NALCC Science Delivery

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Steering Committee Meeting, November 2013

The Wildlife
Management Institute

LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVES

North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Background

The goal of the Science Delivery Team is to develop a framework to support the implementation and application of science products at multiple scales across the NA LCC region.

The North Atlantic LCC Science Delivery team met three times via conference call between June and October 2013. The team is an expansion of the demonstration projects team and now includes over 30 members each representing different delivery functions in federal agencies, state agencies, national NGOs, regional NGOs, watershed groups and others. Their discussions are summarized in this document. Their recommendations are summarized here.

Requested Actions

1. Pursuant to recommending an allocation of FY13 funds, the Science Delivery team convened three well-attended meetings since June and designed a framework to advance the translation, adoption, and delivery of landscape science; the team now requests concurrence on 3 inter-dependent categories of Science Delivery, each with prioritized needs intended to put emerging science in the hands of the intended users and provide the assistance they need to put it in use:

- Science Delivery Program Development and Capacity;
- Science Delivery Partner Support Grants and Demonstration Projects;
- Science Delivery Information Support and Access Needs.

2. The team requests approval of prioritized needs in all three categories and a corresponding allocation of FY13-14 funds—upon approval of allocations, staff will commence implementation tasks, including strategic planning, technical assistance, and development of RFPs;

3. The team requests to release RFPs and subsequently recommend proposals for approval at the April 2014 NALCC Steering Committee meeting.

4. Pursuant to recommending an allocation of FY14 funds, the team requests a continuing charge to convene as a technical sub-committee of the NALCC Steering Committee and to further develop, guide, and amend Science Delivery Needs as necessary.

	Need 1: Science Delivery Program Development & Capacity	Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
1.0	Maintain NALCC Science Delivery Technical Committee, staff capacity and contracts sufficient to implement a program of science delivery.	LCC staff, trained partners	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	13	$ 75,000
1.1	Translate science and data to meet user needs and implement technical assistance on landscape conservation science.	LCC staff, trained partners	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	13 (note: split from	(see 1.0)
1.2	Conduct workshops with users to provide information and get feedback from partners.	LCC staff, partners,	Facilitation con- tract(s)	6	$ 25,000
1.3	Actively seek "one-to-one" input from partnerships and conservation initiatives.	LCC staff, science project PIs	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	6	(see 1.0)
1.4	Engage strategic networks of people to deliver science.	LCC staff	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	5	(see 1.0)
1.5	Conduct outreach on the access to information.	LCC staff with partners	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	3	(see 1.0)
	Need 2: Partner Support Grants and Demonstration Projects	Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
2.0	Provide demonstration project grants to encourage partners/ partnerships to use, test, or develop applications of science.	Partners	Grants to support 3 demon-stration	10	$150,000
2.1	Support state, NGO, university and federal partners to provide technical assistance to sub-regional groups.	Partners	Grants to support 3-4 partners	8	$150,000
2.2	Build or enhance networks of people to deliver science to address specific resource questions.	Required of grantees	Website custom- ization support	5	-
	Need 3: Science Delivery Information Support and Access	Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
3.0	Regional: Provide access to regional data layers and tools on the LCC website.	LCC Staff/ partners/ PIs	Data/content mgmt. contract	9	$ 40,000
3.1	Compile maps and other relevant regionally-consistent spatial information relevant to partnerships.	LCC Staff/ partners/ PIs	Data/content mgmt. contract	6	(see 3.0)
3.2	Re-organize data and other information in "packages" relevant to specific geographies and manage access accordingly.	LCC Staff/ partners/ PIs	Data/content mgmt. contract	5	(see 3.0)
			TOTAL		**$ 440,000**

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Need 1: Science Delivery Program Development and Capacity		Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
1.0	All scales: **Maintain NALCC Science Delivery Technical Committee, staff capacity and contracts sufficient to develop and implement a program of science delivery** employing translation, technical assistance, training, targeted outreach, and demonstration projects to ensure the delivery and adoption of landscape conservation science. The program needs to utilize and enhance existing networks of partners and partnerships to help translate and integrate science products, put them in the hands of users, and demonstrate how to use them. Immediate next steps include prioritization of landscape science products for initial delivery, targeting of audiences, assessment of existing networks for delivery, development of a timeline, drafting RFPs for grants, and drafting a strategic plan.	LCC staff, trained technical assistance partners	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	13	$75,000
1.1	All scales: **Translate science and data to meet user needs and provide technical assistance on landscape conservation science** including training (training the trainers), workshops, and facilitated application of tools. This activity is part technical and part interactive, involving custom GIS, data summary, synthesis of science results, and tailoring technical assistance to meet the needs of and learn from specific audiences and applications. Trainees would include recipients of technical assistance and demonstration project grants (2.0 and 2.1).	LCC staff, trained partners	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	13 (note: split from 1.0)	(see 1.0)
1.2	Regional and Sub-regional: **Conduct workshops with users to provide information and get feedback** on the most effective way to integrate information and to provide training on tools. Workshops may be oriented to train users on final products, or to facilitate decisions and gather input to direct intermediate phases of conservation design or both. Two specific immediate actions are to 1) work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to host a workshop or workshops in the Connecticut River Watershed to test, demonstrate and seek feedback on integrated landscape conservation design; and 2) to plan and deliver a workshop at NEAFWA to deliver regional information for SWAP updates with Northeast Fish and Wildlife Diversity Technical Committee and State Planners.	LCC staff, partners, facilitators	Facilitation con-tract(s)	6	$25,000

Need 1 (continued): Science Delivery Program Development and Capacity		Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
1.3	All Scales: **Actively seek input from species partnerships and conservation initiatives** and provide them with data, maps, and other regionally-consistent spatial information that meet their needs.	LCC staff, science project PIs	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	6	(see 1.0)
1.4	All Scales: **Maintain strategic networks of people to deliver science** to address specific resource questions, needs, and audiences such as land use, fisheries, species mgmt, forestry, water resources. Identify state and NGO partners already working with those audiences, and identify key adopters and strategies for adoption.	LCC staff	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	5	(see 1.0)
1.5	Regional: **Conduct outreach on the availability of information**, including instructions on how to access and use available information.	LCC staff with partners	Tech. Ass. Staff (1 FTE)	3	(see 1.0)

Delivering science for conservation is a person to person job.

