



North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Steering Committee **Draft** Meeting Summary
Webinar
April 24, 2014

Contents

Welcome and Introductions	1
National LCC Update	1
Communications and Outreach 2014 Implementation Plan	2
Conservation Planning Atlas (CPA)	3
S/TEK Strategy Implementation.....	4
NPLCC Conservation Goals.....	5
Next Steps	6
Attachments.....	6
Attendees.....	6

Welcome and Introductions

Penny Mabie, EnviroIssues facilitator, welcomed everyone to the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) Steering Committee (the Committee) Internet meeting.

Rory Annett, NPLCC Co-Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed his gratitude for everyone's continued participation.

Penny reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives:

- Discuss and adopt a 2014 Communications and Outreach Implementation Plan
- View and approve for public launch the final Conservation Planning Atlas
- Start a discussion around the NPLCC's conservation goals

The Committee approved the February 19 meeting summary.

National LCC Update

John Mankowski, NPLCC Coordinator, welcomed Elsa Haubold to the call. He explained that Elsa is the relatively new National LCC Coordinator and outlined her background. He added she has been great to work with in her short time with the LCC Network.

Elsa Haubold, LCC Network Coordinator, thanked the Committee for offering her a chance to talk on the call. She explained that the LCC Council has been formed and met for the first time in February. The LCC Council formed three working groups to revise their charter, work on network communications, and strategic planning. The Council will have a conference call meeting the last week of April and a second in-person meeting in June.

Elsa reminded the Steering Committee that the US Fish and Wildlife service (USFWS) has invested heavily in the LCCs. The USFWS recently finished reviewing the work of the LCCs and found they are heading in the right direction. Additionally, the US Congress charged the National Academy of Sciences to review LCCs. They are currently working on a scope of work for the review. Elsa asked that if any scientists or state agency staff were interested in serving on a panel for the review, they should contact her or John Mankowski.

At a recent LCC Coordinators and LCC Science Coordinators meeting, it was decided that the top priority for 2014 was developing a network strategic plan. The Network will reach out to LCC Steering Committee members for input on the strategic plan. The goal is to have the plan completed in September. The Science Coordinators also agreed to develop a science agenda for the network.

Elsa encouraged Steering Committee members to attend the large landscape conference on October 23-24 in Washington DC. Lastly, she said the first annual report for the LCC Network will be available on their website within the next month.

Steering Committee Discussion

The following are the key points noted during the Steering Committee discussion:

Chip Jenkins, National Park Service, asked if the National Academy of Sciences review would also look at Climate Science Centers and the Regional HUBs.

Elsa responded that the appropriation language calls out LCCs specifically.

Joyce Kelly, Environmental Protection Agency, asked if Elsa could provide more information about the National Academy of Sciences scope of work.

Elsa answered that the scope of work has not been finalized. Congress asked for two elements of the review: 1) assess how human and wildlife health has been improved by the LCCs and 2) look at LCCs in the context of other federal programs being offered.

Sue Rodman, State of Alaska, asked for clarification on how the network science agenda would fit into the science agendas established by individual LCCs.

Elsa responded that in the past the Network has had national funding for projects that span multiple LCCs. The science agenda for the Network would provide priorities for national level project funding in the future.

Communications and Outreach 2014 Implementation Plan

Mike Tranel, National Park Service & Communications and Outreach (COR) Subcommittee Chair, reported that the COR Subcommittee recently approved a 2014 Implementation Plan. The

Implementation Plan includes eight priority focus areas that the COR Subcommittee believed could be achieved in 2014 based on current resources. He said that they are seeking final approval on the Implementation Plan from the Steering Committee

Meghan Kearney, NPLCC Communications Specialist reviewed the implementation plan ([Attachment 1](#)). She highlighted the priority focus areas, including:

1. Continue to update NPLCC website content
2. Continue to produce and refine e-newsletter communications
3. Continue holding science management webinars
4. Increase efforts to connect with LCC Network, Climate Science Centers (CSC) & regional initiatives (RISA, Climate Hubs, etc.) PLEASE SPELL OUT RISA
5. Identify and implement ways to communicate results of projects funded or supported by the NPLCC
6. Identify tools to communicate how climate change impacts cultural resources (tribal and non-tribal)
7. Develop analytic reports to measure performance of communication tools and strategies
8. Highlight variety of work and diversity of partners

The Steering Committee approved the 2014 Implementation Plan.

Meghan Kearney gave a presentation on the analytics of current communications tools ([Attachment 2](#)). She reviewed information collected about the NPLCC website, e-newsletters, and social media.

