

Summary of Technical Consultation Call March 10, 2016

Dr. Paul Leonard of Clemson University reviewed the Landscape Conservation Design (LCD) approach to date. In summary, the LCD process used a set of targets identified by expert advisors to represent key ecosystem types ('priority resources'). The project objectives, terminology and approach are summarized in slides 1-23. Slide 24 summarizes targets being refined and additional targets for which Clemson is seeking further feedback. In particular, feedback was requested for Golden Winged Warbler, shale barrens, rock outcrops, spotted skunk, red spruce, acidic fens, and prairie warbler. In addition, there was a request for feedback on additional species that were being considered as additions: northern bobwhite, field sparrow, wood turtle, flying squirrel, wood rat, green salamander, and black-nosed dace.

Participants on the call offered recommendations on species and dataset additions that might help in refinement of the LCD. Recommendations shared on the call and post-call included:

- Vegetative communities data refinements can be accomplished using:
 - NatureServe's new vegetation classification: US National Vegetation Classification
 - USFS data on red spruce
- State Natural Heritage Program data
 - Plant endemics or high res. Heritage program data could be used to represent shale barrens
 - Montane peatlands (acidic fens) are also captured in Heritage program data
- Wood rat
 - Support for using this species to represent rocky outcrops in forested environs
- Timber rattlesnake suggested as another species for representing rocky outcrops
- Field sparrows represent different successional landscape type than golden winged warblers.