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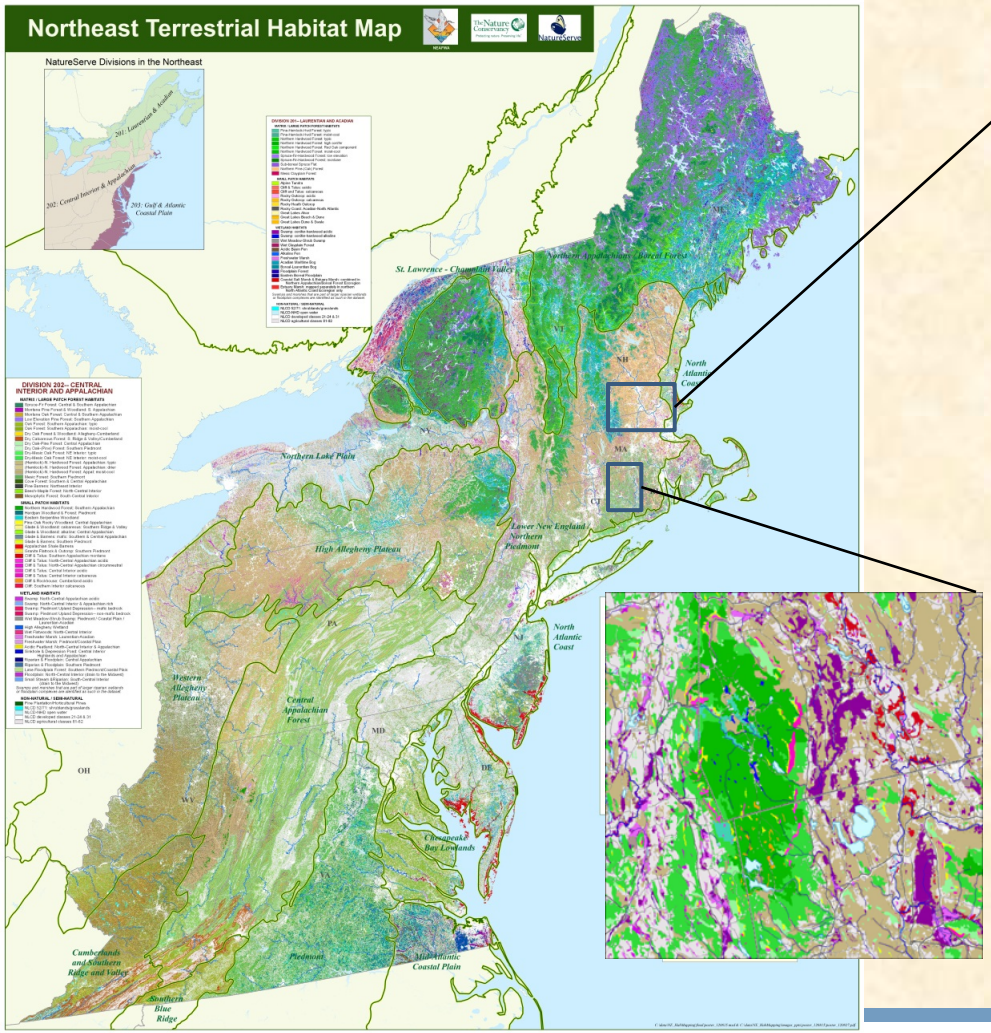
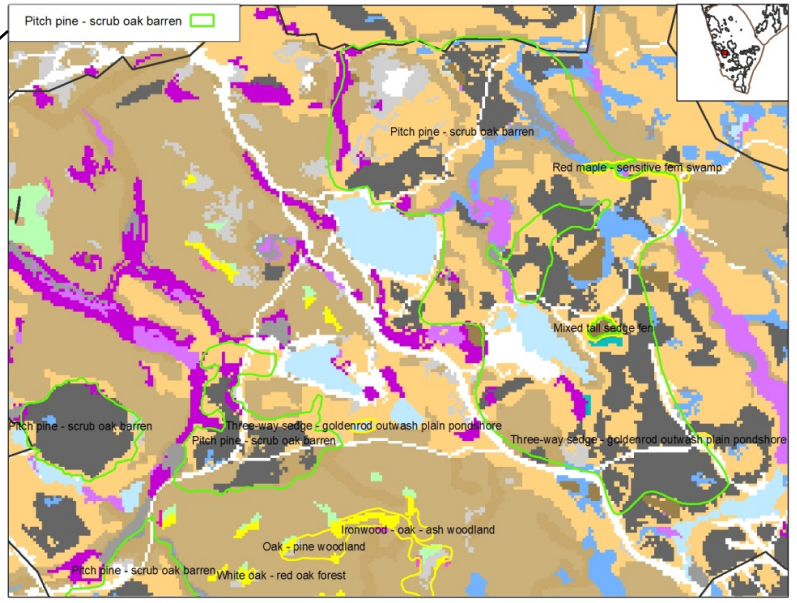
Capacity questions?

