April 13, 2020

**Opportunities Committee Leader: Tom Schultz**

**Description:** Identify potential Shared Stewardship barriers (i.e. – process, policy, funding, capacity, etc.) and potential solutions and actions to address those barriers.

**Members:**

* Dan Dinning
* Steve Vick
* Tim Christopherson
* David Easley
* Kurt Dyroff
* Curtis Elke

What are the goals of your Committee?

1. To identify opportunities to engage outside partners in accomplishing overall Shared Stewardship (SS) objectives
2. To identify additional resources available to assist in accomplishing SS objectives
3. To identify tools that could assist the Committee in accomplishing SS objectives

What progress has been made to date?

We had one meeting and brought in presenters from Blue Forest Conservation, National Forest Foundation (NFF), NRCS, National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) and Northwest Management Inc. (NMI)

Blue Forest Conservation, NRCS, NWTF, NFF and NMI all have the potential to be strategic partners with the state of Idaho. Each entity has expertise and resources that should prove valuable to the Committee. These entities have worked on landscape scale projects in CA, CO, and AZ to address forest health and catastrophic wildfire concerns. Lessons learned in these other states will prove valuable to our efforts in Idaho.

What early strategic concepts are being considered?

1. Utilizing the Forest Resilience Bond in Idaho: <http://www.forestresiliencebond.com/>
2. Expanding the NWTF/NRCS Forestry Initiative in Idaho: <https://www.nwtf.org/about/state-news/nwtf-nrcs-sign-historic-agreement-impact-350000-acres>
3. Utilizing LiDar tools to inventory and characterize forest health conditions across the priority landscapes
4. Explore options for cross *state* (*ID/MT*) boundary work within Region 1. Can we share GNA resources between the states to achieve forest health objectives across the larger landscape?

What are suggested Next Steps?

1. Participate upcoming IFRP meeting and report out on status
2. Reconvene SSAG and establish goals and objectives and align with subcommittee work
3. Take a field trip to see work being accomplished on the ground