

**Carbon County WPLI Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**January 30, 2017**  
**Rawlins, WY**

**Draft for Review**

**Approved**

**Committee Members Present:**

Glen Alameda, *Agricultural Organizations*  
 John Espy, *County Commissioner*  
 Shaleas Harrison, *General Public*  
 John Johnson, *County Commissioner*  
 Joseph Parsons, *Conservation District*  
 Pat Rollison, *Sportsmen*  
 Jeff Streater, *Conservation*  
 Dave Throgmorton, *Energy*

**Others Present:**

Steve Smutko, *UW Ruckelshaus Institute, Facilitator*  
 Deb Kleinman, *UW Ruckelshaus Institute, Note taker*  
 Stephanie Kessler, *Wyoming Outdoor Council*

**Members Absent:**

Joan McGraw, *Motorized Recreation*  
 Jeb Steward, *General Public*  
 Connie Wilbert, *Non-Motorized Recreation*

**Agenda**

**Old Business:**

1. Approval of December minutes

**New Business:**

2. Review and discuss the approach for achieving the committee's mission.
3. Review and edit the draft committee charter

**Handouts**

1. *Wyoming Public Lands Initiative: Getting to Shared Solutions*
2. Carbon County WPLI Advisory Committee Charter, Draft 1

**Actions Taken**

1. Reviewed and amendments to the draft charter.
2. Set the agenda for the February 27 meeting.

**Meeting Summary**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Committee co-chairs Dave Throgmorton and John Espy opened the meeting at 9:03 a.m. Committee members and facilitators introduced themselves.

**Introduction to Collaborative Process**

Steve Smutko provided an overview of collaborative process using the handout, "*Wyoming Public Lands Initiative: Getting to Shared Solutions*". He introduced the five steps: (1) getting started; (2) gathering information and identifying issues; (3) identifying interests; (4) generating options, and (5) making tradeoffs. He indicated that the steps are not necessarily sequential but you have to complete each step for each WSA.

Step 1: Getting started – This is where the group is now. Establishing joint expectations, developing a group charter, establishing guidelines for group interaction, deciding how to use the expertise within the group as well as outside experts, and how to collect and use data.

Step 2: Gathering information – this is where the work happens. Gather information and identify topics and issues you need to address related to each WSA. This will involve field trips getting data where you can. The focus will be the WSAs and associated landscapes – what is in them, what are current / past uses, etc. The committee may also want to address associated lands outside WSAs.

Step 3: Identifying interests – this is the heart of principled negotiation. If you are simply negotiating over ‘should this WSA be wilderness or not’, it becomes difficult to find agreement. Instead, you want to have a discussion about why you want the WSA to be designated as wilderness or multiple use; the interests behind the positions. Your interests are what is important to you. Then the discussion turns to how you might satisfy those interests. For example, if wilderness character is important to one party, and mountain biking is important to another, you might decide to maintain wilderness-like qualities but allow mountain bikes. The committee should take some time to discuss and document the interests of each committee member.

Step 4: Generating options – You want to search for options that satisfy the most important interests of all committee members. During negotiations you will want to generate without deciding. Use language like: “will it work for you if we do this?” or “how about we do that”.

Step 5: Making trade offs – Think about each of the four WSAs in Carbon County and generate multiple options for each one. Let those options stay – don’t commit. Put them out there for the public to review and comment on. Start to understand what the data tells you and the interests of your constituents. Don’t commit to any one thing until it’s time. The WPLI is not an all or nothing game. There is a lot of latitude in WSA designations and management for people to get their needs met. The promise of the WPLI is significant because you can do just that. You can send a bill to congress that everyone can get behind..

Smutko noted that these steps are more fully discussed in the book, *Getting to Yes, Negotiating Agreement without Giving In* by Roger and Fisher and Will Ury. He will distribute the book to committee members at the next meeting and may assign homework chapters from the book over time.

