

We hope you enjoy our bi-annual CCNet News, where conservation practitioners from around the world share their stories. You will also find announcements of events and resources to support the practice of nature conservation.



Friends,

Of all the decisions I made when I retired from The Nature Conservancy eight years ago, agreeing to serve as CCNet's board chair was far and away the wisest and the most rewarding.

It's been a privilege and an inspiration to be engaged with such a remarkable team in our critical mission of training and connecting conservation practitioners around the world. A few months ago, I informed our board members and coordination team that I'd be leaving my position at the beginning of 2019, but resigning from the chairmanship doesn't mean retreating from the organization's great cause. Although I need to re-direct my time to other areas of my retirement life, I'll continue to contribute to CCNet's essential work, and I hope to connect with many of you along the way. I offer my heartfelt thanks to each of you for helping our Network grow and thrive. It's through your generous commitment of time, expertise, and creativity that CCNet has been able to build a unique community of practice to bolster conservation practices wherever fragile lands and waters may be threatened.

Please enjoy this latest issue of CCNet News, which looks back at our accomplishments in 2018, proposes ways to make the Open Standards "climate-smart," and showcases stories from our coaches around the world. In this issue, you'll find stories about award-winning work in Australia, conservation planning for a remote archipelago in Fiji, breaking away from sector-based efforts in Mexico, synthesizing conservation plans in Honduras, popularizing the OS in China, and more. Be sure to check out the Announcements section for new resources and upcoming events.

Warmest wishes for a successful and joyful 2019,

—Brad Northrup

Welcome to CCNet News January 2019

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Rally 2018 participants enjoy the surprise welcome video sent by Dame Jane Goodall, world-renowned anthropologist and primatologist and United Nations Messenger of Peace. Jane Goodall reminded us how important it is to improve human livelihoods as we protect nature and to involve youth in conservation decisions so that they can be better stewards of our planet. Photo: Felix Cybulla

2018 Accomplishments

The [Conservation Coaches Network](#) brings together a growing pool of trained professionals who use the Open Standards to help communities, NGOs, and government agencies develop conservation and sustainable development plans in their own languages and cultural contexts. We currently have 682 active coaches, representing over 200 institutions and helping projects in over 60 countries on all continents.

A structured coaches network allows us to exchange successes and failures so that we can all advance more rapidly and increase our impact. Our 2018 accomplishments are summarized below. A more detailed annual report is available [here](#).

New coach trainings

We trained 72 new conservation coaches from Australia, Canada, China, Fiji, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Congo, Russia, United Kingdom, and United States. We currently have 682 active coaches, representing over 200 institutions and working in over 60 countries on all continents.

Coach certification

In order to advance the professional recognition of conservation coaching, we piloted our second party [CCNet Certification Program](#). Our first cadre of eight Certified Coaches helped us test the process and principles.

CCNet Rally

In May, we held our seventh CCNet Rally, “*Building Resilience and Working Together*,” for 127 participants from 48 different institutions in 26 countries. We offered insightful keynote speakers and plenary events to expand our horizons and inspire us to continue adapting to the world’s needs; workshops to hone existing and new skills; working group sessions for sharing approaches, exploring specific problems, and developing guidance; bushwalks with aboriginal owners and local experts; and unstructured time to foster networking. Evaluation feedback was overwhelmingly positive. [Here](#) you can learn more about our 2018 Rally and check out workshop materials.

Rally participation was significantly bolstered by the generous contributions of sponsors and supporters. We launched our first Crowdfunding campaign on [Chuffed.org](#) with Australian organisation 4Nature and raised AUD\$7,472 donated by people from 17 countries. These funds and additional donations enabled us to cover a large portion of event costs and directly assist over 60 participants with attendance costs.

Website

We added updated content and vetted and rated training materials to our website: <http://www.ccnetsglobal.com/>

Listserv

Through a simple e-mail exchange service we currently connect 680 subscribers from around the world who ask questions, share experiences, and communicate interesting opportunities about the application of the Open Standards and related conservation and sustainable development topics.

