

End of Year “Report Card”

to Advance the Goals and Objectives of the AppLCC as Identified in the 5-Year Work Plan (initiated in 2012)

Notes:

- Steering Committee Ranked each Objective on a scale 1-5 (5 being the most important or most pressing objective) to be pursued. Those Objectives ranked highest (3.7+) are highlighted in the table.
- Anticipated timeline and what staff/work group/contracting mechanism might be employed to achieve that Objective was provide at the initial drafting of the plan (prior to imposed budget cuts/sequestration and reduced staffing level.)
- If a task status appears blank it represents that efforts have not yet been directed toward addressing the task. Those identified as (*ongoing*) are to be updated annually.

Goal 1: Create and deliver a landscape-level data sharing strategy and scalable toolsets		
	Objective 1.1 -- Conduct AppLCC data needs assessment Ranking: {4.05 /Years 1.1}	
Task 1.1.1	Assess the applicability of the neighboring LCC contract and survey instruments, as a model for identifying AppLCC data needs. - Staff	FY13: Completed
Task 1.1.2	Canvass and assess applicability of other LCCs efforts to identify data needs. - Staff	FY13: Completed
Task 1.1.3	Assess the scope of work required to generate a data needs assessment project (internal vs. contract) and make recommendation to Steering Committee. - Work Group, contractor	FY13:Completed
Task 1.1.4	Develop and define common language, standards and protocols (with consideration of National LCC Network efforts/integrate National LCC Data Mgmt. Group Recommendations while further defining AppLCC data collection protocols and management). - Staff (in collaboration with National LCC Data Management Work Group), Work Group	FY13 update (ongoing): [report out by Paul Leonard] The National Data Management Work Group has drafted 'Best Practice' guidance. The Appalachian LCC agrees with many of the suggestions made by this group and have incorporated those standards into its own Data Sharing and Management Agreement. However, some of the guidance requires funding and staff support that the LCC is currently not equipped to undertake.
Task 1.1.5	Identify and analyze available data sets, methodologies and approaches relative to AppLCC landscape conservation planning. (ongoing) - Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): [report out by Paul Leonard] This work has been contracted out to Clemson University (PI: Rob Baldwin) and is on schedule for delivery per the agreed contract (Winter 2014). Most of the datasets are already uploaded to the AppLCC cloud storage.

Task 1.1.6	Create a “crosswalk” report to validate identified science and data needs with member organizational priorities and AppLCC science needs portfolio. – Staff, Work Group, contractor	
Task 1.1.7	Develop scope of work needed to address or complete a data needs assessment and initiate/fund needed work. – Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY13: Completed
Task 1.1.8	Complete data needs assessment for Steering Committee review. – Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY12 RFP - underway
Task 1.1.9	Formalize a strategy and timeline to address gaps based on data needs assessment. Actions to address needs will be added to relevant Goal/Objective. – Steering Committee	
	Objective 1.2 -- Identify and craft “a way forward” to overcome concerns about data sharing Ranking {3.7/Years 2.2}	
Task 1.2.1	Engage in National LCC data needs discussions/approaches to sharing data and report on how to integrate findings. – Staff, Work Group	FY13 update (ongoing): [report out by Paul Leonard] The LCC Network Data Need Assessment group completed surveys for GIS and Data Management needs in May 2013. Findings suggest more GIS and data support infrastructure across most LCCs but this is a huge challenge for many younger LCCs.
Task 1.2.2	Assist efforts to assemble each SC member organizations’ existing data protocols, data sharing contracts/agreements, and data sensitivity issues (see 1.2.4). – Steering Committee (with Staff support) , contractor	FY13 update: Advancing the work – AppLCC Staff, working with the Steering Committee-led Data Issue Work Group have begun work in reviewing State, Climate Science Center and neighboring LCC materials to help draft policy and procedures to be reviewed by the full Steering Committee and subject to a vote for adoption in FY14.
Task 1.2.3	Develop model agreements for data sharing. – Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY13 update: Advancing the work – AppLCC Staff drafted agreement for use in FY13 RFP Solicitation. The Data issues Work Group has reviewed and will be part of the data policy for full Steering Committee review and adoption in FY14.
Task 1.2.4	Develop a concise and transparent data sharing policy (defining “Whys” and “Hows” of data sharing) and submit to full Steering Committee for approval and adoption. – Steering Committee (or Work Group)	FY13 update: Advancing the work – AppLCC Staff drafted procedural guidance for data request /data access process information file via web portal. The Data issues Work Group has reviewed and will be part of the data policy for full Steering Committee review and adoption in FY14.

