



Strategic Plan (May 2013)

5-year Goal - A growing community of resource managers, scientists, conservation practitioners, and others that are successfully collaborating to advance and implement actions that promote resilient and adaptable ecosystems across the landscape in the face of environmental change.

Objective 1 - Conduct and coordinate information exchange between scientists and managers to advance decision-making and conservation at a landscape scale.

Strategy 1	Identify key science needs and improve delivery of usable scientific information to enable effective implementation of conservation strategies
Actions	Convene a Science-Management Team composed of a diverse set of natural resource managers and scientists to complete a Science Strategy within the first year and annually refine and revise the LCC science priorities based on experience and learning
	Collaborate and coordinate with the USGS Climate Science Centers and partner Universities to encourage scientific research and development that addresses the CA LCC science priorities
	Ensure CA LCC science partners successfully translate scientific information into a form that can be used by resource managers, using online content, reports, workshops, and in person training.
	Sponsor relevant web-based presentations and archive them online for long-term accessibility.
	Support increased participation in relevant scientific events by LCC partners that can improve adaption strategies.
Strategy 2	Expand and enhance engagement of key audiences within the CA LCC region
Actions	Convene a Communication Team to help develop and implement a Communication Strategy within the first year, in coordination with adjacent LCCs and the headquarters Communication Team.
	Identify representatives from relevant entities that use and develop scientific information and tools in landscape level conservation, including: federal, state, tribal and local agencies, NGOs, Joint Ventures, Fish Habitat Partnerships, and scientific institutions.
	Develop and schedule a periodic process for assessing information sharing needs and common management issues at multiple ecological, geographic, and temporal scales.
Strategy 3	Identify and facilitate efficient ways to engage partner collaboration to achieve shared vision and goals
Actions	Assess collaboration opportunities across stakeholder groups and partnership that can improve natural resource conservation.
	Identify and apply criteria to transparently prioritize the needs for collaboration identified by partners.
	Facilitate effective collaboration among partners that address high-priority needs for aquatic and landscape conservation.
	Facilitate shared conservation visions, plans and actions among partners.
	Take advantage of professional and public venues (e.g., conferences, workshops and meetings) to improve and increase the frequency of communication within and among collaborating groups.



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	Collaborate with other LCCs and the national LCC office to share and improve methods for collaboration and foster a shared vision across a larger landscape.
Strategy 4	Develop and deliver relevant training and information products for key audiences using climate smart principles
Actions	Develop and/or promote trainings and curricula that meet key management needs related to successfully achieving landscape scale conservation and emphasizing climate smart conservation processes.
	Deliver a curriculum to a wide audience for establishing a general understanding of climate change science, ecosystem impacts, and the implications for resource management and conservation.
	Maintain a well-curated and content rich web-based portal that assembles, synthesizes, and delivers relevant information for users, including scientific literature, technical reports and other products directly useable by natural resource managers.
	Work with science partners to promote useful products for resource managers that emphasize climate smart conservation.
Objective 2 - Enhance climate-smart conservation* (nature-based adaptation and mitigation) on a landscape scale.	
Strategy 1	Support and promote place-based projects in ecoregions that demonstrate and advance conservation at a landscape scale
Actions	Develop criteria for selection of projects within each ecoregion.
	Engage and work with a Science-Management Team to help identify, prioritize, and scope the place-based projects.
	Initiate 2 ecoregion projects per year over 5 years for a total of 10 projects.
	Share project results with stakeholders and other LCCs.
	Deliver projects that make the project findings useful and usable for applied conservation.
Strategy 2	Promote, support, and coordinate cross-sectoral understanding of ecosystem processes and services to advance climate-smart conservation at a landscape scale.
Actions	Work with a Science-Management Team to identify information gaps and define priority issues related to understanding or managing ecosystem processes and services of importance for the CA LCC region.
	Work with a Science-Management Team to develop criteria for selection of projects that include identified high priority ecosystem processes and services.
	Initiate at least one integrative project to implement within the first two years.
	Share project results with stakeholders and other LCCs annually
	Deliver products that are useful and usable for applied conservation.



