



**Steering Committee Meeting Notes
December 12-13, 2013**

Science-Management Framework Discussion:

Add carbon cycles to the list of priority ecosystem processes.

We need examples of ecosystem based projects that we can provide and translate to partners.

Are species interactions missing as an ecosystem process bullet?

- It is currently vaguely included.
- Phenology, human dimensions are examples that could be illustrated.

Climate Science Centers role in the Science-Management Framework is unclear. It needs to more explicitly illustrate the partnership here.

Consider air-scape in Landscape Conservation Design process.

We need a strategy on getting information to other LCCs. This is in the Communication Plan, but may also be appropriate here.

Remove Figure 3 completely because it gives the impression we will weight efforts in ecoregions based on area.

Beth Huning will provide edits on ecoregions descriptions.

Make sure Landscape Conservation Design considers issues outside the design area and their effect on those systems.

We should consider use of Marine Protected Areas as a way to weave into Landscape Conservation Designs of future years.

Page 9, fourth bullet: designing actions in a landscape in a landscape context -> designing them in a habitat or ecosystem context instead. Landscape is too narrow of a term.

Science-Management Framework Continued:

Add a Tribal Ecological Knowledge call out box with a definition and add to glossary.

Page 13: Two ecosystem projects need clarification the timeline descriptions .

Landscape definition needs work in glossary.

Repeat more or create more overlap with communication plan info. Expand on 4th objective to achieve this.

To meet Objective 4, there is opportunity of bringing CA LCC lessons learned into the desert of Nevada Through the Great Basin LCC.

Communication Plan Discussion:

We need to add targeted legislative outreach. Look to NGOs for help with this.

Tom Suchanek will send more Communication Plan comments to staff.

How are we going to create targeted messages that show successes?

Prioritize and specify communication strategies given our limited resources.

- Develop a 1-year work plan.

Define Communication better, what it is and is not.

Use LinkedIn to build membership to partner index for climate commons/CA LCC website.

Make sure Goal 2 is for achieving two-way interactions.

Bullet 1: Continually understand and identify.

We need to host a manager specific webinar series.

Comment box on website or pop-up survey.

- There already is a comment box, maybe it is not so easy to locate though.

Integrate actions with Science-Management Framework more.

Insert National LCC Council as an audience.

Communication Plan Discussion:

A problem analysis of geography leading to inability to travel to meetings by partners is needed.

Add info on how the world is better because of LCCs.

Add objective to goal 3: sustain and increase resources to the CA LCC.

Call it a Communication Framework and create an annual plan.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge Update from Michelle Selmon:

Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC), Nevada Intertribal Council and Institute of Environmental Professionals should be looked into for partnership formation.

Desert LCC has 4 tribal steering committee members.

- Contact them for methods of gaining participation. They did directed phone calls to the tribes they thought appropriate.
- It took 2 years of effort to gain 15% participation in fully paid for by Desert LCC workshops by tribal groups.

Contact North Pacific LCC: Natural resources based inter-tribal councils.

A tribal liaison might help with engagement with other tribes.

We need to figure out where tribes are that are responsible for natural resource management. They can be targeted for partnership formation.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge Handout needs to speak to natural resource managers and scientists. It currently only states scientists.

Tell tribes the Steering Committee meetings are open as a way to attract a member.

JV's have partners with relationships to tribes. We need to identify more partners with existing tribal relationships.

We need to understand that their point of view is not managing the resources, but being an integral part of the ecosystem.

Climate Commons Discussion:

Open access data and data management plans are of high importance.

We need to require data management plan outlines in Requests for Proposals of the future.

- Maybe have them fill it out as part of the proposal.
- Make sure PI's budget the time for data management efforts.

We need to be flexible in our data policies for projects so that they are able to publish it before making it available. Maybe they can provide it to us and we do not make it available until publication occurs.

Great Basin LCC suggests not making full payment to PI until data is made available.

Looking at target audiences listed in the CA LCC projects, many are agencies. We need larger audience usage and targets. Look to the level of counties and cities.

Strategies for dealing with university research communities:

- Sunset clause
- Climate Science Center uses strategy of one year escape clause
- UC system and state agencies data management states co-ownership of the data and they have the right to review manuscripts before publication. This path would mean no escape clauses and if no delivery occurs we inform other funding sources that this happened.

How are we dealing with model results? What is happening with the data behind the models? Do we just supply the results only or the metadata behind it? We need to analyze data and model presentation efforts and display modes for effective communication.

There are ways to make only portions of a data set available. Ex: maps and visualizations available, but not shape files. This can be a strategy for making info available before publication.

