Status of Approved and Remaining North Atlantic LCC Priority Science Needs for 2013

| **Topic** | **Relevance to Conservation Decisions** | **Status and Relation to Other Work** | **Potential Project Type** | **Approved Funding** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Aquatic Resources and Ecosystems** | | | | | |
| A1. Compilation of aquatic biological data | Needed for assessing habitats for and threats to high priority fish and other aquatic species, which informs conservation and restoration priorities | Support new aquatic decision support tool effort (Downstream Strategies), ecological flow assessments | Coordination with states and other partners; data collection/ entry/ validation | $25,000 | To be used as needed for aquatic tools and analyses |
| **A2. Stream connectivity and barriers** | **Needed for better prioritizing stream restoration efforts; also benefits efforts to prevent flood damage from storms** | **Work would build on existing connectivity work and could leverage Hurricane Sandy funding** | **Identification and collection of existing data; field surveys to fill gaps; regional compilation and decision models** | **$150,000** | **Proposal selection is before the Steering Committee** |
| **Terrestrial and Freshwater Wetland Resources and Ecosystems** | | | | | |
| **TW1. Vernal pool mapping and monitoring** | **Needed for assessing populations of amphibians and other vernal pool-dependent species, which can be used in directing conservation activities for these sensitive habitats** | **Momentum is growing to develop a regional monitoring program, and RCN proposal for this topic has been submitted** | **Gather existing data; identify data gaps; coordinate regional efforts; develop regional monitoring protocols** | **$75,000** | **Proposal selection is before the Steering Committee** |
| TW2. Migratory stopover habitat | Needed for identifying high priority areas for conservation of birds during the migration period | Would build on existing work with weather radar to identify stopover areas | Analyze radar data, carry out field verification, model areas of radar gaps | $75,000 | Co-funded project in July 2013 |

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| **Coastal and Marine Resources and Ecosystems** | | | | | |
| CM1. Tidal wetland habitat suitability | Needed to make decisions on restoration and management of habitat for saltmarsh-dependent fish and wildlife | Relates to LCC Structured Decision Making and sea level rise decision model being developed through Northeast CSC. | Decision model for salt marsh restoration, management or acquisition. | $0 | $2,200,000 award through DOI Hurricane Sandy mitigation funding. An additional $1,750,000 was awarded for a similar project relating to beaches |
| CM2. Wetland restoration projects for resilience | Needed to ensure the effectiveness of future restoration of coastal wetlands | RFP with 3 proposals last year – none selected; similar work proposed under Hurricane Sandy resiliency | Monitoring of metrics to determine effectiveness of restoration; assessment or results; recommendations | $0 | Included in DOI Hurricane Sandy mitigation funding above |
| **Total** | | | | $325,000  (of approximately $475,000 originally proposed) |  |

Additional High Priority Science Needs NALCC Staff Recommendation:

A3. Stream Temperature and Flow ($50-$125K) Revisit given regional stream work including NECSC projects

TW3. Forest structure and condition ($0-$50K) Explore collaboration with *North American Forest Dynamics* project

TW4. Compilation of terrestrial species data ($10-50K) Further define scope in context of project and SWAP synthesis needs

CM3. Natural systems response to Hurricane Sandy Will be addressed through Hurricane Sandy DOI and public solicitations

**North Atlantic LCC FY 13 Allocations and Budget - Adaptive Science**

***Bold and Italic indicate recommendations for available funding***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Funding |  |
| FY 13 Allocation Adaptive Science North Atlantic LCC | $ 1,218,015 |
| Available funds with 6.8% sequester | $ 1,135,190 |
| Carryover from FY 12 | $ 19,662 |
| Unfunded RFP rollover from FY 12 | $ 180,000 |
| Total Available Funds | $ 1,334,852 |
|  |  |
| Science Delivery |  |
| ***Recommended Science Delivery Projects*** | ***$ 150,000*** |
| Information Management | $ 40,000 |
| Science and Delivery Staff | $ 250,000 |
| Total Delivery and Staff | $ 440,000 |
|  |  |
| Science Projects |  |
| Ongoing Projects | $ 467,104 |
| Funded Projects | $ 100,000 |
| ***Recommended Projects*** | ***$ 250,000*** |
| Total Science Projects | $ 817,104 |
|  |  |
| Total Funded and Recommended | $ 1,257,104 |
|  |  |
| Balance | $ 77,748 |

**Options for balance**

* **Support additional recommended science delivery capacity**
* **Support additional identified science needs**
* **Roll over balance into FY 14 project funding**