Thunder Basin Collaborative Learning Workshop 2
March 16, 2016 – Newcastle, WY

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Ruckelshaus INSTITUTE

A DIVISION OF THE
HAUB SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Agenda

1:00	Introductions
1:15	Welcome, Dennis Jaeger, USFS Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grassland, Forest Supervisor.
1:20	Purpose and Overview of Workshop Series.
	Purpose and Overview of this workshop.
1:30	Lauren Porensky, Ecologist, USDA Agricultural Research Service: USDA Research on the Grassland.
2:00	David Pellatz, Thunder Basin Grassland Prairie Ecosystem Association: Current Grassland Research Efforts.
2:10	Discussion regarding Current Issues on the Thunder Basin National Grassland
2:30	Break-Out Groups Discuss:

- What issues should the Working Group focus on regarding the TBNG?
- What are the gaps in knowledge regarding conditions on the TBNG?

3:30	Report Back
3:50	Next Steps and Wrap-Up
4:00	Adjourn

Collaboration and Collaborative Learning

Collaboration

A process in which interdependent parties work together to affect the future of an issue of shared interests.

Collaborative learning

- A framework to create shared learning within a Collaborative Process.

- Consists of events (meetings, field trips, etc.) to promote creative thought, constructive debate and effective implementation of proposals.

- The purpose is to explore the knowledge participants have regarding an issue.

A Collaborative Learning Process

- Explore a situation and options for creating progress rather than problem and conflict.

- Focuses on concerns and interests not positions.

- Encourages interrelated rather than linear thinking.

- Recognizes that shared learning has to occur before improvements are possible.

- Through shared learning and transparency create equal access to information, allowing solutions to emerge that otherwise could not.

Thunder Basin Collaborative Learning Process

Step 1

- First Workshop: Discover **History and Values**

- Second Workshop: Discover **Current Conditions and Knowledge**

- Third Workshop: Explore **Desired Conditions**

Ultimate Objective of Workshops:

Step 2: Provide information from communities to inform a long-term, place-based multi-stakeholder working group to resolve complex issues in the Thunder Basin including prairie dog management. This working group will be convened by the Ruckelshaus Institute.

Agreed Meeting Guidelines

1. We all have an interest in the Thunder Basin and its National Grassland – please use respectful behavior.

2. It's okay to disagree.

3. We will seek to understand while seeking to be understood: ask "why?".

4. We will all participate in making this a successful collaborative learning opportunity – we will not interrupt others, dominate or withhold information.

5. We will be constructive: Discuss less what does not work and more what we think will work.

6. Side conversations are disruptive.

7. If possible, we will turn off cell phones and pagers. If we can't, we will take the call outside the room.

Next Workshops

- Session 3 Desired Conditions: May 19 – Gillette

- Suggestions for location?

Today's Objective: Current Conditions

What do we know?
What do we not know?
What issues should the Working Group
focus on regarding the TBNG?

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