

North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership Summit

BREAK OUT SESSION

June 8, 2006

WORKBOOK



**Provided by:
David Halley
Facilitator**

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North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership Summit

Breakout Session Agenda

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2006

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM LIGHT BREAKFAST - Provided

**9:00 AM - 9:15 AM INTRODUCTIONS- Pete
Campbell**

**9:00 AM - 9:15 AM BREAKOUT SESSION OVERVIEW
- Pete Campbell**

**INTRODUCTION TO THINKING HAT PROCESS -
Dave Halley**

**9:30 AM - 11:45 AM FACILITATED BREAKOUT
SESSIONS**
- Conservation Reserve Design
- Natural Resource Management
- Land Conservation

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM LUNCH WITH GUEST SPEAKERS
Larry Earley: "A Look at the
Colorful and Ruinous
Naval Stores
Industry"

Bruce Sorrie: "Unique Sandhills
Plant Communities"

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM BREAKOUT SESSION REPORTS

**2:00 PM - 2:30 PM PROPOSED SANDHILLS INVASIVE WEED
MANAGEMENT AREA**

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM WRAP-UP & EVALUATIONS

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

GOAL: Promote cooperative management of natural resources in the North Carolina Sandhills.

Objective 1: Increase the ability of land managers to cooperatively apply landscape management concepts on conservation lands.

Strategy 1.1: Create a NC Sandhills Fire Management Council that will address relevant wildland fire and smoke issues impacting the use of prescribe fire in the Sandhills.

Strategy 1.2: Create a Memorandum of Understanding between FWS, DFR, DPR, WRC, TNC, DOD, NRCS, NC Ag, City of Fayetteville (PWC), and SALT to permit sharing of funding, personnel, expertise and equipment to achieve management goals.

Strategy 1.3: Form a Land Managers Working Group to discuss and compare their philosophies on natural resource management to broaden knowledge of land managers.

Strategy 1.4: Increase training opportunities for public and private conservation land managers to support natural resource management at the landscape level.

Strategy 1.5: Ensure that results of research studies appropriate to Sandhills ecosystem management are identified and disseminated as needed.

Objective 2: Increase the number of private landowners managing their lands in a manner compatible with natural resource management of public lands and private conservation lands.

Strategy 2.1: Create a Private Landowner Council to facilitate management of private lands.

Strategy 2.2: Provide information on existing assistance programs for private landowners to Communication Working Group.

CONSERVATION RESERVE DESIGN WORKING GROUP

GOAL: Synthesize biological information and create a vision to guide long-term conservation of native Sandhills ecosystems.

Objective 1: Identify the most important natural areas to conserve from a biological perspective.

Strategy 1.1: Identify biological targets for conservation, including species, natural communities, and animal habitats unique to the Sandhills.

Strategy 1.2: Map areas of known ecological significance.

Strategy 1.3: Identify areas of potential ecological significance.

Strategy 1.4: Identify buffers to adequately conserve the resources and ecological processes of protected areas.

Strategy 1.5: Identify functions of individual connectors and buffers; fill information gaps; map functional connectors and buffers.

Strategy 1.6: Provide this Conservation Reserve Design information to other working groups for implementation.

Strategy 1.7: Periodically review new information and update the Conservation Reserve Design.

LAND CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP

Goal: Establish a landscape-scale network of conserved lands and waters to ensure the long-term viability of the Sandhills longleaf pine ecosystem.

Objective 1. Conserve high quality natural communities and their full complement of native species, in order to minimize additional loss of prime wildlife habitat and biological diversity.

Strategy 1.1. Divide Sandhills physiographic region into ten Focus Areas. For each focus area, identify biological and non-biological resources, threats to those resources, strategies to abate the threats, partners willing to implement the strategies and appropriate conservation tools and funding sources.

Strategy 1.2. Convey the Partnership's land conservation priorities to the Sustainable Sandhills Land Use Team for inclusion in their regional land use analysis.

Strategy 1.3. Utilize protection tools such as fee acquisition and conservation easements to protect the best examples of native Sandhills vegetation types and rare species habitat.

Strategy 1.4. Support increases in federal and state conservation funding programs by publicizing benefits of completed land conservation projects, educating the public and influencing decision-makers.

Objective 2. Protect the ecological processes that maintain and support these ecosystems.

Strategy 2.1. Establish appropriate sized buffers around managed conservation lands and other areas of biological significance.

Strategy 2.2. Work with local communities to encourage compatible land use activities within established buffer areas.

Strategy 2.3. Prioritize selection of conservation protection method based on the value of the resources present or the location of the site in relation to established buffers and corridor areas.

Objective 3. Sustain native wildlife populations by encouraging improved mobility of individuals and the flow of genetic material between populations.

