

Washington Natural Heritage Program Partner's Meeting, 24 October 2019

Responses from attendee satisfaction survey handed out at the end of the meeting. 15 total survey forms were filled out. All answers are typed as written. Each bullet is from one respondent.

Please indicate your over-all satisfaction with this meeting (circle one):

Very dissatisfied: 0

Somewhat dissatisfied: 0

Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied: 1

Somewhat satisfied: 5

Satisfied (either circled both "somewhat ..." and "very..." or wrote "satisfied"): 2

Very satisfied: 5

What is the likelihood that you would attend a Partner's meeting in 2021? (circle one):

Very likely: 0

Somewhat likely: 0

Unsure: 0

Somewhat likely: 2

likely (circled both "somewhat ..." and "very..."): 1

Very likely: 10

What did you find MOST valuable about this meeting?

- Connection with new & existing partners, opportunity to find collaboration, a start to the larger conversation about conservation effort collaboration & synergy.
- Connecting with people.
- Honestly, just a better understanding of the Natural Heritage Program fits in DNR, their mandate, and priorities.
- Learning more about how Heritage Program functions!
- Understanding who/positions motivated to be here.
- Collaboration, understanding each organization's needs/objectives, learning about new tools available to me.
- Meeting with potential partners; putting faces to names (the introductions were helpful as I knew names, not faces).
- Learning more about the website resources.
- Networking
- Meeting folks that we all partner with.
- Conversations with participants & the potential outcomes from this meeting (the actions)
- The collaboration & information shared by many entities & organizations.
- Small group breakout session to discuss break-out topics.
- Information; social networking. The presenters & facilitators were very knowledgeable. Nice facility.
- Meeting some new people & connecting with old friends.
- Networking!

What did you find LEAST valuable about this meeting?

- Struggle with lots of talk about what we need and not enough implementation of those needs.
- Lecture style seating.
- I think the workshop was valuable, but a tad long.
- It would be good to talk more about your ranking process.
- The Lays Frito potato chips.
- Soft voices – hard of hearing.
- Pretty familiar with WNHP, so did not learn much new. Some guidance about how people should introduce selves would have been useful – wanted to learn more.

What topics would you like to see addressed at a future Partner's Meeting?

- Review of conservation priorities (might need advance work to synthesize).
- ID of priority conservation uncertainties / research questions.
- Municipalities, NRCS, conservation districts.
- Implementation to move the ball on those needs.
- More details on work being conducted and accomplishments.
- Restoration needs and opportunities.
- Where is everyone focusing efforts?
- Updates on website resources – mapping.
- Ranking methods
- Continued conversations on how we can coordinate on conservation priorities & ecosystem management.
- Geographic / ecosystem break out groups & conservation focus priorities perhaps lead by Arid Land Initiative or wetlands etc.
- Discussion of specific project(s) that partners may have the opportunity to collaborate on or have been collaborating on.
- Myself – I need a clearer picture for what the group is trying to accomplish. Tribal outreach – they have knowledge of these landscapes.
- Workshops / breakout sessions to build skills (e.g. volunteer management, effectiveness monitoring) and/or share resources on specific topics.
- What's everyone doing? What projects are planned or underway? Where are they happening?

Is there any organization/agency/individual you think should be invited to this meeting in the future?

- Conservation districts & similar programs, more land trusts, select private land managers.
- Other land trusts? Policy makers? Need to hear about funding needs.
- Conservation districts, NRCS?
- Conservation districts, SEG's, invertebrate/vertebrate.
- Conservation districts
- More non profit / land trusts
- Counties
- Student engagement. Private landowners.
- Local govt representation, specifically county conservation districts, county land banks, etc.
- Conservation Northwest, Audobon Society, Xerces Society, Washington Association of Land Trusts.
- County & city agencies involved in land management. County Weed Boards come to mind. They do a lot more than kill weeds!

Please add any other suggestions you have for improving the Partner's Meeting:

- There are a lot of coordinating partnerships – this one is important but we should find our distinct purpose and role to make it a productive & focused effort.
- Again, just more on discussion who takes next steps to get things done.
- Expand the invitation list. I will be adding 4 or 5 of my team at the next meeting.
- Encourage specific working groups that share certain objectives & passions (habitat restoration, T&E species, etc.).
- Perhaps vary the location of the meeting geographically across the state.
- Perhaps have participating entities provide a short organization bio that describes “what they do”. Would be a great reference for participants.
- Great inaugural event. Thank you for organizing.
- Better sound system. Mic didn't work well.

Other comments told to organizers:

- Verbal request: Please send out list of attendees and their contact information!
- Email from Debra Salstrom & Richard Easterly: “Nice to see all of you yesterday. From our perspective the meeting went very well, and hope you feel similarly. We regret leaving early, but were able to slip through Seattle and make it home in time for a spectacular sunset.”