

Summary

Remarks for Dan Ashe

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June 28, 2011

Landscape conservation cooperatives are a bold innovation for building capacity for 21st century conservation science. Firmly grounded in collaboration with partners, LCCs focus on building shared science capacity for strategic response to the urgent natural resource challenges before us. Modeled after Joint Ventures, LCCs expand shared science capacity to all wildlife on the landscape. The integration of science and management expertise will improve our ability to understand and forecast which resources are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change and other stressors and how we can make them more resilient. LCCs will expand the effectiveness and influence of State Wildlife Action Plans; enrich Joint Ventures and Teaming with Wildlife; and enhance Fish Habitat Partnerships. State fish and wildlife agency leadership and engagement are critical to landscape conservation efforts – and to the building of a strong LCC network. Our collective goal is continued focus on sustaining landscapes necessary for key fish and wildlife species into the 21st century.