



PLAINS & PRAIRIE POTHOLES

LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE

FEB 20 2014

Mr. Mark Shaffer
National Climate Change Policy Advisor
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, OSA
4401 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203

Subject: National Fish, Wildlife & Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy

Dear Mark:

As Chair and Co-Chair of the Plains and Prairie Potholes Landscape Conservation Cooperative (PPP LCC) we are responding to your letter regarding the role of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) in implementation of the National Fish, Wildlife & Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy (Strategy).

The PPP LCC has identified the following goals which serve to guide the research and monitoring we undertake in our geography:

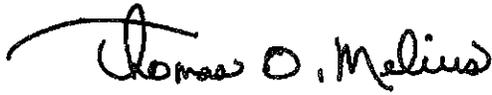
- Promote communications to enhance understanding regarding the effects of climate change and other landscape level stressors on fish and wildlife resources in the PPP LCC
- Support coordination and collaboration among partners to improve efficiencies in their common science and information activities.
- Identify and support research, data collection, analysis and sharing outcome based adaptive management strategies that address common information needs of land and water management decision makers.
- Enable synthesis of information at landscape and larger spatial scales
- Enhance resource management across and beyond the PPP-LCC.
- Ensure that information products have applied conservation value for resource managers within the PPP-LCC and across LCCs.

The PPP LCC is a “partnership of partnerships” with a fundamental objective “to *increase conservation delivery by reducing scientific uncertainty related to landscape level stressors which are important to our partnership*”. Climate change and the long term effects of climate change can greatly exacerbate the impacts of other landscape stressors. We see value in using the Strategy to help us implement PPP LCC goals and objectives to meet our fundamental objective.

As we go forward in the PPP LCC our Steering Committee can use the Strategy to help guide our efforts in providing applied tools for resource managers. The Strategy will add value to our research and conservation planning and improve our capabilities to adapt to climate change. We recognize that many aspects of the Strategy correlate with our actions and strategies.

The National Fish, Wildlife & Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy is a comprehensive guide that will serve us well in the PPP LCC. We look forward to more fully utilizing the Strategy as another tool in our conservation planning efforts.

Sincerely,



Tom Melius, Chair



Terry Steinwand, Co-Chair

cc: Roger Griffis, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
✓ Arpita Choudhury, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Management Team Co-chairs, National Fish, Wildlife & Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy