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| **C4C Santa Fe**  **July 22, 2021**  **Zoom** |  |

**Participants**

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| **Name** | **Organization** | **Collaboratives** |
| Elliese Wright (Facilitator) | NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute | C4C-SF, GSFFC |
| Alan Barton | NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute | C4C-SF, GSFFC |
| Porfirio Chavarria | City of Santa Fe Fire Dept., Wildland Fire | C4C-SF, GSFFC |
| Maria Lohman | County of Santa Fe, Open Space & Trails | C4C-SF, GSFRP |
| Eric Peterson | Los Alamos County, Open Space | GSFRP |
| Esmé Cadiente | Forest Stewards Guild | GSFFC |
| Joe Zebrowski | NM Highlands University, GAINS Lab/GIS | GRGWA |
| Bjorn Fredrickson | Santa Fe National Forest, Public Services | GSFRP |

C4C-SF – Connecting for Conservation in Santa Fe

GSFFC – Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition

GSFRP – Greater Santa Fe Recreation Partnership

GRGWA – Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance

**Meeting**

Welcome and Introductions

Elliese welcomed everyone to this meeting of the C4C-Santa Fe collaborative network. All participants introduced themselves. Elliese is Collaboration Specialist at the NMFWRI and recently completed a year as an Americorps-VISTA with the NMFWRI. Porfirio is with the Santa Fe City Fire Department, and works with the Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition, focusing on fire resiliency and fire adapted communities. Eric is an Open Space Specialist with Los Alamos County, and Maria has a similar position with Santa Fe County. Maria works with the Greater Santa Fe Recreation Partnership. Alan is Assistant Director of the NMFWRI, and works with the GSFFC and also has worked with the SW Jemez Collaborative. Esmé is the Southwest Assistant Director for the Forest Stewards Guild, and she is affiliated with the GSFFC.

C4C History

Elliese gave a history of the C4C organization. The C4C concept started in Durango, organized by the Mountain Studies Institute. The MSI hosted quarterly lunch meetings, and two workshops. In Santa Fe, we’re borrowing this approach and tweaking their idea a little bit, putting together a network across boundaries and disciplines. The network will consist of representatives from collaboratives and organizations in Santa Fe and surrounding areas.

Goals and Purposes of C4C

▪ Facilitate networking and partnerships across leaders of local collaboratives and other conservation oriented entities

▪ Disseminate tools and resources from the Southwest Collaborative Support Network (SWCSN) and the Western Collaborative Conservation Network (WCCN) to increase capacity of collaborative groups in the Santa Fe area

In person online trainings and the use of resources

▪ Create a space for leaders of local collaboratives to talk through shared problems, experiences, and successes

Recording Meeting

Should we record the meetings? Or should we just rely on notetaking?

After a short discussion, it was decided that we didn’t need to record the meetings and would rely on a notetaker at each meeting.

Group Membership

Who should be part of this group and who is missing?

To date, the following organizations have been invited to join C4C Santa Fe, and at least one member has expressed an interest in participating:

▪ East Jemez Resource Council (EJRC)

▪ Greater Santa Fe Recreation Partnership (GSFRP)

▪ Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition (GSFFC)

▪ East Jemez Landscape Futures (EJLF)

▪ Greater East Jemez Landscape Corporation

▪ Wildfire Mitigation Clearinghouse

▪ Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance (GRGWA)

We also have contacted:

▪ Santa Clara Pueblo

▪ Pueblo of Tesuque

Who else should we invite to participate? Suggestions:

▪ San Ildefonso Pueblo

Eric will email contact info for the Pueblo

Participation in Networks

One of the goals of the C4C-SF is to connect local collaborative groups and organizations to larger networks, which can provide resources to assist in effective collaboration.

The **Western Collaborative Conservation Network (WCCN)**, based at the Center for Collaborative Conservation (CCC) at Colorado State University (CSU), is a network of community-based conservation efforts in the western US, covering 9 Rocky Mountain, Southwest and Intermountain states. The WCCN does online trainings and webinars, they publish a newsletter, and they have a conference, called Confluence, every 18 months.

For more information on the WCCN, and to view their newsletter and activities, see their website:

https://collaborativeconservation.org/program/practice/wccn/

The first Confluence was in March, 2020, and the second Confluence was scheduled for this fall, 2021, but it was cancelled due to concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, the WCCN is sponsoring four regional exchanges. One of these will be an online meeting of collaborative members in the Southwest (New Mexico, Arizona, Southern Colorado, Southern Utah and West Texas).

Another network is the **Southwest Collaborative Support Network (SWCSN)**, which brings together experienced facilitators and coordinators of collaborative groups for monthly peer-to-peer discussions on a variety of topics oriented towards building better collaboratives.

For more information on the SWCSN, visit their website:

https://www.swcollaboratives.org/

Several participants in the SWCSN formed another group that they call the **Restorative Economy Discussion Group**. This group meets monthly to discuss how collaboratives and other organizations in the Southwest can work towards a transition to a restorative and regenerative economy in the region and in communities.

