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2005 MAFWA - Program

SATURDAY JULY 9th

- 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Check-in for Director's Fishing Outing Participants
- 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Meeting for Directors – Charter Assignments and Review of Fishing Outing Agenda
- Hospitality Room 1540 at Sawmill Creek Resort
Hosted by Lake Erie Charter Boat Association.

SUNDAY JULY 10th

- 6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Director's Fishing Outing - By Invitation
Sponsored by U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance
- 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Early Registration (next to Tecumseh Falls)
- 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Hospitality Room at the Granary at Sawmill Creek Resort
Results from Director's Fishing Outing
Hosted by Ohio Game Protectors Association

MONDAY JULY 11th

- 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration (next to Tecumseh Falls)
- 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast for Conference Participants (Pontiac Room)
Sponsored by National Shooting Sports Association
- 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Opening Session and Welcome to Ohio (Birds of Prey Room)
Moderator - *Steve Gray*, Chief, Ohio Division of Wildlife
- 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. State of the States
Hot Topics and Strategic Issues in the States
(3 minute limit per state)
A quick overview of new ideas, programs, and challenges facing each state
Facilitator -*Dan Zekor*
- 9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. State of the IAFWA - *Terry R. Crawford*, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife and President of IAFWA
- 10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. IAFWA Staff Report - *John Baughman*, Executive Vice President, IAFWA

MONDAY JULY 11th (cont.)

10:50 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	Chronic Wasting Disease Update <i>Bruce Morrison</i> , Nebraska Game and Parks
11:20 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Update <i>Matt Hogan</i> , Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (Pontiac Room) Sponsored by American Electric Power Awards Presentations
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	MAFWA Coordinator Report - <i>Ollie Torgerson</i> , MAFWA
1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Discussion of Strategic Issues – Follow-up on State Hot Topics Moderators - <i>Steve Gray and Ollie Torgerson</i> Facilitator - <i>Dan Zekor</i>
2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Regional Reports <i>Robyn Thorson</i> - Region III Director, Ft. Snelling, MN <i>Ralph Morganweck</i> , Region VI Director, Denver, CO
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Recognition of MAFWA Partners Moderator - <i>Ollie Torgerson</i> Introduction of Federal and Non-Governmental Organization Partners
4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Old Woman Creek Freshwater Estuary Presentation <i>Frank Lopez</i> , Manager
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn
5:30 p.m.	Buses leave for Old Woman Creek
6:00 p.m.	Barbeque Dinner Sponsored by Pheasants Forever
8:30 p.m.	First bus leaves from Old Woman Creek
9:00 p.m.	Second bus leaves from Old Woman Creek
Hospitality room will be open at Sawmill Creek Lodge Room 1540	

TUESDAY JULY 12TH

6:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Registration (next to Tecumseh Falls)												
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast buffet sponsored by National Wild Turkey Federation (Pontiac Room)												
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	<p>Presentations of Current Issues in the Midwest (Birds of Prey Room) Moderator - <i>Dave Risley</i></p> <p>Managing Shared Fisheries Resources – <i>Chris Goddard</i>, GLFC <i>Gary Isbell</i>, ODOW</p> <p>Conservation Effect Assessment Project - <i>Ray Evans</i>, ECO Associates and the IAFWA</p> <p>2007 Farm Bill Working Group - <i>Jen Mock</i>, IAFWA</p> <p>Farm Bill Issues/Quail Initiative Update – <i>Sally Benjamin</i>, National Wildlife Biologist, Farm Service Agency</p> <p>Current Sportfishing Issues – <i>Gordon Robertson</i>, Vice President, American Sportfishing Association</p>												
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Break												
10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<p>Building Coalitions with Farm Commodity Organizations in Preparation for the 2007 Farm Bill - <i>Ron Helinski</i>, Wildlife Management Institute</p> <p>Barriers to Hunting Access in Ohio: A Survey of Agricultural and Forested Landowners – <i>Dave Scott</i>, OH Div. Of Wildlife</p> <p>Families Afield Youth Hunting Initiative – <i>Rob Sexton</i>, United States Sportsmen's Alliance, along with NWTF and NSSF</p> <p>Great Lakes Restoration Initiatives <i>Gildo Tori</i>, Ducks Unlimited, Great Lakes Region</p>												
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	<p>Lunch (Pontiac Room) Sponsored by Archery Trade Association</p>												
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	State Contributions to NAWMP/NAWCA Projects in Canada <i>Scott Yaich</i> , Ducks Unlimited, Memphis TN												
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	<p>Committee Reports Moderator: <i>Ollie Torgerson</i></p> <table><tr><td>Law Enforcement</td><td>Deer and Turkey</td></tr><tr><td>Private Lands</td><td>Prairie Grouse</td></tr><tr><td>Public Lands</td><td>Fish and Wildlife Health</td></tr><tr><td>NCN</td><td>Pheasants</td></tr><tr><td>Legal</td><td>MICRA</td></tr><tr><td>Furbearers</td><td></td></tr></table>	Law Enforcement	Deer and Turkey	Private Lands	Prairie Grouse	Public Lands	Fish and Wildlife Health	NCN	Pheasants	Legal	MICRA	Furbearers	
Law Enforcement	Deer and Turkey												
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Legal	MICRA												
Furbearers													

TUESDAY JULY 12th (cont.)

- 3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Break
Sponsored by Ohio Fish and Wildlife Management Association,
Ohio Chapter - The Wildlife Society, Ohio Chapter - The
American Fisheries Society
- 3:15 -p.m. - 3:30 p.m. CITIES Report - *Carolyn Caldwell*, Ohio Div. of Wildlife and
MAFWA CITIES Representative
- 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Questions for Committee Representatives
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn
- 4:30 p.m. Load Buses for Trip to Magee Marsh
Lake Erie Perch Fry Dinner sponsored by Ducks Unlimited
- Director's Archery Fun Shoot sponsored by Archery Trade
Association
- Wildlife Artist Displays
- 8:30 p.m. First bus leaves from Magee Marsh
- 9:00 p.m. Second bus leaves from Magee Marsh
- Hospitality room will be open at Sawmill Creek Lodge Room 1540

