

Project WILD Subcommittee Meeting

March 10, 2022

8:00 - Call to Order/ Review Agenda

8:05 - Introductions

8:10 - Approval of Minutes for the 2021 AFWA Annual Meeting

Motion by Lindsay Rogers to approve and seconded by Tabbi Kinion. Motion carried forward.

8:15 - Report from Project WILD Staff

- Annual report snapshot:
 - Training numbers beginning to rebound from 2020
 - 511 enrolled in online courses
 - Ee360+ grant – awarded over \$70k in mini-grants
 - Coordinator Conference virtual in 2021; over 100 people in 36 states
 - Jen Dennison (OH) new Coordinator Liaison
 - CE Conference on Virtual Learning – over 300 participants from 40 states
 - Four new letters of agreement signed; all continental US and Alaska
 - Over 18,000 guides sold in 2021
 - Hosted over 20 webinars
 - Promotional videos produced
 - Tanya Poole was our Outstanding Coordinator in 2021
- Publications
 - Production challenges
 - Paper availability, supply chain challenges, sustainable paper and inks, schedules and costs
 - eBook
 - Based on these challenges, we are talking with some eBook publishers – e.g., we are in conversations with Kitaboo. Certain financial considerations with their model
 - Coordinator committee to consider options
 - Hiring a contractor to put together a business plan to make sure we are meeting our financial needs and the needs of educators
 - Exploring options this summer, make a decision this fall
 - Train/orient folks to new eBook system/process and gear up for 2023 training
 - If you know of any eBook publishers, contact us please!
 - Lindsay asked what Project WET and PLT are doing. We are in conversations with them to learn from each other. They both have options, but neither seems totally satisfied with their approach. Still trying to solve that puzzle.
 - Dawn suggested talk with Delaney Meeting and Event Management. They powered the new Federal Visionary Team web and all outreach. Dawn also suggested contacting the USGS NPN (they use eBooks with Nature's Notebook).
- Webinars
 - Marc shared about the Drawing on Nature webinars produced in partnership with the Federal Jr. Duck Stamp program.
- Guide Sales
 - Elena shared the graphs of guide sales for our four main WILD publications. All guide sales rebounded significantly from 2020 to 2021!

8:45 - EE360+ Grant

- The North American Association for Environmental Education is the lead on this grant.
- Through the grant, we have offered DEI training to coordinators.

- Funding for strengthening environmental education among in-service and pre-service educators through mini-grants available to coordinators
- Developing online professional development courses

9:00 - Comments from Jen Dennison on serving as Coordinator Liaison and AFWA Detail

- Jen is the new Coordinator Liaison – act as the collective voice to communicate with the national office.
- Helping out with the conference

9:15 - 2022 Project WILD Annual Conference

- In-person conference in Lake Logan, western North Carolina
- Kelly reviewed the agenda: <https://pheedloop.com/WILD2022/site/home/>

9:25 - State Spotlight: Project WILD in Eastern Washington – Northwest Natural Resources Institute. Marc read a statement from Diahne Gill, Executive Director of NNRI:

The mission of the Northwest Natural Resources Institute (NNRI) is to cultivate a better understanding of the daily importance of our agricultural, mineral, forest and water resources by educating teachers and students about the science, economic and societal aspects of our region's natural resources. This is accomplished through a variety of educational programs including student programs and educator workshops. Formed in August of 1992, we are a 501c3 non-profit organization and a program partner of Greater Spokane Incorporated.

The NNRI presents information on the utilization and economic importance of our natural resource industries by providing activities and information for teachers and students to make informed decisions on the management and use of our resources. The importance of natural resource-based industries to the Inland Northwest as well as the positive environmental protection measures being implemented are featured in all of NNRI's programs for teachers and students.

At our teacher workshops, we feature Project WILD, Project WET and Project Learning Tree curriculums to accomplish our mission. While Covid-19 slowed us down, we were able to present two in-person three-day teacher workshops in July 2021 which featured Project WILD. Between our workshops in Spokane and Pasco, we educated almost 50 teachers and gave them each a curriculum guide. Additionally, in January 2022, we offered a Project WILD Aquatic workshop in Pasco which had 40 teachers registered to attend and again, they received the Aquatic guides. All attending teachers receive clock hours at no additional charge.

If you would like additional information on our organization or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at dgill@greaterspokane.org. Thank you for your time this morning.

9:30 - State Roundtable

Angie Haywood (IN) - about to hire a new coordinator.

Tanya Poole (NC) – climate resiliency workshop in July

Lindsay Rogers (NE) - Looking at doing more urban wildlife education. 50% of population lives in 3 counties around Lincoln. Looking at reaching new audiences. Targeting specific areas. How they talk about wildlife is different because the urban experience with wildlife is different than how rural residents interact with wildlife.

Luke Coccoli (Boone & Crockett) - Boone and Crockett is working on a Fair Chase Hunting Ethics curriculum, also revamping the "Grizzly Bears of Montana - Teachers Resource Guide" (20 year old, reprint) and of course some awesome Trail Camera content! <https://www.boone-crockett.org/campsite-2020-2021>

Jen Dennison (OH) - The Sportsman's Alliance is piloting a Conservation Science high school course here in Ohio with around 40 schools. <https://conservationadventures.org/>. They are presenting at the Education meeting tomorrow.

9:45 - Other Announcements & Wrap-up Discussion

10:00 - Adjourn