

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS



MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES

JUNE, 2017

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
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PREAMBLE

The name of this organization shall be the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association). The Association shall be organized and operated as a non-profit professional association as described in 501(c)(6) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code with the purpose of promoting the protection, preservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources.

The Conservation Enhancement Fund (Fund) shall be organized and operated as a non-profit charitable organization as described in 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

The Association and the Fund were incorporated in the State of Kansas on August 19, 2005. The Association and the Fund shall comply with K.S.A. 17-1759, et seq., known as the "Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act." To the extent these bylaws conflict with a provision of the Act, the Act shall govern.

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) to protect the right of jurisdiction of the Midwestern states over their wildlife resources on public and private lands;
- (b) to scrutinize carefully state and federal wildlife legislation and regulations and to offer support or opposition to legislative proposals or federal regulations in accordance with the best interests of the Midwestern states;
- (c) to serve as a clearinghouse for the exchange of ideas concerning wildlife and fisheries management, research techniques, wildlife law enforcement, hunting and outdoor safety, and information and education;
- (d) and to encourage and assist sportsmen's and conservationists' organizations so that the fullest measure of cooperation may be secured from our citizenry in the protection, preservation, restoration and management of our fish and wildlife resources.

The Association met for the first time on October 28, 1934 in Des Moines, Iowa. At that time the group was known as the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Commissioners. The Association first received its non-profit status in 1968. The Association's name was changed to the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Commissioners in 1972, to the Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 1977, and to the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 2001.

ARTICLE I

OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the Association shall be President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President. The President and both Vice-Presidents shall be the duly authorized voting representative of their member state or province and shall be selected on an alphabetical rotation basis, with the First Vice-President being from the state or province next in order of rotation following the President and the Second Vice-President being from the state or province next in rotation following the First Vice-President. The term of office shall commence 30 days following adjournment of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (AFWA) annual meeting and conclude 30 days following adjournment of the succeeding annual AFWA meeting. The First Vice-President shall automatically succeed to President if he/she remains eligible. In the event that the immediate President separates from a member agency (or is replaced by that agency), the First Vice-President shall fulfill the remaining term, followed by their regular term.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the officers identified in Article I, Section 1 and one representative from each state and province except those represented by the officers. Such state or provincial Board member shall be the chief executive officer of the fish and wildlife agency of his/her state or province, or his/her designee. A Board member may, by written notification to the President, designate a voting proxy from the Board member's state or province. However, Executive Committee members may not designate a proxy for the conduct of Executive Committee business.

ARTICLE II

OTHER ASSOCIATION POSITIONS

Section 1. The Association shall establish the position of "Treasurer." An Association member agency may provide an individual to serve in this capacity or the Association may contract with a member agency or an individual to fill this position. This is a nonvoting position.

Section 2. The Association shall also establish the position of "Executive Secretary." An Association member agency may provide an individual to serve in this capacity or the Association may contract with a member agency or an individual to fill the position. This is a nonvoting position.

Section 3. The Association may establish the position of "Recording Secretary." This is a nonvoting position.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be by states and provinces and representation of each state and province at meetings shall be by its duly authorized representative or representatives.

Section 2. The area of membership in the Association shall be the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, and the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario and such additional states and provinces as may request membership and be elected by majority vote of the member states and provinces in annual meeting.

Section 3. Membership in the Association of an individual shall terminate upon the expiration of the member's term of office as a state fish and wildlife administrator.

Section 4. Other professional organizations may be granted affiliate membership in the Association based upon demonstration that the Constitution and Bylaws of said organizations meet the basic standards of the Association. Application for affiliate membership shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary at least 90 days prior to a regular meeting of the Association and shall include a current Constitution and Bylaws and a letter stating the organization's justification for affiliate membership. Affiliate membership shall be voted on by the voting representatives and must attain a majority vote of a quorum. Affiliated membership dues shall be \$75.00 per year; however, this fee may be waived by a majority vote of a quorum. The fee is automatically waived for affiliated conservation agencies or organizations that provide annual financial resources to support the Association through the following sponsorships: Major Sponsor (\$5,000 or more); Gold Sponsor (\$3,000-4,999); Silver Sponsor (\$2,000-2,999); Bronze Sponsor (\$1,000-1,999); and Sponsor (\$500-999).

ARTICLE IV

DUTIES OF OFFICERS and OTHER POSITIONS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, appoint all special committees, preside at meetings of the Board of Directors, and perform such other duties as are naturally incumbent upon the office to serve the Association and the Fund. Copies of the annual proceedings shall be forwarded to each member in good standing, with the cost of preparation and handling to be paid out of Association funds. All other copies are for distribution at the discretion of the host state or province.

Section 2. The First Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the latter's absence, and specific duties may be assigned as deemed necessary by the President.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall conduct the business of the Association.

Section 4. The Executive Secretary shall perform the following services for the Association and the Fund:

- (1) Function as the official "Executive Secretary" for the Association carrying out liaison services by keeping in communication via e-mail, mailings, phone contact and personal visits with member Directors, or their designated representatives, to enhance the viability of the Association.
- (2) Work to obtain direct involvement and commitment of member Directors and affiliate leaders to build strength in the Association as a leading force in the Midwest on behalf of fish and wildlife issues.
- (3) Assist the Executive Director of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in coordinating actions and communications relevant to the Midwest Association.
- (4) Respond to inquiries for information regarding the Association and the Fund and to routine correspondence.
- (5) Develop and maintain a web site for the Association.
- (6) Carry out directives of the President and/or Executive Committee of the Association.
- (7) Assist with the scheduling of meetings and conference calls and notify appropriate members.
- (8) Record minutes in the absence of the Recording Secretary.
- (9) Provide such other services as may be mutually agreed upon by both parties.

