Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Basin-Wide Meeting Summary
Reno, Nevada
October 29, 2010

Participants:

Sarah Adler, US Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Gail Brooks, US Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution
Tim Burke, Bureau of Land Management
Eddie Burke, Trout Unlimited - Sagebrush Chapter
David Busch, US Geological Survey - Pacific Southwest Area
Mike Caltagirone, Trout Unlimited - Sagebrush Chapter
Michael Canning, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Glenn Carpenter, Bureau of Land Management
Jeanne Chambers, US Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station
Jon Cheek, Great Basin Resource Watch
Kathleen Clarke, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
Michael W. Collopy, University of Nevada, Reno
Gary Cottle, Naval Air Station Fallon
Tim Crowley, Nevada Mining Association
Jim Eidel, Great Basin Bird Observatory
Erica Fleishman, John Muir Institute of the Environment
Joseph Fleskes, US Geological Survey - Western Ecological Research Center
Steve Foree, BLM - Battle Mountain District Office
Nat Frazer, Utah State University, Great Basin Research and Management Partnership
Jane Freeman, Bureau of Land Management Nevada State Office
Geoff Geupel, PRBO Conservation Science
Terry Gibson, Shoshone-Paiute Tribe
Joy Giffin, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Nancy Glenn, Idaho State University
Thad Heater, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Wes Henderson, Nevada Association of Counties
Mark Herzog, US Geological Survey
Jeanne Higgins, US Forest Service - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Mike Holbert, Bureau of Land Management Nevada State Office
Ted Howard, Shoshone-Paiute Tribe
Stan Johnson, University of Nevada, Reno
Rick Kearney, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Linda Kelly , BLM Sierra Front Field Office
Jason Kesling, Burns Paiute Tribe

Participants (continued):

Kevin Kinsella, General Moly, Inc.
Lari Knochenmus, USGS -Nevada Water Science Center
Kathryn Landreth, The Nature Conservancy
Deborah Lassiter, Allied Nevada Gold Corp.
Carl Lunderstadt, US Fish and Wildlife Service - Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Rachel Mazur, US Forest Service - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
James McIver, Oregon State University
Thomas McKnight
Ken Miller, Elko District
Génie MontBlanc, Great Basin Science Delivery Project
Hugh Morrison, US Fish and Wildlife Service - Mountain-Prairie Region
Tina Nappe, Sierra Club
Rang Narayanan, University of Nevada, College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources
Fred Noack, US Forest Service - Intermountain Region office
Sara O'Brien, Defenders of Wildlife
Mike Pellant, Bureau of Land Management
Sarah Peterson, BLM Nevada State Office
Loates Peterson, US Geological Survey
Duane R. Petite, The Nature Conservancy
Sue Phillips, USGS - Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center
Louis Provencher, The Nature Conservancy
Kelly Redmond, Desert Research Institute/Western Regional Climate Center
Laura Richards, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Julia Richardson, US Forest Service - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Jeff Rose, Bureau of Land Management Oregon
Jim Sedinger, University of Nevada, Reno
Randy Sharp, US Forest Service - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Steven Siegel, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Laurie Simons, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Verlin Smith, Bureau of Land Management Utah State Office
Randel Stevens, Trout Unlimited - Sagebrush Chapter
Sherman Swanson, University of Nevada, Reno
Joe Tague, Bureau of Land Management
Robin Tausch, US Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Research Station
Kim Townsend, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
Curtis Warrick, Bureau of Land Management Utah State Office
Brad Washa, Bureau of Land Management
Mark Weltz, US Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service
Karen Wesner, US Department of Agriculture - Farm Service Agency
Mike Yates, The Raptor Research Center - Boise State University

Facilitation Team: Penny Mabie and Adair Muth, EnviroIssues

Welcome and Introductions

Penny Mabie, EnviroIssues facilitator, welcomed meeting participants and reviewed the agenda and meeting objectives. She led team introductions and had everyone introduce themselves by name and the organization they represented.