WEDNESDAY JULY 13th

- 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast buffet (Pontiac Room)
Sponsored by FDC Enterprises
- 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. MAFWA Business Meeting (Birds of Prey Room)
Moderator - *Steve Gray*, President
10. Call to Order and Roll Call
11. Approval of 2004 Annual Minutes
12. Treasurer's Report – *Joe Kramer*
13. Audit Committee Report – *Doug Hansen*
14. Jaschek Fund Report - *Joe Kramer*
15. Investments Committee - *Doug Hansen*
16. Resolutions Committee – *Larry Nelson*
17. Awards Committee - *Glen Salmon*
18. *By-Laws Committee* – *Jeff Ver Steeg*
19. Approval of Affiliate members
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 11. Committee Report Discussion and Actions Items
Proposed
12. Old Business
13. New Business
14. "Symbolic" Passing of the Gavel
- 12:00 Adjourn - Lunch on your own

Families Afield Youth Hunting Initiative
(Rob Sexton, United States Sportsmen Alliance)
NWTF and NSSF

Notes taken from presentation (minutes)

The three organizations plan to educate the general public, elected officials and sportsmen about the need to lower barriers to youth hunting so they launched this campaign. Had measured success first but feel there is an urgent need for recruitment. Only 5 percent of hunters are in the 16- to 17-year-old range, with the most hunters being between the ages of 35-54. The first hunting experience happens between ages 6 to 15 (nearly 80 percent). Hunter numbers have fallen over past 15 years with the largest declines in the younger age groups. We feel we are not recruiting effectively. The average national hunter replacement ratio for 2000 is .69. In surveys done state by state there are only seven states above 1 percent hunter replacement ratio and four others above .90 percent. The remainder fall below, with Michigan being the lowest at .26 percent.

Classified all 50 states into three classes based on level of restrictions to youth hunters. The first class, very restrictive, had hard age restrictions on youth hunts, 20 states fell into this group. The second class, somewhat restrictive, are the states that did not have unrestricted big game hunting, with 13 states falling in that category. The final category, least restrictive, introduced kids to hunting before age 12 and 17 states fell in this category. We need to have a TBYYB “Try Before You Buy” mentality toward youth hunting. Many factors contribute to recruitment, but there are mainly eight barriers, and we need to attack those one at a time with urban areas being the number one barrier. The percent of Americans hunting is dropping and is projected to be only 3.78 percent of the population by 2025. The reason hunting accidents are big news is because they are so rare. In 2002, 1.7 million youth hunters spent 15.3 million days in the field, and there were only 77 hunting-related shooting incidents reported. NSSF, USSA and NWTF have launched the Families Afield project and are looking for new partners. The project has been launched in three states already, Wisconsin, Ohio and Pennsylvania. So far Wisconsin has introduced a bill, and the other two plan to introduce bills this fall to allow youth to hunt before receiving their hunter education certificate with parents deciding whether the youth are ready to hunt or not. You have to hook the fish before you can land it.

Complete report can be found in written proceedings as pages 87a – 87n, or as an Exhibit on the website.

**Pages 88 – 92 is a PowerPoint Presentation
of the Opening Session Comments
attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org as an Exhibit**

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
2005 ANNUAL MEETING
State of the States Session
July 11, 2005

STRATEGIC ISSUES

Last year we identified an extensive list of “strategic issues” that generated a fair amount of after-hours discussion. Of those issues, six were identified as priority based on a group ranking. Our goal for 2004 is to further develop this strategic process by better describing and ranking the issues before our annual meeting. With the ranked issues in hand, we will take valuable meeting to discuss potential action items for the top three – five.

Top six issues of strategic interest to the Association as identified in 2003:

1. Fish and Wildlife disease and health
2. Farm Bill coordination
3. Stable funding for state fish and wildlife agencies
4. Hunter/angler recruitment and retention
5. Privatization of wildlife (e.g., high fences)
6. Private land access for hunting, fishing, etc.

Individual state/province reports can be found on the website at www.mafwa.iafwa.org

**Pages 94a – 94f is a printed version of the Colorado State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

**Pages 95a – 95c is a printed version of the Kansas State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

**Pages 96a – 96f is a printed version of the Michigan State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

Pages 97a – 97w is a printed version of the South Dakota State Report in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports

**Pages 98a – 98c is a printed version of the Indiana State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

Pages 99a – 99e is a printed version of the Nebraska State Report in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports

**Pages 100a – 100f is a printed version of the Illinois State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

**Pages 101a – 101m is a printed version of the North Dakota State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

Pages 102a – 102b is a printed version of the Wisconsin State Report in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports

**Pages 103a is a printed version of the Minnesota State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

**Pages 104a – 104h is a printed version of the Iowa State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

**Pages 105a – 105g is a printed version of the Ohio State Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

Pages 106a – 106e is a printed version of the Missouri State Report in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports

Pages 107a – 107e is a printed version of the Kentucky State Report in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports

**Pages 108a – 108b is a printed version of the Saskatchewan Province Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org under State of the State Reports**

**Pages 109a – 109y is a printed version of the International Association of
Fish and Wildlife Agencies Washington Staff Report
in the written proceedings, but is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.iafwa.org as an Exhibit**

Chronic Wasting Disease Update
(Bruce Morrison, Nebraska Game and Parks)
(Complete PowerPoint presentation is on the website)

Notes taken from presentation (minutes)

In the past few weeks things have been happening. Midwestern states do have Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), new locations include New York, New Mexico, Saskatchewan, Nebraska, Colorado and Alberta. In New York, on March 27, positive captive deer announced; on April 8, four additional positive captive deer announced; on April 30, completed wild deer sampling, 217 collected; and on May 4, two wild deer tested positive. In Oneida County the wild deer were on a captive farm, the rehabilitator/taxidermist admitted that the rehabilitated deer wandered his property. They were not concerned because they had a chili feed with the meat from the deer. No human cases have been reported yet, but this might be our first test case. There has also been a spread of CWD in New Mexico and a new location in Saskatchewan. In the Midwest, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Minnesota Wisconsin, Illinois and Saskatchewan have had positive animals in either captive, wild or both. Research indicates CWD prion must adhere to cell membrane to be infective. Recently, a Montana judge ruled that they couldn't ban game farms because it was unconstitutional. The 2nd U.S. BSE case in a cow in Texas was found and this strain is closer to French strain than the British strain. Colorado Division of Wildlife and National Park Service are conducting modeling to determine impacts of wolf depredation on CWD. Colorado Division of Wildlife and the City of Boulder are also discussing a project to follow known CWD deer for their lifetime to determine impacts on deer and populations. In 2005, funding from APHIS was made available for CWD work: in Tier 1 - \$280,000 (CWD states); Tier 2 - \$74,000 (bordering states); and Tier 3 - \$53,000 (not bordering). A total \$5 million pot is to be divided among the states and this means less money per state next year because of the outbreak in New York and the bordering states that will qualify for funding. Website www.aoproductions.com/dvdinfo.html has a video "Shedding Light on Chronic Wasting Disease" available and a link to the CWD site www.cwd-info.org Working on CWD Alliance, which could possibly become the Wildlife and Health Alliance. Many organizations are involved, including: Boone and Crockett, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, Pope and Young, Quality Deer Management Association, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Wildlife Management Institute, Campfire Conservation Fund, Bowhunting Preservation Alliance, Isaak Walton League of America, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Dallas Safari Club, Whitetails Unlimited, American Wildlife Conservation Fund, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Cabelas. I saw a sign in a bar in Cairns, Australia, when I was there. The bar was called the Mad Cow Tavern, established 1997. I found that interesting. I will be going to Madison, Wisconsin from here for the CWD Summit. Last year at the North American meeting, John Baughman was discussing having a National Wildlife Disease Study, Canada has one, Mexico has one and we want to have a North American wildlife disease study in place. Becky Humphries, Michigan, is the Chair of the Wildlife Health Committee, but we need to have a movement come out of a private entity, not the states. Love to see it come out of IAFWA with support from the Regional Associations. We need to keep our eyes on what is happening.