Need 2: Science Delivery Partner Support Grants and Demonstration Projects		Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
2.0	All Scales: **Provide demonstration project grants to encourage partners/ partnerships to use, test, or develop applications of data/tools** and train others in their geographic areas via demonstration projects or other applied uses of landscape science. Specific examples include ongoing demonstration projects. Next steps should demonstrate application of latest information and tools, or develop new applications to cultural resources, environmental review, and other decision-making contexts.	Partners	Grants to support 3 demon-stration projects	10	$150,000
2.1	State/local: **Identify and support state, NGO, university and federal partners to provide technical assistance to local communities and other groups.** Provide grants to partners to provide technical assistance to key audiences including land trusts, communities, states, and local agencies.	Partners	Grants to support 3-4 partners	8	$150,000
2.2	**Develop or enhance networks of people to deliver science to address specific resource questions** or needs including land use, fisheries, species management, forestry, and water resources. Establish contacts, collaborative resources, and seek input.	Required of grantees	Website custom-ization support	5	-

NE Terrestrial Habitat Map

A consistent classification and map across 13 states





Above Zoom-in:

Pitch Pine Barren
Acidic Swamp
Rocky Oak Woodland
Pine-Oak Forest
App Hemlock-N Hardwood Forest

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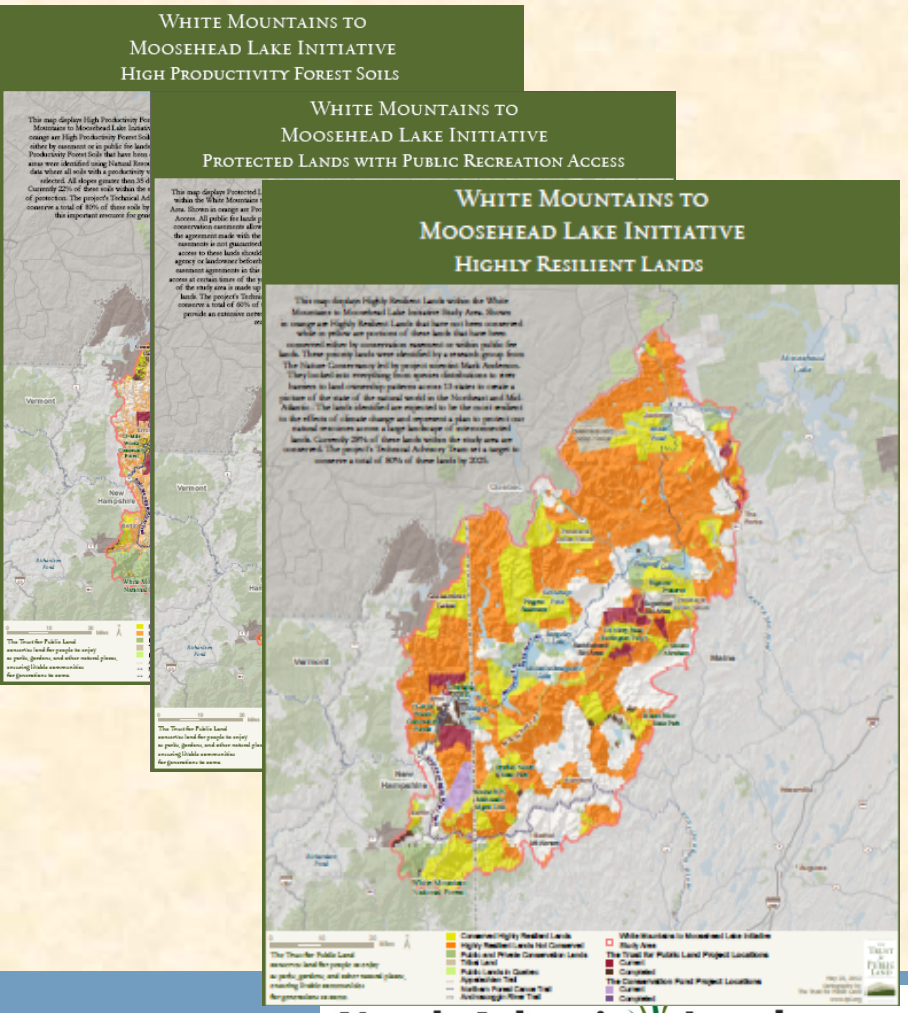
White Moose Plan Sets Parcel Priorities and Metrics



White Moose Objectives:

- Promote Climate Resilience
- Increase Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation
- Preserve Working Forests

