

CA LCC  
San Diego  
Session Results  
January 25, 2011

## Expressed Needs

- Relationship with Tribes in NCCP, etc.
- Speed up translation of science to upper management. Get land managers advice to top managers in agencies.
- Support LWCF allocation for acquisition of local priority areas.
- Top level agency coordination.
- Leverage different funding programs.
- Filling gaps in information.
- Integrating conservation planning, including across international boundaries.
- Do this so well as to avoid legal entanglements.
- Monitoring network to feed data into NPS and other systems and incorporate local and regional monitoring efforts.
- Interpretation of science information to resource managers.
- Engage the public to provide political and popular support. More citizen science.
- Explain why it's still in the public interest to support conservation.

## Breakout Session Reports

### **Science priorities to support conservation and adaptation decisions.**

#### Needs:

- Understanding the impact of climate with interacting stressors in fragmented landscapes
- Improving and validating climate models at relevant spatial and temporal scales.
- Understanding functional (genetic) and physical connectivity across the landscape to inform adaptive management
- Ecoregional impacts of sea level rise.

#### LCC Top Priorities:

1. Facilitate collaboration among agencies/experts /researchers to evaluate key issues (i.e. interaction of stressors)
2. Vehicle: workshops, working groups

3. Provide staff / assistance to implementation of regional monitoring / management database
4. Facilitate lessons learned in designing, planning and implementing regional conservation plans. Avoid making the same mistakes.

### **Decision-support tools for resource managers.**

Needs:

- Develop species/habitat vulnerability analyses/assessments.
- Habitat land cover trends and predicted changes.
- Feedback mechanism for quality assurance adaptive management strategies.
- Identify priority target species/habitats for monitoring.

LCC Top Priorities:

1. Topical trainings/workshops for scientists, managers and stakeholders  
Incorporate uncertainties to inform their management. Ensure that scientists' areas of interest are informed by resource managers. Require funded projects to do this.
2. Convey landscape assessments and changes to resource managers and scientists.
3. Look at effectiveness of management actions and measures including vulnerability assessments. Establish web site for communities of practice.
4. Standardize assessment metrics within LCC (what we need to monitor) and incorporate uncertainty into all this.

### **Monitoring in a changing environment.**

Needs:

Track changes through time.

Monitoring across LCC: who what, how.

Long-term monitoring including an adaptive component and being climate smart (e.g. monitoring for where species are going to be, not just where they are).

Transferring and interpreting monitoring results into useful for resources managers.

LCC Top Priorities:

1. Establish the who what where and data gap network
2. Connect monitoring to resource managers.
3. Identify highest priority monitoring questions at ecoregional level for prioritization.
4. Improve monitoring coordination, seminal locations along the landscape.

### **Information interpretation, translation and exchange for resource managers.**

Need:

Engage all sources of information: public agencies, NGOs, academia.

[www.data.gov](http://www.data.gov)

LCC Top Priorities:

1. Create list of databases and information sources toward a comprehensive search engine.
  - Description
  - Contacts
  - Researchers
2. On-demand syntheses of existing information on demand from LCC partners.
3. Provide decision-makers with information about changing environmental baselines and insert information to update models.

### **Connecting existing regional plans and programs.**

LCC Top Priorities:

1. Adopt ecoregional structure to coordinate LCC implementation.
2. Highlight ecoregional conservation benefit of NCCP as a national model for landscape level conservation.
3. Facilitate data analysis and information exchange to achieve coordinated conservation and economies of scale.

### **Create a strategic communications plan that is incorporated into the CA LCC strategic plan.**

LCC Top Priorities:

1. Form communications subcommittee.
2. Create a strategic communications plan that is incorporated into the CA LCC strategic plan. Plan should specify audience, messages, What's In It For Me and answer:
  - Explain what the LCC is, succinctly.
  - Why do we need it?
  - How is it going to do this?
  - Who needs it?
3. Develop / identify tools to collect and share information, accomplishments and successes.

## Top Advice

- Create a succinct explanation for LCC niche.
- The information transfer pipeline to upper managers to ground level, lessons learned and not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. Avoid the worst.
- LCC is a Center of Collaboration.
- Solicit and incorporate feedback from all partners.
- Adopt an ecoregional framework. Take into account the different issues of the different ecoregions.
- List research projects the LCC is sponsoring and show how these projects are directly related to the goals.
- Take time to learn about what we have been doing here, understand that, and Just Do It Now. Buy the wheel, don't reinvent it.
- Define what LCC needs to be done at a landscape scale.
- Get the federal agencies on the same page regarding terminology, etc.
- Remind that LCC will be partnership-driven; engage key partners as quickly as possible, identify benefits and deliver them.
- Local partnerships are already in action, so LCC can bring up what's already happening, synthesize and coordinate it.