

Teanaway Community Forest Advisory Committee

Goal 5 Breakout Groups

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Community Partnerships

Questions:

1. What are unique opportunities to work/partner across/among key stakeholders (consider adjacent property owners and communities, agencies, Tribe)?
2. What opportunities and processes already exist that we can build upon?
3. Are there any unique collaboration examples that we can draw from?

AC Recommendations¹

- I. **Convene a land management (Tapash-like) partnership that includes local agencies, landowners and other entities to promote coordinated resource and land management amongst those involved (local level).²**
 - Include fisheries recovery groups, DNR, Yakama Nation, USFS, Ecology, KCCD, WDFW, private landowners, TNC, Roslyn Community Forest, Cle Elum, Ronald, KCFS, Neighbors, foresters, grazing lessees, other
 - Coordinate on: access, easements, fire hazard mitigation, trail connections, recreation use/user group interface, funding, grant writing, flood, rescue, harvest, fish restoration efforts, watershed protection, range monitoring, grazing (CRM), forest management, enforcement, trespass, impacts to private landowners/neighbors.
 - Leverage resources from all who want to be involved: research, baseline data, resources,
 - Examples – Tapash, Chelan County Lands Dialog
- II. **Build strategic level partnerships with currently existing Work Group or Executive Committee associated with the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan to support the following for the TCF (strategic level):**
 - Legislative funding efforts
 - Political recognition and support
 - Fish, wildlife and watershed enhancements (funding and coordination of implementation organizations)

¹ Recommendations are based on the input captured at separate breakout sessions and have not been vetted by the entire Advisory Committee.

² This recommendation builds upon previous Goal 5 recommendations. See prior Goal 5 material.

III. Organize and coordinate a group of local community volunteer stewards that would be integrally involved in running the forest. DNR to coordinate and partner with the community volunteer group –this would be a clearinghouse for all volunteer activities.

- Consider a forest coordinator or DNR volunteer coordinator or agency collaborative to fund a coordinator
- Example groups to draw from – Lakeview Stewardship group, Kachenak Bay Keepers
- Consider foundation funding for such a position
- Involve local groups such as Friends of the Teanaway.
- Goal – for community to feel (and take) ownership of the forest and to provide an economically feasible means of providing a number of services that would not otherwise be funded.
- Activities that could be accomplished by partnering with a local volunteer stewardship group include:
 - Local community assistance
 - Citizen science program
 - Recreation coordination
 - Stewardship element of recreation plan
 - Monitoring (eg., forest projects)
 - Advocacy role
 - Neighborhood watch – enforcement
 - Campground oversight
 - Campground host
 - Forest caretaker
 - Volunteer work/trail maintenance/campground cleanup
 - Invasive weeds

IV. Develop a partnership of Recreation Organizations, USFS and users to coordinate recreation trail use and maintenance. WTA, BCH, Teanaway Snowmobile Club, Evergreen Mountain Biking Alliance, other.

- Collaboration examples – Bend Oregon. Coordination provided by Central Oregon Trail Alliance working with USFS on land management and permitting.

V. Develop a Foundation that coordinates directly with DNR with staff and forest master.³

- Consider YBIP as umbrella for a “Yakima River Management Cooperative”
 - Teanaway River Management Cooperative – consider Gifford Pinchot Forest, Yellowstone Park Foundation as templates.
 - Requires leadership. Coordinate public, private, federal and state interests.
- Services provided could include :
 - Provide funding

³ This foundation could implement Volunteer Oversight in #III above.

- Coordinate volunteer labor
- Provide maintenance (eg., culvert cleanout)
- Promotion
- Research
- Coordinate internships for education in forestry, fisheries, wildlife, etc.
- Coordinated Recreation use

Education and Outreach

Questions:

1. Who is the **target audience** for education and outreach?
2. What **educational opportunities** does TCF offer?
3. Who/what **organizations** can deliver this outreach?
4. What **tools** are necessary to deliver this outreach? (NOTE: Group #1 added this so all three groups provided suggestions)

AC Recommendations⁴:

I. Consider targeting the following audiences for future education and outreach efforts in the TCF:

- Local community members
- Tourists and outsiders to the Teanaway
- Students (K-12) and university
- Policy-makers and legislators
- Adjacent land-owners
- Recreational users (all)
- All main environmental/conservation organizations
- Tourism bureaus and chambers
- Local businesses
- Media
- Service organizations (Rotary, Lions, etc.)
- Federal leadership
- Teenage kids

