

October 4, 2001

Eastern Tallgrass Prairie (BCR 22) - West of the Mississippi River
Integrated Migratory Bird Conservation Plan

Meeting sponsored by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources,
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture,
and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

10 a.m. October 9 to Noon October 10, 2001

Springbrook Environmental Education Facility, Iowa

Including Iowa, Missouri, eastern Nebraska, eastern Kansas, northeastern Oklahoma, and
parts of South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin

(To be followed by a training meeting, see separate sheet for training meeting agenda)

Vision, Purpose, and Desired Outcomes

Vision

Integrate and coordinate bird conservation planning and implementation for all bird species across state lines

Workshop Purpose

Bring together bird conservation experts and managers to develop an integrated, cooperative approach to delivering on-the-ground conservation for all bird species

Desired Workshop Outcomes

- Identification of high priority bird species and their habitat requirements
- Identification of tools to describe locations of birds, habitats, and protected areas
- Discussion of population and habitat objectives
- Delineation of focus areas for on-the-ground conservation and management activities
- Identification of monitoring, research, education, and outreach needs
- Determine most productive follow-up activities
- Begin discussion of funding opportunities and priorities

Agenda

Tuesday, October 9, 2001

7 a.m. - Breakfast

8 a.m. - Optional FIELD TRIP, Springbrook State Park

9:30 a.m. - Break

10 a.m. – Welcome and overview of schedule and agenda – Jim Zohrer

10:15 a.m. – Review of planning meeting vision, purpose, and desired outcomes;
recap of planning meeting of the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative
– Greg Butcher

10:45 a.m. – Recap of BCR 13 planning meeting – Bob Russell

11:00 a.m. – IAFWA Partners in Flight and NABCI Update– Al Farris

11:15 a.m. - Overview of JV and its interest in all-bird planning - Barb Pardo

- 11:30 a.m. - Waterfowl conservation in BCR 22 west of the Mississippi River:
Priority Species, population and habitat objectives, focus areas, on-the-ground projects, research and monitoring needs, Barb Pardo, UMRGLR
JV Coordinator
- 12 NOON – Lunch
- 1 p.m. – Waterfowl conservation in BCR 22 west of the Mississippi River (cont.):
Dale Humburg, Missouri
Dale Garner, Iowa
Mark Vrtiska, Nebraska
- 1:30 p.m. – Waterbird conservation: status of waterbird plan, priority species, areas of concentration for priority species, research and monitoring needs, Bob Russell, FWS Region 3 and group discussion
- 2 p.m. – Shorebird conservation: status of shorebird plan, priority species, areas of concentration for priority species, research and monitoring needs, Bob Russell, FWS Region 3 and group discussion
- 2:45 p.m. – BREAK
- 3:15 p.m. – Opportunities to manage for waterfowl, waterbirds, and shorebirds
Doug Helmers and Dale Humburg, Missouri
- 4:15 p.m. Grassland bird conservation
Federal farm programs - Todd Bogenschutz
PIF priority species; population and habitat goals – Greg Butcher
Grassland bird conservation areas in Missouri – Greg Butcher and Brad Jacobs
Grassland bird conservation area planning in Iowa – Jim Zohrer and Doug Harr
GIS for grassland birds in Iowa – Kathy Andersen
Productivity of birds in restored grasslands – Rolf Koford
Restoration of grasslands – many contributors
Research and monitoring needs
- 6 p.m. – Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. – Meetings by state

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

- 7 a.m. - Breakfast
- 8 a.m. – Shrub and Woodland bird conservation
PIF priority species; population and habitat goals – Greg Butcher
Opportunities for shrub and woodland bird conservation – many contributors
Research and monitoring needs
- 9:30 a.m. – BREAK
- 10 a.m. – Role of GIS in bird conservation planning – Greg Butcher for Rex Johnson and Mike Estey (FWS) and for David Diamond (MORAP)
- Kathy Andersen, Iowa State University
- 11 a.m. – Funding Opportunities: Land purchase, on-the-ground management, GIS, monitoring, research, outreach, education
- 11:30 a.m. – Where do we want to go from here?

- What product(s) do we want? A Plan? A series of proposals? A GIS? A project database?
- How does the BCR work within the context of the JV and the states?
- Do we want a technical committee?
- Do we want to keep east and west separated?
- Will we want a coordinator to help with additional planning? Communication? Project development? Can coordinator function as assistant JV coordinator?
- Do we want to meet again? When? How often?
- Who is missing from this meeting who should be included?
- Does it make sense to plan by BCR within the JV?

12 NOON – Lunch

1 p.m. – Reconvene for training meeting

Iowa- All Bird Training Workshop Summary

Iowa hosted the first in the nation All Bird Training Workshop funded by the Fish and Wildlife Service Grant to the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. It was held at our residential conservation education facility in central Iowa.

DATES: Oct. 9 - Oct. 11, 2001.

Actually two workshops: Integrated Migratory Bird Conservation Planning Meeting (for the Eastern Tallgrass Prairie BCR) the first day and a half (attended by 40 people), and then an Integrated All-Bird Training Workshop the second day and a half (attended by 60 people).

Participants from 7 states representing state conservation agencies (mostly wildlife management staff, administrative staff and non-game staff), FWS, NRCS, DOD, ISU, PIF, Nature Conservancy and Audubon.

(Go over agenda topics.)

Evaluations were generally good, common suggestions were to separate the Planning meeting from the training workshop since there was much duplication in presentations, and to have more practical HOW TO presentations on managing for the various suites of birds.

Cost: \$2,500, Iowa DNR provided the facilities at no cost, the grant paid for participants meals and lodging at the education center. Most participants covered their own travel costs and meal and motel costs when not staying at the education center.