Overview of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

Rick Kearney, Assistant Regional Director Climate Change & Science, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), presented a series of PowerPoint slides to provide participants background information on Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs). Rick said LCCs are to develop partnerships around the country to come to grips with not just climate change but other issues as well. Rick presented the following information:

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives:

- Were established in Secretarial Order No. 3289 on September 14, 2009 by Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to better integrate science and management to address climate change and other landscape-scale issues – Salazar recognized the need to integrate activities of all conservation issues to work together to deal with changes
- Are self-directed science and management partnerships between Interior Department bureaus, other federal agencies, states, tribes, non-governmental organizations (NGO), universities, and stakeholders within a geographically defined area
    - LCCs are not to deliver conservation on the ground but to deliver the tools managers need to do their jobs
- Better inform coordinated resource management actions that address climate change and other stressors within and across landscapes

What are LCCs?

- Public-private science and management partnerships formed to support landscape-scale conservation
    - LCCs hope to break down the walls that exist between the research community and the science community to have a better flow of information to the managers
- Link science and conservation delivery
- Include groups that agree to work together on common interests and issues

LCCs add value:

- Forum for coordination among partners
- Science-based decision support tools
- Biological and geospatial data sharing
- Shared regional assessments
- Help partners define research needs

LCCs are not:

- Funding sources for conservation delivery
- Replacements for existing partnerships
    - LCCs are intended to fill the gaps between organizations and create a unified effort
- Regulatory authority
    - The Department of Interior (DOI) is seeking to be one partner at the table, not in charge – represents a new way of thinking in the department

There is a national integrated network of 21 LCCs in various stages of formation, nine were created last year. In the coming year, the Desert LCC, Southern Rockies LCC, and North Pacific LCC will be formed, in addition to the Great Basin LCC. LCC boundaries extend into Canada and Mexico, making it an international effort. There is a National LCC meeting the week of November 1st in Washington DC. Rick will be at the meeting to represent the Great Basin LCC.

There will be eight Climate Science Centers across the country, which are partnerships of organizations that will be university-based. They will provide the basic fundamental science that will inform the LCCs. Currently there is a science center being established in the Pacific Northwest and others across the country will be established in the near future.

Mike Pellant, Great Basin Restoration Initiative Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), began his presentation with a few slides to clear up any confusion on the difference between BLM's Rapid Ecoregional Assessments (REAs) and LCCs. REAs are information processes that *result in* landscape-scale information intended for conservation applications through partnerships, while LCCs are partnership organizations that *need* landscape-scale information to be fully effective.

The Central Basin and Range REA was initiated this year and the broad landscape-scale information the assessment will provide will be valuable to the Great Basin LCC in the future. There may also be a role for LCCs to update the REAs in the future.

The Great Basin LCC has the advantage that its boundaries are the same as floristically-defined boundaries that many partners use. There are a diverse number of landowners in the Great Basin; the largest percentage of land is managed by the federal government, but 22% is privately owned so it is important to engage private landowners in this process.

The issues in the Great Basin transcend all boundaries across the Great Basin and affect all landowners and managers. They include wildfires, invasive species, development, loss of habitat, water, and climate change.

Many partnerships, organizations and agencies are already working together in the Great Basin, such as the Great Basin Research and Management Partnership (GBRMP), Great Basin Environmental Program (GBEP), Utah Partners for Conservation and Development, Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development, and Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition. The concept of the Great Basin LCC is that it will help integrate all of the existing organizations, agencies and partnerships together and then link the LCC to the Climate Science Centers (CSCs).

Mike presented a slide with a wheel graphic showing the landscape scale efforts that already exist across the Great Basin, including the Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (GBCESU), GBEP, GBRMP, and Great Basin Restoration Initiative. The Great Basin LCC will be another organization working

with these other partnerships; no single organization is the "axle" of the wheel. The Great Basin LCC is not trying to be the center of the wheel, but rather trying to figure out how it can integrate and not duplicate efforts.

2010-2011 available resources include:

- BLM LCC Coordinator – will be hired this year
- USGS Research Scientist
- USFWS Science Coordinator

Questions

Q: Are there longer-term funding and resources projected into the future or are those positions temporary?

Mike Pellant said there is a long-term commitment from the agencies to fund those positions.

Overview of the Great Basin LCC activities to date

Penny explained to participants that the Bureau of Land Management went to the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (USIECR) to neutrally convene this effort. She said that EnviroIssues was contracted by USIECR.

Gail Brooks, USIECR, noted that they are the second tiniest federal agency and were created to be the neutral presence of the government for environmental processes. She noted that the Udall Foundation is the parent foundation of USIECR.

