



NPLCC Final progress report

Administrative Information

- Project Manager: Jen Watkins, Conservation Northwest, 1829 10th Ave W, Suite B, Seattle, WA 98119, 206-940-7914, jwatkins@conservationnw.org
- Project Title: Cascadia Transboundary Adaptation Efforts
- USFWS Award: F14AC00556
- Award Period: September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017
- Award Total: \$27,500 (Original 2014 award for \$9,500 amended with additional funding of \$18,000 in 2015)
- Date of Report: September 30, 2017

Purpose and Objectives:

The Cascadia Partner Forum fosters a network of natural resource practitioners working with the Great Northern and North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to build the adaptive capacity of the landscape and species living within it. Funding from the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative supported vital portions of the 2014-2017 work plan of this partnership.

During this funding period, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative supported the Cascadia Partner Forum to:

- Foster our continued network through sponsorship of our annual WildLinks meeting that brings partners together across Cascadia with specific goals to further our workplan.
- Complete, review, and communicate on the work underway on priority issues identified by our partner forum including addressing conservation targets of the Great Northern LCC present in Cascadia such as wolverine, grizzly bear, salmon, aquatic connectivity, terrestrial connectivity, and access management. Each of these issues spans both sides of the Cascades crest, touching on important conservation planning to inform both the Great Northern and North Pacific LCC's.
- Build our data library content and utilization by partners in conservation planning in both our publicly viewable Cascadia Partner Forum Working Space within the North Pacific LCC Conservation Atlas on Databasin, and the private LCMAP portal for layers that require special permission to utilize.
- Initiate a living inventory of timely management decisions by land and resource managers throughout Cascadia.
- Identify and inventory existing spatial priority landscapes for natural resource conservation and management in Cascadia. It is important to be aware of existing spatial

priority landscapes identified by different entities throughout Cascadia. In understanding where these places are, why they are highlighted, and what the goals are within the landscape our hope is that in many cases this awareness can lead to increased coordination and resources towards efforts to strengthen resilience in these special places.

- Review and synthesize existing relevant climate science analyses within or overlapping Cascadia to identify spatial priorities for climate adaptation.

Project Deliverables

During this funding period, our Cascadia Partner Forum:

- Hosted three annual WildLinks conferences (2014, 2015, 2016) with robust attendance from both sides of the border. Annual agendas and attendee lists are enclosed with this final report.
- We made progress on increasing understanding, coordination, and conservation planning on all identified priority issues in our original grant proposal while adding new species and issues to our priority issues during this grant period. Information on all priority issues is available at <http://cascadiapartnerforum.org/priority-issues>. Highlights in this work during this grant period with NPLCC and leveraged funding include:
 - Hiring fellows on both sides of the border to interview experts on each priority issue and develop reports summarizing the status, threats, conservation opportunities, and important considerations on each.
 - Integration of climate science into the Sustainable Road Analysis process on the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest exploring how climate change impacts may impact the vulnerability of the road system.
 - A report summarizing a review of key connectivity patterns (linkages and fracture zones) within the transboundary Cascadia landscape summarized from scientific analyses conducted to date, and priority landscape scale linkages that keep Cascadia connected to a larger regional network of habitats.
 - A transboundary core habitat analysis for grizzly bears in the Cascadia landscape with recommended areas to focus on restoration efforts.
 - Webinar series on our priority issues to engage our larger community with information updates and dialogue with experts.
- We developed a data library within Databasin that summarizes layers for Cascadia including on climate science, priority issues, land ownership and management direction, and spatial priorities. The Cascadia Partner Forum group page within Databasin has 169 datasets and 13 data galleries, and is available at <https://databasin.org/groups/a4749709f14a42f7b615b856fco8ef94>
- We have completed and regularly re-visit a living spreadsheet on relevant land management and planning decisions in the Cascadia landscape where climate adaptation science can be integrated to inform planning for today and into the future. In developing this spreadsheet, we hired a fellow to call
- We conducted a survey, workshop, and outreach throughout 2016 to develop an initial inventory of existing spatial priorities in Cascadia. This work is summarized on our website at <http://cascadiapartnerforum.org/priority-landscapes>. The inventory includes

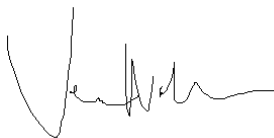
spatial priorities that have been identified in 4 areas: (1) Science analyses that identify spatial priorities, (2) designated priority areas, (3) expert opinion, and (4) species presence/habitat spatial information. This living inventory is maintained in a [working group for the Cascadia Partner Forum on Databasin](#), where layers can be viewed and downloaded.

- To build upon and complement existing spatial priorities, we engaged two contracts to explore an inventory existing climate analyses to identify spatial priorities for a resilient Cascadia in light of changing conditions. Through their leadership in discussions with climate experts throughout Cascadia, they determined that priorities for spatial priorities in light of climate change must be driven by a process that determines the vision that stakeholders have for a resilient Cascadia. Therefore our investments resulted in two memos to the broader Cascadia Partner Forum that defined the datasets, criteria, and processes for identifying this shared vision that will lead to the identification of shared regional spatial priorities. These memos are attached with this report:
 - November 2016. Krosby, Meade. “Identifying Cascadia Conservation Priorities Under Climate Change”
 - June 2017. Shirk, Andrew. “Criteria, Approaches, and Resources for Identifying Cascadia Conservation Priorities Under Climate Change”
- All of this work led to the definition of a Cascadia Climate Adaptation Strategy, that this funding helped us to develop the key components of including a video of Cascadia climate leaders defining why this shared strategy is necessary. Information on this strategy including the video is available at <http://cascadiapartnerforum.org/cascadia-climate-adaptation-strategy>

Communication and Outreach:

Our Cascadia Partner Forum has maintained a quarterly e-newsletter managed through MailChimp, while maintaining our website as a place for any interested parties to gain information on our work as well as a data working group on Databasin. We have continued to add content to our Voices of Cascadia project linking people to this landscape, <http://cascadiapartnerforum.org/voicesof-cascadia>. Also our WildLinks conference annually acts as a great opportunity to share information amongst our network, and we hosted several webinars on our priority issues to facilitate greater information sharing on timely topics with our network in early 2017.

SIGNATURE: This signature is to certify the submittal of this report:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Shirk', written over a horizontal line.