

Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition

Eighth Western Annual Policy Meeting

Homework Synthesis

December, 2008

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1. Methods and Purpose

This document is based on the responses of 66 organizations that submitted responses on an on-line, pre-meeting survey. This is the 8th time we have done this survey as part of the preparation for the RVCC Annual Policy Meeting. Each year we modify the survey based on participant feedback and coalition work. This year, we added a number of statements and asked respondents to rank the degree to which they agreed or disagreed with the statement. This was an effort to begin exploring the idea of developing a common platform among RVCC participants; the collection of statements was an experiment that we have an opportunity to reflect and build upon during and after the Annual Policy Meeting.

This synthesis was prepared by Sustainable Northwest and reviewed by the RVCC Core Group. However, the results presented have not been vetted through the entire coalition and this document should not be used to infer consensus or agreement on the interpretation.

The purpose of the pre-meeting survey is to prepare participants for the Annual Policy Meeting by engaging them in thoughtful consideration of the issues. It also allows RVCC participants that are unable to attend the meeting a means of contributing their voice on the issues (up to 30% of the survey respondents will not be attending the meeting).

The purpose of the survey synthesis is to provide a summary of the collective information contained in the survey responses. It is intended for use by meeting participants to discuss issues for collective action during the meeting. Participants will use the results of the homework as a starting point for their small group discussions during the Annual Policy Meeting, but they are not bound to, or limited by, the information contained in this document. The small break out groups convened during the Annual Policy Meeting and the RVCC working groups will use the information contained in this document to track RVCC participant interests, identify issues and opportunities, political ripeness, and the potential for collective action among other criterion for the validity of the summary responses. The survey synthesis can also be used as a starting point for drafting issue papers; these papers will then go through the RVCC working groups' consensus-based process and full coalition sign-on process.

2. Overarching/Cross-Cutting Issues

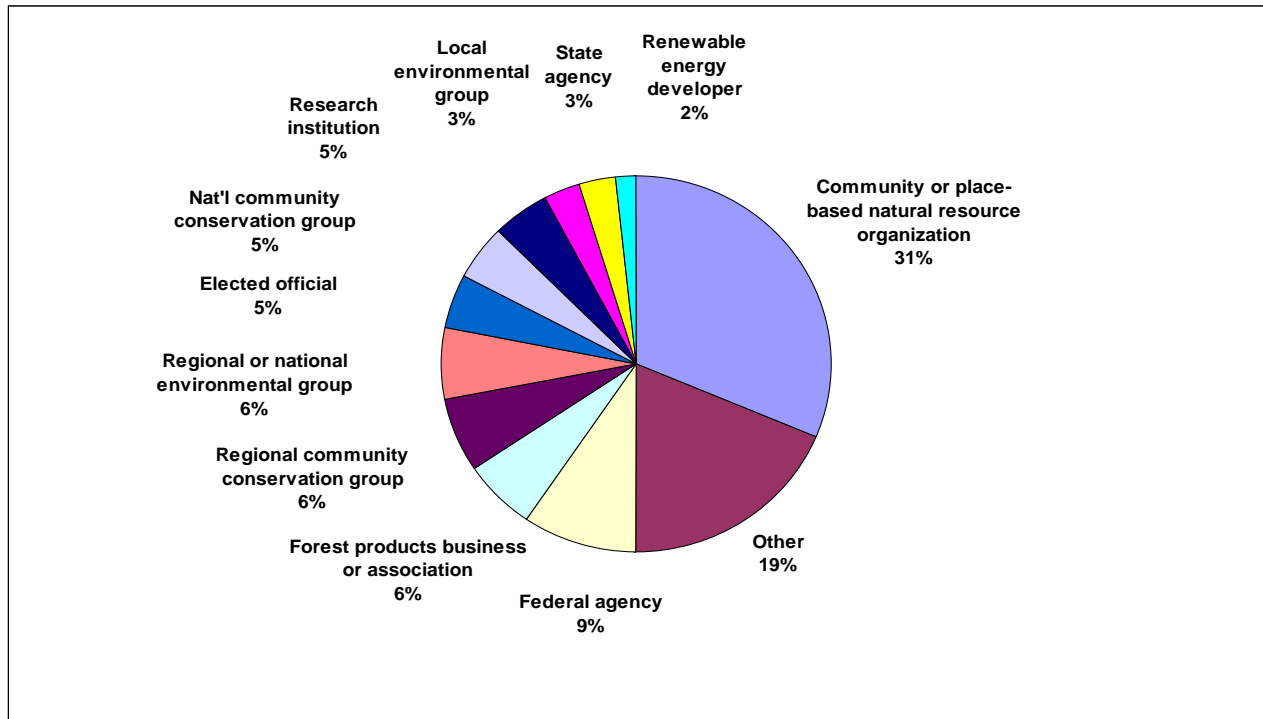
Several overarching issues were captured in this year's survey. These include increasing appropriations and institutional support for comprehensive restoration, capacity building and workforce development, supply and contracting, accountability and cross-landscape work. These issues have remained steady, cross-cutting themes for RVCC over the past several years – this year workforce development (linked to restoration and stewardship) seemed to have slightly increased emphasis from past year, perhaps in part due to economic stimulus discussions and the incoming Administration's discussion of workforce development and green jobs.