II. Consider offering Educational Opportunities on the following subject matter in the TCF:

- Evolution of change of the Teanaway use and management
- Story of the TCF
 - Historic Use
 - Homestead history

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- Local knowledge
 - Tribal history
 - Present uses and goals
- Climate
- Natural resources
 - Forestry
 - Flora and fauna
 - Habitat
 - Water quality
 - Air quality
 - Geology
 - Hydrology
- Demonstration sites
 - Silviculture
 - Fire prevention
 - Working lands
 - Leave-no-trace camping
 - Trails maintenance
 - Future forest condition
- Fisheries management
- Human/natural interface
- Nature-based writing
- Citizenship/stewardship
- Salmon-rearing/acclimation
- History of the area
- Responsibility and user best-practices
- Pride of community ownership
- Volunteerism
- Sportsmen in conservation
- Tribal educations – historical uses of resources
- Range management
- YBIP – managing land in the context of this plan
- Holistic management of the forest

III. Evaluate the capacity of the following organizations to deliver outreach to the target audiences above and engage them:

- Tourism bureaus
- Chambers
- Farm bureau
- Recreational groups
- Conservation groups

- Faith-based organizations
- Visitors conventions
- Counties
- Foundations
- Non-profit organizations
- Scouts and 4-H groups
- Future Farmers of America (FFA)
- Corporate sponsors (Home Depot, others)
- Senior Volunteer organizations
- Mountains to Sound Greenway
- WSU and other colleges/universities
- Granges

IV. Outreach organizations should consider using the following tools to deliver outreach

- Demonstration sites
- Internships
- Educational displays
- Large gateway signage at entrance(s) – akin to a National Park entrance.
- Maps
- Interpretive center/ visitors center
- Media stories
- Extension volunteer training
- Course curriculum
- Trail signage
- Informational packages for schools
- Website information
- Social media
- TCF branding on products such as:
 - TCF beef
 - TCF salmon
- Newsletters
- Volunteer-led tours
- 'Friends of the Teanaway' organization
- TFC App for iPhone/iPad

Overall comments:

- History a key piece of the outreach message – history of land use, tribal past and current use, rangeland use, etc.
- Several comments on the need for an information center or kiosk – centrally located for visitors to find easily.

- Interest in branding the TCF – market the products so folks know where they are from.

Economics

Questions:

1. What are potential sources of revenue for the forest?
2. What are some examples of revenue sources for the TCF from local use of the forest?
3. If we allow for commercial uses, what are some concepts or examples?
4. Are all these revenue sources appropriate to the goals of the TCF?
5. Are there unique funding models that exist that we can borrow from?

AC Recommendation(s)⁵:

- I. **Consider/Evaluate the following potential revenue sources for the TCF: (funding sources should be sustainable, result in a net gain (“pencil out”), and be consistent with all goals for the TCF)**
 - Grazing
 - Timber sales
 - Water sales
 - Discover Pass recreational access pass – as currently implemented by agencies
 - Discover Pass recreation access pass – modify the program to: 1) require additional fee for TCF; ensure that any additional fees collected at TCF are earmarked directly for TCF
 - Other recreation user fees – in place of or in addition to the Discover Pass
 - Camping
 - Parking
 - Hunting
 - Similar to Discover Pass recommendation above, add additional fee to hunting activities in the TCF; those dollars come back to TCF
 - During prime hunting season, charge increased access fee
 - Limited number of permits – 10 permits for 10 people at \$10K each; easy to enforce 10 people
 - Trail use
 - Conditional use permits – for large groups (e.g. family reunions, etc.), foraging, forest products gathering; (there was discussion about mushroom collection – most were not in favor of this)
 - Licensed outfitters and guides (fishing, equestrian, hunting)
 - Non-profit Foundation – JJ has a specific proposal for the Teanaway Community Forest Foundation (TCFF)
 - Private non-profit
 - 501 (c) (3)
 - Fundraising, operations and maintenance, etc.