Steering Committee Discussion

The following are the key points noted during the Steering Committee discussion:

Chip Jenkins commented that the next step is to use communication analytics to track progress towards communications goals. He asked if the analytics can be separated by target audiences.

Meghan responded that measuring performance of communications tools is key. With this information she plans to gear content towards what people are interested in. She added that the data can be divided into location so they can make sure they are hitting target demographics.

John Mankowski added that the COR Strategy identifies four target audiences for the NPLCC to communicate with.

Lynn Helbrecht, State of Washington, said that it is important to get the results of NPLCC projects into the hands of scientists and managers. She asked how the COR is working towards that end.

John Mankowski responded that the COR is working jointly with the Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (S/TEK) Subcommittee on just that. Meghan will work with S/TEK to develop outreach plans for each of the NPLCC's projects.

Conservation Planning Atlas (CPA)

Mary Mahaffy, NPLCC Science Coordinator, introduced Tom Miewald who is the NPLCC Data Management Coordinator. Mary explained that Tom has been working to develop a Conservation

Planning Atlas (CPA) as part of the S/TEK Strategy and Implementation Plan. NPLCC partners have long said that the LCC can assist people with access to data and information and the CPA is a tool to meet that need.

Tom Miewald gave a presentation on the CPA. He explained that landscape data is often hard to access, and yet, it is necessary to inform decisions and management practices. Starting in 2011, the NPLCC worked collaboratively and identified ScienceBase/LC-MAP and Data Basin as systems that could meet the need of data access. In 2013, they worked with EcoAdapt to hold several focus groups to assess data needs. Through these efforts they identified data priorities and began developing the CPA. Tom showed the Steering Committee the CPA site (www.nplcc.databasin.org). He reviewed the CPA's features and data available through the site.

Mary Mahaffy explained that the NPLCC will host a webinar on May 15th from 10:00 to 11:30 am Pacific Time for people to provide feedback on the datasets available in the CPA. John Mankowski added that the CPA is a major accomplishment for the NPLCC and asked Steering Committee members to share the site with their organizations.

Steering Committee Discussion

The following are the key points noted during the Steering Committee discussion:

Mike Tranel commented that the CPA has tremendous potential on the communications side of the NPLCC. It allows the NPLCC to communicate information to the public and the professional community.

Robyn Thorsen, USFWS, said the CPA is of substantial value. She strongly feels it should move forward.

Chip Jenkins added that the CPA is an enormous positive accomplishment with clear applications. He asked if one of the goals of the CPA was to foster landscape scale planning work by using common data sets.

Mary responded that Chip is correct. The CPA is one place people can come to find information versus having to search multiple places to get access to the data. The NPLCC can continue to add datasets as well as users.

Chip also asked that as additional data is added if there is a system in place to prioritize and solicit the addition of data.

Joe Hostler, Yurok Tribe, commented that the CPA is an impressive tool, but he is concerned about missing out on sharing data that is not quantifiable. He was wondering how Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) could be included, especially after the work being done by Preston Hardison.

Tom Miewald responded that hopefully through the work Preston is doing they can identify ways to share tribal information in a way that is respectful.

S/TEK Strategy Implementation

Frank Shipley, US Geological Survey and S/TEK Subcommittee Chair, provided updates on the work of the S/TEK Subcommittee. He highlighted that the US Geological Survey is providing part time staff support to assist Mary Mahaffy in coordinating the science work of the NPLCC. Jill Hardiman will be

starting in the next few weeks. The Project Management and Accountability Practices Document is under review by the S/TEK subcommittee and will be presented for final approval by the Steering Committee in July. Additionally, the 2015/2016 Implementation Plan is under development.

Mary Mahaffy reviewed the projects being recommended for funding in 2014 ([Attachment 3](#)). She explained that the NPLCC put out a Request for Proposals in the fall for three actions. A total of 60 pre-proposals were received and eight projects were asked to submit full proposals based on limited project funds in 2014. After a rigorous review process, the S/TEK is looking to fund one project outright and work with the investigators on three additional projects to get them funded.

Steering Committee Discussion

The following are the key points noted during the Steering Committee discussion:

Lyman Thorsteinson asked if funding is not available for projects is it possible to consider using next year's funds in order to move those projects forward.

Mary explained that one project in 2013 was approved using 2014 funds. Given that S/TEK will have a new Implementation Plan for 2015; it probably does not make sense to allocate future year funding to projects identified in 2014.

John Mankowski added that if other agencies are interested in pooling funds for projects, the NPLCC can look at those opportunities to stretch resources and get projects moving.

Joe Hostler commented that there are culvert projects in Washington that Terry Williams has been interested in and if he were on the call would likely ask about.

