

ACES Workshop Summary

I. Title:

Building the Ecosystem Services Approach: New Directions, Case Studies and Tools in Use within DoD and Partnering Organizations

Description:

The purpose of the workshop is to bring together policy makers, government natural resource managers, and scientific specialists to summarize and discuss approaches that have been evolving over the last few years in DoD and with partnering organizations such as USDA and EPA, specific to the assessment, characterization and overall management of air, land and water resources. This workshop will highlight new policy and research directions in natural resource and ecosystem service management; provide examples of regional collaborative planning approaches to ecosystem services via case studies; and will highlight tools used to characterize and quantify ecosystem services to better inform decision-making. The workshop will also underscore the importance of managing natural resources as assets (the basic approach underpinning DoD's natural resource management programs); integration of ecosystem services and sustainability concepts; and market based approaches. Ample time is included for audience interaction during the presentations and during a 90-minute facilitated roundtable between the panel and the audience that will surface issues and develop take-away ideas for further development and implementation of policies, strategies, and tools.

II. Discussion:

This is a one day (7 hour) workshop that will start with an introduction and set of framing questions, and will then be followed by two moderated panels (with Q&A), and a roundtable discussion to involve participants in identifying issues and solutions.

The first moderated panel of Federal leaders will summarize new directions in government natural resource and ecosystem management programs. Presenters will discuss new policy and program frameworks that are emerging and will highlight tools and processes that are evolving in their agencies. This will include the natural infrastructure asset management initiative at DoD, ecosystem services science and tools at EPA, and market based approaches at USDA. Collaborations between these agencies will be highlighted.

The second moderated panel will present case studies that illustrate regionally based collaborative efforts between Federal, State, NGO, and local actors to identify, protect, and restore ecosystem services; and will illustrate a variety of supporting tools and processes, including several types of geospatial analysis.

The goal of the concluding roundtable discussion is to exchange ideas on major challenges to the ecosystem services approach to natural resource management; ways that the policies, strategies, and tools described in the presentations can be improved; and additional ideas for implementation of an ecosystem services approach. This session will allow extended direct interaction between the scientists, policy makers, and resource managers on the panel and in the audience. Comments and ideas will be recorded and provided afterwards by email to all participants.

Target Audience:

- Federal Government Staff
- State Government Staff
- NGO Environmental Organizations
- Private Sector Firms

III. Agenda / Speakers:

Session Speakers	Organization	Subject Title
NEW DIRECTIONS – PROGRAM PERSPECTIVES		
1. Richard Pinkham, Moderator (15min)	Booz Allen Hamilton, Associate	Ecosystem Services Concepts, Strategies, and Questions – Workshop Introduction
2. Marc V. Hewett, PE, Lt Col, USAF (30min)	Office of the Secretary of Defense, NIM Program Lead	Overview of DoD’s Natural Infrastructure Management (NIM) Program
3. Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler (30min)	Office of the Secretary of the Army, Assistant for Sustainability	Natural Resource Management in the Army: Integration of NIM and Sustainability
BREAK (15min)		
4. Rick Linthurst (30min)	US EPA ORD, National Program Director for Ecology	EPA's Ecosystem Services Research Approach
5. Carl Lucero (30min)	USDA/NRCS, National Leader for Clean Water	Enhancing Market Based Approaches to Ecosystem Services: USDA Leadership for Federal Guidelines and Methods
LUNCH (60 min)		
CASE STUDIES AND TOOLS		
6. Jim Spatarella (10min)	Booz Allen Hamilton, Associate	Case Studies and Tools - Introduction and Overview of Subjects
7. Belinda Morris (30min)	The Nature Conservancy, Senior Economic Advisor	Understanding Key Conditions for Success: The Nature Conservancy’s Approach to Ecosystem Services
8. Kelly Burks-Copes (30min)	US Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Ecologist	New Tools for Incorporating Ecosystem Services into Traditional Ecosystem Restoration Evaluations, with a Case Study of the US Army Corps of Engineers Middle Rio Grande Bosque Riparian Ecosystem Restoration Study
9. Jon Parsons (30min)	Sustainable Sandhills, Executive Director	Tools and Lessons for Community Engagement in Ecosystem Protection: Land Suitability Mapping and Growth Management in the Sandhills of North Carolina
BREAK (15min)		
FACILITATED DISCUSSION ON DIRECTIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION		
10. Greg Evans, Facilitator (90min)	Booz Allen Hamilton, Senior Associate	Roundtable – Facilitated discussion between speakers and audience on directions for further development of ecosystem service-driven policies, strategies, tools, data, and partnerships

IV. Workshop Organizers:

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