

Welcome



California Condor, Golden Eagle, & Wind Energy Workshop

DECEMBER 1-2, 2011

THURSDAY: 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

FRIDAY: 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

Sacramento CA

Opening Remarks

Janea Scott, US Department of
the Interior



Kevin Hunting, CA Department
of Fish and Game




Wind Energy, California Condors, and Eagles: Workshop Context

Alexandra Pitts, USFWS

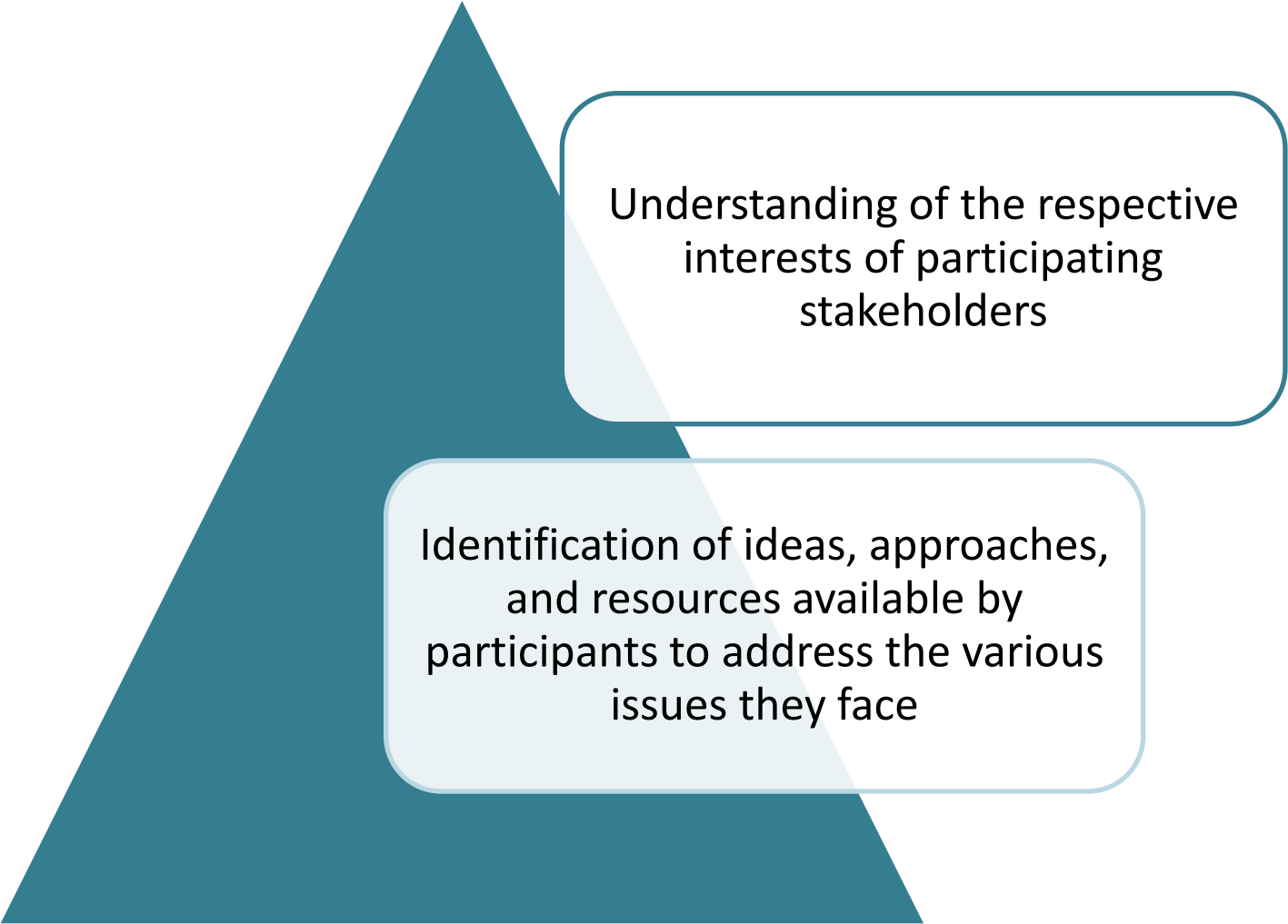


This Workshop's Desired Outcomes



Information sharing about California Condor and Golden Eagle regulations and the associated challenges with wind energy development in the Tehachapi and Southern Sierra Mountains