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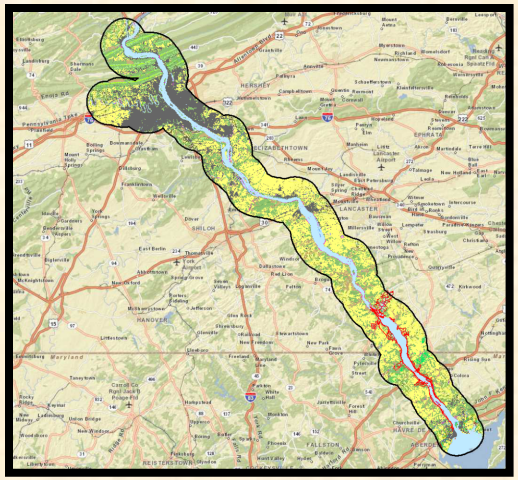
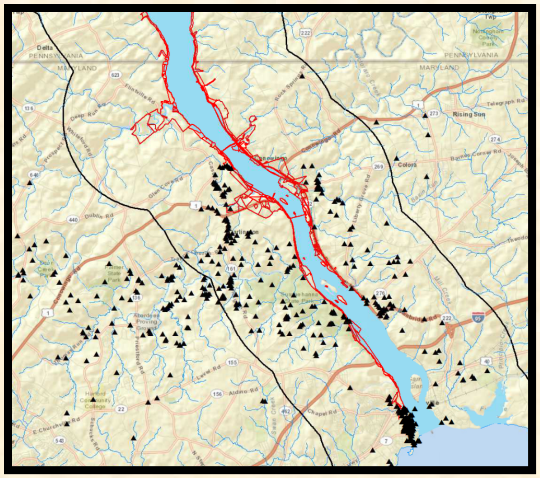
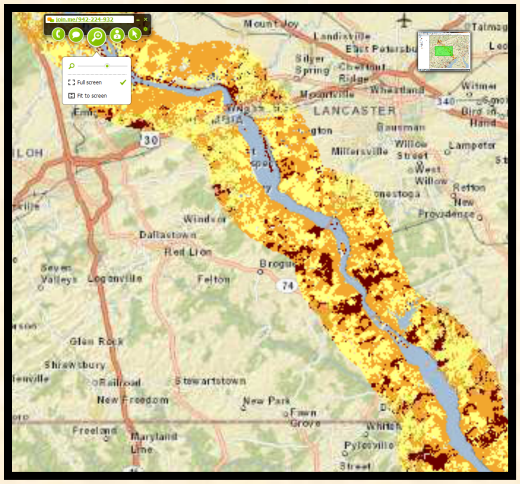
Chesapeake Conservancy FERC Analysis:







Northeast Terrestrial Habitat Classification → Historic and Cultural Features → Interactive Parcel Analysis

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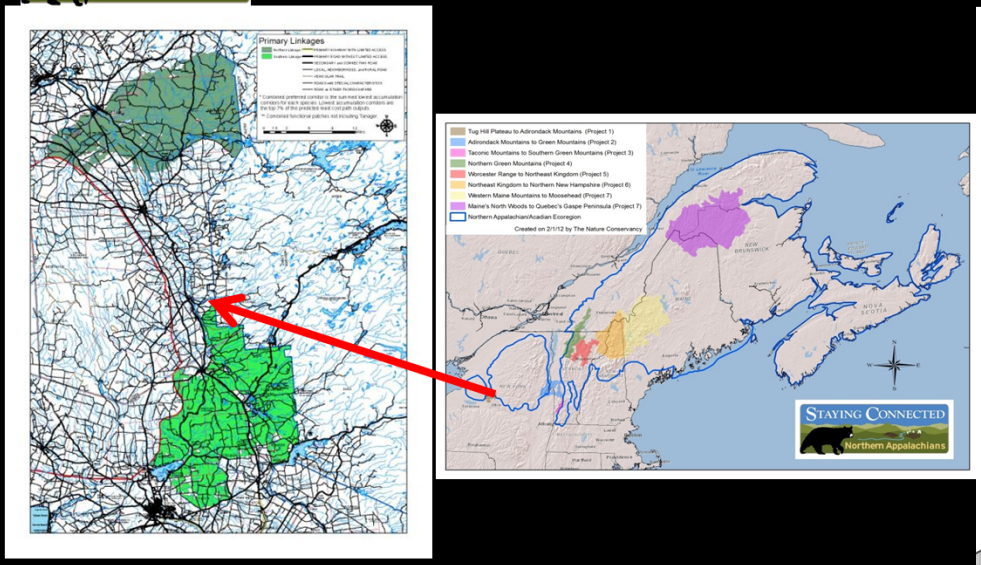
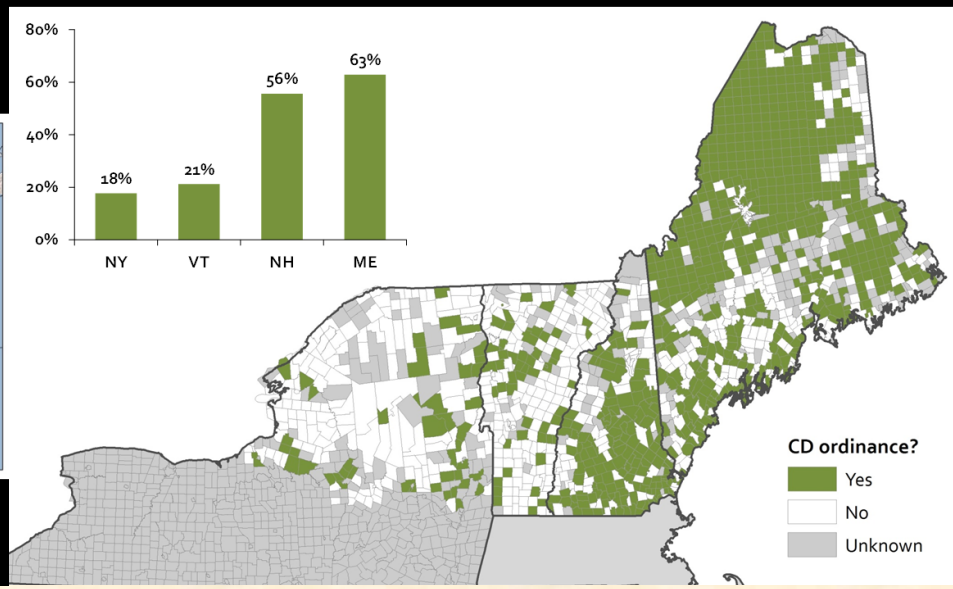
Prioritizing where we work



