

UDALL
FOUNDATION

NATIONAL CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Superior National Forest
Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness
Collaborative
November 15, 2023

INTRODUCTION TO THE UDALL FOUNDATION

- An independent executive branch agency
- Established by Congress to honor Morris K. Udall
- Mission to strengthen Federal Agencies and Native Nations
- Programs
 - Education
 - Scholarship
 - Native American Congressional Internship
 - Parks in Focus
 - Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy & Native Nations Institute
 - National Center for Environmental Conflict Resolution



© 1975 Shepard Sherbell/Corbis

NATIONAL
CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONFLICT
RESOLUTION

MISSION

Help federal agencies and other affected stakeholders address environmental disputes, conflicts, and challenges, including helping agencies build internal capacity to address those challenges

NATIONAL CENTER SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENT

Assessing key issues and the desire for collaboration

- The BWCAW Situational Assessment Report highlights participants perspectives on the needs for successful collaboration, explores challenges and opportunities to improve management of the BWCAW and provides perspectives on how SNF might strengthen its communication, coordination, and education efforts.
- Discussions explored personal views on Wilderness management, communication and education needs, and the value in establishing ongoing collaboration between SNF and interested parties.
- The report reflects a need for collaborative discussions on a variety of communication and stewardship challenges, including visitor use impacts, campsite and trail maintenance, permits and quotas, motorized and non-motorized use issues, current and future social and environmental impacts to the BWCAW, and access to and availability of opportunities to experience the BWCAW.

DRAFT PURPOSE

BWCAW Collaborative

To create a forum that brings together a wide variety of interest groups to exchange ideas and diverse perspectives, and to foster shared learning and discussion with the Forest Service on the stewardship of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in the context of wilderness laws, regulations, policy and guidance.

DRAFT PURPOSE

Next steps

- November/December: Email any major input or concerns to Seth (cohen@udall.gov) and Lauren (nutter@udall.gov)
- January onwards: The final selected Collaborative members will finalize the Collaborative purpose. They will be able to work with their networks and others for input and ideas.

MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

National Center and SNF Roles

- The SNF Steering Committee is providing input on the collaborative selection criteria, the overall process, and the timeline for convening the collaborative group.
- The National Center team serves as an impartial party to ensure a diversity of interests will be represented and that interested individuals meet the selection criteria.

MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Initial Expectations

- Initial terms will be for a period of either 2 or 3 years to maintain membership numbers, ensure stability and sustainability for the collaborative.
- Upon selection, an invitation letter will be sent to potential members. Shortly thereafter, the National Center facilitation team will schedule the initial meeting to kick off the collaborative effort.

MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Draft Membership Criteria and Qualifications

The following criteria will be used for selecting interested parties. Collaborative Members should:

- Be able to commit the time and resources necessary to participate fully in the BWCAW Collaborative.
- Commit to respectful behavior and dialogue with others, including others who may have divergent viewpoints.
- Demonstrate a curiosity for learning and commitment to sharing perspectives and ideas that address multiple interests and concerns.
- Demonstrate an established communication network with others within area of interest or is committed to communicating about the collaborative and work of the SNF to a broader audience, including seeking input from others outside of the collaborative when needed.
- Demonstrate knowledge of, experience in, or expertise within a distinct interest area related to the BWCAW (see draft membership categories).

MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Draft Membership Categories

<u>Area of Interest</u>	<u>Description</u>
Environmental or Wilderness Conservation, Preservation, Advocacy	Representative of groups advancing environmental conservation or preservation of wilderness character, or objectives
Outfitting, Guiding, or Ecotourism (Commercial)	Representative of the commercial interests of the BWCAW
Academia, Research, or Historical	Representative of the academic, scientific, research, or historical aspects of the BWCAW
Recreationalists	Representative interest of outdoor users



MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Draft Membership Categories

<u>Area of Interest</u>	<u>Description</u>
Native Nations Representatives	Representative interest of Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, and Grand Portage Bands
Historically Underserved and Underrepresented Populations	Individual or group advancing equity for populations or communities that have been systematically denied aspects of economic, social, civic, and environmental services and benefits
Education and Interpretation (Youth and Adult)	Representative interest of those providing education and interpretative services to youth and/or adults



MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

Draft Membership Categories

<u>Area of Interest</u>	<u>Description</u>
County Government or County-level Interest	Representative of county-level geographic coverage (with relevant interest in the BWCAW)
Community level Interest (within gateway communities)	Representative of gateway community-level geographic coverage (with relevant interest)
State Government or State-wide Interest	Representative of State of Minnesota geographic coverage (with relevant interest)
Forest Service Superior National Forest	Convening agency responsible for management of the BWCAW
Neighboring Federal or International Agency	Representative of the neighboring or interested federal or Canadian agency or land unit



NEXT STEPS

BWCAW Collaborative

- November:
 - Draft information available on BWCAW Collaborative process
- December:
 - Updated information available on BWCAW Collaborative process
 - Expressions of interest for membership
- January-March:
 - Selection of BWCAW Collaborative membership, lead by National Center
 - Collaborative start-up
- Spring 2024:
 - BWCAW Collaborative meeting



CONTACT US

Seth Cohen, Ph.D. | Time Zone: MST/MDT

Senior Program Manager

John S. McCain III National Center for Environmental
Conflict Resolution

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

Tel: 520.901.8542

Email: cohen@udall.gov Website: www.udall.gov

Lauren Nutter | Time Zone: EST/EDT

Project Manager

John S. McCain III National Center for Environmental
Conflict Resolution

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

Tel: 202.540.1044

Email: nutter@udall.gov Website: www.udall.gov

BWCAW Collaborative Website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/BWCAWcollaborative>