Penny Mabie said BLM asked themselves the question last spring, how do you set up a new organization? She said it was decided that the first thing to be done was to have a series of meetings to talk about how to form the organization. BLM state leads invited a set of people from each state and meetings were held in Boise, Salt Lake City, and Reno in May of this year. Each meeting had the same agenda, but each meeting built on the work of the previous meeting.

Over 100 participants from seven states attended the meetings and the results of the meetings were some loosely defined bounds of what the Great Basin LCC might be, what the mission might be, a list of potential partners and collaborators, and some challenges the organization might face, given that there are already many regional partnerships. The main recommendations from the May meetings were to conduct outreach for additional members, and to establish a short-term Organizing Committee to draft the mission, structure and governance of the Great Basin LCC.

The Organizing Committee was formed by individuals who volunteered at one of the three May meetings. The Organizing Committee is composed of the following individuals:

Sara O'Brien	Defenders of Wildlife
Doug Neighbor	National Park Service
Duane Petite	The Nature Conservancy
Joe Tague	Bureau of Land Management
Kim Townsend	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
Laura Richards	Nevada Department of Wildlife

Mark Biddlecomb	Intermountain West Joint Venture – Ducks Unlimited
Mike Pellant	Bureau of Land Management
Nat Frazer	Utah State University, Great Basin Research and Management Partnership
Randy Sharp	U.S. Forest Service
Rang Narayanan	University of Nevada, Reno, Great Basin Environmental Program
Rory Reynolds	Utah Department of Natural Resources
Bob Williams (represented by **Selena Werdon**)	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Penny asked a few of the Organizing Committee members to provide their perspectives on why their organization is involved in the Great Basin LCC, what potential value or opportunity they see for their organization in the Great Basin LCC, and what value they see the Great Basin LCC bringing to the Great Basin at large.

Joe Tague, BLM, said that for the BLM it is not just an assignment. The issues in the Great Basin are bigger than the BLM can take on by themselves. The value the Great Basin LCC can bring is helping to coordinate the many efforts already going on. The LCC brings support and will help leverage resources in order to do more with the limited staffing and money available. The Great Basin LCC provides a real opportunity to work on issues everyone shares in the Great Basin.

Nat Frazer, Utah State University, said the Great Basin LCC will help develop a one-stop shopping place, so "the left hand can know what the right hand is doing." It will be a place to go for general priorities, and a place to find research and management expertise. The Great Basin LCC could also help connect people working on similar issues so they can learn from each other's mistakes and not make the same ones. For years, universities have been pumping out students trained to think at the landscape level and there are finally enough of those people to make this happen. For the university, it is an opportunity to come to non-governmental organizations (NGO), federal agencies, and states, and say "we are from the university, and we are here to help you."

Kim Townsend, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, said it is very important to have a tribal perspective and said that the opportunity to work with the Organizing Committee to establish the Great Basin LCC has been enlightening. In Duckwater alone, they see the changes from climate change, an increase in invasive species, and changes in water. The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe looks forward to working with the other partners as part of the Great Basin LCC.

Laura Richards, Nevada Department of Wildlife, said there is a lot of landscape-scale planning going on from the state perspective, including state wildlife action plans, which many states are in the process of revising, the Western Governor's Association's Initiative on Wildlife Corridors and Crucial Habitat, and the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (WAFWA) sage grouse planning effort. Laura said their goals as state agencies are to: minimize duplication of efforts, leverage funding and build partnerships, and identify a shared vision of management and research needs. She said they also need to facilitate states across boundaries.

Sara O'Brien, Defenders of Wildlife, said that NGOs have been lobbying for an organization like this from the federal agencies for a long time. They have been arguing that in order to achieve landscape conservation to deal with problems that come up at landscape scale, they need to have partnerships that are ecologically meaningful. She said that although there are a lot of partnerships already in the Great Basin, regional collaboration cannot be checked as being "done." She said they look at LCCs as

adding to the collaboration and said the more people involved in this, the more likely it is to be successful and not duplicate efforts.

Penny said the Organizing Committee members met in Boise, Idaho July 21-23 and discussed and/or drafted:

- Mission statement
- Governance
- Structure
- Decision-making
- Communication and outreach
- Next steps

An informational webinar was held on September 29, 2010 to provide information on LCCs, the work to date on the formation of the Great Basin LCC and partner involvement. More than 120 people participated in the webinar.

