

Sustaining Partnerships

A Sustainable Recreation and a Restoration Case Study

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Coronado National Forest



Region, Forest and District: Priorities & Alignment

- **Southwest Region: forge partnerships, develop skills training, and create new ideas to address flat budgets for the foreseeable future**
- **Coronado NF: Restoration and Sustainable Recreation are two of top five priorities**
- **Nogales District threats to resource: OHV use, Trail erosion, Target shooting, Cultural vandalism, Cave abuse**



Regional Forester Talk on Partnerships

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnvYSXn62rU&feature=player_embedded#t=160
- **Stop at 4:19 minutes**



Trail Riders of Southern Arizona



Working Together

One organization cannot do it all



Collaboration is the Key !



Single-Track Need & Vision

**Need: There Is No Designated
Motorized Single-Track Trail
On The Coronado National
Forest.**

**Vision: Development of Single-
Track Trails For Use By Dirt
Bikers In Southern Arizona.**

“Ok, now show me that you are committed and professional before we pursue the OHV grant”



Internal and External Scoping



“Ok, let’s go to the field and then map out all the players and why we need them.”

Tumacacori Mountains

Advantages

- Good scenery, rugged, lower elevation
- Little passive recreation
- Community economically depressed

Concerns

- Dessert Tortoise
- Pima pineapple cactus

Collaborative Design a must

- Ranchers
- Border Patrol
- Mountain Bikers
- Equestrian



OHV Case Study Recap

Accomplishments

- Awarded 300K Grant!
- Wrote article: Taking Citizen Stewardship and Partners to the Next Level for forest leaders
- I attended pizza and pop garage meetings with OHV club member---on their turf
- Trust established

Learning

- Establish commitment, professionalism, and ethics of partner first.
- Go to field with them.
- Meet in neutral places.
- Require partnering with other groups in design phase (chrysalis).
- Getting the grant was hatching the egg.

If the partnership process is more than a tool and instead a mindset;

“What building blocks will help us become a butterfly?”



Asset-based Community Development

**A shift from analyzing problems
and causes and instead toward
envisioning what might be?**



Traditional and ABCD Thinking

Traditional	ABCD
Problem solving	“Appreciating”
“Felt need”	Valuing the best of what is
Identifying the problem	
Analyzing the causes	Envisioning what might be
Analysis of possible solutions	Dialogue on what might be
Action planning	Innovating on what might be
Organizations as problems to be solved	Organizations as a mystery to be embraced

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwGNZ63hj5k>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JDfr6KGV-k>

We Live in the Conceptual Age

(author Daniel Pink)

- **Nomadic hunter (little information flow)**
- **Agrarian**
- **Industrial**
- **Knowledge worker (excessive information (Microsoft, digital world, e-mails, etc.))**
- **Conceptual**
 - **Where the future belongs to those who make connections, can think with the Right-Brain Directed (creative) side.**

Is your agency in the Information Age or the Conceptual Age?

