

Michigan All-Bird Conservation
2nd All-Bird Workshop
August 26 & 27, 2004
Holiday Inn, Grayling, MI



Objectives of Workshop

- 1) **To discuss how continental and regional bird conservation objectives relate to development and implementation of bird management & conservation in Michigan.**
- 2) **To discuss approaches to coordinating all bird conservation planning and implementation in the state.**
- 3) **To identify a list of bird species of concern for Michigan.**
- 4) **To form workgroups to further planning and implementation of bird conservation.**
- 5) **To initiate a method of objective-based, coordinated bird monitoring in Michigan in order to evaluate the success of our bird conservation strategies.**

AGENDA

Thursday, August 26

- 8:00 a.m. **Welcome, Introductions, Purpose of Workshop**
 - Lori Sargent, DNR Wildlife Division, Steering Committee Chairperson
- 8:10 –8:30 **Update on the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative (MBCI)**
 Summary of input and direction from October 2003 Workshop and progress in
 implementing suggestions
 - Lori Sargent, DNR Wildlife Division, Steering Committee Chairperson
- 8:30–8:45 **Discussion of Focus Areas**
 - Dave Ewert, The Nature Conservancy
- 8:45–9:15 **Presentation of objectives & goals of MBCI**
 - Lori Sargent, DNR Wildlife Division, Steering Committee Chairperson
- 9:15–9:45 **Update on progress of interactive webpage for collection of research
information in Michigan**
 - Ed Laurent, Michigan State University

BREAK

Links with MBCI

- 10:00–10:30 **Role of Forest Certification in Michigan**
 - Bernie Hubbard, DNR Forest, Mineral & Fire Management Division
- 10:30–11:00 **Landowner Incentive Program (LIP)**
 - Susan Tangora, DNR Wildlife Division

11:00–11:30 **Michigan Comprehensive Wildlife Plan**
- Amy Clark Eagle, DNR Wildlife Division

LUNCH

Building Partnerships

- *How can MBCI strengthen partnerships with public and private organizations in Michigan to foster more effective and efficient delivery of conservation?*

12:30-1:00 **The Wisconsin BCI example**
- Andy Paulios, Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative Coordinator

1:00-1:30 **The Missouri BCI example**
- Andrew Forbes, Missouri Dept. of Conservation/Audubon Missouri

1:30-2:00 **The Ohio BCI example**
- Paul Rodewald, School of Natural Resources, Ohio State University

2:00-2:30 **Partnerships and needs of utility companies**
- Gary Dawson, Consumers Energy

BREAK

How do we set Michigan population and habitat objectives for priority species?

- *The recently published PIF North American Landbird Conservation Plan estimates population sizes for 448 species and sets continental-scale population objectives for 100 Watch List species. A recent national workshop recommended a process for stepping down these objectives to regional and state levels. How does this process apply to Michigan? How can local Michigan data be used to refine continental objectives?*

2:45 – 3:30 **The Stepping Down Process**
- Ken Rosenberg, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

3:30 – 4:15 **Working with Population Objectives to Achieve a Biologically Sound, Community-based Conservation Design for All Birds**
- Tom Will, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Partners in Flight Midwest Regional Coordinator

4:15 – 4:30 **Introduction to Workgroups**
- Richard Wolinski, Michigan Department of Transportation

Friday, August 27

8:00-9:30 **Discussion topics for Workgroups:**

What are the priority species?

How do we set Michigan population and habitat objectives for priority species?

Developing and implementing management strategies

Developing and implementing conservation strategies

LANDBIRD WORKGROUP

Moderators: Tom Will, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Partners in Flight
Kim Hall, Michigan State University

WATERBIRD WORKGROUP

Moderators: Mike Monfils, Michigan Natural Features Inventory
Linda Wires, University of Minnesota

SHOREBIRD WORKGROUP

Moderators: Amy Clark Eagle, DNR Wildlife Division

WATERFOWL WORKGROUP

Moderators: Richard Wolinski, Michigan Department of Transportation
Lori Sargent, DNR Wildlife Division

9:30–10:30 **Reports from workgroups**

Monitoring and Evaluation

- *Some national, regional, and state Coordinated Bird Monitoring programs are forming or are already in place. What are the components of these programs, and how do these components relate to Michigan? How do we initiate? Does MBCI's monitoring effort require a separate committee, or should planning for monitoring be integrated with BCR-level subcommittees?*