		FWS-Region-5 and the NALCC have also been engaged in this policy and procedural discussion.
	Objective 1.3 -- Provide science information, tools, and data support to the existing habitat partnerships and joint ventures Ranking {3.9 /Years 2.0}	
Task 1.3.1	Identify, and annually review, the most immediate science needs to receive support. (ongoing) -Staff facilitate Work Groups (= COPs) (SN Workshop Nov '11)	FY13 update (ongoing): Completed
Task 1.3.2	Deliver findings and products (see 1.3.1) to the conservation and land use community. (ongoing) -Staff, contractor	FY12 RFPs - underway
Task 1.3.3	Create effective and ongoing linkages and introduction of new learning, knowledge, and tools between LCCs and other large landscape efforts. (ongoing) -Staff / (Web portal)	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work
Task 1.3.4	Facilitate creation of new Communities of Practice (COPs), and develop and sustain ongoing dialogue, learning, and engagement between and among all COPs to share information with the broader AppLCC community. (ongoing) -Staff facilitation Work Group (= COPs)	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work
Task 1.3.5	Establish and support the ongoing work of experts (Integrated Landscape Planning Team) to assess landscape level science and planning needs. (ongoing) -Staff facilitate Work Group	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work
	Objective 1.4 -- Synthesize regional information to support State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and other partner action plans Ranking {3.8 /Years 2.15}	
Task 1.4.1	Create inventory, summarize, and maintain key information from all relevant SWAPs, AppLCC Regional initiatives, resource management plans, and partnership efforts. (ongoing) -Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY12 RFP - underway
Task 1.4.2	Report as a “cross-walk” analysis that identifies opportunities to better integrate Regional perspectives, the regional ranking/priorities within each State, and connect to AppLCC Region-wide ranking to help inform planning efforts. (Ranking is based on spatial and temporal land-use and climate change	FY12 RFP - underway

	factors.) (ongoing) - Staff, Work Group, contractor	
	Objective 1.5 -- Actively maintain close working relationships with the DOI Climate Science Centers ensuring on-going communication and research support toward addressing the science needs identified by the AppLCC Members and community Ranking {3.0 /Years 2.16}	
Task 1.5.1	Help identify and set the research-support priorities through active participation in Climate Science Center planning, review and selection efforts.-(ongoing) - Staff	FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) - staff participation handicapped
Task 1.5.2	Facilitate the exchange and distribution of research products to help inform the direction of landscape-level and regional initiatives (e.g., through electronic media, jointly-sponsored proposals, workshops, etc.) ensuring planning dialogue of the Cooperative Members, while supporting associated technical and scientific communities. (ongoing) - Staff, contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work via Web Portal Design/Programming
Task 1.5.3	Coordinating with the National LCC Network and the DOI National Climate Science Centers to facilitate the exchange and distribution of research products to find and develop the best tools for AppLCC needs. (ongoing) - Staff, contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work via Web Portal Design/Programming However: Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) - staff participation handicapped
Task 1.5.4	Participate in other national forums to establish national investments and product strategies. (ongoing) - Staff and Steering Committee	FY13 update (ongoing): Chair & Vice-Chair Presentations at AFWA Annual Meetings
Task 1.5.5	Facilitate efforts to identify, and assess long-term regional monitoring data sets that would also feed into the Science Centers efforts. (ongoing) - Staff and Steering Committee	FY13 update (ongoing): AppLCC Staff working thru FWS-Region-5-SA GIS Staff to facilitate this analysis and coordination with NALCC, NE CSC, and NE RCN partner efforts
Task 1.5.6	Coordinate with key research units and local universities to facilitate the exchange and distribution of research products to find and develop the best tools for AppLCC needs. - Staff	
	Objective 1.6 -- Develop a management process for seamless data integration and more efficient and effective sharing of tool and data sets Ranking {3.7 /Years 2.2}	
Task	Maintain alignment between AppLCC and National	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work via

