

The attendees split up into four groups. Each group identified the top two threats to resource conservation in their land use and then created an action plan framework to address the top threat.

Dryland Cropland

1. Soil quality decrease due to fallow and risk from herbicide resistant weeds
2. Weeds in non-cropped areas infesting cropland

Improve drift management techniques. Get OSU involved in doing trials for cover cropping and alternative cropping. Expand communication to overcome adoption barriers. Consider installing weather system to help make better informed decisions. Secure funding to control weeds in noncrop areas.

Irrigated Farmland

1. Availability of water for irrigation, especially from groundwater sources in mosier, fifteenmile watersheds and water supplied by open ditch systems
2. Cost prohibitions to adopting efficient technology

Adoption of water saving systems would increase through better outreach and public relations with the partners involved to encourage collaboration. Ditches need to be piped to save water, starting with the most inefficient systems such as juniper flat. Application efficiency can be improved by replacing old systems with new ones. Installing new storage systems, such as reservoirs, can help alleviate some issues. Funding is needed greatly to adopt these actions.

Grazing Lands

1. Overgrazing/improper grazing of livestock
2. Climate change influencing plant communities

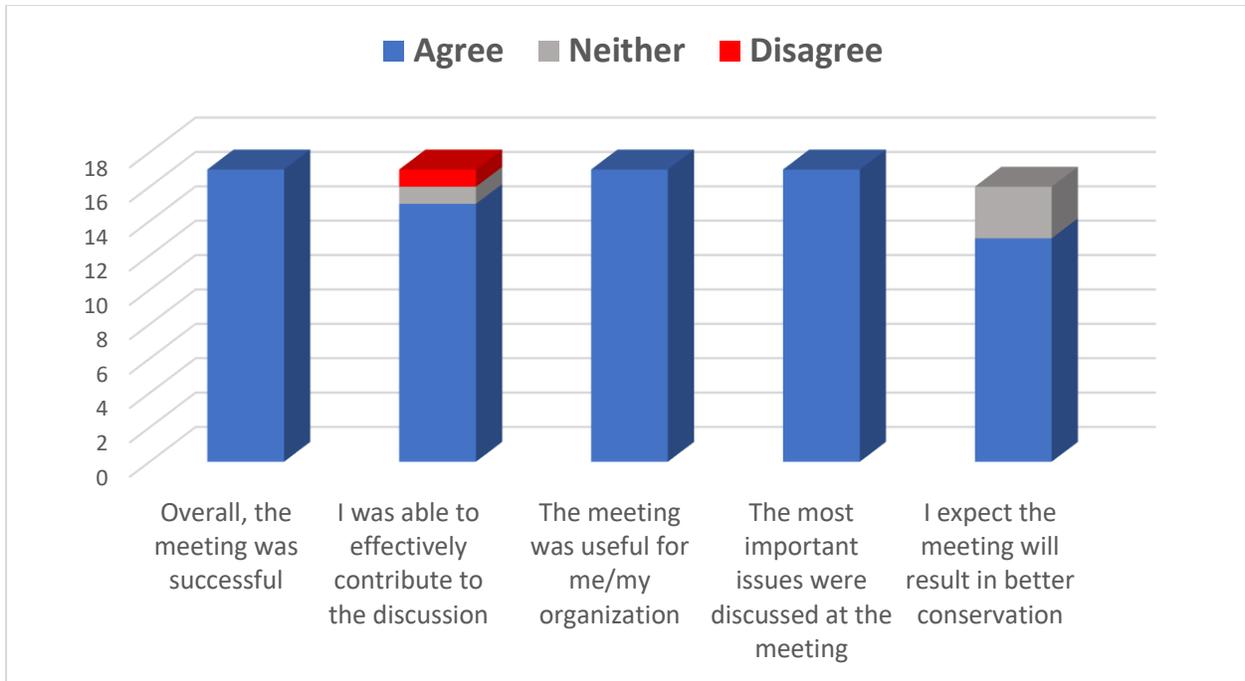
Conducting on farm-research, perhaps with a CIG. Encourage grazing deferalls. Provide resources to install more grazing infrastructure (fences, water). Develop emergency grazing systems to respond to fire. Expand availability of native seed.

Forest/non-farmland

1. Suppression of historic fire regimes
2. Tree mortality due to insects, disease, drought, climate change

Identify targeted areas to focus existing resources for thinning and fuels treatment. Adopt prescribed fire by starting conversations with State level contacts to find ways to make it possible by influencing public policy. Increase landowner awareness around issues of fire and smoke. Secure more funding to expand efforts. Improve training of forest treatment crews so that more work can be completed. Share equipment among entities at work.

Exit Survey results:



What do you think NRCS/SWCD should focus on in the immediate future?

irrigation water availability, wildfire mitigation, open ditch piping, fuels reduction on forest, soil pH, irrigation water availability, education of absentee landowners, fire mitigation, soil quality and weed control, grazing management, increase staff, soil health, invasive weeds, fire mitigation.

Comments/Suggestions:

Great job!, Very good meeting, worth the time, Change the meeting time: February, it was concise and to the point, excellent meeting format, get more consistent leadership, meeting should be later in day and in February