

**Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative (RMRI)
 April 29, 2020, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
 RMRI Governance Subcommittee
 Meeting Summary - FINAL**

ATTENDANCE

Meeting Participants: Samantha Albert, Angela Boag, Christina Burri, Jason Lawhon, Emily Olsen, Tom Spezze, and Scott Woods

Facilitation: Heather Bergman and Samuel Wallace

ACTION ITEMS

Scott Woods	Send the governance model to Heather Bergman.
Heather Bergman and Samuel Wallace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise the governance model that Scott Woods created and distribute it to the Governance Subcommittee for their review. • Revise the Governance Charter based on the revisions and suggestions from the Governance Subcommittee and send it to the Subcommittee for review. • Create slides for the RMRI May 1 full meeting Governance Subcommittee update.
Samuel Wallace	Send out a Doodle to schedule the next RMRI Governance Subcommittee meeting.

RMRI-COLORADO DRAFT CHARTER DISCUSSION

Meeting participants discussed and provided feedback on the RMRI-Colorado (RMRI-CO) draft governance charter. Their comments are summarized below.

- The vision statement of the draft charter was taken from meeting notes from the RMRI meetings in May and July 2019. The vision statement is meant to be mission-centric and align with the original vision that the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) and US Forest Service (USFS) leadership and RMRI partners put forth. The vision statement mentions Shared Stewardship, so it would be helpful to provide links for both the USFS Shared Stewardship Strategy document and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Colorado and the USFS to give perspective on the goals of Shared Stewardship at the national level and in Colorado.
- The draft charter says that the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group does not serve as a decision-making body. The Governance Subcommittee has discussed that the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group does *not* make decisions about how to allocate funding from individual organizations and does *not* have authority over local landscapes. However, the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group should set targets and priorities for RMRI as a whole and determine if the activities of local landscapes align with those priorities in order to receive support. Meeting participants agreed that the governance charter should reflect that the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group sets priorities and targets for RMRI as a whole and determines whether local landscapes and subcommittees align with those priorities and targets.
- The word “Secure” in “Secure, clean drinking water is available for local communities and downstream beneficiaries” should be removed to provide clarity.
- There should be a section in the governance charter on subcommittees. It would be helpful to define the role and focus of each of the subcommittees as they currently exist to demonstrate how the subcommittees will help RMRI achieve its goals and desired

outcomes. Considering that subcommittees are likely to change over time, there should be a caveat in that section that mentions that subcommittees may change over time.

- Some of the subcommittees have different functions than others. Subcommittees should be categorized as either operational (the subcommittees that have a broad approach to how they support RMRI, like funding, governance, and communications) or substantive (the subcommittees that address cross-cutting issues, like social license and biomass utilization/workforce capacity).
- The Governance Subcommittee should be a standing group that reconvenes to determine how any newly proposed subcommittees fit within the broader RMRI governance structure.
- The suggestions that Heather Bergman and Samuel Wallace will incorporate into the governance charter include:
 - Links to the USFS Shared Stewardship Strategy and the MOU between Colorado and the USFS.
 - Clarification that the role of the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group is to set priorities and targets for RMRI as a whole and determine whether local landscapes and subcommittees align with those priorities and targets.
 - Removal of the word “Secure” in the statement “Secure, clean drinking water is available for local communities and downstream beneficiaries.”
 - Addition of a subcommittees section with information on the roles and focus of each of the subcommittees.
 - A caveat in the subcommittee description that subcommittees may change over time.
 - Addition of a description of the two types of subcommittees: operational and substantive.

RMRI-CO GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE MODEL DISCUSSION

Meeting participants discussed a revised governance structure model that Scott Woods, Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), created. Their comments are summarized below.

- The model draws an arrow between the work of the subcommittees and the needs of the local landscapes in order to demonstrate that the work of the subcommittees will impact the local landscapes and help RMRI reach its goals. The governance model does not draw an arrow between subcommittees and the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group. Because the subcommittees are approaching cross-cutting issues from both the statewide and local landscape level to help RMRI reach its goals, there should be a more direct connection in the model between the subcommittees and the RMRI-CO Stakeholder Group.
- This model is more representative of the RMRI governance structure than previous models, but there are some revisions needed to ensure that the model aligns with the governance charter narrative. Scott Woods will send the governance model to Heather Bergman, who will revise it and distribute it to the Governance Subcommittee for their review.

