

California LCC Strategic Plan Summary

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Steering Committee Meeting

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1. Context

1. Process

1. Plan

Context – Environmental



- >28 million acres
- High biodiversity
- Many species endemic &/or limited distribution
- ~25 million people
- Diverse habitats & uses
- Nation's 2nd largest estuary

- Altered landscapes & ecosystem processes
- Changing temperatures, precipitation, water availability, fire frequency, sea level, etc.
- Climate change = escalating threats

Context – Institutional



Established Partnership

Federal/state agencies, Tribes, NGOs,
Joint Venture, SWCSC

Mission

...a management-science partnership to inform & promote integrated science, natural resource management and conservation to address impacts of climate change and other stressors...

Guiding Principles

Science delivery to advance conservation through:

- *Strengthened partnerships*
- *Enhanced scientific capabilities*
- *Needed scientific information and tools*
- *Enhanced cooperation across ownerships & management boundaries*

Context – Strategy Development

Assets:

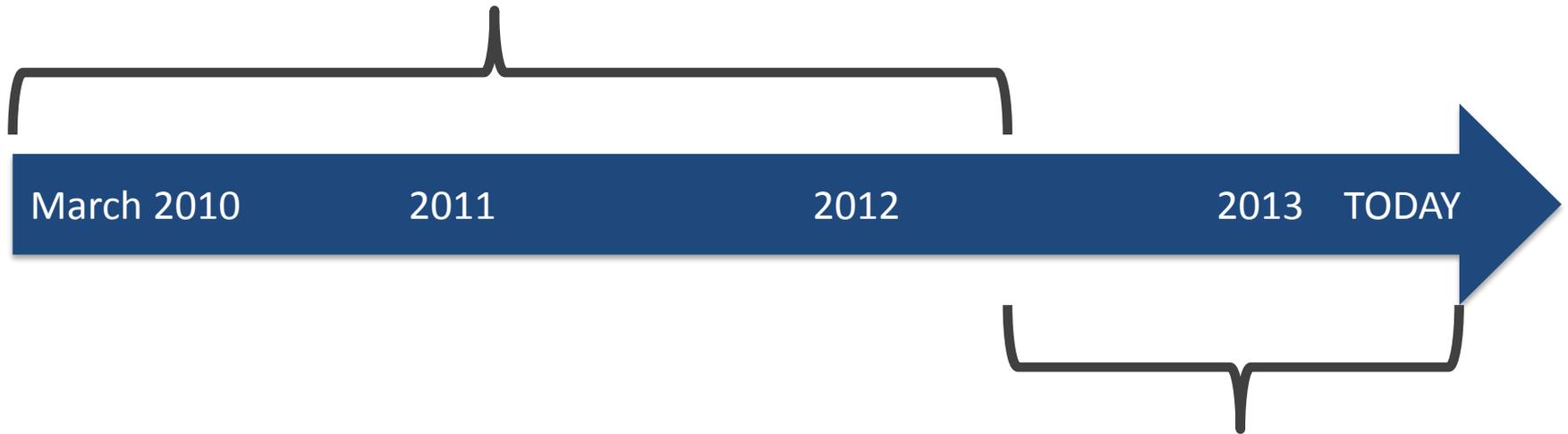
- Well-developed Charter
- Engaged Steering Committee
- Dedicated staff
- Established funding portfolio

Considerations:

- Diverse cooperators & users
- Large geographic scope
- Ecological diversity
- Need to define new ways of doing business & products
- Expansive opportunities

