Handout 15a





Stately sequoia trees stand sentinel over a California forest. COURTESY CA-LCC

Cedar waxwings share a meal on their northward migration. LISA BARROW

A majestic bull elk pauses for a drink in the southern Rockies. NPS

North American **landscapes** represent some of the most beautiful and iconic places on **Earth**.

Preserving cultural artifacts and traditions creates vibrant, healthy communities. NOAA



These places are **vital** to our health and well-being.

They support clean water for us to drink and clean air we breathe, as well as provide endless recreational opportunities, thousands of jobs and billions of dollars to nations' economies. They include the rivers, streams, wetlands, forests, grasslands, and coastal areas that sustain our native fish, plants, and wildlife, and provide strong defenses against natural disasters like floods and storms. They are the places that protect our proud national and international heritage.

And they are in **trouble**.

Our natural areas face increasing pressure to meet the demands of a growing human population. Other impacts to our land, water, and wildlife—like drought, wildfire, pollution, invasive species, floods, storms, changing ocean conditions, and disease—are magnified by a rapidly changing climate.

These **threats** know no boundaries.

Conservation challenges of the 21st century are more complex than ever before. Localized issues, like ensuring clean water supplies and recreational opportunities, combine with widespread threats like habitat fragmentation and climate change. These threats have far reaching impacts to humans, fish and wildlife populations, and our natural areas.

"The establishment of working LCCs is a remarkable illustration of cross-border cooperation.Conservation effectiveness is being enhanced by the systems-level, partnership-based approach of the LCC program."

ERIC A. SCHROFF, DIRECTOR OF YUKON PARKS AND LCC COUNCIL MEMBER

22 ECOREGIONS250 PARTNERS400+ PROJECTS

ONE VISION



What can **we do** about it?

These challenges are too large for any single organization to meet alone.

It will take a collective effort involving many public and private organizations to deal with today's conservation challenges.

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) provide a way for States, Tribes, Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities, natural resource-dependent businesses, private landowners, and other conservation partners to work together in a new way to address these challenges.

LCCs bring partners together to identify conservation solutions. Building on knowledge and conservation work of existing partnerships, LCCs increase collective science and management capacity to address common conservation priorities. LCCs rely on the expertise and work of Federal, State and Tribal partners and existing conservation partnerships. Working at local, regional, national and even international scales allows partners to work toward sustaining natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. Glorious fall foliage provides a backdrop for foraging Sandhill cranes. USFWS

Many species, like these walrus cows and calves, migrate internationally. USFWS

Working in partnership enhances conservation efforts. USFWS

DIVERSE PARTNERS COMMON PRIORITIES SHARED COMMITMENT SCIENCE-BASED "The increasing shift toward large landscape conservation springs from the complex nature of 21st century conservation challenges... LCCs provide a platform for nurturing partnerships, knowledgesharing, and a big-picture lens through which partners can build knowledge and work together on shared challenges."

LYNN SCARLETT, MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC POLICY FOR THE THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AND LCC COUNCIL MEMBER



Conserving freshwater landscapes sustains fish and wildlife populations, and provides clean drinking water and boundless recreational opportunities. USFWS

Bountiful subsistence harvests sustain native communities. LISA BARROW

Healthy lands support diverse wildlife populations for wildlife watchers, anglers and hunters. USFWS

How and where do LCCs work?

Working together adds value to existing conservation efforts. LCCs combine the collective science, capacity, creativity, and resources of partners and programs to protect our land, air, and water. This cooperation helps ensure a healthy world for future generations.

LCCs help achieve conservation results. LCCs are working with diverse partners in your community to make smarter choices that sustain the landscapes that conserve the natural and cultural heritage of North America.

LEARN MORE

To find out more about how Landscape Conservation Cooperatives are working in your community, visit <www.lccnetwork.org>.

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