



Network for Landscape
CONSERVATION

Advancing the Practice of Conservation at the Landscape Scale

National Forum on Landscape Conservation **Shaping the Future of Policy and Practice**

**National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, West Virginia**

November 6 - 8, 2017

Agenda

The objectives of the National Forum on Landscape Conservation are to:

1. Articulate the broad benefits of landscape conservation;
2. Advance best practices and current momentum in support of landscape conservation;
3. Connect landscape conservation leaders across geographies, cultures, and sectors in meaningful ways;
4. Identify major needs and opportunities in landscape conservation;
5. Attract attention and funding sources for advancing conservation at the landscape scale; and
6. Develop a framework and practical menu of effective strategies and actions that can be employed at different scales to move forward with collaborative landscape conservation in a changing world.

Acknowledgments

We sincerely thank the following sponsors whose support made the 2017 National Forum on Landscape Conservation possible:



Our special thanks to the following people who played a critical role in shaping the National Forum on Landscape Conservation:

Program Committee

Emily Bateson, Network for Landscape Conservation • Bob Bendick, The Nature Conservancy • Kassandra Hardy Bissmeyer, National Park Service • Catherine Doyle-Capitman, Cornell University • Wylie Carr, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • Megan T. Cook, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • Elsa Haubold, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • Teagan Hayes, University of Montana • David Johns, Wildlands Network • Kit Muller, Bureau of Land Management • Shawn Johnson (Committee Co-Chair), University of Montana • John J. Pierce, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife • Julie Regan, Tahoe Regional Planning Authority • Adam Snyder, The Nature Conservancy • Gary Tabor, Center for Large Landscape Conservation • Jennifer Thomsen, University of Montana • Paul Trianosky, Sustainable Forestry Initiative • Greg Wathen (Committee Co-Chair), Gulf Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative • Michael Whitfield, Heart of the Rockies Initiative • Mike Zupko, Wildland Fire Leadership Council

White Paper Authors

Rob Ament, Western Transportation Institute and Center for Large Landscape Conservation • Brenda Barrett, Living Landscape Observer • Bill Bartush, Gulf Coast Prairie LCC • Emily Bateson, Network for Landscape Conservation • Claire Beck, Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies • Ed Boggess, Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies • Chris Burkett, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries • Gary Burnett, Blackfoot Challenge • Nils Christoffersen, Wallawa Resources • Jenny Dickson, Connecticut Bureau of Natural Resources • Tom Fry, American Forest Foundation • Chris Goudreau, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission • Elsa Haubold, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • Tomer Hasson, The Nature Conservancy • Teagan Hayes, University of Montana • Jodi Hilty, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative • Mark Humpert, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies • John Kanter, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department • Karen Kinkead, Iowa Department of Natural Resources • Jessica Levine, Staying Connected Initiative and Two Countries, One Forest • David Johns, Wildlands Network • Jonathan Mawdsley, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies • Robert Z. Melnick • Nora Mitchell, Conservation Study Institute and University of Vermont • Kit Muller • Kelley Myers, Eastern Tallgrass Prairie/Big Rivers LCC • Rick Nelson, Plains & Prairie Potholes LCC • John J. Pierce, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife • Karen Prentice, Bureau of Land Management • Gregg Servheen, Idaho Department of Fish and Game • Anna Smith, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources • Kristal Stoner, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission • Gary Tabor, Center for Large Landscape Conservation • Jennifer Thomsen, University of Montana • Paul Trianosky, Sustainable Forestry Initiative • A. Elizabeth Watson • Gwen White, Eastern Tallgrass Prairie/Big Rivers LCC • Michael Whitfield, Heart of the Rockies Initiative • Mike Zupko, Wildland Fire Leadership Council

Logistics Committee

Katie Allen, The Conservation Fund • Emily Bateson, Network for Landscape Conservation • Megan Cook, US Fish and Wildlife Service • Shawn Johnson, University of Montana • Laramie Maxwell (Committee Chair), Center for Large Landscape Conservation • Ingrid Nyborg, The Nature Conservancy