Section 5. The Recording Secretary shall perform the following services:

- (1) Record and publish the annual proceedings of the Association.
- (2) Record and retain the minutes of all meetings of the Association, and perform such other duties as are naturally incumbent upon the office.
- (3) Assist other officers and positions with correspondence and record keeping.

- (4) Serve as the custodian of all permanent files and records of the Association.
- (5) Other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall perform the following services for the Association and the Fund:

- (1) Be custodian of all funds of the Association and the Fund.
- (2) Establish and have access to Association and Fund bank accounts.
- (3) Draw all warrants for payment of claims properly presented and expend funds necessary to pay appropriately invoiced bills, provided such warrants are signed by a director selected and approved by the Executive Committee.
- (4) Invoice members and sponsors and collect dues and funds.
- (5) Review monthly account reports and monitor income and expenditures.
- (6) Prepare reports to the Executive Committee detailing income, expenditures and asset values.
- (7) Prepare and present annual budgets, financial and audit reports.
- (8) Perform record-keeping, reporting and filing actions to ensure the Association complies with its governing documents and any other relevant laws or regulations, including but not limited to any required filings with the state of Kansas or the Internal Revenue Service to maintain the Association's status as a tax-exempt non-profit organization and legal entity, and provide a report of any such required actions to the Executive Committee at its next meeting.
- (9) Develop, present and oversee budgets, accounts and financial statements.
- (10) Ensure that appropriate accounting procedures and controls are in place.
- (11) Serve as liaison with any staff and volunteers about Association and Fund financial matters.
- (12) Monitor the Association's investment activity and ensure its consistency

with the Association's policies and legal responsibilities; liaise with the Investments Committee and review reports submitted thereby.

- (13) Ensure independent examination or audits are executed and any recommendations are implemented; provide report of results at the regular annual meeting.
- (14) Make formal presentation of the accounts at the regular annual meeting and more frequently as requested by the Executive Secretary, the President or the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

One regular meeting shall be held annually. The meeting will be held in and hosted by the state or province in which the President has administrative responsibility, or in such other locations designated by the Association. It is the intent of the Association that the costs of the annual meetings and related business functions may be paid by the Association. When necessary, special meetings may be called by the President or the Executive Secretary. Members shall be given 90 days' notice of regular annual meetings; 60 days' notice for special, in-person meetings; and five days' notice for special, telephonic meetings and telephonic meetings of the Executive Committee..

The Association may authorize members, affiliates and other groups to exhibit at its meetings, subject to the Exhibitor/Sponsor Policy approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

VOTING

Voting shall be by states and provinces, as units. Each state and province shall have one vote. All voting shall be by voice vote, except that a reasonable request by any member state or province for a secret ballot shall be honored. Any matters of Association business requiring action in the interim between meetings may be handled by the Executive Committee, by majority vote of that committee.

ARTICLE VII

DUES

Annual Dues shall be \$3,800 per member state and \$100 per province, payable in advance, at, or before each annual meeting; provided that annual dues may be suspended for

any given year by a majority vote of a quorum. Dues shall be adjusted annually by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. Dues shall be adjusted using the annual change in the CPI-U for the month of January of the previous fiscal year. The annual dues for the upcoming year shall be reported at the Association's regular annual meeting by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VIII

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall be January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE IX

QUORUM

A quorum is defined as a simple majority of the states.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENT

The Constitution and Bylaws (Bylaws) of the Association may be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of a quorum; provided, however, a written copy of such proposed amendment shall have been received by the President and the Executive Secretary and sent to members at least 30 days before the regular annual meeting or special meeting called for that purpose; and provided that such changes shall be effective only to the extent they are authorized by applicable law. Proposed Bylaws amendments should be presented to, or generated by, the Bylaws Committee and reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to submitting to voting members of the Association for their consideration. With approval of the First Vice-President, the President may call for voting by mail (including electronic mail) in lieu of a meeting. In this event, the 30-day notice shall still apply, the date of opening ballots shall be previously announced, notice sent to each member within forty-eight hours of vote tabulation by the Executive Secretary and all ballots shall be kept for one year following the vote.

ARTICLE XI

TYPES OF COMMITTEES/BOARDS

Section 1. There shall be three kinds of committees: Standing, President's Ad Hoc, and Technical Working.

Section 2. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the incoming President within 30 days after assuming office, they shall serve during the period intervening between annual meetings and at such meetings, or until the purpose of each such committee has been accomplished and it has been discharged by the President.

