

**Resident Game Bird Working Group**

**11 September 2018**

Call to Order/Introductions/Review Agenda

Approval of Minutes for the March 2018 meeting

Non-Government Partner and Management Initiative/Plan Updates

* **National Wild Turkey Federation**
* Update on their 3 goals as part of their STHSTH plan
* 6 years of a 10 year plan
* **Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever**
* CRP sign up – lost X number of WL practices
* 15 new internal positions
* **National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan**
* Translocation guidelines
* Small game hunting decline, R3
* **National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative**
* Annual state report
* Interstate translocation
* Leadership workshop (2nd) (NE)

 - too include 9 NGOs

* **North American Grouse Partnership**
* **Sage Brush Initiative**
* Writing a tech. inventory of sage brush
* 21 teams, by BCR & species
* Nov. 30 deadline
* **Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative**
* **Western Quail Working Group**
* Management plan
* Interstate trans.
* Struggle to implement a management plan
* Annual document to focus on research and habitat work
* **Spruce Grouse Partnership**
* **Ruffed Grouse Conservation Plan (from RGS)**
* Changes in staff and positions
* Monitor in grouse – many states interested
* **Chukar/Hungarian Partridge Plan**
* **Others**

\* Need to have a clearinghouse to disseminate information

Translocation Reports and Discussion

Progress Reports

* Western Quail Group – *Robert Perez, TX Parks and Wildlife*
* Multi-species plan
* Need for more information on these quail, but most are stable
* Drafting interstate protocol based on Kansas BMPs, which as a protocol document
* Where did it initiate?
* Looking to have a final draft by January
* National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative – *John Morgan, KDFWR*
* 2017 synthesis on the science of translocation for bobwhites & using past experience and science as a starting point
* How to best coordinate BMPs on a national scale
* Quail 8 – presented to NBCI management board to move forward
* Discussed outline of plan (position statement, goals, guidelines, expectations, support services, request form, reporting template)
* PPT with goals, etc.
* Note that lack of follow through can lead to failure
* National Pheasant Group – *Scott Taylor, National Wild Pheasant Plan*
* Latest draft is similar to WQG plan
* Talking to tech. communities next month (PA) and then to management board

Role of Resident Gamebird Working Group – *Group Discussion*

* Similarities across RGB group, makes sense for this group to consolidate and have a cohesive document for agencies to consider
* Challenging to bring three documents together because three groups report to different authorities
* Suggestion to look for commonalities across documents (look at turkeys too) and see if there is value to bringing commonalities to a more generic document
* Is there value added to a combined document?
* NWTF: Important to document the process as they are losing their institutional money within agencies. There is value in including turkey, but other groups have fulfilled requests from management boards. Need to maintain the value of those documents.
* List of considerations could be more beneficial than guidelines?
* Suggestion that BMPs might go over better
* NWTF may not have had set a standard for how track & transfer was completed
* Some species are habitat-limited (bobwhite) and others are not (turkey)
* NBCI is developing some focal areas in places where bobwhites have been extirpated, so there is a need for a translocation system
* Idea to build on existing plans. Nice to have AFWA offering BMPs
* Recommend steps on how to do this to answer the questions ‘How do you move quail?’
* May not be practical to do compilation of plans
* Concern about new knowledge changing information quickly
* Why don’t we have a synthesis of the science, re: translocations
* Kansas: getting ‘crazy’ requests unrelated to projects, needed justification to respond
* Part of BMPs may be providing justification for saying no
* Standardize template from AFWA lends power
* Could suggest video captures of translocation, so that you can use information for training as it is easier to understand with video rather than a document
* Karen: form a small group to work on outline for this kind of document
* Motion: Steve (?), Second: Mark H. Motion carries.
* Small group: members (John Morgan, Scott Taylor, Robert Perez, Don McKenzie, Mark Hatfield)

Addressing Declines in Gamebird Hunting via R3 and PR

*Scott Taylor, National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan*

Rocket Net Propellant Issue – *Mark Hatfield, NWTF*

New Project Discussion – *Group*

National gamebird harvest data collection (HIP-esque)

Grassland Initiatives

Other Ideas

Adjourn