

ORGANIZATIONAL CHECKUP

Connecticut Land Conservation
Conference
March 22, 2025



Who's in the Room?



Today's Learning Objectives

- Why undertake periodic risk assessment and who is responsible?
- Learn how to identify, prioritize, and manage risk
- Explore frequently-seen issues creating risk for land trusts
- Share strategies with peers and identify follow up actions
- Learn where to get further information

The Board's Role in Risk Management



Ensure the financial
viability of the
organization



Steer the organization
in pursuit of its
mission and vision



Provide for continuity
and succession



Boards of small organizations are also personnel

Risk

- The threat or possibility that a future event or action may be substantially different from what is expected.
- Can be adverse - or beneficial



Risk Management

- A discipline for coping with uncertainty
- Practical steps to reduce the likelihood of negative risks and increasing the ability to seize opportunities



Dimensions of Risk



Likelihood (More or Less Likely, More or Less Frequently)

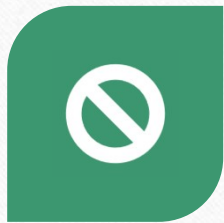


Magnitude (More or Less Impactful)

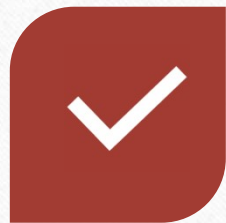


Direction (Good or Bad)

Strategies for Risk Management



AVOID



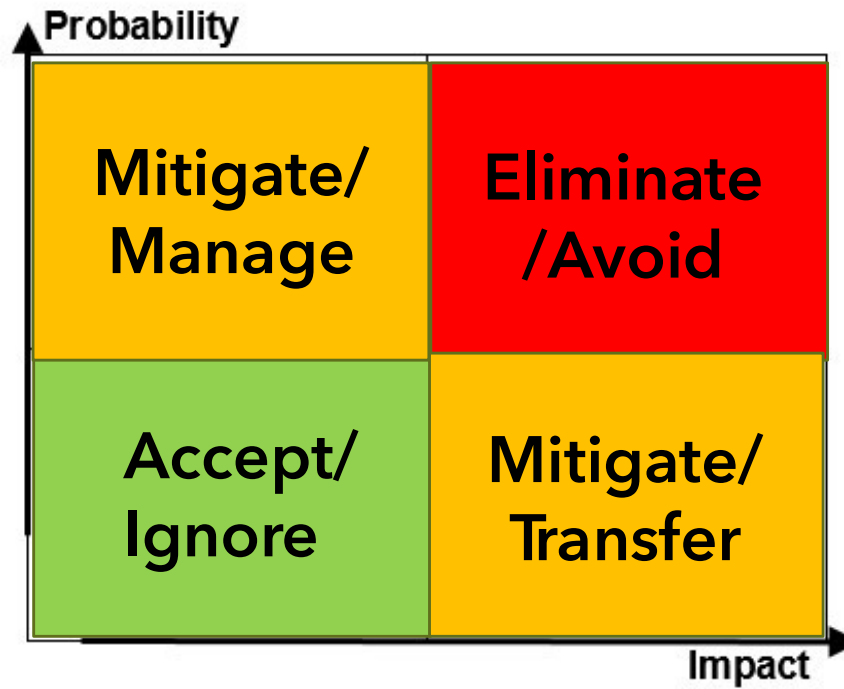
MITIGATE



TRANSFER



ACCEPT



Insurance: Risk Financing

Basic package

- General liability and commercial general liability, property
- Directors and Officers liability (D&O), volunteers
- Umbrella/excess coverage

Staffed land trusts: workers compensation, unemployment, and employment practices liability

