Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

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"The conservation community faces unprecedented issues of scale, pace, and complexity in sustaining our Nation's fish and wildlife resources."

"The conservation challenges of the 21st Century represent a force of change more far-reaching and consequential than any previously encountered."

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Secretarial Order 3289

Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources *(9/14/09)*

Established the:

- **DOI Climate Science Centers**
- **Landscape Conservation Cooperatives**

"…Interior bureaus and agencies must work together, and with other federal, state, tribal and local governments, and private landowner partners, to develop landscape-level strategies for understanding and responding to climate change impacts."

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Landscape Conservation Cooperatives What are they?

Applied conservation science partnerships. Partners include federal and state agencies, Tribes, conservation organizations, and universities within a geographically defined area

Fundamental units of planning and adaptive science that inform conservation actions on the ground

A national and international network of land, water, wildlife and cultural resource managers and interested public and private organizations

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LCC Network: Vision and Mission

Vision: To sustain natural and cultural resources valued by society for current and future generations.

Mission: To function as a network of cooperatives that provide the forums for developing a shared vision of landscapes that sustain natural and cultural resources, that cooperates in its implementation, and that collaborates in its refinement.

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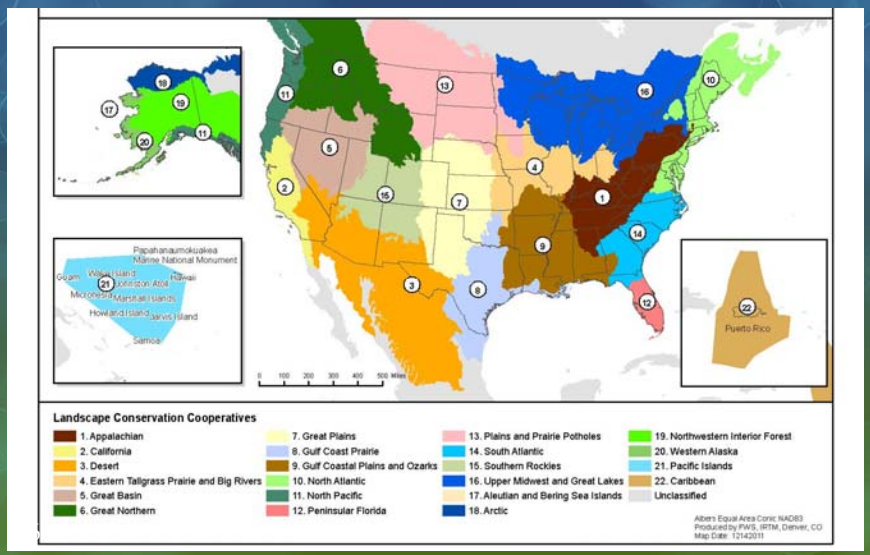
LCC Geographies – A Seamless Network



Involvement in the LCC's

- All 50 state natural resource agencies
  - Many state parks, forest programs
  - Department of water in some western states
  - Western Gov's Assoc., NE
- All major federal agencies –
  - FWS, NPS, BLM, BOR, USGS
  - USFS, NRCS
  - NOAA/NMFS, EPA, USACE
- Tribes – individual and consolidated groups
- Non-governmental organizations

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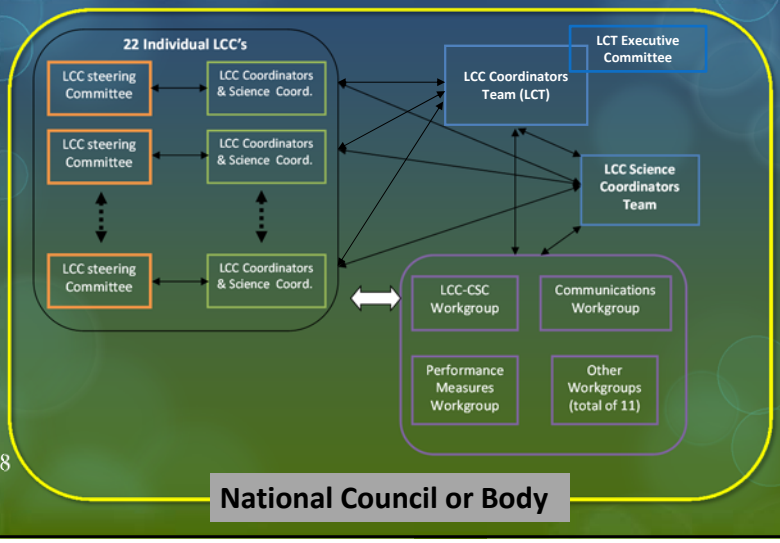
LCC Organizational Structure

The strategy team has agreed specific national needs exist that exceed the current capacity of the LCC enterprise.



