

# 2017 Crown Managers Forum: Improving Drought Resilience: Forest to Valley Bottom

Comment Card Summary

## 1. Please provide your evaluation of the workshop “Improving Drought Resilience: Forest to Valley Bottom.

Very Successful	21
Somewhat Successful	4
Not Successful	0

## 2. What parts of the Forum did you attend? Check all that apply.

Agency Meeting	4
March 14th Afternoon Session	27
March 14th Evening Presentation	21
March 15th Full Day	26
March 16th Last Day	26

### **3. What was the most useful/informative part of the Forum?**

The hydrology portion. Stream bed water storage, what goes on under the soil.

The natural environment provides functions that we are recognizing as necessary and trying to now put them back on the landscape. Ecosystem services need to be conserved and recognized.

Tremendous presenters with extensive knowledge in their subject areas

Science and management presentations were well organized and fit well together.

Wide variety of topics

Connection with people from different agencies and jurisdictions, science and implementation and from different landscapes. We don't often get the forest, range and riparian folks all together in the same place. "recharging" from being with passionate people. I enjoyed all portions of the forum. Learning about collaborative efforts, especially those involving the public, in restoration was encouraging and gave a good template for further work in my agency. Great tie in of presentations that covered knowledge, collaboration and implementation.

The presentations were tremendously valuable. Really outstanding and I learned a lot. Thank you to the organizers.

I found the presentations on March 15th to be particularly informative and inspiring. I also very much appreciated hearing from an agricultural landowner on March 16

Science presentations

The presentations, information about variety of aspects of the issues, but I was unable to attend breakouts so have no knowledge of their utility. Info-sharing in general, especially across borders and agencies.

Hearing about efforts from other resource areas than my own.

Most informative was the morning session on March 15 8-10:30am and the Teton River hydrology

Hydrology of Teton River. Forest insect and disease.

All of the presentations were very information and diverse. I felt that they covered many topics related to drought and were all equally beneficial to include.

I enjoyed the speakers the last day the most as they had the most relevant information for me. But all speakers were great.

New knowledge on climate change

The agenda was stacked. A great balance between science and management. The entire agenda was informative.

The people and the networking. The sheet with everyone's contact info.

The system specific science presentations were on target and very helpful with establishing baseline info.

The presentations were mostly excellent

Networking, good info on drought adaptation/mitigation methods. Hope for collaborations. Good exposure to work of many but especially USFS.

All of it

All presentations, success stories of adaptations implemented and processes for getting to implementation phase. Specific techniques for restoration/adaptations.

Interdisciplinary

The lectures were very interesting, particularly the ones about building drought resilience in soils

All very valuable information, great connections

#### **4. What was the least useful/information part of the Forum?**

The ridiculous political statement. This country voted in a new President and the people who do not like it need to get over it. This was not a place to make a political statement.

Breakout sessions were a bit extensive but purpose of the breakouts was important.

I found the breakout groups a bit repetitive and long. A very difficult balance of talks vs. small groups

Frankly, I struggled with the breakouts. The first one felt very confused to suddenly find it was all focused on the SNAPP diagram, would have been helpful to hear that would be the case and hear why that was chosen. Second breakout felt like way too much to try to do. So many sheets, instructions, parts, questions that it was impossible to get to all of it, plus daunting. Great to talk with such interesting colleagues though.

All was great

Some of the more surface presentations gave a high level overview but not enough how-to's

There maybe could have been a little more direction for the break-out sessions.

Soils presentation and breakout sessions

It was useful but I wasn't particularly interested in soils 101

The breakout sessions, there was a lot of ground to cover in the time given (e.g. answering worksheet questions), I was also unclear as to how I should respond and what the ultimate goal of those discussions were,

All useful and informative to me. The breakout session instructions were not very clear

The breakout sessions

All of the information that was presented is useful and informative.

The workshops seemed on peripherally useful. I felt like out group didn't get very in depth with discussing novel adaptation strategies. We also struggled with defining "vulnerability". More discrete examples of ways systems are vulnerable could be helpful, especially social systems.

The breakout sessions on day 2 and day 3 were horrible. Reminded me of something from undergrad

Some frustration with direction of breakouts. Unfair for me to comment as I did not attend Wed afternoon session but I heard comments, mostly regarding peoples understanding of terms they were asked to respond to.

All

Size of discussion in individual groups . I enjoyed hearing all perspectives but lacked in actual concrete strategies that can be suggested to on the ground folks. Lots of high level thinking, not bad just not super helpful for practitioners.

Breakouts were too long

The evening session. While it was nice to hear from the Director of MT DNRC, his talk didn't really add to my understanding of how or why to increase drought resilience.

Nothing

## **5. What would you add/change if anything?**

Remove the political part up front if presenters are upset or concerned about what happens on a political front, they should not be allowed to speak. Stick to the agenda prepared and not a personal agenda

Not much. A later start and shorter/less breaks. I think the breakout sessions were more than sufficient for networking.

If possible incorporate a site visit or field trip to restoration project or range management system that is mitigating the effects of drought. Perhaps a poster session highlighting success stories

Shorter breaks and more time for Q&A with presenters.

Fantastic job by the organizers - thank-you!

Always end the last day of a multi-day meeting at lunch

Can't think of anything

Re-think the break-outs some. Maybe better defined goals, tasks there?