- A. The Executive Committee shall be composed of six members of the Association: The President, First Vice President, Second Vice-President, immediate Past President, and two other members to be appointed by the President with specific consideration for geographical balance. Any state or province represented on the Executive Committee by more than one individual shall be restricted to a single vote on this committee. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association between its business meetings, make recommendations to the Association as necessary and shall perform such other duties as may be specified in these bylaws. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the Board of Directors and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President as necessary. The Executive Committee may also act via conference call or by mail (including electronic mail). In the event that an officer of the Association or the immediate Past President separates from a member agency (or is replaced by that agency), their replacement in a member agency shall serve for the remainder of their term, with the exception of President. If the President separates from a member agency (or is replaced by that agency), their replacement in a member agency will serve in their place on the Executive Committee for the remainder of the term as a Special Board Member with voting rights, and the First Vice-President will succeed to President for the remainder of the term.
- B. The Auditing Committee shall be composed of three members: The First Vice President of the Association, who shall act as chairman, and two other members to be appointed by the President. The Auditing Committee shall audit the financial records of the Association annually and report the result of its audit at the annual regular meeting.
- C. The Resolutions Committee shall be composed of three members, one of which shall be designated as Chairman by the President. Copies of proposed resolutions should be received by the President and the Executive Secretary and sent to members for their consideration at least 30 days before the regular annual meeting. Courtesy resolutions and resolutions of a last minute nature may be recommended to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting. Furthermore, proposed resolutions for which an urgent need arises between annual meetings may be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration via mail (including electronic mail), provided members are given a 15-day notice. Members shall be notified of the vote outcome by the Executive Secretary within forty-eight hours of vote tabulation.
- D. The Awards Committee shall be composed of five members, one of which shall be

designated as Chairman by the President. The Awards Committee shall administer the official annual awards program of the Association.

- E. The Bylaws Committee shall be composed of at least one member, designated by the President. The Bylaws Committee shall recommend Bylaws changes to the Executive Committee for consideration.
- F. The Investments Committee shall be composed of three members. The President shall designate one of the members as Chairman. The purpose of the committee is to review investments, including the Jaschek portfolio, the Conservation Enhancement Fund, and other permanent assets of the Association and make recommendations to the Association per the investment policy statement. The Investments Committee shall make an annual report to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.
- G. The Conservation Enhancement Fund shall be overseen by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the Executive Committee plus one additional Association member appointed by the President. The purpose of the Fund shall be to support those activities of the Association which maintain and enhance the capability of all member states and provinces to develop and implement comprehensive fish and wildlife programs for all species of wildlife and their habitats. The Conservation Enhancement Fund Committee shall make recommendations for expenditures from the Fund for consideration by the Board of Directors at the regular annual meeting. The Committee shall report its activities, including no activity in the event there are no funds in the Fund, annually to the Board of Directors when making its recommendations.
- H. The Program Committee shall be comprised of four members, one from the host state of the previous annual meeting, one from the host state of the current annual meeting, one from the host state of the next annual meeting, and the Executive Secretary. The purpose of the committee is to assist the host state with developing presentation and discussion topics and suggesting speakers for the non-business portion of meeting.

Section 3. Ad Hoc Committees may be established as deemed necessary by the President of the Association or vote of the Members and shall serve until the purpose of each such committee has been accomplished and it has been discharged by the President or by vote of the Members.

Section 4. The Association may establish Technical Working Committees as deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the Association. Upon establishment, these committees shall adhere to the following:

- A. Within one year from establishment, each committee shall submit to the

Association for approval a Mission Statement, a list of specific responsibilities, and a description of operating procedures that will become part of the official minutes of the Association.

- B. All Technical Working Committees shall submit a written report electronically to the President and the Executive Secretary 30 days in advance of the annual meeting of the Association and may choose to conduct necessary committee business during the period between annual meetings as per their approved operating procedures.
- C. Each Technical Working Committee shall be automatically abolished by the first of August every three years unless reinstated by vote of the Association. As the end of the third year approaches, the Association shall assess the merits of reinstating the Technical Working Committee.
- D. Resolutions from Technical Working Committees for Association action shall be submitted to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee 30 days in advance of the annual meeting for consideration by the Board of Directors.

The Association recognizes the following Technical Working Committees (year of automatic abolishment in parentheses):

Climate Change (2019)
Legal Committee (2020)
National Conservation Need (NCN) Committee (2020)
Midwest Private Lands Wildlife Management Group (2018)
Midwest Public Lands Technical Working Committee (2019)
Midwest Wildlife and Fish Health Committee (2019)
Midwest Deer and Wild Turkey Study Group (2020)
Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers (2020)
Midwest Furbearer Group (2018)
Wildlife Action Plan Technical Working Committee (2018)
Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Technical Working Group (2020)

ARTICLE XII

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

Adopted 1936

Amended 1942
Amended 1944
Amended 1949
Amended 1954
Amended 1960
Amended 1964
Amended 1969
Amended 1971
Amended 1972
Amended 1975
Amended 1976
Amended 1977
Amended 1978
Amended 1980
Amended 1987
Amended 1993
Amended 1995
Amended 1996
Amended 2000
Amended 2001
Amended July 16, 2003
Amended July 13, 2004
Amended July 13, 2005
Amended July 12, 2006
Amended July 18, 2007
Amended July 2, 2008
Amended July 1, 2009
Amended December 23, 2009
Amended June 29, 2011
Amended June 27, 2012
Amended June 26, 2013
Amended June 25, 2014
Amended July 1, 2015
Amended June 29, 2016
Amended June 28, 2017



The background of the slide is a solid orange color with a faint, repeating pattern of stylized leaves. The leaves are a slightly darker shade of orange and are scattered across the entire surface, creating a textured, organic feel.