Volunteers

Maritza Arizaga, The Nature Conservancy • Maya Batres, The Nature Conservancy • Brendan Boepple, Yale School of Forestry • Frank Cervo, Yale School of Forestry • Catherine Crowley, British Embassy • Teagan Hayes, University of Montana • Andy Michaels, The Nature Conservancy • Ingrid Nyborg, The Nature Conservancy • Max Olack, National Association for Education of Young Children • Gwen White, Tallgrass Prairie Landscape Conservation Cooperative • Andrew Wilkins, The Nature Conservancy

Network Coordinating Committee

Will Allen, The Conservation Fund • Jeffrey Allenby, Chesapeake Conservancy and Chesapeake Partnership • Brenda Barrett, Living Landscape Observer • Andrea Bedell-Loucks, U.S. Forest Service • Robert Bendick (Committee Co-Chair), The Nature Conservancy • Kass Hardy Bissmeyer, National Park Service • Patrick Bixler, University of Texas • Robert Bonnie, Duke University • Jimmy Bullock, Resource Management Service, LLC • Gary Burnett, Blackfoot Challenge • Ernest Cook, The Trust for Public Land • Jad Daley, American Forests • Elsa Haubold, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • Jennifer Miller Herzog, Land Trust Alliance • Jodi Hilty, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative • Steve Jester, Partners for Conservation • David Johns, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative and Wildlands Network • Shawn Johnson, University of Montana • Bill Labich, Regional Conservation Partnership (RCP) Network and Highstead Foundation • Jessica Levine, Staying Connected Initiative and Two Countries, One Forest • Nora Mitchell, Conservation Study Institute and University of Vermont • Kit Muller, Bureau of Land Management • Peter Pollock, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy • Julie Regan (Committee Co-Chair), Tahoe Regional Planning Agency • Gary Tabor (Executive Administrator), Center for Large Landscape Conservation • Julie Turrini, Resources Legacy Fund • Michael Wetter, The Intertwine Alliance • Michael Whitfield, Heart of the Rockies Initiative • Peter Williams, Partnership and Community Collaboration Academy

Agenda

Monday, November 6

Participants arrive at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC)

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
On your own	NCTC Entry	Accommodations (Lodging and Meals) Check-in (24 hour access)
4:00 – 7:00 PM	Entry / Auditorium	National Forum Registration Table Open
5:30 – 7:30 PM	Cafeteria / Commons	Dinner / Networking
7:30 – 9:00 PM	Roosevelt Room / Commons	Informal Evening Reception and Poster Session Coffee and desserts provided; no-host bar available

Tuesday, November 7

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
6:30 – 8:30 AM	Cafeteria / Commons	Breakfast / Networking
7:00 – 8:30 AM	Entry / Auditorium	Registration Table Open
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Auditorium	Welcome, Forum Objectives, and Program Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none">Julie Regan, External Affairs Chief, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency; NLC Co-ChairJay Slack, Director, National Conservation Training Center

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
8:45 – 9:15 AM	Auditorium	<p>Keynote Address: The State of Landscape Conservation and the Challenges Ahead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Bendick, Director, Gulf of Mexico Program, The Nature Conservancy; NLC Co-Chair
9:15 – 10:45 AM	Auditorium	<p>Panel Discussion: The State of Landscape Conservation and the Challenges Ahead Moderator: Jodi Hilty, President and Chief Scientist, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Anderson, Director of Conservation Science, Eastern U.S., The Nature Conservancy • Dan Ashe, President and CEO, Association of Zoos and Aquariums • Brenda Barrett, Editor, Living Landscape Observer • Jimmy Bullock, Senior Vice President, Forest Sustainability, Resource Management Service • Sara Parker-Pauley, Director, Missouri Department of Conservation • Claire Robinson, Managing Director, Amigos de los Rios <p>Panel discussion focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The value of the landscape approach to each community of practice; • What overall success looks like; and • The most important barriers to address in order to achieve success.
10:45 – 11:05 AM	Break / Transition to Breakout Session Rooms	<p>Breakout Session Rooms are in Instructional East and Instructional West Refreshments will be available in the instructional buildings.</p>
11:05 AM – 12:00 PM	Instructional Buildings	<p>Breakout Sessions: The State of Landscape Conservation and the Challenges Ahead Participants will gather in breakout groups to build upon the ideas and challenges presented in the opening plenary. Participants will be asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affirm or refine the descriptions of “overall success” for landscape conservation; and • Discuss barriers to success, and prioritize which barriers can/should be addressed over the near-term (next 1-5 years) and longer-term (5+ years).

