

Long Range Business Plan (LRBP) Board Report

6/9/2020

Updates

- Tech staff responded to an equity lens review of the conservation scope criteria by holding initial conversations on what conservation threats staff feel are critical in addressing in our LRBP Update. Follow-up discussions on prioritizing uncovered threats is ongoing with an eye towards responding to community and partner concerns. Thus far, the following threats have surfaced as a priority to address in our next LRBP:
 - Lack of conservation education & awareness of WMSWCD (the need to broaden our reach)
 - Climate change (the need to highlight how we address this more clearly in our plans and communications, but also a desire to work more proactively on addressing this threat)
 - The following historical conservation focal areas are facing continued threats:
 - Water Quality
 - Soil Health
 - Wildlife Habitats
 - Threats related to relevancy, equity, access and disparities must be addressed by better understanding historically underserved communities and then responding to what we learn.
 - Development & urbanization (interests in creative ways to “get in front” of related threats as well as mitigate for the same was discussed)
 - Lack of incentives
 - Decreasing partner capacities (related to COVID-19)
- Modified equity lens criteria and revised questions are now being brought back to planning teams to determine who should answer which questions and to conduct any further follow-up needed to prepare for the conversations.
- Logalbo is continuing work on contacting potential Conservation Scope Advisory Committee members and firming up logistics around the same.

Upcoming Board Decision:

- The board will be asked to review and respond to a subset of conservation scope direction setting questions at fall retreat(s) (date(s) & time(s) TBD).
- In addition to the fall retreat, review & response to draft materials for the LRBP update will be requested both electronically and at board meetings starting no later than the September board meeting.