



California Landscape Conservation Cooperative (CA LCC)

DRAFT Steering Committee Meeting Summary

April 20, 2012

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm

Participants:

Steering Committee Members and Alternates

Diana Craig, Chair, US Forest Service (USFS)

Matt Gerhart, State of California Coastal Conservancy (SCC)

Armand Gonzales, CA Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

David Graber, National Park Service (NPS)

Tom Hedt, US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Rick Kearney, US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

Patrick Rutten, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Bob Shaffer, Central Valley Joint Venture (CVJV)

Wayne Spencer, Conservation Biology Institute (CBI)

Tom Suchanek, US Geological Survey (USGS)

CA LCC Staff

Debra Schlafmann, CA LCC Coordinator

Rebecca Fris, CA LCC Science Coordinator

Brady Mattsson, CA LCC Research Ecologist

Mike Ward, CA LCC Communications Specialist

Consultants

Grace Person, Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP)

Objectives

The purpose of the meeting is to seek agreement on the methods of information exchange through webinars, review and approve the list of pre-proposals to move forward to submit full proposals, and identify topics for the next in-person Steering Committee Meeting.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Business and Updates
 - Accept Meeting Summaries from Past Meetings
 - National LCC Workshop March 27/28 Denver
 - National LCC Vision, Mission, Purpose
 - National LCC Coordinators Charter
 - CA LCC Website and Listserve
 - Strategic Planning Process, Phase II
- Information Exchange Implementation
 - Feedback on California Climate Commons Webinar, 4/19
 - Future Webinars
- Review Pre-proposal Recommendations
- Next In-person Meeting and Topic(s)

Action Items

- Change the January 30th and March 9th Steering Committee Meeting Summaries to final on the CA LCC website.
- Debra will send out a Doodle Poll to determine a June date for the project selection conference call and the in-person meeting.

Welcome

Diana Craig welcomed the Steering Committee members to the meeting and called roll. She then reviewed the meeting agenda.

Business and Updates

Accept Summaries from Past Meetings

The Members accepted the meeting summaries from the January 30th and March 9th Steering Committee meetings. The final meeting summaries will be posted to the meetings page on the CA LCC website.

National LCC Workshop March 27/28 Denver

Debra Schlafmann gave an update on the National LCC meeting on March 27th and 28th. She shared that there was much interest in the workshop and that 400 participants attended. Many members and representatives of CA LCC funded projects also attended the meeting.

One Steering Committee member who attended the workshop commented that it was an exciting and educational event. Another member noted how the Steering Committee members' active participation sets a positive example and provides leadership for the other Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC).

There was a question of whether a common theme of national prioritization of issues has emerged in regards to the projects other LCCs work on. Some members noted that there were many differences between the LCCs, and that the intent of the meeting was to have an initial meeting to exchange information. Also, this meeting was an opportunity for the LCC coordinators to network and connect at a national level.

National LCC Vision, Mission, Purpose

Debra shared that the final National LCC Vision, Mission, and Purpose document is almost finished, and that she will provide a copy to the members as soon as it is ready.

National LCC Coordinators Charter

The National LCC Coordinators has approved a charter and Debra will provide a copy of that document to the members when it is available.

CA LCC Website and Listserve

Mike Ward shared that the CA LCC website receives regular updates. He also shared that that the Alliance Listserve has over 500 subscribers.

Strategic Planning Process, Phase II

Debra informed the members that the CA LCC staff has a few more resource manager interviews to conduct, and that she anticipates the Phase II report to be ready in May.

Information Exchange Implementation

National Vulnerability Assessment Training Opportunity

Diana sought input from the members on whether the CA LCC staff should pursue the opportunity to host a national vulnerability assessment training. Members expressed interest in the workshop and requested that the CA LCC seek to host it in the fall.

Feedback on California Climate Commons Webinar, 4/19

One member shared the webinar was extremely adaptable, and a valuable asset to the CA LCC partnership.

Future Webinars

There were suggestions that future webinars occur once or twice a month over lunchtime, that the topics and projects showcased vary, and that the webinar include a structured question and answer portion.

Review Pre-Proposals Recommendations

Rebecca Fris thanked the Review Team for their efforts to review the 94 pre-proposals that the CA LCC received in response to the call for 2012 Science Projects. Rebecca also noted that the applications were very diverse in terms of project types, organization types and geographic scope. The 32 pre-proposals that the Review Team recommends to proceed include nine projects previously funded by the CA LCC.

Rebecca shared that even though there is not a requirement for the projects to have matching funds, one criteria used by the Review Team is the partnerships and leveraging of funds. Another member commented that the CA LCC should look for opportunities to leverage resources to support projects that the CA LCC does not select to fund. Debra mentioned that Ellie Cohen had expressed interest in helping with this effort, and Debra requested that other members also interested contact her.

There was another request that the CA LCC begin to prioritize projects and evaluate the CA LCC previously funded to assess the data gaps. Debra pointed out that the resource manager interviews for the Strategic Planning Process is to focus and prioritize conservation efforts, which will lead to the CA LCC Strategic Plan and Science Plan.

Rebecca noted that the Review Team discussed in detail how projects would meet resource managers' needs. She also shared that the guidance for the full proposal process includes instructions that the letters of support need to come from managers who will use the final product or tool.

Next steps in the process include Rebecca notifying the 32 projects that they may submit full proposals, as well as notifying the 62 other projects that they did not advance to the next phase of the process. Rebecca will also inform the Review Team that the Steering Committee is interested in projects that have applied conservation components not just online tools or products, as well as focus on the evaluation criteria that the project has a management agency committed to use the product.

The Steering Committee approved the 32 recommended pre-proposals to submit full proposals.

Next In-person Meeting and Topic(s)

Debra shared that the next in-person meeting will occur in June, and the meeting will include a presentation of the Strategic Planning Phase II results and an update on the development of the Strategic Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Phase II results and use that information as a basis to identify the conservation objectives for the CA LCC. The CA LCC will also announce the 2012 Science Projects finalists as the Steering Committee will have a conference call to approve the Review Team's recommendations of projects to fund prior to the in-person meeting.

There was a suggestion that the in-person meeting occur in Davis. Debra will also send out a Doodle Poll to determine a date in June.

There was a brief recap of the CA LCC's visit with congressional staffers in January, as well as an update on the feedback from the General Accounting Office's on-site visit with the CA LCC.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.