**Pages 111a – 111c is a PowerPoint Presentation on
Chronic Wasting Disease in North America
attached separately on the Website www.mafwa.iafwa.org
or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

Matt Hogan, Acting Director, Washington, DC (from minutes)

The Service is making progress on finding a new director, talking to several folks. In fact we have three department positions open and waiting for confirmation. I would like to thank Glen Salmon for taking over co-chair position on the Joint Federal Assistance Policy Task Force. You will hear more from Mitch King tomorrow on the federal assistance program. Comprehensive Statewide Conservation Strategies are due in October, five states have sent in their plans so far. Mike McKenna and Dean Hildebrand represented the MAFWA on this committee. IAFWA Trust Funds Committee, chaired by Glen Salmon, is working with Mitch and the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB), formerly the ATF, and IRS to assure that the states are getting all of the funding they should. Have rejuvenated the Trust Funds Collections Working Group of this committee with strong representation from industry and collections agencies. We are also working with IRS on clarifying terms and closing loopholes on the archery and fishing side and in the future plan to work on the guns and ammo side. The Service is planning an Industry, State and USFWS summit to discuss issues of mutual concern. It is important for all of us to work with our industry partners. On National Wildlife Refuges, Dave Walker is working with our folks on policies to improve hunting and fishing access in six states, including Glacial Ridge in Minnesota and seven other refuges in California, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York and Washington. With the help of Minnesota and The Nature Conservancy, the 35,000 acre Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge is a success story and will be showcased at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation next month. Have a new fishing on refuges guide coming out and are working on the hunting guide. Hope to have live documents on the website. Analyzing comments on CCP. Looking at habitat conditions on the prairies, but the numbers are not good for migratory birds. Could be on the bubble between a liberal and moderate season for waterfowl hunting. Flyways are getting ready to meet. This is the 50th anniversary of waterfowl surveys. The duck stamps went on sale June 30. The winner this year was from South Dakota. The first day of the sale the contest was moved from the post offices to Capitol Hill, but we found out we could not sell anything there, so we had to set up a mobile post office outside and had runners bringing stamps back and forth. Would like to thank Ducks Unlimited (DU) for the story they placed in their magazine. DU has assumed the management of the licensing program for Federal Duck Stamp branded products and will co-host this fall's Duck Stamp Contest in Memphis, Tennessee. This is first time in history that the Federal Duck Stamp art contest will be held outside of Washington, DC. This will be a test for us. The North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) declaration of intent was signed by Mexico and Canada to help conserve North American birds throughout their range and habitat. Bruce McCloskey is the new chair of that committee and supported by Debbie Hahn at the IAFWA. Recently hosted federal working group of all agency partners to draft a national fish habitat plan, thought most wouldn't come to this, 16 or 17 in all showed up and stayed throughout the meeting. Had four-hour meeting and it was encouraging, interested in how they can play a part. Working on a management plan for Asian carp and the final review on black carp is over at the Capitol. Silver and bighead carp starting economic analysis, hope proposal in six months on silver with bighead to follow. Affects import of species. On T&E front, court's ruling in Portland, Oregon on gray wolf issue was a big setback. They went against our rule to delist the gray wolf, no final decision on appeal. Working on getting that appeal moved ahead and likely to hold up to the legal strategy.

Pages 113a – 113f is notes from Matt Hogan from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Acting Director) and is attached separately as an Exhibit in the written proceedings

Robyn Thorson, Region 3 Director, Ft. Snelling, MN (from minutes)

On April 14, 2003 as I was driving to my new post at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, I stopped at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in Ohio and Steve Gray drove up to meet me. I appreciated that. I have prepared packets for you that include a fact sheet on real estate appraisals. In 2003, the real estate appraisal functions of the USFWS, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS) and Bureau Of Reclamation (BOR) were combined into one, the Office of Appraisal Services Directorate (OASD) by the Department of Interior. It has been a rough transition. The Region 3 appraisals are all performed by the Midwest Region of the OASD which is located in the USFWS office at Fort Snelling. My region includes: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin and we look to you in the Midwest for guidance on projects. Joel Brunsvold and I celebrated Lawrence Days. Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration is a process used to restore natural resources injured by hazardous substances. Recovery comes in the form of money or in-kind services and compensation is recovered from companies responsible for the contamination. Tribal grants are awarded to Native American tribes to help conserve and recover endangered, threatened and at-risk species and other wildlife on tribal lands. In 2003-2004 nearly \$22 million was awarded to 80 projects. They are doing a great job working on conservation issues in the Midwest. Salute Law Enforcement on the excellence of relationships, especially would like to compliment my eight states. Matt Hogan mentioned the White House conference. Quite an accomplishment for the Midwest to have two proposals on the first day of President's conference (two new refuges). Working on fisheries and wildlife grants. We hosted a meeting in June and I want to thank the Great Lakes states who participated. Working on an action plan for how USFWS can best work with you in the Great Lakes basin. I would like listening to be the hallmark of our work with you. Several states asked to talk to the USFWS on the Coordinator position. Larry Nelson, MN – We have set up a meeting at 4:45, but are looking for a room. Robyn Thorson - Under the President's Management agenda we were asked if biologist positions could be subject to contracting out. The question really is to look at the entire array of biological functions to see if all of those could be commercially contracted out.

