**Session IV:** **The Foundation of Commitment and Structure of the Partnership**

**Q. What’s needed?**

1. Coordinator
2. Address all resources
3. Shared vision
4. Metrics to measure success/progress

**Q. How**

1. TAP INTO EXISTING ENTITIES, I.E. JV
2. Self-fund
3. Non-profits
4. USGS – NRPP. SSP funding
5. WMI administration
   1. Advocacy
   2. Staffing capacity

**Q. Why**

Developing science and management at a landscape scale

Existing Mission:

The Mission of the Appalachian LCC is to 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.

-need discrete goals and projects, what the partnership adds to what we’re already trying to do

-need to stress the importance of the partnership, e.g. fragmented land ownership

-science and resource based

-“working with a group of like-minded people”

-change “achieve” to “support” to “advance”

-what “management capacity” is the LCC providing

**Q. “What my Agency Needs for me to stay involved…..**

Appalachian LCC partnership

**-need to quantify how we’re incorporating this vision in our own programs**

* NRCS
  + Coordinator of partners
  + Technical skills
    - Science support tools
  + Leveraging of resources
  + Value added
    - Inform decisions
    - Efficiency
* EPA
  + Advancing science
    - Filling scientific gaps
    - Creating decision support tools
  + Decision enhancement
  + Strategic implementation
    - Transparency
    - Technically defensible
  + State Leadership (participation/relationship building/leadership)
  + Accountability framework
    - Quantify what is being accomplished on the ground (e.g. water quality implications, carbon sequestration), “outcome indicators”
    - Both the state of the landscape, and the way your organization is contributing to the outcome
* West Virginia DNR
  + Collaboration
    - Efficiency for addressing regional issues
    - Information sharing, helping partnership
    - Convening partners
  + Decision-support tools
  + Forecasting what the changes are going to be in Appalachia
    - What-if scenarios that allow us to be better prepared to do future conservation
  + Forum for the practitioners to contribute to an evolving science
    - Linking practitioners to state-of-the-art science
    - Field of “collaborative learning”
* Maryland DNR
  + Providing landscape level context for our activities
    - Help states see how they fit into the bigger picture, come together to think about things at a different scale, beyond borders
  + Professional development
  + Scientific information
    - From large-scale research that states aren’t able to fund, this isn’t going to come from somewhere else
* Virginia DGIF
  + Information
  + Partnership
    - Collaborative partnership that can identify and address information needs at a landscape scale and partners to help implement actions within a state and a region
    - Alignment
* National Park Service (NCR reporting)
  + Information
  + Forecasting tools
  + Decision support tools
  + Landscape-scale
  + Science
  + Synergy
  + Aligning our work with other partners, public interests and regional needs
* USGS (Region 1 – NE reporting / Leetown Science Center)
  + Scientific products
    - Making sure the science product are credible
  + Societal relevance
    - Public recognition of partnership’s work
  + Recognition of partnership
  + Alignment of science
  + Relevance
* WMI
  + Tools
    - That fulfill partners’ needs
    - Developed by the LCC
    - Decision support, forecasting, etc. diverse types of tools
  + Strategic focus
* from the Endowment’s perspective as part of the Healthy Watersheds Consortium
  + Get to implementation
    - Achievement metrics
    - Integration across diverse resources
  + Include sociological and socioeconomic tools
  + Behavior change, working with landowners
  + Finance mechanisms
    - Efficiency, strategic use, means for growth
    - Existing and new funding sources
  + Building local capacity
    - Importance of local organizations and groups to achieve conservation on the ground
    - Playing a catalytic role to advance conservation
* US FWS (R4 + R5 represented)
  + Invasive species database
  + Watersheds, hydrologic connectivity
  + Habitat restoration, both aquatic and terrestrial
  + Prioritization
    - Focal areas
  + Forecasting future needs
  + Cohesion/collaboration
    - Service orientation of the LCC
    - Enabling better connection across FWS programs, “integrating functions through the delivery of science and tools”
  + Provide enhanced internal collaboration for FWS
  + Build on existing work
    - Build on work that is already done, we need a better understanding of how much more and where we need conservation to achieve our mission.
  + Commitment from the rest of the partners to work together to align, collaboratively achieve that shared vision
  + Unified field theory for conservation actions
* Forest Service (Research Station – EFETAC represented)
  + Understanding of what the partners’ needs are
  + Understanding the bigger picture and how the Forest Service can contribute to the larger picture for supporting conservation
  + (and many things from above)
* National Wildlife Federation (Mid-Atlantic Region represented)
  + Decision support tools
  + Contextualize projects at the landscape level
  + Bringing together diverse partners, efficiency
  + Bring in nontraditional partners
    - E.g. those thinking about conservation from economic development perspective, a more holistic vision moving forward
* BIA & Delaware Tribal perspective
  + Tribal involvement
  + Habitat restoration
    - Particular important species
  + Planning tools
  + Collaboration components
  + Integrate into larger initiatives that are going on
  + Cultural landscapes
* TRBN/TVA – (Evan gone Day-2; Jean reports on this)
  + Fulltime coordinator

**Facilitator Ask - Consider**

What do you bring to the partnership? What do you need from the partnership?

What is your commitment to the partnership?

Tangible goals to communicate to home leadership/agency?