Draft Mission Statement discussion

Penny explained that when the Organizing Committee came together, she asked them to envision the Great Basin LCC ten years into the future. She asked them to close their eyes and live it, feel it, see it, and then describe it and describe what kinds of actions they saw happening. They brought those themes together and then worked in small groups, using the themes as a framework, to draft the mission statement. Each day of the workshop, the mission statement was adjusted and there was a lot of wordsmithing, thinking, and more wordsmithing.

The Organizing Committee settled on the following draft mission statement:

> **The Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative serves as a hub to enhance understanding of the effects of climate change and other natural and human disturbances across the region and promotes coordinated science-based actions to enable human and natural communities to respond and/or adapt to those conditions.**
>
> **The GBLCC accomplishes this mission by providing leadership and a framework linking science and management to address shared priority ecological and socio-economic issues through:**
>
> - **Fostering a forum for participation and coordination**
> - **Facilitating communication and outreach**
> - **Supporting and coordinating research and monitoring**
> - **Providing access to data, tools and technical expertise**

Penny asked participants to read the statement, think about it and then in small groups at their tables, discuss and answer the following questions:

- Does this describe your understanding of the Great Basin LCC?
- Does your table agree to this mission statement? Thumbs up/down
- What pressing questions or concerns must be addressed to make this acceptable? Recommendations for adjustments?

In general, the groups said the mission statement did describe their understanding of the Great Basin LCC and eight out of nine groups agreed to the mission statement. The groups reported the following questions, concerns and recommendations:

Group 1:

- Discussed the word "hub" and its meaning at length, the hub is not the only focal point
    - A weave, a quilt
    - Interrelationship between other initiatives
    - Hub for what?
- The first part of the mission could stand alone, the second part of the mission has goals and objectives associated with it
- Is this mission clear to others? Who is the audience? (Cattlemen's Association, public, NGO's, county government, etc.)
- Demonstrate in the mission statement how the Great Basin LCC might benefit partners – should answer, "What's in it for me?"

Group 2:

- Did not support the mission statement as written
- Climate change is a trigger word and is not appropriate – may deter some groups from engaging
- The purpose of the group is to coordinate relationships between government and non-government groups across boundaries
- Use the phrase "complete ecosystem understanding"
- Do not like the word "hub"
- Separate the mission statement from the goals (the second part of the mission statement)
- The mission statement should be one sentence
- There should be more emphasis on including user groups

Group 3:

- Sharing of info
    - Who is doing what?
    - How do we reach everyone?
    - How do we share?
- Enhanced ability to network and knowledge share
- How do you deal with conflicting opinions? How are they represented?
- LCC is different because climate change is the center. It's usually not at the center, but a side topic
    - Where is the forum to talk about this?
    - It's the "everything else" that will be important to people
- Address scale questions – collaboration between scales, what is the scale?
- Anthropogenic effects change the scale, more local and short-term
    - Roads and power lines
- How would you apply science to a traditional cultural area?
    - Ex. Archeological sites are treated differently if artifacts are still there, but if they have been taken long ago, then the area is not treated the same
    - It would be nice if tribes were built into the process

- Should there be a clear statement of the goal?
- There is a need and a purpose statement
    - Not job of LCC to push new rules or its own goals on people
- Species, populations, communities and ecosystems?

Group 4:

- Use "processes" instead of "disturbances"
- Address being proactive rather than "respond/and or adapt"
- "And other" vs. "and related" "in the context of"
- The mission statement is not so critical but the nuts and bolts of the organization are where it really matters
- Chance to work at broader scale
- Central vs. exclusive role of climate change – idea to put the work in the context of climate change
- Add that the LCC is bringing people together
- Define the problem better and be more specific (vs. broad)
- Define the question and then focus the research questions – disseminate the information to guide decisions
- Information needs to move up and down, and back and forth from manager to researcher

Group 5:

- The word "hub" does not describe the LCC accurately, use coordinating framework instead
- Add a bullet to the second part of the mission: "Prevent duplicative efforts"
- Change the fourth bullet to: "Provide information on available data, tools and technical expertise"
- Question if climate change fits into the overall mission, and the role of climate change vs. other human disturbances
- Change "other natural and human disturbances" to "other natural and human phenomena"
- Link science with conservation – maybe shorten the statement to that overall idea

Group 6:

- The mission statement is basically good, but needs some wordsmithing
- Change "hub" to "nexus"
- Consider socio-economic issues along with science
- Does "disturbances" imply that all human impacts are bad? Use "impacts" instead
- Change "promotes coordinated science-based actions" to "promotes coordination of science-based actions" – the LCC doesn't promote actions
- What does "supporting research" mean? It better mean $
- Sometimes science isn't always compatible with traditions and traditional beliefs

Group 7:

- What is the mechanism to garner resources for activities?
- Who is empowered to do work on the ground?

