

PROGRESS REPORT Science Delivery

BACKGROUND

- In FY11 and FY12, NALCC funded a series of demonstration projects designed to show how landscape science is being used across the Northeast Region --*all demonstration projects are now complete.*
- In FY13/14, the steering committee formalized a Science Delivery Program, and obligated funding to increase staff capacity (\$140K) and to competitively fund projects (\$300K).
- In FY14/15, the steering committee obligated funds to maintain or increase capacity, to develop customized applications of existing data, and to support technical assistance through a variety of means (\$300k).

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Science Delivery Program is to advance the best-available science by establishing a knowledge base in the conservation community and facilitating a network of partners to apply landscape science products to conservation at multiple scales across the NALCC region.

CURRENT FUNDING

SCIENCE DELIVERY NEEDS			
	TOPIC	ALLOCATION	OBLIGATED
1	Improved user-interface for DataBasin	\$30,000	\$30,000
2	Initial knowledge transfer	\$150,000	\$35,000
3	Facilitation of multi-scale planning	\$0	-
4	Focused science applications for terrestrial/aquatic/coastal systems	\$70,000	\$25,000
5	Technical assistance provider grants	\$25,000	-
6	Coordination of conservation networks	\$25,000	-

RECENT ACTIVITY

- Over the last year, NALCC staff hosted or attended more than 30 events for the purpose of delivering science to conservation programs and partners.
- More than 60 key managers, GIS technicians, and scientists are

participating in RCOA workshops, including representatives from most Northeast states.

- State participants in the RCOA process are shaping LCC work, and using transferred knowledge in their own SWAPs and daily work.
- Most recently, LCC staff provided training to refuge staff at the National Conservation Training Center.
- The 2015 funding allocation is supporting the development of a comprehensive land management and restoration prioritization tool--experts will be engaged to develop customized scenarios.
- Additional funding for training and technical assistance will be obligated in conjunction with RCOA Version 1.0

STATUS OF GRANTS

- [Open Space Institute](#) is in the final stages of editing “Conserving Nature in a Changing Climate: A Guide for Land Trusts in the Northeast”.
- [Wildlife Conservation Society](#) has prioritized Northern New England Towns based on their land use regulations and convened workshops to educate land use technical assistance providers on the applications of NALCC data to land use planning.
- [Chesapeake Conservancy](#) is convening stakeholders throughout the Envision the Susquehanna landscape, providing training on data, and gaining consensus on applications for prioritizing conservation.

NEXT STEPS

The completion of RCOAs will be a major step in translating science to products that are relevant and useful for on the ground implementation. Additional capacity and funding will be needed to support the use and adoption of these products by partners engaged in SWAP implementation and landscape conservation throughout the region. Over the coming months, we will begin to implement a strategic approach to Science Delivery, leveraging RCOA products in support of SWAP implementation.