RMRI SUPPORT TEAM DISCUSSION

Meeting participants discussed the addition and role of the RMRI Support Team. Their comments are summarized below.

- For the past year, an RMRI Planning Team, composed of USFS, NWTF, and Peak Facilitation staff, has helped plan meetings and provide content for RMRI. As the needs of RMRI evolve and subcommittees and local landscapes begin to generate content, the role of the Planning Team should shift in a way that best supports RMRI. The new group should be named the Support Team to reflect a change in role.

- There were several ideas on how to structure the Support Team. One recommendation is that the USFS and NWTF continue to meet as co-conveners. Then, subcommittee and local landscape leads can join their weekly meetings if/as needed to help provide input, plan meetings, and develop agendas. Another recommendation would be to have the USFS, NWTF, and each of the signatories of the Colorado Shared Stewardship MOU (e.g., the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and CSFS) join the Support Team. The Support Team could also be opened up for anyone to attend but not participate in order to increase transparency without increasing the risk of having each meeting last multiple hours. The Governance Subcommittee could also transition to become the Support Team over time. The Governance Subcommittee agreed that the Support Team will consist of USFS, NWTF, and a facilitation team with input from subcommittees and local landscape leads. Each subcommittee and local landscape will need to identify a person of contact to participate in Support Team meetings.
- The Planning Team calls are currently every week, and so, Support Team calls will also be every week. One goal of the Support Team is not to put a burden on any subcommittees or local landscape leads while also being transparent and open about the planning process. Subcommittee and local landscapes may choose if and when they want to join these phone calls. One approach to avoid putting a burden on subcommittee and local landscapes leads is for communications between the subcommittee and landscape leads and the Support Team to occur primarily over email with virtual meetings as needed.
- At this time, Peak Facilitation helps facilitate the communication between the Support Team and the leads. It is the goal for Peak Facilitation to take less of a role over time as RMRI begins to find a rhythm to its work. At that time, there will need to be a way to develop other strategies to facilitate communication between the Support Team and local landscape and subcommittee leads.
- The role of the Support Team in the governance charter should be to coordinate meeting logistics and agenda development with input from subcommittee and local landscape leads. The role of the Support Team is not to set direction or priorities for RMRI.
- There have been several efforts to improve the transparency of RMRI, including providing meeting summaries to improve the flow of information.
- For transparency, the Governance Subcommittee should include the description and role of the Support Team in the charter and bring it up for discussion during the RMRI May 1 meeting. Samuel Wallace and Heather Bergman will revise the draft charter with a description of the structure and role of the Support Team.

THEORY OF CHANGE DIAGRAM DISCUSSION

Meeting participants discussed a diagram that outlines the Theory of Change for RMRI. Their comments are summarized below.

- The purpose of the Theory of Change diagram is to outline the steps to move RMRI from its current position to its desired outcomes and goals and highlight the assumptions being made about how to achieve those desired outcomes.
- The Theory of Change diagram in its current form is unclear and vague. There is value in having a one-pager that describes the steps and assumptions for RMRI's Theory of Change, especially when local landscapes have identified specific, measurable outcomes. One way to improve the diagram would be to clearly identify the phases for RMRI's development and the associated assumptions for each phase.
- The Governance Subcommittee can work on a Theory of Change description at their next meeting. Then, they can share that information with the Communications Subcommittee to create a one-pager based on the Theory of Change model they develop.

NEXT STEPS

- DNR continues to discuss how to integrate Colorado's Shared Stewardship strategy with RMRI in a way that effectively serves the RMRI partnership while honoring the MOU. More information from these discussions is forthcoming.
- During the RMRI-CO full meeting on May 1, the Governance Subcommittee will provide an update. In that update, they will bring up the proposed changes to the charter and governance structure model for the full RMRI group to discuss.
- Heather Bergman will create slides for the RMRI May 1 full meeting Governance Subcommittee update.
- Samuel Wallace will send out a Doodle to schedule the next Governance Subcommittee meeting.