

SESSION NAME: FS Chief Tom Tidwell
DAY & TIME: 11/20

SPEAKER #1 NAME: Chief Tidwell

MAJOR POINTS:

- Collaboration is simply working together.
- Important to find common ground so that we can move forward and get things done.
- Learned lessons from making good decisions and then seeing those decisions get stopped by litigation. Now we see, through collaboration, we spend more time but the decisions make it through the system.
- When we collaborate, we all feel like we're part of the decision; things have changed because of collaboration. We've made a lot of progress.
- Are there ways we can speed up our collaborative processes? We're hearing about collaboration fatigue, which is a challenge. We are interested in finding ways to move forward quickly after a decision, and move through the processes more quickly, so that we can see the benefits of our involvement.
- Many forests in Region 1 are involved in forest planning. 2012 Planning Rule is a new tool; we're still learning. Forest plan revision is well worth everyone's time – it sets management of the forest into management for years to come.
- Appreciates the leadership of the State of Montana – there's a lot of leadership occurring. Bringing counties and together is just one example.
- Would like help from the counties in figuring out how we can do work on larger landscapes. We need to be thinking in terms of tens of thousands of acres at a time, with contracts that cover multiple years. The wood products industry needs certainty to keep the markets alive.

- Collaboration has helped us solve forest management issues, but it will also help us with other challenges – travel planning, forest plan revision, etc. It's there for everything that we do.