Enhancing State and Federal Partnerships on Shared Priorities

Collaborative Science to Answer Shared Management Questions

Amid declining snow, surveys that depend on snow cover for spotting moose have become a challenge. The Western Alaska LCC is working with ADF&G and federal biologists to improve existing methods in the Bristol Bay region, and to explore innovative approaches across the state. The LCC is supporting the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge with existing knowledge of caribou movements and subsistence harvests.

Gary Larsen of the US Army Corps of Engineers Cold Regions Research Engineering Laboratory gives a tour of the permafrost tunnel near Fairbanks to Northwest Boreal LCC collaborators.

Alaska’s Landscape Conservation Cooperatives are helping state and federal agencies work more efficiently, reduce conflict, and co-develop science for shared management needs.

By building partnerships and increasing communication across federal and state agencies, managers and scientists can jointly fill gaps in science needs and capacity among partners. Shared research can avoid redundancy and boost productivity.

Collaborative Conservation Beyond Boundaries

• Diverse, voluntary partnerships
• More than 10 state, provincial, and territorial partners serve on LCC Steering Committees or Partner on projects
• Supporting science-based decision making
• Immediate priorities integrated with a long-term outlook

Innovative Cross-sector Science

The Arctic LCC partnership, including the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and industry, developed a desktop application that helps biologists map polar bear denning habitat on the Arctic coast. The app quickly identifies areas likely to have polar bear dens to help guide winter exploration and development.

Leveraging Federal & Outside Resources

Nearly all LCC-supported projects leverage non-federal funds:

A review of LCCs by the National Academy of the Sciences documented a 2:1 match in funds from LCC-supported projects.

Taking the Pulse of Alaska’s Lands

The Alaska LCCs are coordinating monitoring of landscape change and key wildlife habitats. The Northwest Boreal LCC is developing an integrated monitoring program including a set of 10 key indicators that bring together efforts of many scientists, while the Western Alaska and North Pacific LCCs are supporting implementation of a stream temperature monitoring network across Alaska.

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