Our Newsletter

We produced our biannual [CCNet News](#) in January and July to provide a unique forum where conservation practitioners tell stories about their work around the world in their own words.

CCNet Franchises

We currently have 14 regional franchises who link and support coaches within a particular region and one thematic network that focuses on teaching adaptive management in collaboration with academic institutions. This year, we strengthened leadership in North America and Southeast Asia. Most franchises conducted courses to train practitioners and students in the Open Standards.

Strategic Alliances

In alliance with the Conservation Measures Partnership (CMP), we have:

- Worked with a wide range of Open Standards community members to review and update the Open Standards. More on the updated version [here](#).
- Launched our second global Open Standards “*Adaptive Management Case Study Competition*.” Read more about this process and the three winners from Chile, Colombia and Australia [here](#).
- Conducted an external assessment, to improve our communications of Open Standards, adaptive management, CMP and CCNet
- Worked with a Joint Guidance Review Committee to review and post materials on the Open Standards and CCNet websites.

For more information, contact [John Morrison](#) (CCNet General Coordinator) and [Cristina Lasch](#) (CCNet Operations Coordinator)

Coaches in Action



Open Standards Plan Wins Banksia Award in Australia

Story by [Marnie Lassen](#), *Strategic Projects Manager, Trust for Nature (Victoria)*

For the last 20 years, the prestigious Banksia Awards have raised the profile of current sustainability issues facing Australia and recognised those whose initiatives set encouraging examples for others to follow. Last month, conservation partners Trust for Nature and Greening Australia took the stage with Bank Australia to receive the Large Business Award. The award was granted for their 10-year strategy for a 1,000 hectare Conservation Reserve in Western Victoria, which is home to threatened species such as the majestic Red-tailed Black Cockatoo. The strategy was

Synthesizing 11 Conservation Plans for Western Honduras Using the Open Standards

Story by [Estuardo Secaira](#), *Independent consultant in Conservation and Protected Areas Planning and Management*, and [Karla Lara](#), *Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Ecosystems Specialist, Ecosystems, Livelihoods and Water Governance USAID Activity*

Over the course of 11 workshops, CCNet coaches Estuardo Secaira and Karla Lara helped USAID teams apply the Open Standards in a coherent and consistent way to develop 11 conservation plans to guide Ecosystems, Livelihoods and Water Governance site

developed using the Open Standards and included input from conservation experts, local partners, and the local Traditional Owners. The Bank took great comfort knowing that the Open Standards approach would align their strategy with conservation planning efforts across the world.

The strategy has 13 carefully crafted SMART goals, which seek to:

- Protect and enhance the reserve's ecosystem and its rare species
- Revegetate the reserve
- Develop long-term climate change modelling and resilience plans
- Embed Indigenous land management, create employment and educational opportunities for local Aboriginal people, and share the reserve with the broader community
- Demonstrate corporate environmental leadership
- Deliver value to Bank Australia's staff and customers

More information on the award is available [here](#).

More information about the reserve plan is available [here](#).



interventions in Western Honduras. At the end of the planning process, we conducted a comprehensive analysis of the 11 plans. Through a large Miradi project, we grouped the critical threats and most of the strategies into categories, such as deforestation and fragmentation, water-pollution, and unsustainable forest management. A final group of strategies were considered as systemic for the whole region, such as institutional strengthening of the co-management schemes and organizations, land use and conservation planning, enactment and strengthening of micro watershed protected areas, and climate change adaptation. The synthesis provided powerful insights into the programmatic, analytical, and monitoring advantages of using the Open Standards to plan and manage each of the individual protected areas of the National System of Protected Areas of Honduras. The synthesis could also help guide future regional conservation efforts.