Conservation Development Ordinances:

Rate of adoption varies by state



Science Delivery Process

Conservation development for actual conservation outcomes

Target Communities
-land use regulation review within priority conservation areas

Outreach to Key Partners
-identify key actors/players at state and local level including, NGOS State Wildlife Action Plan personnel, land-use decision makers

Learning Network
- translate science to key players, make it accessible to them through variety of in-person and social media tools, promote broad understanding of concepts, maps, and regulatory language

Adoption/Deployment of Tools
- Local decision makers change the way they operate to facilitate conservation

Opportunities

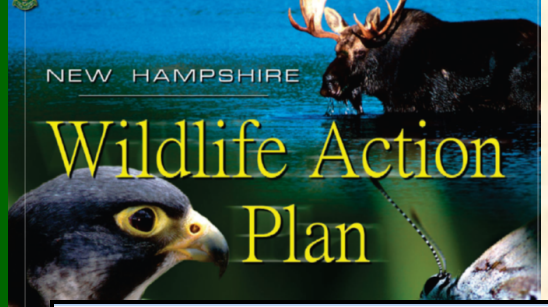
What steps are needed for success?

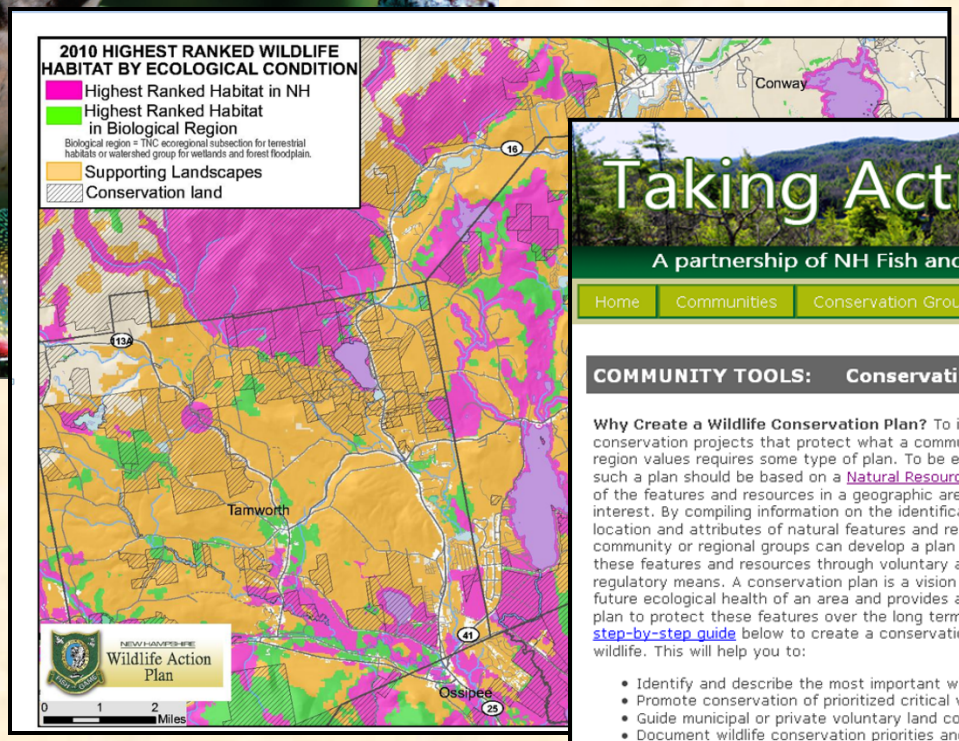
- Identify communities with highest potential for success
- Coordinate regional & local players
- Develop learning network

