

SNPLMA Executive Committee
2014 Annual Partners & Stakeholders Meeting
Summary of Strategic Plan Direction, Decisions, and Actions
May 8, 2014

Strategic Plan Direction:

The Executive Committee provided the following direction for updating SNPLMA Strategic Plan.

- General Direction
 - The EC was supportive of the draft vision and mission statements as well as the value statements as written.
- Capital Improvements Category
 - The EC's priorities for the Capital Improvements category are:
 - Projects that are consistent with the strategic plan's vision, mission, and goals; and,
 - Projects which have a low overall cost and low operations and maintenance (O&M) costs with emphasis on the low O&M costs.
- Conservation Initiatives Category
 - Three priority areas within the Conservation Initiatives category are habitat improvement, cultural, and public health/safety, which are not listed in any order of priority. The EC recognizes that there may be different components such as outreach and law enforcement within each priority area.
 - Funding law enforcement activities through the Conservation Initiatives category was appropriate as long as there is a clear nexus between the need for law enforcement and habitat enhancement and/or cultural resources protection.
- Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas (PTNA) Category
 - The EC continues to place an emphasis on projects within the PTNA category being consistent with the program's vision, mission, and goals.
 - The EC was supportive of the subgroup's definition of underserved communities and that both aspects of that definition are important. However, the second aspect that addresses "communities who have faced social/economic barriers that have limited their access or connectivity to healthy natural environments" is a higher priority and should receive more points during the project ranking process.
 - Similar to the Capital Improvements category, it will be important that projects within the PTNA category be fiscally sustainable over the long-term.
- Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Category
 - The EC was supportive of the Hazardous Fuels and Wildfire Prevention category subgroup's recommendation that the landscape restoration benefit be clearly articulated in project nomination packages and that the category Program Manager should present during the PWG's and EC's preliminary recommendation meeting a comprehensive overview of what has been accomplished to date and address how new project nominations fit into the broader context of implementation on a landscape scale.

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- Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project (ENLRP) Category
 - Effectiveness monitoring is important but additional thought needs to be given to (1) how effectiveness monitoring is funded and (2) how the end point of effectiveness monitoring will be defined.
 - Existing scientific protocols addressing effectiveness monitoring should be used; rather than developing new protocols for SNPLMA.
- Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Category
 - The EC was supportive of the PWG's recommendation that MSHCP projects focus on habitat enhancement and outreach.

Projects of Concern (POC)

- It is important that all entities remain committed to completing the projects listed on the POC list.

Future Rounds

- The EC would entertain a law enforcement project nomination from the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership for Round 15 and offered the following guidance:
 - The proposal should address a funding level less than the currently funded level.
 - The Conservation Initiatives project nomination should be focused on specific project activities and not underwriting ongoing personnel and staff.
 - The nomination must be consistent with the objectives, priorities, and vision outlined in the strategic plan.

Decisions Made

- The EC accepted the proposed performance measure changes as recommended by the PWG and presented at the meeting.
- The EC agreed to accept the PWG's recommendation as written with the exception of substituting the language to be developed by the SNPLMA Division concerning Round 6 or earlier projects in the orange and red categories as identified on the *Focus Projects for Closeout* handout for the language under Item 3(d) of the PWG's recommendation which states:

“Use of the POC list as one factor in developing the preliminary and final funding recommendations.”

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Action Items:

- The Nevada State Office Special Legislation staff and the SNPLMA Division will continue to explore the recommendation that the SNPLMA program's administration be addressed as part of the strategic plan's narrative taking the EC's concerns into consideration.
- Jim Lawrence will give additional thought to how existing structures (such as the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team and local sage grouse working groups) could be incorporated into the project nomination prioritization process.
- The SNPLMA Division will develop language for the proposed Round 15 criteria for review and approval by the PWG prior to submission to the EC. Suggested language for a starting point is:

In order to be eligible for Round 15 funding in a category, an entity may only have one project (with the exception of those in litigation or those experiencing a recent natural disaster) with an orange or red color status on the *Focus Projects for Closeout List* OR it must have less than X% of projects in such a status.
- The SNPLMA Division will provide the key deliverables from the Round 4 and later round law enforcement nomination packages to understand how the nominations were articulated. In addition, the SNAP Board should provide the law enforcement accomplishments arrayed by the draft strategic plan's vision, goals, and objectives.
- Jane Freeman and Karla Norris will develop a schedule to ensure the EC is able to provide direction in relation to submission of a Round 15 law enforcement project nomination package.
- The Executive Committee will provide comments or suggested changes on the draft 2013 Annual Report to Congress to Jane Freeman by the close of business on May 23, 2014.