

GUIDANCE

Breakout Session

BACKGROUND

- NALCC has recently completed Nature's Network, which is a body of maps and landscape data depicting opportunities to conserve shared land, water, and multi-species habitat priorities;
- Last fall, the steering committee identified priority resources and geographies for conservation that could benefit from the NALCC as a forum for partners and as a source for strategic conservation support (refer to Handout 4):
 - *At-risk species: including SGCN and those in early successional habitat and riparian buffers;*
 - *Aquatic connectivity;*
 - *Coastal resilience & species using coastal marshes;*
 - *Place-based initiatives, including Connecticut River watershed, the Gulf of Maine, Hudson Valley, Long Island Sound/NY Bight, and Chesapeake landscapes.*
- Many partners are now using Nature's Network information to support strategic implementation of conservation for each of the priority resources/geographies;
- Through increased awareness of ongoing work, needs, and opportunities, NALCC partners may synergize, coalesce, or leverage their efforts to gain greater success toward common objectives.

DESIRED
OUTCOMES

1. Reinforce or refine consensus around general priority areas for conservation collaboration identified in the fall;
2. Identify specific outcomes that we would like to achieve this next year;
3. Identify needs and opportunities for partners to leverage action and advance strategic conservation in each of the priority areas;
4. Identify specific roles and contacts for NALCC staff in each of the priority areas.

BREAKOUT
INSTRUCTIONS

Please review the description of priority resources, related activities, and the accompanying map that has been provided to your group. The map is intended to show the kinds of places that have been identified through Nature's Network. Next, discuss the questions on the next page and document your answers. Have any clear priorities emerged? As a final step,

please designate someone to report back to the full committee during the next session.

**DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS**

- A. Who needs to be at the table? Include potential lead organizations or champions and Identify other relationships (even if partners are not at the table) to build a network of partners interested in advancing each of the priority areas.
- B. Name the primary conservation actions or approaches currently in use by partners in this priority area.
- C. Please identify any opportunities to advance this priority--such as grants, meetings, communications events--that partners might pursue independently or as a collective.
- D. What is needed to advance or coalesce the effort? Is there a partner here or elsewhere that fulfills a need?
- E. Aside from convening partners through our meetings, what is the best role for NALCC staff?
- F. Name one or more specific outcomes you want to achieve this year.
- G. What should our next step be?