Executive Secretary

Annual Report 2017

President Transition

Ziehmer



Draper



Farewell

Myers



Welcome

Parker Pauley



Garner



Treasurer

Roger Luebbert



Monarch Butterfly Conservation & NFWF Grants



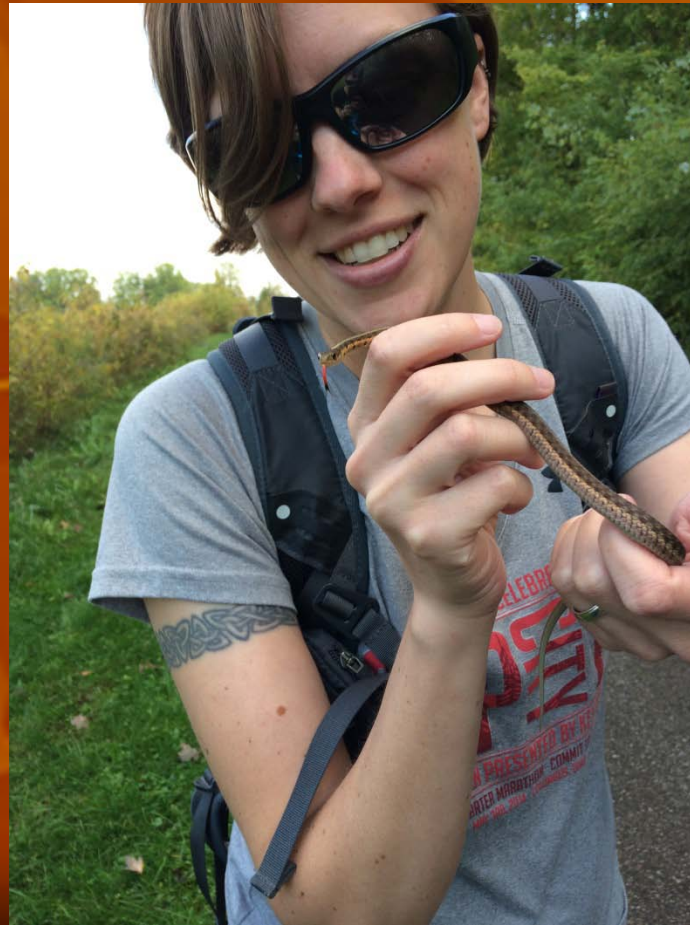
Monarch State Liaison

Ed Boggess



Monarch Technical Coordinator

Claire Beck



New Affiliate Members

AFS



American Fisheries Society

TWS



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation

Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference



**Strengthening
Natural
Resources
through
Collaboration**

78th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

Milwaukee, Wisconsin | January 28-31, 2018



MIDWEST
Association of
Fish & Wildlife
Agencies

**84TH MIDWEST ASSOCIATION
OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES
ANNUAL DIRECTORS' MEETING**

FINAL PROGRAM

JUNE 25-28, 2017
EUGENE T. MAHONEY STATE PARK
ASHLAND, NEBRASKA

Thank You!!!

NEBRASKA

— GAME  PARKS —

• DELANEY •
MEETING & EVENT
MANAGEMENT, LLC

Est. 1997

Celebrating 10+ Years of Service

Sponsorships



Other Duties *“As Assigned”*



Thank You!!!

Bill Moritz



Thank You!!!

Carol Bambery



Thank You!!!

Sheila Kemmis



Thank You!!!

Wisconsin DNR

Cathy Stepp



Kurt Thiede



Next MAFWA Conference

Bismarck, North Dakota
June 24-27, 2018
Ramkota Hotel



NORTH DAKOTA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

The background of the slide is a solid orange color with a pattern of faint, stylized leaf silhouettes in a slightly darker shade of orange. The leaves are scattered across the frame, some overlapping, creating a subtle texture.

Questions?



National Wild Pheasant Conservation
Plan & Partnerships

Annual Report

April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017

Message from the Chairman

It is hard to believe a year has passed since we officially joined together to begin implementing the National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan. Getting a Plan Coordinator hired and establishing the Management Board were the first essential steps of our new partnership. These initial steps have facilitated a more formal dialogue among the states and fellow bird conservation organizations. We crafted an all-important statement of our mission that is to *"foster science-based, socially-supported policies and programs that enhance wild pheasant populations, provide recreational opportunities to pheasant hunters, and support the economics and social values of communities"*. More importantly, we have a great start on several policy, science, and communication fronts, and this report details those first-year accomplishments.

But now the work really begins. Looking ahead, we must turn our mission statement into action and results. We need to use the strength of collaboration to put more acres of better, strategically-placed pheasant habitat on the ground in each of our respective states. Members of this partnership all agree that the 2018 Farm Bill is the primary vehicle for delivering these acres, so the partnership's activities will focus on influencing the provisions of the 2018 Farm Bill from now until it is passed. I look forward to working with you in this endeavor – grassland wildlife, pheasant hunters, and bird dogs everywhere are relying on us to be successful. Thanks for all you have done and continue to do on behalf of our shared wildlife heritage!

Tony Leif

Chairman, National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan Management Board
Director, Division of Wildlife, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

"Our mission is to foster science-based, socially-supported policies and programs that enhance wild pheasant populations, provide recreational opportunities to pheasant hunters, and support the economics and social values of communities."