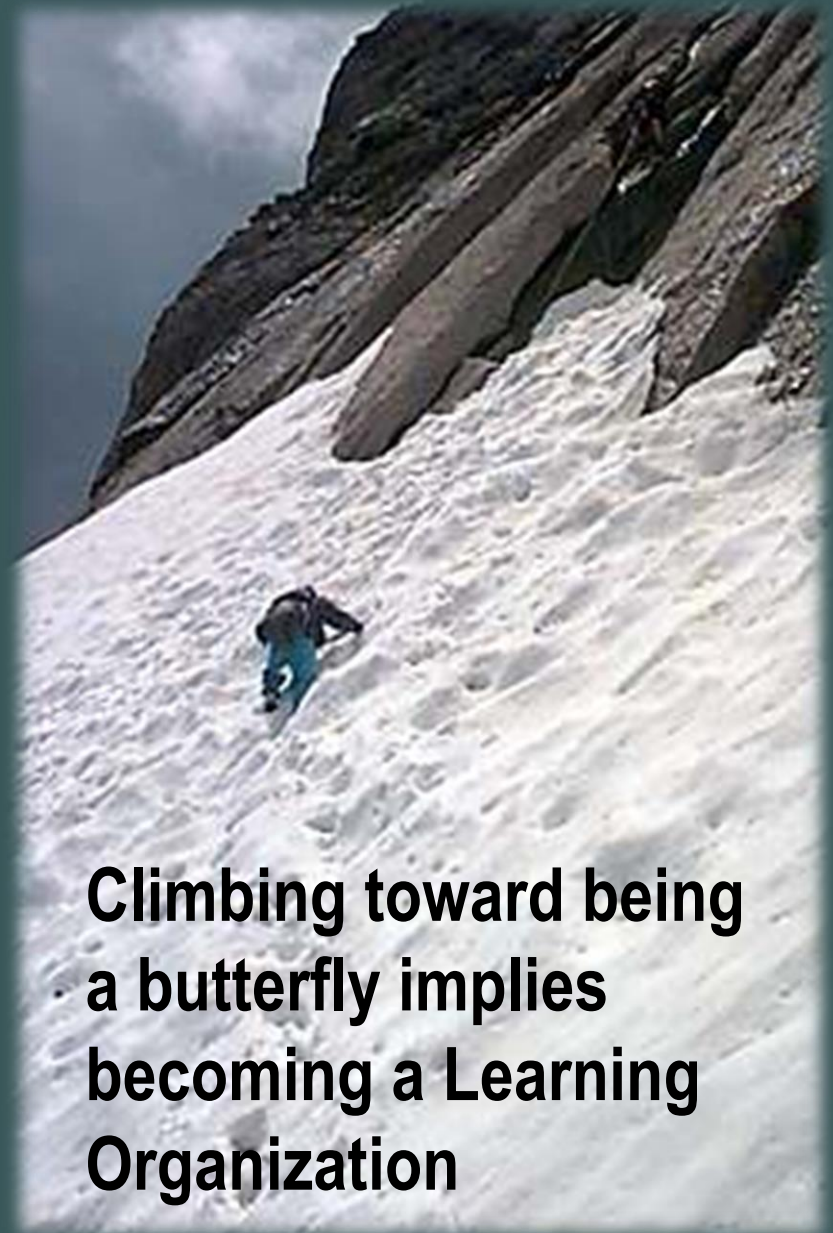
- Are you a mix of right and left brain thinking or mainly one over the other?



A right-brain, holistic thinker would consider:
Synthesis over analysis, Connections over reduction, where Story is an asset above argument, Empathy is an asset above logic, Play is an asset above seriousness, Meaning is an asset above accumulating facts.

Learning Organizations

Seek knowledge and ideas for their very survival, take risks, accept failure as part of learning, maintain a healthy skepticism and open-mindedness, share knowledge and ideas freely, seek a deeper understanding over superficial knowledge, and trust each other.



**Climbing toward being
a butterfly implies
becoming a Learning
Organization**

Friends of Madera Canyon (FOMC)

(500 members)



FOMC Strategic Planning Meeting

Former Corporate Strategic Planner for Boeing, Hewlett-Packard, GE, others.[asset]



Opportunity to Restore after Bridge Construction



Identifying Community Capacity: Who does what best?



Agency and Community Assets

- Coronado NF: facilitation, convener
- Sky Island Alliance: design, native plant selection, ecosystem understanding
- Borderlands Restoration: rockwork, erosion control
- Friends of Madera Canyon: labor, naturalist on staff
- Signature Botanica: nursery, know-how instruction

Borderland Restoration Rockwork with FS Backhoe Operator



Sky Island Alliance Hydro seeding / Signature Botanica flagging of plants

**Show seeding video:
number one**

<https://www.facebook.com/SkyIslandAlliance/videos/vb.47922292359/10153502973082360/?type=3&theater>



Sky Island Alliance website and contacts/Signature Botanica instruction

- Web Announcement
- Bridge Area Rehab
Volunteers Needed
- July 28th and 29th
- Show planting
video: number two

[https://www.facebook.com/Partnership
AndCommunityCollaborationAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/PartnershipAndCommunityCollaborationAcademy)

