

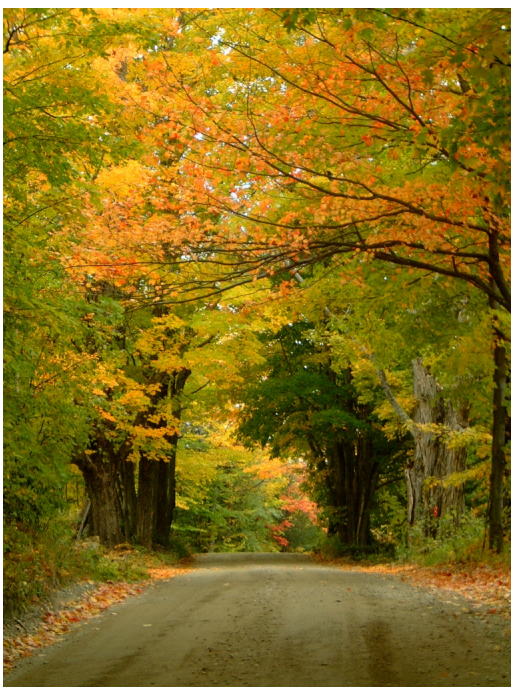
Highlights from the 2014 Annual Report

The North Atlantic LCC reached an important stage in its evolution in 2014. Having built a strong foundation of partnerships and science, the LCC has now begun to deliver information and tools to practitioners who can use them to inform on-the-ground conservation actions. The North Atlantic LCC Annual Report report celebrates the achievements made by this collaborative over the past year, and the people who make it possible.

About the North Atlantic LCC

Stretching from northern Virginia to Maritime Canada and southern Quebec, the North Atlantic LCC region encompasses one of the most diverse and populous coastal areas in North America.

The LCC is building on a long history of conservation by partners and partnerships in this region in its effort to help establish common goals for protecting natural and cultural resources, and collaboratively develop scientific information and tools needed to achieve those goals in the face of threats and uncertainty.



Sterling, Mass. (Connecticut River Watershed Council)

Snapshot of 2014 Accomplishments

Partnerships

LCC is bringing partners together around common goals for conserving shared natural and cultural resources in the region.

- **Highlight - State Wildlife Action Plan regional synthesis:** A collaborative effort with Northeast state agency partners to identify and prioritize regional conservation needs and map Regional Conservation Opportunity Areas for more than 500 Species of Greatest Conservation Need and more than 150 habitat types. This information will provide regional context in 2015 for each state's Wildlife Action Plan update.

Projects and Products

LCC is supporting research and development for more than 25 science projects and products that are helping to address the most urgent conservation challenges facing the North Atlantic region.

- **Highlight - Restoring Aquatic Connectivity and Increasing Flood Resilience:** A set of prioritization and risk assessment tools for resource managers, transportation officials and municipalities to evaluate road-stream crossings and improve aquatic connectivity and resilience to future floods.

Science Delivery

LCC is helping to equip conservation practitioners with the best available information and resources by conducting training and funding projects to demonstrate the application of science, data, and tools. LCC also supports the efforts of partner organizations to deliver and translate information through their partner networks.

- **Highlight - Highstead Foundation's "Science to Practice":** An effort to bridge the gap between LCC science and Highstead's network of Regional Conservation Partnerships, including land trusts and other practitioners, by introducing them to relevant data, and providing training on how to use the data effectively.

Landscape Conservation Design

LCC is helping to enable a sustainable future for the region by helping conservation partners plan and design a connected network of lands and waters capable of supporting wildlife, ecosystems and communities -- even as conditions change.

- *Highlight* - The Connecticut River Watershed Landscape Conservation Design Pilot: A collaborative effort by more than 30 conservation partners to use the best available data, analyses, and models for focal species and ecological systems to develop a design that reflects shared goals for the watershed.



Core Team of the Connecticut River Watershed Landscape Conservation Design Pilot. (Bridget Macdonald/North Atlantic LCC)

Hurricane Sandy Resilience

LCC is coordinating a suite of projects supported by federal funding for Hurricane Sandy recovery that examine beaches, tidal marshes, and streams through the lens of long-term resilience.

- *Highlight* - Tidal Marsh Resilience: LCC is supporting coordination, monitoring, research tool development, and delivery to increase understanding of how to best manage and restore tidal marsh systems and species for increased resilience in the face of sea level rise and storms. An important step in 2014 was organizing a gathering of more than 50 researchers and practitioners from universities, non-profit organizations, and state and federal agencies to exchange information and align efforts.

Information Management and Communication

LCC is providing resources, tools, and technical support to help partners access and use information, and to spread the word about their efforts through a variety of communications tools and platforms.

- *Highlight* - The North Atlantic LCC Conservation Planning Atlas: LCC staff organized and uploaded more than 100 new LCC and other regional datasets related to climate change, habitats, species and environmental conditions and led technical workshops for target audiences to learn how to access and use the data.

For More Information

Visit our website: www.northatlanticlcc.org

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