Using Healthy Country Planning To Manage Forests in Eastern Myanmar

Story by [Frank Weisenberger](#), [Frank Weisenberger Consulting](#)

The indigenous Karen people of Myanmar commenced their Healthy Country Planning process to develop a strategic conservation management plan for the Dawna Tanintharyi landscape in eastern Myanmar. The plan will help the Kawthoolei Forestry Department, the [Karen Wildlife Conservation Initiative](#), and

Five-year Management Plan Developed for China's Largest Panda Reserve

Story by [靳彤 JIN Tong](#), Science Director with [The Nature Conservancy China](#) and [CCNet China Franchise Leader](#)

During the last six months, several coaches from The Nature Conservancy's China Program ([Zeng Nan](#), [Hou Ning](#), [Zhang Yanfang](#), and [Jin Tong](#)) have applied the Open Standards to

Karen communities manage their culturally-rich, biodiverse landscape. The vast tropical and deciduous forests are still largely intact and are home to globally important wildlife, including tigers and Asian elephants.

At a three-day workshop, 23 representatives from the Kawthoolei Forestry Department developed their vision for a healthy landscape, identified conservation targets, ranked the viability of those targets, and prioritised corresponding threats.

The Dawna Tanintharyi Landscape Healthy Country Plan is coordinated by [Wildlife Asia](#), in collaboration with the Kawthoolei Forestry Department and the Karen Environmental and Social Action Network, and receives financial support from WWF Myanmar, the International Union for Conservation of Nature Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme, and other donors.



formulate a five-year management plan for the Wolong National Nature Reserve. Established in 1963, the reserve is the earliest, largest, and best-known panda reserve in China.

Invited by the Reserve Management Bureau, TNC China works as a technical consultant to guide the management planning process. After an Open Standard training workshop with the reserve staff and key stakeholders in early July, the planning process followed the steps of Open Standards and continued for four months through several small-scale participatory discussions, site investigations, and expert consultations. In October, the plan was approved at an Expert Review Meeting.

This plan will provide a foundation and detailed guidance for conservation actions during the following five years. We expect that the experience of applying the Open Standards in Wolong will greatly promote their further adoption within China's nature conservation communities.



Using the Open Standards in Marine Spatial Planning for the Pacific Ocean of Guatemala

Story by [Estuardo Secaira](#), *Independent Consultant in Conservation and Protected Areas Planning and Management*; [Juan Carlos Villagrán](#), *Marine Specialist, The Nature Conservancy*; and [Raquel Sigüenza](#), *Coordinator, UNDP-GEF Project “Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in coastal and marine protected areas (MPAs)”*

In late 2018, The Nature Conservancy and the Guatemala Fishing Authority, with support from a United Nations Development Programme's Global Environment Finance project, conducted the first ever marine spatial planning exercise for the Pacific Ocean of Guatemala. Over the

Using the Open Standards to Conserve the Lau Seascape, Fiji

Story by [Annette Olsson](#), *Conservation International and Co-Franchise Leader for CCNet Southeast Asia*

The Lau Seascape is one of the most remote archipelagos of Fiji and is characterized by exceptional marine and terrestrial biodiversity. However, unregulated development, unsustainable land use, overharvesting of marine resources, and disintegration of social and cultural assets are threatening the fragile ecosystems and livelihoods of this province. Since 2013, Conservation International has worked with the forum of traditional leaders of

course of 12 formal meetings, 49 people from 21 governmental, non-governmental, academic, and private institutions came together and used the Open Standards to:

- Conduct a “classic” conservation plan that defined marine conservation targets (such as important fisheries, sharks and rays, whales and dolphins, marine turtles, and marine birds) and focused on marine-based threats and spatial strategies and solutions that we converted into zonation and regulations. Seven of the eight conservation targets we identified were defined as a zone, each with its own regulations.
- Conduct a sectorial analysis in order to better understand the dynamics and challenges faced by the more relevant economic and/or biodiversity activities that occur in the Pacific Ocean of Guatemala, such as commercial and sport fishing, whale watching, and marine traffic. Analysis and discussion of all four activities resulted in the definition of zones and regulations, with commercial fishing being the most important and influential for spatial planning.

