

JOINT LCC-SWCSC CALIFORNIA WORKSHOP

Asilomar, CA
October 26-28, 2016

“Working Together for Effective Large Landscape Conservation in the Western US”



PURPOSE: Provide a forum to advance landscape scale coordination, communication and collaboration.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Identify key climate and landscape scale action items we can all work on together.

AGENDA:

Day/Time	Agenda Topic	Speakers / Panelists	Objective / Product
Tues., Oct. 25	<i>Travel Day</i>		
4:00 PM	Check in		
6:00 PM	Dinner in Crocker Hall		
6:30 PM	Gather at Bonfire		S'mores and smiles

Wed., Oct. 26	<i>Merrill Hall</i>		
8:00 AM	Sign In		
8:30 AM	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michelle Selmon, CA LCC Chair Larry Rabin, Asst. Regional Director, USFW Kevin Hunting, CDFW 	
9:00 AM	3 X 3 Presentations by LCCs and SWCSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genevieve Johnson, Desert LCC John Mankowski, North Pacific LCC Rick Kearney, Great Basin LCC Carolyn Enquist, SW CSC Deb Schlafmann, CA LCC 	Highlight each LCC / CSC's priorities.
10:00 AM	Break		
10:15 AM	Panel*: Transboundary Theme - Land Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeff Raasch, Texas Parks & Wildlife/ Joint Venture Jay Chamberlin, CA State Parks Anne Morkill, US Fish & Wildlife Service Armand Gonzales, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 	Understand the challenges of land management at a landscape scale in a changing climate.
11:00 AM	Break out groups: Land Management	<i>All Participants</i>	Develop a list of strategies for addressing challenges.
12:00 PM	Lunch in Crocker Hall		
1:00 PM	Panel*: Transboundary Theme - Water for Ecological Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michelle Selmon, CA Department of Water Resources Jaci Gould, Bureau of Reclamation Debbie Aseltine-Neilson, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife 	Understand the challenges of managing water to optimize ecological health at a landscape scale in a changing climate.

1:45 PM	Break-out groups: Water for Ecological Health	<i>All Participants</i>	Develop a list of strategies for addressing challenges.
2:45 PM	Break		
3:00 PM	Panel*: Transboundary Theme - Fire Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Sapsis, CalFire • Diana Craig, US Forest Service • Mike Westaphal, Bureau of Land Management • Sarah Allen, National Park Service 	Understand the challenges of managing fire to optimize ecological health at a landscape scale in a changing climate.
4:00 PM	Break-out group: Fire Management	<i>All Participants</i>	Develop a list of strategies for addressing challenges.
4:45 PM	Review Day 1 developments and Day 2 instructions	Dorian Fougères	High level summary of the day's priorities. Instructions for dinner and Day 2 morning.
5:00	Adjourn		
Dinner			Crocker Hall
Thurs., Oct. 27	<i>Start in Merrill Hall</i>		
8:30 AM	Welcome	Chuck Bonham, CDFW	Welcome
8:45 AM	Speaker	Ellie Cohen, Point Blue Conservation	Kick off the day!
9:15 AM	Summarize previous day's panel discussions	Dorian Fougères	Review issues to take to break-out groups.
9:30 AM	Break-out Group Discussion	<i>All Participants</i> Assigned rooms, 8 groups of 10.	Based on strategies from Day 1, identify specific actions we can work on together.
10:30 AM	Break and return to Merrill Hall		

10:45 AM	Report out on group discussions	Group Reporters	Report out 2-3 actions.
11:30 AM	Speaker	Elsa Haubold, National LCC Coordinator	
12:00 PM	Summary and discussion on prioritization	Dorian Fougères	Summarize actions from group work. Instructions for dot voting on prioritization of actions.
12:15 PM	Lunch and dot voting		
1:15 PM	Speaker	Claire Jahns, CA Natural Resources Agency	
1:45 PM	Overview of prioritized actions	Dorian Fougères	Prioritized list of 3-6 actions we can work on together.
2:15 PM	Near-term work planning	<i>All Participants</i>	Generate volunteers to follow through.
3:00 PM	Break		
3:15 PM	Feedback & impressions	<i>All Participants</i>	Ideas and thoughts about morning work and discussions.
3:45 PM	Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michelle Selmon, CA Dept. of Water Resources Deb Schlafmann, CA LCC 	Wrap-up the day.
4:00 PM	Adjourn		Celebrate the great outcomes of the meeting!
6:00 PM	Dinner		
7:00-9:00 PM	Bonfire Social and Cash Bar	Sand & Surf	Sand and smiles
Fri., Oct. 28	Start in Merrill Hall (CA LCC) and Nautilus Hall (Desert LCC)		
8:30 AM	Individual LCC business meetings		
11:00 AM	Gather for field trip	Pick up boxed lunches at Merrill Hall	

12:00 PM	Check out and depart for Elkhorn Slough		
3:00 PM	Adjourn		

***TRANS-BOUNDARY THEME PANEL DESCRIPTIONS**

Panel discussions will focus on identifying the most pressing issues associated with *land, water and fire* management, setting the stage for further discussion in subsequent break-out groups that, in turn, will aim to find strategies for collective conservation action in the near and longer-term. Ways that the LCCs and CSCs can strategically work together to better take advantage of the opportunities and address the challenges will be a key area of focus for the panelists.

Each panelist was asked to consider the following questions for their presentation:

- What do you foresee as your biggest challenges in the future to support a thriving connected landscape?
- How is your agency/organization currently preparing for those challenges? Are they considering climate change? What obstacles stand in your way?
- What transboundary issues does your agency/ organization deal with? Please consider both jurisdiction and geography.

Land Management in an Era of Unprecedented Environmental Change

More than ever, the diverse terrestrial ecosystems of California are being subjected to the synergistic effects of human land use, persistent ‘hotter’ droughts, and stronger storms driven by ongoing climate change, and frequent disturbances associated with insect outbreak, wildfire, flooding, and severe soil erosion. These trends and extreme events have culminated in rapid environmental change across multiple scales. Land managers face unprecedented challenges preparing for and ultimately coping with the consequences of these effects, ranging from widespread forest die-off and accelerated rates of exotic species invasion, to making tough choices about assisted migration. This panel discussion will focus on identifying the most pressing landscape scale terrestrial issues, setting the stage for further discussion in subsequent break-out groups that, in turn, will aim to find strategies for collective conservation action in the near and longer-term.

Water: The key to Creating a Connected, Resilient Landscape in the Face of Climate Change and Other Stressors

This panel will include discussion on the challenges and opportunities associated with water management, marine and freshwater ecosystem management and restoration, and water-dependent recreation; and specifically how the impacts of climate change are affecting them and will affect those areas in the future. This includes consideration of drought, extreme storms, and sea level rise.

Managing Fire in a Changing Climate

Forest and coastal ecosystem managers now face multifaceted challenges associated with fire. This is exacerbated by the persistent 'hotter' drought that has dominated much of the Western over the past five years. Managers of fire-adapted ecosystems have been and will likely continue to be overwhelmed by longer and more intense fire seasons over larger areas, particularly with the enormous cost of suppression, loss of structures, and in some cases, loss of life—in addition to the impacts on ecosystems and associated services (e.g., water quality and quantity, pollination, recreation, culturally significant resources, etc.). Prescribed fire, however, remains to be a valuable tool for increasing the resilience of forest ecosystems to the ongoing, synergistic effects of land use and climate change.