**Pages 115a – 115o are Publications from the
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Region
and is listed separately on their Website <http://midwest.fws.gov>
or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

Region 6 (Mountain-Prairie Region) of the USFWS

Notes for Midwestern Meeting – Mike Stempel

2004 was the first year of using a new valuation method for acquiring grassland and wetland easements in the Dakotas. The system requires no appraisals and uses a simple formula to obtain value. This new program allowed the FWS to protect 75,000 acres in 2004. We can now make purchase offers in as little as 24 hours. . \$10.5 M per year is dedicated to direct land costs in the prairies, mostly in SD.

The FWS continues to facilitate progress on the Platte River Recovery efforts. The Governance Committee (States and FWS) are near completion of negotiations.

The FWS is working with SD and the Forest Service to resolve issues regarding blacktail prairie dog control while conserving introduced ferrets in the Conata basin. The issue may soon be resolved as we work with NGOs to develop a program to fund conservation easements for landowners who do not “control” prairie dogs.

Pallid sturgeon recovery continues; propagation efforts were quite successful in releasing large numbers of yearling pallids in upper river reaches in Montana and in mid-basin reaches near Yankton and down through the lower Missouri River. New genetics information is being evaluated that may indicate that upper river pallids are significantly different from lower Missouri River and Mississippi River pallids. If this proves to be the case after a review of data from our genetics advisory board and the Pallid Recovery Team, we would need to modify our propagation plan that currently allows for capture of wild adults in Montana and shipping of fertilized eggs to Missouri as well as stocking yearling upper-basin-origin pallid yearlings in the Missouri River.

The National Fish Habitat Initiative has gained steam in DOI and with Congress. The IAFWA successfully helped steer the initiative development and now the FWS has become the federal funding and facilitating entity. The FWS will likely have over a million dollars in the next fiscal year to initiate on the ground projects that are supported and/or co-funded by States. The initiative will be further developed to create an action plan beginning at this year’s annual IAFWA meeting in Nashville.

Zebra mussels were found 18 months ago upstream of Gavins Point dam on the Missouri River. Studies conducted 6 months ago failed to find any zebra mussels in that reach. The area thus remains suspect for the zebra mussels.

Asian carp continue to thrive in the Missouri River but Gavins Point dam appears to be an effective block to their upstream spread; so far!

Thousands of pelicans again appear to have abandoned nests at Chase Lake NFW this year. 20,000 adults and 9,000 nests were counted at Chase Lake during the peak of nesting season; however, as of July 6 there were only 2,000 adults and 300-500 chicks. Dead and dying chicks have been sent to the Madison health lab for analysis. This situation has occurred two years in a row. The FWS and South Dakota are continuing to investigate potential causes of the die off of chicks. Many possible causes were ruled out already such as Chlamydia, West Nile virus, etc. It was confirmed that an inordinate level of lice were found on some of the chicks.

**Pages 117a – 117c is a Press Release from the
National Wild Turkey Federation and is listed separately on their
Website www.nwtf.org under “Local Information”, “Ohio”
or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

Old Woman Creek Freshwater Estuary Presentation

Frank Lopez, Manager

Notes taken from presentation (minutes)

Got name from an old Indian legend in 1905, a French trapper fell in love with an Indian maiden who was engaged to a brave who was in love with her. The Indian brave came across the Frenchman while out hunting and tried to shoot him with an arrow, but the Frenchman had a gun and shot the brave. The tribe freed him, but the Indian family pledged to get revenge. Two brothers of the brave tied the Frenchman to a tree and were going to shoot him with an arrow, and the maiden jumped in front of him, and both of them were killed. The maiden's mother was so upset that she jumped into the creek. For many years it was named after the mother, but few people could pronounce her name, so it became Old Woman Creek.

One partner, NOAA is a member, dedicated to estuaries, and this is the only one in the Great Lakes. There is talk that the University of Wisconsin is interested in one and we would be glad to have a partner. We are dedicated to conserving and improving fish and wildlife in our state. We get 70 percent of our funds from NOAA. Example of state employees operating a federal program. This is a fresh water estuary, semi-enclosed coastal wetland with a drowned stream mouth due to glacial rebound. It is a mixing area for lake and stream. At some times of the year it takes on a different aspect because the water does not come in. It is 27 square miles, primarily agricultural lands, soybean and corn in rotation, channelized in upper stream. Not popular entity when the preserve moved there, but we have changed some hearts and minds. These are critical habitat areas, 40 percent of the fish in Lake Erie are spawned here also the food fish are also born there and it takes pollutants out of the water. The estuary is very important for recreation, hunting and fishing. Estuaries have a high economic value \$22,832 per hectare per year in ecosystems. Three tied programs: educational; training – applied research; and stewardship. Visitor Center has 15,000 to 20,000 visitors per year. A lot of people use the preserve to walk, paint and just be outside. Have two dorms on site to lure researchers, one dorm holds 16 people, the other 4. Tremendous natural resources, 11 years had bald eagles, nesting pair this year has 2 eaglets ready to fledge. Some research being done on brown bullheads for 20 years on contaminated sites. Raccoon studies also being done. Lake levels have a tremendous effect, in deep-water years you have tremendous submerged vegetation and see more emergent vegetation and aquatic nuisance species of vegetation in lower water years. Constantly monitoring area and have four data zones which are downloadable for research and lets us look at status and trends. One of these is a chart of nitrate events. Have classroom facilities and right now have teachers and researchers bringing student groups in. Have school groups of all ages and try to get them involved in wetland ecology. Bring scientists in also and the public seems to enjoy meeting them. Have an active involvement in the community and work with college students to work on chemical maps to work with local farmers. We also use many recycled products on site. Steve Gray, OH – Look around tonight, will be on beach side tonight. Buses will leave at 5:30 by shops area and will bring people back in two shifts. Would rather have you ride in the bus or vans because of limited parking. The Upper Mississippi meeting is in the Bobcat Room immediately following this meeting.

