



## **National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation**

**October 23-24, 2014**

***Together Toward Tomorrow--Conservation, Partners, and Landscapes***

**Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center  
Washington, DC**

**Call for Proposals: Dedicated Sessions, Presentations and Posters**

**Submittal deadline: May 31, 2014**

### **About the Workshop:**

Conservation innovation is woven through our nation's heritage. It is today and will be for decades and centuries to come an essential element of our future. Large landscape collaborative conservation is a fresh approach to the conservation challenges of the 21st century, linking public, private, non-profit and academic resources in novel, strategic, and enduring ways.

Join conservation practitioners and policy makers from across North America in Washington, DC for this two-day event, October 23-24, 2014. Share ideas on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in implementing large landscape conservation, as well as the most effective tools, strategies and science available to inform large landscape initiatives.

### **Workshop Organizing Partners:**

- *American Fisheries Society*
- *American Ornithologists' Union*
- *Amigos de Los Rios*
- *Chesapeake Conservancy*
- *Chicago Wilderness*
- *Heart of the Rockies*
- *Landscape Conservation Cooperatives*
- *Lincoln Institute of Land Policy*
- *Living Landscape Observer*
- *Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance*
- *Practitioners' Network for Large Landscape Conservation*
- *United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service*
- *United States Department of Interior- Bureau of Land Management*
- *United States Fish & Wildlife Service*
- *United States Forest Service*
- *United States Geological Survey*
- *United States National Park Service*

## Overall Purpose, Structure, and Concept:

This national workshop will focus on knowledge-building and knowledge-sharing of specific practices, tools, policies, and capacities that facilitate the start-up, management, and assessment of successful large landscape conservation efforts. Through a series of plenary sessions, smaller symposia and workshops, and carefully constructed and facilitated dialogues on key topics, participants will experience the full breadth of large landscape programs, science, governance structures, performance measures, education and outreach, and the challenges and opportunities ahead. The workshop format will be designed to identify and develop content that will be directly applicable to landscape conservation partnerships and initiatives across the continent. The workshop will convene senior administrators and policy-makers to point the way for the future, addressing a number of critical questions facing the large landscape conservation community, including:

- How can **mitigation at the landscape scale** foster land conservation and economic development?
- How can we effectively **invest for measurable results and environmental resiliency** in the context of climate change?
- How can we, **across the continuum from urban areas to wilderness areas**, engage diverse communities in the green spaces outside their doors?
- How can we **leverage advanced technologies and innovative financing tools** to dramatically advance the practice of large landscape conservation?

## Workshop Audience:

This event is designed for a broad assemblage of those engaged in organizing, supporting, implementing, and conducting research on large landscape conservation. We anticipate 400-600 attendees at an event of this importance and relevance. Our current list of potential participants includes:

- Land Trusts and Conservancies
- Partners and practitioners of numerous existing large landscape conservation efforts
- Members of the LCC Council (feds, states, tribes, NGO's, partnerships)
- LCC steering committee representatives and staff
- Organizers and members of the Conservation Catalysts Network
- Climate Science Centers
- Native American, Alaska Native Tribes, First Nations, and other indigenous peoples
- Conservation practitioners from the United States, Canada, Mexico, and US Territories
- Leadership of key conservation organizations
- Outdoor parks, public gardens, and recreational interests
- Representatives of urban and regional greenspace initiatives
- National Association of Counties and other local government associations
- National and regional governors' associations
- Members of Congress and staff representatives

- Conservation foundations and donor organizations
- Universities, academics, researchers, and scientists engaged in large landscape-related research
- Graduate and undergraduate students
- Leadership from major science societies – AFS, AOU, TWS, SCB, SAF, SWS, others
- Farm, ranching and cattlemen’s associations and other agricultural interests
- Cooperative research entities such as the USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units and the NPS Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units
- Other national professional associations (e.g., American Planning Association, cultural resource professional associations)
- Other federal agencies engaged in large landscape conservation (Department of Transportation, Department of Defense, NPS National Heritage Areas, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Army Corps of Engineers)
- Energy development, industry and corporate partners
- Environmental journalists or other media representatives

## Call for Proposals:

All proposals are due by **5:00 pm PDT (8:00 pm EDT), May 31, 2014.**

To submit a proposal, visit <https://nwllc.confex.com/nwllc/2014/cfp.cgi>, on or after April 28, 2014.

The Program Committee invites you to submit a proposal to present at the Workshop. Conference organizers are especially interested in outcome-based sessions and symposia that will result in products such as white papers, summary reports, or recommendations from the session. The program emphasizes lessons learned and best practices in every aspect of Large Landscape Conservation start-up, implementation, management, and assessment. The Program Committee is especially interested in soliciting proposals for symposia, panels, and presentations related to the following thematic topics:

Topics/Themes
<b><i>Managing Projects for Successful Outcomes:</i></b> Linking science and management to better address conservation needs, role of private lands, non-profits, business sector, linking local needs with broader regional and landscape interests, and skills needed to successfully manage projects. Sessions or presentations addressing mitigation at the landscape scale are highly sought for this track.
<b><i>Measuring Outcomes and Evaluating Performance:</i></b> How to better define, quantify, measure, and express the social, ecological, and economic benefits of large landscape conservation.
<b><i>Water Conservation and Water Management:</i></b> Water quality and quantity issues, impacts on rare and endangered species, gulf hypoxia, ecological flows, and landscape scale water quality and quantity monitoring.
<b><i>Science, Decision Support, and Information Management for Landscape Scale Conservation:</i></b> Tools, new approaches, innovation, landscape conservation design, and communicating useful science.

