ASPEN: An Opportunity for Regional Learning
An Opportunity for Regional Learning

• An interest in cross-collaborative learning

• Many groups working on aspen agreements

• Some available funding
Regional Learning Pilot

• **Phase 1: A Social and Ecological Framework**
  • Frame social conversations about aspen conservation in a scientific context
  • Provide tools for reaching social agreement
  • Use aspen as an example
  • Overview of relevant science and how to integrate science into social conversations
Regional Learning Pilot

• Phase 2: Social Learning Processes
  • Webinar
  • Regional workshops
  • Regional field trips
Purpose of the Document

Purpose 1:

• Outline commonly voiced social values associated with conservation of aspen
• Provide examples of how to use science in values-based collaborative discussions

Purpose 2:

• Provide tools for collaborative decision-making on any topic/issue
Sharing Values

Section 1: A Social and Ecological Framework:

• A list and detailed description of commonly voiced values
Sharing Values

Section 2: Towards Social Agreement

One approach to engaging collaborative members in discussing their positions and values prior to trying to reach agreement

**Goal:** Listen and understand

**Goal:** Set aside trying to “change someone’s mind”

**Goal:** Clarify the position (what) and the value (why) it is important
Getting the picture:

Building shared understanding of the context of aspen in the area and management implications

➔ Using locally appropriate data and science
Recommended resources

- Information about current condition
- Information about past and current management activities
- The appropriate agency specialists
- Relevant science for identified stakeholder interests and values
- Neutral and/or trusted scientists, facilitators, “boundary actors”
Getting the picture: what matters

• **Context:** Where is the resource, how many acres, etc?

• **Condition:** How much/little of the resource, problem, etc is there?

• **Relative status:** How does this compare to the past and to desired condition?

• **Significance:** Why/how much does its condition and status matter—to whom and why?
What matters

This stream is Class 2, 303(d) listed, and functioning at risk. We want to restore it for anadromous fish habitat.
What matters

This stream has low water quality and warm temperatures.

This is common on our Forest—about 60% of watersheds are in this condition.

This matters because communities rely on it for some drinking water and people like to fish here. Fish and people need cool, clean water.

It is a larger stream and so improving it could have a lot of impact.