



Better negotiations.
Better decision making.
Better results.



Eldorado National Forest South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy **Stakeholder Issue Assessment**

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Consensus Building Institute



Consensus Building Institute

**Better negotiations.
Better decision making.
Better results.**

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Non-Profit**
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Services

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Issues & Stakeholder
Assessment
Process Design
Mediation
Facilitation
Stakeholder
Engagement
Research &
Evaluation

Mission: Empower stakeholders—public and private, government and community—to resolve issues, reach better more durable agreements, and build stronger relationships.



CBI Role



- Provide **impartial facilitation services** in support of initiating a collaborative process for the South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy.
- The Eldorado National Forest engaged the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, which contracted with CBI to provide services.



Gina Bartlett - Experience



EXPERIENCE

- Sierra Nevada Natural Resources Management
- Sierra, Sequoia, Stanislaus, and Inyo National Forests
- Forest Planning with Regional Office and 3 National Forests
- Sierra Cascades Dialog
- Lake Tahoe

PROCESS EXPERTISE

- 20+ Years of Experience
- Skilled Facilitation & Mediation
- Technical Complexity – Joint Fact Finding Process



Today's Assessment Workshop

Part 1

- Present draft assessment report
- Share findings (what we learned)
- Clarify or add-in to findings

Part 2

- Discuss recommendations and next steps

After Workshop

- Refine and publish final report in early August

+ National Cohesive Strategy

Vision, Goals, Challenges

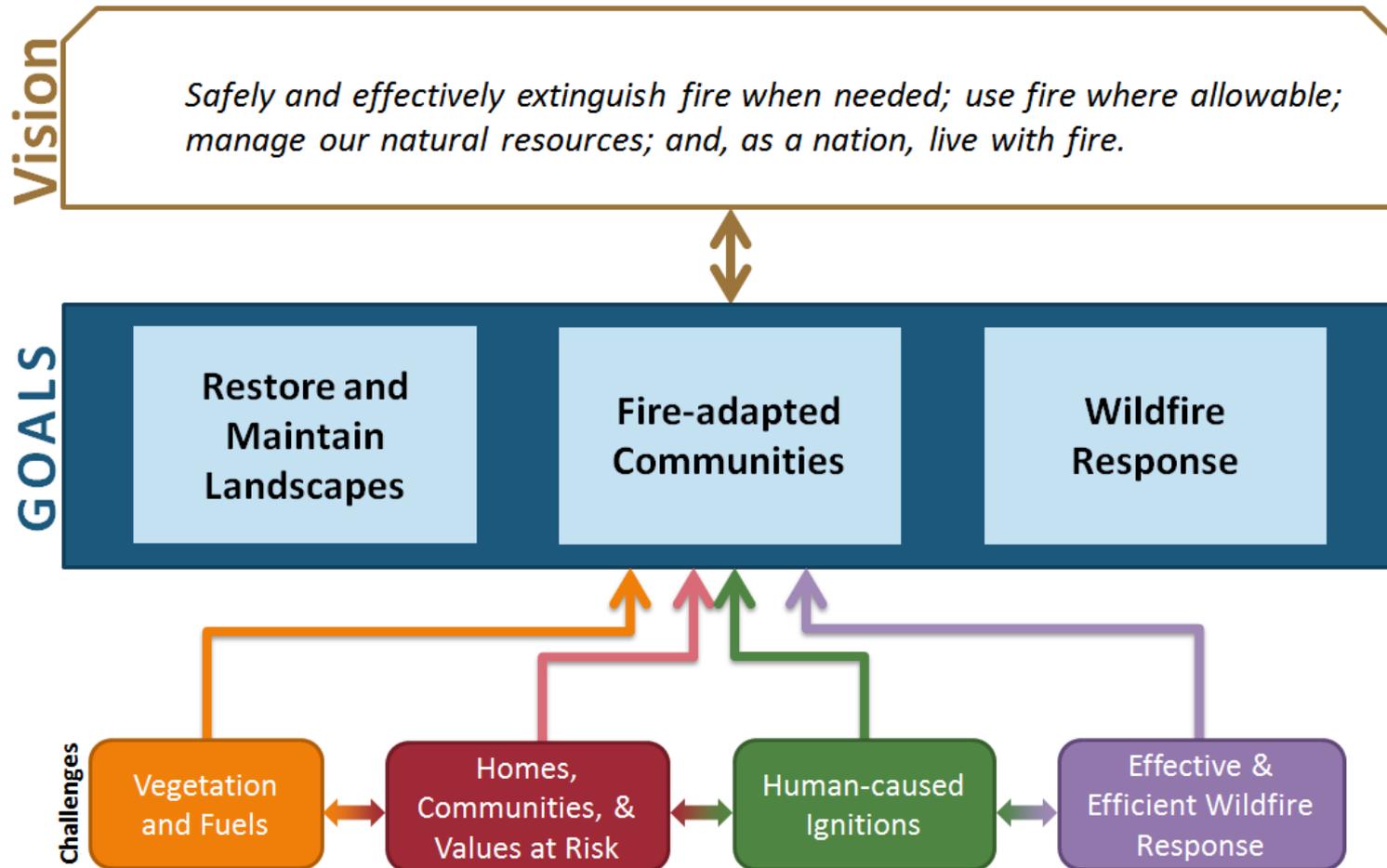


Figure 1.1. Vision, national goals, and national challenges
As articulated by the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Agriculture



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Findings and Key Themes

- 27 Interviews with 30 people
- Confidential to ensure candor
- Interviewees provided preliminary review
- Summary