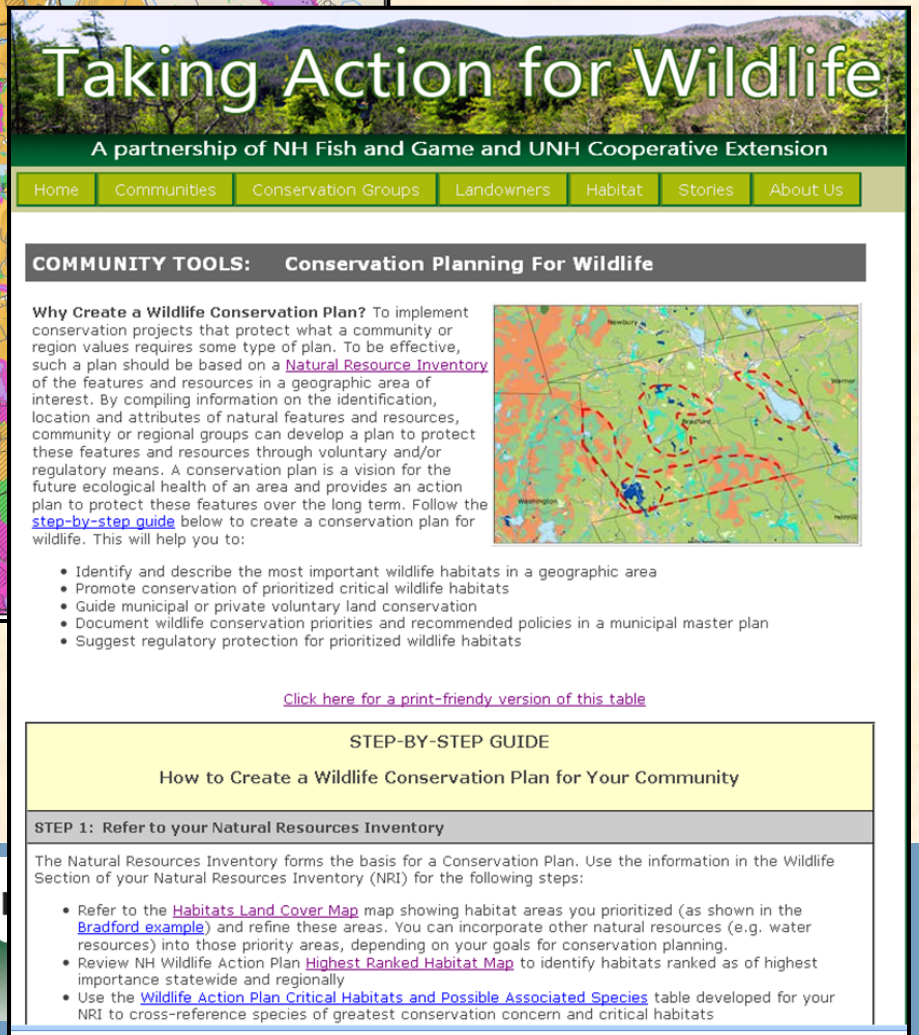
Taking Action for Wildlife

Helping Communities Protect Wildlife Habitat

Emily Preston
Wildlife Biologist
NH Fish and Game







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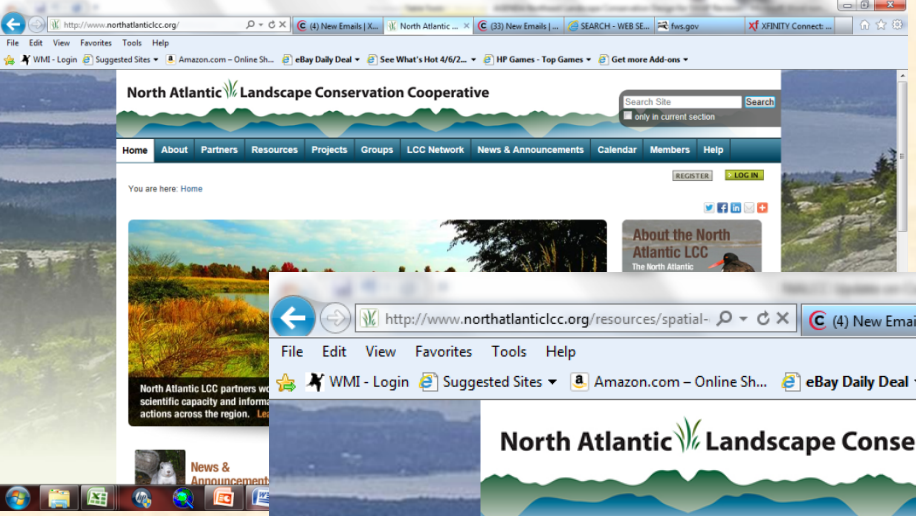
RFP questions

- What do we want to emphasize in RFP (scale, audience, product, approach, outcomes), how broad or specific?
- Balance of number of projects to fund vs award amount

