

Interagency Coordinating Committee Briefing

July 10, 2008

Buffalo, Wyoming



<http://www.wy.blm.gov/prbgroup>

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

Vision:

To work together to protect the air, water, land, fish, wildlife, plants and cultural resources in the PRB for current and future generations while providing for natural gas development to address the nation's energy needs.

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

Mission:

Develop BMPs, guidelines, & programs related to CBNG activities to conserve & protect resources.

Monitor CBNG impacts & assess mitigation.

Provide for environmentally sound energy development.

Coordinate databases & scientific studies.

Promote compatibility with each agency's mission.

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

History:

Spawned: April 2003 MT & PRB RODs

Charter & MOU: June 2004

ICC meeting: January 2005

Monitoring Plans: 2005

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

Members:

- Federal: BLM, BIA, COE, DOE, FWS, EPA, NPS, USFS, USGS.
- State: DEQ, Engineer, G&F, Oil & Gas, SHiPO.
- Tribes: Crow, Northern Cheyenne.
- Counties: four per state.

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

Three level Organization:

- Level III: Interagency Coordinating Committee
- Level II: State specific working groups
- Level I: Task Groups

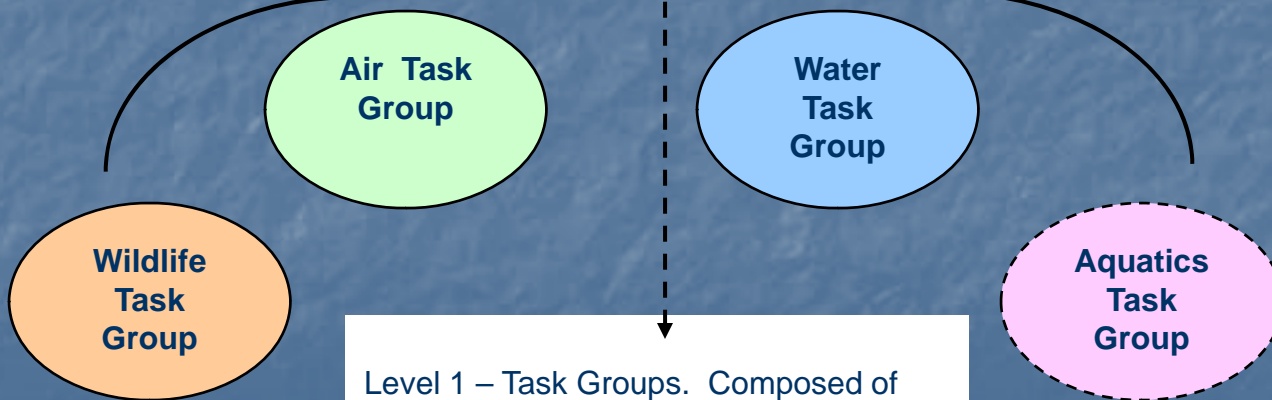
**Interagency Coordinating
Committee (ICC)
(BLM, DEQ, EPA Directors)**

Level 3 – Interagency Coordinating Committee. Composed of BLM State Directors, State DEQ Directors, and EPA Regional Administrator.

Wyoming Working Group
(IWG)
(Buffalo Field Manager)

Montana Working Group
(IWG)
(Miles City Field Manager)

Level 2 – State Working Groups. Interagency groups composed of BLM Field Managers and management from other federal, state, tribal and local governments.



Level 1 – Task Groups. Composed of technical specialists from participating agencies as needed to address issues.



Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

Interagency Coordinating Committee

Set priorities & provide direction.

Seek agency & Congressional support.

Resolve interagency conflicts & issues.

Identify & involve affected agencies.

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

State Working Groups

Direct task groups.

Obtain financial support.

Recommend IWG guidance.

Internal & external coordination.

Resolve interagency conflicts & issues.

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Task Groups

Develop Monitoring Plans.

- Identify funding needs.

- Identify management triggers.

Prepare reports & recommendations.

Powder River Basin Interagency Working Group

Funding:

Members will support.

Members responsible for own expenses.

Participation does not obligate a funding commitment.

2005 Challenges - Where From Here?

Budget Related

- Coordinated budgeting process
Strategy and Mechanism
- Allocation of acquired funds & accountability
Strategy and Mechanism
- Pursuing outside funding
Strategy and Mechanism

Challenges (cont.)

Annual Monitoring Report

- Needs to become a component of annual work load. Accountability.
- Need a lead for each agency and continued commitment.

PRB Interagency Working Group Personal Perspective

Low Priority – budget & workload

Must become a priority to succeed

- Atlantic Rim – Rawlins
- Jonah -- Pinedale

PRB Interagency Working Group Personal Perspective

Atlantic Rim

BLM project manager – Pilot Office
funded

Monitoring largely industry funded

PRB Interagency Working Group Personal Perspective

Jonah Field

BLM manager & WY agencies

- Dept. of Agriculture
- Dept of Environmental Quality
- Game & Fish Dept.

Industry funded