Assisting collaboration in forest and grassland restoration, conservation, and resource utilization — for the benefit of all

AGENDA

Montana Forest Collaboration Network
11th Annual Workshop

"Collaborative Pathways to Results"

November 5-6, 2026
Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula Montana

Thursday, November 5

Pre-Session, 10:00-12:00 – Group Leaders Meeting, Steve Daniels, Facilitator

12:30 Welcome – **Jim Burchfield,** Moderator—Workshop Purpose, Schedule, Housekeeping

12:40 Introduction of Participants – **Gordy Sanders**, MFCN Chair

1:00 Keynote: **Rachel Frost, MSU** "Absorbing Change and Being Poised for Action"

1:45 Audience Q & A with Keynote Speaker

2:00 **Steve Daniels**, Collaboration Consultant – "How We Process Change and Poise Local Collaboration for Results"

2:15 Breakout Session:

- How can you promote systems thinking with your group?
- How do you feel systems thinking would enhance:
  - Your group's internal structure and function?
  - Your group's external connections?

3:00 BREAK

3:25 Panel: "Field Unit Strategies and Working With Collaborative Groups"
Ben Johnson, Forest Supervisor, Lolo NF
Anthony Botello, Forest Supervisor, Flathead NF
Erin Carey, Missoula Field Officer Manager, Bureau of Land Management
Sierra Farmer, Area Manager, Southwest Land Office, DNRC

4:30 Open discussion on participants' experience on navigating barriers to get things done

5:00 Social (appetizers/no-host bar (cc only)

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Friday, November 6

8:00 Re-cap of First Day

8:10 MFCN Update and Awards – **Steve Kimball,** MFCN Coordinator

8:20 Panel: "Local Government Engagement"
Debi Randolph, Broadwater County Commissioner
Dave Strohmeier, Missoula County Commissioner
Cory Cheguis, Fire Chief/Fire Warden/D.E.S. Coordinator, Custer County

9:10 Open discussion on participants' experiences working with local government

9:30 BREAK

9:55 **Amity Bass,** Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

10:20 **Ali Ulwelling, Cassie Wandersee** – Montana Forest Action Plan, State & Private Forestry, DNRC

10:45 **Tony Incashola, Katie McDonald –** Forestry Partnerships, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

11:10 **Matt Arno**, Local Government Forest Advisor, DNRC – "Importance of Montana Forest Products Industry and Collaborative Engagement"

11:35 **Steve Daniels –** Observations and Opportunities

11:50 Re-cap and Closing Comments

12:00 Adjourn