

Worksheets

WORKSHEET 1

Group Discussion: Priority Connections I

Day 1: 11:00-12 noon (60 min)

Purpose: Initiate discussion about priority geographic areas and record initial reactions that capture opportunities, threatened areas, gaps that need more investigation, and other points.

Instructions: Divide in three groups (groups will be pre-assigned to include representation from across the GNLCC region; each with a facilitator and recorder), and based on the presentation of the atlas and professional knowledge, identify opportunities, barriers (potential problem areas), and any questions or needs for more information. Record group responses to the discussion questions; record information (identify areas) on maps; note other thoughts or ideas that come up in discussion.

Outcome: Initial thoughts on priority landscape connections based on science in atlas.

Discussion questions (15 minutes per question)

1. At the GNLCC-scale, where are opportunities for connectivity where mostly intact landscapes can be protected/connected?
2. At the GNLCC-scale, where are opportunities for connectivity where critical areas are threatened?
3. Describe the opportunities and barriers associated with each area identified.
4. Where do we see data gaps and need for more information? Any other questions or concerns?

Worksheet 1. Priority Connections

Area	Description/ Identification	Area Status i=intact t=threatened	Rationale	Info Gaps Barriers/Opportunities
e.g.	path of the pronghorn	i	this protected corridor is critical for pronghorn migration and can be a “core” for regional connectivity between WY and MT	opportunity to use as a model for policies that protect corridors
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
f				
g				
h				
i				
j				
k				
l				
m				
n				
o				
p				
q				
r				
s				
t				

WORKSHEET 2

Group Discussion: Priority Connections II

Day 1: 1:30-3:00 (90 min)

Purpose: Capture the existing institutional jurisdictions and opportunities. This discussion will inform priority geographic areas based on partner mandates and jurisdictions.

Instructions: Return to the same three groups from the morning session, and based on the presentation of the institutional landscape, identify opportunities, barriers (potential problem areas), and any questions or needs for more information. Round-robin discussion (by agency/organization represented) that captures participant institutional mandates and jurisdiction, priorities, up-coming opportunities (e.g., forest planning), and barriers related to connectivity. Record group responses to the discussion questions; note any other thoughts or ideas that come up in discussion.

Outcome: Initial thoughts on priority landscape connections based on partner mandates and jurisdictions.

Discussion questions (45 minutes per question)

1. Round robin discussion: Define your agency or organization's jurisdiction and priorities.
 - Areas where you are currently working (identified on the map of areas previously identified)?
 - Areas where you are not yet working, but intend to in the future (identified on the map of areas previously identified)?
2. For each area, identify opportunities (e.g., pending plan development, special permitting in progress, funding for project work, etc.) and barriers that exist for your institution.

Worksheet 2. Example: Institutional Priorities/Collaborative Opportunities

Partner	Jurisdiction	Currently Working	Opportunities	Barriers	Future Work	Opportunities	Barriers
CLLC	NGO, based in Montana	Crown of the Continent	increased awareness for climate change adaptation	key stakeholders have yet to engage	Okanagan Valley	similar transborder setting could benefit from experience of the Crown	further away, we're not a local player; could stretch resources

WORKSHEET 3

Group Discussion: Priority Connections III

Day 1: 3:45-5:00 (75 min)

Purpose: Identify key geographic areas within the GNLCC for short- and long-term priority attention for connectivity by merging results from the first two discussion sessions.

Instructions: After the last session, Nina and Scott will combine the areas identified and discussed from each group into one map/list. Returning to the same three groups, and based on the results from the first two discussion sessions (combined from all groups), identify high-priority landscape linkages for short- and long-term attention. Record group responses to the discussion questions; note any other thoughts or ideas that come up in discussion.

Outcome: By the end of this discussion we will identify priority linkages for the GNLCC.

Discussion questions (15-20 minutes per question)

Based on the previous discussion of landscape opportunities and institutional opportunities, discussion will focus on:

1. Where are the most viable short-term (within the next three years) opportunities for action and why?
2. Where should there be long-term (more than three years) attention and why?
3. Rank the areas discussed as HIGH, MED, or LOW that reflect the opportunities and urgency for action. You may consider existing condition, stressors and threats (urgency), protected status and land ownership (security), the level of partnership engagement, and the administrative and political setting. Explain your rating.

At the end of the day, we will compile the work of all the groups into one master list and map. The next day, we will break into regional areas that cover the GNLCC to focus on strategies that can be applied to each of those regions.

Worksheet 3. Priority Connections

Area	Description/ Identification	Short-term	Long-term	Rationale	Rank (H, M, L)
e.g.	High Divide	X		This is a critical ecological area for wildlife migration. Partners are engaged there now; this is a critical time to make strong advances in protection	H
a					
b					
c					
d					
e					
f					
g					
h					
i					
j					
k					
l					
m					
n					
o					
p					
q					
r					
s					
t					

WORKSHEET 4

Group Discussion: Strategies and Action I

Day 2: 8:35-9:50 (75 min)

Purpose: Identify the short-term strategies and actions that can be employed by each partner on the landscape. Be as specific as possible.

Instructions: Divide into groups specific to each region of the GNLCC to address those areas identified on the first day. Start drafting the work plan by identifying actions and partners engaged in the landscape.

Outcome: By the end of this discussion we will have an initial start at a work plan.

Discussion questions (25 min per question)

1. Thinking about our roles, what is each partner in the group currently engaged in or will be working on within the next three years?
2. What are the short-term (within the next three years) opportunities and challenges for applying strategies collaboratively across institutions?
3. What needs to happen to facilitate these strategies and actions? What support do you need?

Worksheet 4. Example: Short-term strategies and actions.

Partners	Policy Action	Conservation Action	Restoration Action	Mitigation Action	Next Steps
CLLC		Facilitating and coordinating conservation action at the large landscape scale		Partnering with WTI, we are identifying critical wildlife crossing areas and designing mitigation strategies	Complete analysis for wildlife crossing

WORKSHEET 5

Group Discussion: Strategies and Action II

Day 2: 10:35-12 noon (85 min)

Purpose: Identify the long-term strategies and actions that can be employed by each partner on the landscape. Be as specific as possible.

Instructions: Continue to work in groups specific to each region. Continue drafting the work plan by identifying actions and partners engaged. Review, add, and refine work from earlier in the morning. Facilitators will compare notes over lunch so we can see where we are and what we need to focus on to get to the final product in the afternoon.

Outcome: By the end of this discussion we will have an initial start at a work plan.

Discussion questions (15 min per question)

1. What are some opportunities for partner long-term strategies (beyond three years) that can help achieve connectivity?
2. What are some barriers or obstacles that need to be addressed with long-term strategies?
3. What strategies are missing? What partners are missing? How do they get engaged?

Worksheet 5. Example: Long-term strategies.

Partners	Policy Action	Conservation Action	Restoration Action	Mitigation Action	Next Steps
CLLC	Supporting grassroots, local citizen organizations in advocating for state and national policies that protect wildlife corridors	Long-term commitment to fostering partnerships and coordinated action		Identify long-term strategy for road mitigation	Work with partners on proposing language for connectivity policy to be adopted by the Department of the Interior Identify potential long-term funding sources for road mitigation projects

WORKSHEET 6

Group Discussion: Strategies and Action III

Day 2: 1:15-2:15 (60 min)

Purpose: Pull it all together—refine short- and long-term strategies at GNLCC-wide scale and priority areas.

Instructions: Continue to work in groups specific to each regional landscape. Continue drafting the work plan by identifying actions and partners engaged. Review, add, and refine work from earlier in the morning.

Outcome: By the end of this discussion we will have an initial start at a work plan.

Discussion questions (15 min per question)

1. Based on the experience of identifying strategies and actions, where did you run into gaps or barriers?
2. What is missing? What additional strategies, information, and partners are needed?
3. What obstacles need to be resolved?.

A panel of representatives from each group will present responses to the following questions. Each panelist will address the first question, then we'll discuss as a full group; then we will address the second question, and so on. The questions to the panelists will form the recommendations to the GNLCC Steering Committee; they are:

1. How does this region support a multi-institutional strategy for connectivity within the GNLCC (rationale)?
2. What support is needed? How can we support each other as we move forward? What are the request/recommendations to the Steering Committee for support?
3. What else needs to happen? How will we follow up?
4. Refine recommendations for the Steering Committee.

HANDOUT: DRAFT EXAMPLE GNLCC Connectivity Strategy

Partners	Policy	Conservation	Restoration	Mitigation
USFS	Include connectivity considerations in [specific] forest planning	Maintain and protect critical habitat for X species in X forest	Identify critical XX forest lands for restoration that are within priority landscape linkages	Implement mitigation measures on USFS roads
Idaho DFG	Actively participate in W/GA connectivity efforts			Identify state road and needed mitigation measures for key wildlife crossing areas
BLM	Consider wildlife crossing areas in resource management planning	Protect key wildlife migration areas on BLM lands through the creation of ACECs or other designations	Identify critical areas for restoration of wildlife habitat and linkages	
Crown Managers Partnership	Collaboratively identify and commit to cross-border connectivity projects	Create interagency agreements for the protection of cross-border		
Heart of the Rockies		Work with regional land trusts to identify critical lands for acquisition to conserve wildlife connectivity		
Turner Foundation	Adopt landscape connectivity as a funding priority	Provide funding to organizations conserving landscape linkages		