- Add an improved description of partner contribution to real work
- Sanction from the top down, and participation from down up (USDA- NRCS)
- Best science alignment
- LCC could be single access for defining partners on on-the-ground projects
- Add the following bullets to the second part of the mission:
    - To foster the success of existing organizations
    - Improve/enable (blessing of) science delivery

Group 8:

- Discussed whether "hub" is the right word
- Discussed whether "climate change" is appropriate
- Add to the mission that we are creating a sustainable organization that will sustain itself beyond federal funding
- Answer the question, "What's in it for me?" for all stakeholders
- Add that evaluation will be outcomes based
- Idea: LCC has a "stamp of approval" and if groups are working with the LCC, this approval can help projects move through the permitting process faster

Group 9:

- Do not like the phrase "promotes coordinated science-based actions," believe it may be stepping on the toes of BLM and USFS
- Suggest changing to: "Promotes coordinated dissemination of science-based information to enable human communities to recognize and take action to respond and/or adapt to changing natural communities."

Penny thanked the groups for their reports and asked if anyone heard anything from any of the groups that was unacceptable to them. The following was discussed:

- The issue of taking climate change out of the mission statement would be counter to the Secretarial Order that established the LCCs, which created them to address climate change.
- Climate change was the original idea and should probably be one of, if not the largest focus. However, using those words has history and baggage, and in recognition of this fact, it would not be a fatal flaw to take it off.
- It would be appropriate to put climate change in more perspective. All of the issues we are dealing with are related somehow to climate. We should look at the appropriate contributions of climate change to each issue.
- Climate is a pre-existing condition and now humans have added variability. Climate is a big driver of systems and there should be some way of including climate as one of the physical drivers of these systems, regardless if human beings are helping the climate.
- Trying to incorporate the socio-economic issues would dramatically increase the scope of the LCC – be cautious making the scope too large.
- The LCCs are sponsored by DOI, but if we really want the LCCs to succeed, we need to have buy-in from other agencies at the Secretarial level. We should get an MOU signed across the agencies to facilitate implementation and legitimize this effort.

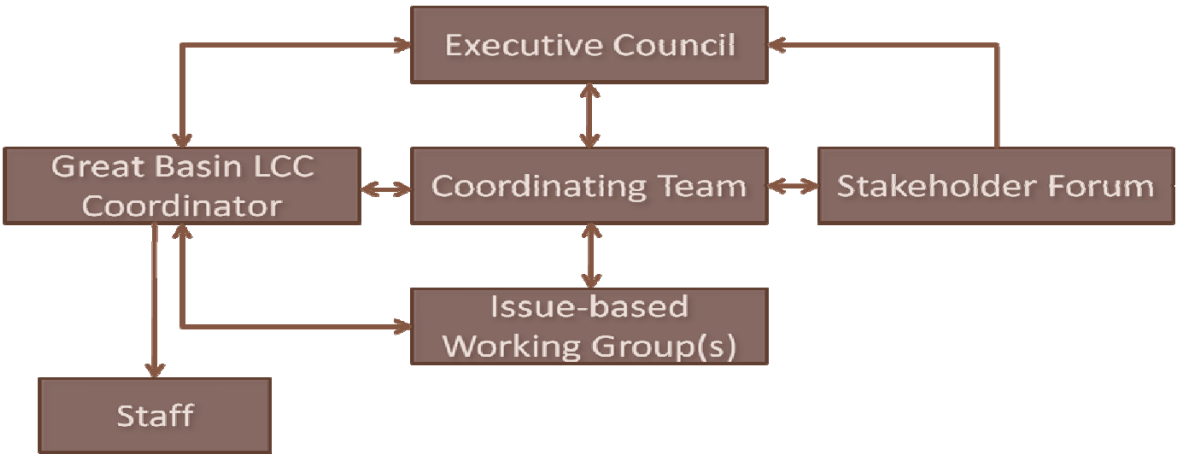
- The idea of climate change relates to who you want to involve in the process – who is at the table and who is not at the table. The inclusion of climate change left a resolution one participant was working on "dead in the water" with ranching groups.

