

Minutes
Saint John's Arboretum Education Committee
Thursday, March 5, 2009 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Natural History Museum, New Science 150, SJU

Present: Sarah Gainey, Alison Binsfeld, Janette Monear (by phone), Bruce Dickau, Jim Tingerthal, Jenny Kutter, Karen Bengtson, Scott Daninger,

Review the year:

In February 2008, the council developed a strategic direction that prompted the revised impact goal for education: "The experience at Saint John's Arboretum gives all guests improved environmental literacy and emotional connectedness to the natural world, which will motivate responsible environmental decisions." Since then the committee has met several times to begin developing short and long-term goals for education.

Using the logic model format, the committee evaluated the annual outputs, and the activities and resources needed to achieve those outputs in order to develop a prioritized work plan for education during FY10. The final logic models for each of the three tiers of EE are attached.

preK-12 discussion points

- Explore ways to increase volunteer participation in EE programming
 - Work with admin committee to develop a better volunteer management program to assist in the training/retention of volunteers
- Identify a teacher/team of teachers to target for pre/post visits—can be used to compare pre/post tests between teams visited and not visited
- Interdisciplinary programs—expand curricula to include disciplines outside the sciences, may be easier to get older students out on field visits if curricula meets standards in other disciplines
- Teacher education—partner with other organizations to get new teachers/schools involved
 - Add an educator strand to the annual AHI conference?

CSB/SJU discussion points

- Offer a 4-year membership for students? Would students pay \$40 up front? Would a 4-year membership help retain student members during school and after graduation?

Community discussion points

- What would a lifetime membership do to increase membership, member involvement, or member engagement?
- Partner more with Saint Ben's Monastery for programming

preK-12 Activities	4000 student s from ISD 742	2000 student s from Non742	50 teachers Part. In ed.	10% stud. ≥ 3 hrs.	1000 non- field trip stud.	250 kids in class visits	_ % total visits 6- 8 th grade	Inc. use of 742 trunks	Inc. use of non- 742 trunks	20% inc. scores bet. Pre/post tests
Field visits	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
Teacher ed.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
742 trunks	X							X		X
Non742 trunks		X							X	X
Teacher/admin meetings	X	X	X	X		X	X			
In school visits pre/post	X	X	X			X		X	X	X
Pre/post tests								X	X	X
Env. Issues Investigations				X			X			X
Transportation /sub reimb.	X	X		X			X			
Project Earth					X					
Envirothon					X					

CSB/SJU Activities	1000 CSB/SJU students participa te	50% FYS classes participa te	10% all other classes participa te	10% profs use Arb on own	30 students “heavy” involve.	25% events collabora tive	_ % student member recurring	200 total student members	_ % alum members
≥ 1 student event/month	X					X	X	X	X
Volunteer opps for students	X						X	X	X
Outreach to professors		X	X	X			X	X	X
Partner w/other orgs.	X					X			
Web-based resources		X	X	X					
Arb staff guest lecturers	X	X	X				X	X	X
Promote student mbrs.	X						X	X	X
Hands on the Land classes	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
Dev. Intern program					X		X	X	X
Continue stud. Employment					X		X	X	X
Ed. Dept			X		X		X	X	X

(service learning)									
Nature Notes emails	X					X	X	X	X

Community Activities	> 2500 participants recorded	75 external progs. presented	_# internal progs. presented	10% inc. family memberships	> 10 guest lecturers
Annual Events					
Program Requests					
Quarterly Newsletter					
Opportunities from guest lectures					
Web site					
Monthly emails					

Based on the discussions and projected needs for FY10, the committee selected the highlighted activities as priorities to obtain resources for and focus on for Arboretum education while continuing to provide all the activities listed under each category.

Next ed committee meeting will begin work on criteria for program selection.

- Review need and goals of criteria
- Work on development of criteria

**Next Education committee meeting: April 6, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Natural History Museum**

COMMUNITY EDUCATION: The experience at Saint John's Arboretum gives all guests improved environmental literacy and emotional connectedness to the natural world, which will motivate responsible environmental decisions.

