



Steering Committee Meeting Notes June 3, 2014

Attendance:

Ellie Cohen – Pt Blue Conservation Science, Chair
Michelle Selmon – CA DWR, Vice Chair
Wayne Spencer – CBI
Whitney Albright – CDFW
Ruth Ostroff – CV JV
Angie Evenden – NPS
Tom Hedt - NRCS
Beth Huning – SFBay JV
Robert Mesta – Sonoran JV
Steve Jackson - SWCSC
Rodd Kelsey – TNC
Michelle Denning - USBOR
Chrissy Howell – USFS
Rob Campellone – USFWS
Dave Busch – USGS

CA LCC Staff –

Deb Schlafmann – Coordinator
Rebecca Fris – Science Coordinator
Karen Thorne – Science Advisor
Deanne DiPietro – Data Manager

Place-based RFP and Science Management Team Recommendations

The SC asked if we should have been more clear in the RFP, given that there were a lot of off-base proposals. The management implications were poorly articulated in some of the proposals. It is a new kind of RFP; changing the culture to work on applied climate-change science and that takes time and education to. It was noted that the majority of the selected applications were submitted by non-profits. It is just a coincidence and not considered in the review process. Is there a possibility to fund the “alternate”? We don't have solid numbers on our budget and when we get them in the near future we do not expect to have enough to fund the whole amount right now. Ellie wants to explore funding for additional projects from partners.

- Vote: Motion by Wayne to approve the recommendation. All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

RF gave a quick overview about how you can get the products of the projects on the Commons. Ellie wanted to know if we track the visits to the project pages; Deanne said we see do significant traffic, also good visitation to the LCC website.

Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Training Update

Michelle Selmon presented an update on TEK training September 23rd at Modoc Hall Sac State University. The target audience is Steering Committee members and partners including tribes. Deanne will work with the Commons team to create a library collection around that topic. We will hold seats for people that SC folks want. There is a lot of interest; it's going to fill up. Invite will be on the website when the agenda is ready, 2-3 weeks. Tom asked that in the future there is an attempt to identify the right people to participate, rather than relying on the listserv to hit the right people. Deb will send list to all to confirm appropriate representation by agencies/organizations. Dave suggests that an action item be to discuss next steps after the workshop, make sure it progresses into something else.

Action Items:

1. *Michelle will send materials to Deanne and she will create library collection on the Climate commons website.*
2. *Deb will send out list of attendees who expressed interest through our listserve.*
3. *Set up discussion on next steps after the workshop*

Central Valley Landscape Conservation Pilot Project Update

Deb provided an update on the pilot project. There was brief discussion about how this is comparable to the RFP projects. Deb is requesting names for a good facilitator for the time period of the project (approximately 2 years).

Action Items:

1. *Deb will send an email with a doodle for a half-day meeting with the SC and CVJV to work out the scope of the project.*

Affiliate Workshop Update

As listed on our table of 2014 activities, we plan to put on a large workshop to bring managers and scientists together, to show our projects and bring attention to other adaptation projects, and to provide a forum for feedback from managers. We are looking for those interested in helping us define the focus of this workshop. It could move into different ecoregions annually. The opportunities are wide open. Ellie volunteered, and expressed interest in a focus on climate-smart training. Angie volunteered.

Action Items:

1. *Deb will send out a doodle poll for a planning meeting on the focus of this workshop*

CA Biodiversity Council Discussion

Michelle gave background on the Council Resolution. It's a year old now; at least one other group (the California Water Commission) has endorsed it. The resolution calls for coordination on research and conservation by the lead conservation agencies. Endorsing it would mean that we would communicate with them to meet common goals. Relates directly to our Science-Mgt Framework, supports our work to strengthen existing partnerships, provide science and tools for conservation. Doesn't all apply to CA LCC work, but nothing is in conflict. No concerns about it were expressed. Support: Wayne sees no reason not to, good reasons to endorse. Does it set a precedent that would be a problem? Ellie thinks it doesn't. Decided to endorse with a simple letter from Deb

- Vote: Motion by Michelle to endorse, seconded by Ruth. In favor: all; none opposed, no abstentions.

Steve Jackson suggests we forward to the other three LCCs that have territory in California.

Action Items:

1. *Deb will develop a letter of endorsement for signature.*
2. *Deb will forward to the other LCCs in California for coordination.*

Next steps & Next Meetings

It's estimated that our next meeting will occur in mid-late July. Deb reviewed the estimated dates and purpose for meetings over the next several months. Deb will send revised SC table to the group for their planning purposes..