A joint project of the WCCN and the SWCSN is the **Collaborative Mapping Project**. Several states and local areas have maps of collaborative groups, and this project is creating a map covering all or parts of 12 western states. The goal is to supplement local maps with some basic information on collaborative groups around the west.

Elliese showed the map and demonstrated how it works. The map can be viewed at:

https://findacollaborative.org

The collaborative map is a good tool for collaborative members to find others, for public to find collaboratives, and to make the case for collaborative conservation.

Goals and Priorities of the C4C-SF Network

Elliese led an exercise using Miro. The purpose was to identify and prioritize goals for the C4C-SF. There were a number of glitches as we learned how to use the program, but in the end we were able to prioritize various goals.

List the priorities and goals from the Miro Exercise

Priorities:

▪ Public outreach is a priority

This is important in the Santa Fe Fireshed; the biggest need right now is funding.

▪ Volunteer recruitment oversight is a priority

▪ Leadership mentoring is low priority right now, although maybe it shouldn't be

Elliese noted that funding and time are biggest needs for collaborative groups. Alan said funding opportunities should be a topic this group can take on. This group won’t raise funds but can connect collaboratives to funding opportunities. Maria said that while we can't get money from this group, maybe we can leverage funds out in the world if we are agile and coordinate. Most funding that is available requires a match, and these can be coordinated through collaboratives and networking groups like the C4C.

Two important purposes of this group are building relationships and sharing information.

What Would Be Best Uses of This Group?

What we really want to do with this group is reduce the burdens of collaboratives. The collaboratives in the Santa Fe area are volunteer organizations, meaning everyone has a job, and then they participate in collaboratives on top of that. For some, it fits into their job, but it does add additional work to their regular work duties. Adding participation in a network like this on top of that is a big burden for people. We don’t want to add such burdens; we want this group to help collaboratives and organizations work more efficiently, and to have access to resources to do so, so that this group will be a benefit to all.

Groups like this help us avoid doing what somebody else is already doing. Often, people don’t know what others are working on, and so there is a lot of duplication of effort. Learning about what others are doing helps reduce overlap and duplication. It is a form of traffic control. Joe shared an example; he currently is kicking off a project in the Jemez Mountains, and he is seeing other projects that are already doing things that he’s doing. They have not been plugged into the same networks, so they were unaware of the others. He needs to know what others are doing to avoid overlap and to facilitate collaboration.

Everyone should think about what would be best way to deliver information to you. How can this group organize communications?

▪ A directory of who the players are would be helpful.

▪ Need an obvious place to go and find out things.

Meetings – we have so many.

▪ Calendar of events would be helpful.

An important function could be sharing awareness of opportunities. This can be done at meetings, but meetings aren’t the most efficient way to do this. A calendar would be helpful.

Elliese suggested combining a calendar, newsletter and online database of groups.

Joe noted that a geographic component is helpful, so people can see what is going on near them.

Alan suggested linking the NM Collaboratives Map to a calendar; this has been discussed in the past at the FWRI. This also could be done by creating a map of collaboratives in the Santa Fe area linked to a calendar. This could require a lot of effort to keep it up, someone from each group would have to post their activities, and this may take a coordinator to keep after them to do so. The All About Watersheds portal that NM State Forestry Division and the FWRI managed required people to upload their information, and this didn’t work so well over time. (The project eventually was abandoned).

Maybe a helpful thing for public engagement would be a booth or representation at public events (farmers market, free music events) where collaboratives can drop off materials that will be displayed at the booth. Perhaps a C4C booth that represents the Collaboratives in the area to increase public awareness at events that are already happening. We are always trying to brainstorm ways to engage new audiences and having a presence at already planned events is a small lift compared to holding our event.

It would be helpful if we knew each others’ agency contacts. Joe noted that he is working with people now that he’s never crossed paths with before, and he’s finding a lot of common interests and project ideas. It would be good to have a way to make everyone aware of all the organizations and what they are doing.

It would be useful to have a contact list of collaboratives in the area, as it is hard to find people in collaboratives, like those in Jemez Mountains, that don’t have a website. There are different types of collaboratives as well – some collaboratives come from funding streams, e.g., CFLRP or CFRP.

One way to coordinate information sharing is for collaboratives to use a website as an archive, where people could go to learn about the collaborative in general (mission, partners, projects) and social media for day-to-day information sharing. Managing a website is time consuming, social media is shared among many people and anyone can post information on events or updates on projects. Social media is great for posting and reposting information.

Question: How can we best do relationship building in the C4C network?

A field trip to learn about a specific project is a good strategy for relationship building. This may be time consuming, but perhaps we could organize a trip once or twice a year. One way to think about field trips is to find an event that isn’t ours that we can crash – like the Farmers Market. Makes organizing it easier.

**Next Steps**

Create social media pages. Facebook and Instagram for public communications, Slack for internal communications.

Set up a doodle poll to find a date for the next meeting, in about 3 months.