1.6.1	LCC data and tool sharing practices and policies (reference also 1.2.1). (ongoing) - Staff	Web Portal Design/Programming However: Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) - staff participation handicapped
Task 1.6.2	Develop comprehensive, long-term design for: (a) ongoing cost of data; (b) data capacity; (c) data and software maintenance; and (d) data warehousing technical support. - Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): Advancing the work via Web Portal Design /Programming – and Networking our Partnerships via Companion & Nested sites through annual web portal contract. Note: other (proprietary system) being supported by neighboring LCCs through Data Basin (CBI) and Science Data (USGS). Require \$35-40K membership fee, data storage fee, limited design features, still requires staff/GIS LCC-staff to support, and are subject to limitation to government-sponsored resources in the event of shutdown or agency funding cutbacks.
Task 1.6.3	Operationally integrate standards and protocols into all data-driven tools and protocols that ensure interoperability of models (data outputs) and predictions between communities of modelers at appropriate levels. - Staff, Work Group	
	Objective 1.7 -- Develop and deliver a landscape-level (scalable) planning tools Ranking {3.65 /Years 3.6}	
Task 1.7.1	Assemble common set of spatially explicit data layers based on LCC-consistent standards and definitions. (ongoing) - Staff, Work Group, contractor	FY13 RFP initiated
Task 1.7.2	Identify specific needs for more effective and/or standard monitoring techniques /protocols across a large spatial scale (given the topography and endemism of the AppLCC landscapes). - Staff, Work Group, contractor	
Task 1.7.3	Develop the framework for “next-generation monitoring” and data sharing at a Landscape-level planning scale - Staff, Work Group, contractor	
Task 1.7.4	Further refinement (1.7.3) by documenting “best practices” and “lessons learned” for data delivery, which are consistent with LCC standards and definitions (e.g., data format, metadata etc.) - Staff, Work Group, contractor	
Goal 2: Deliver landscape-level conservation plans for regional		

	<p>Objective 2.1 -- Conduct an overall threat assessment Ranking {3.75 /Years 1.6}</p>	
Task 2.1.1	<p>Annually update AppLCC “Science Needs Portfolio” and develop “Top Ranked Science Needs” recommendations for SC consideration in guiding landscape planning priorities (reference 4.3.1) and decisions regarding expenditures of FY funds and/or other Member-sponsored capacity. (ongoing) – Staff facilitate Technical Group(=COPs + Integrated Planning Team)</p>	<p>FY13 update (ongoing): Completed</p>
Task 2.1.2	<p>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</p>	<p>FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) FY13 RFP initiated [Energy] Initiated in FY13 – under SE CSC funding: Down-scale Climate modeling across the entire AppLCC boundary. To be initiated in FY14 – IAA with USFS/Southern Research Center Threats Assessment Center – to conduct AppLCC-region (a) threats and (b) environmental services assessment with geospatial reference data</p>
Task 2.1.3	<p>Conduct an overall threats assessment that integrates all relevant impacts and projected changes over time. – Contractor</p>	
	<p>Objective 2.2 -- Identify requirements to address the human dimension components of land-use change, including preservation of cultural resources Ranking {2.7 /Years 1.6}</p>	
Task 2.2.1	<p>Identify relevant information to portray the human dimensions (cultural and social resources) in landscape-level planning. – Contractor</p>	
Task 2.2.2	<p>Identify and integrate relevant cultural resource GIS Standards/Guidelines, (e.g.: CRGIS 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</p>	<p>Initiated in FY13 – AppLCC staff working with NPS staff, Steering Committee Tribal representation, and the Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere (SAMAB) Executive Members to develop an NCTC-sponsored SDM Workshop (utilizing SDM tools, not focused process) in June 2014. On-going work dedicated to workshop design and process to help to identify how to address the need to integrate cultural dimensions into the planning of the LCC.</p>
	<p>Objective 2.3 -- Identify promising opportunities to safeguard the “best of the best” fish and wild-</p>	