<p><u>Resources</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff/Volunteers S. Gainey EE fellowship (2) Student staff: naturalists & naturalist aides Ed committee Volunteers: community, CSB/SJU Guest instructors Partners Abbey support/lands MN Master Naturalist CSB/SJU ES, ED & BIO depts. RT&S, GRRL, AHI Funding, assets, etc. EE Endowment Edison Found. Grant General membership Member benefits, marketing & merchandise Limiting Resources Additional FTE Criteria for prioritizing programming General evaluation for programs Knowledge of Arboretum General funding 	<p><u>Activities/Tools</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AHI conference Owl hoot Maple Syrup Fest. Plant Sale Birding Day Wildflower walk Dutch oven dinner Homecoming Collegeville Colors Open House Individual requests for programming Library programs Science Rocks State park visits Audubon Master naturalist Natural history Quarterly newsletter Opportunities/lectures from guest instructors Web site Monthly member emails 	<p><u>FY 2010 Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 2500 recorded participants in programs 75 presented external programs (programs held off-site, i.e. library programs) #___ presented internal programs 10% increase in family memberships At least 10 guest instructors offer programs (not incl. conferences) 	<p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced environmental literacy Enhanced emotional connectedness to the environment 	<p><u>Long-term Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased ability to make environmentally responsible decisions

CSB/SJU EDUCATION: The experience at Saint John's Arboretum gives all guests improved environmental literacy and emotional connectedness to the natural world, which will motivate responsible environmental decisions.

<u>Resources</u>	<u>Activities/Tools</u>	<u>FY 2010 Outputs</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>	<u>Long-term Impacts</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff/Volunteers • S. Gainey • EE fellowship (2) • Student staff: naturalists & naturalist aides • Ed committee • Volunteers: community, CSB/SJU, service learning, EE pedagogy, interns Partners • Abbey support/lands • CSB/SJU student senate reps on AAC • CSB/SJU ES, ED & BIO depts. Funding, assets, etc. • EE Endowment • Edison Found. Grant • General membership • Member benefits, marketing & merchandise Limiting Resources • Additional FTE • Criteria for prioritizing programming • Knowledge of Arboretum • Fed. Funding requirements for student staff • Competing with other CSB/SJU programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 1 event per month targeted to CSB/SJU students • Volunteer opportunities for students • Outreach to professors • Partnerships with other clubs, organizations & departments • Web-based resources for professors who use the Arboretum • Arboretum as guest lecturers/lead class tours • Student memberships • Hands on the Land • Develop comprehensive internship program • Student employment opportunities • Education department service learning opportunities • Weekly Nature Notes emails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000 CSB/SJU students participate in Arboretum programming • 50% First-year seminar classes participate in Arb programs • 10% all other classes participate in Arb programs • 10% professors bring classes into Arb independently • 30 students have employment, internship and service learning opportunities • 25% of events collaborate with other campus groups • ___% of student memberships are recurring • 200 total student members • ___% alum members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced environmental literacy • Enhanced emotional connectedness to the environment • Experiences create deeper bonds with the land/landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased ability to make environmentally responsible decisions

preK-12 EDUCATION: The experience at Saint John's Arboretum gives all guests improved environmental literacy and emotional connectedness to the natural world, which will motivate responsible environmental decisions.

<u>Resources</u>	<u>Activities/Tools</u>	<u>FY 2010 Outputs</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>	<u>Long-term Impacts</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff/Volunteers • S. Gainey • EE fellowship (2) • Student staff: naturalists & naturalist aides • Ed committee • Volunteers: community, CSB/SJU, service learning, EE pedagogy, interns Partners • Abbey support/lands RT&S, SRWD, DNR • CSB/SJU Ed. Dept. • Funding for transportation reimbursement Funding, assets, etc. • EE Endowment • ELM grant • Edison Found. grant • Gannet Found. grant • Equipment, trunks Limiting Resources • Additional FTE • Criteria for prioritizing programming • Comprehensive database for tracking program participation • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field trips to Arb. • Teacher education: provide at least 5 opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xcel grant training • Nat. history series • PLT/WW • Pre/post trunks (742 & non-742) • Staff meet with teachers • Project Earth (Oct. 09) • Envirothon (May 10) • In school visits to classrooms (i.e. pre/post-visits) • Env. Issues Investigations • Pre/post tests for students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4000 ISD 742/2000 non-742 students visit Arboretum • 50 teachers participate in training • 10% of students have more than 3 hours Arb contact • 1000 students participate in non-field trip programming at the Arb • Reach at least 250 students through classroom visits • _____% total guests are 6th-8th graders • Non-742 trunks checked out and used at least twice • Increased use of ISD 742 trunks • 20% increase in scores between pre/post tests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced environmental literacy • Enhanced emotional connectedness to the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased ability to make environmentally responsible decisions

Minutes
Saint John's Arboretum Lands Committee
Friday, March 6, 2009 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Natural History Museum, New Science 150, SJU

Present: Tom Haeg, Jim Tingerthal, Walter Kieffer, Cassie Herbst, Jenni Poliseno, Alberic Culhane, John Elton, Dan Vogel, Gary Pflueger, Margaret Wurm, Dave Johnson, Bob Russell, Benedict Leuthner, Tom Kroll, Sarah Gainey, Jenny Kutter

Lands Updates

Chapel Trail Bridge at Boniface Bay: proposal for a five-foot wide bridge replacement constructed of 4x4s at an estimated cost of \$2500. We need to obtain funding for the bridge, hopefully will be in place during FY10.