Throughout the planning process, the Guatemala Fishing Authority (DIPESCA by its Spanish acronym) was fully empowered and enthusiastic about implementing the proposed zonation and regulations.



Charting the Course for the Future of CCNet Europe

Story sent by [Xavi Escuté](#), *Fundació Catalunya La Pedrera and Co-Franchise Lead for CCNet Europe*

Lau to lay the foundation for successful interventions across the province, which culminated in the development of the Lau Seascape Initiative in 2016. The initiative is now a multi-partner effort comprised of community and indigenous representatives, the Government of Fiji, the private sector, and non-governmental organization stakeholders.

To ensure sound planning and implementation of actions under the initiative, Conservation International facilitated strategy planning workshops with representative partners and the chiefs of each island. During the workshops, the team used the Open Standards to identify key conservation and human well-being targets, discuss main threats, build a conceptual model, and select seven main strategies to implement. They also developed results chains and a comprehensive monitoring structure and work plan for each strategy. Through these workshops, partners from government agencies, civil society organizations, the provincial office, and the private sector developed a draft plan to guide integrated management of marine and terrestrial ecosystems and improve the health of the fragile ecosystems and livelihoods of the Lau islands and communities. At a follow-up workshop in May 2018, all 30 traditional chiefs of Lau reviewed the draft plan and further refined the strategy. A high level of involvement from all partners, especially the Lau Chiefs, is ensuring buy-in and motivation that will help this initiative implement strategies successfully and achieve the desired impacts.



Breaking Convention in Mexico with the Open Standards for Regional Protected Area Planning

In October, 2018, the European Core Team met in Berlin, Germany, for CCNet Europe's first ever in-person strategic planning workshop. We are grateful that Pip Walsh from CCNet Australia was able to facilitate our intense discussion! Thanks again for pausing your holidays for us, Pip!

During the workshop, we revised our Theory of Change, developed concrete objectives until 2023, and worked on our monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework. CCNet Europe members provided input in a questionnaire to help us fill some important knowledge gaps. The process is still ongoing, but we have a much better understanding of our joint mission, aims, and the required work to get there. We expect to have the new version of the strategic plan ready in the following couple of months, so stay tuned!

Story by [María Fernanda](#)

[Cepeda](#), Capacitacion y Asesorias Ambientales

In Mexico, the conventional focus of conservation planning has been on individual visions by individual sectors of the government, but this year, we carried out a regional planning process with Mexico's Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) that used an integrated perspective and recognized that sustainable livelihoods are strongly linked to natural resources. Innovative? No, but this approach is unconventional compared to the country's usual sectorial management. Our next challenge is to convince other governmental agencies from other sectors that their participation is crucial for the implementation of conservation strategies that will not only safeguard natural resources, but also contribute to the sustainable development of the entire Coastal Plain and Gulf of Mexico region. With 13 globally recognized public protected areas, which add up to over 65,516 hectares, this represents the most extensive region managed by CONANP.



South East Asia Franchise Kicks Off with a New Coach Training

Story by [Felix Cybulla](#), [Hui Shim Tan](#), [Annette Olsson](#), and [Pip Walsh](#)

CCNet-South East Asia celebrated the kickoff of their new franchise with a New Coach Training in Bentong, Malaysia, in November 2018. A total of 24 coaches from Malaysia, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, China, Myanmar, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, the United States, and the United Kingdom were trained by Hui Shim Tan, Felix Cybulla, and Pip Walsh. In addition, CCNet coach Annette Olsson received her certification as a Coach Trainer. Welcome to all our new Franchise members and congrats to Annette!

