

Marengo River Watershed Partnership Steering Team Meeting, 7/14/10, 10am-12:30pm

Present: Grant Herman (Northland College, SOEI), Ruth Oppedahl (UW-Extension), Naomi Tillison (Bad River Natural Resources), Val Damstra (BRWA), Matt Hudson (BRWA)

The agenda for today's meeting:

1. Review MRWP project to date and proposed Steering Team role.
2. Agree on role and strategy for team members to provide feedback and support to complete draft plan by end of September 2010.
3. Develop strategy for getting buy-in from local leaders and communicating plan through "public comment" period in October.
4. Discuss plan implementation and possible connection to Chequamegon Bay Area Partnership.

Meeting summary is below. Here is a summary of "to do" items:

- Matt will circulate a draft template that can be used by Team members when asking people for support.
- The group listed agencies, groups, local government contacts that should be contacted and divided the list into who will contact who prior to next Steering Team meeting. Here's the draft list and who will contact:

Agency/Group/Government	Contact	Who will contact?
WDNR	Nancy Larson, Basin Supervisor	BRWA
Fish & Wildlife Service	Mark Brouder, Project Leader AFRO	BRWA
UW-Extension	?	Ruth
US Forest Service	Paul Strong, CNNF Supervisor	Grant? (former NC prof)
Bad River Tribe	Mike Wiggins, Chair	Naomi
US Geological Survey	? ask Faith	BRWA
Northland College/SigO	Grant Herman, Director SigO	Grant?
GLIFWC	Jim Zorn, Executive Director	Naomi
Ashland & Bayfield Co.	Administrators, Jeff Beirl, Mark Abeles Allison	Grant
Town Governments	Chairpersons	BRWA
Bayfield Regional Conservancy	Ellen Kwiatkowski	BRWA
Trout Unlimited	Chuck Campbell	BRWA
Snowmobile Club	?	Grant
North Country Trail Assoc.	?	Grant
Johnson Foundation	?	BRWA

- Ruth will check with Tim Kane about Town leaders and whether a good time to hold a Town Leader Summit to discuss the draft watershed action plan would be October or early November.

- Matt will talk with Nancy Larson about ensuring a WDNR representative is present at the upcoming MRWP Technical Team workshop.
- How do we get the Bad River added as a tributary of concern for the Great Lakes Commission's Great Lakes Basin program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control? No one took the lead on this one, so I guess BRWA will take it.
- Ruth will share a list of caterers for the NGLVC as part of prep for the MRWP Technical Team meeting on August 31.

Next Steering Team meeting scheduled for September 14, 2010 at 9am at the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute.

Meeting Notes

Matt and Val reviewed MRWP project, original intent of Steering Team role, and revised idea for Steering Team role. Matt talked about the three main roles BRWA is looking for the Steering Team between to fill between July 2010 and December 31, 2010:

1. Work closely with BRWA to provide review and comment during drafting of watershed action plan.
2. Help build support and buy-in for plan.
 - a. Provide guidance and help in developing and implementing strategy for getting local officials and heads of natural resource agencies to sign a declaration in support of the completed plan.
3. Help develop implementation strategy for plan. How will MRWP continue after Dec. 2010?

Matt explained how “working closely with BRWA to provide review and comment” on the draft plan meant BRWA would be looking for big picture reality checks and feedback as needed as Matt and Val are drafting the plan rather than help with details. What are we missing? Does this approach make sense? etc.

The group talked about building support and buy-in for the plan as a way to insure its implementation. Matt has been looking at example “declarations of support” and/or “intent to implement” documents that could be used as templates for a MRWP document to have heads of natural resource agencies and local governments sign and include it with the final plan.

The group will report on progress with these contacts at the next Steering Team meeting.

The group discussed implementation and how to make this an “action” plan beyond its December 2010 completion. An implementation strategy and how to incorporate and utilize the work being done in the Marengo plan as part of the larger Chequamegon Bay Area Partnership and efforts in the Fish Creek watershed will be discussed in more detail at future Steering Team meetings.

Ruth suggested a good outreach piece to communicate the plan to our audiences would be to produce short summaries of how the plan benefits each agency, group, or local government. These summaries could be included in the action plan and presented at the October 7th MRWP meeting and at one-on-one meetings with key supporters during the “public comment” period of the planning process in October and early November.

Meeting ended at 12:30pm. Lots of rain today!