**Pages 119a – 119e is a PowerPoint Presentation on
Old Woman Creek Estuary and is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.jafwa.org or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

Federal Assistance Policy Joint Task Force
Mitch King, Assistant Director Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Notes taken from presentation (minutes)

There are six members from the states and three are in the MAFWA region. They are Keith Sexson, Kansas, Glen Salmon, Indiana, and Tom Niebauer, Wisconsin and the Solicitor is Carol Bambery, Michigan. Background: 1) Established in 2002 by charter with USFWS Director (Steve Williams) and IAFWA President (Terry Crawforth) to ensure consistency in application of federal aid (FA) policy; 2) co-chaired by State (Glen Salmon) and FWS member (Mitch King); 3) solicits input from State F&W agencies and USFWS to identify and rank issues in WR/SFR; 4) analyzes national issues and identifies options in a collaborative process; and 5) submits formal recommendations to USFWS Director and IAFWA President. Accomplishments: 1) recommendations have resulted in eight Director Orders and two memos to clarify existing policy; 2) two additional recommendations will soon be director orders/manual chapters; 3) review has resulted in clarification of policy for three issues of national concern; and 4) determined that new policy actions were not needed for several other issues. Director's Orders (DO): DO 152 - Allowable Recreational Activities and Related Facilities (allowable if did not interfere with grant): allows recreational activities that do not interfere with grant's purpose; state fish and wildlife agency determines if recreational activity/facility interferes with grant's purpose; USFWS maintains oversight authority, but does not have to approve the action of the State's decision ahead of time. DO 156 - Budget changes in FA grants (complaints were heard were not being able to transfer money from one part of a grant to another): allows states to transfer funds among direct-cost categories to meet grant objectives in non-construction grants without prior approval of USFWS; provides necessary language for grant agreement; provided "grandfathering" guidance for existing grants. DO 167 - Allowable commercial activities and related facilities (states call): commercial activities/facilities are allowable as long as they don't interfere with grant's fish and wildlife objectives; state determines if commercial activity/facility interferes with grant's purpose; USFWS maintains oversight authority but doesn't have to approve an action of a state's decision ahead of time. DO 168 - Program income from FA grants: defines program income received by the grantee during the grant period; income producing activities are allowable if they are incidental to the accomplishment of a grant purpose; provides guidance on using "gross" vs. "net" income; provides guidance on how the states may use program income; income generated outside of grant period – treated as license revenue and used to support administration of state fish and wildlife agency unless state prefers to restrict this income to purposes consistent with the grant or program generated the income and so stipulates in the grant agreement. DO 175 - Useful life of capital improvements funded by FA grants: useful life is the time during which a federally funded capital improvement is capable of fulfilling its intended purpose with adequate routine maintenance; catastrophic events and future FA funded rehabilitation may alter useful life; state responsible for accountability and control of FA funded capital improvements throughout the useful life; state determines useful life based on an acceptable method and puts it in the grant agreement. DO 178 - Establishment and use of land value as a match: excess match value of land may be used to match subsequent grants if 1) purpose and scope of the new grants do not conflict, and 2) records substantiate remaining value; the rules of WR and SFR programs are applicable to the entire parcel of land when some of its value is first used as match; requires state to place a covenant on deed that ensures land is used in perpetuity for grant's purpose. Each state has received a notebook with each of these DO in it and a transmittal memo that clarifies each one. DO 179 - Determining approval and effective dates for FA grants: ensures that state's

requested starting date for project becomes effective date of grant as long as USFWS receives a completed grant package before that date. DO 182 - Loss of control and disposal of real property: provides guidance on requirements to correct a “loss of control” of real property; provides guidance on requirements to “disposing” of real property; RD approval of corrective actions to restore loss of control is not a “federal action”; RD approval of proposal to dispose of real property is a “federal action”. We are getting a lot of feedback on this one. Manual Chapters – Cost accounting and financial reporting (coming out shortly in the form of a manual chapter – decided to bypass Director’s Order); pre-agreement costs (don’t want to talk much about this one until the Director signs it). Director’s Guidance – Guidance for conducting endangered species act Section 7 consultations on FA grants to states, memo sent out August 23, 2004. Deputy Director’s memo – Eligible for boating access funding sent out June 10, 2004. Other Guidance: Pest/Weed Control on federal assistance lands is basically not a prohibited activity; In-kind match of paid hunter education instructors can be used regardless if they are paid or not, but payment must come from federal source; Excess allowable costs (overmatch) can be use of excess non-federal funds to offset questioned costs, but should be reported during grants period on Financial Status Report and needs to be audited and comply with standards of Financial Management Systems. As of December 2004 the Task Force has been authorized to review issues and recommend solutions for additional Federal Assistance programs. We have sent out a questionnaire to state and USFWS folks to get comments on Statewide Wildlife Grants (SWG) and Landowner Incentive Program (LIP). Next we plan to implement Director’s orders and update existing USFWS manual for Federal Assistance programs.

**Pages 122a – 122i is a PowerPoint Presentation on
Joint Policy Task Force and is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.jafwa.org or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

Managing Shared Fisheries Resources
(Chris Goddard, GLFC and Gary Isbell, ODOW)

Notes taken from presentation (minutes)

Chris Goddard, GLFC – I will provide an overview of the process, share key issues and talk about the shared international resource. Then Gary Isbell will come up and talk about the state's perspective. The Great Lakes fishery management consists of: sustaining fish stocks; protecting diversity; maintaining predator/prey balance; managing based on best information; and balancing the stakeholder interests and needs. The bulk of the management is in eight Great Lake states, Ontario, and the Chippewa and Ottawa tribal entities. The states, the tribes and Ontario came up with their own Joint Strategic Plan (the plan) to establish lake committees. Using the best information available and cooperative management, an agreement was signed with Canada and the USFWS. GLFC is not a signatory to this plan, but performs the secretarial function. Strategies for management under the plan were to have consensus; accountability; information sharing; and ecosystem management. If all entities don't agree the plan does not go forward. Lake committees were formed with management being made up of biologists from province, states and native people. The committees hold public meetings; develop and report on shared objectives; make science-based decisions on stocking, harvest, law enforcement and environmental management; and provides support. The plan does not bind an agency; doesn't violate agency jurisdiction; and doesn't commit federal governments to anything. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) problems consist of: sea lamprey control, the GLFC started 50 years ago to control these fish, collapsed numbers in 1960s and 1970s and have reduced the populations by 90 percent, but this is an on-going effort. By 2005, we will have spent \$15 million on control. Another AIS concern is the goby and zebra mussel problem. We see the mix between these two species having huge impacts because the zebra mussels carry anoxia botulism and if you mix that with the toxic gobies, you have dead fish and wildlife. Asian carp are also causing problems. They are swimming up the Mississippi River. So far Illinois has formed a second block to stop them from coming up the river. We are trying to get legislation passed to ban trading of live fish and hydrological separation would be the next logical step. Prevention of problem species is being worked on through the U.S. National Aquatic Invasive Species Act (NAISA). This is a reauthorization of two former plans – NACPA and NISA. A strategy team was developed through President's Executive Order. The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) plan has five directives: aquaculture; maritime commerce; canals and waterways; organisms in trade; and recreational activities. The main goal of the AIS plan is prevention; but provides support to NAISA; does research; outreach and education; and recommends actions. Cormorants are having an impact on forage base and habitat, and we are pleased that the USFWS has stated cormorant control can be done, but that it will be at state expense and there is no mechanism for coordination. Habitat continues to be a large concern. We have spent tremendous amount of money to classify wetlands, and near-shore habitat, and hope to be able to access loss and gain. The Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program (GLFER) is a cost-share program to restore damaged fishery habitat, \$100 million is authorized for this program and GLFC is a cost-share partner. The plan is coordinated through the Joint Strategic Plan in cooperation with the National Fisheries Habitat Initiative.

