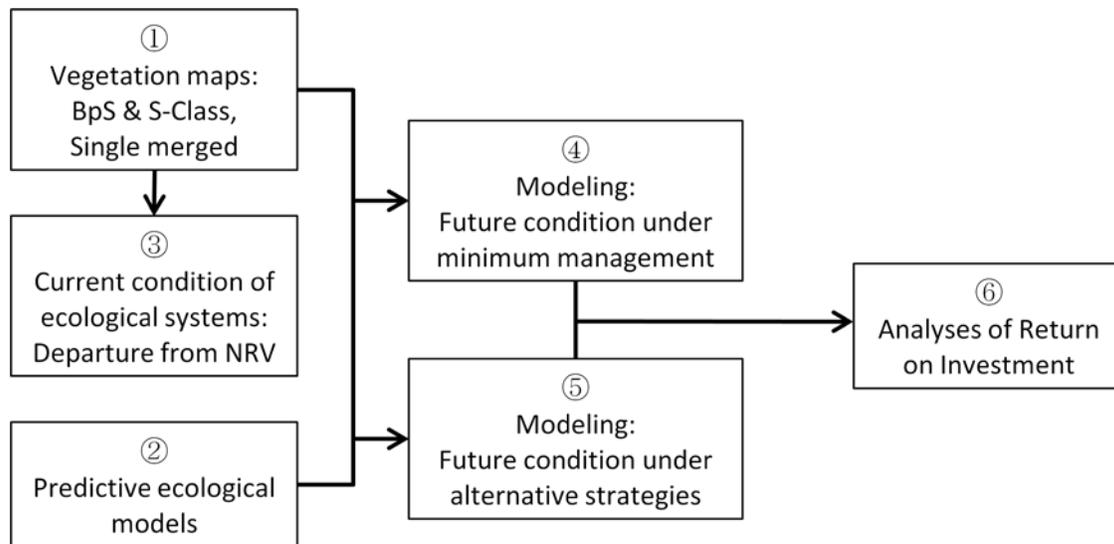


**The Landscape Conservation Forecasting™** process (formerly Enhanced-Conservation Action Planning) consists of six primary components or steps:

1. Develop maps of potential vegetation types, called biophysical settings (BpS) or synonymously ecological systems, and current vegetation classes (S-Class below) within biophysical settings by conducting remote sensing of satellite imagery.
2. Refine computerized predictive state-and-transition ecological models for the ecological systems by updating TNC’s Great Basin and Mojave Desert “library” of models.
3. Determine current condition of all ecological systems (a broad-scale measure of their “health”), using the ecological departure (a.k.a., Fire Regime Condition or FRC) metric and FRCC. Departure was measured by comparing the current condition of vegetation and the Natural Range of Variability (NRV), which represents the reference condition.
4. Use the computerized ecological models to forecast anticipated future condition of ecological systems under minimum management to quantify future threats.
5. Use the computerized ecological models to forecast anticipated future condition of ecological systems under alternative management strategies.
6. Use Return-on-Investment analysis to assess which strategies for which ecological systems yield the most advantageous results.

A simple schematic diagram that displays the relationship of these components to each other is presented below:



*Credits: Louis Provencher (The Nature Conservancy, Nevada Chapter) pioneered and named the method. Greg Low, Susan Abele, Tanya Anderson, Joel Tuhy, and other agency staff contributed to the development of LCF as an open source process. Diagram by Joel Tuhy (The Nature Conservancy, Utah). Partial funding was provided by the Conservancy’s Fire Learning Network and LANDFIRE.*