



Draft
Steering Committee Meeting Notes
April 26, 2013

Attendees:

Ellie Cohen – Vice Chair, PRBO

Wayne Spencer – CBI

Armand Gonzalez - CDFW

Whitney Albright - CDFW

Bob Schafer - CVJV

Michelle Selmon - DWR

Patrick Rutten - NOAA

Dave Graber – NPS

Nadine Peterson – SCC

Steve Jackson - SWCSC

Don Yasuda - USFS

Rick Kearney - USFWS

Tom Kimball - USGS

Tom Suchanek - USGS

CA LCC Staff:

Debra Schlafmann - Coordinator

Rebecca Fris – Science Coordinator

Karen Thorne – Science Advisor

Andrea Graffis – Communication Intern

Meeting Objectives:

1. Review & approve FY13 Funding Process
2. Review & provide input on Science Strategy Framework Steps
3. Review & provide input on Science Strategy, Communication, and Charter Teams.

Welcome & Agenda Review:

- Task: Approve notes from last meeting.
 - Notes approved & will be posted as final website Monday.

Annual Workplan for 2013/14:

- **Review of the Science Strategy, Communications, and Funding & Administration timelines and actions:**

An overview of the annual workplan was given, explaining the different types of actions (ie, science strategy development, communications, and funding & administration). It was noted that there were several points in time over the next calendar year where Steering Committee decisions needed to be made. The major actions included:

- Science timeline:
 - ID existing conservation plans in the CA LCC region through October.
 - ID & form Science Strategy Team by end of May.
 - Organize science retreat for landscape conservation objectives in August.
 - Ecoregional projects & priorities to be identified and scheduled by August.
 - Ecosystem/landscape scale processes projects.
 - Long term project development.
- Communication timeline:
 - Form team and create Communication Plan by Mid-July.
 - Constantly promote trainings, workshops, useful products, and interactive websites.
- Funding & Admin:
 - Generate Statement of Interest for existing projects in early May.
 - Steering Committee approves project funding by Mid-June.
 - Steering Committee to approve FY14 funding process in late-November.
 - ID Charter Review Team that is approved by Steering Committee to implement changes to revised Charter by October.
- **Teams description:**
 - Science-Management Team:
 - Already in place.
 - Decide yearly science priorities and funding steps
 - Science Strategy Team:
 - Need nominations by May 5.
 - ID conservation goals, prioritize ecoregions, & coordinates ecoregional advisory team.
 - Communications Team:
 - Need nominations by May 5.
 - Ecoregional Advisory Team (EAT):
 - Science Strategy Team will nominate EAT's.
 - Will be composed of local scientists with expertise for particular ecoregion and their management needs.
 - Will also insure we do not replicate existing efforts by other organizations.
 - Charter Team/ Review:

- Already have a few members nominated.
 - Need any other nominations by May 5.

- **Feedback for team organization:**
 - EAT's should be represented as a subset of science strategy team to clarify connection.
 - Charter should be placed within steering committee box on bubble diagram as a clarification.
 - Temporary teams nomenclature could be "task force" not team to clarify.
 - Create a hierarchy structure that is more clear & graphically displays all teams together.
 - Notes about the types of people who may be appropriate for each group would be nice to have.
 - Info about each teams duration would be nice.
 - Ellie e-mailed Deb with a slight revisions to work off of.
 - EAT should focus on 2 ecoregions per year so they are a rolling set of advisors.
 - Deb will send e-mail with team descriptions, nominees, and type of people per team.

- **Science Strategy Framework Description:**
 - Internal evaluation from needs assessment (staff).
 - ID existing conservation plans & maps (staff).
 - Development of landscape conservation goals (Science Strategy Team).
 - Possibly already existing.
 - ID one or two pilot ecoregions (Science Strategy Team).
 - Describe ecoregional science needs.
 - Develop ecoregional priorities.
 - Landscape conservation goals:
 - Develop ecoregional objectives for each of the eight ecoregions (EAT).

- **FY2013 Funding Recommendation: \$400,000**
 - Statement of Interest to continue current projects for improved science delivery and connection with managers.
 - Draft of SOI displayed on webinar.
 - This is for completed and ongoing projects not unfinished projects. This limitation encompasses 15 projects.
 - Development of science strategy framework.
 - Begin strategic planning in ecoregions.

- **Group discussion for FY13 Funding:**

- Question on extended funding, how they do not already have delivery in previously provided funding?
 - Answer: We want to boost delivery, or they can access new people or create new delivery methods. Ex. Training, webinars, web interface, etc.
 - Specific example: Sierra change workshop could be communicated further.
- Ecoregional planning involved with FY 13 funding?
 - Need info from teams and a completed science strategy before funding can go into this. FY2014 is the target.
- Would it be helpful to include in announcement of SOI the Strategic Plan and direction we are moving in?
 - Yes, we are planning to do this and have a call/webinar with these target people & projects.
- Should we make a general direction announcement about the CA LCC's direction to avoid scrutiny & create interest from groups that may be looking for our funding?
 - Sure, we can do that. Rebecca and Karen to do.
 - Deb: This can also serve to show non-funded groups where we are placing money and emphasis.
- **Action: Approve FY13 Funding Process:**
 - Ellie made motion to approve: Approved.
- **Next Meeting Early June & Adjourn:**
 - Approve FY13 project funding & discuss science retreat in August.
 - Doodle pole for exact date, but must be before June 15.
 - Conference call on meeting sphere as format for next meeting because we can vote through this interface.