Gary Isbell, OH – I will give you the state perspective of this group. Much of the fishery out on the lake wouldn't be possible without the help of GLFC. In 1993, we saw perch populations down to 40,000 pounds from 20 million pounds, now we have about 11 million pound catch because of restraints put in place by the Joint Strategic Plan and what goes on in Lake Committees. There could be mismanagement and overharvest of the fishery if this plan was not in place. We have cooperative fishery management now on the Great Lakes. As Chris discussed we do have aquatic invasive species, but with the passage of NAISA, we can make a difference. Significant changes need to be made and we need state agencies to take an active roll. Review and comment on the AIS action plan which was released on July 7 is needed. You can find the plan at www.aisstrategyteam.org We need to build awareness with stakeholder groups and get governors and legislators involved. On the cormorant issue: This is a very serious, important local issue; but we need a regional solution because without that it will be very hard to control the population and to pay for this plan. We need an advisory solution. We will come to the IAFWA for work on cormorants this fall. Habitat is a big issue, but conduits have not been in place to get things done in the past. The \$100 million authorization ought to get our attention. GLFER has opportunities for federal matching dollars, state/tribal participation; is custom-made for local projects; and offers continued involvement of IAFWA in National Fish Habitat Initiative which is essential.

**Pages 125a – 125k is a PowerPoint Presentation on
Managing Shared Fisheries Resources: Issues and Process
and is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.jafwa.org or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

Presented by Ray Evans
Midwest Directors July, 2005 Annual Meeting

Assessing the Fish and Wildlife Benefits of Farm Bill Programs

Background

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in partnership with other agencies and organizations, is making a concerted effort (known as the Conservation Effects Assessment Project—CEAP), to quantify the environmental benefits of Farm Bill conservation programs and practices. CEAP is currently scheduled to proceed through 2008; however, USDA is expected to continue to monitor the effectiveness of conservation programs through the process established by CEAP beyond that date.

The objective of the Wildlife Component of CEAP is to quantify the benefits that Farm Bill conservation programs and practices provide to fish and wildlife resources on agricultural landscapes and beyond. Outcomes from this effort will enable policy-makers and program managers to more effectively implement existing programs and inform the Congress and the public in the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization process.

NRCS-IAFWA partnership

State fish and wildlife agencies and other members of the wildlife community recognize the immense importance of Farm Bill programs to fish and wildlife conservation on private lands. In an effort to engage state agencies and others interested in the fish and wildlife benefits of Farm Bill programs, NRCS has entered into a cooperative agreement with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) to support the CEAP Wildlife Component. Under this agreement, NRCS and IAFWA will seek the input of regional work groups to identify issues and develop approaches to quantifying fish and wildlife benefits. Four regional work groups are currently envisioned, corresponding roughly to the boundaries of the regional associations. However, regional work groups may establish additional divisions to adequately capture regional variation and to accommodate local needs.

Beginning in 2005, IAFWA will provide leadership in assembling regional groups and in developing regional work plans. Once drafted, regional plans will be assembled by NRCS into a national CEAP Wildlife Component Work Plan, and opportunities for funding monitoring and research needs identified in work plans will be sought through the CEAP funding process and other means.

Your input is needed!

Because of your interest in and knowledge of Farm Bill programs in your state, you are invited to participate in one of the regional work groups. Your valuable input will be greatly appreciated and will help ensure the development of the best approach possible to assessing wildlife benefits in your region.

Jen Mock (IAFWA Farm Bill Coordinator) and Ray Evans are leading the effort for IAFWA. Work groups will be assembled through regional association meetings and conferences and other

venues as needed. Jen and/or Ray will work closely with regional work group members to facilitate development of regional work plans. Please contact Ray Evans if you are willing to participate in this important effort (Cjmegeevans@cs.com, 573 896-4836).

The Northeast Association habitat biologists have scheduled a meeting during the week of September 19, 2005 to explore opportunities to support this effort by identifying key personnel and efforts underway to evaluate the fish and wildlife benefits of Farm Bill conservation actions in the region. Your participation in this meeting is requested. In order to maximize the usefulness of the upcoming workshop, we would like to assemble some basic information on what is already known about the fish and wildlife response in the region and efforts underway that may provide insight into the process.

Please take a few minutes to respond to the questions below and forward this completed questionnaire to Ray Evans at Cjmegeevans@cs.com and Paul Rothbart at paul.rothbart@po.state.ct.us by August 12, 2005. Ray and Paul will compile and summarize the information received for discussion at the workshop.

Questionnaire

Fish and Wildlife Benefits of Farm Bill Practices: Northeast Region

Your Name:

Agency:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

e-mail address:

1. Principle Farm Bill **conservation programs** viewed as important to fish and wildlife resources in your state:

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2. Principle Farm Bill program-supported **conservation practices** used to enhance fish and wildlife habitats in your state:

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3. Principle fish and wildlife species or groups in your state potentially most affected by conservation programs:

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4. List the projects in your state that you are familiar with that assess the response of fish and/or wildlife to conservation programs or practices (completed or in-progress).

Project description/title	Sponsor or PI (if known)

5. In your opinion, list the types of projects (from highest to lowest priority) needed in your state to document fish and/or wildlife response to Farm Bill programs or practices. Estimate budget needs to carry out these projects if possible.

Brief project description (list top priority first)	Budget estimate*

* Information on budget estimates will be useful in seeking funding for projects related to the Conservation Effects Assessment Project.

6. List the names and affiliations of persons in your state that you know are engaged in projects that involve assessing the fish and/or wildlife benefits of Farm Bill programs or practices (may be other state agencies, federal agencies, NGO's, etc.).

