

2015 North Atlantic LCC Science Needs Process

This document summarizes the process used in 2015 for developing science needs recommendations for the North Atlantic Steering Committee. The high priority science needs are summarized in Handout 20 and described in Handout 21.

Technical Committee Participants in the 2015 Science Needs Review

The science needs process involved participation from a broad variety of organizations, comprising more than 40 individuals representing 6 U.S. federal agencies, 1 Canadian federal agency, 7 state agencies, 6 NGOs (one based in Canada), and 4 partnerships:

Atlantic Coast Joint Venture	Mitch Hartley, Caleb Spiegel (USFWS staff)
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership	Lisa Havel
Canadian Wildlife Service	Karel Allard
Connecticut DEEP	Steve Gephard
Delaware DFW	Kevin Kalasz
Ducks Unlimited	John Coluccy
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Steve Perry
Maine DIFW	Philip deMaynadier
National Park Service	Amanda Babson, Marian Norris
National Wildlife Federation	Hector Galbraith, Chris Hilke
Nature Conservancy of Canada	Margo Morrison
NatureServe	Lesley Sneddon
North Atlantic LCC staff	Steve Fuller, Andrew Milliken, Scott Schwenk, Megan Tyrell (includes USFWS staff)
New Hampshire Fish & Game	Matt Carpenter
New York DEC	Dawn McReynolds, Erin White
Northeast Regional Ocean Council	Regina Lyons (EPA)
NOAA	Darlene Finch, Ellen Mecray, Jim Turek
The Nature Conservancy	Mark Anderson, Arlene Olivero, Adam Whelchel
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Roselle Henn
U.S. EPA	Anne Kuhn
U.S. FWS	Susan Adomowicz, Meredith Barton, Randy Dettmers, Julie Devers, Jeff Horan, Tom LaPointe, Mike Millard
USGS	Evan Grant, Peter Murdoch, Rob Thieler
Vermont Fish & Wildlife	Eric Sorenson
Virginia DGIF	Alan Weaver
Wildlife Conservation Society	Michale Glennon

Science Needs Schedule and Process

January – kick-off of science needs review process with the North Atlantic LCC Technical Committee. Review and discussion materials were posted in the Technical Committee webpage at: <http://northatlanticlcc.org/groups/technical-committee-1/2015-science-needs-review>.

February-March – teleconference calls to discuss potential priority science needs with each of the three subgroups (freshwater aquatic; coastal and marine; and terrestrial and freshwater wetlands). Sources of science needs included needs identified in previous years that had not yet been addressed and recommendations from individual Technical Committee members.

March 10-11 – joint meeting of the Technical Committee and the Science Delivery Committee. During the first day of the meeting, subgroups prioritized their respective science needs and developed write-ups for consideration by the full committee. During the second day, committee members presented the science need priorities for discussion. At the conclusion of the meeting, participants voted on their highest science need priorities across all three subgroups.

March 12-18 – extended voting period for Technical Committee members who were not able to vote on science needs at the in-person meeting. A total of 34 members voted either in person or during the extended voting period.

March-April – North Atlantic LCC staff worked with Technical Committee members to refine and clarify narrative descriptions for the highest ranked science needs based on the voting process.

April 22 – Highest rated science needs from the Technical Committee presented to Steering Committee for consideration.