Organization Formation

Dr. Scott Taylor began work as the Plan Coordinator on April 6th, 2016, hired through a partnership between Pheasants Forever, Inc. and the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Funding for the position was contributed by 18 state wildlife agencies and Pheasants Forever, Inc. Scott came to the partnership after serving most recently as the Wildlife Division Administrator for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

The [National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan Management Board](#) was formed in June to provide strategic direction for the partnership, with Tony Leif of South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks serving as its first chair. The Management Board held its first meeting in September in Philadelphia, PA, and met again in March in Spokane, WA (subset of attendees below). Those meet-



ings produced a set of standard operating procedures, a mission statement, and a set of priority policy, science, and communication objectives.

The [National Wild Pheasant Technical Committee](#), whose members wrote the National Plan formally approved in 2013, held its annual meeting in September in Tipton, KS (below). The meeting provided a forum to



share ideas about management programs and approaches, as well as an opportunity to provide feedback to the Coordinator on priority science and policy work items for the larger partnership.

Farm Bill Advocacy

The National Plan identifies the upcoming Farm Bill as the primary key to meeting our collective pheasant



management objectives. As such, the Management Board began a two-part approach to influence this critical legislation. First, the Board and the Technical Committee collaborated on a [preliminary Farm Bill white paper](#), listing a broad set of recommendations designed to influence the conservation community's early discussions about setting priorities. Based on feedback from some of our partners, this approach was successful, and several of our recommendations became benchmarks in, for example, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Farm Bill platform approved in March.

The next phase of the strategy is just underway. The partnership will identify a smaller set of priorities on which to concentrate by polling our members, and then define a corresponding set of advocacy work items for the Coordinator.

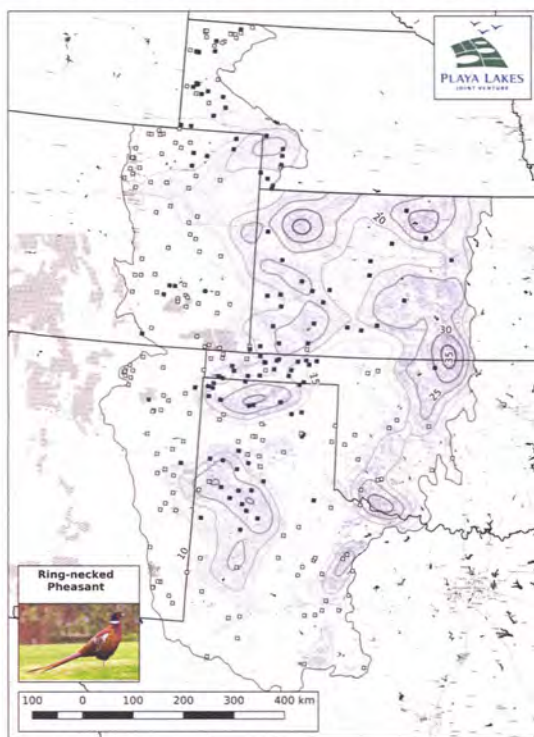


Finally, the partnership helped coordinate the National Pheasant Summit in conjunction with Pheasants Forever's annual Pheasant Fest in Minneapolis, MN. Speakers included Governor Mark Dayton (MN), Governor Dennis Daugaard (SD), Representative Collin Peterson (MN) (left to right, above), and representatives from four state wildlife agencies (Greg Hoch with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Todd Bo-

enschutz with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Tom Kirschenmann with South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, and Alicia Hardin with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission). All emphasized the need for a larger CRP acreage cap in the 2018 Farm Bill. Thanks to Pheasants Forever's Dave Nomsen for conceiving and organizing the event, and the staff from the four agencies for their excellent presentations.

Improving Science Tools

Sound science drives the partnership's policy recommendations, and one of our key objectives is to use new and existing science to address key regional and national policy questions. The Coordinator is working with the [Playa Lakes Joint Venture and their Integrated Bird Monitoring in Bird Conservation Regions \(IMBCR\) data set](#) (below) to help estimate changes in pheasant abundance based on potential landcover changes under



different policy and management scenarios in the southern portion of the species' range. If successful, this approach can serve as a model for other regions and joint ventures, with the ultimate goal of creating a range-wide decision support tool.

Gathering Range-wide Perspectives

The Coordinator traveled to a number of states this year to visit with partner agency staff about local projects and priorities. These included trips to Washington and Oregon to see habitat projects in the arid West, to Kansas to discuss the early stages of a research project on pheasant use of cover crops (above right), to Penn-



sylvania to visit their pheasant restoration areas and production facilities, and to Nebraska, Minnesota, and South Dakota agency headquarters to discuss partnership priorities with administrative staff. He also met with Pheasants Forever's Executive Team at their headquarters in Saint Paul, MN.