DNR Aerial Deer Survey: completed in January over 16 sections, including Saint John's and neighboring lands. We don't have counts yet, but the numbers will help us with future management decisions.

CR51 Expansion: Concerns about the timing of the construction leading to the spread of oak wilt near the site. The county is willing to do all they can to prevent the oak wilt, including the timing of when and how trees will be cut for the expansion.

AHI/LCCMR: 17 landowners have met with Tom Kroll so far to discuss conservation easements. Three landowners have moved on to the next stage for placing the easements on their property.

Abbey/Arboretum Lands Committees—review policy on relationship

Arboretum Lands committee serves as an advisory committee to help the Abbey in preserving wilderness and open space within their lands.

How to differentiate between the needs/duties of the two committees:

- Arboretum—is it a “place” or a “program?”
- Decisions about native vs. exotic planting—how to balance and recognize the value and relationships of both?
- Should the two lands committees be combined into one? Could have subcommittees for Arboretum vs. Grounds related decisions? How would decisions coordinate? What would the structure look like?
- Bruce Wollmering was the chair of Abbey lands committee and served on the Arboretum Advisory council. He was an obvious person for parties on both sides to communicate with when issues arose. With his passing, will communication between the committees be hindered?

- Perhaps Jim Tingerthal, who currently serves on both committees could be informally designated as a point person for communication between the two committees at this time?

FY09 to FY10 Work Plan Discussion and Prioritization

The committee heard a description of all the potential activities within the Arboretum lands for FY10. Members added activities that weren't accounted for and then prioritized the activities. Each person voted for their top 10 activities they felt should take priority in FY10. The votes were tallied and the activities the lands committee and staff will work to put time and resources toward. The final priorities are in the attached spreadsheet.

NOTE: Pictures should be provided at future lands meetings to help committee members visualize specific projects being discussed.

Agriculture

Tom Haeg proposed the lands committee(s) should discuss the long-term implications of having some kind of agriculture as another use for Abbey land.

- Food is an important issue, another way the Abbey could be more self-sufficient
- Additional educational opportunities for sustainable living
- Historical part of the culture in central MN

LANDSCAPE PROTECTION: Saint John’s permanently protects its current holdings and nearby properties, through strategies such as conservation easements and purchases, so that they function as the core of a 40,000-acre Avon Hills landscape that retains 70 percent of its rural character and biological diversity. This includes connecting CSB and SJU campuses with an I-94 green corridor.

<u>Resources</u>	<u>Programs & Activities</u>	<u>FY 2010 Outputs</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>	<u>Long-term Impacts</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Kroll .1 FTE • Bill Fahrney .1 FTE • Avon Hills Initiative Exec. Com. • St. Joe Action Group • MN Land Trust (MLT) • Stearns Co. Env Services • TNC • OSB • Sisters of the Order SB • CSB • SJU • \$337,000 LCCMR grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal visits with landowners • Conferences / education for landowners • Education for public officials • AHI newsletters • Involvement in City / Township/County comp plans and ordinance development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish 3 AHI newsletters to 250 readers. • Sponsor AHI conference for 120 people. • Visit with 15 landowners about easements. • Purchase lands adjacent / protecting OSB as opportunities arise. • Have 2 AHI representatives at all County Planning meetings. • Attend St. Joe City Planning meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 conservation easements acquired between 2008 and 2011 in cooperation with MLT. • Inclusion of “green” provisions in County & Township City comp plans and ordinances to conserve resources and open space. • Saint John’s and Saint Ben’s borders buffered from development pressures. • Conservation easements in place on existing OSB land. • Create green corridor to connect CSB/SJU campuses along I-94. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of 40,000 acres in the Avon Hills, which remains 70% undeveloped and retains its rural character and biological diversity. • Preservation of the unique setting of the monasteries and CSB/SJU as rural and biologically rich making the campuses attractive to future generations. • Increased land stewardship activity community-wide.

ARBORETUM LAND STEWARDSHIP: The land is used for multiple uses and the land management decisions are driven by long-term sustainability and good stewardship. The Arboretum land base is owned and controlled by the Abbey. The final decisions on use remain with the Abbey. Inner campus management is controlled by the Grounds Department.