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- Someone needs to decide they're going to do it
 - Solicit \$ from the west side
- Philanthropic organization/endowment – ties with TCF
- Grants – public and private- fisheries, recreation, RCO, NRCS, NOVA, foundations (e.g. REI)
- Naming rights (e.g. name a trail for \$X)
- Non-profit partnerships – (e.g. Methow Trails)
 - TNC
 - Conservation NW
 - WTA
 - Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
 - ETC
- Tribal partnerships
- Volunteers/in-kind contributions
- Adopt-a-Forest program
- Full legislative funding
- Organized recreation events that require fees for participation (e.g. mountain biking, trail running, etc.)
- Donation boxes as trailheads
- Teanaway-branded products sold through local community with some portion coming back to TCF (credit card, belt buckles, other SWAG); this could be done in coordination with the interactive technology application that was discussed at another station)
- Commercial recreation/concessions⁶
 - Hut-to-hut, GLAMPING (upscale camping with catering, etc.; equipment rental (it was mentioned that there are already businesses that rent equipment – snowmobiles, etc.)
 - Seek local participation/give preference for local businesses
 - See examples of other agencies – e.g. BLM camp host
- Annual celebration fundraiser
- Special TCF Tax – similar to “Conservation Futures”, “Real Estate Transfer” tax (Island County) where specific tax for certain activities or to specific populations is applied and used specifically for TCF – it was noted that this would be controversial; others said it was necessary to think of all options including those that may be controversial
- Local government bond (e.g. Roslyn Trail)
- Parks & Recreation district; some expressed concern about taxing residents
- TCF land sales or exchanges
- Sponsorships/incentives (e.g. Local banks offer Teanaway credit card where some portion of purchases is dedicated to TCF)

⁶ There was not full consensus regarding concessions as a revenue source

- LWCF/renewable energy products – coordinate at local, state and federal level; package and message TCF “concept” as innovative product/process; leverage YBIP

The group agreed that most of the revenue generating concepts would be consistent with goals of the TCF.

Enforcement & User Management

Questions:

1. What are opportunities and strategies for ensuring authorized use of the TCF?
2. Should use and access be conditioned on enforcement? If so, which ones?
3. How should access from private parcels/backyards be handled?

AC Recommendations⁷:

- I. **Consider/Evaluate/Implement the following opportunities and strategies for ensuring authorized use of the TCF:**
 - Full time law enforcement officer dedicated to TCF, increase law enforcement (will require legislation)
 - Seek grants to help fund increased staffing (see also economics)
 - Expand these two programs:
 - DNR Forest Watch
 - DFW Eyes in the Woods
 - Volunteers and other volunteer programs like Eyes in the Woods and Forest Watch
 - Increase staffing for patrolling (not necessarily law enforcement)
 - Increase fines for violations (will require legislation)
 - Work with prosecuting community to follow through on tickets
 - User groups to develop and coordinate self-policing programs
 - Signage indicating appropriate and permitted usage
 - Easily accessible and visible maps with rules, boundaries and other pertinent information
 - Restricted Access
 - By permit only
 - Limited entry points where it’s easier to enforce
 - Provide signage, parking
 - Restrict access to certain number of people
 - Consider admission fees
 - Large, year-long education campaign
 - Use interactive application
 - Out every weekend

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- Take a class on user etiquette, no admission fee
- Over use and misuse closures
 - Limit use of certain groups and/or certain areas
 - Need to monitor to assess
 - Will be adaptive
 - May be re-opened after correction
- Motorized use
 - Seasonal closures
 - Noise restrictions
 - Identify appropriate locations
 - Control numbers
- Research successful models; don't start from scratch – there have to be other good examples

II. **Address illegal access from private parcels/backyards.**

- Restrict access to community trailheads and do not allow open access for all uses from private lands; there are other successful models of this (e.g. Wenatchee Hills, Tiger/Cougar Mountain, etc.)
- Allow only authorized use of any trail or TCF open space, including use through access from private land
- Consider a policy of no access off private land
- Respect existing easements and other private access (inholding)
- On-going education
 - Clear signage in the forest near private lands
 - Maps
 - Rules sent to landowners
 - Information on how to access the TCF
- Write tickets for violations

Overall comments:

- Most agreed that enforcement of rules will be the biggest hurdle without significant funding.
- The last question of private land access is tricky – most agreed that the only issue here is with vehicle use from private land. Hiking, horses, bikes – not as much and issue. Need to enforce ORV rules.