Magdalena Collaborative
August 17, 2018
Socorro County Annex Building
Socorro, NM
Agenda

(1) Introductions

(2) Forest Plan Revision Update
   Steve Hattenbach, Cibola National Forest Supervisor

(3) Background on the Magdalena Collaborative

(4) Website & Map of the Project Area

(5) Communications and Roles

(6) Operating Principles for the Magdalena Collaborative

(7) Public Input and Q&A
Magdalena Collaborative
Website and Map
Magdalena Collaborative Website

http://nmfwri.org/collaboration/magdalena-collaborative
Magdalena Collaborative Map

http://nmfwri.org/collaboration/magdalena-collaborative/magdalena-collaborative-web-map
Elements in a Charter or Operating Principles
Potential Models & Procedure for a Charter or Operating Principles

Other Charters or Operating Principles:

Mountainair Collaborative Operating Principles
http://nmfwri.org/collaboration/mountainair-collaborative/mountainair-collaborative-resources/mountainair-collaborative-operating-principles/view

Sandia Collaborative Charter
http://www.sandiacollaborative.com/sandia-collaborative-charter.html

Cibola Shared Stewardship Council Charter

Other Collaborative Group Charters and Operating Principles

Procedure:

♦ Coordinating Team drafts Operating Principles
♦ Collaborative creates an ad hoc committee to draft Operating Principles
Elements in a Charter or Operating Principles

(1) Overview
(2) Vision Statement
(3) Organizational Purpose
(4) Organizational Mission
(5) Organizational Goals
(6) Organizational Values
(7) Landscape Values
(8) Organizational Structure
(9) Operating Procedures
(10) Decision-Making / Governance
(11) Communications
(12) Public Relations and Education
(13) Interaction with the Community
(14) Conflict Resolution
(15) Procedure for Amending the Charter or Operating Principles
(1) Overview

A brief description of the Magdalena Collaborative and an introduction to the Charter/Operating Principles.

Example:

Overview: The Magdalena Collaborative is an informal association of diverse organizations and interested parties working together on shared stewardship issues on the greater Magdalena landscape, with a focus on the Magdalena Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest.

These Operating Principles create the structure and guide the operations of the Magdalena Collaborative, including both internal relations among partnering members and external relations with other organizations.
(2) Vision Statement

A description of what the Magdalena Collaborative wants the landscape and communities to look like xx years in the future.

The Vision Statement provides a general guide that the Collaborative can refer to in making decisions about projects and policies.

Example:

**Vision:** The Magdalena Collaborative envisions a healthy, resilient, and sustainable landscape that is shaped by community effort and focus. As shared stewards of the land, we support traditional local practices, recreational opportunities, youth-related activities, restoration projects and resulting forest products and services that support the local economy. We value responsible resource management and scientific research that promotes healthy forests and rangelands, watershed health, protection of wildlife habitat and cultural heritage, and preservation of scenic beauty and dark skies.
(3) Organizational Purpose

The Organizational Purpose addresses the question: Why did the Magdalena Collaborative form?

Some common purposes for collaborative groups include: Conflict resolution, raising money for projects, coordinating activities across property boundaries, and transforming rural communities and economies.

Example:

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Magdalena Collaborative is to identify shared interests and priorities, strengthen trust among partners, learn from local successes, and develop respectful, proactive, and outcomes-oriented solutions that benefit the greater Magdalena landscape.
(4) Organizational Mission

The mission statement describes what the Magdalena Collaborative is about and what it does.

A Mission Statement should be a general declaration that characterizes the Collaborative’s interests, reason for existing, principles and functions.

Example:

**Mission:** The Magdalena Collaborative provides a venue for organizations in the area of the Magdalena Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest to discuss land management issues and to coordinate land management practices across ownership boundaries. The Collaborative sets management priorities based on the interests of community organizations, and communicates these priorities to private landowners and public land management agencies.
(5) Organizational Goals

The Organizational Goals define specific activities that members of the Magdalena Collaborative will work on, the outcomes that the Collaborative hopes to see and the landscape and community changes that the Collaborative hopes to accomplish.

Goals generally go hand-in-hand with measurable objectives. Goals are appropriate for operating principles, but objectives should be defined in annual work plans or other strategy and planning documents.

Example:

**Goal:** The Magdalena Collaborative will encourage healthy forests through sound forest management practices, including restoring forests to conditions that represent the historic range of variability.
(6) Organizational Values

The values that guide the operation of the Magdalena Collaborative.

Organizational Values form the foundation of the organization, its purpose, mission, decisions and activities.

Examples:

Values:

Participatory and Collaborative: All members have an opportunity to provide meaningful input to plans and decisions of the collaborative.

Enabling: Decisions made by the Collaborative should enable positive actions by member organizations on the Magdalena landscape.
(7) Landscape Values

The cultural and natural values that members of the Magdalena Collaborative believe are important and worth conserving on the landscape.

Landscape values can be physical assets, meaningful natural spots, or cultural traditions and beliefs unique to this landscape.

