

Columbia River Gorge Commission
Vital Signs Indicators Project
Technical Advisory Team
Meeting Notes
December 13, 2007 – 1:30 to 2:00 pm
White Salmon, Washington

Technical Advisory Team Members Present: Susan Wolff, Chair, Rich Davis, Randy Bluffstone, Todd Cornett, Brian Bainson, and Greg Griffith via teleconference.

Staff: Jill Arens, Angie Kenney, Tom Ascher, Diana Ross, Jimmy Kagan, sub-group technical advisor and Jeff Tryens, indicators consultant.

Other Attendees: Don Morby and Bob Liepper

The purpose of the meeting was to allow technical team members to provide brief updates to each other (concerning the progress that had been made by their sub-groups since their last meeting) prior to meeting with the community advisory team for the first time.

Due to the short amount of time allotted to this meeting and the lack of a conference phone in the room that will be hosting the joint advisory team meeting later in the day, Greg Griffith updated the team first about the cultural resources group.

Greg explained that they started their meeting with a lengthy discussion about what the indicators project is and clarified the scope of what was being asked. They discussed existing data sets and reports. Sub-group member, Marge Dryden, had prepared a list of tasks and goals that the forest service scenic area office already has in place. Greg also presented the Washington State Historic Preservation Office GMAP report, which contains information that could potentially be used or at least used as a model (both of these documents are posted on the cultural sub-groups references wiki). Jeff Tryens warned that these examples might be leaning more towards agency performance measures than indicators. Greg explained that the group decided that the information was a good start in the right direction and that they would continue to discuss it on the wiki. The next cultural sub-group meeting will be held on January 8th at 10am at the Commission Office in White Salmon.

Randy Bluffstone updated the group about the progress made by the economic sub-group. He said that the group met in Portland at Carolyn Sanco's office. They spent most of their time brainstorming ways to approach the development of indicators, but did approve the draft objectives. He then listed a few of the draft indicators they came up with. They include: household income, output of urban areas, retired vs. non retired populations, vacancy rates, rental rates, average commute times and demographics in general. A complete list of the draft indicators created by the economic group is posted on the wiki for further discussion among the advisory teams and sub-group members.

A brief update from the scenic, natural and recreation groups was also provided. The notes and draft indicators from these meetings can be viewed on the wiki by team members. Copies are also available upon request.

The next scenic sub-group meeting has been scheduled for January 9th at 9:00am at the Commission's Office in White Salmon.

The next recreation sub-group meeting has been scheduled for January 11th at 9:00am at the USFS Office in Hood River.

The meeting was adjourned and the team walked down to the library to meet with the community team for the first time.

Attachments

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