	life habitat and plant communities or ecosystems Ranking {4.4 /Years 1.75}	
Task 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	FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) Note: at the 2013 (April) Steering Committee “Programmatic Alignment Work Group” session a subset of this task was proposed (“new”) to identify “ No Regret ” conservation investments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JB/Coord worked with TNC/Rodney Bartgis to help flesh-out the charge of this Work giving a more narrow focus and representing a subset of the Task to “identify the ‘best of the best’ resilient habitat Group • Paul Leonard of the AppLCC staff initially worked to support the “No Regrets” WG in acquiring key datasets which have been acquired, curated, and stored on the AppLCC Cloud Server. • AppLCC staff has requested assistance from FWS-R5-SA GIS staff member, BJ Richardson to serve as the staff-level support person to communicate and coordinate with the Work Group POC, given the minimal staffing level of the AppLCC.
Task 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	FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) “No Regrets” Note: at the 2013 (April) Steering Committee “Programmatic Alignment Work Group” session a subset of this task was proposed (“new”) to identify “ No Regret ” conservation investments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional funds may be needed to deliver visualization and/or analytical presentation on the AppLCC Web Portal, depending on further clarification and guidance from this Work Group.
	Objective 2.4 -- Based on articulated conservation targets and objectives, identify and assess potential impacts of land use change on known or projected movement/migration corridors Ranking {3.55 /Years 2.5}	
Task 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	
	Objective 2.5 -- Establish a structured decision-making process for the ongoing integration of existing partner plans to deliver landscape-level conservation planning Ranking {4.05 /Years 1.95}	

Task 2.5.1	Determine which of the currently recognized structured decision/scenario planning/strategic prioritization process to be used and engage expertise as required. – Work Group (with Staff support), contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) <i>Initiated FY13:</i> This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop. <i>Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14)</i> to integrate the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process. Initial discussions have been held with AppLCC Staff, neighboring LCCs and WG coordinators and FWS-Region-5 SA.
Task 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 Work Group (with Staff support)	FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) <i>Initiated FY13:</i> This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop. <i>Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14)</i> to integrate the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process.
Task 2.5.3	Review and synthesize key information from existing conservation, land and resource management plans. – Staff, Work Group, contractor [see “103 Report”]	FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) <i>Initiated FY13:</i> This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop. <i>Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14)</i> to integrate the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process.
Task 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 [SDM/Scenario Planning], and review of products. – Work Group (with Staff support)	FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) <i>Initiated FY13:</i> This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop. <i>Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14)</i> to integrate the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process.
Task 2.5.5	Oversee an ongoing structured decision process that provides ongoing planning integration recommendations to the Steering Committee for use in conserva-	

	tion planning actions and for development of dashboard tools. - Work Group (with Staff support)	
	Objective 2.6 – 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 Ranking {3.55 /Years 2.5}	
Task 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)	FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant) Initiated FY13: This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop. Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14) to integrate the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process.
Task 2.6.2	Identify the components, function and relationships that define resiliency and management approaches to achieve, restore, or enhance system function. - Contractor	
Task 2.6.3	Identify and rank the core areas, components and interrelationships that help 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), contractor	
	Objective 2.7 – Facilitate the use of natural resource indicators and surrogate species to inform landscape-level planning, identify and establish data needs and monitoring design that reflect management objectives and conservation targets. Ranking {3.05 /Years 2.7}	
Task 2.7.1	Ensure adequate representation of the AppLCC expertise in relevant US Fish and Wildlife Service Regional [surrogate species] workshops and events. - Staff and Steering Committee	FY13 update (ongoing): Completed
Task 2.7.2	Assemble or develop and adopt agreed upon vegetation of habitat classification systems and geospatially recognize areas of rare or unique ecosystems.	FY13 RFP (Aquatic) - underway (Terrestrial) - update (ongoing): – remains