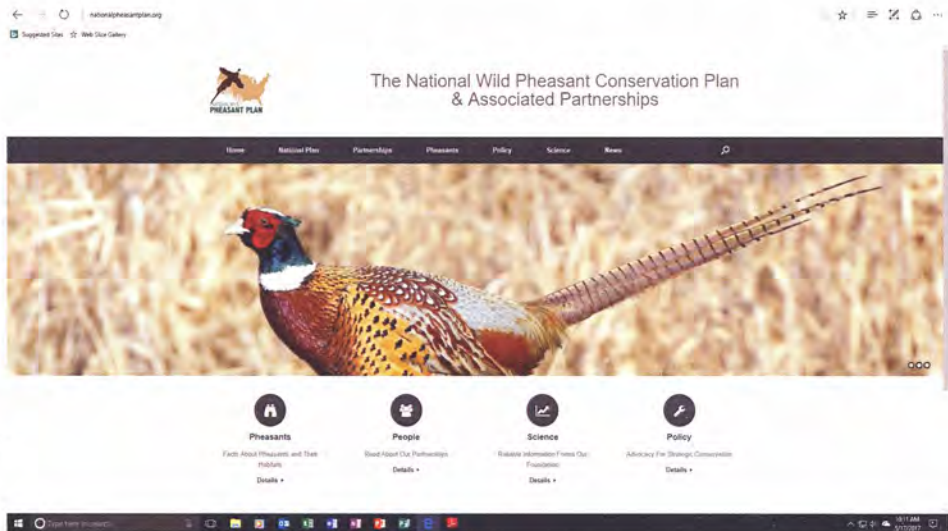
Communication with Other Conservation Partners

As a new organization, it was important to communicate our formation and priorities to others in the conservation community throughout our first year. To that end, the Coordinator made introductory presentations at meetings of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' directors (St. Louis, MO) and Private Lands Working Group (Columbia, MO); the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' directors and wildlife chiefs (Cody, WY); the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (Washington, D.C.); the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Resident Game Bird Working Group (Philadelphia, PA and Spokane, WA);



and the National Bobwhite Technical Committee (Lincoln, NE). He also travelled to meet staff with the Nebraska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Playa Lakes Joint Venture, Partners in Flight, and National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative about potential shared objectives and future collaboration.

Beyond personal interactions, the partnership developed a website early in 2017 to provide an accessible repository of fundamental information about pheasants, our partners, and our plan. The site can be found at www.nationalpheasantplan.org.



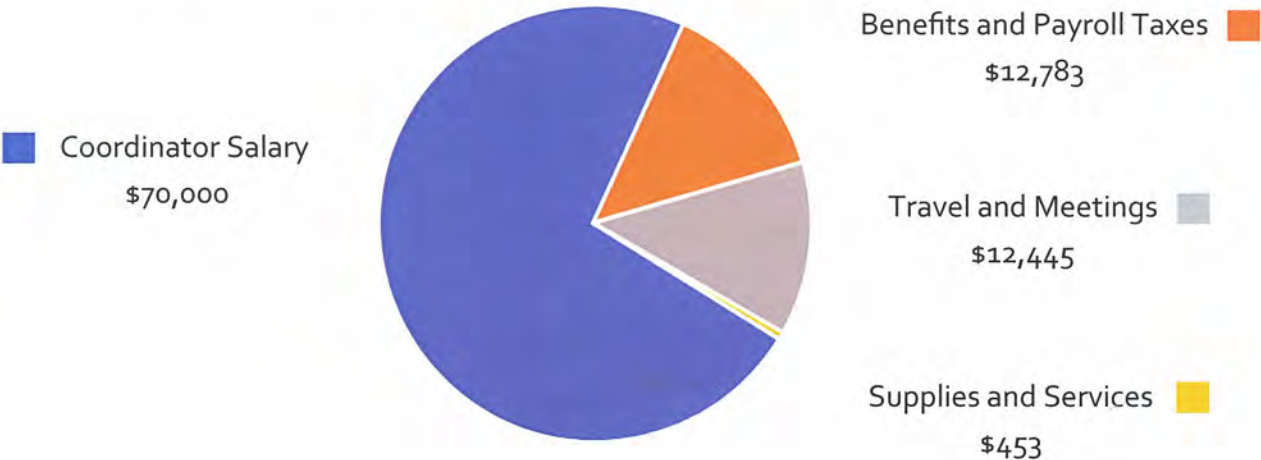
Financial Activity

Funding for the Plan Coordinator position was derived from contributions by 18 state wildlife agencies and Pheasants Forever, Inc. State contributions ranged from \$3,000 to \$15,000 for the position's initial three-year term, and PF contributed \$30,000 (plus administration of the position), for a total of \$268,500. The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies annually invoices the states for their contributions, reimburses PF for expenditures associated with the position, and deducts a 5% banking fee.

The following agencies and organizations provided financial support for the Coordinator position:

- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
- New Mexico Game and Fish Department
- North Dakota Game and Fish Department
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pheasants Forever, Inc.
- South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Total Coordinator Expenditures (April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017): **\$95,681**



U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Pat Roberts, Committee Chairman (R-KS)

Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member (D-MI)

Majority Members

Thad Cochran (R-MS)

Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

John Boozman (R-AR)

John Hoeven (R-ND)

Joni Ernst (R-IA)

Charles Grassley (R-IA)

John Thune (R-SD)

Steve Daines (R-MT)

David Perdue (R-GA)

Luther Strange (R-AL)

Minority Members

Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

Sherrod Brown (D-OH)

Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)

Michael Bennet (D-CO)

Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)

Joe Donnelly (D-IN)

Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)

Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA)

Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

States with Senate and House Ag Committee members:

Alabama (S, H)

Arizona (H)

Arkansas (S, H)

California (H)

Colorado (S)

Delaware (H)

Florida (H)

Georgia (S, H)

Illinois (H)

Indiana (S)

Iowa (S, H)

Kansas (S, H)

Kentucky (S, H)

Louisiana (H)

Massachusetts (H)

Michigan (S)

Minnesota (S, H)

Mississippi (S, H)

Missouri (H)