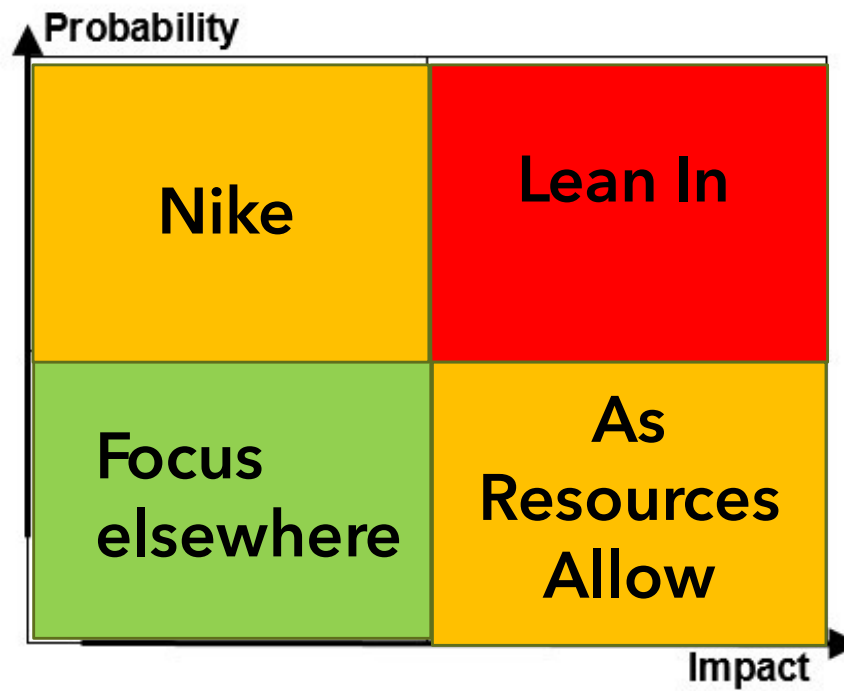
Non-owned auto liability

Crime/fidelity coverage/Cyber insurance

Title insurance on your properties

Terra Firma Conservation Defense insurance

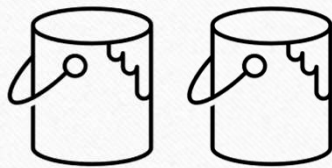




Land Trust Standards and Practices & The Buckets

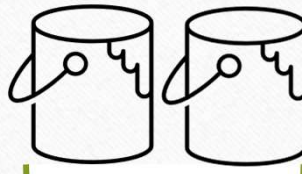
Other Resources

Governance & Finance



All Nonprofits

Land Transactions & Stewardship



Land trusts

- Terrafirma [risk management tool](#) (robust instructional course and management format)
- Land Trust Alliance's [Conservation Resource Center](#), including Practical Pointers on Risk Management
- [Nonprofit Risk Management Center](#) LTA members free access to NRMC's eNews, Risk Management magazine, live webinars and recent webinar recordings
- [CLCC - Risk Management resources](#) on insurance and a deep dive

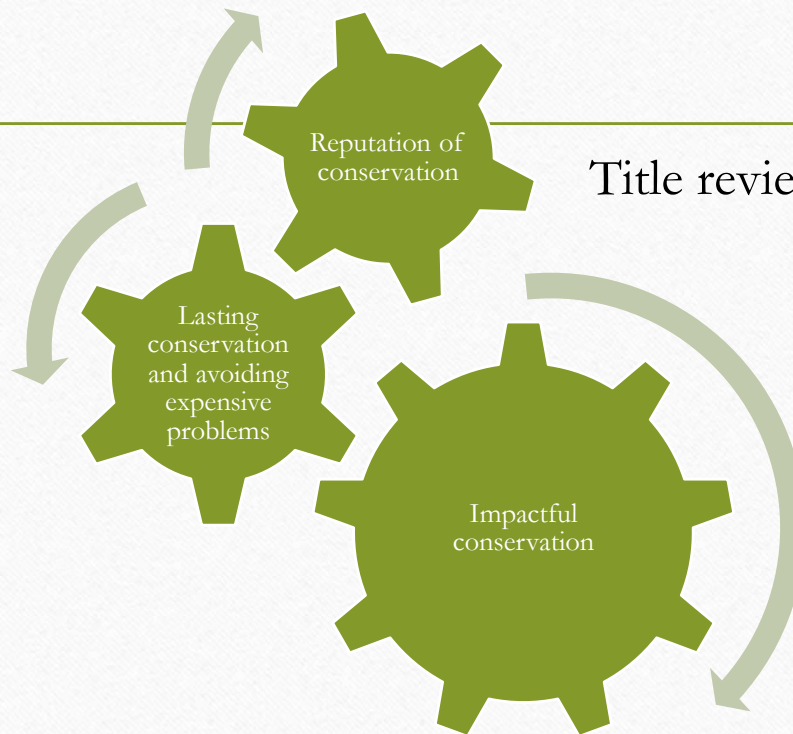


Stewardship

Risks are to Conservation
Values and Property
Interests

- Monitoring to address problems
- Careful management strategies / public safety
- Recordkeeping