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Farm Bill Issues
(Jen Mock, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies)

Notes taken from presentation (minutes)

Jeff Vonk and I sit on CEAP Committee, looking at NRCS programs and we were asked to back up and provide answers for 2007 Farm Bill information. A day late and a dollar short. If they had involved some of their partners we could have helped earlier on. The big purpose of the meeting was to work as a team, wanted to provide data, but not do anything with it. Congress has asked for answers to the billions of dollars going on the ground and if the money is being used wisely. Looking at critical issues, can we filter them into the next budget to get information for next Farm Bill? The 2007 Farm Bill Working Group asked each Regional Association to help develop Farm Bill. MAFWA has Luke Miller and Steve Riley representing them and we look forward to working with them. Missing one individual from Northeast. We meet at WAFWA next week and meet at Chicago if possible, if not at IAFWA in September. Discussions ongoing, the commodity groups have been talking since last summer, trying to talk to them and conservation groups to see where our differences lie and try to go into the next Farm Bill with items we can agree on. The conservation partnership is getting together to discuss where we all stand, discuss ideas, and over time, have a coalition to go to the next Farm Bill. The IAFWA in Nashville, Tennessee will be the first Farm Bill listening session; the next three will be in the Midwest. We need to be prepared to share our ideas to help them form their decisions. If you have a chance to attend those listening sessions, please attend those. The dates are listed in my part of the IAFWA staff report. Appreciate you sending your people to the meeting. What do we do with expiring acres and reenrolling and what do we do for 2007? How do we make it work with all of the different interest groups? We are receptive and we want policy out next month, by the end of August.

Building Coalitions with Farm Commodity Organizations in Preparation for the 2007 Farm Bill

PRESENTATION TO MIDWEST DIRECTOR'S MEETING--TUESDAY, JULY 8th

By

Ron Helinski, Conservation Policy Specialist, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, DC

Introduction

Coalitions*/Coalition Building/Developing Partnerships* have been mentioned many times throughout history as a means to attain an end, in this case contributing to the enhancement of wildlife habitat via Farm Bill conservation programs.

“Successful agencies will avoid conflicts when possible by sharing responsibility with their potential antagonists. The term “partnership” is prevalent today, primarily as a way to enhance funding and workforce levels, but partnership will become standard in the future as a basis for land and water stewardship.” (Fish and Wildlife Agency in 2020, Larry Nielsen and Steve McMullin, 53rd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, Iowa, December, 1991).

At a symposium entitled “Wildlife Management on Private Lands” held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1981, wildlife icons like IAFWA’s Jack Berryman and WMI’s Keith Harmon and Chester McConnell “spoke to how quality land use decisions are connected to cooperative work via partnerships with landowners, government agencies and others.”

Current (November, 2004) NRCS National Biology Handbook (Part 601) goes to great lengths to depict the merits of Conservation partnerships. “Partnerships provide an efficient mechanism for an individual or entity to accomplish more than would otherwise be possible if the individual or entity were working alone. Successful partnerships are based on mutual understanding, trust, effective communications and collaboration, and shared objectives.”

Over the past 25 years we have heard the concept of partnership/coalition development at IAFWA Conferences, North American’s, Wildlife Society Annual Meetings, multiple conservation NGO sessions, NACD Conferences, and even agricultural/commodity meetings. The question I pose to you is “Have partnerships/collaborations worked (related to Farm Bill policy)? If not, why not? (Discussion, evaluate positive and negative [ie. limiting factors]. Purpose to review “how successful, provide encouragement, and look later to define next steps as it relates to MW states engaging in this process).

It Can and Does Work

WMI, 3 years ago, as part of our Farm Bill strategy, initiated a Farm Bill coalition building effort with 12 state fish and wildlife agencies. The states involved were:

Kansas (Schroeder)	NC
Ohio (Miller)	PA
Iowa (Bogenschutz)	NY
South Dakota (Smith)	TX
Arkansas (Long)	CO
Tennessee	OK

Other states involved included:

NE (Baxter)	IL (Cole)
MO (McGuire)	CA
IN (Langell)	

The effort was coordinated by Ashlie Houston. She worked closely with Farm Bill coordinators from those states (listed above). The effort was timed to parallel the debates within the House and Senate on 2002 Farm Bill policy. The effort advocated each state coalition to reach consensus on what they (the state) desired for their state as it pertained to Farm Bill conservation programs. The goal--insure necessary funding to achieve their (the state's) desired goals and objectives.

The coalition meetings took place during the year and involved representatives from agriculture/commodity groups, university, conservation NGO's, state/federal agencies, NACD, etc. In most cases the state coalitions had a game plan on presenting their recommendations to their Congressional state delegations. Because of travel distance, presentations were made in the state (to Congressional reps during recess) or in North Carolina's case, the coalition went directly to Washington, DC to engage their representatives.

To supplement their efforts state coalitions sent an electronic letter to their representatives.

Ashlie made follow up phone calls to Congressional reps in which she received very positive comments from several Hill staffers regarding the recommendations and the diversity of the coalitions. Hearing from the state coalitions were "extremely helpful to the House and Senate."

Coalition/Partnership Benefits

1. Teachable Moments allows for education
2. Cooperation develops because of involvement, resulting in stakeholdership of recommendations
3. Unbiased facilitator lends credibility
4. Foster positive change, develop environment of respect
5. Perceptions, increased communication, enhanced trust

Lessons Learned

That was then, this is now!!

The evolution of state fish and wildlife agencies continues. Mark Duda's work surveying constituents, evolving importance of education and public relations to state fish and wildlife agencies, and the list goes on. You have seen it for yourself, ideas that were once concepts back in the 80's and 90's, now becoming realities. Remember only 3 years ago we were engaged in coalition building efforts for the 2002 Farm Bill. How many people back then determined that this was a waste of time. In many ways we are entering and creating a new era of cooperation and science. Agencies are in the midst of "reinventing themselves", and some will take advantage of the opportunity and there will be some that will continue to lag behind.

Two constants exist that we'll be dealing with overtime:

1. Mission--

Successful agencies know their mission. Part of contributing to the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat will be achieved via working in a collaborative manner with valued constituents. In fact, collaboration/partnerships will be looked at in the future simply as the way to get things done.

2. Change--

Change is the only constant in an organization's life. Given that, agencies are public service organizations subject to the desires of the public and politicians who represent them. They need to be able to adapt to new approaches, strategies and arrangements. If your not using partnerships/coalitions as part of your Farm Bill 07' strategy, then you might be missing the boat as it leaves the dock.

Our Responsibilities in This Room

Where do things get done...at the field level. Who is responsible for the implementation of Farm Bill conservation programs in your state? Most of you in this room ...and probably some others.

So what role do you play in coalition development in your state? Idea generator (facilitator of the concept), constituent identifier, cheerleader, advisor and scientist. Probably most importantly champion for the effort (depending on the agency culture).