This year there seemed to be less emphasis on performance measures than last year – performance measure issues and solutions did not come out as strongly as a priority in this year's survey.

3. Survey Respondent Profile

Sixty-six respondents completed the on-line survey homework. This year, a higher number of respondents are unable to attend the RVCC annual meeting (12% not attending, 18% unsure at time of survey), bringing a new significance to the survey as an opportunity to provide input despite being absent at the meeting. Each respondent was asked to categorize their organization and the following chart gives an idea of the type of groups that responded to the homework:

Chart 1: Please pick ONE of the following that best describes your organization:



0% of respondents chose: Forest worker and/or contractor, Rancher or ranching association, and Tribal member or employee

The other category includes the following:

- Community and Economic Development Organization
- Consultant
- Forest Products, Forest Contractor, and Renewable Energy Developer
- Myself
- National Federal Natural Resources Independent Retiree Association
- National Foundation & Conservation organization
- National organization advancing biomass applications and supplies
- National rural development network
- Non-profit think-tank and educational organization
- Professional Facilitator for a Collaborative Organization

Over 60% of participants have less than 25% of their organizational budget dedicated to working on policy. Of the organizations that work on climate change, 49% of them less than 10% of the time. Many respondents spend most or all of their time working on public lands issues (47%), or an equal amount of time on public and private land issues (30%).

Table 1: If your organization works on policy, which THREE issues does it spend the majority of its time trying to influence?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Federal forest land management	72	46
Federal rural economic development policy	31	20
Renewable energy	31	20
Policies affecting land conversion and ownership issues	23	15
Climate change	22	14
Other	20	13
Wildlife conservation issues	17	11
Aquatic conservation issues	14	9
County ordinances related to wildfire management	11	7
State forest lands management	9	6
Federal land grazing policies	8	5
Forest worker protection and labor law enforcement	8	5
Water allocation and distribution	8	5
Does not apply	5	3
I don't know	2	1

4. Technical Assistance Needs

The top technical assistance need reported by participants was biomass utilization and energy production. Accessing carbon markets and the marketing and utilization of restoration byproducts also ranked highly. Over the last two years respondents have indicated a gradual transition to an increased need for training on marketing assistance and accessing carbon markets. Previously, higher need was reported in areas such as ecological, economic and social monitoring and collaborative processes. It is difficult to ascertain what has led to this switch – some possible answers include a broader RVCC membership, increased progress on monitoring and collaboration so that groups moved on to other needs, or changing circumstances leading to new or different training needs.