Land Transactions



Title review & insurance
Selectivity
Complexity

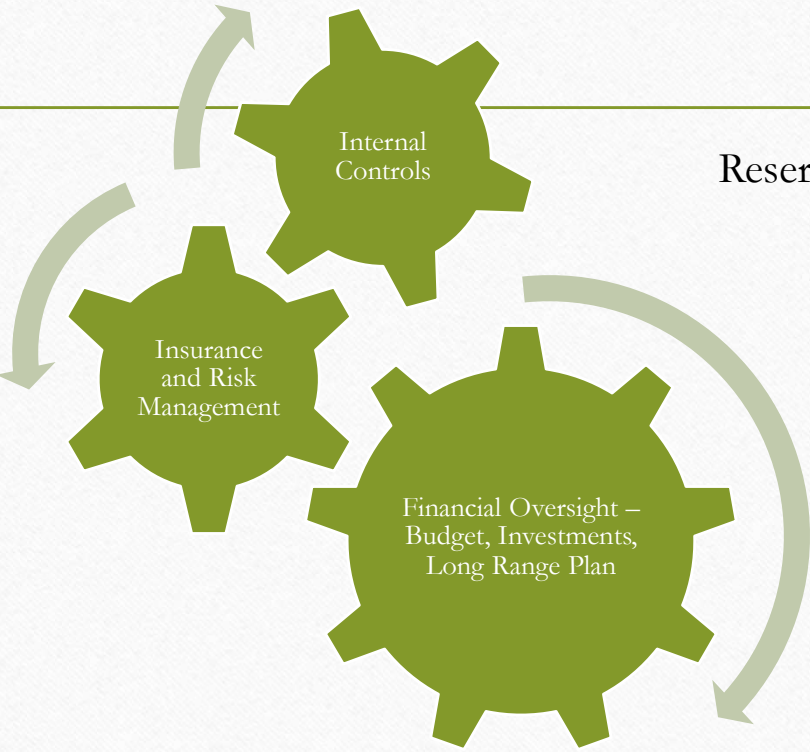
Financial Management

Adequacy of financial resources – today and future

Fundraising

Management of assets

Insurance



Reserves for legal defense
Operating reserves
Financial expertise

Governance

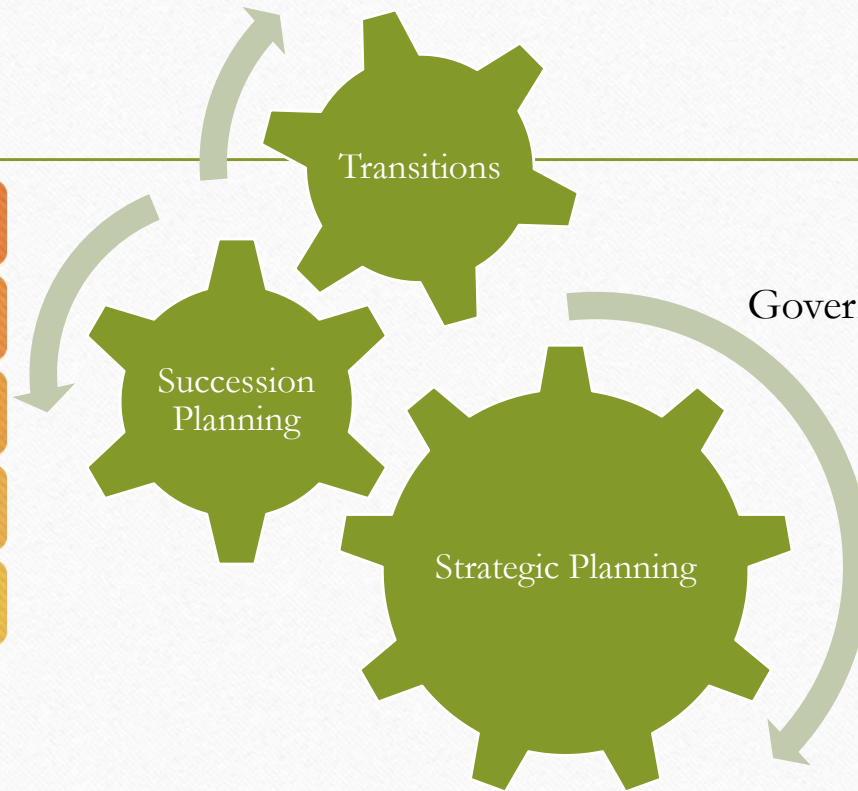
Mission + Vision

Legal Compliance

Board Operations

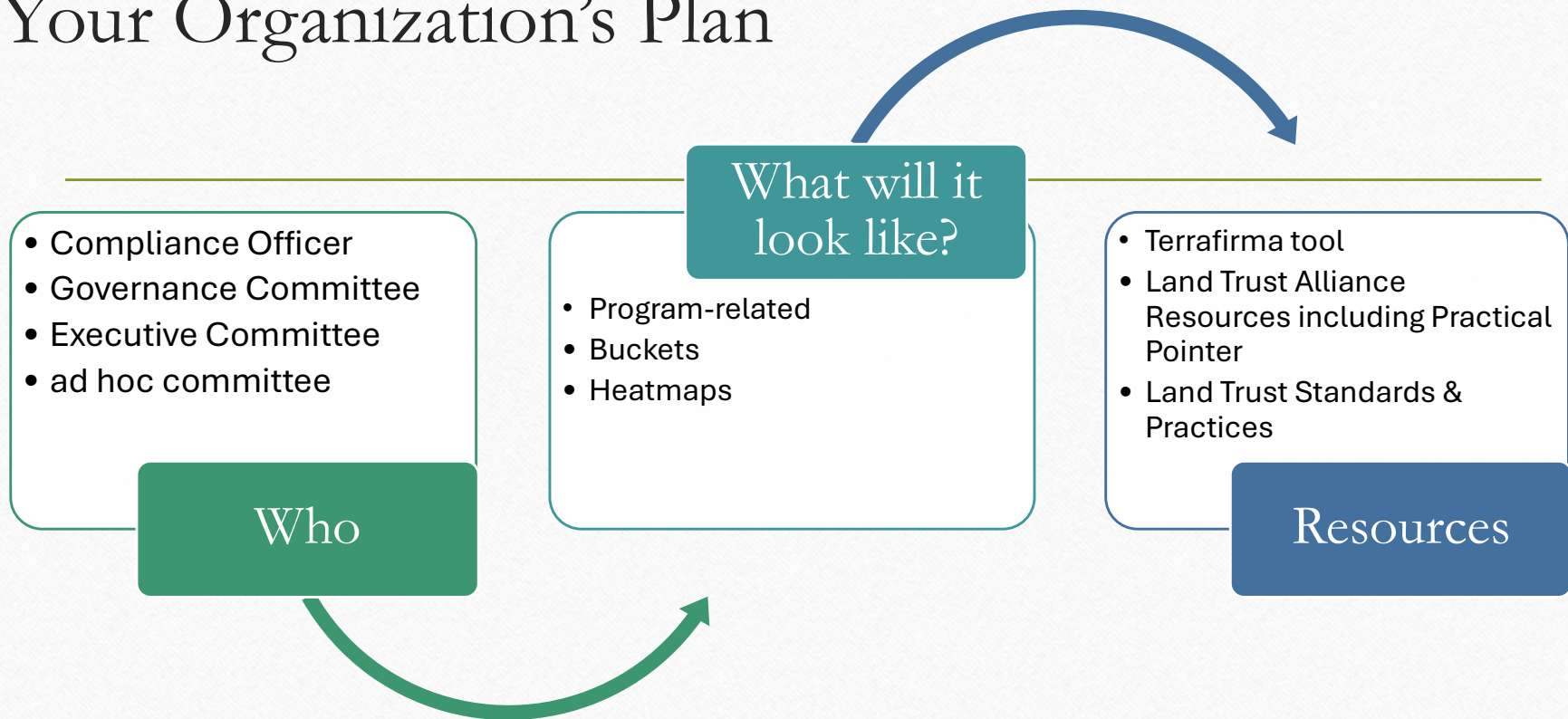
Conflicts of Interest

Personnel



Planning
Board pipeline
Governance attention
& expertise

Your Organization's Plan





Questions, Comments,
and Chat:
Briefly, What are Your
Top Takeaways?

THANK YOU
CONNECTICUT
Land Conservation Council

Share your thoughts! Scan the QR codes below to fill out evaluations online for the 2025 Connecticut Land Conservation Conference



General Conference Evaluations



Workshop Evaluations