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
11:05 AM – 12:00 PM	Rm 103, Instructional East	Wildland Fire and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Patrick Bixler , Research Fellow, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas
	Rm 107, Instructional East	State Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Catherine Doyle-Capitman , Doctoral Candidate, Cornell University; Visiting Scholar, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
	Rm 111, Instructional East	Private Working Lands and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Dylan Skybrook , Network Manager, Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network
	Rm 151, Instructional West	Federal Landscape Conservation Initiatives Facilitators: Karen Prentice , National Healthy Landscapes Coordinator/Acting National Science Advisor, Bureau of Land Management; and Wylie Carr , Social Scientist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
	Rm 154, Instructional West	Culture, Heritage and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Kass Bissmeyer , Management Assistant, Large Landscape Initiatives, National Park Service
	Rm 156, Instructional West	Infrastructure, Development, and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Melly Reuling , Deputy Director, Center for Large Landscape Conservation
	Rm 158, Instructional West	International, Transboundary Conservation Facilitator: Jennifer Thomsen , Assistant Professor in Parks, Tourism, and Recreation Management at the University of Montana
	Rm 160, Instructional West	Urban Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Peter Pollock , Manager of Western Programs, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
	Rm 161, Instructional West	Rural Livelihoods and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Shawn Johnson , Managing Director, Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy, University of Montana
	Rm 201, Instructional East	Biodiversity Conservation, Ecological Resilience, and Landscape Conservation Facilitator: Julie Regan , External Affairs Chief, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Cafeteria / Commons	Lunch / Networking
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Auditorium	Report Out from Breakout Sessions on Landscape Conservation and the Challenges Ahead Moderator: Bill Labich , Senior Conservationist, Highstead Foundation; Coordinator, RCP Network
1:30 – 2:00 PM	Auditorium	Keynote Address: Collaborative Conservation – Working Together to Achieve Results at Scale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joanne Marchetta, Executive Director, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Auditorium	Panel Discussion: Collaborative Conservation – Working Together to Achieve Results at Scale Moderator: Jessie Levine , Senior Conservation Advisor, TNC Canada; Coordinator, Staying Connected Initiative Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loren Bird Rattler, Project Manager, Agriculture Resource Mgmt Plan, Blackfeet Tribe • Joel Dunn, President and CEO, Chesapeake Conservancy • Wendy Janssen, Superintendent, Appalachian National Scenic Trail, National Park Service • Steve Jester, Executive Director, Partners for Conservation • Julie Kunen, Vice President, Americas, Wildlife Conservation Society • Chris Miller, President, The Piedmont Environmental Council • Shanelle Smith, Ohio State Director, The Trust for Public Land • Greg Wathen, Coordinator, Gulf Coastal Plains & Ozarks LCC • Mike Zupko, Executive Director, National Wildland Fire Leadership Council Panel discussion to focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The successes and challenges of working through collaborative partnerships to achieve landscape conservation goals; and • Identifying what is needed to support and enhance cooperation and collaboration moving forward -- both within landscapes and for the broader community of practice.
3:30 – 3:50 PM	Break / Transition to Breakout Session Rooms	Breakout Session Rooms are in Instructional East and Instructional West Refreshments will be available in the instructional buildings.