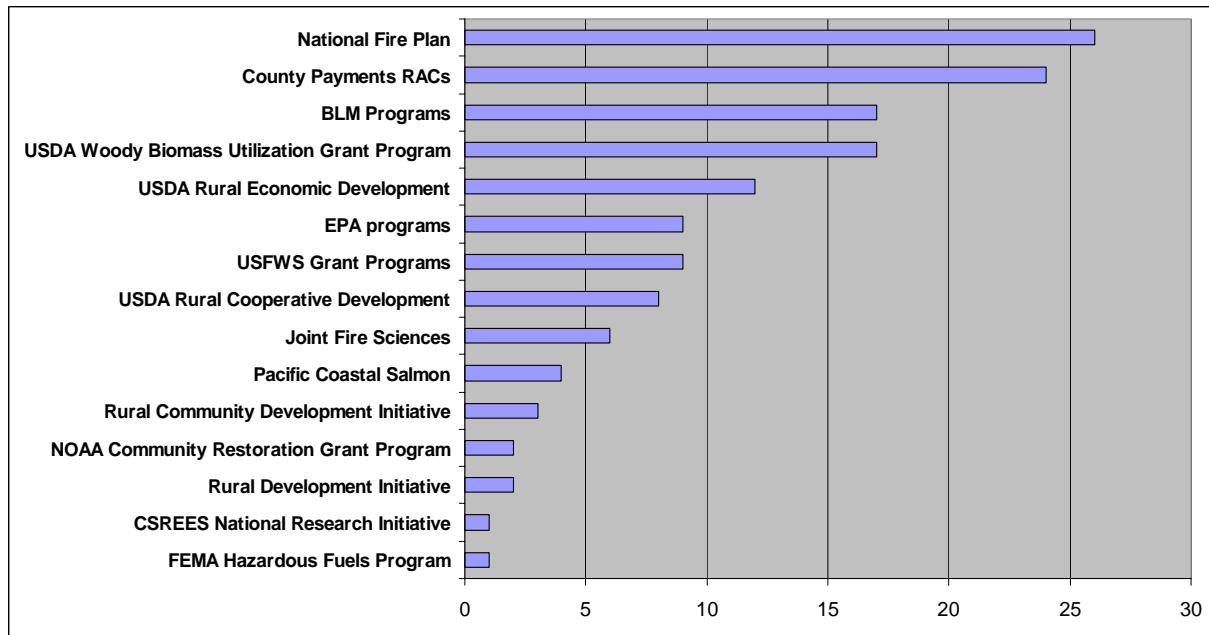
Table 2: What is the level of need of your community or organization for the following technical assistance and training?

Technical Assistance and Training	Need		
	None/Some	Moderate	High
	<i>Percent</i>		
Biomass utilization and energy production	26	32	41
Accessing carbon markets	31	26	37
Ecological, social, and economic monitoring protocols	45	18	35
Marketing and utilization of restoration byproducts	34	29	35
Collaboration	51	20	27
Community planning	51	17	26
Multi-party monitoring	54	19	22
Land conversion	61	11	21
Facilitation	65	17	16
Operations and business management	44	39	13

Federal Sources of Grants and Technical Assistance

Between last year and this year, the top three sources of federal grants and technical assistance to RVCC participants stayed the same: National Fire Plan, Resource Advisory Committees, and the USDA Woody Biomass Utilization Program. This year there was a large jump in the number of grants reported from BLM – almost 30% of respondents reported receiving grants or funds from BLM this year, compared to only a few last year. Likewise, more participants reported receiving grants and technical assistance from various US Fish and Wildlife Service programs (it should be noted, however, that these were not actual choices on last years survey, rather they were written in under the category of “other”). 23% of the participants had not received technical assistance or grants from any of the following options.

Chart 2: During the past three years, which of the following sources have provided your organization with technical assistance or grants for natural resources related projects?



PERCENT of RESPONDENTS

The other category includes the following:

- Bitter Root Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.
- Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (New Mexico)
- NM CFRP
- NRCS
- NRCS Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- PILT funds (not RAC)
- USFS cost/share agreements
- USFS grant programs
- USFS research funding (in Vermont)
- USFS PNW Research station and the Forest Products Lab
- USDA Competitive state and Private Forest Program
- Western Center for Risk Management

5. Priorities

Next Administration Priorities

Alternative energy development, building rural community capacity and business capacity to play a stewardship role on public and private lands, and landscape scale restoration, all ranked highest on participants list for the next administration. Other related issues that ranked highly were increasing investment in federal land management, climate change and natural resource-based economic development.

