would abide by a NWCOS consensus (or lack thereof) or impose their own, looser definition of consensus on NWCOS discussions retroactively. The group also discussed removing references to the possibility of NWCOS paying for the analysis of the Community Alternative. It was

decided that Kristi should make a series of changes to the letter based on today's discussion and redistribute the letter. Members of the Planning Committee agreed to review the letter by Thursday.

Subcommittee Meetings Update

1. Socioeconomic Subcommittee: Jeremy stated that CSU may not be able to get the primer on the socioeconomic analysis and the baseline ready in time for a meeting on October 19. It was agreed that the discussion of the primer and the baseline could be rolled into one meeting that occurs on November 9 before the full NWCOS meeting. Jeremy committed to the group that NWCOS will have the baseline analysis in their hands for review at least one week prior to the meeting on November 9, and hopefully two weeks prior.
2. Participation Subcommittee: Marianna stated that she has been talking with the local newspaper about ways to get NWCOS information out to the public. She will continue with this and report back as discussions progress. Also, it was agreed that Marianna should put together a proposal for how to increase public participation in and awareness of NWCOS and distribute it to the Participation Subcommittee listserv. If others want to have a discussion about Marianna's proposal, the subcommittee will have a meeting. If people are generally comfortable with Marianna's proposal, no meeting will be held.

Process for Getting to Consensus

The group discussed several proposed ideas that could potentially help NWCOS come to a consensus. Participants were receptive to all of the ideas proposed, but offered some suggestions for ways to improve the sector meetings. Several people felt that there should be a separate sector for Wildlife/Rare Plants, and it was agreed to add this sector. [Facilitator's Note: Jane has since stated that the Citizen sector should be combined with the Wildlife/Rare Plants sector.] It was also agreed that rather than having an "Environmental" sector, there should be a "Wilderness and Non-Motorized Recreation" sector. The group agreed that sector meetings should not be closed, but that people who are not active members in a particular interest area should be discouraged from attending that sector's meeting. The Wildlife/Rare Plants sector is the exception to this rule, because wildlife intersects with so many other issue areas.

Finally, the group suggested that we encourage sectors to identify not only their issues of greatest concern with C, but also to note all concerns with C.

Process Ideas for Improving NWCOS Life

1. Two-Minute Rule: Although many NWCOS members noted in the survey that they liked the two-minute rule, some members of the Planning Committee expressed concerns about it. Some felt that it should be applied uniformly, with no exceptions. Others felt that, in addition to the listed exceptions, exceptions should also be made for people who are providing factual information in response to a direct question/request for information. It was also suggested that the facilitators keep "a parking lot" of requests for factual information and then distribute each one to the NWCOS member who could best answer it. The Planning Committee did not reach resolution on this issue.

2. List of “Oldies but Goodies Speeches”: Several people expressed opposition to this idea. It was agreed that it will not be used.
3. Articulating Why Something Doesn’t Work: The group agreed that this is a good idea.
4. Asking People Making Personal Attacks to Step Away from the Table: It was agreed that people should not make personal attacks, but several participants raised concerns about Kristi publicly asking someone to step away from the table. It was agreed that Kristi should continue to speak to people privately about this kind of behavior instead.
5. Public Involvement Committee Re-Engaging the Press: It was agreed that Marianna should prepare a public involvement proposal and distribute it to the Participation Subcommittee for review and, if necessary, discussion.
6. Summarize Ground Rules at Each Meeting: It was agreed that this is a good idea, and several people felt that it would help curtail bad behavior and might reduce the need for Kristi to ask anyone to step back from the table. One participant suggested that these rules be written up and posted on the wall, and Keystone agreed to do this. It was also agreed that the ground rules should apply to all NWCOS-related written documents.

Cumulative Impacts

The group discussed the challenge of determining the likely cumulative impacts of a RMP on the ecosystem. Although there was not clarity on how to resolve this problem, the Planning Committee agreed to keep discussing it.

Next Steps

Because there were several items on the agenda that were not discussed, a one-hour conference call was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 27 from 2 to 3 p.m.