Small Group Meeting Notes

1. Does Proposed Policy take the Right Approach?
   1. Concern of Corp. of Engineers - Dam Breaching
   2. Not all agencies covered by this approach are land managing agencies
   3. Scale is not defined here very well
   4. There needs to be flexibility to do regarding size and impact
   5. Not all agencies that impact land management are not involved in this process
      a. BMPs - no one has done this on an island scale
      b. Scale makes a big difference. What is cost effective also impacts. Need site specific BMPs.
   6. Need an implentation process to clarify some of these vague terms.
   7. Single Watershed Analysis nationwide - big plan
   8. Not explicit what you do with assessment and whether we will have national BMPs
   9. No example of what procedure is in this
   10. What's new with all this?
   11. Unified approach will bring uniform procedures for land managers whereas before each agency worked independently on different water quality assessments on their land
   12. accountability amongst the federal agencies should be built in to this policy which is a holistic approach that gets federal, state, county land managers together to restore water quality
   13. Whose the main agency accountable for this policy's

implementation? Will some agencies interpret this language differently?

14 Watershed council could work to ensure compliance but this may be limited to voluntary measures

15. Essential piece of policy is to get federal agencies complying with federal regulations. Primary duty is federal land managers to more expeditiously meet CWA standards for lands wholly within federal land jurisdictions. Bring watershed up to CWA stds by federal land managers. I want to see the federal agencies bring these watersheds up to par. National policy so need national accountability. Accountability measures are not in this policy. How is this going to work?

16. Watersheds which are completely managed by federal agencies because they fall under federal lands No complications of mixed ownership, so should federal agency go in and restore the waterbody. Should give these watersheds a high priority.

2nd Question: How can restoration on federal lands be best coordinated?

1. Multitude of landowners with deep pockets - look at where there are enough people to pull this off - ~~to~~ Time and money, resources come into play.
2. Priority to do assessments first throughout the country even on non-federal lands. Prioritize by watershed.
3. Need explicit language that prioritizes listed species. Develop the protected watershed category that clearly targets resources.
   Refine ecological criteria for "special protected watersheds, high priority should be to
   (a) Consistent with species recovery in that watershed
   (b) Antidegradation issue needs to be cleared up.
   Make decisions that recognizes that further degradation on water quality impaired streams can not continue on federal lands.
   No clear decision protocol that recognizes that requirement
   Antidegradation Policy Development
4. "Issues that federal agencies identify" No comment on stakeholder ~~[illegible]~~ involvement here
5. Need to review adecacy of BMPs on federal lands. Priority should be on whether we are meeting water quality stds. Not if we have BMPs in place that should get us into compliance with these standards.

Question 3: Collaboration

1. This protocol has implications with stakeholders on state levels. We want Secretaries to declare or clearly define whether this action will be deemed to influence policy in regards to FACA.
2. State - federal relationship must be good. New priorities should not compete with State role in regulating water quality as well the Tribes role.
3. Define roles of who is approving these protocols.
4. Staff to staff collaboration is important.
5. Clarify the role of what collaboration and collaborating decisionmaking is for
6. What is the process here. Will every decision be agreed on

Other points made

1) under #2

> need for monitoring as part of BMPs and feedback loop.

> concern that policy will not have teeth because it's not clear who's in charge