Penny asked participants to look forward three years and think about the following questions during their lunch break: What does success look like for the Great Basin LCC? How is it adding value to the Great Basin?

Governance and Structure workshop

Penny described the proposed organizational structure of the Great Basin LCC (see graphic below) and reminded participants that all of the information could be found in the Great Basin LCC Draft Governance and Operational Charter. The Great Basin LCC will be led by an Executive Council who will work with a Coordinating Team. The Great Basin LCC Coordinator would work with both the Executive Council and the Coordinating Team. The Issue-based Working Groups will be organized around specific issues and will be doing the heart of the work. These groups may be temporary or permanent. The Stakeholder Forum will provide an opportunity for those not intimately involved in other pieces of the organization to provide input and will also serve as a place to develop new members.

Organizational structure of the Great Basin LCC



Penny reminded participants that the Great Basin LCC will exist within the national network of LCCs and the Great Basin LCC Coordinator will be working nationally with other LCC coordinators.

Penny presented the following information, including roles and responsibilities on the **Executive Council**:

- Oversight and decision-making
  - Decision-making is done via consensus, and when that is not possible, consensus of 75% will be reached with a minority report
- Funding and agency support
- Guidance to Coordinating Team
- LCC ambassadors – to ensure LCC gets attention and is recognized as an asset

- Proposed to have 21 members

Penny then asked participants to work in groups at their tables and discuss their observations, gaps, concerns, and recommendations regarding the **Executive Council**. The following was identified:

- Full representation vs. size too big
- Concerns with transition of representation
- Mechanism for selecting representatives
- Duplication of existing groups
- Clarify role of the Executive Council
- Length of terms
- Conflict of interest vs. thorough participation
- Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)
- Level of commitment
- Over-representation of resource agencies

Penny presented the following information, including roles and responsibilities on the **Coordinating Team**:

- Operational management
- Work plan development
- Establish working groups
- Communication, manage stakeholder forum
- Oversight of working groups
- Convey information, needs and recommendations to Executive Council
- Proposed to have 32 members

Penny then asked participants to work in groups at their tables and discuss their observations, gaps, concerns, and recommendations regarding the **Coordinating Team**. The following was identified:

- Is Coordinating Team necessary?
- Size and level of effort
- Representation of issues vs. organizations
- Open to all stakeholders
- Rotate meeting location
- Too many federal representatives
- Need more users/public representatives
- Need more university representatives
- Mechanism for input to Coordinating Team from public and agencies
- Science Team, in addition to Coordinating Team
- Model representation after Executive Council with permanent and rotating seats

Penny presented the following information, including roles and responsibilities on the **Issue-based Working Groups**:

- Data and information management
- Technical reports, proposals and products
- Recommendations for filling data gaps

Penny then asked participants to work in groups at their tables and discuss their observations, gaps, concerns, and recommendations regarding the **Issue-based Working Groups**. The following was identified:

- Process is not clearly defined
- Like the idea of data and information group
- Details later, not immediate focus

Penny presented the following information, including roles and responsibilities on the **Stakeholder Forum**:

- Open to all
- Promotes and enables political support
- Report LCC accomplishments and progress and receive feedback
- Identify potential priorities, issues and needs
- Recruitment/self-nomination opportunity for Coordinating Team
- Outreach, education and technology transfer

Penny then asked participants to work in groups at their tables and discuss their observations, gaps, concerns, and recommendations regarding the **Stakeholder Forum**. The following was identified:

- Practicality issues
- Digital availability
- Issue-based vs. broad reach
- Suggest Stakeholder Forum precedes Coordinating Team work
- Needs to be for information out and in
- Most important part – needs more focus
- Rotate meeting location
- Resources for participation
- Who's invited?
- Meet more than once/year
- Focus on outreach, delete education

Value discusion

Penny asked participants to work in their table groups and come up with one sentence to answer the question: What is the primary purpose of the Great Basin LCC?