NPLCC Conservation Goals

John Mankowski gave a presentation on NPLCC Conservation Goals ([Attachment 4](#)). He discussed what conservation goals are, why they should be articulated, and some proposed goals identified by NPLCC Staff. NPLCC pulled ideas from the S/TEK Strategy and its five priority topics, reviewed the goals and objectives of many NPLCC partner climate-change initiatives, reviewed the work of other LCCs, and ensured consistency with NPLCC charter, mission, and seven overarching goals. Through this they identified draft conservation goals ([Attachment 5](#)). Mary Mahaffy reviewed the draft goals and explained the next steps:

- Share the draft conservation goals with the Steering Committee
- Steering Committee provides ideas and comments by May 15th
- A revised draft will be developed and distributed
- Final discussion and approval will occur at the July Steering Committee meeting

Steering Committee Discussion

The following are the key points noted during the Steering Committee discussion:

Lyman Thorsteinson recommended that the NPLCC review the Conservation Design Working Group Paper as background and context for developing conservation goals. He will send the document to the NPLCC staff.

Next Steps

John Mankowski provided some additional updates, including:

- The 2013 NPLCC Annual Report is now available online
- A reminder about attending the CPA webinar on May 15th
- The NPLCC is working on some proposals for new national funds (\$1.5 million) for cross-LCC work
- Next Steering Committee meetings:
 - July 8 – 10 in Washington
 - August 13 - webinar
 - November 3 -6 in Anchorage, AK

Penny Mabie identified the following action items from the meeting:

- NPLCC Staff will send out the link to the Conservation Goals document
- Steering Committee members will review the Conservation Goals document
- EnviroIssues will finalize the February meeting summary
- If interested, let John know about participating on the National Academy of Science LCC review panel
- Steering Committee members will send comments on 2014 project funding by May 8

Attachments

- Attachment 1 (Document): [2014 Communications and Outreach Implementation Plan](#)
Attachment 2 (Presentation): [Outreach Performance Report](#)
Attachment 3 (Presentation): [S/TEK Briefing](#)
Attachment 4 (Document): [Draft NPLCC Conservation Goals](#)

Attendees

Steering Committee Members and Alternates

Rory Annett	British Columbia – <i>Steering Committee Co-Chair</i>
Chris Tunnoch	British Columbia
David Redhorse	Bureau of Indian Affairs
Sally Sovey	Bureau of Land Management (Portland)
Joyce Kelly	US Environmental Protection Agency (Pacific Northwest Region)
James Partain	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Climate Center)
Chip Jenkins	National Park Service (Seattle)
Chris Lauver	National Park Service (Seattle)
Mike Tranel	National Park Service (Alaska)
Tasha Sargent	Pacific Coast Joint Venture (Canada)

Sue Rodman	State of Alaska
Armand Gonzales	State of California
Lynn Helbrecht	State of Washington
Brad Ack	Stat of Washington
Joe Hostler	Tribes/First Nations (California)
Steve Brockman	US Fish and Wildlife Service (Alaska Region)
Bill Hanson	US Fish and Wildlife Service (Alaska Region)
Beatrice Van Horne	US Forest Service (Pacific Northwest Region)
Lyman Thorsteinson	US Geological Survey (Alaska) – <i>Steering Committee Co-Chair</i>
Frank Shipley	US Geological Survey (Pacific Northwest)
Gustavo Bisbal	Northwest Climate Science Center
Stephen Gray	Alaska Climate Science Center

Others in Attendance

Robyn Thorsen	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Stephen Zylstra	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Carrie Hessman	Bureau of Reclamation
Elsa Houbold	LCC Network Coordinator
John Mankowski	NPLCC Coordinator
Mary Mahaffy	NPLCC Science Coordinator
Tom Meiwald	NPCC Data Management Coordinator
Meghan Kearney	NPLCC Communications Specialist
Penny Mabie	EnviroIssues
Daniel Brody	EnviroIssues

Steering Committee Members Absent and Not Represented by an Alternate

Madeline Maley	British Columbia
Karen Kelleher	Bureau of Land Management (Anchorage)
Kim Hyatt	Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Barry Smith	Canadian Wildlife Service (Pacific/Yukon Region)
Barry Thom	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Fisheries)
Tom Dwyer	Pacific Coast Joint Venture (US)
Brett Brownscombe	State of Oregon
Eric Morrison	Tribes/First Nations (Alaska)
Terry Williams	Tribes/First Nations (Washington)
Terry Rabot	US Fish and Wildlife Service (Pacific Region)
Wayne Owen	US Forest Service (PNW Research Station – Alaska)
Mike Strobel	USDA National Resources Conservation Service (West Region NTSC)
Shaun McKinney	USDA National Resources Conservation Service (West Region NTSC)