

News from the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) March 2016

Science in the stream

A new tool removes some of the guesswork from aquatic restoration by allowing users to establish and rank conservation priorities, predict how species will fare under various management scenarios, and evaluate long-term benefits of restoration projects in the context of climate change. The tool applies to Eastern brook trout in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, river herring and other anadromous fish in Atlantic coastal rivers, and winter flounder in Long Island Sound and Narragansett Bay.

[Learn more](#)

Pooling vernal pool data for conservation

A new online database containing nearly 60,000 vernal pool locations in eight states and two Canadian provinces is now available to support conservation of vernal pools, temporary wetlands that are hard to protect because they are hard to find.

[Learn more](#)

What lies beneath lakes and ponds

A standard mapping classification for lakes and ponds is now available to help ensure more effective conservation of aquatic ecosystems in the region. The Lakes and Ponds Classification System synthesizes regional and national lake survey information from states and the EPA's National Lake Assessment and New England Lake and Pond Survey to provide a comprehensive database of sampled bodies of water in the region.

[Learn more](#)

Putting regional science to work for refuge planning

During a National Wildlife Refuge biological workshop at the National Conservation Training Center, staff from the North Atlantic LCC and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service introduced refuge biologists to scientific tools that offer regional perspective on habitat management and planning.

[Learn more](#)

Coastal resilience resource list

By providing a comprehensive inventory of the work being undertaken by LCCs and partner organizations to address coastal resilience issues in the Atlantic, Gulf Coast, and Caribbean regions, this new resource offers a one-stop shopping list to support growing collaboration in coastal resilience. The list includes projects, reports, guidebooks, programs, online support tools, and papers, searchable by type, organization, or date.

[Learn more](#)

Other News

Up to 70 percent of Northeast U.S. coast may adapt to rising seas (U.S. Geological Survey)

Over the next 70 years, the majority of the coastline from Maine to Virginia is more likely to change in response to sea-level rise than to simply be submerged, according to a new study led by the U.S. Geological Survey. The study is based on a new computer model guided by a North Atlantic LCC-facilitated sea-level rise structured decision making process that captures the potential for the Northeast coast to change through geological and biological forces in ways that will reshape coastal landscapes.

(See "Upcoming" section for information about a webinar on April 27th on the new U.S. Geological Survey model)

[Learn more](#)

Warming ocean may bring major changes for U.S. Northeast fishery species (NOAA)

NOAA scientists have released the first multispecies assessment of just how vulnerable U.S. marine fish and invertebrate species are to the effects of climate change. The study examined 82 species that occur off

the Northeastern U.S., where ocean warming is occurring rapidly. Researchers found that most species evaluated will be affected, and that some are likely to be more resilient to changing ocean conditions than others. The study appears in PLOS ONE, an online scholarly science journal.

[Learn more](#)

Upcoming Workshops, Meetings, Presentations, and Webinars

April 3 - 5 -- Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference

The annual Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies conference in Annapolis, Md., brings together natural resource professionals in the fields of wildlife biology, fisheries, information management, education, and law enforcement, and will feature several presentations by North Atlantic LCC staff and partners on new research and tools developed to help advance conservation science in the region.

[Learn more](#)

April 6 -- North Atlantic LCC Steering Committee Meeting

The Spring 2016 meeting will take place at the Annapolis, Md. Westin directly following the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference.

[Learn more](#)

April 3 - 7 -- Landscape Ecology Meeting

The US International Association of Landscape Ecology 2016 Annual Meeting, Asheville, North Carolina. The theme of the meeting will be "Landscape Change" and will include two presentations on the North Atlantic LCC Designing Sustainable Landscapes project by Bill DeLuca and Ethan Plunkett of University of Massachusetts Amherst.

[Learn more](#)

April 11 -- Plum Island Marsh Modeling Symposium

A day-long symposium at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge headquarters in Newburyport, Mass., to examine the various salt marsh modeling approaches to be applied in the Plum Island Ecosystem.

[Learn more](#)

April 27, 3:30 p.m. (EDT) -- Webinar: A Research and Decision Support Framework to Evaluate Coastal Landscape Change

Research geologist Erika Lentz presents a new U.S. Geological Survey model developed with support from the North Atlantic LCC that captures a dynamic coastal response to sea-level rise. This presentation is part of the Northeast Climate Science Center spring webinar series.

[Learn more](#)

Please email submissions for the April edition of North Atlantic LCC News to bridget_macdonald@fws.gov

Submission deadline: Friday, April 15, 2016

For more information about the North Atlantic LCC: www.northatlanticlcc.org