



Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee
Summer Meeting Notes
June 20-22
Stage Stop Inn, Choteau, MT



Welcome & Introductions: IGBC Chair Jim Unsworth opened the meeting and welcomed Martha Williams as the new director for MTFWP. Martha thanked Jim and welcomed everyone to Choteau and the IGBC summer meeting.

Members and those representing Executive Members and Ecosystem Subcommittee Chairs present at the meeting include the following:

Jim Unsworth, Matt Hogan, Dave Schmid, Ken McDonald, Rick Hotaling, Karen Taylor-Goodrich, Tony Hamilton, Jacque Buchanan, Jim Williams, Claudia Regan, Ed Schriever, Pat Walsh, Lisa Northrup (for Nora Rasure), Chuck Mark, Kristine Lee, Eric Johnston (for Becki Heath), Tim Wooley (for Scott Talbott), and Chris Savage.

IGBC Advisors Mark Haroldson (for Frank van Manen), Hilary Cooley and Scott Jackson, IGBC I&E Chair Gregg Losinski and IGBC Executive Coordinator Ellen Davis were also present.

ACTION ITEMS/DECISIONS: (Note: Additional discussion with greater detail is discussed in agenda topics below these action and decision items).

***Decision - The trailhead mountain bike signs presented by Gregg and Scott were approved for use by the IGBC as recommended by the Board of Review report and recommendations following the death of Brad Treat by a grizzly bear in June 2016. IGBC agency members can contact Gregg for the template to use as needed.**

***Decision – The IGBC Charter was approved by the IGBC Executive Committee. Ellen will work to get all appropriate signatures on the signature page.**

***Decision – The IGBC approved and signed the IGBC budget for FY18**

***Decision – IGBC Five-Year Action Plans for each Subcommittee Ecosystem Chair - By no later than November 9, 2017, please work with your subcommittee members to do the following for the ecosystem tables and the highlighted portions of the Overall Goals table:**

- 1. Review the draft Goals, Objectives, Indicators, Responsibility and Strategies for your ecosystems and relevant overarching goals.**
- 2. Use the Track Changes feature in MSWord to propose any revisions to these elements.**
- 3. Provide a brief narrative describing 2017 Accomplishments in each cell in the 5th column of the table for any Objectives and Strategies that are the responsibility of the subcommittee. Because some of the Objectives are new, there may not be anything to report; that's fine, simply note if that's the case. Also, if there is still work in progress, provide as much of a description as possible by the due date; we can update the report just prior to or at the winter IGBC Executive Committee meeting if necessary.**

4. **Provide a brief narrative or list of the subcommittee's 2018 Planned Actions in the 6th column. In some cases, due to timing, there may not be any planned actions for 2018. Again, that's fine, just note that in the cells.**
5. **In the last column, provide any additional comments you have about that Objective or Strategy. For example, if the Subcommittee needs additional resources to implement a strategy or achieve an objective, this would be the place to identify those resource needs. This would also be the place to comment on any substantial changes to the draft Objectives, etc.**
6. **In the cell at the bottom of the table, labeled "Additional Comments" enter any other input you would like that doesn't relate to a specific Objective or Strategy.**
7. **Save the file with your initials added to the filename and email it back to Chris Smith.**

IGBC I&E Update – Gregg Losinski, IGBC I&E Chair

Gregg showed a PowerPoint presentation and emphasized the move from management to recovery efforts in some of the ecosystems with recovered grizzly bear populations.

He also shared some of his experiences in Slovakia where he visited recently through a Fulbright Scholarship.

Gregg and Scott Jackson presented the IGBC with the newly created mountain bike sign and brochure to be used at trailheads and handed out as public information. The Board of Review report and recommendations following the death of Brad Treat in June 2016 by a grizzly bear recognized the need for enhanced messaging aimed at mountain bikes in bear habitat.

Current safety messages at trailheads and in the media are usually aimed at hikers. However, mountain biking is in many ways more likely to result in a bear encounter because of the speed and quiet nature of the activity. In addition, there are increasing numbers of mountain bikers using bear habitat and pressure to increase mountain bike access to areas where black bears and grizzly bear encounters are likely.

In an effort to enhance messages about ways to increase safety for mountain bikes, part of the Board of Review recommendations concluded that mountain bike signs be placed at maintained system trailheads on public lands in bear habitat with specific messaging aimed directly at mountain bikers on ways to limit human and bear encounters and conflicts on the trail. Both the sign and the brochure were approved for use by the IGBC.

***Decision – The trailhead mountain bike signs presented by Gregg and Scott were approved for use by the IGBC as recommended by the Board of Review report and recommendations following the death of Brad Treat by a grizzly bear in June 2016. IGBC agency members can contact Gregg for the template to use as needed.**

Review and Approval of IGBC Charter – Chris Smith

Last year at the IGBC summer meeting, the need was identified to provide continued clarity and direction to the draft IGBC Charter. Because of his long-term corporate memory and history with IGBC, Chris Smith was asked to continue the progress on the Charter by combining consistent language across all IGBC documents, clarifying roles and responsibilities, verifying timeframes and accountability. With the help of a small committee consisting of Tony Hamilton, Hillary Cooley and Ken McDonald, the group reviewed the IGBC MOU, 1998 Talbot and Beck Review and other relevant documents as well as received feedback from the executive committee and developed the current IGBC Draft Charter ready

for approval. A few lines changes were made in real time at the meeting and the IGBC unanimously approved to finalize the Charter.

***Decision – The IGBC Charter was approved by the IGBC Executive Committee. Ellen will work to get all appropriate signatures on the signature page.**

IGBC Five-Year Action Plan Discussion – Chris Smith

Chris discussed the IGBC Five-Year Action Plan including the goals, objectives, strategies, indicators, etc., which form the basis for the annual subcommittee work plans. Chris plans to have the Five-Year Action Plans completed in December and ready for approval by the IGBC executive committee at their winter meeting in December.

In the meantime, Chris has asked each IGBC Subcommittee Chair to work within their respective subcommittees on their specific work plans. Each Subcommittee Chair was sent draft tables relevant to their ecosystems with the following instructions:

***Decision – IGBC Five-Year Action Plans for each Subcommittee Ecosystem - By no later than November 9, 2017, please work with your subcommittee members to do the following for the ecosystem tables and the highlighted portions of the Overall Goals table:**

- 1. Review the draft Goals, Objectives, Indicators, Responsibility and Strategies for your ecosystems and relevant overarching goals.**
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IGBC Winter Meeting

December 12-13, Missoula, MT (location to be determined)

*****END*****

