**SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES**

**Committee Report for the Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy (SECAS) Steering Committee**

**Chair Robert H. Boyles, Jr.**

**Meeting of May 24, 2021**

**Webinar based meeting**

**Meeting convened** 11:02 a.m. eastern

**Chaired by** Robert H. Boyles, Jr.

**Committee Members Attending:** Robert Boyles -SC, Sara Parker Pauley -MO, Bobby Wilson - TN, Ted Will - GA, Leo Miranda, FWS, (Eric Sutton, FL – absent). Other attendees: Mallory Martin, SECAS Coordinator; Bill Uihlein, FWS, Ken Elowe, AFWA Contractor

**Scheduled Discussion Items:**

* Implementing recommendations from the SECAS Futures study
  + The committee discussed progress on 5 overarching recommendations for immediate implementation coming from the SECAS Futures Project. Committee members commented that the progress was timely and thorough. Committee members expressed support for, and a willingness to continue a light engagement in a proposed SECAS social network analysis project.
* SECAS Statement of Purpose (ACTION ITEM)
  + Draft Purpose Statement was reviewed. One minor revision was suggested and endorsed. The revised SECAS Statement of Purpose was adopted by consensus.
* 30 X 30 Symposium at the SEAFWA Annual Conference
  + Discussion centered on a draft abstract for a special symposium. Committee members expressed concerns that the 30x30 national goal was lacking details. There is a need to help understand what 30x30 is and what it isn’t. The symposium should ensure state and local organization partners are in attendance to help shape the direction and outcomes for 30x30 in the Southeast.
* Potential SECAS briefing for the Department of the Interior leadership
  + There is an opportunity for the SECAS steering committee to request a briefing with the leadership of the DOI and the Secretary’s office. This would be an opportunity to provide information and details about how SECAS is advancing landscape scale conservation in the Southeast and opportunities and outcomes for helping shape the implementation of 30x30. The key message would be that SECAS has evolved as an extension of LCCs, is a state-led entity, and has an effective peer relationship among state and federal agencies.

**Other Discussion Items:** N/A

**Action Items and Recommendations:** SECAS Statement of Purpose was adopted by consensus.

**Committee Recommendation for Chai**r**:** Draft a letter requesting a SECAS briefing for the Department of the Interior and the Secretary’s office.

**Meeting adjourned:** 12:03 p.m.

**List of current committee members and contact information:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SC | Robert Boyles. Jr., Chair | boylesr@dnr.sc.gov | 803-734-4007 |
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| TN | Bobby Wilson | bobby.wilson@tn.gov | 615-415-8427 |
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| FWS | Leo Miranda | leopoldo\_miranda@fws.gov | 404-679-4000 |

**List of interested participants and contact information:**

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| Mallory Martin, SECAS Coordinator | mallory\_martin@fws.gov | 919-606-1403 |
| Bill Uihlein, Fish & Wildlife Service | bill\_uihlein@fws.gov | 404-679-7288 |
| Ken Elowe. Contractor for AFWA | k.d.elowe@gmail.com | 207-798-0425 |

**List and description of active committee members:** above.

**Submitted by**: Mallory Martin, SECAS Coordinator on behalf of Robert H. Boyles, Jr., Chair