Table 3: The following table shows the results for participants' ranking of what the priorities should be for the next administration:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Alternative energy development	46	28
Building rural community and business capacity to play a stewardship role on public and private lands	41	25
Landscape scale restoration	34	21
Increasing investment in federal land management	33	20
Climate change	31	19
Natural resource-based economic development	23	14
Conservation and protection of water quality	18	11
Management of wildfire	18	11
Protecting working landscapes	13	8
Other**	8	5
Increasing regional food security and distribution	7	4
Protecting endangered and threatened species	7	4
Reducing sprawl and land conversion	7	4
Increasing wilderness areas	5	3
Energy conservation	3	2
Protecting old growth	3	2
Protecting open space	3	2

**Other responses included the following:

- Forest worker protections, NTFP Harvester issues, enforcement of labor laws
- Protecting & restoring habitat connectivity
- Providing incentives for good forest management on public and private lands, in context of growing demand for wood for fuel
- Supporting models for sustainable use. Harnessing market drivers for sustainable management (carbon, green building, etc.). Support for community-based conservation/management/utilization models on private lands (eg cooperatives, associations, LandCare, etc)
- Sustainable community development

RVCC Priorities

Table 4: The following table shows the “straw poll” results for participants’ ranking of what the RVCC priority issues areas should be in 2009:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Developing or supporting legislation directing and authorizing the land management agencies to focus on restoration	47	28
Develop or support legislation to fix emergency fire suppression budget issues	40	24
Developing and supporting legislation promoting thinning of fire-adapted ecosystems and plantations	38	23
Increasing congressional appropriations for priority issues	35	21
Developing or supporting legislation to create and fund community capacity building programs	33	20
Other **	20	12
Improving agency budget formulation and allocation processes	17	10
Develop or support legislation aimed at funding Green Collar Jobs	15	9
Develop or support legislation aimed at funding climate change adaptation for rural communities	12	7
Developing or supporting legislation for greenhouse gas regulation and incentives	10	6
Developing or supporting legislation promoting community-owned forests	10	6
Seeking improvement and enforcement of worker protection laws	7	4
Linking agency budget and performance measures	5	3

**Other responses include the following:

- Tackling the NEPA work burden and litigation quagmire
- Improve accountability of funds provided

Developing and supporting:

- Carbon storage and sequestration benefits for public and private landowners maintaining sustainably-managed forests
- Legislation promoting the protection of working landscapes
- Legislation promoting working landscapes and private lands conservation
- Legislation to promote sustainable use of forest biomass as renewable energy source (heat, power, and fuels) and an important forest management tool
- Funding for the removal and utilization of small woody biomass at a project level.
- Legislation to foster small-scale biomass use from public lands
- Biomass Thermal Energy Incentives and Mandates

6. Comprehensive Restoration

Barriers

The top three barriers identified by participants to achieving comprehensive restoration are all budget related barriers: 1) impact of fire suppression on the FS budget, 2) lack of multi-year funding for land management agency restoration projects, and 3) lack of an adequate budget structure. Many comments focused on barriers to getting restoration work done, such as environmental group appeals, lack of markets, lack of project development, lack of appreciation, incentives, and programs for the importance of forestry.

Strategies

There were not one or two strategies that received a vast majority of participant focus in this area. Instead, a number of strategies were ranked as a priority focus for collaborative restoration: collaboration performance measures work, creation of a collaboration and multi-party line item, increased federal funding and delivery mechanisms for technical assistance to support collaboration, and increased federal funding for collaboration.

7. Workforce and Labor

Strategies

Increased agency use of best-value contracting was a top priority for 69% of respondents in workforce and labor strategy. Other highly ranked strategies were expanding the focus of green jobs legislation to include rural communities and landscape restoration, and creating legislative and administrative policies that result in a consistent program of work from public lands.

Barriers

The top ranked barriers for workforce and labor policy issues were lack of a trained and available workforce, bonding requirements and lack of enforcement of labor laws. There were also a high number of participants who selected the “other” option and described barriers not given as a choice on the survey. Among these barriers were lack of consistent work, lack of long-term, appropriately scaled (small) contracts, access to working capital, and a lack of projects that make it through NEPA.

8. Stewardship Contracting

Priority Issues

The top priority issues related to stewardship contracting were 1) agency capacity to develop and use stewardship contracts (60%), 2) multi-year contracting and 3) a tie between -- best value criteria and scaling contracts to meet local capacity.

Change Needed

Participants were asked in an open-ended question to name any stewardship contracting authorities that need to be clarified or changed. Responses included the following:

- Retained receipts are an issue that must be resolved;
- Need more flexibility in accounting for small diameter and salvage (as opposed to standard timber sale parameters currently used);
- Expand beyond BLM and FS;
- Explore ways to make criteria beyond price more significant to final decision; and
- Appraisal modification (when timber values change).