<u>Resources</u>	<u>Programs & Activities</u>	<u>FY 2010 Outputs</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>	<u>Long-Term Impacts</u>
<p>Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D Vogel 1.0 FTE • T Kroll .5 FTE • Br. W. Kieffer .2 FTE • G Pflueger .1 FTE • H Becker .1 FTE • J Evander .1 FTE <p>Student Workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 CSB/SJU .25 FTE • 3 in summer .7 FTE <p>Volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monastic • Public • Student • Neighbors <p>Consultants</p> <p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L&M Schwietz Endow <p>Equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skidder, Bobcat, Pickups <p>Barriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No tractor, no dump truck • Limited funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land mgt planning • Green Certification • Prairie estab/ maintain • Tree planting & regen • Seedling protection • Timber harvest • Firewood production • Lumber production • Trail maintenance • Bridge & Boardwalk maint • Ag land activities • Non-native weed control • Maple syrup operation • Habitat creation/ maint • Deer density control • Lakeshore protection/ maint • Wetland protection/ maint • Educational facility estab/ maint • Utility maintenance • Inner campus assist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant 2000 seedlings • Harvest 150 cords • Deer harvest 20-25 • Aerial deer survey (\$1,000) • Prairie burns 3 • Buckthorn control 5 ac. (\$500) • Tree Tubes 500 (\$1500) • Chapel trail maint (1300 feet near Chapel) • Boardwalk repair (\$2000) • Mow 16 miles of trails • County 51 coordination • Renovation of the maple shack. (\$5,000) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality is address in all inner campus and land activities. • The development area footprint is minimized and consideration for aesthetics in all land activities. • The forest management activities are independently certified as sustainable. • Maintained trails are well-used by monastics, students, staff, and visitors. • The Abbey wood shop is provided with adequate quantities of renewable wood products. • <i>Diverse habitats for flora and fauna are maintained.</i> • Outdoor opportunities for student research and learning are provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains the Benedictine tradition of land stewardship, education, and environmental respect. • The OSB land base remains geographically and ecologically intact and provides a welcoming natural reserve for spiritual renewal and recreation. • The Arboretum is a model of sustainable land use practices. • The inner campus and surrounding land are integrated and complementary of each other.

Minutes
Saint John's Arboretum Identity Committee
Friday, March 6, 2009 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
New Science 104, SJU

Present: Tom Kroll, Mike Brown, Sarah Gainey, Terri Berreiro, Benedict Leuthner, Patti Epsy, Jenny Kutter

Mike Brown is consulting with various parties, at the request of Derek Larson (env. studies dept. chair), to develop a clear proposal for a future Environmental Center at Saint John's. The Environmental Center discussion encompasses many pieces of recent identity discussions in the Arboretum.

Environmental Center

Where is the Arboretum?

- A place or a program?
- If it has a defined place, it would provide clarity to the education program and community outreach.
- Where is the starting point? An identifiable building is essential
- Needs to remain physically part of campus—collaborations with academic departments and other programs are essential to Arboretum program and mission.
 - o Already see positive effects of a joint department coordinator between Arb/ES
- If there is a place—what would the Arboretum do differently?
 - o Would affect community & CSB/SJU programming more than preK-12 since the value of the preK-12 programming is the outdoor field experience
 - o Having a good space for occasional indoor programming capitalizes on the subtle important connection for young kids on a college campus among college students—the awe factor

An Environmental Center could serve as such a place—with multiple spheres of emphasis.

- Do the campuses/communities need more education as to what centers are to make them more effective?
- A center for environmental programming on campus would help people know where to go, help multiple departments collaborate w/o duplicating services
- Arboretum, Env. Studies, OLC, PRPs, Ganard, etc...proximity to biology department, others?
- A modest addition to the New Science building with a gathering place, offices, rooms would be a sufficient space
- Like an "outpost rigging station" for people before heading into the "wilderness"
- What if student population declines and other space on campus becomes available?
- Saint Ben's location vs. Saint John's location?
 - o Either way, Arboretum is at Saint John's. Would hope to maximize—not duplicate—resources and services regardless of where a center is located

- Space could serve as an educational tool: solar, green roof, other “green” living examples for people to see and experience

Center Ideas so far

- A place/resources for a potential sustainability coordinator
- A place where things happen—not just office space
- Broader disciplinary interaction—cross-research, creativity between programs/departments
- Greater potential for research
- Relationship to Institutional Advancement is critical
 - o A dedicated IA person focused on Env. Center fundraising—grant-writing and fundraising support for all environmental programs?
- Abbey land manager/representative housed within center (could potentially be a separate person from Arboretum director in future?)

IDENTITY: Be known as a valuable and integrated educational center of CSB/SJU, with a recognizable headquarters, that is shared with all CSB/SJU environmental programs.