We should create transparency by tracking changes to models and data sets as they occur.

Follow up with Great Basin LCC that just hired a GIS person, who wants to talk about Traditional Ecological Knowledge, data and how they fit together.

Do we distinguish between models and data at access point? Misuse and misunderstanding is the concern. We should use terminology "model outputs" for models and not call it "data".

Speak with Great Basin LCC about their creation of something similar to the Climate Commons.

FY14 Funding Discussion:

Development team: We will form this team for growing funding resources through partners: Ellie Cohen (Point Blue Conservation Science), Michelle Selmon (California Department of Water Resources), maybe The Nature Conservancy will join. We will look to the southern portions of the CA LCC and Mexico too.

Salmon stronghold watersheds (The Nature Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Wildlife): identified salmon strongholds as places to suggest incorporating climate smart process. Look to their partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation on this topic.

We need to engage the southern portions of the CA LCC more.

San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority is an organization that needs to be looked into.

We should coordinate with the West Coast Governors Alliance of Ocean Health.

- Samantha Marcum is a contact person.

2nd place based project can be a request for proposals to whole CA LCC geography:

- Concerns of too many proposals – We will refer to the framework to narrow scope and could target five or so pre-proposals for full consideration.

Climate-Smart Training:

- Who is getting trained and can we train trainers?
- Maybe Science-Management Team can do targeting of attendees. Make sure refuge personal are on this team because they are being told to look to us for management improvement.
- Target planners within local agencies.
- When targeting trainers look for well-connected people because they will be able to propagate the info widely.

Landscape Conservation Design Central Valley:

Comments on rationale for Central Valley as the focal ecoregion for pilot project:

- Private landowners, through the Resource Conservation Districts, have been asking for help.
- We can connect to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.
- Part of the 1-year Communication Plan can be implementation of it for a specific audience.

- It connects well to the new draft California Climate Adaptation Plan.
- The Nature Conservancy has an ecological assessment for the Central Valley.
- State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) identifies connectivity in the Central Valley as a major need.
 - State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) needs to be spatially explicit; it is not going to be in the update past the level of habitat.
- Department of Defense partner formation should be targeted in Central Valley because of large intact habitat on their land in Central Valley.
- Include all conservation plans already in place.
- The Natural Resources Conservation Service has large amount of private land interests that would be willing to use climate smart conservation. They need a place to go to for obtaining all this information. They do not need more designs, just availability of info and facilitation on project implementations.

Use Landscape Conservation Design as a vehicle for accessing private/farm land owners.

Consider preforming Landscape Conservation Design on only a portion of the Central Valley.

If the sequester does not occur, place the extra money in the projects.

Approximately 80%/20% distribution of funds in Science/Communication, but wiggle room is ok.

- About half project funding dollars go to place based projects.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge training session needed for CA LCC partners.

- Change climate smart education column to “training” so as to include Traditional Ecological Knowledge also.

Develop a description of what we think the Landscape Conservation Design is to help limit the proposals we receive.

Central Valley being suggested as first Landscape Conservation Design because they were aware of this and approached us first is an issue. Other regions may not know this is an opportunity. Central Valley is good for 2014, but we need to begin establishment of partnerships and knowledge of this process in other ecoregions as a backup if the Central Valley does not work and for Landscape Conservation Designs for future years.

- Landscape Conservation Designs of the futures can be a potential topic for workshops we hold.
- We agree on Central Valley as first Landscape Conservation Design.

Should staff have flexibility in spending for taking advantage of opportunities as they appear in time?

- This is fine and has been done in the past.

Multiple years of funding raises an issue of starting new projects in the second year. Maybe the second year is not as much funding or involves us holding workshops. Basically the money and efforts will change through the years of funding.

Project selection criteria:

- Comment that all criteria are requisite for funding.
- Split third bullet into two different criteria.
- Include climate-smart principles into the criteria.
- Add criteria or at least consider to measure competence of proposal – met a bit in the partnership creation process.
- Review committee have not been expert in the areas being reviewed, we need to fix this by better inclusion on review committees.
- Matching funds or partnership criteria to add, maybe not requisite, but include as a tie breaker.
- Add criteria about scientist-manager connections.
- Add criteria pertaining to moving the CA LCC mission forward.
- Where applicable, add criteria of cross boundary connections.

In areas where there may be resistance to changing management practices, we should identify receptive individuals and create joint proposals with scientists (e.g. a proposal to manage chaparral – partner with California Department of Water Resources and Calfire).