

# State of the States with the Appalachian LCC and SHC

- Talked to:
  - Fisheries chiefs
  - SWAP coordinators
  - SARP committee members
  - State JV member

How familiar are you with Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) and the Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) approach to implementation?

- Heard the term
- Vaguely
- Minimal, information has been presented to other staff
- Heard about it at the SARP meeting
- Yes, involved in discussions on the SALCC but very confusing. Only heard of operational plans and projects
- We are familiar with their approach. We have participated on several conference calls and had discussions at JV meetings

Have you looked at the FWS web site on LCCs/SHC to see how your state fits into one or more of these regions or how the approach would work for you?

- No
- No. The legislature is in session
- No. I don't have time to browse the web
- If you want me to know something, tell me
- Yes
- Yes as a Agency

Have you discussed LCCs with your staff as to how they will fit in an LCC/SHC planning effort?

- No
- Yes, we have had a few discussions among several staff members

Have you made any organizational structure/staff changes recently to accommodate climate change or landscape-level planning/management?

- No
- Yes, organized fisheries districts by watersheds
- Established an agency climate change committee. Not met yet.
- Grant from DDF to work with NWF and DOW on 2010 CC workshop
- Offered work space for the SALCC staff
- Agency climate change committee, prepared an addendum to SWAP, established an aquatic watershed coordinator

Have you incorporated Climate Change into State Wildlife Action Plans and/or management plans as developed by the AFWA's Climate Change and Teaming With Wildlife Committees?

- No
- Not yet
- No but will during the next Strategic Planning effort
- Planning to in 2010
- Yes in the process
- Working on an addendum like Tennessee

In your opinion what is the best way for the Service to involve state agencies in general and your state specifically?

- Reduced staff and funding makes it difficult to be involved at any level
- Organize an informational meeting
- Work at working with partners
- Back up and ask “What do you know and what can get you up to speed?”
- Sponsor a summit meeting to explain LCCs and SHC
- Meet regionally or state by state
- Work through AFWA and the Joint Ventures.
- Include all players as early as possible (SWAP, ES, etc)

# Any other thoughts you may have will be appreciated and presented.

- How does this differ from what we are already doing?
- What is wrong with using the SARP Habitat Plan?
- Is this going to be the money conduit that accomplishes big ticket items?
- What does it mean to state agencies?
- When does the dirt start to move or will these plans be dust collectors?
- Will the feds (FWS, USGS) be reprioritizing their activities to address this?
- Work closely with NRCS/states on mutually beneficial Farm Bill practices with incentive-based private lands programs
  - Expand riparian zones (laterally for habitat)
  - Work between the banks too- canopied streams, barrier removal
  - Comprehensive integrated forest, grassland, aquatic approach
- Will this take monies from other worthwhile projects?

# Other Thoughts

- How is this different than what we are currently doing in underfunded efforts like fish habitat partnerships and joint ventures?
- Are you (we) going to deal with acidification from powerplants (acid rain and TVA) with this LCC?
- How do existing partnerships and their aquatic habitat plans fit into this “new” approach?
- Use the SWAP plans to organize species of greatest need by common habitat.
- Be sure to include local watershed groups early on
- At some point you are going to have to shift from planning to implementation. Part of that will involve getting down to the local level- people and land. The importance of states and their ties to the people and the land- the local connection with NRCS-assigned biologists and state wildlife officers.

# Questioning Climate Change?

Alligators and a Manatee in the Memphis Harbor



Originally reported to the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency on Monday, October 23rd, it is estimated that the manatee swam more than 700 miles against the current and dodged busy boat traffic to reach the Memphis destination.

The rescue team, made up of staff from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, SeaWorld Orlando, the Memphis Zoo, Memphis Police Department, and Tennessee Wildlife officials.