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Objective 3 - Ensure CA LCC provides effective and lasting outcomes that support California’s diverse and thriving ecosystems.

Strategy 1	Seek broader engagement in the CA LCC collaborative functions.
Actions	Ensure inclusive participation by continuously assessing and adjusting participation in the Steering Committee, Working Groups, and other groups convened by the LCC.
	Seek to broaden and foster partnerships beyond the conservation audience for furthering the CA LCC mission.
	Identify and participate in local and national venues to expand audiences and leverage CA LCC results to reach the public.
	Encourage members of the CA LCC Steering Committee and other working bodies to establish routine lines of communication to leaders within their home institutions to improve information sharing and opportunities for collaborative engagement.
Strategy 2	Evaluate and continuously improve the CA LCC’s processes and functions to expand the LCC’s value and effectiveness.
Actions	Produce and widely disseminate an annual report that communicates CA LCC progress, successes and lessons learned.
	Establish performance metrics to evaluate CA LCC success in providing information on relevant topics for ecosystem health.
	Assess annual progress towards established goals of the strategy and revise science priorities in light of improved understanding.
	Develop measurable criteria for evaluating progress and success of funded science activities developed under Objective 1.
	Annually review outcomes and impacts of the place-based and ecosystem processes and services projects developed under Objective 2 and use this information to refine the LCC approach to undertaking future projects.
Strategy 3	Develop the necessary capacities, resources, and assets to achieve the goals and objectives of this strategic plan.
Actions	Develop an estimated budget for this Strategic Plan.
	Develop a strong community of funding partners to assist in implementing the Strategic Plan and Science Strategy.
	Cultivate relationships with potential funders to partner on science and product delivery.
	Seek in-kind contributions from partners to implement the plan.



Science-Management Framework (Dec. 2013)

5-year Goal - A growing community of resource managers, scientists, conservation practitioners, and others that are successfully collaborating to advance and implement actions that promote resilient and adaptable ecosystems across the landscape in the face of environmental change.

Objective 1 - Support ten or more place-based projects distributed across all CA LCC Ecoregions that lead to climate-smart conservation actions by resource managers.

Strategy 1	Support the design and implementation of place-based projects that advance climate-smart conservation.
Actions	Partnership: Build a collaborative, ongoing partnership and communication network among scientists and managers representing a wide range of organizations and stakeholders (including tribes where applicable). Include willing partners who are already engaged and can take actions on the ground to leverage and coordinate ongoing efforts.
	Information: Collect, compile and synthesize existing relevant science information and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) when applicable. Identify information gaps, common conservation objectives and Ecoregional priorities.
	Decision Support: Use climate-smart principles and the appropriate decision-support methodologies such as vulnerability or landscape assessments to inform the development of climate-smart strategies and actions to conserve priority resources.
	Strategies: Design climate-smart conservation strategies and actions to achieve measurable conservation objectives to conserve priority resources.
	Action: Establish plans and mechanisms that clearly lead to implementation on the ground.

Strategy 2 Support place-based projects that address Ecoregional priorities and needs.

Strategy 3 Ensure that place-based projects show high value-added by the CA LCC, high impact, respond to management needs, and use methodologies and practices that are transferable.

Objective 2 -Implement at least two interdisciplinary projects to assess and address climate change impacts to priority ecosystem processes at a landscape scale.

Strategy 1 Support the design and implementation of projects that promote cross-sectoral understanding of ecosystem processes.

Strategy 2 Ensure ecosystem process projects show value-added by the CA LCC and have the potential for high impact, respond to management needs and use methodologies and practices that are transferable.

Objective 3 - Develop at least two landscape conservation design projects that provide spatially explicit blueprints that will support climate-smart strategies and actions development.

Strategy 1 Support the design of spatially explicit blueprints that incorporates climate-smart principles.

Strategy 2 Ensure the landscape conservation design approaches and outcomes can be adapted or replicated in other areas.

Strategy 3 CA LCC Staff coordinates landscape conservation designs across the CA LCC and with adjacent LCCs.