Desired Outcomes (con't)



Understanding of the respective interests of participating stakeholders

Identification of ideas, approaches, and resources available by participants to address the various issues they face

Today's Agenda - AM

9:00

- Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:15

- Wind Energy, California Condors, and Eagles: Workshop Context

9:35

- Review of Agenda & Desired Workshop Outcomes

9:45

- Summary of Pre-Workshop Participant Poll

10:00

- Wind Industry Development – The Current Marketplace

10:30

- Environmental Non-Governmental Organization Perspective

11:00

- Presentation: Condor biology, wind energy associated challenges

11:30

- LUNCH - 90 Minutes On Your Own

Today's Agenda - PM

1:00 pm

- Going deeper on Condor issues: Small Group Breakouts

2:15

- BREAK

2:30

- Breakout Session Report Out (Summary of each; Large Group discussion)

4:00

- Condors: What's next? What's needed? Specifics. (Prioritization Exercise)

4:45

- Wrap Up/ Preview of Tomorrow

5:00

- Adjourn

Tomorrow's Agenda

8:30

- Welcome; Confirm goals for Day 2

8:40

- Presentation: Golden Eagle biology, wind energy associated challenges

9:00

- Ongoing Eagle Research and Other Eagle Efforts

9:15

- Small Group Discussion on Golden Eagle Issues

10:30

- Breakout Session Report Out

11:45

- Eagles: What's next? What's needed? Specifics.

