**Announcing Our First Global
Adaptive Management Case Study Competition**

* Are you adaptively managing a conservation project?
* Are you willing to share your lessons learned with your peers around the world?
* Do you want to win fabulous prizes?
* Are you looking for everlasting fame and glory?

The Conservation Measures Partnership (CMP) and the Conservation Coaches Network (CCNet) are keen to identify and share excellence in adaptive management practice across the conservation community.[[1]](#footnote-1) Organizations, projects, programs, and individuals are working on adaptive management in a range of highly effective and efficient ways and improving the practice of conservation as a result. This competition seeks to collect and share these cases studies to promote cross-organizational, cross-project, and cross-coach/practitioner learning about adaptive management in conservation.

**How to Enter:** We are looking for case studies that both describe what was done and provide clear lessons and advice to others on what it means to undertake adaptive management using the [*Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation*](http://cmp-openstandards.org/)or similar approaches. Stories or cases that describe learning from “failure” are as valued as those about success. Each entry should use the template below to provide a description of the case study. In addition, each entry should include a link to a succinct web-page, video, Google document, PDF file, or other web-sharable overview describing the case study to conservation practitioners. We will do our best to accept submissions in any language. Please address questions to [info@conservationmeasures.org](info%40conservationmeasures.org).

**Judging:** The judging panel will be made up of at least 6 members – a combination of CMP, CCNet and external individuals. This initial panel will curate the entries and select up to 10 case studies which will then be shared across the CMP and CCNet communities for online crowd-sourced voting to determine the winners.

The panel will consider the following criteria as they review each case study:

* **Relevance** - Clearly illustrates one or more steps in the adaptive management cycle
* **Setting the scene** - Provides a succinct description of both the case study situation and the adaptive management work that was undertaken
* **Clarity of lessons** - Readily identifies lessons learned and provides evidence for those lessons
* **Well-presented** - Describes the case study in a concise, easy-to-understand fashion in both the template description and the web-sharable overview
* **Compelling narrative** - Offers an inspirational story
* **Willingness to share failures** - Judges will give special consideration to those case studies that share not only successes, but also challenges.

**Property rights:**  By submitting a case study, you are granting CMP and CCNet permission to post your case study on our websites. All materials will be shared with full attribution to authors under a Creative Commons [Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

**Timing:** The case study competition is being launched in May 2016. The closing date for submitting entries is 1 August 2016. Curation and selection of the case studies will take place through August and September with crowd-sourced voting in October 2016. The top 3 winners will be notified in November 2016 and publicly announced at the CMP Learning Meeting in early 2017.

**Prizes:** First prize will be a travel grant for up to $US 2,000 to a conference/technical meeting of the recipient‘s choice (such as the upcoming CMP Learning Meeting or the next CCNet Coaches Rally). Second and third place will receive up to $US 500 as a travel grant to a conference or technical meeting of the recipient’s choice. Prizes will be transferable. In addition, the top 10 case studies will receive an individual one-year Miradi subscription, and be featured on the CMP and CCNet websites and in CMP and CCNet communication materials. Oh, and did we mention everlasting fame and glory?

**Template for case study submission:** Please copy and fill out the following template for your case study using word processor software (e.g. Microsoft Word or Google Doc). Your final document should be **2-3 pages maximum** in length. (If you are reading this as a PDF, [click here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tdOK9SlXLxo6RPQfE5ZE98gk1l_w5FjtMK170kiggeg/edit?ts=570f9205) to make sure you have the most recent version of the template). In addition, please also provide a link to a succinct web page, video, PDF file, or other web-sharable overview of the case study. Submit case studies by 1 August 2016 to info@conservationmeasures.org with the words “AM Case Study Entry” in the subject line.

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| **CMP - CCNet Adaptive Management Case Study Template***Please replace <*text in angle brackets*>* *with your content.* |
| **Case Study Title:** <meaningful, short descriptive title> |
| **Authors:** <List the case study author(s); these can be individuals and/or organizations>**Contact Person:** <Provide the name and email address of the main contact person>**Location:** <Describe the location of the case study> |
| **Summary:** <Provide a brief 2-3 sentence summary of what the case study covers> |
| **Public Overview of Case Study:** <Provide a link to a succinct web page, video, PDF file, or other web-sharable overview of the case study - think of this as your chance to creatively and compellingly share with your peers what you did and what you learned.> |
| **Setting the Scene:** <Provide a description of the situation and the adaptive management work that was or is being undertaken.> |
| **Results and Lessons Learned:** <Provide a brief outline of what was accomplished as well as any challenges faced and how these were addressed. If possible, please comment on how your adaptive management work contributed to your overall project or programmatic work. If possible, please include quotes or other pithy statements from key team members or stakeholders in this work.> |
| **Scalability and Transferability:** <Comment on the potential for the work done and the lessons learnt in this case study to be applied in other situations.> |
| **Further Information:** <Please feel free to provide links to other key materials related to the case-study such as websites, publications, presentations, or testimonials. Note, however, that it is better to have one or two key items rather than many less-relevant materials.> |
| **Key Words:** <Please copy the following table and tick as many or as few themes as apply to your case study from the list below. This is not meant to be a restrictive list - case studies that range beyond these themes are most welcome! This table does not count against your 2-3 page limit.> |

**Table of Key Words for Tagging Case Studies**

*These tags will be used to help other people find your case study on the web.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Key Words *(select all that are relevant)*** | **Put x if Relevant** |
|  **Stages in Adaptive Management Cycle**  |  |
|  - Conceptualize the situation |  |
|  - Plan actions and monitoring |  |
|  - Implement actions and monitoring |  |
|  - Analyze, use, adapt |  |
|  - Capture and share learning |  |
|  - Full cycle adaptive management |  |
| - Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |
|  **Case Study Scale** |  |
|  - Project-level |  |
|  - Program-level |  |
|  - Organizational-level |  |
|  - Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |
|  **Specific Tools/Approach Used** |  |
|  - Evaluation / audit |  |
| - Evidence-based conservation |  |
| - Spatial conservation planning |  |
|  - Structured decision making |  |
|  - Status measures |  |
|  - Effectiveness measures |  |
|  - Passive adaptive management |  |
|  - Active adaptive management |  |
|  - Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |
|  **Specific Topics Addressed:** |  |
|  - Human wellbeing |  |
|  - Climate change |  |
|  - Community-based conservation |  |
|  - Marine conservation |  |
|  - Freshwater conservation |  |
|  - Terrestrial conservation |  |
|  - Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |

1. The *Open Standards* define adaptive management as “the incorporation of a formal learning process into conservation action. Specifically, it is the integration of project design, management, and monitoring, to provide a framework to systematically test assumptions, promote learning, and supply timely information for management decisions.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)