

# A Tale of Two Projects

What I learned about collaboration  
on the job.

Matt McCoy, Boise District BLM

# Compare and contrast experiences on two collaborative efforts

- Developing partnerships
- Determining objectives and roles
- Getting the message out
- Agreements and funding
- Implementation



# Black's Creek Reservoir

- Important Birding Area
- Recreational shooting
- Recreational dumping
- Recreational mudbogging
- Mixed ownership



# Packard's Milkvetch

- Candidate species
- Unmanaged OHV use
- Livestock trampling
- Invasive species
- Wildfire



# Storming, Forming, and Norming

## Getting to Know You - Internal Coordination

- Who are the primary partners?



- What does each want?
  - The world versus specifics
- How do we get on the same page, or at least a similar chapter?

# Ask not what you can do for the BLM, but what the BLM can do for you.

- What do partners bring to the table?
  - Passion
  - Public support
  - Legal mandate
- What do we bring to the table?
  - Land management
  - Technical expertise
- How do we make that work?
  - Work with each other's strengths



# Who's driving the bus?

- What is our role?
  - Navigator
  - Copilot
  - Passenger
- When does it change?



# Planning, Serendipity, or Something in Between

- What level of planning is required?
  - Communicate objectives
  - Identify responsibilities
  - Provide timeline
- How much risk or uncertainty can you accept?
- What happens when things change?
  - Adaptive management

**Serendipity is  
not an  
accident**





# Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows

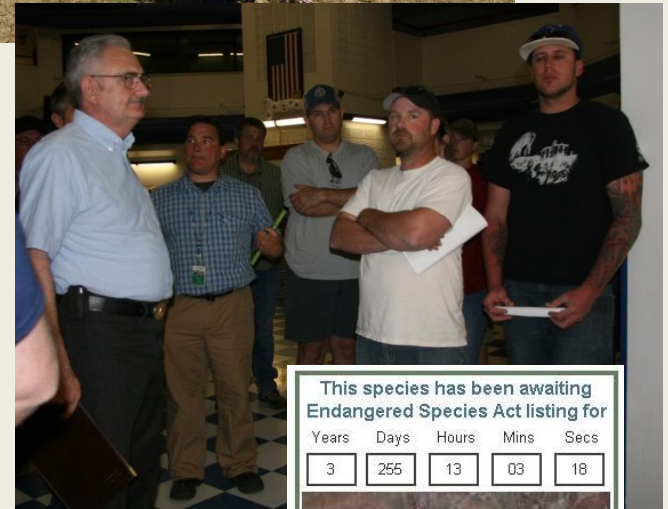
How to win friends and influence people

## Identifying Stakeholders

- Landowners
- OHV users
- Livestock operators
- Shooting community
- Law enforcement

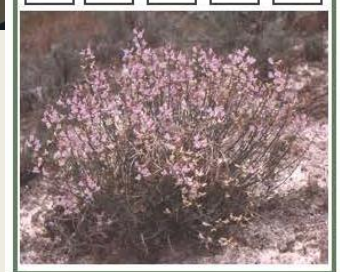
## Engaging Them

- Public meetings
- Divide and conquer
- Multimedia



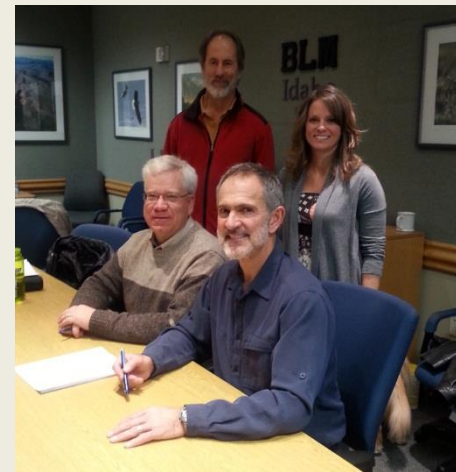
This species has been awaiting  
Endangered Species Act listing for

Years	Days	Hours	Mins	Secs
3	255	13	03	18



# Agreements, we don't need no stinking agreements.

- When are they necessary?
  - General organization
  - Critical work elements
  - Meet policy requirements
- What should they cover?
  - Short-term specifics
  - Long-term measurable objectives



# \$how me the money.

You had me at “I’ve got \$20,000.”

- Where does it come from?
  - Grant
  - Federal
  - Matching
- What are the requirements or constraints?
  - Partnerships
  - Timing



# Implementation

- What can be done?
  - Expectations vs Reality
- Who is going to do it?
  - Limitations (e.g., staffing)
  - Requirements (e.g., clearances, contracts...)
- When does it need to be done?
  - Timing and coordination is everything
- Perpetual gift



# Lessons learned - The Good

- Passionate participants
- Clear objectives
- Understanding and using resources
- Embrace flexibility



# the Bad,

- Proper prior planning...
- Conflicting priorities
- Staffing limitations
- Change is not always good



# and the Ugly

- Don't recommend a shooting closure in an election year.



# In Summary

- Partnerships provided synergy
- Objectives and roles change
- Public outreach is important
- Funding comes from many sources
- Implementation is ongoing