Overarching Insights

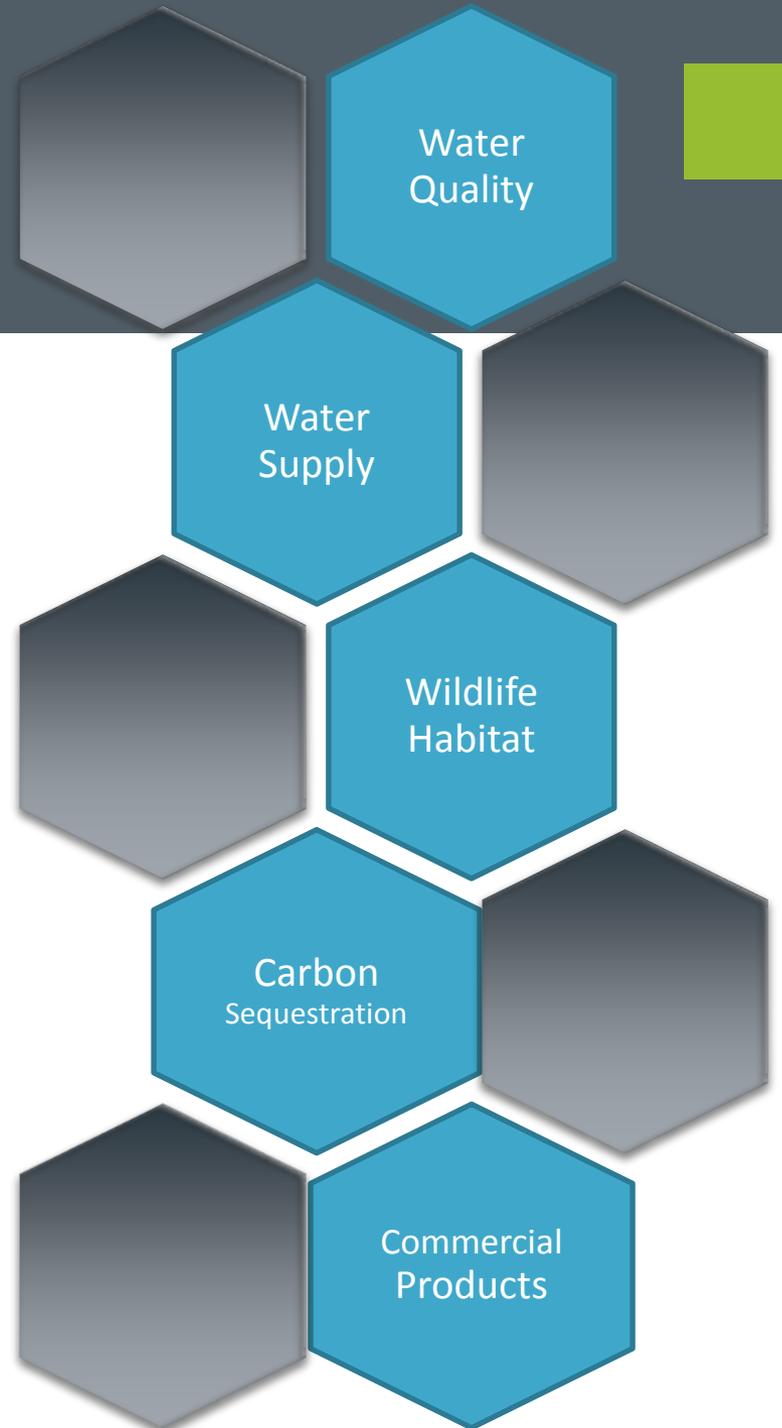


- Establish a High Level Vision, Shared Goals, Priorities
- Experimental Attitude, Learn throughout Process of Implementation
- Interviewees Articulate a Range of Goals to Support the Cohesive Strategy



+ Resilient Landscape

- Strong Support for **Ongoing Forest Management** – Act Now
- Need to Maintain **Ecosystem Services**
- Support for **Forest Heterogeneity**
- Support for **Fuels Management**
- Attention to Areas with **Sensitive Species**





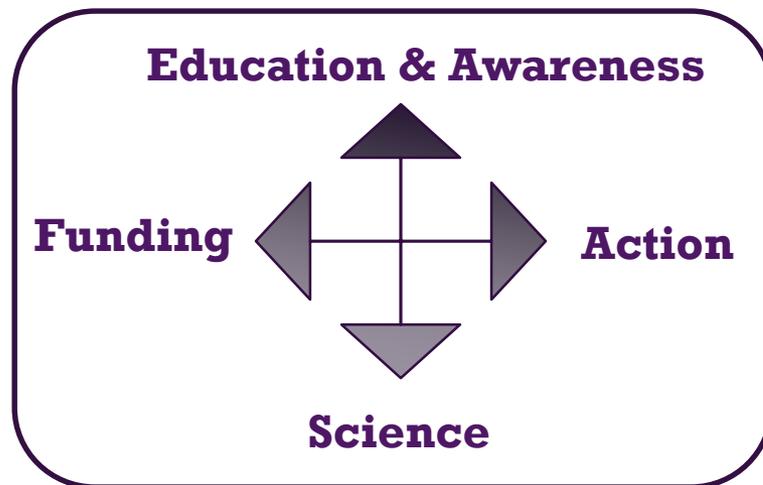
Resilience and Fire



- Hope for **More Managed Fire** on SOFAR
- Differing **Attitudes and Perceptions** of Fire
- Look to **Best Available Fire Science**
- ~
- **Ongoing Maintenance and Follow-Up** Treatment Is Critical
- Need for **Infrastructure** and **Market Drivers**

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Fire-Adapted Communities



- Strong **Support for Creating** Fire-Adapted Communities
- Funding Work on **Individual Properties** is a Challenge
- Value Role of **Fire Safe Councils**

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Safe & Effective Fire Response

- Prioritize Public **Health and Safety**
- Forest Health & Resilience and Public Safety: Missions don't Always Align
- **Map Infrastructure** and Possible Staging Areas
- **Watershed Protection** is Critical, tied to Forest Health
- Widespread Support and Understanding





Funding Suggestions



- ✓ **Grant Funding** With Local, State and Federal Government
- ✓ **State**
 - Sierra Nevada Conservancy
 - State Proposition 1
 - Greenhouse Gas Funds
- ✓ Work With State to Build Support From **Federal Lawmakers**
- ✓ Timber and Forest **Products**
- ✓ Downstream Water Users
- ✓ Form Funding Sub-Group



Technical Information





Interviewee Process Suggestions

- Broad **Public Information Sharing**
- Establish Clear Process and Role of Collaborative Effort
- **Education** Will Support **Shared Understanding**
- Impartial Facilitator
- Start With Work That Is Already Underway
- Avoid Too Much Detail
- Find Representatives of Different Values Who are **Collaborative**





Table-Top and Large Group Discussion

- What are your thoughts on the issues?
- What's missing? What would you like to strengthen?