9. Biomass

Priority Issues

Participant responses indicated relatively even prioritization across the priority issue areas listed for biomass. Promoting the use of federal contracting authorities as a means to ensure consistent supply of materials was the top ranked priority focus for RVCC in 2009 (46.6%). Other issues that ranked relatively high were increasing capacity building technical assistance to businesses and communities, developing reliable supply estimates, securing multi-year extension of production tax credits for renewables, and removing administrative barriers to woody biomass utilization.

Barriers

The top ranked barrier was the lack of reliable supply estimates on public and private land. The lack of contracting opportunities on public land and lack of markets for locally derived woody biomass, for solid wood products and/or energy feedstocks also ranked relatively high. Other barriers mentioned by respondents included lack of infrastructure close to supply and the economics of collecting and transporting material.

Strategies

Seventy percent of respondents felt that ensuring sustainable supplies of materials from public lands should be a top strategy for biomass issues this year. A slightly smaller number of participants (68.4%) ranked changes in legislation, e.g. Energy Policy Act, renewable fuels standards, renewable portfolio standards and biomass grant programs as a top strategy to pursue. Market development and capacity building also ranked as a top strategy. Other strategies included funding for biomass removal and infrastructure for processing.

Forty-nine percent of participants had not used state or federal incentives to support woody biomass initiatives. The others generated a list of federal and state programs used to fund woody biomass projects including both grant and loan programs.

10. Private Lands

Priority Issues

Opportunities and challenges for rural communities facing development pressures ranked as a top priority issue for the private lands group. Hazardous fuel reduction issues on private land and agency capacity to work with private landowners also ranked as high priority issue areas. Markets for ecosystem services (including carbon sequestration) were a popular response under the “other” category.

Barriers

Lack of landowner assistance funding, lack of funding for conservation easement and land acquisition and tax policies ranked as the top three barriers for work on private lands issues.

Strategies

Almost 57% of respondents ranked ecosystem service markets and the community forest and open space conservation program implementation as a top strategy area for the private lands working group. The implementation of the Community Wood Energy Program also ranked relatively high.

11. Ranching

Threats to long-term Restoration

Land conversion was ranked as the most significant threat to the long-term conservation of grazed lands and the sustainability of ranching communities. Other issues that ranked relatively high as threats included land values that exceed the income potential of agricultural production and the lack of young people engaged in agriculture.

Priority Issues

Participants ranked increased federal funding for conservation and easement programs and tax policies as priority issue areas for ranching – issues that were common to the private lands working group. A relatively high percentage of respondents selected “I don’t know” (27.6%) indicating a need to broaden understanding of this issue if it is an issue that RVCC chooses to engage in.

12. Climate Change

Priority Issues

Sixty-two percent of respondents felt that alternative energy development was a priority issue area for the climate change working group in 2009. Adaptation funding/resources for rural communities and landscapes, green collar jobs for rural communities, and access to carbon mitigation markets also ranked as top priority issue areas for 40-50% of respondents.

Strategies

Sixty-one percent of respondents felt that the top priority was to engage in national policy development. A majority of respondents also ranked participating in carbon markets as a top priority. Forty-nine percent listed receiving training for and accessing green job opportunities as a key strategy. One respondent suggested bringing knowledge about climate change to rural communities.

Sixty-six percent of respondents felt that it was somewhat likely or very likely that their community would engage in or benefit from the development of carbon markets and their use in funding restoration activities. A significant number of people (28.8%) didn't know the answer to this question. A tremendous amount of responses were received in response to the question about concerns regarding the development of carbon markets and potential impacts on rural communities and landscapes. Concerns included:

- Benefits accruing to landowners, not commodity marketers;
- Will the benefits serve the broader ecosystem or just carbon emissions;
- Small-scale forestry owners, workers and rural communities will be left out; and
- Lack of knowledge of these issues among rural communities and landowners.

13. Appropriations

Budget Category Prioritization

The budget categories ranked as the overall top priority by respondents were FS Rehabilitation and Restoration, FS Forest Stewardship, FS Hazardous Fuels and FS Economic Action Programs. Overall, on the budget rankings there was high support for "restoration" type line items.

