Introduction

The representative species project was a very important year long project completed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with support from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, the U.S. Geological Study among other partners. **This project involved the USFWS compiling a list of over 400 species that were first listed as priority species- representative species were chosen from this list. The USFWS then grouped the species by habitat and had several meeting with the partner organizations to choose representative species to begin, or continue, conservation work with.** This project is important for conservation in the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) because it allows scientists from the USFWS, wildlife managers and scientists from partner groups to focus their resources on one species that will affect a suite of species that share the same habitat or resources. The need for this project came from a revamping of the USFWS’s conservation framework.

In 2006 the USFWS began using Strategic Habitat Conservation as their main conservation framework. This new framework promotes better use of resources, transparency and accountability which will greatly improve the conservation work that USFWS and their partners are doing.

The bolded text is something that I wasn’t sure you wanted included.