**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?