

Regional Strategy Effectiveness Peer Review Workshop Overview and Working Agenda

May 7, 2008

Overview

The Regional Strategy Effectiveness Measures Workshop is being designed to accomplish the following goal via a suite of objectives:

Workshop Goal: To maximize organizational learning from the first pilot year of developing strategy effectiveness measures for priority strategies in each Region. The purpose of the workshop is to guide and improve future investments in assessing the effectiveness of organizational priority strategies.

Objective 1: Understand and record what each team did to develop SEM and monitoring plans.

Objective 2: Improve SEM efforts via written and oral peer reviews and peer assists.

Objective 3: Document what worked well – to find best practices.

Objective 4: Document what didn't work – to avoid in the future.

Objective 5: Outline the next steps for advancing SEM in TNC.

By the end of the workshop, there are several take-home messages that each workshop participant is expected to learn. These are focused on raising awareness and increasing understanding that:

- TNC is placing a ***greater emphasis*** on assessing the effectiveness of our conservation strategies, including conducting well-targeted and cost-effective biological monitoring.
- There are challenges to implementing strategy effectiveness measures, but now we have a better idea of the costs, understand the importance that good project management plays in evaluating the effectiveness of our work, and are aware that there are good tools, training, and support for this work.
- There are ***many different approaches*** being taken to assess the effectiveness of strategies across TNC. We need to be more active in sharing knowledge and information about our strategies – in particular via the organization's database of conservation projects ConPro – to purposefully increase the pace of our learning.
- Together the organization is ***learning how to get better*** as we move forward.

Workshop Description

The workshop agenda is designed to achieve all workshop objectives. The workshop is divided into two major parts: the peer-review/peer-assist sessions, and looking ahead.

1) Peer-Review/Peer-Assist Sessions

This portion of the workshop addresses objectives 1-4. The Draft Agenda presents 2.5 hour peer-review/peer-assist sessions for each of the nine presenting teams (eight Regional Teams and the Africa Program). The workshop will run two concurrent sessions during each 2.5 hour time block, and cover two time blocks each day (a total of four sessions). We will end with three concurrent sessions during the fourth session to cover all nine teams.

Each 2.5 hour review session will begin with a 30-minute presentation followed by a 15 minute period for clarifying questions. This will be followed by the peer-review and peer-assist sections. The peer-review

section should last approximately 45 minutes, where project teams field questions and comments about their plan from the workshop participants. In the 45 minute peer-assist session, project teams will ask specific questions to the workshop participants that they want help solving. A 15 minute “floating break” is built in to overall each session to be managed as needed.

2) **Looking Ahead: Moving Forward with Strategy Effectiveness Measures in TNC**

On the afternoon of day two, a draft measures business plan (which must be presented in final form to the TNC Board of Directors during July 16-17 meeting) will be circulated to all participants, and a brief presentation made to solicit feedback. This will be followed by four breakout groups (see working agenda below) to address how best to advance strategy effectiveness measures in TNC. A set of framing questions will be given to each breakout group to answer. All will answer the same three questions about the business plan, and each will answer a different set of questions particular to their group. The final half day of the workshop is designed to present the initial findings of these breakout groups, and obtain reactions from the workshop sponsors and the field to inform the next steps in the development and implementation of the measures business plan. .

Workshop Products

All workshop products will be posted to a private ConserveOnline workspace. Please go to <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/strategy.effectiveness/Regional.SEM.Workshop> where you will find a folder for each region. This will be the one-stop-shop for collecting and distributing information about this workshop. You may post your draft reports, additional supporting information, presentations and report reviews to the respective folders. Instructions for uploading and downloading files are posted on the site. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Tear (ttear@tnc.org) or Rachel Neugarten (rneugarten@tnc.org).

Regional Report Written Reviews

As part of the preparation for this workshop, each participant is being asked to submit one written review of a regional team report prior to attending. This will help each team prepare for their review sessions. In order for this review process to occur in a timely manner, we ask that you send us your preferences.

- 1) **Select the Regional Report you want to review:** Attached you will find an update from each region, describing which strategies they will be presenting, and the current status of their work. ***Please send Tim Tear an email by May 20th indicating your two top choices.*** We will do our best to assign everyone to one of their choices. Guidelines for written reviews will be sent out after the 20th once we have all assignments in place.
- 2) **If you are a new to this effort:** Attached is the previous communication from Rebecca Patton which contains all of the relevant background information on the workshop. Please review this information as soon as possible, as it may answer questions you may have about the workshop. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Tear.

Workshop Working Agenda

The following page outlines the current working agenda. Please take a moment to review this agenda so that you understand the content of the workshop and how it is designed to achieve the workshop objectives. Again, if you have any questions, please contact Tim Tear (ttear@tnc.org).

WORKSHOP WORKING AGENDA –

ARRIVAL – MONDAY – June 16		
5:00-6:30	No formal arrangements...dinner on your own	
DAY 1 – TUESDAY – June 17		
7:30-8:30	Breakfast	
8:30 – 9:00	Teams report and set up presentations in appropriate rooms	
9:00-10:00	Plenary Opening	
9:00-9:40	Welcome and Kickoff –	
9:40-9:55	Workshop Logistics –	
10:00-12:30	Peer-Review/ Peer-Assist Session 1	
10:00–12:30	MACR	SUSCR
12:30-1:45	Lunch	
2:00 – 4:45	Peer-Review/ Peer-Assist Session 2	
2:00 – 4:45	EUSCR	SACR
4:45-5:15	Debrief/Wrap Up	
7:00	Group Dinner –	

DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY – June 18		
7:30-8:30	Breakfast	
9:00-9:15	Plenary – Recap Day 1, Agenda Review for Day 2	
9:15 -12:00	Peer-Review/ Peer-Assist Session 3	
	APCR	RMCR
12:00-1:00	Lunch – Chris Pague to speak about COFO measures work? (need to confirm)	
1:00 -3:45	Peer-Review/ Peer-Assist Session 4	
	CUSCR	PNACR Africa
3:45 –4:00	Short Break	
4:00 – 4:30	Plenary Session – Organizational framework/business plan for conservation measures (Groves/McPeck).	
4:30 – 6:00	Break Out Groups	
6:00	Adjourn – Each Group wraps up independently. NO reconvening into a plenary session.	
7:00	Dinner – TBD	

DAY 3 – THURSDAY June 19		
7:30-8:30	Breakfast	
8:30 -9:00	Plenary	
9:00 – 11:45	Panel Discussions – Moving Measures Forward in The Conservancy	
9:00 – 9:30	Breakout Group 1 – CSD Science and Cross Cutting Teams	
9:30 – 10:00	Breakout Group 2 – Senior Manager’s and Measures Advisory Group	
10:00-10:30	Breakout Group 3 – External Partners	
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-11:45	Breakout Group 4 – Regional Teams/Regional Scientists (Time doubled for this session)	
11:45-12:15	Plenary Session: Wrap-up and Next Steps for SEM in TNC	
12:15-12:30	Workshop Evaluations:	
12:30	Adjourn	