



Cross-Program Coordination Work Group

Background

As an agency, an important part of our daily business is working with external partners. Districts have worked to build strong partnerships with many agencies, and these partnerships have led to new and innovative business models that build capacity to get work done. In addition to current partnerships, new federal programs and authorities like the Joint Chiefs' Initiative and Good Neighbor Authority have come online. There is a pressing need for better communication and coordination across the agency to ensure that we are strategically pursuing these funding opportunities. Recent changes in Salem leadership, staff, and program structure have facilitated more discussion between divisions around the desire for more statewide support, information sharing, and coordination.

The Cross-Program Group provides an open forum for discussion and problem solving within the agency. Initial conversations have centered on connecting internal programs, identifying constraints, and understanding how to best manage, coordinate, and support a growing focus on multi-agency collaboration at a landscape scale.

We are not trying to fix something that is broken, rather provide support for something new.

Purpose

Coordination & Communication - Foster effective coordination and communication internally so that we can support and build external partnerships. This begins with building shared understanding of programs, goals, and opportunities at all levels. The group could help create informational project summary and briefing documents for conversations with the public, stakeholders, and internally.

Information & Support – Develop a communication plan for disseminating information to the agency. Support would also be available to develop a SharePoint site for FAQs, form templates, and other resources, answer questions, and troubleshoot problems. Through its internal network, the group can provide assistance in seeking new opportunities and connecting staff with each other and subject matter experts to help solve problems and overcome obstacles.

Best Practices for Business Processes – Offer a problem-solving forum for finding practical solutions that address local issues and needs, including financial processes, staffing options, or motorpool resources. There is also a need to pilot common business practices that improve efficiency and decrease the complication of program management and delivery.

Facilitate Agency-wide Strategy and Priorities – Provide a forum for developing and communicating priorities at an agency level, while strategizing at the field level how best to leverage limited resources to get work done on the landscape.

Outcomes & Goals

Ultimately, the Cross-Program Group seeks to support the effective and efficient use of limited resources to address landscape level needs. This work begins by supporting the field's engagement with external partners who look to us for technical skill and leadership around complex forest management issues that cross ownership boundaries. Clear priorities, improved communications, better coordination between programs, and hands-on field support all help build the underlying structures that make ODF a successful, reliable partner.