	<p>– Work Group=COP (with Staff support), contract</p>	<p>problematic. AppLCC Staff working thru FWS-R5-SA GIS Staff to facilitate this analysis and coordination with NALCC, NE and SE Gap representatives; TNC/NE/Anderson team/NE RCN partner efforts.</p>
Task 2.7.3	<p>Assemble or develop and adopt agreed upon species classification and distribution data and geospatially recognize areas of rare and endemic species and unique habitats.</p> <p>– Work Group=COP (with Staff support), contract</p>	
Task 2.7.4	<p>Identify appropriate natural resource indicators and candidate taxa or surrogate species, and develop explicit population objectives or natural resource appropriate targets.</p> <p>– Work Group=COP (with Staff support), contract</p>	<p>FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant)</p> <p>Initiated FY13: This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop.</p> <p>Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14) to integrate the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process.</p>
Task 2.7.5	<p>Identify factors believed to be the most limiting to specific (surrogate species or targets) and identify monitoring efforts to track changes in these factors and response</p> <p>– Work Group=COP (with Staff support), contract</p>	
Task 2.7.6	<p>Develop species-habitat models to fully operationalize the integration of natural resource indicators and use of surrogate species measures across the AppLCC landscape-level planning, monitoring, and assessment.</p> <p>– Work Group=COP (with Staff support), contract</p>	
Task 2.7.7	<p>Further refine selection of indicators, species, and targets as needed.</p> <p>– Work Group=COP (with Staff support)</p>	
	<p>Objective 2.8 -- Project future landscape conditions cumulatively/over time, based on best available science/scenarios, indicating probable patterns and changes</p> <p>Ranking {3.6 /Years 2.9}</p>	
Task 2.8.1	<p>Consult with end-users/resource managers to determine what predictive tools are needed to support their work.</p>	<p>FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) Cave/Karst Classification System and Mapping. This consultation will be part of the science delivery the</p>

	-Staff, Work Group, contractor	AppLCC will help facilitate following the foundational work conducted under FY13 research grant to AmU. Consultation to be initiated in FY14 (with FY13 research budgeted funds.)
Task 2.8.2	Assess currently available predictive tools to determine if they meet needs identified under 2.8.1[managers needs], and evaluate tool functions, model assumptions, etc. for applicability to AppLCC needs. -Staff, Work Group, contractor	
Task 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	
Task 2.8.4	Identify landscape-level models and articulate-potential scenarios. -Work Group (see 2.8.3)	
Task 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 (with Staff support), contractor	<i>(re: 1.2.4)</i> FY13 update (ongoing): Staff awaiting WG guidance. <i>Initiated in FY13</i> AppLCC staff developing data request/access process information file via web portal. <i>(re: 2.8.1)</i> FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) Cave/Karst Classification System and Mapping. This consultation will be part of the science delivery the AppLCC will help facilitate following the foundational work conducted under FY13 research grant to AmU. Consultation to be initiated in FY14 (with FY13 research budgeted funds.)
Task 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	
	Objective 2.9 – Provide guidance on how much habitat is necessary for sustainable/resilient (healthy ecosystem) outcomes Ranking {3.0 /Years 3.7}	
Task 2.9.1	Define and offer recommendations on what type and how much habitat is necessary for sustain-	

