The Mountaineers Conservation & Advocacy Decision-Making Framework

New Issue comes to The Mountaineers from a member, volunteer, partner organization, land manager, or tribe

Mountaineers conservation staff research and analyze issue based on the following criteria:

- Is it relevant to The Mountaineers' mission, strategic plan, and conservation priorities?
- Does it build or strengthen partnership with others who can help us advance our mission?
- Does it affect Pacific Northwest public lands and waters where Mountaineers activities generally occur, or other threatened western landscapes where The Mountaineers has an interest?
- Can the issue be meaningfully addressed with the capacity, resources, and expertise of The Mountaineers?

If **YES**, Mountaineers conservation staff decide if this is an issue that The Mountaineers will:

- Take the lead on through a staff driven process
- Participate in via a coalition or a partner organization leading
- Follow the issue and potentially reevaluate level of involvement in the future

If NO, no action is taken

If **YES**, but issue and/or advocacy actions:

- Are controversial with our membership,
- Involve legal action,
- Pose a reputational risk to the organization, or
- Are oppositional to an important partner (like an organization or tribe)

Then the **Conservation & Advocacy Committee** reviews and provides a recommendation to staff.

For particularly sensitive issues such as those involving legal action and/or reputational risk to the organization, the Committee may pass a motion to refer the decision to the Executive Committee or full Board of Directors.

If **YES**, and issue is **NOT** controversial, Mountaineers conservation staff discuss the issue with the CEO and determine a plan of action.

CEO gives final decision on behalf of the organization and staff executes plan of action, which may include:

- Advocacy actions such as meeting with elected officials or land managers, sending or signing onto comment letters, participating in a coalition or partnership, and/or sending action alerts.
- Sharing information with the membership and public through Mountaineers communication channels; providing updates to the C&A Committee and Board of Directors.