Need 3: Science Delivery Information Support and Access Needs		Who/ How	Unmet Needs	Rank Score	FY13-14 Cost
3.0	Regional: **Organize, make available, maintain and advertise catalog of available regional data layers and tools** (from RCN, LCC and other sources) on the LCC website with links from other regional websites. **Maintain information management system hosted on the LCC Data Basin site** providing access to relevant spatial data layers and integrated results and customize galleries of spatial data and visualizations (maps and tools) for specific uses or partnerships.	LCC Staff/ partners/ PIs	Data/con-tent mgmt. contract	9	$40,000
3.1	Species range: **Compile information and maps on range-wide distribution, abundance and habitat suitability for focal species** (or portion of species range in region), provide habitat maps and other relevant regionally-consistent spatial information to species partnerships.	LCC Staff/ partners/ PIs	Data/con-tent mgmt. contract	6	(see 3.0)
3.2	Sub-regional/State/local: **Provide spatial information at regional, sub-regional (watershed and ecoregion) and state scale** organized by sub-region and state in Data Basin and for state websites as well as partnership sites (e.g. LandScope Chesapeake, TPL Data Basin site). Requires organizing and re-packaging data and other information relevant to specific geographies and managing access.	LCC Staff/ partners/ PIs	Data/con-tent mgmt. contract	5	(see 3.0)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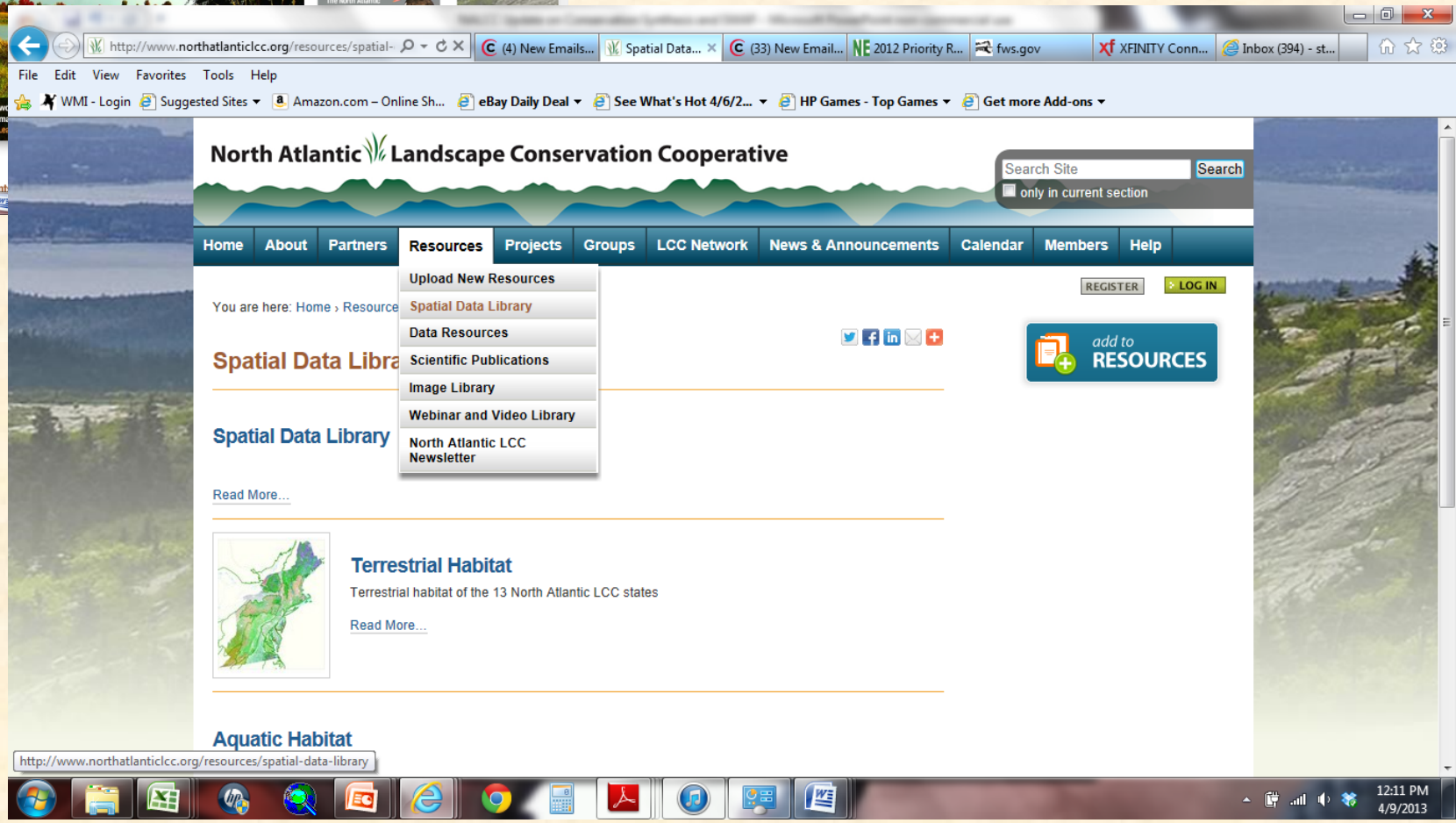
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Topics:
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The North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative provides a partnership in which the private, state, tribal and federal conservation community works together to address increasing land use pressures and widespread resource threats and uncertainties amplified by a rapidly changing climate. The partners and partnerships in the cooperative address these regional threats and uncertainties by agreeing on common goals for land, water, fish, wildlife, plant and cultural resources and jointly developing the scientific information and tools needed to prioritize and guide more effective conservation actions by partners toward those goals.

Original Metadata

Contact: Andrew Milliken, BJ Richardson

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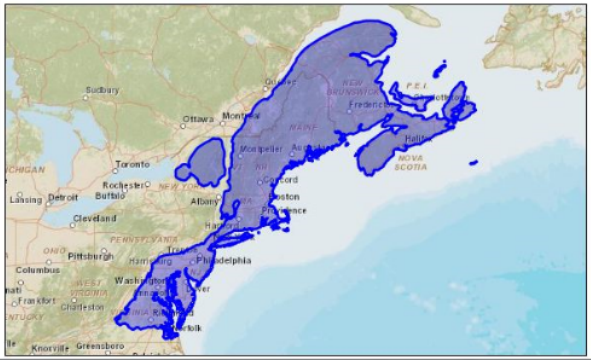