Montana (S)

Nebraska (H)

New Hampshire (H)

New Mexico (H)

New York (S, H)

North Carolina (H)

North Dakota (S)

Ohio (S, H)

Oklahoma (H)

Pennsylvania (S, H)

South Dakota (S)

Tennessee (H)

Texas (H)

U.S. Virgin Islands (H)

Vermont (S)

Virginia (H)

Maryland (S)

Underlined = MAFWA state

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture

K. Michael Conaway, Committee Chairman (R-TX-11)

Collin C. Peterson, Ranking Member (D-MN-07)

Majority Members

Glenn Thompson, Vice-Chairman (R-PA-05)

Bob Goodlatte (R-VA-06)

Frank D. Lucas (R-OK-03)

Steve King (R-IA-04)

Mike Rogers (R-AL-03)

Bob Gibbs (R-OH-07)

Austin Scott (R-GA-08)

Rick Crawford (R-AR-01)

Scott DesJarlais (R-TN-04)

Vicky Hartzler (R-MO-04)

Jeff Denham (R-CA-10)

Doug LaMalfa (R-CA-01)

Rodney Davis (R-IL-13)

Ted Yoho (R-FL-03)

Rick Allen (R-GA-12)

Mike Bost (R-IL-12)

David Rouzer (R-NC-07)

Ralph Abraham (R-LA-05)

Trent Kelly (R-MS-01)

James Comer (R-KY-01)

Roger Marshall (R-KS-01)

Don Bacon (R-NE-02)

John Faso (R-NY-19)

Neal Dunn (R-FL-02)

Jodey Arrington (R-TX-19)

Minority Members

David Scott (D-GA-13)

Jim Costa (D-CA-16)

Timothy J. Walz (D-MN-01)

Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH-11)

Jim McGovern (D-MA-02)

Filemon Vela (D-TX-34)

Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM-01)

Ann Kuster (D-NH-02)

Rick Nolan (D-MN-08)

Cheri Bustos (D-IL-17)

Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY-18)

Stacey Plaskett (D-VI-At Large)

Alma Adams (D-NC-12)

Dwight Evans (D-PA-02)

Al Lawson, Jr. (D-FL-05)

Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-20)

Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ-01)

Darren Soto (D-FL-09)

Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE-At Large)

Underlined = MAFWA state

Support for Grassland Bird Conservation and Research

Whereas, North American grassland ecosystems are home to a suite of declining bird, pollinators and other grassland dependent wildlife; and

Whereas, those grasslands are under ongoing threats of conversion to cropland, non-native pasture and development; and

Whereas, only 53% of the total acres in the Great Plains remain as intact grasslands, with 53 million acres of grassland converted to cropland across the Great Plains just since 2009; and

Whereas, 84% of the intact habitat in the Great Plains is privately owned, and more than 80% of grassland bird distributions nationwide are on private lands (U.S. State of the Birds Report 2013); and

Whereas, in the Eastern U.S. true native grasslands are for practical purposes completely extirpated, and other habitats that support grassland species such as longleaf pine savannahs have declined from 90 million acres to 3 million acres ; and

Whereas, other threats to intact grasslands such as woody invasion, fragmentation, introduction of non-native species, aquifer depletion and lack of proper management such as prescribed burning further impact the diversity and health of grassland ecosystems, threatening our agricultural heritage and human quality of life in rural America; and

Whereas, grassland birds are dependent on multiple countries to meet full life cycle needs have declined most dramatically, by 70% since 1970 (NABCI 2016); and petitions for listing as threatened or endangered are imminent; and

Whereas, grassland birds have shown some of the most dramatic population declines of any suite of North American avifauna (North American Bird Conservation Initiative's, The State of North American Birds 2016); and

Whereas, 27% of grassland birds of conservation concern have slipped below Watch List threshold (NABCI 2016), and many will lose 50% of their remaining population by 2050 (PIF 2016); and

Whereas, Grassland birds represent a significant proportion of Species of Greatest Conservation Need and state T&E species in nearly every U.S. state (e.g. Grasshopper Sparrow in 35 states); and

Whereas, Highly important resident gamebird species, including Northern Bobwhite, Scaled Quail, Lesser and Greater Prairie-Chickens, and Ring-necked Pheasant, are among the most steeply declining grassland birds, contributing to a loss of significant recreational income to states;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recognizes the urgent plight of North America's grasslands and supports increased trilateral resources for conservation, research, monitoring and evaluation of grasslands and the bird communities that depend on them. Actions to support include identifying specific trilateral threats and limiting factors causing the declines of the highest concern species and conservation efforts to stabilize and reverse trends.

Be it further resolved, that significant new investment in voluntary and incentive-based efforts, such as conservation provisions in the U.S. Farm Bill, to improve the quality and diversity of remaining grasslands and to slow or reverse declines in grassland bird populations, is supported by State and Provincial members.



