

Stepping Off the Deep End Strategies to build a successful project

Hosts: Anne Birch and Jenn Greene

Presenters:

Cristina Lasch, Jensen Montambault,
Kirsten Evans, and Ralph Barker

Wednesday February 12

Marine Aggregation – Nautilus Room



It Can Be Scary Down There



Are you new to designing and leading projects?

Have you been tapped to lead a bigger, maybe 'scarier-scale' project?

How do you start a project from the ground floor?

Do you have low capacity?

When do you bring in partners and which ones?



Share your experiences - good and bad - about developing and managing projects of any size



Learn strategies that can be applied to new and existing projects



Bring ideas home to your projects

Think of a project that you managed, are developing and/or managing right now, or will be in the near future...

What are you tackling right now or anticipate in the near future that you would like help figuring out to help ensure project success?

Presenters



Ralph Barker

Ralph is the Finance Mgr for the Global Marine Team and the finance lead for the Ocean Management section of the Anne Ray Charitable Trust grant. Ralph has been with TNC for a little over 15 years and has worked for the CT, RI and VT Chapters.

Presenters



Kirsten Evans

Kirsten is a Global Strategy Advisor on the Conservation Strategies Team, part of the Office of the Chief Conservation Officer. She leads the Conservancy's Measures Initiative that includes implementing the Conservation Impact Measures Framework, which is how the Conservancy measures the impact of Global Challenges, Global Solutions, and strategy advice and coaching to global marine priorities.

Presenters



Cristina Lasch

Cristina Lasch is The Nature Conservancy's Conservation Planning Specialist. Based in Merida, Mexico, she works with the Gulf of California and Northern Pacific Program and helps coordinate the Conservation Coaches Network, an international multi-partner alliance with over 400 members around the world. Since 1996 to date, her work has focused on project management, capacity strengthening for protected area management, facilitating participatory planning processes, training practitioners to adaptively manage conservation projects, and establishing networks for information sharing and peer-support among conservation practitioners to address field-based needs. Cristina holds a B.S. in Biology from The Principia College in Illinois. A native of Mexico, Cristina is fluent in Spanish, German, English, and proficient in French.

Presenters

Jensen Montambault



Jensen Montambault joined The Nature Conservancy's central Conservation Science division in 2008. She helps selected projects around the globe measure the effectiveness their conservation strategies and interventions through prioritizing indicators, developing robust and feasible monitoring plans, analyzing data, incorporating the results into management plans, and facilitating cross-project learning. Jensen is also collaborating with NGO, funder and academic partners to develop innovative methods to optimize monitoring investments. Previously, Jensen worked for 13 years on conservation projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, the South Pacific, and the eastern U.S. She served as a community environmental promoter in Peace Corps-Nicaragua, managed grants for the USAID Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Program at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and managed Conservation International's Rapid Assessment Program. As a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, Jensen received her M.S. in interdisciplinary ecology from the University of Florida assessing socioeconomic influences on household attitudes toward conservation in rural Nicaragua. Her doctorate in the same program examined the effects of rapid suburbanization on endemic landbirds in the Turks and Caicos Islands.