Participants developed the following sentences to describe the primary purpose of the Great Basin LCC:

- Connect science and management to sustain Great Basin natural resources over the long term.

- GB LCC's primary purpose is to help bring resources and effectively facilitate coordination activities of all Great Basin organizations.
- The LCC's primary purpose is to link science with management, using improved coordination and communication, to sustain Great Basin ecosystems.
- Cheatgrass Free by '33; Link science with conservation.
- The purpose of the GB LCC is to provide a cooperative framework for knowledge exchange and clarification of issues for resource management and conservation.
- To promote and coordinate the dissemination of science-based information to enable human communities to recognize and to take action to respond and/or adapt to changing natural communities.
- The primary purpose of the LCC is to facilitate coordination.
- The GB LCC facilitates communication so that research activities can be coordinated to inform management.
- Coordinate across all jurisdictions on a landscape scale to conserve and restore ecosystem functionality.

Many of the same words were in numerous sentences and participants identified the common words as "coordination," "science and management," and "conservation."

Penny asked the groups to then work together to answer the question: How can the Great Basin LCC add value without duplicating efforts of existing organizations? The following is a compilation of the collectives groups' ideas on how the Great Basin LCC can add value without duplicating efforts of existing organizations:

- Apply management and research at larger scales
- Be common point of contact for all entities
- Bring in resources
- Compile all existing data
- Coordinate monitoring to learn at large scale
- Exchange information
- Facilitate and coordinate mission-based science
- Help identify priorities
- Identify duplications and summarize efforts
- LCC's connection to Climate Science Center
- Link regional networks
- May bring perspectives from outside the region
- Promote synergy
- Provide a dedicated staff
- Provide financial support to partners
- Provide science
- Replace some existing organizations that are duplicative
- Resolve differences
- Serve as communication forum
- Support not detract from other organizations
- Sustainability of coordinating body
- Use existing mechanisms to improve coordination and communication

Partnering and Next Steps

Penny said the Great Basin LCC needs everyone's help in order to be successful. She asked participants to: share this information with their networks and talk up the follow-on webinar on November 3; tell the Organizing Committee who else they need to be including, talking to, consulting with; think about how the LCC could provide value to their organization; and provide additional input and contacts to the Organizing Committee.

Penny outlined the anticipated timeline for the rest of 2010 and into 2011:

- 2010
  - Finalize Draft Charter
  - Form Initial Executive Council
- 2011
  - Hire Great Basin LCC Coordinator and Science Coordinator
  - Convene Coordinating Team
  - Begin forming Issue-based Working Groups
  - Establish Stakeholder Forum
  - Start identifying priorities

Questions and comments

Nat Frazer mentioned that Monday and Tuesday of the following week, Great Basin organizations are coming together to talk about how they overlap and what is unique about each one.

Q: Who will the Great Basin Coordinator be working for?

Mike said they will be a BLM employee.

Q: Can we assume that they will be working for the Great Basin LCC?

Mike said, yes, they will be funded by the BLM, but will be working for the Great Basin LCC. Similarly, the Research Scientist will be funded by USGS and the Science Coordinator will be funded by the USFWS, but both will be working for the Great Basin LCC.

Q: There seems to be some confusion about part of the mission statement – are there actions that this group does or is it entirely a coordination organization?

Penny said that her understanding is that some of the actions they will take on will be coordinating-type actions, for example, bringing people together. They will not be an on-the-ground conservation organization but the real action is coordination.

Penny thanked everyone for coming and for all of their hard work.

Appendix A. List of handouts

1. Agenda
2. Copy of PowerPoint presentation
3. The Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative fact sheet
4. Landscape Conservation Cooperatives fact sheet
5. Draft Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative Governance and Operational Charter

Appendix B. Flipchart notes from governance and structure discussions. Asterisked items indicated top concerns or observations reported out from table groups.

Executive Council ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
*Let's take advantage of existing structures instead of duplicating them. If not, we are redundant and wasting resources.
*Level of commitment
*Research community is underrepresented
*Size of council
*Thorough participation vs. conflict of interest?
*Too big AND not inclusive enough, overall a good place to start
2 non-governmental scientific or conservation org reps
2 University reps not "research" in general
Appointment process is ambiguous
Authority
Coordinate group's expansion.
Does research mean universities? Clarify.
Each state team chair served as the Executive Committee
Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)
Five state agency representatives → 1 per state
Forest Service research, ARF –others? NASA
Hard to decide who should be involved with out clear idea of what is to be done
ID of organization representatives versus what is an individual in terms of process
Include Department of Defense
Include industry
Include National Park Service
Is IWJV an NGO?
Large Group for Council
Limiting Tribal Representative – move toward including interested tribes
Local government
Location of Executive Council?

