



Upcoming Workshop!

Thursday, December 11th
Highstead Barn
127 Lonetown Road
Redding, CT

H2H Conservation in a Changing Climate

Conservation activities are constantly changing to accommodate new challenges and issues, and it's becoming increasingly important to develop and implement land stewardship and land protection that considers the challenges of a changing and uncertain climate. This workshop will help Hudson to Housatonic Conservation Initiative (H2H) partners to identify the climate change impacts most relevant to project focal areas. Additionally, participants will learn how to apply a 'climate change filter' to potential conservation practices, in order to identify robust actions for private landowners, that will help ecosystems adapt to changing conditions and address regional conservation priorities.

At the end of the training, participants will be able to:

- Identify climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities for achieving landowners' and/or H2H partners' conservation goals
- Evaluate conservation practices to determine whether they are robust to climate change
- Better communicate with landowners about key climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities

Preliminary Agenda

8:00 **Coffee & Networking**

8:30 **Introduction**

Brief overview of H2H

Outline objectives and agenda for training

9:00 **Climate Change and its Effects on the Local Landscape**

Presentation on regional climate change impacts

10:15 **Break**

10:30 **Activity: Climate Change and its Effects on the Local Landscape**

Participants identify major climate change impacts, challenges, and opportunities in each H2H focal area

12:00 **Lunch**

1:00 **Conservation in a Changing Climate: Adaptation Concepts**

Presentation of concepts for adapting conservation projects and actions in light of climate change

1:30 **Activity: Evaluating Practices and Recommendations for Local Conservation Efforts**

Participants evaluate conservation actions, watershed stewardship practices, and other activities.

Consider how actions help meet conservation goals while also enabling focal areas to adapt to changing conditions.

2:30 **Break**

2:45 **Evaluating Practices and Recommendations for Local Conservation Efforts - *continued***

3:30 **Discussion: Communicating Climate Change to Stakeholders**

Participants discuss how to communicate today's ideas to partners and stakeholders

5:00 **Adjourn**

This project is funded in part through a grant awarded by the U.S. Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry. H2H is part of the Landscape Scale Restoration Program of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Climate Change and its Effects on the Local Landscape

After considering the potential effects of climate change in the region, which of these effects do you think will have the greatest impact on your focal area and why?

What are 3 ways that climate change could create challenges for reaching the H2H goals and objectives in your focal area?

1)

2)

3)

What are 3 ways that climate change could create opportunities for reaching the H2H goals and objectives in your focal area?

1)

2)

3)

Evaluating Stewardship Practices for Local Conservation Efforts—Part 2

Focal Area _____

| Practice | Vote |
|---|------|
| <i>Landowner Practices Directly along the Waterway</i> | |
| Remove barriers to fish migration (i.e. dams, fish ladders, and culvert/bridge crossings) | |
| Implement vegetative buffer zones along waterways | |
| Remove invasive aquatic species | |
| Remove invasive terrestrial species | |
| Ensure ponds are surrounded by vegetative buffers | |
| Stream habitat improvement and management | |
| Wetland restoration and habitat management | |
| Road/Trail/Landing closing and treatment | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| | |
| <i>Landowner Practices for Forest Land</i> | |
| Use non-chemical techniques for managing brush, weeds, and invasive species or use pesticide application technology to improve precision of pesticide application | |
| Implement and monitor a grazing management plan if applicable, including prescriptive, forage-based, rotational, and/or organic grazing systems | |
| Use prescribed burning to create wildlife habitat and pre-treat vegetation/fuel before burning | |
| Create shallow seasonal water habitats | |
| Implement a focused forest management plan to enhance habitat for specific wildlife species | |
| Retrofit watering facilities to reduce wildlife mortality | |
| Multi-story cropping and sustainable management of non-timber native forest plants | |
| Establish pollinator/beneficial insect habitat | |
| Create forest openings | |
| Utilize Integrated Pest Management techniques | |
| Implement on-site pilot projects, research, and demonstrations | |
| Brush management | |
| Critical area planting | |
| Fuelbreaks/firebreaks | |
| Woody residue treatment | |
| Establish trees and shrubs | |
| Restore rare habitats | |
| Upland wildlife and/or early-successional habitat creation and management | |
| Pruning | |
| Improve forest stands by manipulating species composition | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| | |

| Practice | Vote |
|--|------|
| <i>Landowner Property Management</i> | |
| Regularly maintain septic tank to prevent seepage | |
| Properly dispose of pet waste | |
| Increase tree canopy and plant coverage | |
| Follow best lawn/forest care practices | |
| Utilize rain gardens | |
| Use permeable surfaces wherever possible | |
| Leave a leaf litter layer, blowdown, snags, and understory trees | |
| Use wildlife-friendly fencing | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| | |
| | |
| <i>Specialty Landowner Practices</i> | |
| Golf Courses | |
| Create nutrient management plan | |
| Horse Farms | |
| Action Source(s) of Funding | |
| Develop waste management plan | |
| Buffer waterways | |
| Fence off in areas of heavy equestrian activity | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| | |
| | |
| <i>Further Steps to Conserve Land</i> | |
| Donations of land or easements | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| <i>Other:</i> | |
| | |
| | |
| <i>Other/New</i> | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Evaluating Stewardship Practices for Local Conservation Efforts—Part 1

Focal Area _____

| Stewardship Practice | What climate change impacts, challenges, or opportunities does this practice address? | What are benefits of using this practice? | What are potential drawbacks or barriers to using this practice? | Would you recommend it for additional consideration? |
|----------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |