

Conservation Effectiveness Partnership

Mission Statement

The mission of the Conservation Effectiveness Partnership (CEP) is to describe the effectiveness of cumulative conservation and restoration actions in achieving natural resource outcomes through collaborative monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

Goals and Objectives

- 1. Build an understanding of the extent of the investment in watershed improvement and the watershed response through the agencies' collective grant programs.**
 - a) Quantify agency investments and describe cumulative investments in conservation and restoration actions
 - b) Communicate with partners about past, current, and future efforts to describe effects of conservation and restoration actions on watershed condition

- 2. Develop a clearer understanding of how local organizations are utilizing the agencies respective grant programs, in concert.**
 - a) Describe how local organizations (e.g. SWCD, Watershed Councils) leverage various agency funding, where appropriate, for:
 1. Inventory and Assessments
 2. Prioritize and Identify Projects
 3. Outreach
 4. Design and Implementation of Projects
 5. Monitoring and Evaluation
 6. Reporting

- 3. Evaluate the effects of conservation and restoration investments on water quality and watershed condition.**
 - a) Identify at least one location a year where significant conservation investments are
 - b) occurring or will occur in the future
 - c) Assess adequacy of data and/or assessment plans to complete analysis of how investments affect water quality and watershed condition
 - d) Identify data gaps and recommend additional information needs to adequately report results of investments
 - e) Report the status and trend of water quality and and/or watershed condition in relation to conservation investment and implementation with established standards or goals
 - f) Report the relationship between investments and the observed status, trend, or projected trend on achieving desired outcomes

- 4. Design tools and methods of reporting results of investments.**
 - a) Develop a communications approach for CEP that describes methods to report information and results of investments to the public and other agency audiences
 - b) Develop specific products and/or tools to report results of investments (e.g. fact sheet, slide 'deck'/presentation)