
Goals:

- Work together to organize Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives
- Prep for next Strategic Planning Session
- Review Housekeeping Items

Members Present:

Allan Songstad, Stop the Priest Lake Siphon
Amy Anderson, Selkirk Conservation Alliance
Betty Gardner, Priest River
Eric Berntsen, Kalispel Tribe*
Erin Plue, Trout Unlimited
Hank Jones, Fishing Guides on the Priest River
Jennifer Ekstrom, Idaho Conservation League
Jon Quinn Hurst, Selkirk Conservation Alliance *

Ken Haagman, Priest Lake
Mike Lithgow, Kalispel Tribe
Pam Duquette, Priest River Watershed
Paul Sieracki, Inland Empire Task Force
(Environmental)
Sean Stash, Boating Access on Priest River

Facilitators:

Hannah Anderson, Lead Facilitator
Tracy Ortiz, Facilitation Support

**Indicates Proxy*

Minutes

Welcome and Overview

Hannah Anderson, Facilitator, welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda and goals for the day. She recognized that the Task Force Comment letter is most likely at the top of everyone's mind, and the strategic planning process will arm the group with the tools to work through the comment letter.

Collaborative Reflections

The Facilitator provided note cards to the group and asked them to answer the following question: *Why did you join the PRWG?* She guided the group through a reflection of their accomplishments thus far as a collaborative. She reviewed what makes a successful collaborative, she asked the group to reflect on how their goals and intentions for the PRWG may align with those descriptions.

Strategic Planning - Goals & Objectives Workshop

The Facilitator provided a recap of the previous strategic planning process and shared information for the group to keep in mind throughout the meeting as follows:

- Reminders for the during the strategic planning session:
 - Brainstorming and organizing – no final decisions being made, and no voting on Strategic Plan elements
 - Use Red / Yellow / Green temperature gauge cards to help the group move forward and identify items that need more discussion

- Consider: what is most appropriate and realistic for the next 6 months – 1 year?
- Goals and Subgoals review process
 - The Facilitator gave a brief overview of what the goals review process would look like
 - GOALS and SUB-GOALS – Review and Organize
 - Break down our work into major and minor themes/headers
 - Place OBJECTIVES underneath Goals and Sub-goals
 - Add detail and specifics for how to achieve the goals/subgoals (to-do list)
 - Compartmentalize
 - Verify Entire Structure
 - Step back and verify that the bigger picture makes sense
 - Re-organize as needed

Review Preliminary Outline of Goals and Subgoals

The Facilitator unveiled the preliminary structure for placing goals, subgoals, and objectives on a sticky wall. She explained that TLG spent time reviewing the previously submitted goals (via a steering committee survey), and organizing them at a high-level into categories of “Major-goals” and “Sub-goals”. On the sticky wall, major-goals were represented on blue paper, while sub-goals were represented on green.

The Facilitator then led the group through review of the preliminary organization of major- and sub-goals by general theme/topic, noting that any and all could be re-written, removed, or re-organized at the steering committee discretion. Discussion was as follows:

Major-Goal A. Improve the Condition of the Lower Priest River

- The focus of the goal should be on the whole watershed.
- The goal seems to reflect more of a work plan.
 - The title should be changed to reflect that
- It was suggested to change the title to the following:
 - *Create a Work Plan for Improving the Priest River Water Shed with a focus on the Lower Priest River*
- Subgoals should focus on exploring options.
- Sub-goals may include:
 - *Increase connectivity (especially to refugia)*
 - *Lower summer temperatures*
 - *Decrease sediment load*
 - *Increase summertime flows*
 - *Improve riparian habitat*
 - *Increase floodplain connectivity*

Major-Goal B. Develop a Broad Understanding of Priest River Watershed

- Sub-goals should help inform and guide the group with data gathered about Priest River Watershed
 - *Plans*
 - *Create or assemble maps for the following:*