	able/resilient (healthy) outcomes and to achieve conservation targets. - Work Group (with Staff support)	
Task 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), contractor	
Goal 3: Create an on-going facilitated process to promote engagement and dialogue across the Appalachian LCC region		
	Objective 3.1 -- Create ongoing opportunities for dialogue and enhance capacity for sharing among Cooperative Members Ranking {4.9 /Years 1.6}	
Task 3.1.1	Assemble a glossary of terms to ensure a consistent use of terminology in all internal and external communications. - Staff	FY13 update: (partial) initial list included in the 5-Year Work Plan
Task 3.1.2	Maintain a list of communication staff/point-of-contact (POC) across the AppLCC area, and engage POC to enable conversations with Member organizations and partners about ongoing efforts (e.g., professional society meetings, organizational communication and public affairs officers and other communities of practice - Staff working with Steering Committee	FY13 update (ongoing): Completed
Task 3.1.3	Pursue grants/funding opportunities to support the development and integration of a new, web-based communication media: On-line 'brown bag' panel discussion and real-time digital dialog [elements of this new model come from earlier platforms, e.g., Yale 360, Cambridge Nights, TED talks, etc.] - Staff working with Steering Committee	
	Objective 3.2 -- Define strategies to engage regional land development, water delivery, roads and energy sector representatives Ranking {3.4 /Years 1.8}	
Task 3.2.1	Identify and prioritize existing opportunities to address these communities of practices at ongoing meetings and events. - Steering Committee with Staff support	
Task	Identify, prioritize, and leverage opportunities to	

3.2.2	communicate to their constituencies and plug into their existing communications channels. – Steering Committee with Staff support	
Task 3.2.3	Develop and communicate messages to these communities of practice about how their existing efforts fit with the work of the LCC (and National Network) and how integral their work is in contributing to the conservation matrix. (ongoing) – Staff and Steering Committee	FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) AppLCC Communication staff works with the National LCC Communication team and generates a bi-monthly update (and also with DOI CSC teams)
Task 3.2.4	Define how broad and deep our reach needs to be (e.g., engaging county/municipal government and other civil society organizations) – Steering Committee with Staff support	
	Objective 3.3 -- Serve as the focal point for dissemination of regional information Ranking {3.7 /Years 2.1}	
Task 3.3.1	Host an Annual Stakeholder Meeting as a listening and feedback session to reach/access the Steering Committee. (ongoing)	FY13 update (task removed): At the April 2013 meeting the full Steering Committee agreed to drop this reference in the AppLCC Charter based on recommendations from the Executive Steering Committee acting as Finance Committee -- due to limited operating funding level
	Objective 3.4 -- Communicate the human dimension benefits of landscape conservation in terms relative to human dimensions and values Ranking {4.4 /Years 2.2}	
Task 3.4.1	Conduct a survey to identify key audiences and develop messages of concern to those groups (e.g., specific messages related to jobs, health, clean water, ecosystem services and cultural components, etc.) – Work Group with Staff support, contractor	
Task 3.4.2	Communicate the impacts of major land use changes due to energy extraction, urban sprawl, and climate change. (ongoing) – Work Group, contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) [Energy] AppLCC Communication Team working with TNC Communications and Research Team developing general outreach and communication messaging, FAQs, and briefing (for Steering Committee members) prior to release of FY12-funded RFP results (anticipated in March 2014).
Task 3.4.3	Utilizing appropriate social science tools and surveys, determine attitudes/values of target audiences and the most effective means to communicate with and engage those groups. – Staff, Work Group, contractor	

