

Nevada Collaborative Conservation Network (NCCN)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does the NCCN work from the top down or the bottom up?

Collaboration on implementation of the SGPA is very much intended to work at the ground level and from the bottom-up. Potential conflicts that arise from implementation of the SGPA will first be realized at the local level, and that is the best place for resolution to be found. On those occasions when resolution cannot be found at the local level, the situation can be referred to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council (SEC) for deliberation and consensus on recommendations for a path forward. The SEC can be used as a forum to share both local planning successes and challenges.

2. How do you define a local area working group (LAWG)?

Local Area Working Groups (LAWG) can also be called Community Based Organizations (CBO), Nevada Coordinated Resource Management Initiative groups, or any independent group that wants to conduct landscape scale planning and implementation of conservation projects in conjunction with the sage-grouse plan amendments (SGPA) for a specified geographic area using a collaborative process.

3. How will we expand the list of stakeholders involved in the NCCN?

Part of the assignment for LAWGs – and for each of us - is to continually ask the question, “Who’s missing?” and follow up with invitations to join with us in conservation of sagebrush ecosystems.

4. What is the role of Conservation Districts in the NCCN?

Conservation Districts are one of several venues for forming LAWGs. Some ways that Conservation Districts may assist local area working groups include facilitation and coordination, grant applications, distribution of information, providing equipment for conservation land treatments, and finding technical expertise as needed.

5. What technical experts will be part of the NCCN?

Technical experts are brought in to work with LAWGs for scientific expertise and knowledge of information necessary for science-based conservation planning. Technical experts are not necessarily defined by job title or employer; but rather by experience and expertise that has bearing on the subjects in question.

6. What happens when the SEC cannot come to consensus?

The purpose of striving for consensus is to deliberate all viewpoints and possible outcomes for conflict resolution through thoughtful deliberation, and formulate a recommendation that has been vetted by a diverse group of interests as to the best way to proceed. If the SEC cannot come to consensus,

- 1) They keep working on the problem until they can come to consensus; or
- 2) A recommendation is not brought forward to the management agency, and the problem is documented and archived for possible future plan amendments.

7. How do you define consensus?

In the context of the NCCN, consensus means unanimous consent.

8. Who is going to convene each of these groups and how frequently will each group meet?

Level two (agencies) will convene as described in the NCCN Concept Paper to address their own needs. The concept paper is available [here](#). [Insert link to Document A](#). The SEC generally meets every month, or every other month. Meeting dates and agendas are posted on the Sagebrush Ecosystem website (www.sagebrusheco.nv.gov) LAWGs and CBOs will convene at their discretion and as recommended by their facilitator.

9. How do we find a facilitator and how are they selected?

The NCCN Advisors intend to establish a pool of facilitators who are geographically distributed across the state and who could serve the need of the Local Area Working Groups and Community-Based Organizations. More information on facilitators and facilitator training will be forthcoming.

If you are interested in becoming a facilitator and can make the time commitment to a specific group, please contact Cheva Gabor, chevalgabor@fs.fed.us

**Nevada Collaborative Conservation Network
Organization Chart**

