



## Uncommon Dialogue: Dynamic Conservation in a Changing World

April 17 & 18, 2017

Stanford University

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION & AGENDA

**Dynamic Conservation** represents a range of potential conservation practices that could be contrasted with geo-spatially fixed and permanent measures (such as traditional protected areas and conservation easements). It recognizes that change is inherent to ecosystems and integrates the dynamic nature of these systems into conservation. Dynamic conservation uses seasonal to long-term approaches, such as habitat enhancements, management prescriptions or restrictions or other interventions, to adaptively meet conservation needs that are impermanent in space and time. Seasonal, “pop-up” wetlands for migratory birds in California’s Central Valley are one prominent and recent example where flexibility in location and timing can improve conservation outcomes.

Current “geo-spatially fixed and permanent” approaches to conservation are critical to meeting important outcomes and have helped protect many important ecosystems. Current approaches, however, cannot meet a variety of needs and desired outcomes.

#### **Dialogue Goals:**

- Build shared understanding of dynamic conservation, including what it is, its importance in achieving outcomes that current approaches cannot, and its elements
- Identify significant policy/legal/perceptual obstacles to implementation
- Develop a shared strategy to advance the concept of dynamic conservation, especially with public agencies

#### **Possible Dialogue Outputs:**

- Meeting the needs of species whose habitat is shifting or undergoing other change as a result of climate change, long-term drought, large-scale development, or other perturbations
- Meeting the shifting geographic and temporal needs of species (e.g. temporary habitat for migrating species, species that are highly mobile and adapted to seeking out resources in dynamic systems)
- Delivering more cost-effective and resilient outcomes with scarce resources
- Management across the matrix of land tenure, including working agricultural lands, to expand the footprint of conservation practices

#### **Meeting Details:**

When: April 17-18, 2017 (1.5 days)

Where: Stanford University

Hotel: Creekside Inn, Palo Alto – 3400 El Camino Real

**Attendees:**

The workshop will bring together a small but diverse group of key experts and stakeholders for an open discussion on dynamic conservation, which is emerging as a way to improve conservation outcomes.

**Conference Hosts and Sponsors:**

- Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment
- Stanford Water in the West program
- S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation
- World Wildlife Fund
- Environmental Defense Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- Conservation Pathways

**Monday, April 17, 2017****Location: Room 299, Y2E2 Building, 473 Via Ortega, Stanford CA 94305**

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*Morning: Build shared understanding of dynamic conservation, including definition, how it's evolving, critical elements and unique outcomes it can achieve.*

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| <b>8:30 – 9:00</b>   | <b>Light Breakfast and Registration</b>  |
| <b>9:00 – 9:20</b>   | <b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> , Barton “Buzz” Thompson, Stanford University   |
| <b>9:20 – 9:45</b>   | <b>Presentation: The Case for Dynamic Conservation</b> , Rebecca Shaw, World Wildlife Fund   |
| <b>9:45 – 11:00</b>  | <b>Case Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bird Returns, Mark Reynolds, The Nature Conservancy</li><li>• Dynamic Marine Reserves, Larry Crowder, Center for Oceans Solutions</li><li>• Habitat Exchange, Eric Holst, Environmental Defense Fund</li></ul> |
| <b>11:00 – 11:15</b> | Break  |
| <b>11:15 – 12:15</b> | <b>Discussion on the Potential of Dynamic Conservation</b><br>Moderator: Barton “Buzz” Thompson, Stanford University   |
| <b>12:15 – 1:15</b>  | <b>Lunch</b>   |

*Afternoon: Characterize obstacles to dynamic conservation and develop approaches to overcome*

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>1:15 – 1:45</b> | <b>What’s Known about the Thorniest Obstacles</b> , Michael Bean, former Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of the Interior   |
| <b>1:45 – 3:15</b> | <b>Working Groups on Strategies to Address Obstacles</b> , Moderator Ann Hayden, Environmental Defense Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regulatory Issues, Facilitator Chris Beale, Resources Law Group, Y2E2 299</li></ul> |

- Policy & Funding, *Facilitator Jay Ziegler, The Nature Conservancy, Y2E2 253*
- Biological Performance Measures & Tracking, *Facilitator Katie Riley, Environmental Incentives, Y2E2 300*
- Incentives & Safeguards, *Facilitator Joe Caves, Conservation Strategy Group, Y2E2 278A*

**3:15 – 3:30**                      **Break (15 minutes)**

**3:30 – 4:30**                      **Report Back to Plenary on Obstacles & Discuss, Moderator Eric Hallstein, The Nature Conservancy**

**5:30**                                **Dinner at Spalti's Ristorante, 417 California Avenue, Palo Alto 94306**

## **Tuesday, April 18**

**Location: Bechtel Conference Center, Encina Hall, 616 Serra St, Stanford 94305**

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*Morning: Develop strategy to advance dynamic conservation concept*

**8:30 – 9:00**                      **Breakfast**

**9:00 – 10:30**                      **Plenary on Obstacles & Solutions, Moderator Leon F. Szeptycki, Stanford University**

- Priorities needing more exploration & research?
- Priority actions that can be taken right away?
- Additional needs?

**10:30 – 11:00**                      **Break (30 minutes)**

**11:00 – 12:00**                      **Wrap-up Discussion: *How does this community address specific obstacles & advance dynamic conservation?***

- Specific top 3 needs to address
- Framework to accomplish goals
- Stakeholders and key roles

**12:00-1:00**                      **Lunch & Departures**

**End**