- *Land use*
- *Ownership*
- *Data*
- *Didymo*
- *Coldwater Input*
- *Access*
- *Wetlands*
- *Erosion*
- *Vegetation*
- *Projects*
- *Collect or produce survey data on the following:*
 - *Fishing/recreational use*
 - *Sediment inputs*
 - *Biodiversity survey*
 - *Invasive species*
 - *Wetland inventory*
 - *Organic carbon stocks*
 - *Long term monitoring sites*

Major-Goal C. Improve Priest River Watershed Group Internal Processes

- Sub-goals should create a more efficient and effective PRWG
 - *Decision Making Process*
 - *Information database*
 - *Structure/ sub committees*
 - *Communication*
 - *Funding*
 - *Protocols*

Major Goal D. Improve Human Connection to the Priest River Watershed

- Sub-goals should help improve the relationship between the Priest River Watershed and those who use it
 - *Understanding Use*
 - *Fishing, boating, and hunting*
 - *Recreational access*
 - *Education/ outreach on the priest river*
 - *Policy*

Place Objectives

While the Facilitator's support passed out printed slips of individual objectives to the group, the Facilitator explained that the next step in the session would be to review all of the objectives that were provided by the group. Early in the strategic planning process, group members were asked to provide the Facilitators with PRWG goals they would like to see accomplished.

The Facilitator explained that each person would receive 2-5 random objectives, without knowing who wrote them. Group members would then place the objective they had received under one of the 4 major goals next to a sub-goal, or in the parking lot if they were unsure. Once all objectives were placed, the group went through each one to determine if it was in the appropriate place, or if they needed to be **MOVED, REMOVED, COMBINED, or added to the PARKING LOT.**

The group made it through a large portion of the objectives, and due to time constraints decided to revisit the remaining items at the next meeting.

The group took a 5-minute break

Strategic Planning - Technical Expert Assistance

The Facilitator asked the group if they would like to push the Technical Expert conversation further down the strategic planning process.

- The group agreed that the Technical Expert conversation should be delayed.

Strategic Planning - Next Steps

The Facilitator went over the next steps of the strategic planning process.

- The Facilitators will create a draft of the strategic planning framework which includes the draft major goals, sub-goals, and objectives
- Collect more information as needed from technical experts and research
- Steering committee review of draft
- Adopt the plan

Task Force Update

The PRWG Fisheries Task Force drafted a letter to submit to the IDFG but was not able to agree on the language for one of the strategies that would be considered. In anticipation of the meeting, the Facilitator sent a poll to the group explaining the situation and both perspectives of the desired language.

Strategy: Consider the effects of climate change when making management decisions for fisheries in the Priest Basin.

The facilitator began the conversation with the discussion on the inclusion of the word “anthropogenic” before “climate change” in the strategy. Discussion was as follows:

- Anthropogenic directly relates to IDFG actions and identifies the cause.
- It is a stronger message and more accurate

Questions from the group

- How would the word impact the actions of the IDFG?
- Alternatively the group could hone in on recommending to IDFG to use climate models in their planning process.
- Climate models are inclusive of all causes of climate change including anthropogenic. Question to consider: What can the PRWG anticipate as a direct outcome if they use the word vs not using the word?

- Would the task force consider submitting the letter without the strategy?
 - Generally, the whole group would like to see the strategy included
 - The strategy should remain included, so the IDFG can use it as a tool for long term planning
- Is there any verbiage that could be included and would convey a similar message?
 - Climate modeling could be an acceptable term
- **Decision Made | Change the text to: *Incorporate climate modeling when making management decisions.***

The Facilitator read the newly phrased strategy (Incorporate climate modeling when making management decisions), and the group voted if the comment letter to the IDFG with the inclusion of this new phrasing could be submitted to the IDFG.

VOTE: PASSED (13= thumbs up; 1= thumbs sideways)

Housekeeping (general discussion)

Because of time constraints, general house keeping items were tabled for the next meeting.

Adjourn