Examples:

**Landscape Values:**

- Traditional practices
- Dark skies
- Historic structures
- Old growth trees
- Sensitive wildlife habitat
(8) Organizational Structure

The Organizational Structure includes the roles in the organization (e.g. member, participant, collaborator, partner, adviser), guidelines for who can participate and be a member, the leadership positions or offices (e.g. chair, manager, facilitator), and the committees that will exist (e.g. coordinating team, standing committees, ad hoc committees).

Example:

Collaborative Composition:

**General Member:** The Magdalena Collaborative consists of organizations and interested parties who are partners in the Collaborative. Each partnering organization is represented by an individual who speaks on behalf of the partnering organization. Partners agree to support the vision and purpose of the Magdalena Collaborative and have a reasonable and expressed interest in the greater Magdalena landscape. In addition, any stakeholder of the greater Magdalena area may attend Collaborative meetings, including multiple members of a partner organization, can participate in the meetings, and be a part of the committees.
(8) Organizational Structure

**Coordinating Team:** The membership of the Coordinating Team shall consist of diverse organizations, including local, state, tribal, federal governments, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses operating in the surrounding area. Coordinating Team members must have a commitment to active and collaborative participation, and will indicate their support by becoming a signatory of the Council Charter or through a letter of commitment.

**Contact List:** The Magdalena Collaborative maintains a contact list of partners and parties who have expressed an interest in the work of the Collaborative. Periodic email announcements will go out to the contact list. Any individual can sign up to be included on the contact list.

**Facilitator:** Meetings of the Magdalena Collaborative are directed by a facilitator who manages the agenda and progress of the meeting. The facilitator shall ensure that representatives of the partner organizations have preference in speaking during discussions. Meetings will include a period of time for non-partner members of the public who are in attendance to raise issues, and, if appropriate, discuss these issues.

**Point of Contact (POC) and an Alternate POC:** Liaison with the Cibola Shared Stewardship Council on behalf of the Magdalena Collaborative.

**Committees:**
- Executive committee: Facilitator, POC, Magdalena District Ranger
- As needed, the Magdalena Collaborative can form an ad hoc committee to address any issue before the Collaborative. An ad hoc committee determines its own means of operation, and reports back to the Collaborative. Anyone, including members of the public, can observe the meetings of ad hoc committees, and can participate in the meetings if the committee determines this is appropriate.
(9) Operating Procedures

The Operating Procedures define the ways that the structure will operate, including guidelines for meetings (how often, where), committee participation (who can serve on a committee, what are the committee’s responsibilities, how will committees operate and interact with the whole Collaborative?), ground rules for participation in meetings.
Values and procedures that will guide decision-making, procedures for decisions (voting, consensus*), who can vote (present at meeting, member), how votes will be counted (majority, super-majority), how minority views will be represented, who decisions will represent (members, landscape, all communities), what types of decisions can committees make, and what types of decisions must be approved by the whole Collaborative

Example:

(1) Stakeholders will strive for consensus on decisions.
(2) When consensus is not achieved, discussions should include rationale and reasons for dissent should be recorded.
(3) To make decisions based on a vote, a quorum of at least 6 stakeholders must be present.
(4) Stakeholders attending by conference call will be counted as present.
(5) Decisions decided by a vote will require support from a supermajority consisting of 75% of the stakeholders who are present.
(11) Communications

Communications define appropriate means for internal interactions among members, including:

- Procedures for communication among members
- How information will be recorded, shared and stored (website, email) and who will be responsible for doing so
- Rules for interaction during meetings
Public Relations includes values and procedures for communicating what the Magdalena Collaborative does to the public, through mass media, public meetings, brochures, publications, etc.

Public Education includes procedures for educating the public about landscape conservation and community development.
Interaction with the Community includes goals and procedures for interacting with local government, state and federal government officials, tribal government, and local community groups (other than Collaborative members). This may incorporate who may attend meetings of the Collaborative and how they can communicate with members during meetings.
(14) Conflict Resolution

Procedures for resolving conflicts if a consensus or decision cannot be reached, or if conflicts arise among members and participants.

Example:

(1) If a disagreement or conflict arises among members regarding an activity, process, policy or decision of the Collaborative, members should first attempt to resolve their differences through a discussion among the parties.

(2) If they cannot resolve their differences, the issue should be brought before the most relevant committee for a discussion in which members can consider the effects of the conflict on the mission and goals of the Collaborative and on communities in the Magdalena area, and work to resolve the conflict among members.

(3) If a discussion before a committee is unacceptable to parties to the dispute, a Collaborative leader can appoint a committee of mediators to facilitate a discussion among the parties to try to resolve the dispute.

(4) If the conflict persists, the issues will be brought before the entire Collaborative for debate and discussion among members, followed by a vote (either public or by secret ballot as circumstances dictate) of all partners on how to resolve the dispute.

(5) The parties should abide by the decision made by the Collaborative.
(15) Amending the Charter / Operating Principles

Procedure for amending or changing the charter/operating principles.

Example:

Amendments: These operating principles can be modified, as needed, with consensus agreement by the Magdalena Collaborative.