

AFWA AND STATE AGENCY INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS



ASSOCIATION of
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

June 2023 XXVII Trilateral Meeting



OVERVIEW

State Fish and Wildlife Agencies work throughout the world on conservation issues as individual states and as members of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association). They understand that achieving conservation goals requires a local, regional, national and global scale approach especially for migratory species. For more details see the overview report of major international projects and actions.

FORUMS WE ENGAGE IN INCLUDE:

- Ramsar Wetland Convention
- Conv. on Int'l Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- World Resources Institute Biodiversity Task Force
- The Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)
- Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Mgmt
- North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI)

SOUTHERN WINGS

Southern Wings facilitates state fish and wildlife agency participation in conservation of migratory birds on their breeding, migration, and nonbreeding sites. Forty-one states participate in the Program. Since its inception, state agencies have contributed almost \$3,900,000 in funding to 24 projects in 11 countries. Currently there are 5 projects in Mexico.

ARIZONA

Since 1996, the AGFD has been implementing wetlands conservation workshops in Mexico in collaboration with CONANP, DUMAC, several Pronatura organizations, and other partners. In 2022, 6 Sonoran pronghorn were transported to Mexico. They were released in 2023. AGFD partners with SEMARNAT and UNAM on lesser long-nosed bat conservation by (continued)

NEW MEXICO

NMDGF participated in several meetings relating to the Species Table WG on Transboundary Species Translocations. The WG's goal is to achieve faster translocation times of conservation species across the international border. They met with relevant Federal CITES and health permitting agencies in Mexico and the U.S. The group was able to succeed in getting permission for wild-to-wild transfers of (continued)

TEXAS

Beginning in 2016-17, Texas was the first state to contribute to wetland and waterfowl projects in Mexico through partnerships with Ducks Unlimited and DUMAC. Projects in Mexico include wetland restoration along the southern part of the Laguna Madre in Tamaulipas. TPWD continues to invite its Mexican colleagues when it holds new training that (continued)

The International Relations Committee guides involvement in and/or engages on international conventions, initiatives, agreements, and policies that impact U.S. state and Canadian provincial and territorial fish and wildlife agencies.

PRODUCTS/ACTIONS OF INTEREST



ARIZONA GAME AND FISH

supporting research studies that deploy GPS tracking units. The state also works on monarch butterfly conservation through the Western Monarch Butterfly Conservation Plan. Collaboration on black-tailed prairie dog conservation and monitoring continued in 2022 in the Janos Biosphere Reserve and in southeastern Arizona.



TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

pertain to management of shared species. Guadalupe fescue is listed as an endangered grass in the U.S and is a species of conservation concern in Mexico. A binational effort has been initiated by partners to assess and attempt augmentation of Guadalupe fescue populations. To address concerns about low genomic diversity, partners are conducting research in Texas and Mexico to estimate genetic diversity of Montezuma quail populations. TPWD has numerous partnerships and projects in the Chihuahan Desert also.



NEW MEXICO GAME AND FISH

Mexican wolves across the international boundary without the need to quarantine animals prior to transfer. NMDGF continues to work with the Mexican Government of CONANP, USFWS, and AGFD on bi-national Mexican wolf recovery efforts. This has included sharing our experiences of challenges and successes on the United States segment of the Mexican Wolf Population.



THE ASSOCIATION

Beyond Southern Wings, the Association works on behalf of the state agencies and Canadian Provinces and Territories in many fora and on many issues. The Association participates in all of the fora listed on page one. It is a member of IUCN. The Association has a CITES Technical WG with a member from each regional association to monitor and take action on CITES issues. The Association works in partnership with Canadian colleagues to develop and implement trapping best management practices.