

EBTJV Steering Committee Conference Call
July 28, 2005
2:00-3:00 pm EST

Participants: Mike Wiemer, Kim Ryals, Doug Besler, Doug Beard, Fred Harris, Bob Carline, Leon Szeptycki, Doug Stang, Tom Sadler, Karen Hockett, Lila Borge Wills, and Hannibal Bolton and Eric Schwaab joined at the tail end of the conversation.

Mike Wiemer led the conference call discussion as Eric Schwaab was not able to call in. Eric would try to call in late.

Working Group Reports:

Data Working Group – report by Doug Beard

Work Group is on target. Example website is up and will ask for feedback soon.
Leon S reported that they are working on results in the format of a scientific paper.
TU will work on glossy report in September.
Question: Is data to states still possible in the time frame? Yes.
Mark will give an updated presentation at August Steering Committee meeting.

Conservation Strategies Working Group – report by Doug Besler

No big updates, expecting strong marching orders at August meeting.
The work plan for Nat is OK for writing the final strategy – which will take about 6 weeks. CMI and TU will work out how to pay.

Promotions and Education Committee (Outreach) – report by Kim Ryals

Committee is in a holding pattern awaiting orders.
Kim sent out cover letter and fact sheet to over 100 names (date?).
Will have powerpoints (public and professional) by August Steering Committee meeting
Orders from Eric to redraft component 3 amendment before next Wednesday.
Eric S., Leon S., and Steve M talking –Eric gave go ahead for redraft and gave instructions on how to proceed. Lila W. requested that Kim provide CMI with update and copy of amendment
Mike W. offered to help

Habitat Working Group – report by Mike Wiemer

Triage thoughts were sent out, only received a few comments.
Started to document habitat restoration for BT currently going on.
Identifying types of funding spent on BT project (specifically habitat restoration).
Leon S – reported that the Potomac headwaters initiative will start in month or so – good opportunity to experiment with triage

Agenda for August 17 and 18:

Mike suggested having someone from FWS speak about the National fish habitat initiative – participants agreed that this would be good.

Lila outlined tentative times: 17th after lunch till 5pm, possible work group meetings at night, 18th all day
Lunch and beverages will be catered in.

Andy Loftus will facilitate. Eric and Andy are working together on agenda items.

Biggest item is to move forward with conservation strategy final copy – need detailed marching orders.
Email any agenda items directly to Eric.

December 8-9 at NCTC meeting –

Mike will call Lila to coordinate

Component 3 Amendment:

Eric S was not present yet so Lila W. briefed the group. Federal Aid has not approved the proposed amendment by the P&E Committee to address original goals and objectives.

Leon S. summarized conversation with Eric and stated TU perspective. It was reported that Fed Aid was receptive to a new amendment with updated budget. TU wants to have steering committee approval. TU wants to refocus efforts on products from data and conservation strategies to get most out of venture. Goal is to get completed draft by middle of next week (8-3-05).

Hannibal entered discussion - Leon briefed on amendment issue. Said Eric had worked it out with Federal Aid and that Federal Aid was tentatively on board and they had a plan to move forward. It was suggested that Eric brief Hannibal since Hannibal has tried to contact Federal Aid and would be able to meet with them next week.

Eric S. joined in (2:45pm)

Thinks we are in good shape and have a course to follow – knows what need to do. New draft will be worked up to address concerns.