**Starting up and Sustaining Large Landscape Conservation Projects:** Defining operational boundaries, governance and relationships with agencies, organizations and landowners, and funding and support strategies. Of special interest are sessions/presentations that explore advanced technologies and innovative financing tools, including those that establish valuation/markets for ecosystem services, which will dramatically advance the practice of large landscape conservation.

**Climate Change and Climate Smart Conservation Strategies:** Incorporating climate change analysis and other tools, including sea level rise modeling, in landscape conservation planning, and developing adaptation strategies to achieve environmental resiliency and sustainability.

**Metropolitan/Urban and Regional Conservation Initiatives:** Large landscapes surrounding or including metropolitan areas; thinking beyond site-by-site approaches to developing a broad conservation vision; efforts that incorporate urban centers, suburban areas, and megaregions.

**Training the Next Generation of Conservationists:** Ensuring that young professionals have the skills, knowledge and desire to be the next conservationists.

**New Media:** How to utilize new media effectively (technically, audience, message type) to convey messages, develop conversations, and engage people.

**Landscape Approaches in High Profile Restoration:** Restoration efforts following Deepwater Horizon, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, and other key event-inspired restoration programs.

**Traditional Ecological Knowledge:** How to utilize traditional ecological knowledge to inform and guide large landscape conservation.

**Dedicated Sessions and Symposia** -- Potential session chairs should propose four presenters for one or more 90 minute sessions. Dedicated sessions should include multiple viewpoints and organizational representation and address a variety of aspects of Large Landscape Conservation challenges and management within the chosen topic. Symposia submissions must be made by the proposed chair and must identify all proposed presenters. Session chairs may propose themselves as one of the presenters in the session.

**Single Presentations** – Please propose one or two 15-20 minute presentations within one or more of the Workshop focus areas and topics. The Program Committee will organize selected presentations into cohesive 90 minute concurrent sessions and assign session moderators. If you would like to propose more than one presentation, you must submit each proposal separately.

**Posters** – Posters will be displayed throughout the Workshop, and dedicated time will allow poster presenters to directly interact with Workshop participants. To the greatest degree possible, posters will be arranged and displayed by topic or focus area. If you would like to submit more than one poster, you must submit each proposal separately.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

To submit a proposal, visit <https://nwllc.confex.com/nwllc/2014/cfp.cgi> to complete the online form. You will be required to provide full contact and biographical information for all presenters and the session chair (if a dedicated session). The deadline for all proposals is **May 31, 2014**. Please mark your calendar!

## **Selection Process and Criteria:**

The Program Committee will review proposals. All proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria, including:

- Significance to the Large Landscape Conservation management and scientific community;
- Relevance to Large Landscape Conservation and the Thematic Topics above;
- Ability to provide information that can be applied in local communities and regions;
- Degree to which the proposal makes connections between different facets of management;
- Degree of insight about upcoming Large Landscape Conservation management trends and science; and
- Thoroughness of proposal.

The selection process is competitive and not all submitted proposals will be accepted for the Workshop Program. Presentations not selected for inclusion in the Workshop Program will receive strong consideration for inclusion in the Poster Session.

## **Presenter/Chair Responsibilities**

Once a proposal has been accepted for inclusion in the program, the program committee will communicate due dates for additional required information for the printed workshop program guide along with audio-visual logistics. Session chairs are responsible for providing all required information related to their sessions by the due dates. Reasonable audio-visual equipment, including projectors and screens, will be provided as needed.

## **Poster Setup and Display**

Posters will be displayed from 1 p.m. Thursday afternoon, through Friday afternoon. Poster set-up will occur on Thursday morning. To the degree possible, posters will be arranged by topic or focus area. If you would like your poster displayed with others – either your own or by a different presenter – please indicate this in your proposal in the “additional information” area in the submittal form. The workshop schedule will include time during which posters will be featured.

## **Some key points to keep in mind:**

- Proposals will be reviewed based on the information received by the due date of May 31, 2014. Proposals deemed incomplete or lacking in information are unlikely to be accepted by the program committee.
- When developing your proposal, please refer to the GPO Style Guide (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/stylemanual/index.html>) for guidance about capitalization, punctuation, acronyms and similar grammatical items.
- Dedicated sessions must have four, 20-minute speakers. If a session is submitted with only three speakers, the committee will add a fourth speaker from the pool of single presentations proposals.

- Dedicated sessions should consist of multiple viewpoints and organizational representation; sessions consisting of staff from only one organization are unlikely to be accepted by the committee.
- All attendees, including speakers and poster presenters, must register for and attend the Workshop, and pay their own travel. If you are submitting a dedicated session or on behalf of other speakers, please make sure everyone in your session understands this requirement and is prepared to register and travel. Workshop registration fees are \$200.00.

### **Timeline and Due Dates:**

- May 31, 2014 – All proposals due
- July 15, 2014 – Submitters notified of selection status.
- August 31, 2014 – Final program posted at <http://www.largelandscapenetwork.org/2014-national-workshop/>

### **QUESTIONS?**

For additional information about the conference, please contact:

Greg Wathen, Program Committee Chair, [greg.wathen@tn.gov](mailto:greg.wathen@tn.gov) or (615) 781-6670