Title: Landscape Conservation Cooperatives Council Inaugural Meeting

Desired outcome(s):
1) Board understanding of topics discussed, meeting outcomes, and next steps.

Background:
During the October 2013 Board meeting in Charleston, the Board authorized the Board chair to fill as seat on the Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) Council, with the understanding that the vice-chair or Science and Data Committee Chair may serve as proxy.

The Board Vice-chair attended the first meeting of the Council on February 4th and 5th at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. Council members represent federal and state agencies, Tribes and First Nations and non-governmental organizations with a shared commitment to landscape scale conservation.

At the end of the two-day meeting, the Council had identified several key messages and outcomes that will set the stage for the next steps for interacting with and supporting the LCC Network:

Key Messages:
- The LCC Council affirmed their role to support the LCCs and facilitate the work they do to support a sustainable network.
- The LCC Council has a shared commitment to landscape scale conservation and the unique contribution of the LCCs.

Meeting Outcomes:
- Recognizing the Council's desire for inclusivity across the Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) Network, the Council reflected this in their name - LCC Council
- The LCC Council developed a broad framework for actions to support the LCCs
- The LCC Council selected leadership (two co-chairs):
    - Marc Miller, Director, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
    - Lynn Scarlett, Managing Director, Public Policy, The Nature Conservancy
- Seeking to clarify its role, the LCC Council established three working groups:
    - Communications
    - Strategic Planning (jointly with the LCC Network)
    - Charter refining
- Started to develop a better understanding of the relationship of LCCs to other landscape conservation efforts/initiatives
- The LCC Council will reach out to LCCs to understand barriers to success, help address these barriers and to celebrate successes

The Council will meet again in Spring and Summer 2014 to continue their work in supporting the LCC Network.

Staff Recommendation/Proposal:

- The Board should discuss what issues they would like to have represented at upcoming LCC Council meetings.

Reference material:

LCC Council meeting participant list