



Developing USGS Support For Fish Habitat Partnerships through the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

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Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
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Habitat is for everyone -- Northeastern Beach
Tiger Beetle (threatened status under ESA) --
Beach habitat – good for fish too!



Status and Update

- USGS Support to the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs)
 - North Atlantic LCC (initiated 2010 – lead -- USFWS)
 - South Atlantic LCC (initiated 2010 – lead – USFWS)
 - Appalachian LCC (initiated 2011 – lead – USFWS planning stage)
- DOI Regional Climate Change Science Centers – (RCCSC) -- Status
- USGS Re-Organization & Fish Habitat Partnerships

USGS Support to LCCs

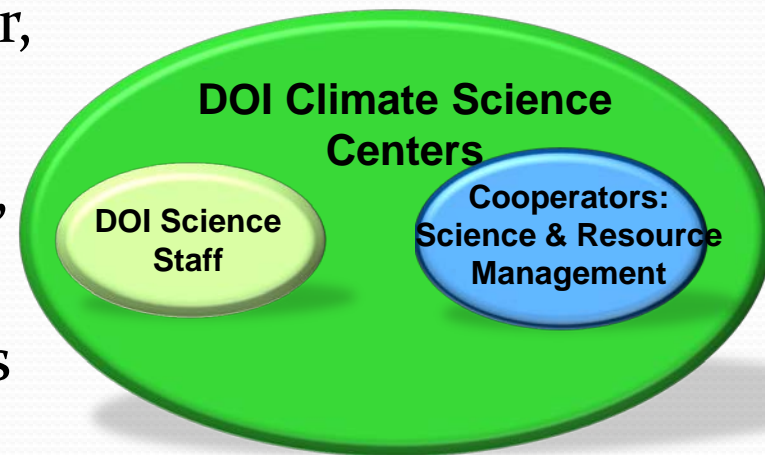
- 2010 Budget has \$5 million to support LCCs;
- For the 8 LCCs to be put in place in 2010, USGS is providing 2 RGE level scientists to support each;
- Funds have been allocated to Leetown Science Center for North Atlantic LCC; to Patuxent Wildlife Research Center for South Atlantic;
- Remaining funds to an internal USGS competitive grant process; pre-proposals accepted in 2/10.

How will USGS Support LCCs?

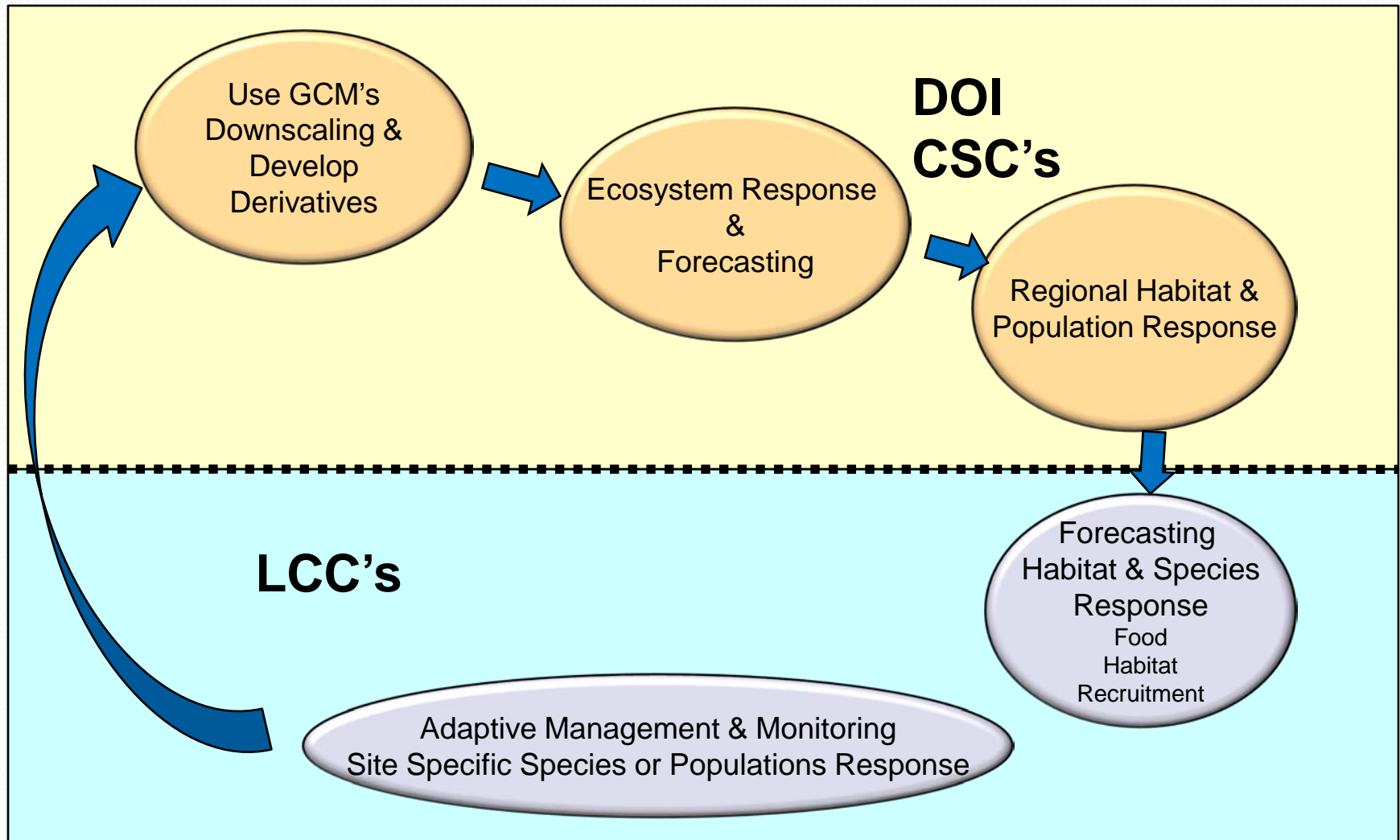
- USGS Commitments to LCCs:
 - Respond to Partner Needs
 - Research & Modeling
 - Adaptive Response Forecasts
 - Develop Monitoring Protocols
 - Multi-Disciplinary
- USGS Benefits from LCC Partnership
 - Direct and Strengthen science capacity
 - Builds traditional strengths
 - Partners with other Expertise
 - Leverages Resources

