



## MAFWA UPDATE

Centerville, Iowa, June 27, 2011

- **NBCI 2.0 completed** – A complete overhaul of the original 2002 NBCI was completed and unveiled at the North American Wildlife Conference in Kansas City, Missouri in March 2011. The NBCI 2.0 involves 25 states—including 8 MAFWA states—and engaged more than 600 biologists, to rank the entire landscape into high/medium/low potential for bobwhite restoration.
  - NBCI 2.0 step-down plans in development in KS, MO and other states.
- **First-ever Midwest NBTC meeting** – Following expansion of the former Southeast Quail Study Group to the National Bobwhite Technical Committee, the group's first annual meeting outside the Southeast was well attended in August 2010, in Wichita, KS.
- **2011 NBTC Annual Meeting** – August 9-12, in Tallahassee, FL. Features a special session for state Quail Coordinators (Tuesday afternoon, Aug. 9):
  - NBCI 2.0 step-down training,
  - Workshop to improve NBCI state inventory.
- **NBCI Farm Bill activities** – The NBCI is increasing its involvement in the 2012 Farm Bill:
  - NBCI is active on AFWA's 2012 Farm Bill Working Group and TRCP's Ag and Wildlife Working Group.
  - "Short-term rotational CRP practice" proposed by NBTC to stimulate improved habitat quality and eliminate the need for mid-contract management.
  - "Natives First" policy proposal for NRCS is being developed by the NBTC to catalyze discussions to minimize use of aggressive introduced plants and promote reliance on native plants whenever feasible.
  - NBCI staff are making progress to get center-pivot corners eligible for CRP's CP33.
- **Quail VII** – The Arizona Game and Fish Department is hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> national quail symposium in January 2012 in Tucson. The NBTC now is the permanent home of this long-standing national symposium series.
- **Miscellaneous NBCI services and activities:**
  - NBCI staff are working with state quail coordinators to build a national database to inventory, compile and track bobwhite management and monitoring data.
  - Standing offer of services to publicize states' NBCI activities and success stories.
  - Developing a Bobwhite Foundation to bring private money to support NBCI efforts.
  - NBCI staff McKenzie and Dailey met with Midwest Pheasant Study Group in 2009 (ND) and 2010 (IN) to provide NBCI update and consult on pheasant plan development.
  - NBCI is forming new native grassland alliance with Pollinator Partnership.
  - New shortleaf pine savannah ecosystem alliance being lead by NBCI in Midsouth.
- **MAFWA NBCI member states:** IA, KS, KY, MO, NE, OH.
  - Pledged NBCI member states: IL, IN
  - Other possible member states: CO, MI, SD, WI

NBCI 2.0 For States