



# Montana/Wyoming All-Bird Conservation Workshop Agenda

August 20-21, 2003  
Billings, MT



## Workshop Agenda

### August 20, 2003 – Gallatin/Bitterroot Rooms

8:00am	Welcome and Opening Comments	Bob Martinka
8:15am	Welcoming Remarks	Jeff Hagener, Director, MT FWP
8:25am	“No Need for a Saturday Night”	MT FWP Award Winning Video

#### National/Regional Initiatives and Programs – Moderator Andrea Cerovski

8:55am	North American Waterfowl Management Plan – The “Mother of All Plans	Joe Kramer
9:20am	North American Shorebird & Waterbird Plans	Suzanne Fellows
9:45am	Partners in Flight Land Bird Plans	Terry Rich
10:10am	North American Bird Conservation Initiative	David Pashley
10:35am	Break	
10:50am	Prairie Pothole Joint Venture	Carol Lively
11:15am	All Bird Planning in the PPJV	Neal Niemuth
11:40am	Intermountain West Joint Venture	Jim Cole

12:05pm Catered Buffet Lunch – Poolside Terrace

#### State/Local Initiatives and Programs – Moderator Dan Casey

1:15pm	Bird Conservation Regions – The Concept	Dan Casey
1:40pm	PIF Montana Bird Conservation Plan	Jock Young
2:05pm	Montana Bird Conservation Partnership	Dan Casey
2:30pm	WY Bird Conservation Plan & Best Management Practices	Andrea Cerovski
2:55pm	Break	
3:15pm	The Nature Conservancy All Bird Cons Effort	Brian Martin
3:40pm	MT Audubon Important Bird Area Program	Jeff Marks
4:00pm	Audubon WY Important Bird Area Program	Vicki Spencer
4:25pm	Montana Success Stories	Rick Northrup
6:00pm	No Host Social with Hors D’ oeuvres – Poolside Terrace	

## August 21, 2003 – Concurrent Sessions

### Gallatin Room

#### *Session A – Federal Agency Initiatives in MT/WY – Moderator Jock Young*

8:15am	Bureau of Land Management Initiatives	Cal McCloskey
8:40am	US Forest Service Initiatives	Skip Kowalski
9:05am	Opportunities in the New Farm Bill	Pete Husby
9:30am	NAWCA	Sam Lawry
9:55am	Where do Land Trusts Fit in the Picture?	Mike Whitfield

10:00am Break

### Bitterroot Room

#### *Session B – Western States Sage Grouse Initiative – Moderator Joe Bohne*

8:15am	Overview of Western States Sage Grouse Initiative	Dwight Bunnell
8:40am	Implementing Sage Grouse Guidelines	Jack Connelly
9:05am	Sage Grouse as Umbrella Species	Terry Rich
9:30am	Sagebrush Bird Communities	Mark Hilliard
9:55am	USGS Sage Map and Prairie Map	Linda Schueck

10:20am Break

### Gallatin Room

#### *Session A – Survey and Database Efforts – Moderator Dick Hutto*

10:40am	Montana Land Bird Monitoring Program	Dick Hutto
11:10am	Monitoring Wyoming's Birds	Doug Faulkner
11:35am	WY Natural Diversity Database	Gary Beauvais
12:00pm	MT Natural Heritage Program and MT Bird Distribution Database	John Carlson

### Bitterroot Room

#### *Session B – Other Initiatives – Moderator T.O. Smith*

10:40am	Montana Tribal Initiatives	Brett Gullett
11:10am	The MT Strategic Wildlife Plan	T.O. Smith
11:35am	MT Birding and Nature Trail	Sue Reel
12:00pm	Ducks Unlimited Perspective	Randy Renner

12:25pm LUNCH – On your own

1:30 – 3:00 BCR 10 and 17 Roundtables/Breakouts

These facilitated roundtable discussions will gather diverse partners from the two primary BCR's that span Wyoming and Montana to discuss issues and opportunities for collaboration in delivering bird conservation at the BCR scale. Topics will include, but are not be limited to, project development, refinement of BCR-level

objectives, identification of cross-border focal areas, existing mechanisms for coordination, data needs, and communications.

### Gallatin Room

#### *Session A –*

1:30pm Roundtable Discussion on BCR 10 – Northern Rockies,  
Dan Casey – Facilitator

### Bitterroot Room

#### *Session B –*

1:30pm Roundtable Discussion on BCR 17 – Badlands and Prairies  
- Facilitator

3:00pm Closing Remarks

Dan Casey

3:15pm Workshop Conclusion

**Thanks for Attending and Have a Safe Trip Home**

**Montana/Wyoming All Bird Conservation Workshop**  
**Summary**  
**By Bob Martinka**  
**Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks**

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Wyoming Department of Game and Fish co-hosted an “All Bird Conservation Workshop” at the Holiday Inn Grand Montana in Billings, MT on August 20-21, 2003. Dan Casey of the American Bird Conservancy played a significant role in the organization and conduct of the event. Montana Audubon also provided support.

Objectives of the workshop were to provide background information and orientation on “All Bird Conservation Initiatives” to state, tribal and federal wildlife and land management agency personnel, non-governmental organizations, and other interested parties. The program included general descriptions of the four major national/hemispheric bird initiatives: The North American Waterfowl Management Plan, North American Shorebird and Waterbird Plans, Partners in Flight Land Bird Plans, and The North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI). Following these presentations, speakers presented background and specifics on Prairie Pothole and Intermountain West Joint Ventures, Montana and Wyoming All Bird Planning and Survey efforts, and other associated regional, state, and local bird conservation programs. The workshop also provided attendees with opportunities to network with individuals associated with the numerous bird conservation initiatives and access to the extensive body of information that attends many of these efforts. Thirty-two different speakers associated with the various initiatives made formal presentations at the workshop. These presenters ranged from national to local in their representation.

In terms of geographic scope, Montana and Wyoming are included in five of the Bird Conservation Regions (BCR's) adopted by NABCI. These are Northern Rockies (BCR10), Prairie Potholes (BCR11), Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau (BCR16), Badlands and Prairies (BCR17), and Shortgrass Prairie (BCR18), all of which extend into neighboring states and provinces. The Intermountain West Joint Venture, Prairie Pothole Joint Venture and the fledgling Northern Great Plains Joint Venture cover these BCR's. These joint ventures are the implementation arm of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and have expanded their missions to include all bird conservation.

There were approximately 90-100 attendees at the workshop representing four state wildlife agencies (MT, WY, ND and SD), numerous federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, two land trusts, one MT Indian reservation, and several universities.

The workshop concluded with facilitated roundtable discussions designed to gather diverse partners from BCR's 10 and 17 that span Wyoming and Montana. These forums discussed issues and opportunities for collaboration in delivering bird conservation at the

BCR scale. Topics included, but were not limited to, project development, refinement of BCR-level objectives, identification of cross-border focal areas, existing mechanisms for coordination, data needs, and communications.

Other meetings held in association with the workshop included the Montana Bird Conservation Partnership, the multi-agency group that coordinates all bird survey and monitoring efforts in Montana. The Wyoming group that is incorporating an all bird initiative into the Northern Great Plain Joint Ventures Land Bird Conservation Plan also met immediately prior to the workshop.