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
3:50 – 4:45 PM	Instructional Buildings	<p>Breakout Sessions: Collaborative Conservation – Working Together to Achieve Results at Scale</p> <p>Participants will gather in breakout groups to build upon the ideas and challenges presented in the afternoon plenary. Participants will be asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss what is needed to support and enhance cooperation and collaboration moving forward; • Identify and prioritize 3-5 strategies or actions that are focused at the scale of an individual landscape or region; and • Identify and prioritize 3-5 strategies or actions that can be addressed at the national or North American scale. <p>Breakout Sessions:</p>
	Rm 111, Instructional East	<p>Watersheds and Waterways Facilitators: Catherine Doyle-Capitman and Julie Regan</p>
	Rm 151, Instructional West	<p>Connectivity, Climate Change and Wildfire Facilitators: Wylie Carr and Melly Reuling</p>
	Rm 156, Instructional West	<p>Cultural Landscape Conservation and Native American Perspectives Facilitator: Jennifer Thomsen</p>
	Rm 160, Instructional West	<p>Urban, Infrastructure, and Recreation-focused Landscape Conservation Facilitators: Patrick Bixler and Peter Pollock</p>
	Rm 161, Instructional West	<p>Rural Livelihoods, Working Lands, and Private-Public Partnerships Facilitators: Shawn Johnson and Dylan Skybrook</p>
	Rm 201, Instructional East	<p>Partnerships with State and Federal Programs Facilitator: Kass Bissmeyer</p>
4:45 – 5:00 PM	Break / Transition to Auditorium	
5:00 – 5:30 PM	Auditorium	<p>Report Out from Breakout Sessions on Collaborative Conservation Moderator: Shawn Johnson, Managing Director, Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy, University of Montana</p>

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
6:00 – 7:15 PM	Cafeteria / Commons	Dinner / Networking
7:30 – 8:30 PM	Auditorium	<p data-bbox="760 311 2011 344">“The High Divide” Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p data-bbox="760 350 2011 383"><i>Coffee and cookies will be available outside the Auditorium starting at 7:00 PM.</i></p> <p data-bbox="760 422 2011 454">Moderator: Michael Whitfield, Executive Director, Heart of the Rockies Initiative</p> <p data-bbox="760 493 2011 630">A screening of the “The High Divide,” filmed in Montana and Idaho, followed by a panel discussion with people who live in this important landscape. This new 15-minute film from the Heart of the Rockies Initiative & Grizzly Creek Films celebrates the confluence of a wild place and its visionary people, and offers an inspiring perspective on how to capture the value of conservation at the landscape scale.</p> <p data-bbox="760 669 877 701">Panelists:</p> <ul data-bbox="810 708 2011 876" style="list-style-type: none"> • Merrill Beyeler, Rancher, Beyeler Ranch and Central Idaho Rangelands Network • Robert Cavallaro, Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager, Idaho Department of Fish and Game • Yvette Converse, Coordinator, Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative • Yvonne Martinell, Rancher, Martinell Ranch and Centennial Valley Association • Kristin Troy, Executive Director, Lemhi Regional Land Trust

Wednesday, November 8

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
6:30 – 8:00 AM	Cafeteria / Commons	Breakfast / Networking
8:00 – 8:15 AM	Auditorium	<p>Welcome, Summary of Day 1, Objectives for Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ernest Cook, Senior Vice-President, The Trust for Public Land
8:15 – 8:45 AM	Auditorium	<p>Keynote Address: Pathways to Success – Ideas and Innovations for the Future of Landscape Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sacha Spector, Program Director for the Environment, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
8:45 – 10:00 AM	Auditorium	<p>Panel Discussion: Pathways to Success – Ideas and Innovations for the Future of Landscape Conservation</p> <p>Moderator: Sharon Farrell, VP, Stewardship & Conservation, Golden Gate National Park Conservancy</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mallory Lykes Dimmitt, Vice President, Strategic Development and Business Relations, Lykes Bros., Inc. • Joe Hankins, Vice President, The Conservation Fund; Director, Freshwater Institute • Elsa Haubold, Coordinator, National LCC Network • Bettina Ring, State Forester, Commonwealth of Virginia • Gary Tabor, Director, Center for Large Landscape Conservation • Jennifer Thomsen, Associate Professor, University of Montana • Paul Trianosky, Chief Conservation Officer, Sustainable Forestry Initiative <p>Panel discussion focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most important and innovative thing/ideas they are currently focused on and why; • Strategies and near-term action steps to overcome shared challenges, emphasizing priority actions for the broader community of practice to address; and • How to mix forward looking inspiration as well as practical thinking in our work.
10:00 – 10:15 AM	Break / Transition to Breakout Session Rooms	<p>Breakout Session Rooms are in Instructional East and Instructional West</p> <p>Refreshments will be available in the instructional buildings.</p>

