
Present Members

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

Paul Sieracki, Inland Empire Task Force
(Environmental)
Sean Stash, Boating on Priest River

Facilitators:

Hannah Anderson, Lead Facilitator
Tracy Ortiz, Facilitation Support

**Indicates a proxy member*

Goals

- Steering Committee vote on adoption of Strategic Plan
- Determine the process for review and enforcement of protocol violations
- Review and determine PRWG protocol revisions to support process for enforcement
- Review Housekeeping Items

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Overview

Hannah Anderson, Facilitator, welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda and goals for the day.

Strategic Plan Adoption

Prior to the meeting, PRWG Steering Committee members were sent a poll asking for any final comments on the draft Strategic Plan, and to indicate their general opinion on whether the Plan was ready to be adopted. The facilitator summarized the comments from the poll for the group to review and address before the official vote to adopt the Strategic Plan.

Review Strategic Plan Updates (timeframes)

- Erin Plue provided context for the timeframes assigned to each respective goal, explaining that they relate to the expectations set in the grant application
- The group accepted the suggested timeframes

Review and Incorporate Steering Committee Comments

- The group reviewed the comments submitted through the poll
- Members quickly discussed and resolved each of the comments, resulting in minor word changes that provided clarity, specificity, context, or removed redundancy.

PRWG Vote on Plan Adoption

The facilitator asked for a group vote on the adoption of the Strategic Plan. She emphasized that the adopted Plan would incorporate the minor word changes made during the day's discussion.

- Vote Outcome: 10 thumbs up indicating a unanimous vote for the adoption of the Strategic Plan

Next steps

With the adoption of the Strategic Plan, the facilitator provided some recommended next steps to the group, including formation of subcommittees and publishing the Strategic Plan publicly. Based on the objectives found in the Strategic Plan with a short-term timeframe of 6 months or less, the following topics may be a good starting place for diving work by sub-committee or task force:

- Internal Process
 - Funding Plan
 - Base Map
 - Work Plan Methodology
 - Communications
 - Other
- Group members agreed that the creation of subcommittees would be beneficial and productive to keep momentum.
 - The group asked the facilitator to send a poll out to the whole group asking for them to share their interest in the proposed subcommittees as well as list any they think might be needed.
 - It was agreed that the finalized Strategic Plan should be posted to the website

Determine Process for Protocol Enforcement

Background: During the July PRWG steering committee meeting, the group discussed the topic of protocol violations and shared their desire to create a specific document that provides direction for how to handle any misconduct. The group discussed that while a task force outside of the regular PRWG steering committee meetings may be the most effective way to determine revisions to the protocols, it is more urgent that a process is developed.

The facilitator provided examples of other groups protocols/ guidance for handling perceived violations as examples.

General Discussion

The group had a long and thorough conversation covering the needs of the group related to accountability, members expectations, and protocol enforcement, as follows:

- The collaborative works well together, and has minimal to no issues in the regular PRWG Steering Committee meeting format.
- Members of the group identified that the majority of the issues have occurred during task force work, or outside of the regular PRWG meetings. This makes it difficult for all members to be kept apprised of any misconduct.
 - When conflict occurs during task force work, it leads to an increase in burn out
- Many group members thought it was most appropriate and effective to bring any concerns to the group as a whole to review

- Members favored giving a fair chance for corrective measures over a more punitive action against any perceived protocol violations, and would like to see a mature and collaborative response to any issues
- It was acknowledged that violations can rank differently based on how they harm the collaborative
- It was proposed that the protocols may need to be modified to specifically address violations or a conflict resolution process

Decision:

The group agreed that an addition should be made to the protocols outlining a Conflict Resolution Process, generally as follows:

- Members should first seek to resolve issues between themselves as individuals.
 - If you feel someone has violated the protocols, respectfully address them and attempt to find resolution.
 - Group members should always conduct themselves with *Maturity, Transparency, and Honesty* when confronting each other
- The following key triggers can help to indicate when an issue needs to be brought before the steering committee for group review:
 - *If the action of a member is preventing the group from moving forward*
 - *If a situation cannot be resolved between two individuals*
- If a group member decides to bring a violation to the group, it should be shared with the facilitator so they can add it to the agenda
 - Conflict resolution items automatically require an executive session for private review by the steering committee
 - There should be clarity and direction when adding it to the agenda, so the group is involved and aware ahead of time
 - Parties should be prepared to suggest a possible solution to any conflicts

Housekeeping (general discussion)

- ISAN Volunteer at Kalispel Bay over Labor Day Weekend (Erin)
 - Erin Plue shared a potential volunteer opportunity with the group
 - Over Labor Day weekend those interested can volunteer with ISAN at Kalispel Bay
 - Let Erin know if you are interested
- Bureau of Reclamation Grant Request (Erin)
 - Erin Plue shared grant opportunity with the group
 - The grant has a September 3rd 2024 deadline
 - Erin provided overview of a grant opportunity and what it would cover
 - She shared the work she had done to date to complete the application and explained
- Group Photo

Adjourn