

Project Summary

Project Title: *Cascadia Partner Forum: Furthering adaptation coordination and planning for species and ecosystems in the transboundary Cascadia landscape.*

Project Summary:

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 will support vital portions of the 2014-2015 work plan of this partnership.

WildLinks 2014

WildLinks is an annual gathering hosted by Conservation Northwest of scientists, managers, NGO's, First Nations, and decision makers to share information and further specific annual objectives. The 2014 event will again be organized to advance the mission and workload of the Cascadia Partner Forum.

Specifically, early objectives of the event this year include:

- Share information on adaptation related efforts in the transboundary region that are underway or upcoming to increase coordination and involvement, while providing time and space to further these efforts while we are all together;
- Gain local expertise and contribution to North Pacific and Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperatives regional planning efforts, including furthering input from Cascadia on three Great Northern LCC conservation targets that the [Cascadia Partner Forum](#) has prioritized: *Salmon, Grizzly Bear, and Ecological Connectivity*;
- Building on our Access Management workshop from last year's WildLinks, while furthering road analyses in spatial priorities areas to inform timely management discussions;
- Continue building a network of practitioners working on building resiliency into the species and ecosystems of Cascadia and connected ecosystems.

Support for the conference allows us to offer very low registration fees and sponsorship for those without meeting budgets. This is especially important for transboundary attendance, as international travel is often difficult to gain approval for without financial support. The conference deliverables will include a summary report.

Partner Forum Fellows

The Cascadia Partner Forum will hire two fellows to assist in furthering our 2014-2015 workload in providing collaborative transboundary feedback towards science planning for GNLCC conservation targets that overlap into the North Pacific LCC geography in Cascadia including: salmon, grizzly bear, and ecological connectivity. The funding will allow two fellows (one from British Columbia and one from Washington) to assist the forum over 6 months on the following tasks: 1) Identify and upload data layers into the Conservation Planning Atlas for spatial priorities areas and conservation targets in the 2014-2015 workplan, 2) Identify and upload data layers into the Conservation Planning Atlas that help general practitioners link to base data layers and climate adaptation science relevant to the Cascadia landscape, 3) Interview practitioners and complete a review of data layer needs and concerns identified by transboundary partners for the NPLCC and Washington Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Working Group to provide insight into concerns, information gaps, and applied science needs, and 4) Assist in organizing and participating in a transboundary data working group.

Transboundary Data Workshop

Many challenges are encountered when attempting to share data across borders. This one-day workshop will build off of previous work to identify the challenges and data needs in the transboundary region by bringing together practitioners to discuss these challenges in greater detail to prioritize those that need to be addressed to inform land and species management, gain understanding on how we may address the needs, and identify those that a solution is not readily available. These discussions will be extended beyond the geographic boundaries of the Cascadia Partner Forum to the full transboundary region shared between British Columbia and Washington.

Budget

In support of the above work, the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative will provide:

- \$4000 towards WildLinks 2014
- \$5000 to support two fellows at \$2500 each
- \$500 towards a transboundary workshop

Conservation Northwest will hold no overhead administrative fee in addition to the above funding.