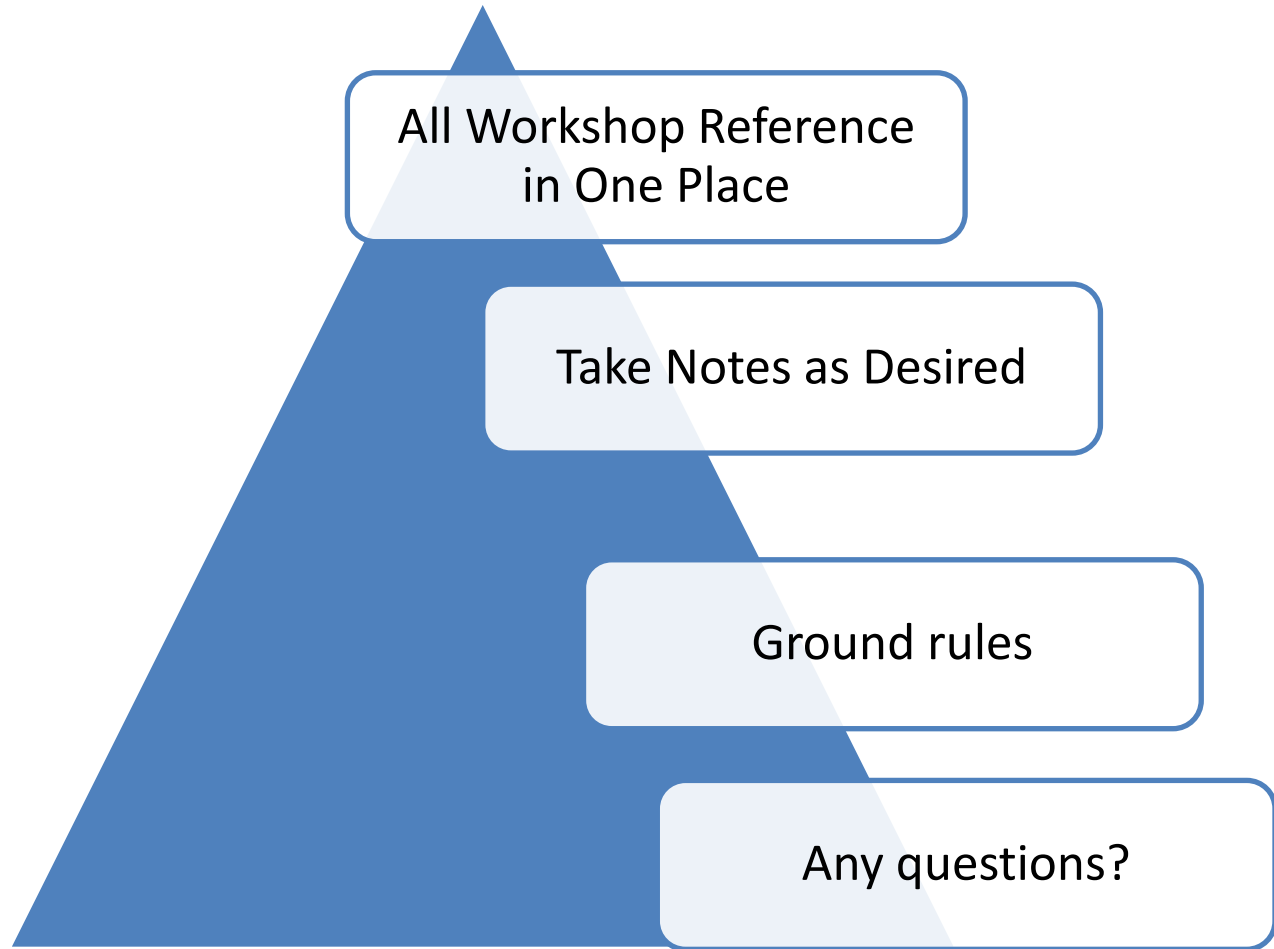
12:20

- Wrap Up

12:30

- Adjourn

Your Workbook



Pre-Workshop Participant Poll

6 Confidential Phone Conversations (3 industry; 3 NGO)

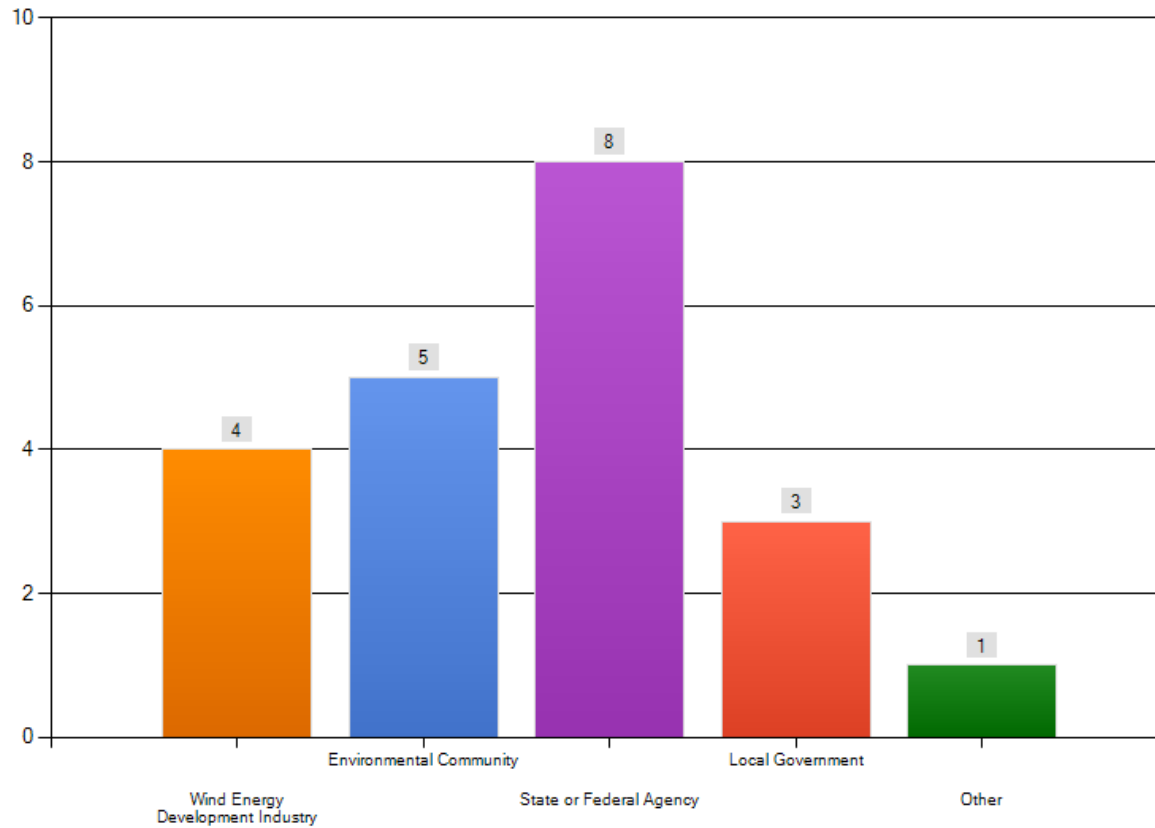
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Conducted survey online with “survey monkey” tool

Conducted by the Center for Collaborative Policy,
CSUS

Respondents: 17 Active (21 Total but some were tests)

I consider myself to be representative of:



What would make this Workshop feel like a worthwhile use of your time?