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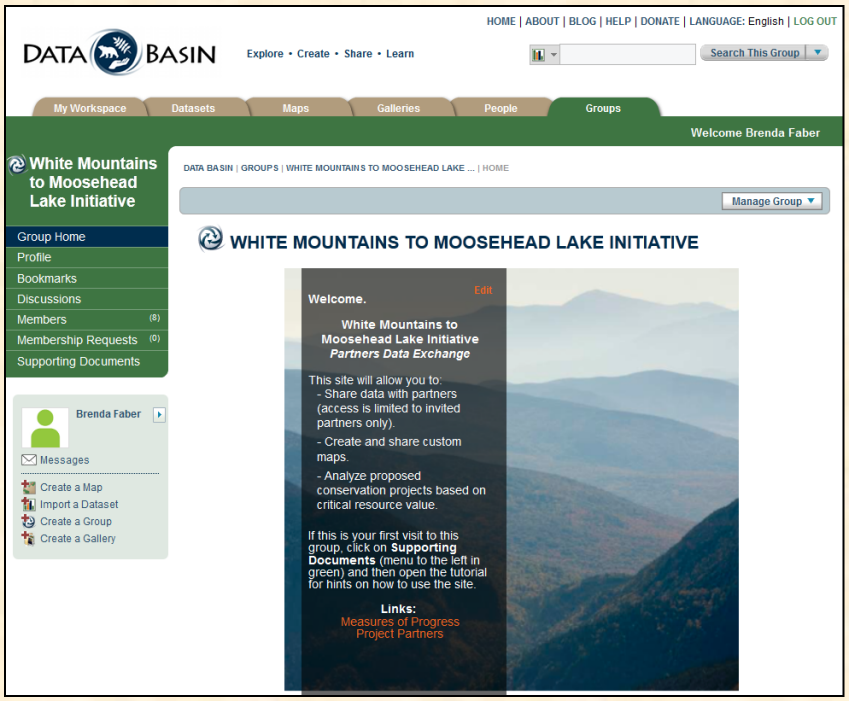
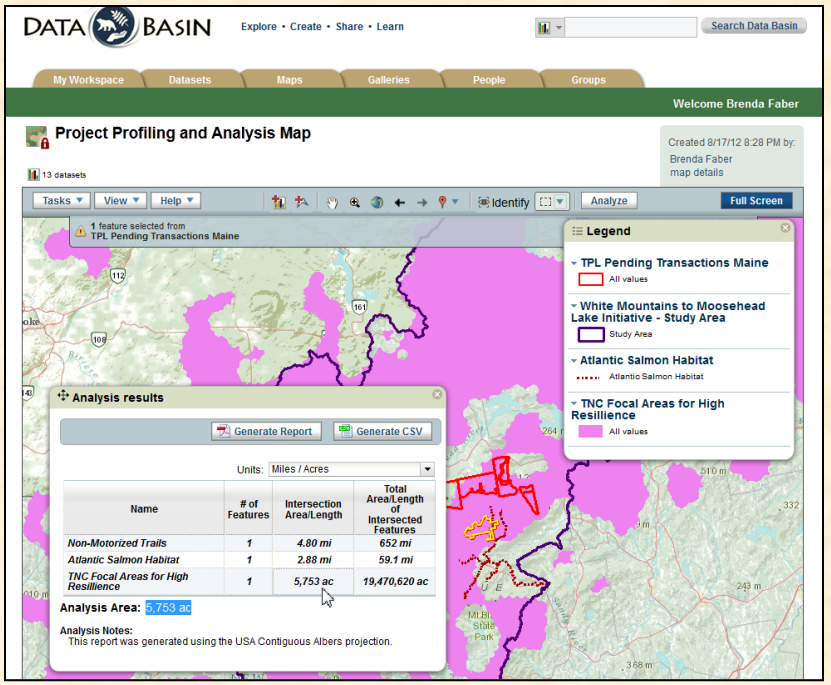
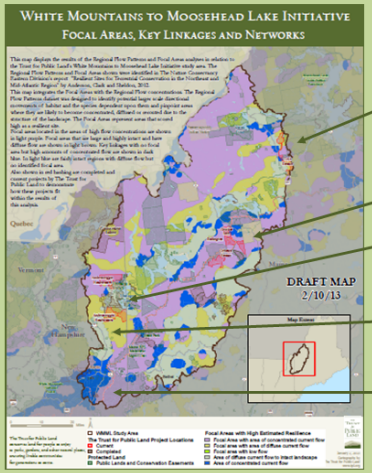




Current Projects Address Key Climate Objectives



Cold Stream in FY14

51,000 Acres in FY11/12
Androscoggin Headwaters, Crocker Mt., and Orbeton Stream

Mahoosuc Gateway in FY14

White Mountain NF/ Crooked River in FY14

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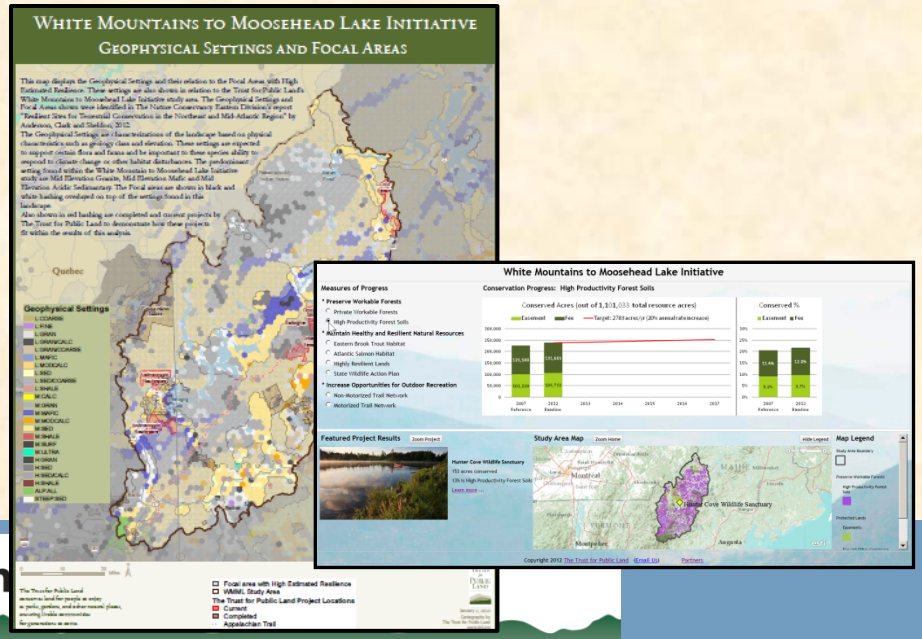

Information management questions?

Decision points

- Allocation $150,000 (FY13)
  $290,000 (FY14)
- Timing: April project approval
- Continuing Process