

Bird- and Fish-Related Conflict Working Group Report to:

Bird Conservation Committee Report (March 16, 2022)

Craig Bonds (Co-Chair; Texas PWD) and Justine Hasz (Vice-Co-Chair; Wisconsin DNR)

- The WG met remotely (Zoom) for two hours on Friday, March 11th.
- Lesley Kordella and Rachael Pierce (USFWS Migratory Bird Program) provided the WG a presentation and update on the DCC monitoring plan development.
 - WG members held a discussion with Lesley and Rachael on how the WG can effectively engage in this continued development and implementation of the DCC monitoring plan.
- The WG discussed next steps in the WG's 2022 work plan, including:
 - Next steps for assembling a white paper outlining best practices for communication among wildlife and fisheries staffs within and between agencies regarding avian predation issues
 - Develop and administer a survey instrument to learn how existing DCC permits are meeting stakeholder needs
 - A human dimension specialist with the Wisconsin DNR has agreed to assist the WG with this task
 - A small team of WG members is being assembled to focus on this task
 - Identifying and researching possible metrics stakeholders can use to determine the status of conflicts
- The WG is reviewing its membership roster in light of recent churn and developing strategies for backfilling representation
 - Interested WG members are encouraged to contact WG Co-Chair and Vice-Co-Chair to volunteer (must have agency support)
- The WG will be scheduling a single or series of virtual WG meetings late spring and summer to make progress on our work plan
 - The WG plans to meet in person at the September AFWA Conference