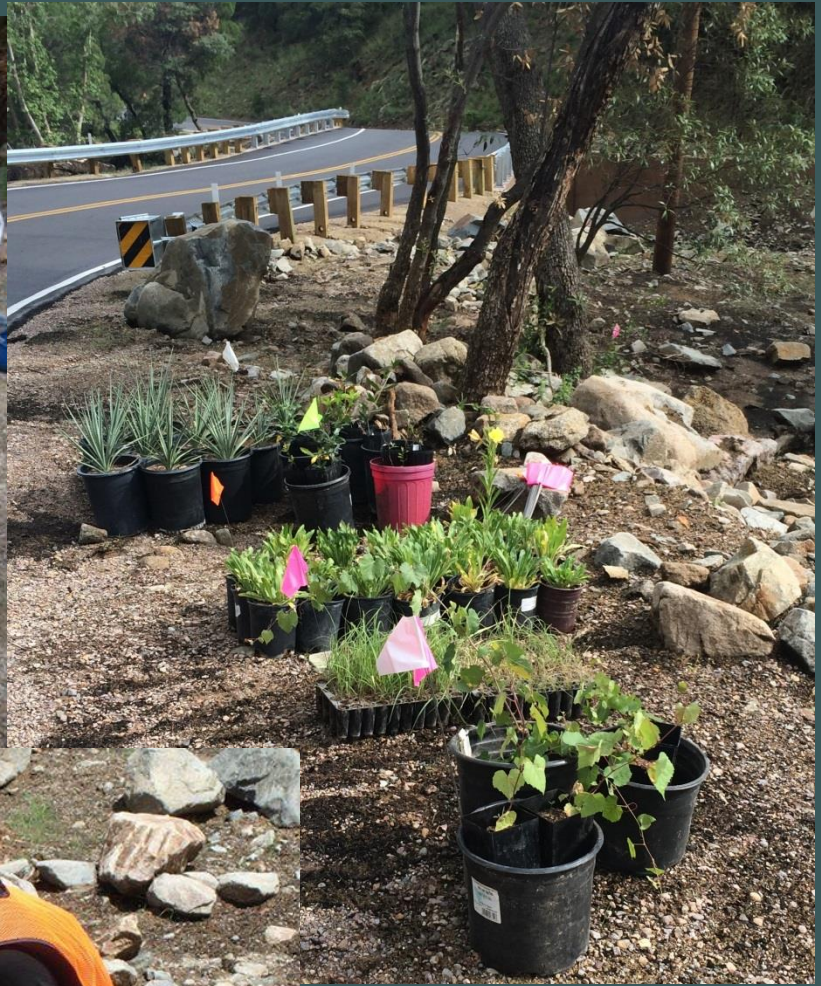


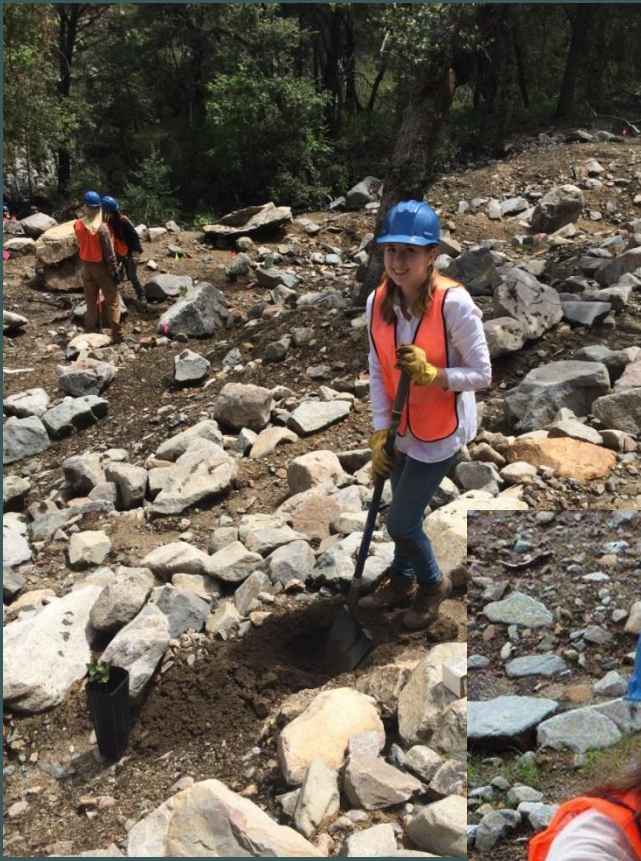


Diverse volunteers

**Fire Staff and Engine
were critical to
watering: A discovery**









Those left at the end
of the second day

Hauling water &
mulch for them:

Walk with your heart.



Summary and Learning I

- **Push off of and align with leadership priorities.**
- **Inform leadership of your progress.**
- **Set the tone for the partners to share in everything even if it means going slow.**
- **Meet them in neutral places like coffee shops.**
- **Introduce new language and concepts to guide the journey: Adaptive comanagement, ABCD, Organizational learning, Systems thinking.**

Summary and Learning II

- Take advantage of digital technology and social media for connecting the dots.
- Deliver what you promise and always be honest with your partners no matter what.
- Serve them when it comes to hard work and even love them by your actions.
- Have fun and never be discouraged by disappointments like no water because a discovery will come along...

