

COLLABORATIVE Solutions

*Supporting shared
solutions to our most
complex environment
and natural resource
challenges.*

Collaborative Leadership

Stakeholder Engagement

Workshops and Events



Collaborative Solutions

Building inclusive solutions to our most complex natural resource challenges

Natural resource issues are complex—economically, socially, institutionally, politically, and ecologically—and managing natural resources responsibly for the future becomes increasingly difficult. Conflicts arise over such issues as endangered species protection, forest management, energy production, water allocation, and rural development. People with a stake in these issues must build on common interests to create new solutions.

We believe that people who are deeply involved in natural resource issues can reach mutually acceptable solutions by communicating in a more meaningful and effective way, opening the dialogue to include all stakeholders, structuring problems to reflect complexity and uncertainty, and negotiating to settle disagreements. This will require committed natural resource leaders who possess the skills to collaborate for mutually beneficial solutions.

Collaborative approaches are more necessary than ever. We bring constituents together to build lasting, informed, inclusive solutions to our most complex and controversial natural resource challenges.



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Collaborative Leadership

Creating a Network of Leaders

Collaborative Solutions, a program of the Ruckelshaus Institute, aims to enhance collaborative capacity for effective natural resource management in Wyoming and the West.

The Collaboration Program in Natural Resources (CPNR) is building a network of natural resource professionals in Wyoming who are equipped with skills and tools to lead and constructively participate in effective collaborative decision-making processes.

Participants come from a range of sectors including industry, government agencies, and non-profit organizations. Over the course of one year, they attend rigorous, hands-on training sessions and complete a practicum to build leadership skills in mediation, negotiation, facilitation, and collaborative processes. They return to their workplaces as leaders who can orchestrate processes leading to sound, inclusive, lasting management decisions.

CPNR interactive sessions

- Self discovery, introduction to concepts
- Group negotiation and leadership
- Collaboration for communities and landscapes
- Public participation and environmental decision making

COLLABORATIVE COMPETENCIES

The CPNR curriculum addresses the ten collaborative competencies defined by the University Network for Collaborative Governance.

1. Strengthening collaborative leadership
2. Planning, organizing, and managing for collaboration
3. Communicating effectively
4. Working in teams and facilitating groups
5. Negotiating agreement and managing conflict
6. Applying analytic skills and strategic thinking
7. Evaluating and adapting processes
8. Integrating technical and scientific information
9. Using information and communication technology
10. Maintaining personal integrity and professional ethics



Stakeholder Engagement

Supporting Shared Solutions

The Ruckelshaus Institute provides neutral, third-party facilitation and mediation services to help communities resolve natural resource challenges. Our collaborative decision-making experts bring decades of experience to guide stakeholders through processes to build inclusive, lasting solutions.

Steps to a facilitated process may include

- Assess the natural resource challenge to determine whether a process can succeed
- Identify the stakeholders and invite representatives to participate
- Clarify the question being addressed and objectives of the process
- Identify the facts and make sure all participants agree on the baseline information
- Outline a process to identify and prioritize potential solutions
- Synthesize and review proposed solutions
- Deliver the solutions and follow them through to completion

Upper Green River Basin Citizens Advisory Air Quality Task Force

The Ruckelshaus Institute facilitated a task force charged with making consensus recommendations to the state Department of Environmental Quality to reduce ground-level ozone near the western Wyoming natural gas fields.

Ruckelshaus Institute facilitators designed and organized a collaborative decision-making process for the 26-member group and were instrumental in its development of recommendations to reduce ozone levels.

"The members of the task force brought different perspectives and came together in a productive manner. I appreciate the many hours they contributed to this important issue."

— Wyoming Governor Matt Mead





Workshops and Events

Collaboration in Natural Resources

A Wyoming Forum

The Ruckelshaus Institute hosts an annual forum on collaboration in natural resources for Wyoming citizens. The forum, held in a different community each spring, brings together professionals interested in participating in or leading natural resource collaborative efforts in Wyoming.

