

# What we do?

## **Mission**

Achieve sustainable landscape-level conservation in Appalachia through partnerships, shared resources, enhanced science-based management capacity, landscape level planning, and support for conservation actions and research as part of a national network.

## **Goals & Objectives**

### **Goal 1: Create a common conservation vision and well-aligned conservation actions**

#### **Objectives:**

- a. Develop a common landscape vision for the Appalachians
- b. Set conservation and habitat priorities for the region

#### **Measures**

### **Goal 2: Deliver landscape-level, community mapping for regional use**

#### **Objectives:**

- a. Identify and develop actions to protect the “best of the best” habitats
- b. Provide distribution and condition of aquatic habitat

#### **Measures**

### **Goal 3: Support partner decision-making and conservation investments**

#### **Objectives:**

- a. Provide landscape-level decision support to partners’ conservation policy, action, decisions, and investment
- b. Complete a climate change-vulnerability-readiness assessment to assist partners in aligning decisions and investments

#### **Measures**

### **Goal 4: Create a breakthrough conservation dialogue for the AppLCC Region**

#### **Objectives:**

- a. Address the human dimensions of landscape conservation
- b. Determine value-added messages that connect the public to the environment
- c. Enhance website

#### **Measures**

### **Goal 5: Create data and tool sharing strategy**

#### **Objectives**

- a. Share partner data sets for regional interpretation and data mining
- b. Develop new data and tools, as needed

#### **Measures**

## **Why we do it?**

### **Vision (RE-WORD)**

Create a science and management partnership to protect the valued resources and biological diversity of the Appalachian region, sustain the benefits provided by healthy and resilient ecosystems to human communities, and help natural systems adapt to large landscape-level stressors and those stressors that may be magnified by the changing climate.

### **Our Unique Role**

- Deliver landscape-level breakthroughs via a science and management partnership
- Leverage multiple partnership skillsets and expertise to integrate across disciplines and landscapes
- ETC...

### **Guiding Principles (guiding behaviors and effort)**

- Focus on the landscape-level priorities and avoid species-specific projects
- Create realistic assessments of workload – balancing short-term and long-term efforts
- Develop partnership comfort with uncertainty and imperfect information learn/adapt/revise
- Advance patience in developing landscape approaches and building successful partnerships
- Effective communication of goals, projects, and results among partners and stakeholders
- Include all conservation land managers efforts, including private sector and private property owners
- Strive to generate trust in AppLCC and its work products through inclusiveness, reviewed science and transparency
- Understand the attitudes, values and beliefs of stakeholders, partners and public sectors

### **Values (of the Partnership)**

- Promote a boundary-less approach, while respecting partner jurisdictions
- Enable/support/foster broader thinking about conservation delivery and science  
Keep the focus on the landscape and avoid species-specific projects
- Partner with all like-minded entities (Inclusiveness – include all land managers with a common conservation focus)
- Implement systematic conservation planning, informed by Appalachian goals, and inclusive of stakeholder input
- Enhance trust and confidence that outcomes are accurate by inviting

- different interests to collaborate on LCC efforts
- Avoid duplication by aligning efforts with existing regional initiatives (e.g. JVs, App Regional Commission, multi-state SWG efforts).

## **Competencies**

- Collective skills, knowledge, and resources that cut across the full spectrum of landscape conservation challenges
- Proactive provisioning of information and frameworks for maximizing conservation actions
- Effective sharing of data and tools with all engaged partners
- Address the human dimensions of landscape conservation by connecting the public to the environment to messages that resonate

## **How we do it?**

### **Business Processes**

- a. Website
- b. Funding
- c. Data Architecture and Sharing
- d. Project Prioritization and Selection
- e. Community Effectiveness
- f. Community Engagement

### **AppLCC Operational Measures**

1. Increases in partnership-directed funding and resource levels
2. Full partnership participation and integration of efforts
3. Use of products by decision makers
4. Number of populations or habitats with downward trend halted or reversed
5. Landscape area enhanced through cooperative efforts
6. Acres and miles evaluated for priority efforts
7. Satisfaction of cooperators
8. Socioeconomic measures of communities trending positively
9. Developed products being used
10. Number of cooperators contributing data and tools

### **Criteria (prioritizing effort)**

- Addresses partnership's Immediate needs
- Leverages existing investments of partners and partnership
- Focuses on measurable progress with a high probability of success
- Impacts landscape-scale effort, beyond individual partners' focus or ability
- Partnership's willingness to contribute time, talent, treasure or exert influence and support
- Benefits multiple partners, groups and agencies

- Leverages multiple funding sources
- Proactive

### **Hot Topics to Address**

- Which exotic/invasive/disease battles are worth fighting?
- Understanding the unique role of mineral rights - If we don't own them, we can't preserve the land
- Be sensitive to coal's unique role in the region
- Address energy's impact in the region
- Water: Quality, quantity, aquatic species and aquatic habitat
- Increase our influence with private individuals
- Identify and encourage best land use practices for private landowners