

Report from first breakout session: Input from observers not recorded in breakout sessions

Climate Change

- Were social aspects/human dimensions considered? Yes, changes in winter recreation might occur; snowpack may become scarce and then recreation might be concentrated in another area
- cc could bring changes in social development (winters less hard, different people might move in)
- Q: Water quality/quantity considered? What about water use next to public land?
A: Water wars are here now and will be in the future...
- WQ/WQ big issues, other issues would be subsets of these two issues
- Water Quantity and timing will be an issue
- Not discussed: most of this looks like silos of information, how will you capture ecosystem interaction and impacts of climate change in a collaborative way?
 - The way the group presented info: lots of small groups working individually and need to work collaboratively. Can this tie into NEON?
- Need: several managers needed to know, “what do we need to monitor?” We can’t monitor everything. Maybe something for session 2.

Invasive Species

- Soil microbial community: how can we measure or monitor this? A: there are ways and progress. Tom Olliff: Managers don’t always pay attention to this (or don’t have the tools to).
- Invasive plants change the soil biota—Kit Batten has more info/pubs—there are lots of methods for looking at organisms that exist in soil.
- Kathy T: will the group consider control, restoration methods, and how to evaluate the efficacy of those methods? A: yes, specific questions will emerge in the science questions

Land Use Change

- STO: When you talked about what is the desired state of the GYA—did you ask who defines that? Bill Murdock: pre-1870. Doris: depends on who has the lands (county, forest, park, etc.)
- When you looked at the future amount of people in the area, did you consider mobility? E.g., if fuel is very expensive, people might not be interested in driving as much and might be attracted to more metropolitan areas.
- Did you recognize shifts in human behavior and having a shift on ecology?
- Was there any discussion on facilitating communication between natural resources people and local communities? There is a connection in what we are doing with town and city governments and sharing common vision of desired outcomes or conditions. E.g., Red Lodge—lots of people have come together to share their common values. There’s lots of interaction between the social aspects of the issues and the science issues.

Overall comment: show the interrelationships between these topics in the final report;
don't ignore the interrelatedness in the science agenda