

Migratory Shore and Upland Game Bird Work Group- Summary

AFWA Meeting- September 10, 2020

Chair: Alicia Hardin Co-Chair: Shaun Oldenburger

The workgroup had between 19-21 participants attend via zoom.

Update from the Dove Task Force-

- Reward Band project- despite covid, it appears the 2nd year of banding has been successfully completed by most states
- Integrated Population Modeling- the preliminary results look promising for determining population estimates (more to come on this), this also has prompted more discussion on harvest strategies and the potential to update them including objectives, thresholds and how those thresholds are determined
- Priority Needs Document (white wing and mourning doves)- awaiting final approval by the USFWS then the work group can take action (possibly at the North American) . Some of the new needs included: Improving dove information in HIP, Developing an Integrated Population Model, Estimating factors affecting hunter R3, and Assessing the economic impact of dove hunting.

Woodcock Task Force-

- Update on the research by Ashley Huinker from Michigan State University
- An update on the Eastern Woodcock Research Cooperative including information about the crossover of woodcocks from one management unit to the other (east and central) and a great map resource showing the migration of the tagged birds
- A short discussion on the Young Forest Initiative and ways to keep that topic alive in this work group (maybe with some crossover from other AFWA work groups like the Forestry Work Group or other Ag Conservation Committees)

Covid Implications on Surveys-

- Many surveys (especially those run by the USFWS) were put on hold during Covid, fortunately this one year blip will likely not drastically impact anything and the USFWS is more confident in getting the survey work done in the future (at least within the US) with new protocols put into place

USFWS Webless Funding- As soon as possible (hopefully by November), the Webless Research RFP will be out, this is for 2021 funding which will be at least \$100,000, perhaps more if some other savings can be found. It was noted that there has been great support within the Migratory Bird office to continue this funding opportunity.

Marsh Bird Survey- Shaun will be sending out a summary via email within in the next few weeks

HIP Updates- Brad gave an update of the project

NABCI- Highlights of the successful virtual NABCI meeting were given and a quick discussion on how to better tell the

The need to put together a document that talks about the importance of the BBL with the help of the flyways and other workgroups was discussed, more assistance is needed with this item.

The workplan will be drafted and sent out to the larger work group via email after the meeting.