Conservation Planning at Multiple Scales in Chile

Story from [Irina Montenegro](#), WWF Chile and CCNet South America Franchise

World Wildlife Fund, The Nature Conservancy, and Wildlife Conservation Society joined forces to organize an Open Standards workshop for 23 participants from government agencies, academics, and NGO. In October 2018, the [Reserva Costera Valdiviana](#) (administrated by TNC) hosted and trained participants to design management plans for Protected Areas and other conservation initiatives in Chile. With the support of CCNet coaches, [Irina Montenegro](#) and [Gustavo Gatti](#), participants learned to apply tools to strengthen their current work and were reminded that effectiveness requires not only a

We'd also like to extend a big thanks to WWF Malaysia who kindly stepped in to help with the logistics and all the work behind the scenes! Participants called the training an *"invaluable opportunity to practice facilitation skills and get feedback"* and appreciated the *"advice and tips from trainers."*



First Open Standards Training in Dominican Republic

Story by James Goetz, PhD Student, Cornell University

In September 2018, Yolanda Leon, Andrea Thomen, and James Goetz led a 2.5-day introductory Open Standards course for 25 conservation professionals and college students in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. As the first-ever OS short course in the country, trainers designed it especially for students and young professionals to help usher in a much-needed new era of results-based conservation planning and action. So that participants could experience the OS within a wide scope of diverse applications, instructors developed three local case studies: Hispaniolan Parrots (endangered species), mangroves (ecosystem with thematic scope), and Dunas de Las Calderas (protected area). For several students, an important revelation was how research and monitoring are often a smaller part of conservation action than they had imagined—instead, it is more about working closely with people throughout the entire process to understand a complex situation, then generate and implement solutions. A testament to the value of even a short OS course, results from the planning exercises have already been incorporated into one PhD research project and two conservation funding proposals. Kudos to the hard-working participants! The trainers warmly thank Grupo Jaragua, Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo, and VCE for

systematic and strategic design, but also a strong connection between the different steps of the project cycle. Building the capacity of relevant actors to use key planning tools will help ensure the effective implementation of public conservation policies in Chile. Watch our [video](#) for more insights from the workshop!



CCNet North American Franchise Update

Story by CCNet North America Franchise Leaders Andrew Bridges, Sara Gottlieb, John Paskus, Doug Pearsall, Terri Schulz, and Rob Sutter

The North American Franchise is revitalizing its effort to support participating coaches in order to improve conservation planning and extend the collegiality, learning, and collaboration that is experienced at the CCNet Rallies.

After franchise revitalization was first discussed at the 2018 CCNet Rally, additional conference calls established a core team made up of current franchise leads and clarified the following franchise objectives:

- Build Collaboration
- Share Knowledge
- Identify Opportunities to Work Together
- Retain and Enhance Competency of Experienced Coaches and Recruit New Coaches Across Diverse Institutions
- Advance Open Standards Training
- Advance the Process of Planning and the Open Standards
- Strengthen the CCNet Network

The core team agreed to maintain a list of coaches who want to stay involved with the franchise, inform participants of training opportunities, identify opportunities to work together, and compile updates and help select topics for presentation on franchise calls. Franchise calls will take place three to four times per year, two for all franchise participants and one or two for each regional franchise. John Morrison, Rob Sutter, and Andrew Bridges will organize the calls. Regional franchise leads will organize regional calls with support from the core team. A recent survey provided an

key logistical support, as well as the USFWS for extensive list of topics for future calls and essential funding via a Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act grant. trainings.



Using Open Standards to Develop Freshwater Project Proposal in Tanzania

Story by [Matrida Simfukwe](#), Monitoring and Evaluation Officer with WWF-Tanzania

In early November, CCNet Coach Matrida Simfukwe facilitated a “define and design” workshop to help stakeholders use the Open Standards to develop a project proposal for the Freshwater Programme that uses the inclusive landscape approach. The main lesson learned from this workshop is that coaches need to have full set of tools prepared in advance in order to facilitate effectively, especially when working with communities or practitioners with no knowledge of the Open Standards and when the coach is facilitating on their own.

