Status of North Atlantic LCC Highest Priority Science Needs for 2013

Topic	Relevance to Conservation Decisions	Potential Project Type	Potential Funding Range	Status and Next Steps
Aquatic Resources and Ecosystems				
A1. Compilation of aquatic biological data	Needed for assessing habitats for and threats to high priority fish and other aquatic species, which informs conservation and restoration priorities	Coordination with states and other partners; data collection/ entry/ validation	$25,000 (Range: $10-50 K)	Specific needs and targeted organizations will be identified through Aquatic Decision Support Tool project
A2. Stream connectivity and barriers	Needed for better prioritizing stream restoration efforts; also benefits efforts to prevent flood damage from storms	Identification and collection of existing data; field surveys to fill gaps; regional compilation and decision models	$100,000 ($50-200K)	Decisions dependent on Hurricane Sandy funding outcomes
Terrestrial and Freshwater Wetland Resources and Ecosystems				
TW1. Vernal pool mapping and monitoring	Needed for assessing populations of amphibians and other vernal pool-dependent species, which can be used in directing conservation activities for these sensitive habitats	Gather existing data; identify data gaps; coordinate regional efforts; develop regional monitoring protocols	$75,000 ($50-125K)	Have begun discussions with Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (NEPARC) to assist in RFP development
TW2. Migratory stopover habitat	Needed for identifying high priority areas for conservation of birds during the migration period	Analyze radar data, carry out field verification, model areas of radar gaps	$75,000 ($50-100K)	North Atlantic LCC has contributed $75,000 to radar project led by University of Delaware, also including: Maryland DNR - $42,000 Virginia DGIF - $35,000 Virginia DEQ - $14,000 USFWS - $90,000 USGS, TNC, ODU – in kind
Coastal and Marine Resources and Ecosystems				
CM1. Tidal wetland habitat suitability	Needed to make decisions on restoration and management of habitat for saltmarsh-dependent fish and wildlife	Decision model for salt marsh restoration, management or acquisition.	$150,000 ($0-200K)	Decisions dependent on Hurricane Sandy funding outcomes
CM2. Wetland restoration projects for resilience	Needed to ensure the effectiveness of future restoration of coastal wetlands	Monitoring of metrics to determine effectiveness of restoration; assessment or results; recommendations	$0 (assumes Hurricane funding)	Decisions dependent on Hurricane Sandy funding outcomes