Help is available to initiate the effort. Be it from your state Extension Service (facilitators and process development), Conservation NGO's (cooperation, meeting place, dollar assistance), Federal agencies [NRCS, FSA, USFWS, etc.] (data/information), etc. Everyone has a role and responsibility for the group success.

If history is our teacher, coalition efforts and Farm Bill policy development go hand in hand. I've listed the reasons, now it is up to you to initiate. You can count on WMI for assistance. We were there 3 years ago, we'll be there for you tomorrow too.

*Definitions

Partnership-Noun. An *alliance of persons* joined together (in a partnership) involving *close cooperation between parties* having specified responsibilities.

Coalition-Noun. The *union* of things separate into a single body or group. In gov't/or politics--A temporary *alliance of distinct parties, persons*, or states for joint action or to achieve a common purpose.

**Pages 133a – 133f is Handouts from Ron Helinski, WMI
Attached in Exhibits of written proceedings**

**Pages 134a – 134e is a PowerPoint Presentation
“An Update on Fisheries Issues” and is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.jafwa.org or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

**Pages 134f is a Handout from Gordon Robertson, ASA
Attached in Exhibits of written proceedings**

**Pages 135a – 135g is a PowerPoint Presentation
“Barriers to Hunting Access in Ohio: A Survey of Agricultural and Forested Landowners
” and is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.jafwa.org or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

**Pages 136a – 136d is a PowerPoint Presentation
“Great Lakes Restoration – The Future of the Lakes Is In Our Hands”
and is attached separately on the Website
www.mafwa.jafwa.org or as an Exhibit in the written proceedings**

**Pages 137a – 137x is Handouts from Jay McAninch, Archery Trade Association
on the “Archery Industry Update and Issues”
and is attached in Exhibits of the written proceedings**

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**Report of the IAFWA Task Force on
State Contributions to NAWMP/NAWCA Projects in Canada**

12 April 2005

Executive Summary

The federal governments, states, provinces, territories and other partners with shared interests in North America's waterfowl have long cooperated to address their collective obligation to effectively manage waterfowl populations and habitats throughout their international range. In 1986, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) presented broad habitat objectives that would be required to maintain waterfowl populations at desired levels. The habitat joint ventures that soon formed to implement the Plan refined and added to those habitat objectives. However, it was immediately obvious that the most significant hurdle to accomplishing the goals of the Plan would be finding ways to generate the necessary funding.

With passage of the North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) in 1991, an important funding mechanism, and significant challenge, was presented to the waterfowl management community. While NAWCA provided a significant source of funding for wetland conservation projects in the U.S., Canada and Mexico, it required that at least 50% of the available funds be used for projects outside the U.S. (primarily Canada). It further required that all funds used for projects in Canada would have to be matched at least 1:1 by non-federal funds originating in the U.S. In essence, the funds that NAWCA made available for habitat conservation in the U.S. were available only to the extent that non-federal partners could contribute matching funds for habitat projects in Canada.

In response to these challenges and to begin to address the continental habitat conservation needs of the waterfowl resource, in 1991 the IAFWA passed a resolution that established a goal of contributing \$10 million annually for NAWMP/NAWCA projects in Canada. Ducks Unlimited pledged to match each and every dollar contributed by the states before matching with NAWCA funds, thereby ultimately multiplying the impact of each state's contributions by 4 times. Although the IAWFA resolution contributed to a doubling of state contributions over the next three years, contributions to the program leveled out since 1994. Between 1991 and 2004, the states collectively provided \$34.3 million (15.0%) of the total U.S. non-federal match for Canadian projects, Ducks Unlimited matched that and contributed another \$140.8 million (76.5%), and other non-federal partners (e.g., The Nature Conservancy, Pheasants Forever) contributed 8.6%.

Recognizing that the partners in continental waterfowl management were still far short of the habitat goals that would be required to sustain waterfowl population, the IAFWA charged a Task Force to assess the 1991 \$10 million goal, and to re-evaluate the apportionment of that goal among the states. The Task Force was composed of representatives from each of the four flyway councils, each of the four IAFWA regional associations, DU and IAFWA. The Task Force also examined the mechanisms that states participating in this program have used to generate their funding, and solicited state input with respect to impediments to participation that they have encountered, solutions they have employed to address some of those impediments, and suggestions they have for enhancing individual and collective participation in this important

program. The Task Force offers the following recommendations to the Bird Conservation Committee and IAFWA for review and comment. We recommend (#6) a review process involving the Regional Associations that will result in the Task Force finalizing recommendations and drafting a resolution in time for consideration at the IAFWA business meeting in Nashville in September 2005.

RECOMMENDATION #1: IAFWA FUNDING GOAL - The Task Force recommends that IAFWA retain the original \$10 million annual goal, and reaffirm its commitment to making progress in toward that goal.

RECOMMENDATION #2: APPORTIONMENT AMONG STATES - The Task Force recommends that relative percentages of active adult waterfowl hunters and duck harvests averaged over the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s provide the foundation for an updated apportionment of the \$10 million IAFWA goal among the states.

RECOMMENDATION #3: USE OF STATE/NAWCA RELATIONSHIP AS A CONSIDERATION IN EVALUATING STATE CONTRIBUTIONS - The Task Force recommends that the relationship between state funding provided for NAWCA projects in Canada and NAWCA funding received for in-state projects should be reviewed by each state as a consideration in assessing whether it is contributing to NAWCA habitat projects in Canada to an appropriate level.

RECOMMENDATION #4: MINIMUM PARTNERSHIP LEVEL – The Task Force recommends that each state should strive to establish a minimum contribution of at least \$25,000 (with the exception of those states with an apportionment less than that amount).

RECOMMENDATION #5: FIVE-YEAR PLAN – The Task Force recommends that each state develop a five-year plan to make progress toward their individual state's goals by 2010.

RECOMMENDATION #6: REVIEW PROCESS – The Task Force recommends that each Regional Association review these recommendations at their spring/summer 2005 business meetings, and provide comments and other recommendations to this Task Force prior to August 1, 2005, whereupon the Task Force will finalize the report and prepare a resolution as appropriate for consideration at the September 2005 IAFWA Business Meeting.

**Pages 140a – 140dd is the complete report Handouts from Len Ugarenko and Scott Yaich
“Report of the IAFWA Task Force on State Contributions to NAWMP/NAWCA Projects
in Canada” is attached in Exhibits of the written proceedings**

**Pages 141a – 141g is a PowerPoint Presentation
“Report of the IAFWA Task Force on State Contributions to NAWMP/NAWCA Projects
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