Goal 2: Deliver landscape-level conservation plans for regional use

FOCUS: Creating an integrated and refined set of planning processes and dashboard-level tools that provide critical feedback, information, and insight to Members. The focus of Goal 2 is support of landscape-level planning and coordination, and helping to focus conservation actions in and adaptive manner.

AppLCC will deliver landscape-level conservation plans that coordinate integration and utilization of Member's plans into a landscape-level framework. The emphasis is facilitating the development of the "big picture" elements necessary for creating landscape level decision-support models. This includes work related to establishment of the coordination processes and frameworks that enable Members to assess current and emerging conservation threats and identify the priority investments and actions that will yield the greatest return are essential for success.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:
Ranking and prioritizing the conservation planning components and actions necessary for understanding resiliency and/or facilitating adaption through the restoration, establishment, and enhancement of key components and system functions are paramount. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring a feedback loop is established to assess the effectiveness of the AppLCC planning and on-the-ground efforts.

Key: #s below Objective Number in 1st column = Workshop SC Rank Score 1 (low) -5 (high) / Years to complete (estimate made by SC during Workshop)

Objective	Action/Task	Action to be taken by:	Underway/ Initiated	Short (~18 mo)	Medium (yr 2-3)	Long (yr 4-5)
2.1 **{3.75/ 1.6}** **Conduct an overall threat assessment**						
2.1.1	Annually update AppLCC "Science Needs Portfolio" and develop "Top Ranked Science Needs" recommendations for SC consideration in guiding landscape planning priorities (4.3.1) and decisions regarding expenditures of FY funds and/or other Member-sponsored capacity. (ongoing)	Staff facilitate Tg(=COPs + Integrated Planning Team)		Yellow		
2.1.2	Initiate threats assessment by impact [energy, urbanization and infrastructure, and climate change, etc.] that will be required to be combined and integrated to generate an overall threats assessment (ongoing)	Work Group, contractor		Fy'11 RFA - energy	Orange	

Objective	Action/Task	Action to be taken by:	Underway/ Initiated	Short (~18 mo)	Medium (yr 2-3)	Long (yr 4-5)
2.1.3	Conduct an overall threats assessment that integrates all relevant impacts and projected changes over time.	Contractor			� (orange)	
2.2 **{2.7/ 1.6}** **Identify requirements to address the human dimensions components of land-use change, including preservation of cultural resources**						
2.2.1	Identify relevant information to portray the human dimensions (cultural and social resources) in landscape-level planning.	Contractor			(orange)	
2.2.2	Identify and integrate relevant cultural resource GIS Standards/Guidelines, (e.g.: GRGIS at National Parks Service; State recreational and Federal recreational plans; Economic development; Urbanization), along with other funds (e.g., Land and Water Conservation Funds/farm bill opportunities as appropriate) into landscape plans. (ongoing)	Work Group (=Integrated Planning Team), contractor				(red)
2.3 **{4.4/ 1.75}** **Identify promising opportunities to safeguard the "*best of the best*" fish and wildlife habitat and plant communities or ecosystems**						
2.3.1	Identify current or promising management investment opportunities that reflect conservation of the "best of the best" resilient habitat for fish, wildlife and plant communities, including opportunities to contribute to cultural preservation priorities and to reinforce the conservation of other social resources.	Staff, Work Group (=COPs), contractor			(orange)	
2.3.2	Develop a "dashboard decision support tool" that portrays these "best of the best" areas and opportunities to help Members maximize their conservation and resource investments.	Work Group, contractor, with Staff support				(red)
2.4 **{3.55/ 2.5}** **Based on articulated conservation targets and objectives, identify and assess potential impacts of land use change on known or projected movement/migration corridors**						
2.4.1	Identify potential movement/migration corridors at appropriate level/unit (i.e. functional group, species /population /genetic level, given relevant geophysical variation, behavioral response etc.)	Contract with Staff support			(orange)	