One observation based on the budget items chosen for prioritization is that we may need to broaden our participant knowledge and understanding of the agency budget line items. For example, the top ranked item is a small budget line item that specifically funds post-fire rehabilitation activities – it is not clear whether all the participants who ranked it as a top priority understand this. Also, somewhat surprisingly there was little prioritization of BLM budget line items despite a growing trend illustrated through other survey questions, which indicate that RVCC participants are increasing the amount of work and funding received through the BLM. In next year's survey, it may be worthwhile to include a brief summary of what each line item funds as a way to broaden understanding of agency budgets, and obtain a better system for ranking the importance of each line item.

Appropriations Barriers/Issues/Priorities from other Issue Areas

In several issue areas, participants ranked the need for additional federal funding or structural budget changes in specific areas as top barriers, priorities or strategies for RVCC in 2009. The following is a consolidated list of some of those appropriations area requests – only those that ranked within the top three results for each category are represented below.

Barriers

- Lack of adequate budget structure (comprehensive forest restoration)
- Lack of multi year funding for land management agency restoration projects (comprehensive forest restoration)

- Impact of the fire suppression cost on the Forest Service budget (comprehensive forest restoration)
- Lack of funding for conservation easement and land acquisition (private lands)
- Lack of landowner assistance funding (private lands)

Priorities and Strategies

- Creating a collaboration and multiparty line item in the Forest Service (comprehensive forest restoration)
- Increased federal funding and developing a clear delivery mechanism for technical assistance to support collaboration (comprehensive forest restoration)
- Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program Implementation (private lands)
- More EQIP dollars to fund private forest landowners (private lands)
- Community Wood Energy Program implementation (private lands)
- Increased federal funding for conservation and ranching easement programs (ranching)
- Adaptation Funding/resources for rural communities and landscapes (climate change)

14. Platform Development

There were several questions on the pre-meeting survey designed to experiment with the idea of developing a cohesive platform for RVCC. We learned several things through this exercise, which we hope to build on during the Annual Policy Meeting and beyond. First, there was general agreement on broader statements in each section with less agreement on questions that ventured into more specific detail. Participant comments about this overall section indicate that one major reason for the reduced agreement on specific policy statements is that the particular circumstances on the ground in different areas dictate what the appropriate solutions will be – what is appropriate in one instance, may not be appropriate in another. As a policy coalition, we will need to carefully consider and balance the need to make decisions at a local level based on ecosystem conditions and other factors, with the need to provide information and input into national policy solutions to our issues.

Overall, there seemed to be more agreement in the areas related to contracting and restoration – at least on the more general questions on these issues. Salvage logging, roads and old growth questions seemed to generate less overall agreement. The results of this section are attached to this synthesis (below) to provoke thought and dialog about this approach and the potential development of an RVCC platform.

Table 5: Fire and Fuels Reduction

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	<i>PERCENT</i>				
Restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems should be a top budgetary and programmatic priority of the land management agencies.	2	3	3	21	69
Thinning in fire-adapted ecosystems is needed to restore ecological resilience.	0	0	5	25	69
Hazardous fuels reduction should be a top budgetary and programmatic priority for the land management agencies.	2	3	3	28	62

Table 6: Restoration Principles

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	<i>PERCENT</i>				
Science, local, and traditional knowledge should be used to determine what type of restoration and stewardship actions should be prescribed.	0	0	2	29	66
Restoration projects designed and supported by collaborative groups should be given budgetary and implementation priority by the land management agencies.	0	0	9	23	60
Restoration projects should be designed and implemented according to local ecological and economic conditions.	0	0	5	38	57
Restoration projects should be driven by ecological needs and have an economic component if possible.	3	2	8	38	49
The management of noxious and invasive species should be a top priority of the land management agencies.	0	3	7	37	47
Restoration of biological and structural diversity of forest plantations should be a top budgetary and programmatic priority of the land management agencies.	2	10	18	40	29
Restoration projects should always be economically viable.	21	34	20	19	5

Table 7: Roads

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Road restoration and maintenance should be a top budget and programmatic priority for the land management agencies.	2	10	18	48	19
It is okay to build temporary roads on public lands when funds are committed to decommission the roads.	3	11	34	37	13
There should be no new temporary or permanent roads on public lands.	39	29	13	7	10
There should be no new permanent roads on public lands.	26	15	21	18	18

Table 8: Old Growth Protection

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Old growth trees and stands should be protected and actively managed to protect their structure and function.	0	0	10	36	52
Old growth structure should be permanently protected.	3	13	21	32	29
Old growth trees should be permanently protected.	8	23	23	29	16