+ CBI Recommendations
for Near-Term Collaboration



Developing Recommendations

- Strong willingness to engage
- Joint evaluation of process design with Eldorado National Forest and U.S. Institute
 - Best practice
 - Resources

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Interests in the SOFAR Watershed

Air Quality

**Community
Vitality & Local
Economy**

Ecology & Wildlife

**Fire Safety &
Community
Protection**

Forestry

Governmental

**Homeowners,
Cabin Residents**

Industry

Landowners

Recreation

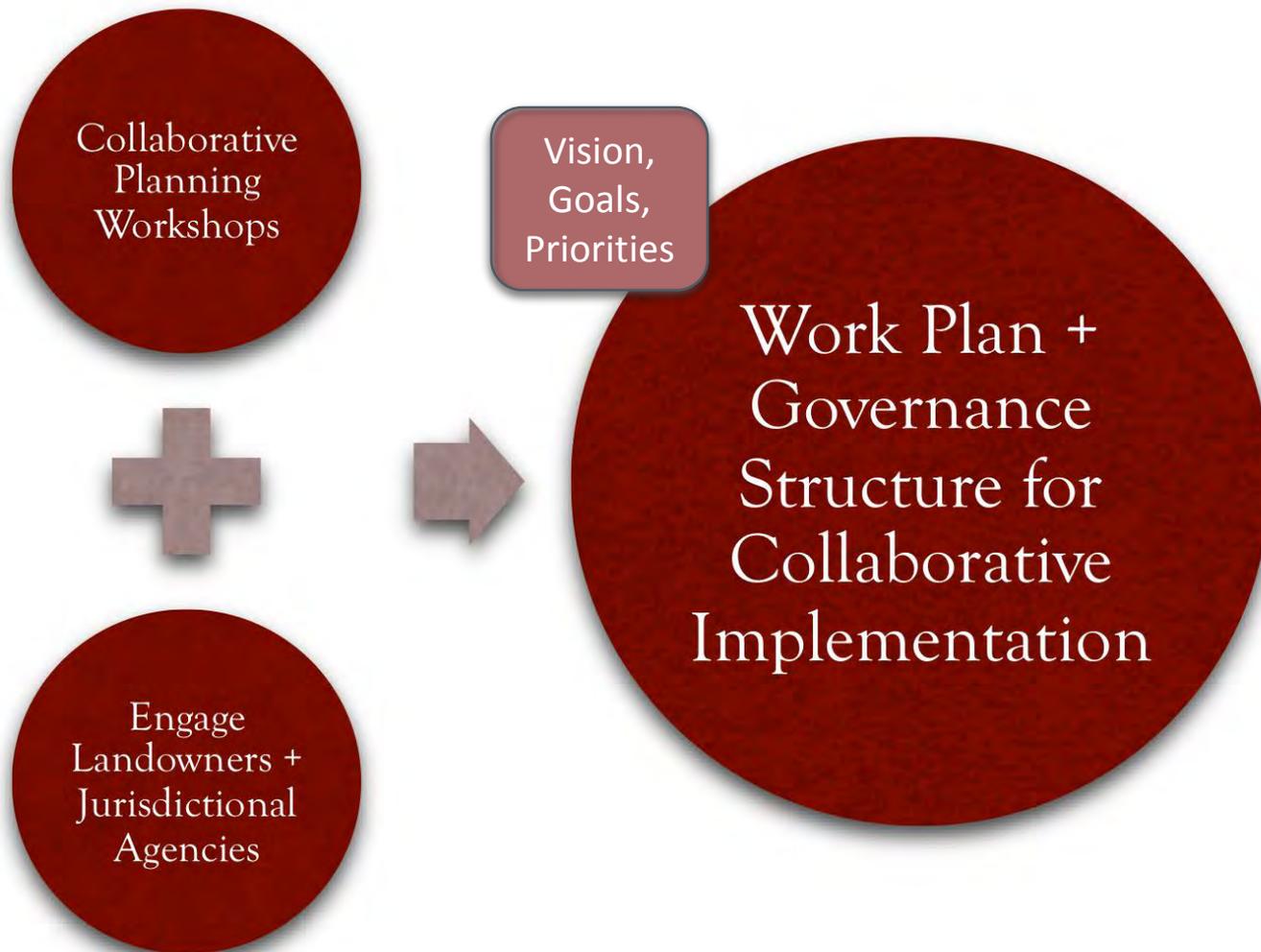
Utilities

**Watershed
Planning**

Youth

Process Recommendations

Phase 1 Activities (6-8 Months)



+ Consensus Building Institute Contact

Any Feedback by July 15 to:

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