Executive Council ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
More research – who's missing
NACO Executive council
Narrow Group and increase Coordination team, i.e., Move to one federal representative, or one state representative
No role for individuals not representing specific organization (critical expertise, members at large)
Nominate rather than appoint
Not clear what is to be done, hard to get involvement
Not everyone is represented
Open to all; true open door; all issues; participants welcome; agencies appoint a chair
Organization
Participation
Process for rotation of organization
Science based mission, but under-represented research
Simplify executive council
State representative; travel; issues
The coordinating team nominates executive council
Thorough participation vs. conflict of interest?
Transitioning people in and out → staggered; 3rd year transition member
University participation relative to research capacity
Want at least two agricultural producer groups
What is mechanism for selecting the 5 tribal reps, NGO reps, and research reps?
Why 5 tribal?

Coordinating Team ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
Too many members?
*Is the CT necessary? Can that power go straight to the working groups? (So many FTE's (vs. through participation)
*Present all federal representatives together
*The coordinating team should rotate and coordination team meeting should be open to all stakeholders.
1/3 are Feds. Is that too many?
Appears to use a clearer mission
Are decisions made by consensus?
Bottom up or top down process?
Coordinating committee serve for the ambassador to Executives and stakeholders.
County representatives from more than one state?
Decision making by consensus.
DOI regional reps based on their own boundaries

Coordinating Team ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
Good link to the executive council
Great Basin Bird Observatory is missing:
How are representatives selected?
How does public/agencies present ideas/concerns/proposals to coordination team?
How to make group smaller?
Idea for Coordinating Team- have multiple meetings in a year rotating locations- open to stakeholders so they have opportunity to bring their voice to the table- if you need a vote, have the CT members vote, but you have stakeholders self-select to bring their views to table. More involvement than just once a year stakeholder forum.
Inadequate representation of issues
Is the C.T. necessary, or can that power go straight to the working groups?
Like the idea of letting coordinating team help at identifying groups and individuals
Many FTE's, LVs, thorough participation
More representatives of users/public; Only 2-3 right now
Need buy-in from participants at all levels of organization, and willing participation
Only 2 at most are university; Ensure university representatives
Permanent reps (no question about memberships) but make others more flexible (leave room for evolution, e.g. use similar verbiage as Executive Council. (Not identify specific groups)
Self selection will not work
Stakeholder forum first?
Tough to maintain participation
Want at least 2 ag producer groups

Issue-based Working Groups ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
*Data and info group – good idea
Issue based working groups processes are not clearly defined. How do we deliver products, proposals, etc.
Like including data information management (specifically identifying and tracking information)
Recognize and adopt existing working groups, e.g. GBRMP. Science Delivery Monitoring, Invasives, web-based clearing house
Recommendation: Environmental driver and linkage to LCC
Some concern of inadequate representation of issues and interests
Sounds fine, but it's too early to decide. Let's worry about details of issue-based working groups later. Let the coordination team do it.

Stakeholder Forum ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
*Evaluation
*Most important part, more focus
*Practicality issues – state-based vs. cross-jurisdictional

Stakeholder Forum ***Observations, Gaps, Concerns and Recommendations***
*Why would private folks pay to attend this meeting? It costs them money!
Can LCC pay travel costs?
Constant digital availability vs. physical meeting
Diversity of representation
Gives group access to inform
Hold meeting at many locations or public will not participate
Issue-based (w.g. level) versus broad reach (E.C. level)
Look at other tools such as electronic media
May need more frequent meetings
Meeting could be overloaded, dominated by any one interest area
More focus on stakeholder forum
Need strong facilitation
Need to make it worthwhile or no one will attend
Needs to be for information out and in
Opportunity for outreach. Delete education
Resources for participation?
Rotate meeting locations
Sharing and getting information
Taken need and enhance LCC work - need to structure and provide feedback for realignment direction
They may not want to participate at other levels
This will be the only group that represents all interests
Who will be invited? Who do we want at the table?