**Landscape Conservation Working Group** (Wildlife Resources Policy Committee)

**Draft Working Group Charge:** Examine existing landscape partnerships and review their governance structure, commonalities of success, approaches, partner roles and other attributes and synthesize into a white paper that identifies key challenges and lessons learned.

**Proposed Outline for the White Paper:**

* **Introduction**Topics to Address: The need for landscape conservation, State Wildlife Action Plans as building blocks, historical importance to migratory birds, species of greatest conservation need and other species
* **Challenges to Landscape Conservation Collaboration and Solutions**Topics to Address: why collaboration is difficult; geographic differences in relationships between states, federal government and partners; state-federal tension over authority; concurrence between states and federal government on priorities including science needs; governance structures that don’t reflect state authority and accountability; partnerships that aren’t sustainable; strain on staff and resources from participating in multiple partnerships; species boundaries that don’t align with landscape partnership boundaries, a lack of capacity
* **Case Studies**Topics to Address:Overview ofMigratory Bird Joint Ventures, state-led multistate collaborations (i.e. lesser prairie chicken, sage grouse ecosystem, monarch butterflies, New England cottontail) and other partnerships
* **Commonalities of Success**Topic to Address: List and description of elements that make a landscape conservation partnership successful

**Proposed Working Group Members (*\*denotes Wildlife Resources Policy Committee member*)**

**West**

Dave Smith-Coordinator, Intermountain West Joint Venture

Tony Wasley-Director, Nevada Division of Wildlife (LCC Council; IMWJV steering committee; AFWA President’s Task Force on Landscape Conservation)\*

Ed Schriever-Deputy Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (National Fish Habitat Partnership Board)\*

**Midwest**

Sara Parker Pauley-Director Missouri Department of Conservation

Kelley Meyers-Coordinator, Eastern Tallgrass Prairie LCC

Kenny Dinan-Nebraska State Coordinator, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

**Southeast**

Ed Carter-Director Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy)

Thomas Eason-Assistant Director, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Peninsular Florida LCC)

**Northeast**

Ken Elowe-Assistant Regional Director of Science Applications, FWS R5 (North Atlantic LCC)

David Whitehurst-Bureau Director, Virginia Department Game & Inland Fisheries (LCC Council, Appalachian LCC, Vice Chair of Wildlife Diversity Conservation and Funding Committee)\*

**At-Large Members**

Elsa Haubold-LCC Network Coordinator

Keith Sexton-Assistant Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks and Tourism (involved with Lesser Prairie Chicken Conservation)

Bill Moritz-Midwest Field Representative, Wildlife Management Institute

Mike Carter-Coordinator, Playa Lakes Joint Venture (Great Plains LCC)

**Reviewers**

Presidents of WAFWA, MAFWA, SEAFWA, NEAWFA

**Potential Partnership Models to Review (p*artial List*)**

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures

National Fish Habitat Partnership

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

Migratory Bird Flyway Councils

Fishery Commissions

Puget Sound Partnership

**List of State Priorities (*partial list*)**

Development/Implementation of State Wildlife Action Plans

Pre-listing Conservation (i.e. monarchs, wolverines, petitioned species, etc.)

Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy

Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool

Northeast Regional Conservation Needs

Potential Resources

National Academy of Sciences Report <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/21829/a-review-of-the-landscape-conservation-cooperatives>