Open minds

Open idea and
information exchange

Realistic positions

Some consensus that
there is a way to allow
for wind development
& to protect avian
species

Financially &
scientifically reasonable
mitigation measures

Possible solutions to
minimize or
compensate for
potential mortality

Agencies explaining
their approach & plan
to deal with these
issues

Understanding of the
Applicable Laws

New understanding of
the roles Agencies,
Industry & NGOs can
play

What specific topics would you like to see discussed in depth (1 of 3)

Research

- Opportunities to collaborate with agencies and the wind industry on research

Monitoring

- Collaboration between wind developers on regional golden eagle monitoring

Take Permits

- Time frame/road map to obtain

Siting

- Wind turbine siting, minimization

What specific topics would you like to see discussed in depth (2 of 3)

Financial considerations

- To developing projects; including tax credits

Habitat

- How the expansion of the California Condor range will overlap with wind development?
- Development of avian and bat protection plan

Avoidance efforts

- From low-tech to high-tech

Maximizing avoidance

- Current and anticipated future 'state of the art' methods for maximizing avoidance and minimization of impacts

What specific topics would you like to see discussed in depth (3 of 3)

Standardized Reporting/ Monitoring

- Eagle mortalities for all wind operators in Tehachapi's; centralized data base.

Habitat Mitigation

- What are all the potential operational and compensatory mitigation options - specific to Golden Eagles and California Condor

Alternative compensation solutions

'Carrots' & 'Sticks'

- Carrots: Incentives for research; cooperation; proven mitigation strategies. Sticks: enforcement; litigation

What topics, issues, or presentations do you think would NOT be a good use of time?

In-depth state of science

- Although a brief overview of the state of the science will be helpful, we do not want this to be the focus of the workshop

Radar

- This would be more appropriate at a technically oriented forum. There is no data to show that it can be used effectively to curtail turbine operations to avoid eagles or other birds.

General information

- The participants already have a good understanding about wind and wildlife issues. No need to go into general benefits of or need for renewable energy

Philosophical arguments

- "Pro" or "Con" about renewable energy/wind turbines

Positions

- "Line in the sand" positions between any stakeholder(s)

The USFWS draft guidelines

- Wind and eagle guidance expected to change again this year, so not good to spend much time on them

What do you think each 'side' (Environmental/ Industry/ Agency) needs to understand about the other? What do you think is not commonly understood? (1 of 2)

Agencies

- Could gain a better understanding of business constraints associated with developing large scale renewables

Industry

- Could acknowledge the importance of pre-commitment siting.
- That the environmental community simply does not accept voluntary measures or adaptive management without enforceability & meaningful, objective sideboards
- Needs to better understand the biological and economic value of the wild spaces they are industrializing

Environmental Groups

- Financial implications of unknown turbine operational adjustments
- Development and financial constraints
- Technology constraints and feasibility
- What developers base their decisions on where to site projects

What do you think each 'side' (Environmental/ Industry/ Agency) needs to understand about the other?