Process

Identify Partner Needs & Interests



Develop Strategic Plan

Input from managers, practitioners, & researchers

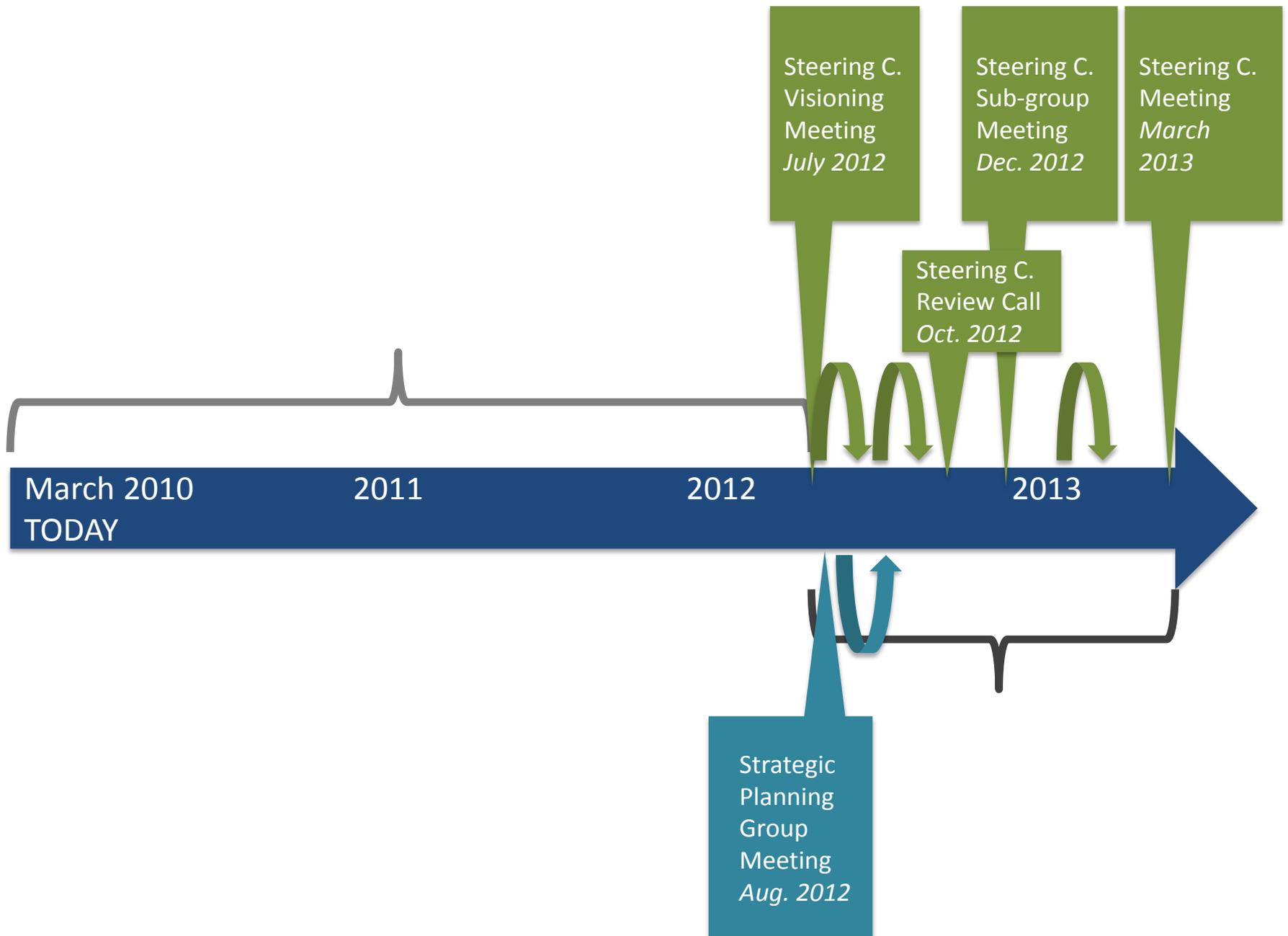
- 3 workshops, >250 participants
- 44 in-person & phone interviews



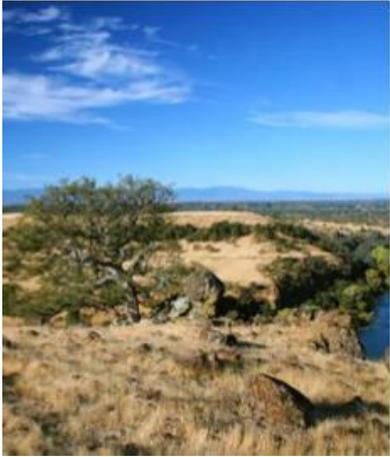
Near-term focus makes it difficult to address climate change & other long-term stressors.

Two overriding needs:

1. Access to relevant science, including synthesis & data translation;
2. Enhanced collaboration & capacity-building to facilitate information sharing among researchers & managers.



Strategic Plan



Vision

California supports diverse and thriving ecosystems through lasting cooperative conservation partnerships.