May add a field trip and get rid of break-out sessions. I would like to see more discussion on economic impacts of drought to land managers, municipal water systems, recreation, industry.

Field trip

Make goals and objectives of breakout sessions more clear

none

Less organization and less process driven breakouts

The investment in small communities and their businesses by holding conferences in those communities is greatly appreciated.

Excellent job.

People should be able to choose if they can be in Ag/forestry. Lots of talk of people thinking they were in the wrong group.

Fewer "adaptation" case studies and more "adaptation" science presentations that would be applicable in various areas

Provide more time for questions and interaction/networking. Skip the breakouts and finish at noon.

More definition up front on "VULNERABILITY" since it is a focus of the meeting. Also understanding agenda was tight (but beautifully designed) add a time to fo around the room to learn who's there, how they are working on drought adaptation. We had time to network though. I realize this latter idea takes time, maybe add as a breakfast session?

Nothing

More perspectives from landowner challenges, similar to Mike Briggs perspective

I think if the goal is to build consensus around building drought resiliency, more emphasis should be placed on ares of broad social agreement and less emphasis placed on areas of disagreement. For instance, few people in the population would dispute that it is a good idea to be prepared for droughts and floods and there are recent events that reinforce the wisdom of this. However many within the population disagree on the role humans play in climate change. Using anthropogenic global warming as the basis for drought resilience is unnecessary and unhelpful, as consensus can more readily be built around the wisdom of these principles purely in the light of events in the recent past.

## 6. Why do you attend the Forum? Select all that apply.

Networking	22
Learning	26
Directly related to field of work	20

Other: Siviculture

Affordability

Assist in ranch drought plan

Recharge

to be part of 130 climate/scientists group think and rebellion to prevent us from being silenced from the group up movement. We will not be silenced.

**7. Of the previous question, which is the most important reason?**

Networking	9
Learning	16
Directly related to field of work	7
Other:	

**8. Will you contact persons that you met at the Forum in regards to further work in this topic area?**

Answered "yes": 16 people

Yes, specifically on the water retention. Flood plain rehabilitation.

Very likely

Yes, I established a connection with a Canadian counterpart and will be sharing about whitebark pine work.

Yup, lots of them

Will be contacting people regarding work in the Crown in regard to participating in CMP and drought solutions to recreational use

Probably

Perhaps

Possibly, depends on my time available during my short term

Sure, absolutely

Yes, made at least one key contact for my line of work

**9. What is the single most important contribution the CMP can make following this Forum (with respect to drought resilience in the Crown)?**

Education of public persons and downstream landowners.

Working with First Nations on a larger scale. This could have had more air time during this workshop as well.

This should be organized as an annual or bi-annual event. The workshops were engaging and enlightening. I look forward to seeing the final product.

A compilation of presentations from this workshop made available to attendees

## Education

Bridging - encouraging partnerships.

Share summary report with as many groups/organizations/landowners in the Crown to start collaboration on project related to drought resilience. Share the knowledge presented.

Make presentations etc. available on website along with toolboxes, resources that could be useful and workshop participants contact information and workshop report.

Influence the Farm Bill to make sure it includes adaptation to drought that help maintain and do restoration and resilience

Make summary info from conference available.

Provide summaries of practical "how-to's" to attendees and stakeholders/community leaders to be able to implement.

To keep up our individual efforts, but to collaborate to and maintain a broader perspective

Add language to grant program purposes to prioritize land use, water use that helps minimize effects of drought/climate change

Address the misconception that flood irrigation is inefficient in terms of water utilization and pivot irrigation conserves water through greater efficiency

Utilizing diversity and shared knowledge and enthusiasm of participants to move forward in working on projects and planning related to drought.

higher advocacy for drought and climate change education and supporting projects/spreading the word about projects combatting the negative effects of drought and climate change.

Follow up on future workshops

The follow up report will be helpful. Please consider sponsoring or holding another drought workshop in the future.

Final summary report

Keep this group intact and growing

CMP= great team, awesome work

## **Other comments:**

Please remove the political agenda on a personal basis. This was not the place for people upset with democracy to express their opinion as a presenter.

I think the breakout sessions were so valuable, not just to learn and think and expand ideas but to network and make new friends.

This is a great group of diverse individuals. Well done.

Thank you for the hard work involved in putting this workshop together. It was extremely thoughtful and well organized and

beneficial to my work as a drought planner.

Thank-you

I appreciate the work of everyone to follow the schedule.

Thanks so much for the huge amount of work that went into planning. Such a comprehensive workshop and congrats on getting so many senior people to participate and such great attendance.

Education needs to become a focus of our agencies and institutions. When looking at the outcome in November and the number of publics who don't understand the connections and impacts and the purpose of the work we do. We have to focus on education of populations we don't normally reach out to .

I really like the Mike Briggs talk and he touched on the challenges his ranch has. Also he talked about pivot vs. flood irrigation and the unintended consequences of switching from flood to pivot.

Thanks! Great workshop.

Would have been great tool, given AV constraints to have a hand out in the packet of the SNAPP framework. Also this framework was referred to on Wed afternoon, 2:35pm session and having a hardcopy and early more in depth description of it would have been helpful.

This is the best workshop I have ever attended in 30 years of federal career service, says a lot. Excellent facilitation.

Overall great job and workshop. Thankyou!