

# Idaho Panhandle Public Lands Initiative

## Bylaws

July 9, 2024

### ***Purpose***

To craft and advocate for federal legislation that enhances forest management, conservation, economic, and recreational benefits of public lands in Bonner and Boundary Counties.

### ***Participation, membership and roles***

Participants include the following categories:

- **Voting members.** Represent a particular organization or interest. May cast votes related to Work Group decisions. May not be absent from more than two consecutive Work Group meetings or forfeit their voting status. Agree to follow the Code of Conduct. New voting members may be added through a unanimous vote of the existing voting members. An existing voting member may be removed by a unanimous vote of the other voting members.
- **Proxies.** Voting members may send a proxy if they are going to be absent, but proxies must be fully informed about subject matter and abide by the Work Group's Bylaws and Code of Conduct.
- **Technical advisors.** Provide technical input or advice. Do not vote on Work Group decisions. Agree to follow the Code of Conduct.
- **General public.** Attendees that are not listed in one of the above categories. May provide input or advice. Agree to follow the Code of Conduct.

### ***Structure***

- The Work Group consists of voting members.
- The Work Group may elect co-chairs, authorize the formation of committees, and make decisions.
- Committees may include voting members, proxies, technical advisors and the general public.
- Committees may make recommendations to the Work Group, but only the Work Group can make final decisions.

### ***Decision making***

- During the voting process, voting members will express their stance on a proposal as either supporting, opposing, or taking a neutral position. A neutral stance indicates that a member can live with the proposal and will not attempt to sabotage the decision.

- Every effort will be made to ensure that all voting members can support a proposal or at least live with it.
- If a voting member takes an oppositional stance, they will strive to propose modifications or an alternative that addresses their concerns.
- All Work Group decisions will be documented in writing to ensure accuracy and clarity.

### ***Code of conduct***

All participants agree to:

- Create a respectful and productive working climate. We will speak our minds freely but be brief, concise, and constructive so others may also speak. We will not rant or get on a soapbox. We will respect and comply with the behavior directions given by the facilitator. We will use a good faith effort to resolve differences through a civil process.
- Speak and act in good faith and with transparency. We need to be forthright with each other, avoiding the creation of false expectations, even as we strive to find points of agreement.
- Treat others with respect. We each bring different perspectives and histories to the Working Work Group. No member and no viewpoint is less deserving than another to be heard.
- Value one another's experiences. We will actively seek out differences of opinion. Disagreement can improve the Work Group's opportunity to create better decisions.
- Support the decisions of the Work Group. Each member will report faithfully to third parties about the activities of the Work Group and support the decisions of the Work Group among colleagues and the public, even (especially) when it involves risk-taking beyond the comfort zone of one's core constituency.
- Hold oneself and other members accountable to the purpose, convening values and goals of the Work Group. We will be successful in this effort if people work openly and in good faith both inside and outside meetings.
- Endeavor to attend all meetings of the Work Group and assigned committees. Recognizing that there are inevitable conflicts in scheduling that may prevent full attendance, the voting member will seek to be informed of actions taken at meetings at which the voting member is absent.
- Come prepared to all meetings. The voting member will read materials submitted in advance of meetings and complete assignments accepted. We all value the importance of time well-spent in meetings.
- Participate actively in meetings. Only through constructive dialogue among diverse stakeholders can we achieve our purpose.
- Participate in and commit to complete committee work. It's where the rubber meets the road.