Table 9: Salvage Logging

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Salvage of dead and dying trees is an appropriate land management activity on public lands.	5	5	23	32	34
Salvage of dead and dying trees should only be conducted when there is collaborative support for the activity.	10	19	19	31	19
Salvage logging is an inappropriate activity on public lands.	47	26	13	5	8
Salvage of dead and dying trees should only be done within the boundaries of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).	34	34	19	8	2

Table 10: Grazing

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Restoration and grazing activities can be compatible on public lands.	0	10	11	26	45
Grazing on public lands is an appropriate activity.	3	13	11	29	36
Grazing on public lands should be allowed, but the fee system should be reformed.	3	7	37	23	11

Table 11: Private Lands

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Supporting new markets and economic diversification strategies is necessary to achieve restoration on working landscapes.	0	0	3	23	69
Working landscapes should be protected and invested in by the state government.	2	0	7	30	56
Working landscapes should be protected and invested in by the federal government.	2	0	7	33	54
Funding and technical assistance programs should be put in place to prevent the conversion of working landscapes.	0	2	5	39	51
Working landscapes will be best protected through cooperation between federal and state government cooperation (financial, technical assistance, regulations, and other programs).	0	3	10	31	48
Restoration and stewardship of private lands should be a top budgetary and programmatic priority of the land management agencies.	3	20	12	48	15
Federal tax and other incentive programs should be enacted and funded to encourage community owned and managed forests.	0	3	15	28	46
Full funding for implementation of forestry-related farm bill programs should be top priority.	0	3	12	34	41

Table 12: Integrated Biomass Utilization

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Federal funding should support the development of facilities that are appropriately scaled to support forest restoration and stewardship.	0	2	7	31	59
Land management agencies should prioritize biomass initiatives that have been developed and supported through collaborative efforts.	0	0	10	28	57
Federal grant program and technical assistance programs supporting integrated biomass utilization should be fully funded and staffed.	0	2	5	30	56
Federal policies should ensure that forest restoration activities are driven by ecological needs, not the need for supply for biomass facilities.	0	7	7	36	49
Federal policies should ensure that thermal energy qualifies for use in the Production Tax Credits.	0	0	8	18	49
Federal policies should ensure that thermal energy qualifies for use in the Renewable Portfolio Standards.	0	0	12	13	48

Table 13: Climate Change

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Rural communities should be given access and opportunity to be involved in Federal greenhouse gas policy development.	0	2	5	25	61
Forest and rangeland carbon sequestration activities must be integrated into climate change policy in a manner that supports comprehensive restoration and stewardship.	0	0	3	36	57
Federal land management agencies should prioritize delivery of funding and services to the poorest and most vulnerable communities.	2	7	18	49	20

Table 14: Contracting

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Federal contracts should be evaluated on factors beyond price.	0	0	0	16	82
Contract award criteria should ensure that workers are paid in compliance with existing laws and regulations.	0	0	5	12	82
Contract award criteria should ensure that ecological objectives of the project can be achieved.	0	0	2	18	79
Contract award criteria should ensure economic benefit to rural communities.	0	0	0	36	62
The use of retained receipts should be decided by national forests in consultation with local collaborative groups.	2	0	7	36	46
The structure of collaborative processes should not be legislatively prescribed to allow diverse groups to design their own processes.	0	10	13	30	38
Collaboration should be required to achieve various federal policy objectives'.	3	8	12	43	33

Table 15: Community Capacity and Natural Resource Based Economic Development

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
	PERCENT				
Federal grants and programs should prioritize and deliver funding to rural communities to build capacity to utilize raw materials that result from restoration and stewardship projects.	0	0	8	31	58
Federal land management agencies should be fully funded to provide technical and financial assistance to build the social, human, infrastructure, and economic capacity of rural communities to participate in and benefit from natural resource-based economies.	0	2	7	38	51
Federal land management agencies should provide grant funding for infrastructure (capital investment) related to the purchase, development, or testing of equipment and/or processing equipment that will retain or revive a restoration and stewardship economy.	0	0	8	49	38
Federal land management agencies should provide grant funding for product and market development for products related to their mission.	0	8	7	46	36
Federal land management agencies should prioritize capacity building assistance to low income and underserved communities and workers.	2	8	16	33	36