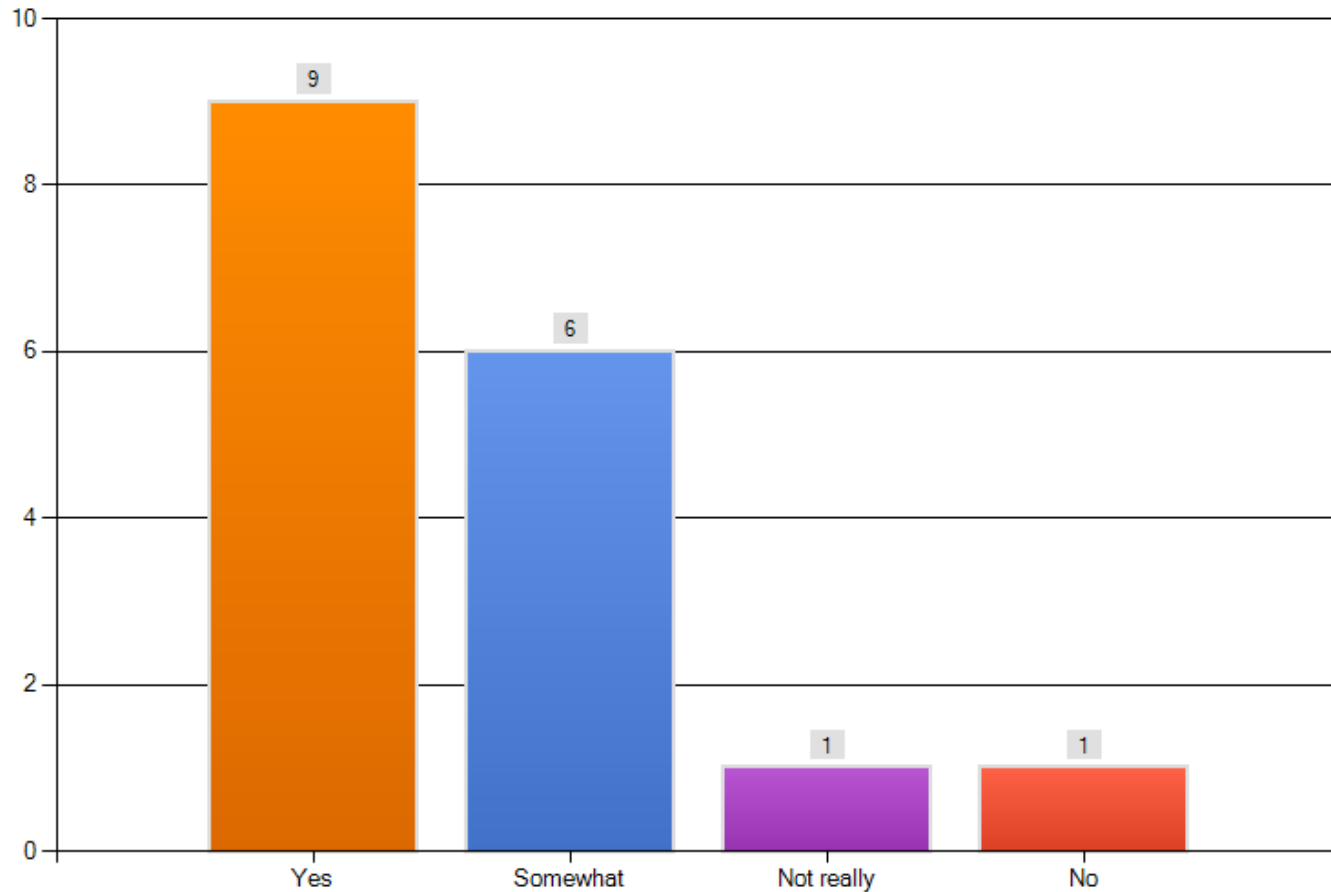
What do you think is not commonly understood? (2 of 2)

All

- There does not appear to be a common goal of promoting renewable energy while protecting golden eagle and condor populations
- What is needed is for everyone to understand the underlying science, law, and mitigation options.
- Opposing factions are not that far apart

