

Desert LCC Local Governments Working Group  
List of Members (04/10/2013)

Name	Title	Agency/Organization	Type of Agency/Organization
Amy Heuslein	Environmental Protection Officer	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Federal
Armand Gonzales	Special Advisor/ DLCC Steering Committee Vice-Chair	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	State
Avra Morgan	Program Analyst Manager	Bureau of Reclamation	Federal
David Palumbo	Deputy Regional Director	Bureau of Reclamation	Federal
Duane Pool	Landscape Ecologist/ DLCC Steering Committee Chair	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory	NGO
Genevieve Johnson	DLCC Coordinator	Bureau of Reclamation	Federal
Gerry Hillier	Executive Director	QuadState Local Governments Authority	County Representative (umbrella organization)
Howard Hutchinson	Executive Director	Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties	County Representative (umbrella organization)
Jennifer Pokorski	Project Manager	Maricopa County Flood Control District	County government
Les Owen	Range Resources & GIS Specialist	New Mexico Department of Agriculture	State

Desert LCC Local Governments Working Group  
Charter

DRAFT April 10, 2013

## **BACKGROUND**

The Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) is a self-directed, non-regulatory regional partnership formed and directed by resource management entities as well as interested public, private, and tribal entities in the Mojave, Sonoran, and Chihuahuan deserts and Sky Island/Sierra Madre Occidental regions of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico.

The goals of the Desert LCC, as approved in the governance document, are to:

1. Identify science needs of LCC partners related to climate change and ecosystem stressors at broad spatial scales, and facilitate the development, integration and application of scientific information (including decision support tools) that will inform resource management decisions.
2. Promote and facilitate collaboration and communication among conservation partnerships and entities to support and add value to their efforts to respond to climate change and other stressors and to integrate scientific information into resource management plans and conservation projects.
3. Provide expertise and opportunities to enhance and add value to climate change and other monitoring programs of various partners through such activities as coordinated data collection, data analysis and information management, and data dissemination, when such actions are mutually agreed to by the partners involved.
4. Provide information and application tools that educate and apprise resource managers and the public about the effects of climate change and ecosystem stressors.

## **PURPOSE**

The Desert LCC Local Governments Working Group (LGWG) was formed to provide an avenue of communication for discussing local government activities and perspectives related to landscape scale conservation, as well as disseminating relevant science and information that helps meet LCC goals.

The LGWG will provide support in:

- (1) identifying the science needs of local governments that are of joint interest with the Desert LCC;
- (2) facilitating the integration of social and local ecological knowledge into landscape conservation efforts; and
- (3) facilitating two-way communication between the Desert LCC and the diverse and numerous local governments in the LCC geography regarding topics such as monitoring programs, data collection and dissemination, and information and tools.

## **GOALS**

The goals of the LGWG are to:

1. Identify and prioritize landscape scale conservation science needs of local governments within the Desert LCC geography that are applicable to local decision makers.
2. Promote and facilitate collaboration in the Desert LCC geography to identify and increase awareness about the availability and exchange of information and science where common interests, needs and resources add value to the decisions of local governments that are impacted by landscape-scale stressors.
3. Identify and summarize existing local government data, information, knowledge and tools that can be shared broadly with the LCC community to help address science needs identified by partners.
4. Facilitate input on the need for and delivery of science-based products produced by the LCC to local government resource managers (e.g., science briefs, fact sheets, literature reviews, workshops, webinars, syntheses, decision support tools, technical reports, data portal, etc.).
5. Identify opportunities and case studies for linking local conservation efforts to broader conservation efforts within the Desert LCC.
6. Identify barriers for local conservation efforts (i.e., landowner incentives, zoning issues, capacity constraints, etc.).

## **STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Desert LCC Coordinator is the Chair of the LGWG. The Co-Chair of the LGWG is filled by a volunteer that rotates on a yearly basis from the LGWG membership. Various sub-committees or task groups can be created by the LGWG and staffed by volunteers to address specific tasks. These sub-committees or task groups can be long-term or short-term and can be composed of LGWG members only or of LGWG members and other identified experts. Should the size of the LGWG increase substantially, an Executive Committee may be formed to help with administrative needs and other issues.

To carry out these goals, the members of the LGWG must collectively have the following characteristics:

- Resource management experience and knowledge to help identify and prioritize science needs and be familiar with the adaptive management process.
- Individuals from local governments and other communities of interest who understand the issues facing managers and who have the ability and interest to communicate with resource managers.
- Represent the geography of the Desert LCC.
- Actively commit and contribute to the LGWG.

The LGWG can be composed of local governments or their representatives, Desert LCC Steering Committee members or their designees, and other identified experts [Note: *Membership process in the group will be determined at a later date after more discussion within the working group once the group has generated additional involvement.*]. Expertise may be drawn from local governments and community interests – including but not limited to individual counties, state associations of local governments and umbrella organizations of groups of local governments, and other governmental units with an interest and connection to DLCC activities, e.g., resource conservation districts and water districts – as well as private landowners, natural and cultural resource agencies, nonprofit organizations, and academic institutions, in the U.S. and Mexico. Collectively, members should have expertise that provides an understanding of the needs of local governments and a landscape perspective that can tie the needs of local governments to the vast Desert LCC geography.

LGWG members are expected to participate in approximately 4-6 conference calls per year (determined by tasks to be accomplished) and to spend approximately 2-10 hours per month assisting the LCC by completing tasks identified by the Steering Committee. A minimum amount of time is not required; however, if a member cannot make at least half of the calls, they should consider taking themselves off the LGWG.

## **DECISIONMAKING**

*(To be determined at a later date after more discussion within the working group once the group has generated additional involvement)*

## **MODIFICATIONS AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

This CHARTER becomes effective as of the date approved by the Desert LCC Steering Committee. This CHARTER may be subsequently amended or supplemented by the LGWG, through a process of notification and approval by the Steering Committee.