



## **Bird- and Fish-Related Conflict Working Group**

Bird Conservation Committee Co-Chair: David Cobb (NC)  
Vice Co-Chair: Scott Anderson (NC)

Fisheries and Water Resources Policy Committee Co- Chair: Craig Bonds (TX)  
Vice Co-Chair: Jim Fredericks (ID)

**March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**2:00 pm to 5:00 pm (Central Standard Time)**  
**Virtual Meeting - Zoom**

86<sup>th</sup> North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference  
Virtual Conference

### **Proposed Agenda:**

- 2:00 PM** Call to Order and Introductions
- 2:10 PM** Double-Crested Cormorant (DCC) Rule Implementation:
- State/Flyway take allocation process (Lesley Kordella – USFWS)
  - Flyway Council planning for DCC monitoring plan (David Cobb, Scott Anderson, and WG Flyway reps)
- 3:00 PM** 2021 BFRCWG Work Plan Updates and Discussion
- Participate with USFWS to evaluate and define monitoring protocols for DCCO populations (Continuation of previous bullet)
  - Engage with the USFWS during and after DCC rulemaking process (This has been accomplished – no discussion needed)
  - Continued engagement post-DCCO rule finalization, capturing feedback on its effects and efficacy in different states and regarding specific applications (Craig Bonds and Jim Fredericks lead discussion – How will we assess and report this?)
  - Consider warranted focus on avian species that are less cosmopolitan, including the American white pelican and Neotropical cormorant (Brief WG discussion whether this needs deferral, given intense focus on DCCs at this time)
- 3:40 PM** Comfort Break (if needed)

85<sup>th</sup> North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference

- 3:50 PM** 2021 BFRCWG Work Plan Updates and Discussion (Continued)
- Develop a briefing paper of best practices for State Directors for mitigating conflict relevant to avian predation issues (David Cobb and Craig Bonds will lead discussion on what this looks like and identify small team to work on this task)
  - Host an in-person meeting (pending health and safety) in South Carolina in the Summer 2021 (Is this a viable option (Y/N)?)
  - Initiate plans for an in-person workshop or symposium focusing on individual case studies and targeted for 2022 (Should we defer to 2023, allowing time for lessons learned under new rule to accrue?)
- 4:25 PM** Identification of any new business for consideration
- 4:45 PM** Next Working Group Meeting(s)
- Summer meeting – TBD (in-person, virtual, or defer?)
  - AFWA - September 12-15, 2021 (Providence, RI)
- 4:55 PM** Meeting Wrap/Adjourn

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*Bird- and Fish-Related Conflict Working Group Charge:*

*“Federal and State Agency members representing the bird and fisheries management disciplines will develop an adaptive approach to identify opportunities for most efficiently addressing the challenges of managing piscivorous birds and affected fishery resources and promote a common understanding of their interactions. The WG reports to the Fisheries and Water Resource Policy Committee and the Bird Conservation Committee. The WG may advance issues to the FWRPC and BCC from which information and requests can be developed and presented to state directors.”*