**LCC Annual Process for Assessing Science Needs and Selecting Projects Comparison**

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| **2014-2015** | | | **2015-2016 (proposed)** | |
| **Date(s)** | **LCC Event** | **LCC Decision or Process** | **LCC Event** | **LCC Decision or Process** |
| **Sept./Oct.** | October LCC Technical Committee Meeting/Call | Not held (funding decisions already made) | October LCC Review Teams | Review RFP proposals, make recommendations to Steering Committee |
| **October** | LCC Steering Committee meeting | Strategic Direction input on Science Needs Process and Strategic Plan revisions | LCC Steering Committee meeting | Review and approve/revise project recommendations. Strategic Direction input on Science Needs Process and Strategic Plan revisions |
| **Nov./Dec.** | LCC staff | Outline Strategic plan revision and science needs process | LCC staff | Contracts for approved projects |
| **January-February** | Call to Partners | Request Input on Science Needs to Partners | Conservation design team (subset of Technical Committee and RCOA team) | Engage interested technical committee members in discussion of needs and process related to conservation design |
| Technical Committee Call/Meeting | Input on Strategic Plan, science needs |
| **March** | Technical Committee Call/Meeting | Develop Recommendations on Science Needs | Recommendations on needs to support conservation design |
| Science Delivery Team | Recommendations on needs to support science delivery |
| **April** | Steering Committee meeting at Northeast F&W Conference | Approval of Science Needs (including RCN topics that LCC could support); science needs for direct funding or RFP | Steering Committee meeting at Northeast F&W Conference | Approval of recommended science needs to support conservation design and delivery |
| Northeast F&W Conference | Presentations on completed LCC Projects | Northeast F&W Conference | Presentations on completed LCC Projects Science Delivery Symposia and/or Workshop |
| **May-June** | Technical Committee calls | Assess need for RFP or direct contracts | Conservation design team | Additional input on conservation design. Assess need for RFP or direct contracts |
| **June** | LCC Steering Committee call | Final decisions for directed sole source contracts and RFP topics | LCC Steering Committee call | Review of draft design outputs. Final decisions for directed sole source contracts and RFP topics if needed |
| **July/August** | LCC and WMI Staff | Issue RFP for competitively funded projects by WMI | LCC and WMI Staff | Issue RFP for competitively-funded projects by WMI if needed |
| **Sept./Oct** | Northeast Fish and Wildlife Diversity Technical Comm. Meeting | Review of proposed methodology for conservation design (Regional Conservation Opportunity Areas) | Northeast Fish and Wildlife Diversity Technical Comm. Meeting | Review of Regional Conservation Opportunity Areas |