Objective		Action/Task	Action to be taken by:	Underway/ Initiated	Short (~18 mo)	Medium (yr 2-3)	Long (yr 4-5)
2.5 **{4.05/ 1.95}** **Establish a structured decision-making process for the ongoing integration of existing partner plans to deliver landscape-level conservation planning**							
	2.5.1	Determine which of the currently recognized structured decision/scenario planning/strategic prioritization process to be used and engage expertise as required.	Staff		�+		
	2.5.2	Identify all key, relevant representatives (individuals and organizations) of regional community of practice, and actively engage and solicit participation in identifying common species/habitat priorities /shared values.	Steering Committee (with Staff support)		▓		
	2.5.3	Review and synthesize key information from existing conservation, land and resource management plans.	Staff, Work Group, contractor	"103 Report"	▓		
	2.5.4	Charge Work Group with crafting the framework and identifying the priority elements to be included in the integrated plans generated under 2.5.1, and review of products.	Work Group (with Staff support)			▓	
	2.5.5	Oversee an ongoing structured decision process that provides ongoing planning integration recommendations to the Steering Committee for use in conservation planning actions and for development of dashboard tools.	Work Group (with Staff support)			▓	
2.6 **{3.55/ 2.5}** **Based on the underpinnings of resiliency, identify the management approaches to achieve, restore or enhance system integrity, function, and reflect the conservation prioritization and relative ranking of the systems**							
	2.6.1	Establish and oversee an ongoing structured process that provides the Steering Committee recommendations for: (a) Utilizing existing data to rank conservation targets, and (b) Identifying data gaps and providing priority recommendations for closing. (ongoing)	Work Group (=COP) with Staff support			▓	
	2.6.2	Identify the components, function and relationships that define resiliency and management approaches to achieve, restore, or enhance system function.	Contractor			▓	
	2.6.3	Identify and rank the core areas, components and interrelationships that help and reinforce resilience. Continuously refine the details and status describing those areas based on threats and opportunities to help facilitate coordination and planning prioritization. (ongoing)	Work Group (=COP) with Staff support			▓	

Objective		Action/Task	Action to be taken by:	Underway / Initiated	Short (~18 mo)	Medium (yr 2-3)	Long (yr 4-5)
2.7 **{3.05/ 2.7}** **Utilizing the surrogate species approach to inform landscape-level planning, identify and establish data needs and monitoring design that reflect management objectives and conservation targets**							
	2.7.1	Ensure adequate representation of the AppLCC expertise in relevant US Fish and Wildlife Service Regional workshops and events.	Staff and Steering Committee		■		
	2.7.2	Develop / adopt agreed upon habitat classification systems.	Work Group (=COP) with Staff support		■		
	2.7.3	Define knowledge gaps and science/cost constraints for defining best available groupings.	Work Group (=COP) with Staff support			■	
	2.7.4	Define sub-zones within AppLCC.	Work Group (=COP) with Staff support			■	
	2.7.5	Identify appropriate candidate taxa/species groupings.	Work Group (=COP) with Staff support			■	
	2.7.6	Fully operationalize integration of surrogate species in AppLCC Landscape-level planning; assess, monitor and refine surrogate species selection.	Staff, Work Group (=COP)				■
2.8 **{3.6/ 2.9}** **Project future landscape conditions cumulatively/over time, based on best available science/scenarios, indicating probable patterns and changes**							
	2.8.1	Consult with end-users/resource managers to determine what predictive tools are needed to support their work	Staff, Work Group, contractor		■		
	2.8.2	Assess currently available predictive tools to determine if they meet needs identified under 2.8.1, and evaluate tool functions, model assumptions, etc. for applicability to AppLCC needs	Staff, Work Group, contractor			■	
	2.8.3	Develop the Charter to guide the Integrated Planning Team (subset of COPs with expertise in landscape-level planning and modeling) to serve as a standing Advisory Team to support the work of Staff and facilitation of consultation and integration of assessments and recommendations from the various COP. (ongoing)	Staff and Steering Committee			■	
	2.8.4	Identify landscape-level models and articulate potential scenarios.	Work Group (see 2.8.3)			■	

Objective	Action/Task	Action to be taken by:	Underway/ Initiated	Short (~18 mo)	Medium (yr 2-3)	Long (yr 4-5)
2.8.5	Deliver freely accessible (open source) data outputs and products that will feed to desktop decision-support tool (e.g. focus on landscape level habitat/species mitigation opportunities).	Staff support Work Group, contractor			■	
2.8.6	Assess data gaps and define an ongoing "futuring" process to fill knowledge gaps, monitor emerging trends, and adapt existing efforts. (ongoing)	Staff support Work Group, contractor				■
2.9 **{3.0/ 3.7}** **Provide guidance on how much habitat is necessary for sustainable/resilient (healthy ecosystem) outcomes**						
2.9.1	Define and offer recommendations on what type and how much habitat is necessary for sustainable/resilient (healthy) outcomes and to achieve conservation targets.	Work Group with Staff support				■
2.9.2	Develop tools and models to identify strategic opportunities (including integration of private lands into the broader conservation matrix).	Work Group with Staff support				■