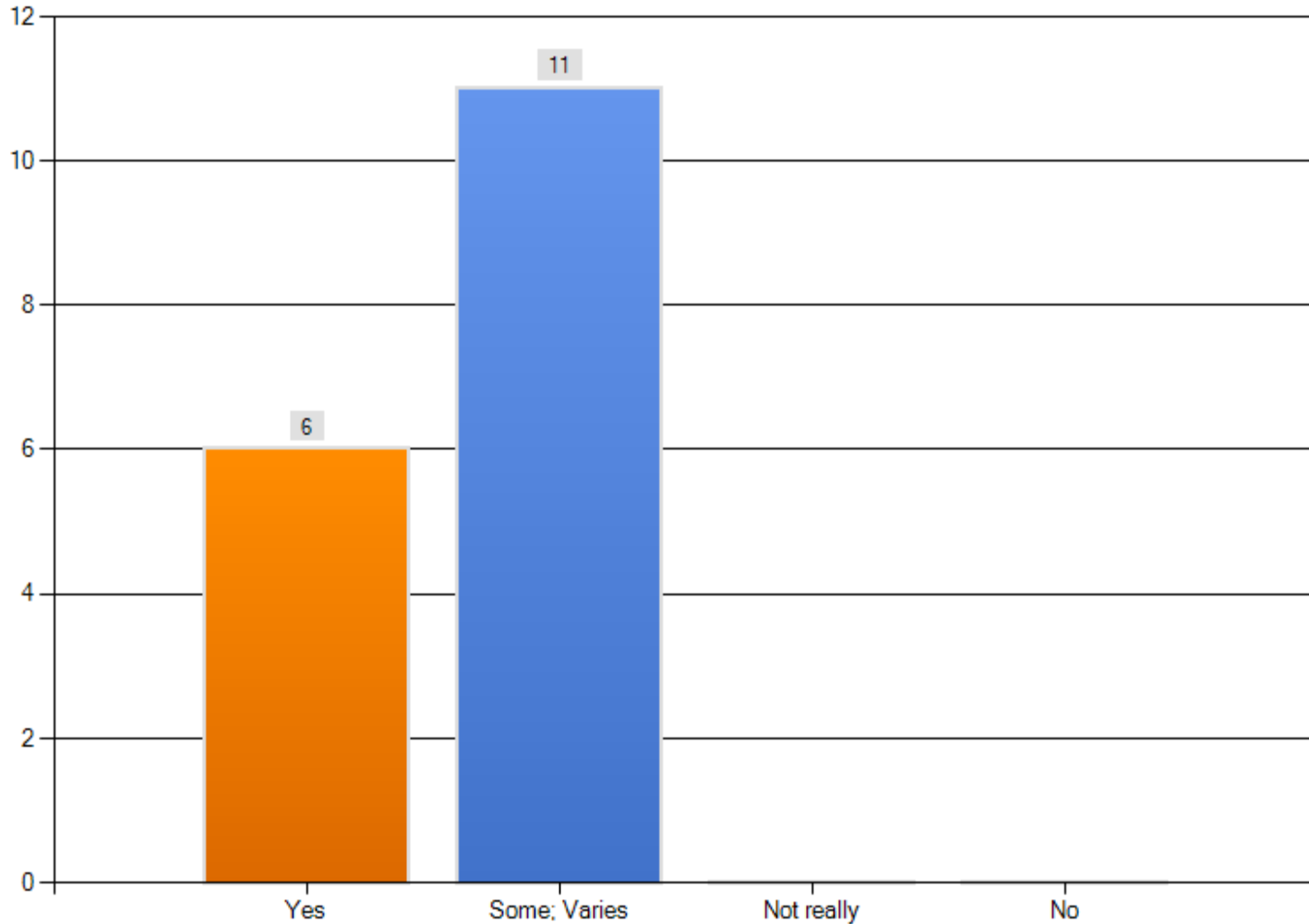
Perception of Self

Stakeholders from the wind energy development, environmental, and agency communities have been invited to the December 1 & 2 workshop. Do you think you have a good understanding of the interests and concerns held by stakeholder groups OTHER THAN your own?



Perception of the others within own group

Do you think others within your stakeholder group (Industry/ Environmental/ Agency) have a good understanding of the interests and concerns of the other stakeholder groups?



Wind Industry Development – The Current Marketplace

John Anderson, American Wind Energy
Association

Environmental Non-Governmental Organization Perspective

Garry George, Audubon California

Condor biology, wind energy associated challenges

Ashleigh Blackford, USFWS

Lunch



Be ready to resume at 1:00 pm

Exercise: Condor Breakout Choices

REDUCTION OF THREATS

PROJECT PLANNING

RADAR

AVOIDING & MINIMIZING RISK
(NON-RADAR)

MONITORING/MANAGEMENT
RESEARCH QUESTIONS


COMPENSATION FOR TAKE

Breakout Instructions

Use the “law of two feet” to guide you



You should be contributing or learning; if not, it is your responsibility to get up and go to another group



You can go to as many or as few groups as you want



Suggested Actions will be recorded. A prioritization exercise will happen later.