

Workshop Agenda
WGA Working Lands Roundtable: Collaboration and At-Risk
Species Conservation
Spring 2019
Embassy Suites
Denver, Colorado
April 3-4, 2019

Moderated by John Freemuth, Executive Director, Andrus Center for Public Policy

Wednesday, April 3	
8:30 am – 10:30 am	<p>Roundtable Work Session: At-Risk Species Conservation (to occur in a separate breakout room): <i>Attendees will engage in a facilitated discussion on the role of regulatory assurances in incentivizing cross-boundary conservation efforts and examine administrative obstacles to promoting voluntary conservation efforts on habitat spanning mixed ownership landscapes.</i></p>
8:30 am – 10:30 am	<p>Roundtable Work Session: West-Wide Cheatgrass Management (to occur in a separate breakout room): <i>Attendees will engage in a facilitated discussion on the threat that cheatgrass poses to the viability of the western working landscape and identify opportunities and innovative new methods to increase coordination and respond to large-scale cheatgrass infestations.</i></p>
11:00 am	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Jim Ogsbury, Executive Director, Western Governors' Association</p> <p>John Freemuth, Executive Director, Andrus Center for Public Policy</p>
11:10 am	<p>Introductory Remarks</p> <p>Matt Lohr, Chief, USDA-NRCS</p>
11:30 am	<p>Panel: Collaborative Conservation: <i>Collaborative approaches to at-risk species conservation are gaining traction throughout the nation. Panelists will discuss previous collaborative efforts, highlight elements that contribute to success, and discuss challenges and opportunities for expanding collaborative at-risk species conservation efforts in the west.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Souza, Pacific Southwest Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • David Tenny, President & CEO, National Alliance of Forest Owners • Lesli Allison, Executive Director, Western Landowners Alliance
12:30 pm	<p>Lunch</p>

1:00 pm	<p>Panel: Threats to Western Working Landscapes: <i>Cross-boundary collaborative conservation efforts often come in response to a wide-ranging threat. Panelists will describe West-wide threats to working landscapes and identify opportunities to address them.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremy Maestas, Sagebrush Ecosystem Specialist, USDA-NRCS • Garth Fuller, Eastern Oregon Conservation Director, The Nature Conservancy • Brian Meador, Director and Associate Professor, Sheridan Research and Extension Center • John Ruhs, Idaho State Director, Bureau of Land Management
2:15 pm	<p>Panel: Coordination Between Federal Agencies: <i>Successful coordination between federal agencies is a necessary element for most collaborative and cross-boundary conservation efforts. Panelists will highlight organizations and agencies enhancing federal agency coordination.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristin Thomasgard-Spence, Director, Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration, U.S. Department of Defense • Kim Tripp, National Threatened and Endangered Species Program Lead, Bureau of Land Management • Chris West, Director, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
3:30 pm	Break
3:45 pm	<p>Panel: Natural Resource Data Management and Landowner Privacy: <i>Private landowners contribute to species conservation and help inform policymakers by allowing data collection on their property. Panelists will examine opportunities and obstacles surrounding data collection and exchange between private landowners and state/federal agencies.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Jester, Executive Director, Partners for Conservation • Sara Brodnax, Senior Manager, Habitat Markets, Environmental Defense Fund • Thad Heater, USDA-NRCS Outcomes Team
5:00 pm	Adjourn & Reception
Thursday, April 4	
8:00 am	<p>Recap Day 1</p> <p>John Freemuth, Executive Director, Andrus Center for Public Policy</p>