Goal 4: Assess and align conservation goals and actions that reflect the Cooperative Members' common and shared vision		
	Objective 4.1 -- Ensure LCC planning products are coordinated in consideration of Member goals Ranking {2.4 /Years 3.4}	
Task 4.1.1	Prepare and update the information that reflects the conservation recommendations derived from Goal 1. [Data] & Goal 2. [Landscape Planning] for prioritization by Steering Committee approval. (ongoing) – Steering Committee with Staff support	
Task 4.1.2	Provide a strategic assessment that both identifies gaps in existing SC Member goals and actions, and offers the greatest potential return on AppLCC investment. (ongoing) – Steering Committee with Staff support	
	Objective 4.2 -- Manage Cooperative Membership Ranking {1.5 /Years 3.8}	
Task 4.2.1	Identify strategic linkages and opportunities for Steering Committee representation or engagement. – Steering Committee with Staff support, contractor	
Task 4.2.2	Define an engagement strategy for each identified opportunity that includes recruitment, expectations, and a formal agreement of cooperation for use with identified entities. – Steering Committee with Staff support, contractor	
Task 4.2.3	Determine most effective means and most appropriate individuals for implementing the strategy [4.2.2]. – Steering Committee	
	Objective 4.3 -- Be THE FORUM which integrates science and management to achieve landscape-level planning and coordinated conservation delivery Ranking {3.8 /Years 2.6}	
Task 4.3.1	Facilitate development of landscape-level planning guidelines. – Steering Committee with Staff support	
Task 4.3.2	Integrate and coordinate with other landscape planning entities or initiatives. – Work Group (see 2.8.3) with Staff support	FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) [GIS & Planning] AppLCC staff (Paul Leonard) has greatly enhanced the delivery of GIS training materials, resources, and has developed the web platform to

		<p>deliver/display our funded GIS-based Decision Support Tools. http://applcc.org/gis-planning</p> <p>FY13 update (ongoing): (partial) [Climate Change – “Climate Ready”] AppLCC staff (JB/Coordinator) with assistance from SECSC Staff Associate are developing a web-delivery of key climate information, resources, training materials on a “nested site” within our portal (currently not visible to the public).</p> <p>[Note: the intent is to share the materials, and especially the self-directed, on-line training materials being developed by staff as guidance in assisting Managers plan for implement climate adaptation response options.]</p>
Task 4.3.3	<p>Develop and implement a targeted communications campaign that conveys brand awareness of AppLCC as the focal point for Appalachian landscape conservation.</p> <p>– Steering Committee with Staff support</p>	
	<p>Objective 4.4 – Assist, support and utilize State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and other planning documents to assist with landscape-level integration</p> <p>Ranking {2.2 /Years 3.5}</p>	
Task 4.4.1	<p>Appoint a Work Group, drawn from the SC Members, to identify relevant information and opportunities to integrate information from the State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs) and other planning document into landscape-level plans, models, and efforts to set conservation targets. [The work of the Work Group may be informed by the guidance provided in “SWAP Best Practices” produced by AFWA.] (ongoing)</p> <p>– Steering Committee (Work Group) with Staff support</p>	<p>FY12 RFA – underway (partial) AppLCC staff has worked repeatedly via email to try to link contractor with FWS-R5-SA & NE RCN (WSM) partner/staff to coordinate and share information. Effort could be enhanced with greater communication with the other regional efforts.</p>
	<p>Objective 4.5 – Proactively identify threats and develop policies/strategies to get ahead of them</p> <p>Ranking {2.5 /Years 3.7}</p>	
Task 4.5.1	<p>Carryout ongoing review and refinement of conservation targets and objectives. (ongoing)</p> <p>– Steering Committee with Staff support</p>	<p>FY13 update (ongoing): Staffing limitations (Sci. Coord. position vacant)</p> <p>Initiated FY13: This follows the FY13 work with SC Work Group charged to develop a list of Natural Resource Indicators and application of Surrogate Species, following April 2013 workshop.</p> <p>Staff proposal (to initiate in FY14) to integrate</p>

