



**UPDATE TO THE
NPLCC STRATEGY
FOR PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT**

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Individuals involved with strategy development and document organization:

NPLCC Partner Engagement Working Group

Chris Tunnoch, British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resources

Lynn Helbrecht, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Sue Rodman, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

NPLCC Staff Support

John Mankowski, Coordinator

Angie Thomson, EnviroIssues, Facilitator

Daniel Brody, EnviroIssues, Facilitation Support

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I. BACKGROUND

The North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) is a self-directed partnership between federal agencies, states, Tribes/First Nations, non-governmental organizations, universities, and other entities which works to collaboratively define science needs and jointly address broad-scale conservation issues in the face of climate change and related stressors. The NPLCC combines the collective science capacity, infrastructure, creativity, perspectives, and sometimes financial resources of existing partnerships and programs to address decision support needs on a comprehensive scale. It is a forum for developing a common understanding of change driven by climate and related stressors, and its success depends on active engagement of partners throughout the region.

As one of 22 LCCs nationwide, the NPLCC acts as part of a network to identify, address, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge and information about large landscape conservation and climate stressors. The NPLCC encompasses a large expanse of land and adjacent marine waters along the Pacific Northwest coast, ranging from Alaska to Northern California.

II. PURPOSE OF THE PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The NPLCC will engage a variety of organizations that work in the landscape conservation field who are not directly represented on the NPLCC Steering Committee. These organizations represent important natural and cultural resource managers, policy-makers, researchers, and users that the NPLCC needs to successfully engage to achieve its mission. Partners are entities (private, public, Tribal, educational, government, quasi-governmental, etc.) that may be engaged with the work of the NPLCC at a variety of levels, such as:

- Engaging in the development, coordination, and dissemination of science to inform natural and cultural resource decisions.
- Needing and using climate-related science and information to manage cultural and natural resources.
- Planning, developing, managing, and/or studying resources that are affected by our changing environment (climate and related factors).
- Interested in maximizing and leveraging resources to develop science, information, and decision-support tools.

III. DEVELOPING THE PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The partnership engagement strategy was developed by the Partnership Engagement working group on behalf of the Steering Committee of the NPLCC. The working group included the following members:

- Chris Tunnoch, British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resources
- Lynn Helbrecht, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Sue Rodman, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

The subcommittee was supported throughout the development phase by John Mankowski, NPLCC Coordinator.

The working group held regular meetings to develop the strategy. Initially, the strategy included the creation of a Partnership Development Committee (PDC) that would bring together a variety of organizations that work in the landscape conservation field who are not represented on the NPLCC Steering Committee or subcommittees. In further discussion, the NPLCC Steering Committee decided that the partnership strategy should be revised to focus on a broader set of activities to engage partners. They tasked the Partnership Engagement working group in September 2013 to consider updating the strategy.

The first step in this update was to identify specific partnership engagement objectives. Next, the working group developed a partner assessment in order to better understand how partners would want to engage in the NPLCC, what the NPLCC can offer partners, and what partners can offer the NPLCC. The assessment was conducted through a robust outreach effort. Staff conducted a series of individual interviews with potential partners across the reach of the NPLCC, as well as convened small groups of partners with the help of Steering Committee members. In each case, partners were provided an overview of the mission and work of the NPLCC and asked:

1. What regional or topic-related conservation initiatives are you working on with issues similar to those of the NPLCC?
2. Who needs to be at the table, or involved, in order for the NPLCC to be successful?
3. How could the NPLCC help you be more successful in your work?
4. How could your engagement benefit the NPLCC?
5. What information is useful to you?
6. How would you like to contribute to the shared success of the NPLCC?
7. What is the best way for you to be engaged in the work of the NPLCC?

Results of these interviews were compiled and helped to inform the tools and approaches of this strategy.

IV. PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT GOALS

The NPLCC's mission provides a clear direction to guide its work. Its mission is to *"promote development, coordination and dissemination of science to inform landscape level conservation and sustainable resource management in the face of a changing climate and related stressors."*

The NPLCC has adopted seven specific goals (see Appendix 1) that, when achieved, will lead toward success in achieving the mission. Of these seven goals, four will be supported through an effective Partnership Engagement Strategy. They are:

NPLCC Goal 1: Maximize the ability of partners to make informed decisions with respect to conservation and sustainable resource management of priority natural and cultural resources

subject to climate change and related large-scale stressors in the NPLCC region. (*Conservation and restoration*)

NPLCC Goal 3: Identify priorities for applied science and other information for conservation/sustainable resource management. Coordinate efforts with the relevant Climate Science Centers and other research entities to help inform research priorities. (*Information priorities*)

NPLCC Goal 4: Promote identification, use, and sharing of science, traditional knowledge and other relevant information to support conservation/sustainable resource management, and adaptive management decisions. (*Use of information*)

NPLCC Goal 6: Promote coordination and efficiency of efforts among resource managers and science entities that are addressing science, traditional knowledge and other relevant information to achieve landscape level conservation/sustainable resource management. (*Coordination*)

To be effective, the NPLCC will look to this strategy to ensure our partners are making informed decisions about climate-related science and management information; identifying clear priorities for science and management needs, identifying and sharing information, and promoting coordination of efforts across the NPLCC.

V. PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The partnership engagement objectives are designed to support achievement of the four goals described above. The NPLCC provides a unique mechanism to convene and coordinate among scientists and resource managers, so effective partnership engagement is essential to realizing the success of the NPLCC's mission. A clear focus on the goals of partnership engagement will ensure actions and activities are meaningful and yield effective engagement opportunities. Partnership engagement objectives are:

1. Increase awareness of the NPLCC and its work
2. Provide partners with the understanding of how they can engage with the NPLCC and the expectations for being a partner
3. Connect partners so they work together on common goals and leverage resources efficiently and effectively in order to reduce duplicative efforts
4. Share NPLCC information and data so partners can incorporate it in developing and implementing on-the-ground programs and projects
5. Ensure that partners are willing and see the value in sharing their information and data with the NPLCC
6. Create a diverse funding structure for projects where financial resources are coordinated and leveraged between multiple organizations, including the NPLCC and its partners

VI. PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT LEVELS

The Steering Committee and working group discussed the need to understand that partners will likely engage with the NPLCC at various levels. Some will want to be highly engaged, through attending Steering Committee and Subcommittee meetings. Others may just wish to receive information about the latest science from the NPLCC. Through the partner assessment, the NPLCC learned the various levels of engagement partners were interested in pursuing.

Levels of Engagement to be updated and further described after the partner assessment is completed.

Potential Partner Groups & Desired Level of Engagement

Interest	Sample organizations	Level of engagement
Agencies beyond those already on the steering committee such as transportation, commerce, geophysical or other.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Ecology • Environmental Conservation • Department of Natural Resources • Department of Transportation 	•
Governing bodies of regions or states with advisory boards already in existence, who would consider climate change impacts within their mission. Include associations of local governments, especially those with rural or coastal representation and associations of ports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington Association of Counties • Canadian Center for Climate Impacts and Analysis 	•
Tribes / First Nations to contribute priorities and values from a partnership perspective. Tribes/First Nations are represented on the NPLCC Steering Committee.		•
Educational Institutions/Science Communities that exist within a university system or independently stimulate the efforts of the LCC with their own research findings and correlations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions 	•
Profession Organizations or Associations of Scientists that gather as practitioners on topics relevant to the work of the LCC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Society of America Foresters, Association of Fire Ecologists 	•

Interest	Sample organizations	Level of engagement
<p>NGOs that work on climate change and science development, with organizations representing a geographic range.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nature Conservancy • Wilderness Society • Skagit Commission • Audubon • Cascadia Forum • Ducks Unlimited • Cook Inlet Keeper • Trust for Public Lands • Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium • Pacific Coast Environmental Conservancy • Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory • Great Land Trust • EcoTrust • Sitka Sound Science Center • Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>Natural Resource-Dependent or Related Industry/Business Community to consult for trends, application of research, energy development for the future and how it impacts or will be impacted by climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture/Forestry • Fish/Shellfish • Outdoor Recreation (Tourism/Eco-tourism, e.g., International Northwest Parks & Recreation Association) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>Quasi-Governmental Conservation Cooperatives that are a part of the greater network of influences on the LCC boundaries, or may not fit into the categories above.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Habitat Partnerships • Joint Ventures • Puget Sound Partnership • Fraser Basin Council • Invasive Species Councils/Cooperative Weed Management • Soil & Water Conservation Districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

VII. PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT TOOLS & ACTIVITIES

Participating partners may engage with the NPLCC through a variety of activities, including some or all of the following:

- Communicate science and information needs/priorities of the entity one represents.
- Share news, science, tools developed by the NPLCC or its partners with interested parties.
- Identify collaborative opportunities between the NPLCC and partner organizations.

- Jointly host workshops, conferences, webinars, etc.
- Combine resources to accomplish joint program objectives in order to reduce redundancy.

A full list of partnership engagement tools and activities will be updated and further described after the partner assessment is completed.

VIII. EVALUATION MEASURES

A full list of evaluation measures will be updated and further described after partnership engagement tools and activities are identified.

IX. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

A strategy implementation plan will be developed after partnership engagement tools and activities are identified. The implementation plan will detail how the NPLCC will.

APPENDIX 1

NPLCC MISSION & GOALS

Mission Statement

The North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative promotes development, coordination and dissemination of science to inform landscape level conservation and sustainable resource management in the face of a changing climate and related stressors.

NPLCC Goals

1. Maximize the ability of partners to make informed decisions with respect to conservation and sustainable resource management of priority natural and cultural resources subject to climate change and related large-scale stressors in the NPLCC region. *(Conservation and restoration)*
2. Identify and address trans-boundary landscape-level natural and cultural resource information needs that the LCC is uniquely qualified to address -- including the identification of opportunities for (and barriers to) landscape-level conservation/sustainable resource management. *(Unique role of LCC)*
3. Identify priorities for applied science and other information for conservation/sustainable resource management. Coordinate efforts with the relevant Climate Science Centers and other research entities to help inform research priorities. *(Information priorities)*
4. Promote identification, use, and sharing of science, traditional knowledge and other relevant information to support conservation/sustainable resource management, and adaptive management decisions. *(Use of information)*
5. Maximize the availability and accessibility of data and information about large-scale stressors and their impacts on natural and cultural resources, and about conservation/sustainable resource management approaches and effectiveness. *(Availability of information)*
6. Promote coordination and efficiency of efforts among resource managers and science entities that are addressing science, traditional knowledge and other relevant information to achieve landscape level conservation/sustainable resource management. *(Coordination)*
7. Promote awareness and understanding of NPLCC and its products for landscape-level conservation and the effects of climate change on ecosystems, resources, cultures, and economies. *(Outreach)*

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