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
10:15 – 11:00 AM	Instructional Buildings	<p>Breakout Session Round 1: Pathways to Success – Ideas and Innovations for the Future of Landscape Conservation</p> <p>Participants will identify and prioritize strategies that hold the greatest promise for working effectively at the landscape scale. Participants will discuss and identify priority strategies in following arenas (participants will choose two, 45-minute sessions, from the following options).</p> <p>Breakout Sessions:</p>
	Rm 111, Instructional East	<p>Federal and State Policy Facilitators: Catherine Doyle-Capitman and Karen Prentice</p>
	Rm 151, Instructional West	<p>Collaborative Conservation - Advancing the Practice Facilitators: Shawn Johnson and Wylie Carr</p>
	Rm 160, Instructional West	<p>Science, Decision-Support, and Conservation Planning Facilitators: Patrick Bixler and Jennifer Thomsen</p>
	Rm 161, Instructional West	<p>Conservation Finance and Funding Facilitators: Peter Pollock and Dylan Skybrook</p>
	Rm 201, Instructional East	<p>Outreach, Education, and Communications Facilitators: Julie Regan and Kass Bissmeyer</p>
		<p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the “low hanging fruit” strategies in each arena and how can we move forward with some near-term successes? ○ What are the high-value strategies (low cost, high benefit) in each arena? ○ What would you consider to be the “blockbuster” strategies that could make the greatest difference across multiple landscapes?
11:00 – 11:15 AM	Break	

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
11:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Instructional Buildings	<p>Breakout Session Round 2: Pathways to Success – Ideas and Innovations for the Future of Landscape Conservation Participants are invited to choose a second action arena from the following list:</p> <p>Breakout Sessions:</p> <p>Rm 111, Instructional East Federal and State Policy Facilitators: Catherine Doyle-Capitman and Karen Prentice</p> <p>Rm 151, Instructional West Collaborative Conservation - Advancing the Practice Facilitators: Shawn Johnson and Wylie Carr</p> <p>Rm 160, Instructional West Science, Decision-Support, and Conservation Planning Facilitators: Patrick Bixler and Jennifer Thomsen</p> <p>Rm 161, Instructional West Conservation Finance and Funding Facilitators: Peter Pollock and Dylan Skybrook</p> <p>Rm 201, Instructional East Outreach, Education, and Communications Facilitators: Julie Regan and Kass Bissmeyer</p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the “low hanging fruit” strategies in each arena and how can we move forward with some near-term successes? ○ What are the high-value strategies (low cost, high benefit) in each arena? ○ What would you consider to be the “blockbuster” strategies that could make the greatest difference across multiple landscapes?
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Cafeteria / Commons	Lunch / Networking
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Auditorium	<p>Keynote Address: Perspectives from Forest Service Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, USDA Forest Service

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
1:30 – 2:40 PM	Auditorium	<p>Report Out from Breakout Sessions on Pathways to Success and Presentation of Emerging Strategic Framework Moderator: Emily Bateson, Coordinator, Network for Landscape Conservation</p> <p>The final plenary will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • present the results of the working group discussions, which represent one of the forum’s key objectives: a practical menu of effective strategies and actions that can be employed at different scales to move collaborative landscape conservation forward; • present a framework for capturing and sharing this menu back to the broader community of practice following the forum; and • share preliminary thoughts about how the NLC will use discussions from the Forum to shape and advance its work.
2:40 – 3:00 PM	Auditorium	<p>Send-Off: Shaping the Future of Landscape Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Levitt, Manager, Land Conservation Programs, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy; Director, Program on Conservation Innovation, Harvard Forest, Harvard University • Gary Tabor, Director, Center for Large Landscape Conservation