

#1. Strategic / Programmatic Alignment WG *{existing plans}*

- Objective 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**
- Objective 4.4.1 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.]

WG Lead: Mark Thurman (TN) & David Whitehurst (VA)

#2a. Strategic Engagement WG *{broaden}*

- Objective 3.2.4 Define **how broad and deep our reach** needs to be (e.g., engaging county/municipal government and other civil society organizations)
- Objective 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
- Objective 4.2.3 Determine most effective means and most appropriate individuals for **implementing the strategy**
- Objective 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**

Note: this Work Group has been joined with the Communications Work Group.

Paul Johansen (WV)

#2b. Communications WG {InReach - serving the Members}

- Objective 3.2.2 Identify, prioritize, and leverage opportunities to communicate to their **constituencies** and plug into their existing communications channels
- Objective 4.7 Design specific communication strategy, processes, and tools for improving internal **communication within Member organizations**
- Objective 4.7.3 Develop concise messaging on Steering Committee identified topics for **Member's use with their legislators** and key constituents
- Objective 4.7.4 Design meetings, events, and virtual opportunities that ensure ongoing opportunities for Steering Committee **Member sharing and dialogue**

Note: this Work Group has been joined with the Strategic Engagement Work Group.

WG Lead: Clyde Thompson (FS)

#2b. Communications WG {OutReach - non-Members}

- Objective 3.3.1 Host an Annual **Stakeholder Meeting** as a listening and feedback session to reach/access the Steering Committee
- Objective 4.3.3 **Develop** and implement a **targeted communications campaign** that conveys brand awareness of AppLCC as the focal point for Appalachian landscape Conservation
- Objective 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

Note: this Work Group has been joined with the Strategic Engagement Work Group.

WG Lead: Clyde Thompson (FS)

#3a. Technical Data Issues WG {*data access/modeling*}

- Objective 1.2.2 Assist efforts to assemble each SC member organizations' existing data protocols, data sharing contracts/agreements, and data sensitivity issues
- Objective 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
- Objective 1.5.5 Facilitate efforts to identify, and access long-term **regional monitoring** data sets that would also feed into the Science Centers efforts
- Objective 2.8.3 Develop the **Charter to guide the “Integrated Planning Team”** of landscape-level conservation planners and modeling experts 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

WG Lead: Kendrick Weeks (NC) & Evan Crews (TVA)

#3a. Technical Data Issues WG {*communities of practice*}

- Objective 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**
- Objective 3.2.1 Identify, prioritize, and leverage existing **opportunities to address these communities of practices** at ongoing meetings and events
- Objective 4.10.1 Establish a 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**
- Objective 4.10.2 Provide leadership and guidance to the broader Cooperative and Members to **proactively engage** communities of practice

WG Lead: Kendrick Weeks (NC) & Evan Crews (TVA)

#3b. NR Indicators and surrogate WG {includes FWS Prog+FOs}

- Objective 2.7 Facilitate the use of **natural resource indicators** and **surrogate species to inform** landscape-level planning, identify and establish data needs and monitor design that reflect management objectives and conservation targets.

[Tasks are generally not included but appear here to help inform the process on how to move forward on higher the (objective) level.]

2.7.2 Assemble or develop and adopt agreed upon vegetation of habitat classification systems and geospatially recognize areas of rare or unique ecosystems.

2.7.3 Assemble or develop and adopt agreed upon species classification and distribution data and geospatially recognize areas of rare and endemic species and unique habitats.

2.7.4 Identify appropriate natural resource indicators and candidate taxa or surrogate species, and develop explicit population objectives or natural resource appropriate targets.

2.7.5 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

WG Lead: Peggy Shute (FWS-Region 4 SE) & Rick Bennett (FWS-Region 5 NE)

No Lead: Human Dimensions and Cultural Resources WG

- Objective 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.)
- Objective 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.
- Objective 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.
- Objective 2.9.2 Develop tools and models to identify strategic opportunities (including **integration of private lands** into the broader conservation matrix).

WG Lead: Lisa Mendelson-Ielmini (NPS) - invited

ExSC – A. Financial Oversight WG – [assigned Role of the Executive Sub-Committee]

- Objective 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
- Objective 4.8.1 Establish an annual review of AppLCC SC Member- and related **Partner-funding support** for Steering Committee consideration
- Objective 4.8.3 **Establish a fiscal mechanism** to allow AppLCC (as a partnership organization) to seek and manage outside grants and funds

WG Lead: Rodney Bartgis (TNC) - *invited*

ExSC - B. Governance

- Interim Governance/Charter stipulated that Steering Committee and Charter to be finalized within 2-years of the date of adoption of Interim Charter (September 2011.)
- Issues to review and make recommendations to be considered by the full Committee include (but may not be limited to):
 - 1-agency/1-vote;
 - frequency of calls/meetings;
 - size of decision-making body and membership/organizational/sectoral representation;
 - decision on absentee members etc.

NOTE: This Work Group will be drafting content and recommendations for review and submission to the Executive Sub-Committee prior to any full vote/adoption or recommendations coming from this Group. AppLCC staff will support this Work Group.

WG Lead: Gwen Brewer (MD)