NaturePlan Open Standards Workshop in Toronto, Canada

Story by [Andrew Bridges](#), Research Ecologist with the Institute for Wildlife Studies and Co-Franchise Leaders for CCNet North America

CCNet Coaches James Goetz and Andrew Bridges led a two-day introductory Open Standards short course at the 2018 North American Congress for Conservation Biology in Toronto, Canada. Twelve participants from four countries participated in the workshop. The group included a mix of graduate students and professionals from NGOs, universities, and Canadian governmental agencies. Two break-out teams applied the Open Standards process to real-world case studies. The teams explored conservation planning for Bicknell’s Thrush and for landscapes managed by Indigenous Peoples in Canada’s Northwest Territory. The strong camaraderie that so often develops in our workshops extended through the duration of the conference as participants and instructors attended each other's presentations and provided peer support over the next three days.



Adaptive Management Training for Protected Areas in the Asia-Pacific Region

Story by [Rosalie Chapple](#), *Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute*

At an adaptive management training in November 2018, nineteen participants from Australia, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Papua New Guinea strengthened their capacities to manage natural and cultural heritage, particularly in the context of protected areas in the Asia-Pacific region.

New approaches to management, education, and capacity building are needed to better equip managers and practitioners to address today's environmental and social challenges. Training in adaptive management can build capacity to not only *adapt* to change, but also to *shape* and *create* change.

The November training programme exposed participants to aspects of the inclusiveness, discrimination, openness, and reflexivity needed to manage change processes and guide justifiable, appropriate, and effective action. From the ICCROM, participants learned about the fundamental importance of nature-culture connectivity and global efforts to integrate natural and cultural heritage management. With the help of heritage experts and local guides, participants were able to explore the multiple deep, diverse cultural associations of the Blue Mountains. CCNet coaches [Philippa Walsh](#) (Community Solutions) and [Stuart Cowell](#) (Conservation Management) introduced participants to adaptive management tools based on the internationally recognised Open Standards. By the end of the training,

Applying the Open Standards to Landscape-level Initiatives

Story from [Dave Kramer](#), *The Colombia Rising Project & ANIIP (Austin Network of International Impact Professionals)*

A group of coaches and coaches-in-training from around the world joined in a conference call this past September 2018 to discuss the application of the Open Standards to landscape-level initiatives with multiple stakeholders. Estuardo Secaira (Guatemala City, Guatemala), Jens Odinga (Saba, Dutch Caribbean), Stuart Cowell (Tasmania, Australia), and Dave Kramer (Austin, Texas, USA) shared stories from our diverse experiences, including examples from marine initiatives in the Caribbean and eco-regional planning for Central America's pine-oak forest. We discussed the challenges we've faced when upscaling planning from the local level to landscapes, watersheds, and jurisdictions, particularly those related to governance, long-term sustainability, and unknown factors associated with pre-existing human relationships. Together, we concluded that it's critical to have the OS nested into good collaborative processes and have the right people in the room—ideally, one or two champions who can act as drivers of the process. Good local examples are critical to show people exactly what you're talking about in ways that make sense to them in their daily lives. The larger the scale, the more important it is to think about planning as coalition building, where one doesn't only focus on conservation, but also on sustainable use of natural resources, threat reduction, and human well-being.

participants were familiar with how to design and implement a monitoring program and integrate data into a decision-making framework for adaptive management.

A few resources that our group found useful are available here: <http://bit.ly/ccnet-os-landscape>

Read full article [here](#).

Reflections



Making the Open Standards "Climate Smart"

Story by [Marcia Brown](#), *Foundations of Success*

As conservation professionals, we are accustomed to looking to the past when we set our goals. Yet, because of climate change, the future is apt to be different from the past—but we don't know how different it will be.

Conservation coaches using the Open Standards have typically treated climate change as a "direct threat." Over time, many of us have found this approach limited because it doesn't allow us to describe how we think climate change will affect our conservation targets and interact with other direct threats, grapple with uncertainty about climate change impacts, or consider how humans will respond to climate change.