#### **Questions / comments –**

- John Johnson – What if the committee goes through this process and the commissioners want to change the committee’s recommendations, or they get changed at state level – will committee have a say to counter that decision? I’m particularly concerned about changes once the recommendations leave the county-level review.
  - Smutko: There is language in the charter that addresses that. Since there are two county commissioners on the committee, it is likely that you guys will be able to keep your fellow commissioners informed of discussions and potential recommendations. Beyond the county level, you may need to hear from Gregory Cowan at the WCCA about how that will work. Utah has done this in a variety of venues – some that were more localized, and a regional effort that attempted to affect the WSAs in eastern Utah. The regional effort was reportedly changed at the congressional level. People on the ground didn’t see what they thought should be in that bill and the support for it by all the parties at the table has diminished. The promising thing about the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative is that everyone has two bites at apple. Your first is here, at the county level. If something changes between here and Congress you have the opportunity to reach out to Congress and inform them of your opinion. Sublette County has clause in their charter about the role of the committee co-chairs in maintaining communication with the Wyoming congressional delegation during the approval process.
- John Johnson – I want to be sure there are teeth in it. I would hate to repeat entire process if it’s for naught.
  - Smutko: These are questions that are appropriate to bring up at the Lander WPLI II meeting.

- Stephanie Kessler (attending the meeting as a member of the public) – Travis McNiven of Senator Barrasso’s office has visited other committees. They are very aware that’s a concern. It may be helpful to this committee to invite him.
- John Espy – I have been in touch with Travis, about speaking to this committee. We thought that it would be wise to wait a little bit until the committee got a little farther along.

**Committee Charter**

Steve Smutko introduced the charter, presented what the parts are and what the intent is. All the changes that the committee recommends will be recorded directly on the draft charter. A second draft will be sent to the committee for review. Additional changes can be made at anytime. Once you are satisfied with it, you can sign it.

*[Changes to the charter as agreed to by all committee members present are contained in Carbon County WPLI Advisory Committee Charter, Draft 2]*

**Public Comments**

Stephanie Kessler, Wyoming Outdoor Council – The conservation groups in Wyoming are feeling strapped with eight WPLI committees going on simultaneously. The conservation groups are represented on this committee by Jeff Streeter. Jeff will be our conduit. If there is a conservation perspective that we would like presented to the committee we will work with Jeff as our representative on the committee to present that perspective.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes from the 11/29/16 meeting were approved with no changes.

**Wrap up/next steps**

- The Ruckelshaus Institute will put together track-changes version of the charter. The charter can be approved and signed at the next meeting and posted on the WCCA website.
- The Ruckelshaus Institute will create a Carbon County WPLI website as a place for sharing data with the committee and with the public.
- Steve will send out links to other WPLI websites and the WYGISC WPLI mapping site.
- The Ruckelshaus Institute will pull together additional data/links/documents and post to the Carbon WPLI website
- Jeff Streeter will to coordinate with Dan Smitherman (Wyoming TWS representative) to arrange overflights of the four Carbon County WSAs.
- Joe Parsons will coordinate with the Rawlins BLM field office for presentations about the Prospect Mountain WSA. Specifically information regarding past and current use, and wildlife habitat and populations conditions.

Meeting Schedule, 9:00 – 12:00 Mondays as standing day

- Feb 27
- March 27
- May 1 – check in about having Steve after that
- June 5 and 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month from then on

Discussion about agenda items for next meeting

- Approve charter
- Approve minutes
- Data conversation – what information is needed? What information is available?
- Getting into substance –
  - Need to get maps of the WSAs – full size

- Organize which WSAs to deal with first – start with easiest first or smallest one first – start with Prospect Mtn – invite someone from BLM who has a little intimate knowledge about Prospect – present some user data (Joe will talk to Dennis and ask for someone) and historical perspective on WSA – maybe the fuels guy for habitat work, rec guy is new but someone to talk to the road that runs along border that’s a major access point for rafters – that road has been contentious for BLM for decades -

**Next Meeting**

**Date:** February 27, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 – 12:00

**Location:** BLM Rawlins Field Office, 1300 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Rawlins, WY

**Draft Agenda**

1. Approve minutes
2. Approve charter
3. Data discussion: what data is needed? What data is available?
4. Information on Prospect Mountain WSA