

Oct 22, 2024 |

## 📅 NBS Task Force Zoom Meeting Oct 22 1pm-2pm

### Goals

- Provide update on the proceedings of first workshop of the Blue Ribbon Panel
- Receive feedback on the results of Blue Ribbon Panel activities

### Agenda

- Welcome, intros, reminder of goals | 1:00 - 1:10p
  - Reminder: COP 16 is meeting this week in Cali, Colombia (NBS BRP members Dan Cooper & Nurit Katz attending)
  - Task Force Mission: Implement priority tasks from the CWP 2-Year Action Plan
  - Priority Tasks
    - Develop Countywide definitions and standards for nature-based solutions
    - Prioritize nature-based solutions in stormwater capture projects
    - Build upon the SCWP Metrics & Monitoring Study and 2022 Interim Guidance
- Outcome of Task Force Kick-off Meeting | 1:10 - 1:15p
  - NBS Task Force Meeting 1 Review
    - Oriented goals
    - Presented Draft Charter
    - Group Activities/Questions to Gauge Understanding/Perspectives of NBS
    - Blue Ribbon Panel Membership Criteria and Members Identified/Selected
      - Time Commitment
      - Breadth of Expertise
      - Diversity of Org/Agency Types
- Review of BRP Workshop 1 | 1:15 - 1:30p
  - Better World Group identified as facilitator/moderator for Blue Ribbon Panel
  - 5 CoChairs providing input and guidance on process
  - Output of the first Workshop/Major Takeaways
    - Activity 1 - What is not a Nature-based Solution?
    - Activity 2 - Reviewed NbS Definitions (Sprinkle Activity)
      - Sharing definitions from local to global; Identifying a starting point
        - Ex. SCWP, CA 30 x 30, White House, & IUCN
    - Activity 3 - Initiated identifying criteria and standards
  - Key Takeaways
    - More clarity needed on a definition and standards

- Developing a Shared Nature-based Solutions Definition | 1:30 - 1:50p
  - Attendee Talking Points
    - Importance of thinking about climate impacts, and NbS solutions as being resilient to changes we are seeing/will increasingly see (Edith de Guzman)
    - Important to think about disability considerations when planning NbS solutions. In most cases surfaces must comply with the [ASTM F 1951-99](#) standard for accessible surfaces (Charming Evelyn)
      - Ex. Artificial Turf is an ADA recommended surface
    - Need to develop & offer resources for hands-on education to the public (Samantha MJ Yang)
      - Lots of individuals interested in waterwise landscapes but lack of adequate access to resources stymies implementation at a personal level
    - Need to shift the focus to truly nature-based planning (Tim Brick)
      - Ex. restoring natural hydrology, restoring native biodiversity
      - Creating healthy ecosystems and promoting healthy biodiversity cannot be separate from human health considerations (Kelsey Jessup)
    - Very important to define what “keeping constraints in mind” means for this task force (Melanie Winter)
      - We can’t stop with creating a definition of what NbS is. We have to build capacity to support the vision of this task force.
      - Import to define and write out what constraints are so we have a shared understanding and can challenge them (Kelsey Jessup)
    - “It’s important to go in with the mindset that we are Nature. We are a part of Nature. We need clean water to survive, we need clean soil to provide healthy and nutrient and mineral rich foods. We have to keep in mind that the plants, animals, insects, Indigenous peoples to the area, land, rocks, water, ocean, all living beings must be included in the plan of protection, healing and expanding back into a more natural world.” (Jessa Calderon)
    - Given that CBO/NGOs are \*theoretically\* on such parallel tracks w/ agencies charged with building, operating, & maintaining NbS projects, there is a need to create on-ramps for agencies to join in more with NbS efforts (Meredith McCarthy)
    - Any definition should include something maximizing or optimizing what we’re getting at + avoiding a check-box solution (Craig Doberstein)
      - Prescriptive vs Descriptive
    - More conversation at the local level (code enforcement for example) may be helpful in moving projects forward (Claudia Arends)

- If this is a definition that is intended to cross multiple plans, it is important to make sure this definition is not restricting other agencies, organizations, etc. from using it to guide their planning (Maggie Gardner)
  - Think about beach dune restoration for improving stormwater quality as it flows into the ocean (Melina Watts)
- Wrap-Up and Next Steps | 1:50 - 2:00p
  - [Survey](#) will go out to build on what we discussed today
    - Opportunity to offer feedback and add further
  - Other efforts underway as well as COP16 (CASQA this week)
    - Look into Santa Barbara Creeks Division for a model that prioritizes NbS + Look at San Francisco Creek restoration by developers idea (Melina Watts)
  - Want to make sure these meetings are being shared on websites so people have opportunities to attend