Over the past few years, several coaches have been working together to make the Open Standards "climate-smart." In our version, the viability assessment should *not* include defining the desired future state of the indicators for the key ecological attributes. We recommend doing this later, once the team has assessed climate vulnerability. The biggest change we are proposing is the addition of climate scenario planning. Once the team has completed their climate vulnerability assessment, we recommend that teams use their climate scenarios, conceptual model(s), and threat ratings to revisit their conservation targets and establish ambitious but achievable goals. During this process, the team may determine, for example, that the composition of their forest ecosystems is likely to change, or that it will become increasingly difficult to prevent the loss of an endangered butterfly. Their goals will need to take into account these projected changes. We are also proposing new guidance for developing climate-smart strategies, results chains, and threat monitoring.

To read more about the proposed climate-smart Open Standards and see detailed examples, see our full article on the [CCNet website](#).

You can view materials from our sessions at the CCNet Rally and recording of recent webinars [here](#).

For more information or to provide feedback, please contact [Marcia Brown](#) and [John Morrison](#).



Thank you for believing in the value of
capacity building, sharing and learning
across cultures, organizations
and geographies!



Brad Northrup Stepping Down as CCNet Global Chairperson

Story by [John Morrison](#), Conservation Planning & Measures, WWF-US and CCNet Global Coordinator

It's said that all good things come to an end, and as 2018 came to a close, Brad Northrup stepped down as Chairman of the Board of CCNet. Brad will now direct his time to other areas of his (busy) retirement life. When Brad retired from The Nature Conservancy after years of extraordinary service in almost every level of the organization, we were very fortunate that he so graciously agreed to serve as CCNet's first real Chairperson in 2010.

Brad was instrumental in the birth of the Open Standards (in his contributions to the early work with 5S/CAP at TNC), the precursor Efrogmson Coaches Network, and the Conservation Measures Partnership. He was ever a champion of the Coaches Network. The first Franchise sponsor/leader in the Efrogmson Coaches Network, he has always believed in the value of capacity building, sharing, and learning across cultures, organizations, and geographies.

It would be almost impossible to exaggerate the value that he brings to this role and to our community. He has steered CCNet through uncertain waters, led our strategic planning process, diligently worked to ensure we have operating funds, led us through a significant growth spurt in coaches, and welcomed new franchises.

Since making his decision, Brad has been working with members of the CCNet Coordination Team to identify a list of potential candidates and the steps needed to make this transition as smooth as possible. If anyone has any thoughts about the Chair transition, we would love to hear from you. Please address your thoughts to john.morrison@wwfus.org. We will report out when there are any news.

Bulletin Board



Upcoming Open Standards Workshops in North America

*National Military Fish and Wildlife Association
March 9, 2019
Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.*

On March 9, 2019, [NaturePlan's](#) Quinn Shurtliff and Andrew Bridges will hold a one-day introductory Open Standards workshop at the upcoming [National Military Fish and Wildlife Association Meeting](#) in Denver, Colorado. Workshop participation is limited to United States Department of Defense (DoD) biologists and natural resource managers. The workshop will focus on conservation planning on DoD lands and how to incorporate formal planning and adaptive management techniques into Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans, which are required at all United States military installations having substantial natural resources.

*Maine Land Conservation Conference
April 3–4, 2019
Brunswick, Maine, U.S.A.*

On April 3–4, 2019, [NaturePlan](#) will host a two-day introductory Open Standards workshop in Brunswick, Maine. The workshop will occur immediately prior to the annual [Maine Land Conservation Conference](#) and will be led by Drs. Quinn Shurtliff and Andrew Bridges. Although the workshop is not directly affiliated with the conference, we hope that several of the 400-500 land trust professionals who come to town for the conference will take advantage of the opportunity to learn about the Open Standards. **This workshop is open to anyone interested in improving their skills as a conservation planner and project manager, not just land trust professionals!** For more information and to register, please visit our [web site](#).

Healthy Country Planning Workshop in Australia

Registration is open for a five-day Open Standards/Healthy Country Planning workshop focusing on the biodiversity hotspot of the Tasmanian Midlands. Using a well-proven adult learning approach, this intensive live-in course will give you a good understanding of how these tools can be directly used in your own work.

