***USFWS/USGS Structured Decision Making* *Workshops* (ALC 3159)**

Case Study Proposal, Instructions and Template

NCTC invites proposals from teams working on real-life FWS decision problems to attend a week-long workshop to develop a structured approach to solving their problem. We are looking for decision problems that are tractable within the timeframe for workshop planning and practice, and appropriate to support learning about structured decision making (e.g., not so high in significance or time-pressured that participants won’t be able to feel comfortable ‘learning by doing’). Case studies should either be small to moderate in scope, or a discrete and clearly-defined piece of a larger, more complex decision problem. We give priority to teams with enthusiastic leadership, support from decision makers, and at least some previous exposure to structured decision making.

Case study proposals should be succinct (one page is sufficient) and emphasize the overall framework for the decision, not the details. Please include the following information about the case study:

1. Decision

In *one short paragraph*, describe the decision in question. Include the context (who is the decision maker, under what authority do they act, who else has influence on the decision), the nature of the decision, and the timing and frequency of the decision (e.g, one time only, a cyclical decision, etc.). (Note that by decision we mean an actual choice or commitment of resources, not just a general strategy or prioritization.)

1. Background

*Very briefly* describe the legal, regulatory, and political context and constraints; also *very briefly* describe the relevant ecological background.

1. Decision Structure

Briefly describe the array of possible management actions, the objectives of management (not the objectives for this workshop), the consequences to be measured (e.g., biological and social outcomes), and key uncertainties.

1. Team Leadership

Who will serve as coordinator(s) to organize and help prepare the team and work with the coaches during the workshop? What is their training or experience with structured decision making?

5. Workshop Participation

What skills, experience, and roles relative to the decision-making will be important contributions to the team attending the workshop to rapid prototype a decision-making approach? (Note, we request that you wait to select actual team members until you have discussed the workshop approach with your assigned coach; team size will be limited).

Submit your proposal by email to:

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