DOI Climate Science Centers

- University Based
- Competitive Process
- 3+ RCCRC Funded in FY 2010
- Program Announcement in May 2010 --
- Staffing – Director/Coordinator, Ecologists,
 - Modelers, Climate Scientists, Population Biologists (?),
 - Hydrologists (?), Sociologists (?)



NCCWSC APPROACH



USGS Regional Organization



Conservation Challenge

- Forecasting potential effects of climate change on fish, wildlife, and their habitat to inform management and conservation actions
- For most species of fish and wildlife, little is known about effects of climate change:
 - Physiological ranges
 - Impacts on character and distribution of habitats
 - Changes in distribution, abundance and survival



Organization and Fish Habitat Partnerships

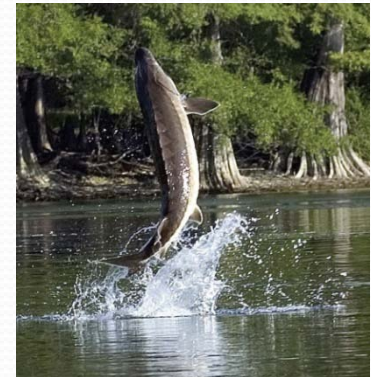
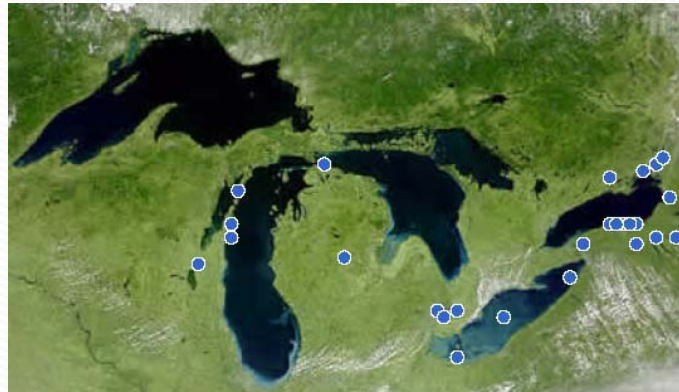
- Liaison primarily with Region and Regional Science Officers
 - ACFHP – Rachel Muir (Northeast)
 - SARP – Sonya Jones, (SE) and Allison Shipp (South Central)
 - Brook Trout – Rachel Muir, (Northeast)
- Objectives:
 - Connect with full range of USGS capabilities
 - Increase direct involvement of agency scientists
 - Initiate direct and coordinated research for Partnerships through direct involvement and LCCs.

Fisheries: Aquatic & Endangered Resources

Acting Program Coordinator: Robin Schrock – priorities for Program

Provide scientific information on fishes, fisheries, aquatic organisms, aquatic communities, and aquatic habitats

- National Assessments – NFHAP & WaterSMART
- Fish Passage Research & Technology – USGS, USACE, BOR
- Vulnerability Assessments – Fisheries and Aquatic Communities



PARDON OUR DUST!

Under Construction!

- Rapid changes in our organization
- Building LCCs and Climate Centers and new institutional frameworks
- Assure that Fish Habitat Partnerships are **full partners** in this process.

Thank You – Questions? – Don't Clam Up!