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Development of a National LCC Council

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LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVES

National Strategy Team Work

- **January 2012**: U.S. Institute convened representative National Strategy Team for initial meeting in Washington, D.C.
- **February – July 2012**: Strategy Team participated in 2 in-person meetings and multiple conference calls to identify national-level needs and develop a draft charter.
- **September 2012**: Strategy team drafted charter proposal at final meeting in Denver.

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Strategy Team Members

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Federal Agencies

Kit Muller, Bureau of Land Management

Cat Hawkins-Hoffman, National Park Service

Doug Parsons, National Park Service

Roger Griffis, NOAA Fisheries Service

Dave Cleaves, U.S. Forest Service

Monica Tomosy, U.S. Forest Service

Doug Beard, U.S. Geological Survey

Robin O'Malley, U.S. Geological Survey

States

Doug Vincent-Lang, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Josh Avey, Arizona Game and Fish Department

Larry Voyles, Arizona Game and Fish Department

John Rogner, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Kenny Ribbeck, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Mallory Martin, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Non-Governmental Organizations

Mark Humpert, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Gary Taylor, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Sara Vickerman, Defenders of Wildlife

Bruce Stein, National Wildlife Federation

Garritt Voggesser, National Wildlife Federation

Kurt Russo, Native American Land Conservancy

Mary Klein, NatureServe

Leslie Honey, NatureServe

Mark Kramer, The Nature Conservancy

Christie McGregor, The Nature Conservancy

Christy Plumer, The Nature Conservancy

Terra Rentz, The Wildlife Society

Steve Moyer, Trout Unlimited

Zach Cockrum, Trout Unlimited

Jad Daley, Trust for Public Land

Breece Robertson, Trust for Public Land

LCC Staff

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Ken McDermond, South Atlantic LCC

Karen Murphy, Western Alaska LCC

Tribal

Don Motanic, Intertribal Timber Council

Ulalia Woodside, Pacific Islands CCC/Kamehameha Schools

Purpose

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- The LCC National Council will support the cooperative large-scale conservation efforts of the LCC network by working with them to enhance coordination among the LCCs and to identify ecological and institutional challenges that should be addressed at the national scale. Serving as the national voice for the LCC network, the council will seek to support actions that can be taken at the national level to facilitate the work of the cooperatives.

Goals

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- **Integrate national conservation initiatives and partnerships** (i.e. State Wildlife Action Plans, Migratory Bird Joint Ventures, National Fish Habitat Partnerships, and The Nature Conservancy's Ecoregional Assessments) with the LCC network and provide a venue for higher level conversations about reducing programmatic duplication and improving efficiency.
- **Promote, support and ensure recognition of the LCCs** as an effectively functioning, coordinated, and connected network that enhances landscape-scale conservation.
- **Build a national-level constituency** for the LCCs that:
  - Focuses on strategic policy engagement
  - Shares LCC achievements
  - Promotes the LCCs within federal agencies and Congress
  - Catalyzes greater commitment by partners to the regional LCCs
- **Communicate consistent messages about the LCC enterprise** at the national level
- **Increase Tribal government, Alaska Native, First Nation, and indigenous peoples' engagement in LCCs.**

Membership - Composition

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- **6 Federal agency directors** – Agency directors from BLM, USFWS, NPS, USFS, NRCS, and NOAA will hold permanent seats.
- **4 tribal participants** – may be from tribal leadership or tribal organizations
- **4 State agency directors** – State agencies will be nominated by each of the four AFWA regions.
- **4 NGO participants** - NGO members of strategy team conduct process to select initial participants.
- **1 LCC participant** - LCT will make recommendation.
  - LCT Executive Committee participation encouraged in a non-membership capacity.

Membership - Composition

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- **2 "major partnership" participants** – Initial participants from JVs and NFHAPs.
- **4 international participants** – 2 from Canada and 2 from Mexico.
- **2 "At Large" participants** – will be filled at a future date by the LCC National Council.

LCC Summary

- **Conservation-Science partnership model is now producing high quality results for partners.**
- **Agency engagement at all levels is increasing and will continue as the LCC's are seen as a permanent component of the conservation effort.**
- **Increasing efficiency, leveraging resources, and engaging partners.**

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