Strategy 3.1 Establish habitat corridors linking managed conservation lands and other areas of biological significance. Determine spatial extent of corridors in relation to specific target species.

Strategy 3.2 Select scale for protection actions based upon the life history requirements of target species of interest.

Objective 4. Conserve public water supplies and associated wetlands and riparian zones.

Strategy 4.1 Promote funding and expansion of Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

Strategy 4.2 Work with landowners above public water intakes to conserve riparian buffers of water supply streams.

Objective 5. Provide increased access to lands for nature-related public recreational activities such as hunting, fishing and ecotourism.

Strategy 5.1 Work with local governments, Wildlife Commission and State Parks to fill needs for public recreation compatible with conservation goals.

Objective 6. Maintain the viability of Ft. Bragg and associated lands used by the military.

Strategy 6.1 Identify and conserve lands adjacent to Ft. Bragg whose development would cause significant harm to the military mission.

Objective 7. Preserve local history, culture and natural heritage through the conservation of farms, open space and natural areas.

WHITE HAT

Instructions: This is the neutral fact finding hat. The white hat is about information gathering. When you wear this hat I want you to obtain clarification on what the working group has developed. It is important that we understand what they have developed and understand the terms and words that they have used. With a clearer understanding of what the working group has developed we will be better prepared to discuss and provide feedback.

Silently read and review the plan developed for your assigned working group. Put on your white hat and write down some clarification questions you have about what they have developed. Make sure to put your responses down in a form of a question. For example: “Who is SALT?” “What does landscape management concepts mean?”

Following a brief period of silent review and your generation of questions, the facilitator will ask you to provide them with one of your clarification questions. Members of the working group have been assigned to your group to help answer questions and clarify what they have developed.

MY CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS ARE:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

RED HAT

Instructions: This is the emotional view or feeling hat. When you wear this hat we want you to express your initial feelings about the strategies and goals developed. We will not ask you to explain your feelings. You will not wear this hat long because once we get your emotional view we will move on to the next hat. We just want your initial reaction or feelings, “I love it, I hate it, I am confused, etc.”

Put on your red hat and give us your initial reaction or feeling for the plan developed by this working group:

BLACK HAT

Instructions: This is the critical thinking hat. When you wear this hat we want you to be cautious, careful and critical. What obstacles and barriers lie in our path? What do we need to avoid doing? Do a risk assessment of the plan developed and be a “devil’s advocate”. The black hat stops us from doing things that are dangerous, illegal, unproductive, excessively time consuming, and so on. In order to be successful we need to be cautious. We need to know what to avoid. We need to figure out what will not work. It protects us from wasting money and energy. In its “design” role the black hat points out the weaknesses so that those weakness can be put right.

Put your black hat on and write down what potential problems, obstacles and difficulties you see with the developed plan so that we can plan how to overcome them?

YELLOW HAT

Instructions: This is the hopeful or “sunshine” hat. Yellow hat thinking sets out to glimpse possible benefits and values. This is where we will focus on the positive aspects of the strategies. What are the merits of these strategies? What is the best possible scenario of this plan? What positive vision do you have of this plan working?

Put your yellow hat on and respond to at one of these statements:
What I like about this plan is ...

In the best possible scenario I have a vision of ...

GREEN HAT

Instructions: This is the creative hat. This hat is associated with growth, creativity and new ideas. Under this hat we want to put forward new ideas or alternatives. We are looking for strategies we may not have considered or did not know about.

Put your green hat on and give me some new strategies that you would like the working group to consider?

GOLD HAT

Instructions: This is the finish line hat. This is the hat that tells us we have won and been successful. When we wear this hat we are looking for indicators that will tell us we have been successful in our efforts. What will change if we are successful? What will be our measures of success?

Put on your gold hat and create a list of indicators that will tell us we are making progress?

SIX THINKING HATS OVERVIEW

WHITE HAT: neutral, fact-finding, clarification

RED HAT: the emotional and feeling view

BLACK HAT: careful, cautious and critical perspective

YELLOW HAT: Positive, optimistic and hopeful view

GREEN HAT: Creative, growth, new ideas

GOLD HAT: Winner, successful

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BREAKOUT SESSION**

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Evaluation Form

Anonymously provide your feedback on this facilitated discussion. Your candid responses help me improve future facilitated meetings. Thank you.

Things that went well:

Things that did not go well:

What feedback would you like to give to the facilitators?

If you could change anything about the processes we used today, what would it be?

Additional Comments:

If you would like a copy of the proceedings please provide your contact information below.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

If you are interested in becoming more involved with one of the Working Groups please check one working groups below.

- Land Conservation Working Group**
- Natural Resource Management Working Group**
- Conservation Reserve Design Working Group**
- Communication Working Group**
- GIS/Mapping Working Group**
- Research Working Group**
- Other. Specify: _____**

THANK YOU!