



Briefing Statement

Date: October 19, 2011

Title: Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative (DLCC)

Issue: DMG needs to ensure that its science priorities are included as the DLCC science needs assessment is refined.

- DLCC now has a functional steering committee (SC) composed of agency executives, and representatives from tribes and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Chair is Larry Voyles, the Director of Arizona Game and Fish and the Vice-chair is Duane Pool a Landscape Ecologist with Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO).
- The SC met in Albuquerque September 27 and 28. The DOD Coordinator attended the meeting on behalf of the DOD and the DMG. At the meeting, the SC discussed the draft governance and FY 2012 work plan. The work plan was tentatively approved pending a final review at December meeting. Highlights of the work plan include:
 - Development of a website and data management/sharing
 - Completion of a comprehensive science needs assessment
 - Development of Mojave and Sonoran Desert ecosystem vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies for protected areas
 - Provide financial assistance to applied science projects to analyze the impacts of landscape scale stressors and potential adaptation strategies
- The DLCC coordinators developed lists of both regional scientific needs and sciences needs that could to the landscape level. The SC was asked to distill the needs lists to fifteen or twenty high priorities. These needs lists will be given to the science subcommittee to develop a final list of landscape sciences needs to which funding could be applied.
- Various internet and data hosting needs were identified for the DLCC to operate effectively and at this time unsolicited proposals from partner agencies are being collected and reviewed to be presented to the DLCC committee in December. DOD, in an effort to support DLCC, has offered the use of MDEP as an in-kind, turnkey solution.
- Recently, a vacancy announcement was issued for the DLCC coordinator. The position will be a BOR employee. FWS R2 employees the DLCC Science Coordinator, Christina Vojta.

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