Five-year Goal

A growing community of resource managers, scientists, conservation practitioners, and others that is successfully advancing and implementing actions to promote resilient & adaptable ecosystems across the landscape in the face of environmental change.

Strategic Plan Overview

Objective 1 = How

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

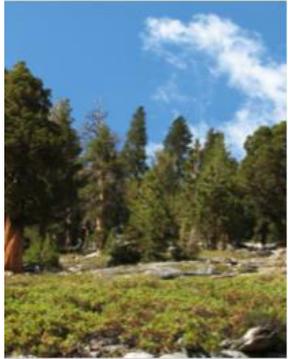
Objective 2 = What

Enhance climate-smart conservation (nature-based adaptation & mitigation) on a landscape scale.

Objective 3 = Who

Ensure CA LCC provides effective & lasting outcomes that support California's diverse & thriving ecosystems.

Objective 1 – Conduct & coordinate information exchange



CA LCC Role & Approach

- Promotes partners working together
- Engages key audiences
- Facilitates communication, collaboration, information sharing, & science synthesis & translation

Strategies:

1. Identify/deliver usable scientific information

- Includes Science Strategy

2. Expand & engage key audiences

- Includes Communication Strategy & user needs assessments

3. Facilitate partner collaboration to achieve shared goals/vision

4. Develop & deliver relevant training & information products

- Includes web portal

Science Strategy

A Science-Manager Team will be convened to complete a Science Strategy within the first year and annually to refine and revise the LCC's science priorities. This strategy will detail an approach for meeting the Strategic Plan's objectives over the next 5 years and will identify science funding priorities.

Communication Strategy

A Communication Team will be convened to develop & implement the CA LCC Communication Strategy. This strategy will set communication priorities and guide the LCC's communication processes, practices, and ongoing evaluation.

Objective 2 – Enhance Climate-Smart Conservation on a landscape scale



CA LCC Role & Approach

- Supports projects specific to diverse geographies & ecoregions
- Supports projects related to ecosystem processes & services that are common to many places
- Uses R.G. Bailey's ecoregions as a guide

Strategies:

1. Support & promote place-based projects

- Initiate 2 per year in different ecoregions

2. Promote, support, & coordinate cross-sectoral understanding of ecosystem processes and services

- Initiate ≥ 1 integrative project within first two years

Climate Smart Conservation

- Nature-based adaptation & mitigation
- Climate change addressed in concert with other threats
- Goals = Sustain vibrant diverse ecosystems; Reduce impacts on wildlife & people; Enhance adaptation capacity; Reduce GHG emissions & enhance carbon sinks.

Place-based Projects

- Include on-the-ground partners
- Demonstrate or advance climate smart conservation at a landscape scale
- Address ecoregion's significant issues or needs
- Leverage & coordinate ongoing efforts & groups

Integrative Projects

- Fill priority needs for knowledge/applications about ecosystem processes or services
- Relevant at regional or larger scales – Results are transferrable
- Remove impediments or facilitate progress/decision-making
- Innovative, aspirational, &/or proactive
- Connect to ongoing work & engaged organizations
- Opportunities where CA LCC can uniquely add value

Objective 3 – Ensure CA LCC provides effective & lasting outcomes



CA LCC Role & Approach

- Seeks to continuously improve effectiveness & impacts
- Ongoing efforts to build capacity, collaboration, & engagement
- Regularly assesses progress
- Strategically leverages funding

Strategies:

- 1. Seek broader engagement in collaborative functions**
- Includes the Steering Committee & going beyond the conservation audience
- 2. Continuously improve the CA LCC's processes/functions**
- Includes annual report, performance metrics, criteria for project success
- 3. Develop the capacities, resources, & assets to achieve the Strategic Plan**
- Includes a budget & funding partners

Making the Transition from Planning to Action:

- Where/how are the partners presently engaged?
- Best near-term opportunities for partner collaborations to advance the SP implementation?
- 3-5 highest and best investments of LCC capacities to support partner collaborations and advance the plan?

Five-year Goal – A growing community of resource managers, scientists, conservation practitioners, and others that is successfully advancing and implementing actions to promote a resilient & adaptable ecosystems & landscapes in the face of environmental change.

Objective 1

Conduct & coordinate information exchange.

Objective 2

Enhance climate-smart conservation on a landscape scale.

Objective 3

Ensure CA LCC provides effective & lasting outcomes