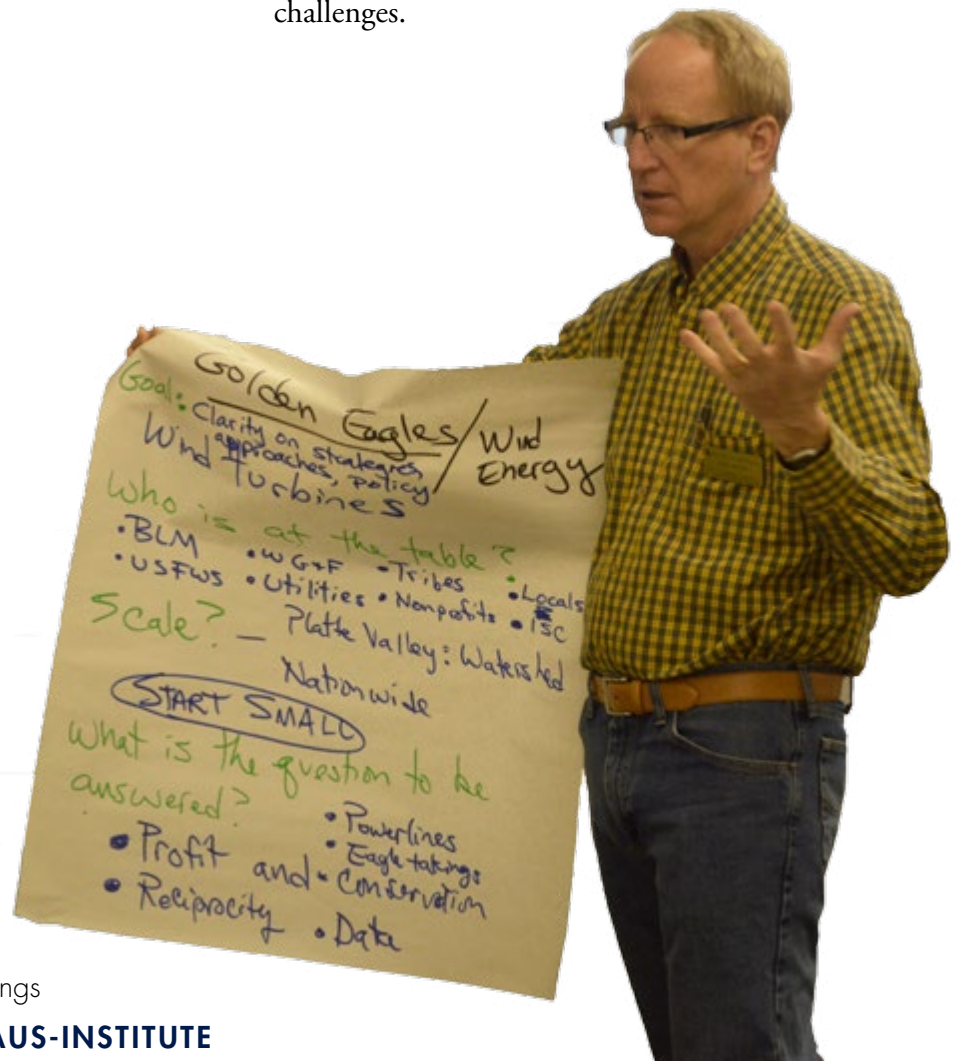
The forum includes presentations from stakeholders engaged in collaborative processes and collaborative leadership, and discussion of lessons learned from past and present collaborative efforts. Participants identify barriers to and opportunities for collaborative decision making in Wyoming.

Collaborative Leadership Workshop Series

The Ruckelshaus Institute offers a series of workshops on collaborative decision-making skills for natural resources professionals.

The trainings, open to anyone who would like to attend, are designed for natural resource managers and planners, county commissioners, conservation district managers, biologists, environmental policy specialists, foresters, conservationists, environmental consultants, attorneys, engineers, developers, students, and others who work in natural resources management and environmental policy.

The interactive workshops offer training on how to reduce conflict and resolve complex natural resources challenges.



Check our website for additional offerings

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