

Scaling Up Nature-based Solutions (SUNS) Working Group Session 9

April 14, 2022

9:30 am CT – 11:30 am CT

OBJECTIVES

- Understand the potential recreational and economic benefits for nature-based projects.
- Use the SUNS Map App to identify opportunities to use recreational programming or physical infrastructure connect projects at the municipal and regional level
- Identify additional nature-based projects with explicit recreational or economic benefits

PARTICIPANTS

Anna Jane Jones, Darryl Boudreau, Chris Shepard, Bob Bendick, Kent Smith, Angela Bradley, Anita Grove, Chester Butler, Ed Cook, Eric Christianson, Erin Griffith, Jessica Graham, Jon Brucker, Joseph Schmidt, Josh Street, Mary Beth Barnett, Melody Ray-Culp, Ralph Hammond, Rick Durbrow

AGENDA

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS (15 min)

- Icebreaker Activity

SUNS PROGRESS UPDATE (10 min)

REGIONAL RECREATION ECONOMY: R2P2 and the Regional Recreation Economy Alliance (10 min)

- Rick Durbrow presentation on R2P2 and RREA

BUILDING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PROJECTS (60 min)

- Options for Enhancements, Assets, & Programming
- Understanding Data available in the Map App
- Demonstration: How to use the App to identify potential projects and initiatives that enhance and connect natural, cultural, and recreational assets
- City-Scale Assets and Connectivity (20 minutes total)
 - Individual work time: work to identify projects or enhance projects and add updates to the Map App
- Regional Assets and Connectivity (10 minutes total)
 - Benefits to a regional approach; RREA Data and Recreational Trails
 - [Poll](#)

GROUP DISCUSSION (15 min)

- Group discussion to share project ideas and consider regional linkages

CLOSING & NEXT-STEPS (5 min)



NOTES

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 - Benefits to a regional approach; RREA Data and Recreational Trails
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 - Results: most people are interested in creating project corridors or clusters; these could be organized along trails. Interest in land trails or in combination land trails and paddle trails
 - Would be useful to have polygons for natural assets on the Map App

GROUP DISCUSSION (15 min)

- Group discussion to share project ideas and consider regional linkages
 - Darryl: Geocaching (previous work for the state) – could help set up. Popular initiatives. Could organize around concept of resilience – “Hurricane Michael Resilience Recovery Trail.” Might be a good ‘kickoff’ activity for publicizing portfolio
 - Number of resources could be woven into geocaching or programming: Audubon Birding; Panama City Art Murals tour; Michael – showing damage, water marks, etc.
 - Important to think of how to publicize and encourage recreation in the area’s high quality environmental assets – extremely high quality but generally under recognized.
 - Signage; campgrounds; maps; community parks or meetings
 - SUNS presentation at FLERRA?
 - Generate connection to Walkulla Bike Trail or something similar?
 - Festivals and events are hugely important (ex: ANERR Birding on the Bay)
 - Tourist Development Councils and Tourism Organizations, as well as local papers represent great ways to promote any of the initiatives brainstormed – always looking for content to promote

CLOSING & NEXT-STEPS (5 min)

- Finish edits to the Map App by April 22
- NFWF Pre Proposals due April 22
- Next Steps:
 - May/June – Individual Community Meetings
 - July – in-person review draft SUNS portfolio
 - August – Portfolio Finalization