**North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative**

**Steering Committee Meeting November 2, 2011**

**Action Items**

*Actions Taken*

LCC staff will work with Canadian partners on opportunities and options for development of consistent spatial data layers.

*Initial call held with Canadian Wildlife Service; identified opportunities for developing consistent data and expanding existing and planned projects across the border in terrestrial, coastal and marine systems.*

LCC staff will work with states and Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration on a role for the LCC in developing common consistent templates for State Wildlife Action Plan updates.

*LCC staff met with Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration to discuss needs and options for providing regional information in support of regional chapters of State Wildlife Action Plan. Meetings planned prior to and at Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference. Update to be provided on February call.*

Andrew will revise the LCC Conservation Science Strategic Plan by including a description of the annual process for assessing science needs and selecting projects and provide the final plan to Steering Committee and partners.

*Strategic plan was revised to include the annual process and is posted on the LCC website.*

Andrew and Megan will host a series of monthly webinars on the Northeast Conservation Framework and the four FY 2010 LCC projects between November and March as well as a webinar on the National Conservation Easement Database.

*Initial webinars have been hosted and are archived for the* [*Northeast Conservation Framework*](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/science/seminars/november2011.html)*,* [*Evaluating the Vulnerabilities of Ecological Resources to Climate Change in the Northeast*](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/science/seminars/december2011.html)*, and the* [*Effects of Sea-level Rise and Altered Storminess on Piping Plover Breeding Habitat along the U.S. Atlantic Coast*](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/science/seminars/january2012.html)*. Webinars are forthcoming on Providing Science and Tools in Support of the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative: Designing Sustainable Landscapes for Wildlife in February and Modeling Population Persistence across the Streamscape* in March*.*

LCC staff will ensure that all LCC-supported projects have advisory committees to provide oversight, user/manager groups to provide input on making the tools useful and that the need for future phases will be brought to the Steering Committee.

*Initial LCC projects have advisory committees and user groups; new projects will be required to develop them in consultation with LCC staff and technical committee.*

Wildlife Management Institute and LCC staff will proceed with development of contracts for projects approved by the Steering Committee.

*WMI has completed contracts for* Vulnerability Assessment *with Manomet and NatureServe,* Permeable Landscapes *with The Nature Conservancy,* Assessing Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Areas *with the University of Maine, AFWA and University of Georgia, and* Terrestrial Habitat Map Revisions *with The Nature Conservancy;* Marine Birds *and* Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification *contracts pending final proposal and P.I. selection.*

Steve Fuller will develop the spatial data synthesis and conservation design approaches further and present a proposal that includes coordination with adjacent LCCs and an articulation of how it will be useful for managers to the steering committee on the next call.

*Proposal to be presented on February call; conservation design team being formed to further refine the proposal and guide the project.*

* All steering committee members will assist with the distribution and completion of the information management needs assessment survey that is being developed by a LCC workgroup and contractor.

*Information Management Needs Assessment contractor being selected. Expect to send out survey in February.*

LCC staff needs to further articulate a process for setting population goals and present it to the LCC Steering Committee at the next meeting or call.

*Initial discussions underway; process not yet fully articulated; options will be presented at April meeting.*

LCC staff will use existing demonstration projects white paper, and the conservation framework and come back to the group with a proposal for a way forward for demonstration projects with the demonstration projects work group.

*Initial discussions underway with demonstration projects work group. Proposal to be presented at April meeting.*

Megan will develop options for a North Atlantic LCC logo, web pages and fact sheets that recognize the identity of the North Atlantic LCC and acknowledge the important role of the Fish and Wildlife Service in facilitating the partnership as well as highlighting the partners involved.

*Options to be presented on February call.*

Steering Committee members will provide Megan high quality illustrative photos or contacts for photos.

*Still seeking photos and/or contacts.*

Rachel Muir and the Northeast Climate Science Center (CSC) will coordinate with the North Atlantic LCC as the CSC develops their initial teams and science plan.

*Rachel met with LCC and DOI staff; she will brief Steering Committee on February call and at April meeting.*

* John O’Leary, Patty Riexinger and Rick Bennett will forward any information on events related to national and regional climate initiatives they are involved with to Megan or Andrew and they will share that information with the Steering Committee.

*No updates to report.*

* LCC staff will work closely with Emily Greene of Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership (ACFHP) and Ralph Abele of EPA to identify opportunities for collaboration.

*Initial discussions regarding priorities of ACFHP; will include their staff in science need refinement process this winter.*