		the task of identifying Conservation Targets and finalizing list via an SDM process.
Task 4.5.2	Establish and conduct ongoing threats assessment briefings/communications for Steering Committee Members and key partners to develop proactive AppLCC organizational policies and strategies. (ongoing) -Staff, Work Groups (=COP)	
	Objective 4.6 -- Align existing Member conservation investments to maximize AppLCC impact Ranking {3.85 /Years 3.7}	
Task 4.6.1	Assess ways to more fully align conservation efforts via shared human and other resource capacities contributing toward identified AppLCC priorities and make recommendations to the full Steering Committee.(ongoing) -Work Group with Staff support	FY 13 update (ongoing): Chair’s effort to reinforce this at the April 2013 Workshop “skin in the game” messaging.
Task 4.6.2	Review recommendations (4.6.1) and take appropriate actions. (ongoing) -Steering Committee	
	Objective 4.7 -- Design the mechanism to improve LCC specific in-reach communication to member agencies and organizations Ranking {3.3 /Years 1.5}	
Task 4.7.1	Design specific communication strategy, processes, and tools for improving internal communication within Member organizations. -Work Group, contractor	FY13 update (ongoing): Communication staff began initial discussions with FWS Region-5 SA Communication staff to outline internal strategy, processes, tools for improving internal communication with FWS and other LCC member organizations.
Task 4.7.2	Identify and integrate an ongoing process to help integrate the Steering Committee insights and reflection on organizational commitments to refine the “Who/What/Why” of AppLCC and effectively communicating what we are about. -Steering Committee, contractor	
Task 4.7.3	Develop concise messaging on Steering Committee identified topics for Member’s use with their legislators and key constituents. -Steering Committee, contractor	FY13 update (completed): AppLCC Communication staff brought together (virtually) communication coordinators/specialists from around the region, staff helped to develop concise messaging on the identity of the Appalachian LCC for Steering Committee member use. The messages were reviewed and revised by Steering Committee dur-

		ing April Workshop and unanimously approved by members during June 2013 call. Messages were shared with each member and can be found on “The Cooperative” – About Us - page of our Web Portal.
Task 4.7.4	Design meetings, events, and virtual opportunities that ensure ongoing opportunities for Steering Committee Member sharing and dialogue. (ongoing) – Steering Committee with Staff support	FY13 update (ongoing): Both Staff and operating funding limitations imposed
	Objective 4.8 – Sustain and enhance AppLCC and Member organization conservation funding Ranking {3.2 /Years 3.5}	
Task 4.8.1	Establish an annual review of AppLCC SC Member- and related Partner-funding support for Steering Committee consideration. (ongoing) – Steering Committee with Staff support	
Task 4.8.2	Establish a Finance Committee to monitor, review and make recommendations to the Steering Committee and Members regarding funding for AppLCC and AppLCC Member initiatives. – Steering Committee with Staff support	FY13 update (ongoing): at the April 2013 meeting it was decided/approved that the elected body (Executive Steering Committee) members would serve as the Finance Committee. Formal review of budget has not happened outside the FY13 RFP budget decision and application of covering FY13 meeting expenses (generally considered Program/1410-related items) covered with carry-over FY12 (Project/1420) funds.
Task 4.8.3	Establish a fiscal mechanism to allow AppLCC (as a partnership organization) to apply for, and to manage, grants and support from outside Federal sources – Staff supports Steering Committee	
	Objective 4.9 – Establish ongoing process for dialogue, engagement, and alignment with regional planning entities Note: {Aligns w/ Objective 3.2}	
Task 4.9.1	Through active engagement and participation in National fora, to monitor and align the work and decisions of the AppLCC with National strategy being created for connecting to regional land and water planning entities. (ongoing) – Steering Committee	
Task 4.9.2	Identify and, through the work and decisions of the SC, actively seek opportunities to align and engage regional water, energy and land use planning entities. (ongoing) – Steering Committee	

	<p>Objective 4.10 -- SC Members provide leadership and guidance to the broader Cooperative and Members to proactively engage communities of practice</p> <p>Note: {Aligns w/ Objective 3.1}</p>	
Task 4.10.1	<p>Establish an SC Work Group to identify and encourage organizational representation and engagement of subject-matter experts (communities of practice) to participate in and assume membership-specific actions/tasks. (ongoing)</p> <p>–Steering Committee (with Staff support)</p>	
Task 4.10.2	<p>Provide ongoing guidance toward coordinating efforts to consider key science and issues and initiatives assigned to communities of practice. (ongoing)</p> <p>–Steering Committee (with Staff support)</p>	