10:30-11:00 **Coordinated Monitoring Plan for Canada & US**

Jon Bart, USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center, Boise, ID

11:00–11:30 **How, and why, non-governmental individuals view their role in the collection of relevant sight observations and their potential role in bird conservation.**

- Keith Saylor, Webmaster of Northern Michigan and Michigan Listers website and database

11:00-12:00 **Actions needed to further MBCI**

- Richard Wolinski, Michigan Department of Transportation

- Recruitment of workgroups
- Establishment of timeline for next steps and next meeting

Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative

Second Workshop
August 26-27, 2004
Grayling, MI

The primary objective of the first workshop of the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative was to initiate a dialogue amongst those responsible for bird management in the state and bird specialists to begin consideration of an all-bird management plan for the state of Michigan. The primary objectives of this second workshop were to discuss how continental and regional bird conservation objectives relate to development and implementation of bird management & conservation in Michigan, to discuss approaches to coordinating all bird conservation planning and implementation in the state, to identify a list of bird species of concern for Michigan, to form workgroups to further planning and implementation of bird conservation to initiate a method of objective-based, coordinated bird monitoring in Michigan in order to evaluate the success of our bird conservation strategies.

Lori Sargent started off Thursday morning with a presentation of the goals & objectives that have been drafted by the ad hoc steering committee. Dave Ewert of The Nature Conservancy presented the concept of focus areas and Katie Kahl from Michigan State University updated the group on the status of the database that is being created to collect information on bird-related projects taking place in Michigan. Continuing the theme of conservation projects in Michigan potentially directly or indirectly impacting bird conservation, Keith Kintigh of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) told the group about the status of the forest certification program that is currently underway. Susan Tangora of MDNR updated us on the Landowner Incentive Program and Amy Clark Eagle of MDNR updated us on the status of the Michigan Conservation Strategy.

The afternoon of the first day was devoted to regional and statewide programs and projects. Mike Donovan, Mark Sargent, and Greg Soulliere, from the Wildlife Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), presented information on projects they're involved with at the state level and how they fit into national programs. Amy Clark Eagle, from the MDNR, presented information on the recently initiated Michigan Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan and how the all-bird management efforts will contribute to that effort. We learned that this all-bird management meeting is very timely in relation to this federally-mandated plan. Ray Adams told us about Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and the status of the update of the Michigan Breeding Bird Atlas. The IBA concept was new to most meeting participants and was accepted as a good first effort at focusing on critical bird areas in Michigan. The Michigan Breeding Bird Atlas is in its second year of the update and Ray is actively looking for volunteers to help with survey efforts.

The afternoon focused more on Michigan's role in regional and national conservation efforts. Tom Will of the US Fish & Wildlife Service educated us on the stepping down process, giving us a good overview of how to take regional and national initiatives and translated them into a statewide perspective. Mr. Will also presented information regarding population objectives and how to achieve a biologically sound, community-based conservation design for all birds.

The objective for the second day was to actively involve the meeting participants in focused discussions by separating into smaller workgroups focused on bird groupings – Landbirds, Waterbirds, Shorebirds, Waterfowl. Many agencies and organizations were represented at the meeting, including MDNR, USDA Forest Service, USFWS, The Nature Conservancy, Kalamazoo Nature Center, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Michigan Department of Transportation, Michigan Audubon Society, Detroit Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, and Michigan Chapter of The Wildlife Society. It was agreed that there are probably others that should be included and that some may even be pursued for their participation.

The workgroups' tasks were as follows:

- What are the priority species?
- How do we set Michigan population and habitat objectives for priority species?
- Developing and implementing management strategies
- Developing and implementing conservation strategies

Realizing that this set of tasks was overly ambitious for the time allotted, we thought it was still valuable to start getting participants thinking about these topics and how their organization could be involved and how MBCI could help their organization.

The general consensus on this second workshop was that it opened up many areas that we need to think about and on which action needs to begin.

I would also like to report that the MDNR has hired an All-Bird Coordinator whose responsibilities include coordinating with the MBCI Steering Committee and to coordinate bird management efforts in Michigan. The position was filled by Ms. Karen Cleveland. Unfortunately, Ms. Cleveland couldn't begin her new duties until August 30th and was not able to attend this workshop.

Respectfully submitted
Lori Sargent