Where? Poatina, Tasmania, overlooking the Tasmanian Midlands, 2.5 hrs bus drive from Hobart, or 40 min from Launceston.

When? February 4-8, 2019

Who? The course is delivered under the Protected Areas Learning and Research Collaboration jointly by Conservation Management, and the University of Tasmania.

Cost? AUD\$2,420 (inc GST) including all food, accommodation, transport, and materials

For more information [download the flyer here](#) or contact the trainers.

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Daniel Sprod: +61 428 240 007
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[Register here.](#)



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

USAID Biodiversity How-To Guides Available as Online Courses

Story by *Marco Flores Santiago, Biodiversity Specialist, USAID*

In 2017, the USAID Forestry and Biodiversity Office released three USAID Biodiversity Programming How-To Guides: 1) Developing Situation Models; 2) Using Results Chains to Depict Theories of Change; and 3) Defining Outcomes and Indicators for Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning. These guides provide in-depth guidance on key tools and practices to support teams (USAID and Implementing Partners) as they design and manage biodiversity programs within USAID's Program Cycle and in accordance with the Agency's Biodiversity Policy. The methodology described throughout these guides is based on the *Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation*.

The first two How-To Guides are now available on the USAID FAB gateway as [self-paced interactive online courses](#). For best results, use Chrome when accessing the courses. For more information contact biodiversity@usaid.gov.

Upcoming Conservation Coach Trainings for 2019

Conservation Coach Trainings are offered by CCNet Global in coordination with regional CCNet Franchises and often other partners. Trainings are for those already experienced with the Open Standards, who have the opportunity or the mandate to lead conservation project teams and who want to increase their knowledge. Our upcoming 2019 coach trainings include:



Open Standards v3.0 Available in Many Languages

Version 3.0 of the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation is available in the following languages:

- English
- Indonesian
- Portuguese
- French
- Albanian
- Spanish
- Russian
- Persian

CMP-CCNet Guidance Committee Curates Online Resources

With an increasing amount of Open Standards guidance being produced these days, it can be challenging for conservation practitioners to find the best materials on a particular topic or the most appropriate guidance for their specific needs.

In 2014, a joint Guidance Committee was formed between the Conservation Measures

New Coach Training: Canada, 25 February - 1 March 2019. Course is full. Contact: [John Morrison](#).

New Coach Training: Sweden, 1 - 5 April 2019. Find more information [here](#) or contact [Xavier Escuté](#) and [John Morrison](#). Registration closes February 22, 2019.

European Coaches Rally: Sweden, 5 - 7 April 2019. Find more information [here](#) or contact [Daniela Aschenbrenner](#).

New Coach Training: California, United States, likely November 2019. If you are interested, contact [Andrew Bridges](#) and [John Morrison](#).

Potential New Coach Training in Australia depending on interest. If you are interested, contact [Natalie Holland](#).

Potential New Coach Training in Chile depending on interest and financial support. If you are interested, contact [Irina Montenegro](#) and [Cristina Lasch](#).

Partnership and the Conservation Coaches Network to help curate guidance resources. This group of experienced practitioners and trainers meets once a month to vet guidance materials upon request, describe and rate guidance materials, and provide feedback to the authors for improving guidance materials.

If you have guidance materials related to the Open Standards that you would like the Committee to review, or if you would like to participate on the Committee, please contact [Marcia Brown](#).

[Here](#) you can learn more about what the Committee does and does not vet, the ranking system, and the criteria members use to vet guidance, and how the Committee deals with different languages.

Franchise Information

Africa

- [Anne Ntongho](#) (West, Central and North Africa)
- [Nancy Chege](#) (East and Southern Africa)

Australia

- [Natalie Holland](#)

China

- [Jin Tong](#)

Europe

Mesoamerica

- [Dave Kramer](#)

Mongolia

- [Munkhchuluun Basan](#)

North America

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