Results-Based Management using the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation

February 27th (evening) through March 1st, 2018 Welder Wildlife Foundation, Sinton, Texas Instructors: Andrew Bridges, Quinn Shurtliff, and Robert Sutter

This workshop will teach participants the overarching philosophy, underlying principles, and specific steps of effective conservation planning based on the globally used Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation (http://cmpopenstandards.org/). Participants will learn and practice how to identify key conservation and human well-being outcomes, prioritize threats and potential interventions, develop conceptual models that describe the ecological and social context of the project, incorporate empirical data and expert knowledge, and establish a monitoring program that supports adaptive management. In addition to improving attendees' effectiveness in planning and practicing management and conservation, the workshop will provide valuable tools for preparing grant applications, evaluating project plans, and communicating with funding agencies, the scientific community, and laypersons.

The two-day workshop is comprised of training modules introducing key Open Standards concepts, followed by break-out sessions where students apply these concepts to real-world projects. Miradi Software (which supports the Open Standards) also will be demonstrated. Workshop participants will be eligible for 13.5 Continuing Education Units in Category I of The Wildlife Society Certified Wildlife Biologist Renewal/Professional Development Certificate Program.

The workshop will be held at The Rob & Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation, a 7,800 acre refuge and birding hotspot located adjacent to the Aransas River on the Texas Gulf Coast. An optional birdwatching fieldtrip will be available following the workshop. For more information on the refuge, visit <u>http://www.welderwildlife.org</u> Early bird registration (before Dec 15) is \$795/student. Registration after December 15 is \$895. All registrations include catered meals and 3 nights lodging. Space is limited. To be added to the attendee list, please email Andrew Bridges at bridges@iws.org (please CC quinn.shurtliff@wastrenadvantage.com).

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