



Cascades to Coast Landscape Collaborative

designing for resilience

Leadership Team Meeting Summary

June 3, 2021

Welcome, Introductions, New Members

The CCLC is welcoming Rachel Wheat onboard, a new member of the Leadership Team replacing Davia Palmeri. Rachel is the Wildlife Connectivity Coordinator with Oregon DFW in Salem, OR. She conducts statewide assessment of wildlife data and habitat use and connectivity to identify priority connectivity areas and improve connectivity for wildlife statewide. Her work will intersect with the CCLC as the connectivity data moves into the webinar summit. Kathryn Christian is also joining the leadership team for the summer as a USFWS Science Applications intern. Kathryn will primarily be helping build out the western Oregon portion of the Conservation Program Explorer tool.

Conservation Program Explorer (Rachel Santa Olalla)

Rachel shared updates on the Conservation Program Explorer's expansion to eastern Washington. She also reviewed new surveys to the CPE website that for users to optionally fill out for more user data than is currently available. She reviewed CPE landowners outreach events to-date along with upcoming in-person events. Andy Perleberg at the WSU Extension of Forestry has been a key player in her eastern Washington outreach. She emphasized how responsive private landowners are to print, rather than digital, communications.

Rachel introduced Kathryn again, the USFWS intern with the Science Applications. Kathryn will be collecting landowner incentive program information for western Oregon. Kathryn's buildout work will emphasize the CCLC boundary beginning with the Northwest region of Oregon, then moving to the Central Coast Region. If CCLC receives the Catalyst Fund grant, there will be more rural landowner outreach in western Oregon to direct how the CPE tool could be useful there. The current list of Advisory Team members for Oregon was shared with the Leadership Team for their review and input. CCLC staff has set a late summer launch date for western Oregon.

Connectivity Webinar Update (John Mankowski)

John shared the planning group, workplan and action items for the CCLC Connectivity Webinar. Over the past few years species selections and modeling has been created and reported on. The CCLC will be sharing this connectivity data with the public through this recorded webinar that will be made available. It will set the stage for the in-person regional Connectivity Summit in late July. Major messages this

webinar will share are 1. Why connectivity data is important to landscape resilience, 2. How science was used to create connectivity maps, and 3. How can these connectivity maps be applied in the region. A two-hour event is proposed with the potential dates being either June 27th to July 1st or July 11th-15th depending on what works with the schedules of the speakers.

- Gary Tabor from the Center for Large Landscape Conservation agreed to be the keynote speaker.
- Peter Singleton will lead the data on wildlife.
- Alan Yanahan will present how the data can be accessed for public use.
- Jeff Azerrad will speak as well.
- Glen Kallis will speak on connectivity as it related to the Department of Transportation.
- The CCLC is still looking for a speaker from the Tribal Nations and an NGO.

Individual Organization Sharing – Leadership Team Updates

Rachel Wheat shares about the Oregon Connectivity and Mapping Project (OCAMP) that has been underway since 2018. The project consists of 54 selected species (between mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates) that were surrogates of habitat types and structural habitat characteristics, movement capabilities, sensitive to climate and anthropogenic threats. OCAMP is proceeding through connectivity assessment for each species using connectivity models. This data will be synthesized to determine prioritization across all 54 species with the goal of making a single map of priority connectivity areas in the state for all wildlife in Oregon. OCAMP is striving to finish the final maps by winter of 2022/2023. This data and maps will be available for public use as well as use in the CCLC Conservation Mapper tool. An [end-user group survey](#) is available through mid-June and is helpful to OCAMP as they decide how to develop the final product's features and tools for sharing.

Jeff Azerrad is working on Washington connectivity data and found the Solar industry as a user for this data. There is a solar project in a major connectivity corridor that has one of the last remaining sage grass populations. Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) would be a good end user to target for this connectivity data. Getting to developers before they invest is a good strategy as they are more likely to move on and avoid the bureaucracy or the chances of being sued.

Chad Washington shares that Lewis & Clark Timberlands worked with Working Watersheds Cooperative to do an auction fundraiser to help Warrenton High School fundraise for their fisheries program. The program raises 250K leftover salmon smolt every year from the DFW. The high school needed a generator to keep the pump operations going when the power in Warrenton goes out, which is often. They fundraised \$150k which allowed the high school to expand the program, Hampton Lumber donated a generator, and there was wide support from the community.

Paula Swedeen has been working with a consultant to model scenarios of lengthening harvest rotations on state and private lands to find a manageable transition to carbon sequestration in southwestern Washington with the least amount of impact. The model addresses economics of mills and timber production, carbon sequestration investment, biodiversity, water quality and quantity, habitat, and connectivity corridors. The tool like provide dimensions on how to make the transition less scary so more people will buy into the action. Paula may have results of this model at the next Leadership Team meeting.

Bill Sharp is deep into the work as a result of the bipartisan infrastructure law and funding looking at opportunities for acquisitions in Klickitat - White Salmon area, bridge buyers, and key oak woodland habitat. They have also been fighting solar on the last of the best grasslands of the Yakama people.

John presented to the Northwest Forest Coalition Conference in Spokane about the CCLC Mapper Tool that the community forest folks were excited to hear about.

Work Planning, a Sustainable Partnership (John Mankowski)

John shares the 2-year work plan from 2021 – 2023 and where the partnership stands within that work and where the partnership is headed. He reviewed the Strategies and Opportunities to address Landscape Scale Stressors Miradi map, how parts have been addressed and what is left.

Part of a sustainable partnership is defining what it needs to look like as it continues. John reviews the necessary components:

- Backbone support (John, Alan, Rachel, and Kaitlyn) or other hired talent that CCLC wants to keep. This group meets weekly and directly works on tasks.
- The Leadership Team (8-12 committed core members) that meets monthly to guide the partnership and oversee project operations.
- A proposed CCLC Partnership Committee that would meet 2-3 times a year, composed of 25-30 points of contact in key organizations. This committee would provide overall support and direction of the Backbone Support group and the CCLC tools. The Partnership Committee would communicate on behalf of the CCLC with stakeholders, set high-level goals and priorities, and leverage resources. This committee would share CCLC tools to address regional needs on a fine scale.
- Interested public and natural resources would be the less directly involved group that sets the long-term agenda and uses CCLC tools.

Moving forward the CCLC will want to consider what the organization needs to become an enduring partnership, brainstorming needs and approaches this summer. The organization will identify who makes up the partnership, their roles, and who is missing, how to secure resources to continue the work and organize for success. By September the CCLC would like to adopt a charter and meet in person.

Attendees - Leadership Team members, guests, and alternates

Betsy Glenn	Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center
Becky Clow	USFWS
Ann Edwards	Resilient Earth Consulting
Jeff Azerrad	WDFW
Jen Watkins	WA DNR
Paula Swedeen	Conservation Northwest
Chad Washington	Greenwood Resources
Bill Sharp	Yakama Nation
Rachel Wheat	ODFW
John Mankowski	Mankowski Environmental, LLC
Alan Yanahan	USFWS
Rachel Santa Olalla	CCLC consultant support
Kathryn Christian	USFWS Intern