

Handout 5

**Northeast Regional Conservation Framework**

**Workshop (Albany II)**

Highest-ranked needs from workshop are listed below, organized by framework element.

Habitat Mapping:

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| **Need from workshop** | **Projects underway or proposed** |
| Finish mapping all systems (Canada, lakes) | LCC/CSC Extending map to Canada, LCC Coastal and Marine Mapping |
| Usable product (expectations, limits) | RCN Users Guide |
| Mapping, accuracy and validation | RCN Users Guide |
| Layers (land use, threats, refugia, invasive species) | LCC Designing Sustainable Landscapes |

Biological Assessment:

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| Consistent SWAP format/template/database which will allow for a region wide roll up | RCN SWAP database project |
| Create distribution maps for regional responsibility, high concern species - overlay on NE habitat maps. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis |
| Development of habitat focus areas and corridors. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis, LCC Designing Sustainable Landscapes, other LCC projects |
| Develop a process to develop regional representative species goals | LCC conservation goals team, USFWS surrogate species effort |

Conservation Design and Delivery

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| Working with implementers/users, translate the information into usable tools. Develop a targeted marketing, training, and capacity building strategy. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis, LCC Science Delivery Team, demonstration projects |
| Provide information on landscapes of regional significance to conservation partners at various scales to implement specific conservation actions. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis, Designing Sustainable Landscapes, LCC Science Delivery Team, demonstration projects. |
| Identification of habitat focus areas with a step up step down process to implement on the ground habitat conservation, restoration, and management. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis, Designing Sustainable Landscapes, LCC Conservation Design Team |
| Overlay and integrate existing datasets to delineate landscapes of regional significance (focal areas and connectivity). | LCC/RCN regional synthesis, Designing Sustainable Landscapes, LCC Permeable Landscapes, LCC PARCA. |
| Develop conservation designs for multiple representative species. | LCC Designing Sustainable Landscapes |
| Provide cookbook or catalog of on-the-ground implementation details that translate conservation design results into practical actions or projects. | LCC Science Delivery Team? |

Monitoring, Evaluation and Research

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| Long term monitoring and performance evaluation to feed into the conservation framework. Fund the implementation of the NE Regional Monitoring and Performance Reporting Framework. | RCN and LCC with NPS and FWS I&M? |
| Identify and leverage existing federal monitoring programs; develop complementary state/tribal/NGO surveys to provide regional status. | RCN and LCC with NPS and FWS I&M? |
| Establish Uniform Monitoring Practices that can be applied across large geographic areas for multi-jurisdictional resources Need a consistent framework for states to implement monitoring so that we can roll up data. | RCN SWAP database project? TRACS? |
| Ensure accurate monitoring of representative species to support biological assessment and conservation design | LCC validation of models, USFWS representative species modeling |

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Information Management

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| Support LCC information management needs assessment. | LCC Information Management Needs Assessment |
| Develop a way for states, LCCs and other partners to access the habitat mapping and geospatial condition analysis products coming out of the RCN process. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis and new GIS analyst positions in FWS and TNC |
| Consistent SWAP format/template/database which will allow for a region wide roll up | RCN SWAP database project |
| Regional habitat management database that includes spatial and tabular data on habitats being managed on both public and private lands | Habitat management database proposal developed through Northeast Habitat Technical Committee |
| Institutionalize long-term datasets on a Regional cooperative basis (security, access, data sharing, maintenance, transferable data technology). | LCC/RCN regional synthesis |
| Create data sharing agreements between all members of NE conservation community - state, federal, NGO - and get their data. | LCC/RCN regional synthesis |