YLAG 2: OVERVIEW OF FACILITATED PROCESS

Elements

- Includes multiple stakeholders, interests, perspectives, solutions, options
- An agreed-upon process
- A series of facilitated meetings
- Outcomes focused on group’s mission

Pros and Cons of Using a Facilitated Process

Pros of the Facilitated Process
- Several Interests have a stake in the solution
- More perspectives usually produce a better solution(s)
- Search for a solution that satisfies the largest number of interests
- Avoid costs associated with poor decisions

Cons of the Facilitated Process
- Requires time and energy from participants
- Working through some conflict may be uncomfortable

Facilitator’s Role

- Help you agree upon a process
- Help you get through the process, including staying focused and on task, manage process
- Setting the tone for discussion
- The Role of facilitator does not include:
  - involvement in discussion content
  - advocacy for an interest (or solution or recommendation)
  - taking meeting minutes and managing all logistical details

Participant’s Role

- Meeting attendance
- Communication with constituents
- Preparation
- Responsibility for the process
- Develop recommendations

Facilitation principles

- Genuine participation and contribution
- An inclusive process
- Information is a critical resource to be freely shared among all participants
• Learning is a key component of the process
  • about other interests
  • about technical issues
• All participants agree on the process for making decisions and recommendations
• Everyone is equally responsible for the process and what comes from it
• The environment is one of mutual respect

**Proposed Process Steps**

• Introduction to group’s charge, the process, and the Yahara System
• Technical sessions to learn about the Yahara System and components involved with or affected by the setting of lake levels such as:
  • System Overview
  • Hydraulics of the system
  • Flooding issues
  • Groundwater issues
  • Low flow and navigation issues
  • Fish and wildlife issues
  • Public use and safety
  • Economics
• Development of criteria for recommendations
• Provide public input sessions (flooding, access and navigation)
• Field tour of lake issues: ground truth sessions (possibly 1-2 trips)
• Review of gathered data and criteria
• Draft recommendations
• Recommendation editing and revisions
• Distribution and implementation planning of final recommendations

**Communication Guidelines**

• One speaker at a time
• Stay on task
• Listen to learn
• Everyone contributes, no one dominates
• Respect time limits

**Other items to consider**

• Website and distribution of information of the group to others with interest
• Additional public education events
• Field trips

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