<p><u>Resources</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arboretum Identity temporary Committee, Gordon Bailey, Chair • Environmental Center Working Group, Derek Larson Chair. 	<p><u>Programs & Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings of interested parties • White papers 	<p><u>FY 2010 Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the concept of an environmental headquarters in SJU master planning. • Arb Identity / Environmental Headquarters white paper. 	<p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Studies, the Outdoor Leadership Center, Sustainability Office, the Arboretum, and other environmental programs share resources and expertise because of a shared location. • Students, visitors, and staff can easily find the headquarters to facilitate their environmental experiences. • Increased recognition of Arboretum as a place for physical, spiritual, and emotional renewal • Increased promotion of Benedictine values into all Arboretum activities 	<p><u>Long-Term Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated reputation as an important regional/national center of environmental expertise. • Benedictine values understood by guests • More students and visitors acquire or expand a "conservation ethic."
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Minutes
Saint John's Arboretum Admin/PR/Fundraising Committee
Friday, March 6, 2009 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Natural History Museum, New Science 150, SJU

Present: Tom Kroll, Sarah Gainey, Terri Berreiro, Jean Scoon, Greg Miller, Jenny Kutter

Role of Admin Committee

The Arboretum has historically had separate committees for Administration, PR/Membership, and Fundraising. In an effort to combine resources and make the committees more effective, we've combined the three committees into one.

The role of the committee is:

- Provide administrative/fundraising support to other Arboretum committees (incl. grants)
- Manage membership and volunteers
- Provide communications/PR to membership and general community

FY09/10 Logic Model & Work Plan Discussion

- See attached logic model for short-term and long-term goals
- Lands committee fundraising needs:
 - plant trees, \$6000
 - mow prairie, \$800
 - repair "beat" section of Chapel Trail, \$1000
 - replace Boniface Bay bridge, \$3000
- Education committee fundraising needs:
 - Transportation/bussing, \$12-18,000/year
 - Substitute teachers, \$2000/year
 - Trunk updates, \$1000/year
 - Teacher education, \$\$
- Other needs:
 - Volunteer management: review and implement a more effective system
 - Talk to Troy Fritz
 - Membership benefits: review and update
 - Member levels with additional benefits?
 - Are our current membership benefits enough to recruit/maintain members?
 - Investigate installation of suggested donation boxes at trailhead, kiosk, great hall, etc.
 - Donation helps cover cost of maps?
 - Print labels with suggested donation on trail maps?
 - Ask Chuck Wocken—how well do the boxes work in Stearns Co. Parks?
 - Ski trail map

Other

- Advocacy
 - Are we too timid? Should we take a stronger stance to promote good stewardship?
 - Can we be stronger advocates without being isolating?
- Living Your Strengths
 - A professional development program that using positive psychology
 - Abbey members have been tested/evaluated
 - Greg will look into what it would take to have Arboretum staff/council members take the test.
 - Could help recognize where individual strengths lie, as well as identify holes that could be filled with new council members
 - A way to focus each of our energy to make sure we put our strengths to good use for the Arboretum

Next Admin committee meeting will look at member benefits and start to look at volunteer management if time allows.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, PR & FUNDRAISING:

<u>Resources</u>	<u>Activities/Tools</u>	<u>FY 2010 Outputs</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>	<u>Long-term Impacts</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff/Volunteers • J. Kutter • T. Kroll • S. Gainey • EE Fellowship (2) • Student staff: naturalists & naturalist aides • AAC & Committees Partners • Institutional Advancement • CSB/SJU • Abbey support Assets • Grant databases • Ed committee plans & priorities • Lands committee plans & priorities Limiting resources: • Data-tracking/evaluation program • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early info about potential grants is discovered & shared with staff • Writing grants • Executing grant follow-up • Writing/editing newsletter • Update/maintain website • Advertisements/Press releases The Record SC Visitor Radio ads Local papers E-mails • Review membership benefits • Review & implement volunteer management system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Sag Seasons/year =guaranteed educ. & comm. about Arb. (600+ readers) • ___% participants using web site • # of hits • Increased participation in events • Increased membership • More effective volunteerism (increased hours, retention, engagement, satisfaction) • \$10-20,000 lands grants • \$12-18,000 bussing grants • \$2000 substitute teachers • \$1000 grants to update teaching trunks • Grants for teacher education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority projects for ed & lands committees funded and supported each year • Additional FTE funded & hired to support Ed & lands • Members and community are fully informed about Arboretum and activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully supporting all Arboretum needs • Short and Long-term Impacts of lands, education, and identity committees are being met.