

## Agenda

- I. Introductions
- II. Updates
  - a. Federal administration priorities and LCSG's work
  - b. New staff and fellows
  - c. New competitive funding
- III. Site Review overview and PAC roles

## Notes

Attending: Dan Albrecht, Roy Beckford, Tom Berry, Emily Bird, Sarah Coleman, Eric Howe, Ted Lawson, Kara Lenorovitz, Crea Lintilhac, Mark Malchoff, Lyn Munno, Chris Navitsky, Alyssa Senecal, Kelley Tucker

LCSG staff: Mark Mitchell, Anna Marchessault, Anne Jefferson, Ashley Eaton, John Brawley, Tim Mihuc, Gretchen Nareff, Tori DesRocher, Alison Spasyk, Aude Lochet, Shawn White, Kris Stepenuck, Caroline McKelvey, Tom Berry

### Federal Administration Updates

- Anne thanked PAC members for their support of LCSG and provided an update about our work
- Guidance from PAC:
  - o It is good to respond to the EOs and ensure alignment of LCSG activities with federal administration interests.
  - o Focusing on our core mission is critical and we can be accountable to that.
  - o Appreciate strong partnerships in VT and NY to do this work and the communications about our work. Good to stay coordinated to continue to support the good work.
- Question from PAC:
  - o Any updates from Congressional delegation?
    - We have very strong support from the basin representatives to Congress. Has been helpful to share our strong support and partnerships with them.

### New staff

- Alison Spasyk will be doing Education and Outreach with municipal officials about flood safety act and why river corridor protections are important. She will also be working with communities within communities to understand how they have been impacted by flooding and to gather feedback about the Flood Safety Act. This will inform future outreach pathways. She is working closely with The Nature Conservancy and the VT Rivers Program and is reaching out to Regional Planning Commissions and others to develop her plan of work to complement and not compete with work already being done.

## Marine Debris

- Kris shared an overview of a recently (October) funded Marine Debris Community Action Coalition project on which LCSG is collaborating with Lake George Association, Lake Champlain Committee, Rozalia Project, and the Vermont Boat and Marine Association.
- The project focuses especially on building awareness of reducing foam pollution in Lake Champlain.
- Other partners are invited to join the coalition to expand the reach of outreach messages and to better understand and possibly contribute to coalition activities.
- Interested organizations can contact Aude Lochet to be added to the communications list
- **Action item:** Kris to connect Roy and/or check in with Vivien Taylor re: PFAS and sources of that/to understand potential PFAS presence in Styrofoam.
- Research if PFAS is used in products when considering alternatives to foam and plastic. If used, consider if other alternatives exist.

## Site Review

- Kris provided an overview of the standards of excellence and requested assistance from PAC members to review the draft briefing book based on key evaluation questions.
- **Action item:** Kris to send spreadsheet to PAC members. In that, they can choose an evaluation question and provide feedback based on that question.
- **Action item:** Kris request that PAC members send edits and comments back to Kris or place them directly into the shared spreadsheet by the end of the day, Wednesday 4/16/25
- Site review to take place virtually June 23–26.
- LCSG is in the process of making invitations to people to participate. PAC members are likely to be invited to various sessions based on their expertise and collaborations with LCSG. In addition, Kris requested that once we share the agenda, if PAC members could each (if not already participating in a session) sign up to join a session. Kris will send specifics about participation in the coming weeks.