MIDWEST

Association of
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PROPOSED CALENDAR YEAR 2018 BUDGET

June 28, 2017

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

Conference Account Budget Table of Contents

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**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2016 BUDGET TO ACTUAL
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Receipts	Calendar Year 2016 Budget	Calendar Year 2016 Actual
Annual dues	\$49,702.04	76,106.30 *
Affiliate dues	1,200.00	1,500.00
Sponsorships/Exhibitors	54,500.00	48,000.00
Conference registrations	22,000.00	25,410.00
Hotel supplement	1,000.00	4,134.20 **
Administrative Fee:		
Southern Wings	500.00	1,000.00
National Pheasant Coordinator		9,700.00
2016 Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conf.-Michigan		3,644.00
Interest	75.00	243.63
Total Receipts	\$128,977.04	\$169,738.13
Disbursements		
Conference Disbursements:		
Delaney Meeting & Event Management	\$11,815.00	\$13,006.35
Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality, etc.	30,000.00	27,438.41
Gifts and Awards	4,200.00	1,651.02
Total Conference Disbursements	\$46,015.00	\$42,095.78
Executive Secretary		
Pay	41,553.50	40,529.10
Travel	6,000.00	6,943.75
Treasurer		
Pay	15,200.00	11,780.00
Travel	4,500.00	2,315.15
Secretary Travel	1,500.00	377.02
Accountant	1,500.00	1,567.50
Insurance	1,200.00	1,392.00
Bank Charges	600.00	
Web posting and hosting	250.00	
Transfers to Other Accounts		7,045.27
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	442.04
Total Disbursements	\$119,318.50	\$114,487.61
Surplus/Deficit	\$9,658.54	\$55,250.52

* Calendar year 2015 membership dues invoices were mailed in early 2016.

** Hotel supplement includes both the 2015 and 2016 conference.

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2017 BUDGET STATUS
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

	Calendar Year 2017 Budget	
	Budget	Actual Through June 7, 2017
Receipts		
Annual dues based on 13 states as members @ \$3,830.12	\$49,791.56	\$3,800.00
Annual dues based on 3 provinces as members @ \$101.48	304.44	201.36
Affiliate dues based on 16 @ \$75	1,200.00	300.00
Sponsorships/Exhibitors	47,500.00	39,000.00
Conference registrations	22,000.00	3,900.00
Hotel supplement	1,000.00	
Southern Wings administrative fee	4,625.00	750.00
Pheasants Banking Fee	3,725.00	
Interest	75.00	125.21
Total Receipts	<u>\$130,221.00</u>	<u>\$48,076.57</u>
Disbursements		
Conference Disbursements:		
Delaney Meeting and Event Management	\$14,930.00	\$6,185.85
Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality room, etc.	30,000.00	2,914.00
Conference gifts and Award plaques	4,200.00	
Total Conference Disbursements	<u>\$49,130.00</u>	<u>\$9,099.85</u>
Executive Secretary:		
Pay - 1,000 hours @ \$40.86 plus 2.5% bonus	41,881.50	24,837.70
Travel	6,000.00	2,945.78
Treasurer:		
Pay - 400 hours @ \$38.00	15,200.00	7,448.00
Travel - 3 conferences @ \$1,500 each	4,500.00	2,425.52
Secretary travel - 1 conference @ \$1,500 each	1,500.00	325.00
Accountant	1,500.00	1,586.25
Insurance	1,200.00	
Bank charges	600.00	550.73
Web posting and hosting	250.00	687.18
Trademark Renewal	-	850.00
North Central Section of Wildlife Society - Leadership Workshop		665.20
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	287.47
Total Disbursements	<u>\$122,761.50</u>	<u>\$51,708.68</u>
Receipts over Disbursements	\$7,459.50	(\$3,632.11)

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Estimated Receipts	Calendar Year 2018 Proposed Budget	Description
Annual state membership dues - 13 states @ \$3,915.50	\$50,901.50	CPI change - 2.229%
Annual provinces memberships - 3 provinces @ \$103.74	311.22	CPI change - 2.229%
Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	975.00	Assumes 13 affiliates in 2018
Sponsorships/Exhibitors	47,500.00	No change from 2017 budget
Conference registrations	22,000.00	No change from 2017 budget
Hotel supplement	2,000.00	2016 conference actual - rounded
Southern Wings administrative fee	1,000.00	CY2016 actual
NFWF Monarch Grant administrative fee	4,500.00	Estimated CY2018 indirect charge
Interest	243.63	CY2016 actual
Total Estimated Receipts	<u>\$129,431.35</u>	
Estimated Disbursements		
Conference Disbursements:		
Delaney Meeting and Event Management	\$12,437.18	Per Contract
Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality room, etc.	30,000.00	No change from 2017 budget
Conference gifts and awards	4,200.00	No change from 2017 budget
Total Conference Disbursements	<u>\$46,637.18</u>	
Executive Secretary:		
Pay - 1,000 hours @ \$43.44 plus 2.5%	44,526.00	CPI change - 2.229%
Travel	7,000.00	CY2016 actual - rounded
Treasurer:		
Pay - 400 hours @ \$38.85	15,540.00	CPI change - 2.229%
Travel - 3 conferences @ \$1,500	4,500.00	No change from 2017 budget
Secretary travel - 1 conference @ \$1,500	1,500.00	No change from 2017 budget
Accountant	1,567.50	CY2016 actual
Insurance	1,392.00	CY2016 actual
Web posting and hosting	250.00	No change from 2017 budget
NCS-TWS Leadership Workshop	1,000.00	New line item
New Sound System	1,135.00	New line item
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	No change from 2017 budget
Total Estimated Disbursements	<u>\$126,047.68</u>	
Estimated Receipts over Disbursements	\$3,383.67	

Note: Does not include an administrative fee for the National Pheasant Coordinator program which is currently not scheduled to continue beyond 2017; however, this may change.