

**Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Annual Meeting
July 12 - 15, 2003
Omaha, Nebraska**

ACTION ITEMS

- ▶ Held Strategic Thinking Session with Directors or their Designee (Completed 7/14/02)
Completed Action Items
 - Investigate the possibility of creating and filling a coordinator position for the Association. (2002)New Action Items
 - Need to develop and implement a long-term strategy for funding the coordinator position.
 - Need to develop a coordinator's work plan by (When?); coordinator's work plan should flow from directives given at the Association's annual meeting and the Association's work plan.
 - Continue working toward broader inclusion of relevant outside groups and organizations. Look for more and better ways of sharing information and identifying issues of mutual interest, and opportunities for collaboration.
 - Develop a standard message or theme (mission statement, purpose, description of role) that directors and the coordinator can carry to Midwest committees and working groups.
 - Develop an official list of Midwest Association "Affiliates" with described roles and benefits; request regular updates from official affiliates at annual meeting.
 - Directors should attend committee/work group meetings when being hosted by their state.
 - Directors should strongly consider participating in committees/work groups as an official liaison.
 - Ex. Board should develop an annual Association work plan by (When?).
 - Coordinator should develop annual Coordinator's work plan by (When?).
 - Develop standard format for "State of the State" reports. Reports would be developed and submitted annually, ahead of the annual meeting.
 - Compile and share reports ahead of annual meeting by hard copy on website or both.Ongoing Action Items
 - Invite other agencies and organizations to present reports/briefings at meetings. (2002)
 - Have organizations and committees report progress at meetings. (2002)
- ▶ Accepted Minutes from last year's annual meeting in Springfield, Missouri. (Completed 7/15/03)
- ▶ Voted to accept Treasurer's Report, balance as of June 30, 2003 - \$230,526.95. (Completed 7/15/03)
- ▶ Voted to accept the Audit Committee Report. (Completed 7/15/03)

- Review Merrill Lynch fund
- ▶ Three resolutions presented (Completed 7/15/03).
 - Resolution 1: Missouri River Enhancement and Monitoring - Kirk Nelson, NE
Letter to IAFWA for endorsement and distribution as listed
 - Resolution 2: The Ban on Importation of Ruminants and Ruminant Parts from Canada - Bruce Morrison, NE
Request USDA, US Dept of Interior, USFWS conduct review
 - Resolution 3: The Importation of Exotic Animals and Possible Wildlife Disease Ramifications - Bruce Morrison, NE
Request USDA, US Dept of Interior cooperate with Office of International Epizootics to maintain records of animal disease occurrence in other parts of world and develop and implement strategies to prohibit importation to U.S.
- ▶ Voted to accept Legal Committee Report. (Completed 7/15/03)
 - John Hoskins volunteered to be Liaison to this group
- ▶ Private Lands Working Group Report. (Completed 7/15/03)
 - Keith Sexson volunteered to be Liaison to this group
 - Have group come up with recommendations on compliance issues for MAFWA on swampbuster and sodbuster
- ▶ Voted to accept Public Lands Management Working Group Report. (Completed 7/15/03)
 - Tim Bremicker volunteered to be Liaison to this group
- ▶ Voted to accept Wildlife Health Committee Report. (Completed 7/15/03)
 - George Burgoyne volunteered to be Liaison to this group
 - Follow through on import/export resolution
- ▶ Voted to change by-laws of Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies as presented. (Completed 7/15/03) Jeff Ver Steeg agreed to rewrite.
 - Recommended items 1-7 from Ver Steeg memo
 - Deleted "3" and changed to "copies" for proceedings
 - Change President term to 30 days after IAFWA instead of MAFWA
 - All to take effect immediately
- ▶ Voted to accept contract for Coordinator for another year. (Completed 7/15/03)
- ▶ Voted to work on developing a website for the Association. (Completed 7/15/03)

Items discussed, but not voted on:

- ▶ Heard IAFWA Reports.
Brent Manning - Natural Resource Education (7/14/03)
John Baughman - Washington Staff (7/15/03)
- ▶ Heard USDA/APHIS Report. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Heard USFWS Reports. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Recreation and Economics Report. (7/14/03)
- ▶ CWD Discussion. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Farm Bill Report and Discussion. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Lewis and Clark Celebration. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Automated License Systems Discussion. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Aquatic Nuisance Species. (7/14/03)
- ▶ National Archery in the Schools Program. (7/14/03)
- ▶ State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans. (7/14/03)
- ▶ Awards. (7/15/03)
- ▶ Discussed committee list and association with groups. (7/15/03)
- Add to strategic thinking session in North Dakota
- ▶ Heard CITES Report. (7/15/03)
- ▶ Heard Non Governmental Organization Reports.
Wildlife Management Institute (7/15/03)
National Shooting Sports Foundation (lunch 7/14/03)
- ▶ Passed the gavel to North Dakota. (Completed 7/15/03)
- ▶ New President Dean Hildebrand set meeting for July 10-13, 2004 in North Dakota, trying to avoid having our meeting at the same time as the other Associations. (Completed 7/15/03)

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Objectives

The objectives of the Association shall be to protect the right of jurisdiction of the Midwestern states over their wildlife resources on public and private lands; 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; 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; 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.

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Meeting Locations and Dates

1.	Des Moines, Iowa	1934	45.	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1978
2.	St. Paul, Minnesota	1935	46.	Nashville, Indiana	1979
3.	Madison Wisconsin	1936	47.	Columbus, Ohio	1980
4.	Sioux Falls, South Dakota	1937	48.	Des Moines, Iowa	1981
5.	Omaha, Nebraska	1938	49.	Springfield, Illinois	1982
6.	Madison, Wisconsin	1939	50.	Lexington, Kentucky	1983
7.	Mason City, Iowa	1940	51.	Hannibal, Missouri	1984
8.	St. Louis, Missouri	1941	52.	Wichita, Kansas	1985
9.	Duluth, Minnesota	1942	53.	Vail, Colorado	1986
10.	Fox Lake, Illinois	1943	54.	Winnipeg, Manitoba	1987
11.	Bismarck, North Dakota	1944	55.	Bismarck, North Dakota	1988
12.	Indianapolis, Indiana	1945	56.	Duluth, Minnesota	1989
13.	Rapid City, South Dakota	1946	57.	Grand Rapids, Michigan	1990
14.	Roscommon, Michigan	1947	58.	Rapid City, South Dakota	1991
15.	Put-in-Bay, Ohio	1948	59.	Green Bay, Wisconsin	1992
16.	Lincoln, Nebraska	1949	60.	Ashland, Nebraska	1993
17.	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1950	61.	Estes Park, Colorado	1994
18.	Wichita, Kansas	1951	62.	Galena, Illinois	1995
19.	Des Moines, Iowa	1952	63.	South Bend, Indiana	1996
20.	Dorset, Ontario	1953	64.	Des Moines, Iowa	1997
21.	St. Louis, Missouri	1954	65.	Lawrence, Kansas	1998
22.	Estes Park, Colorado	1955	66.	Louisville, Kentucky	1999
23.	Springfield, Illinois	1956	67.	Petoskey, Michigan	2000
24.	Park Rapids, Minnesota	1957	68.	St. Paul, Minnesota	2001
25.	Bismarck, North Dakota	1958	69.	Springfield, Missouri	2002
26.	West Lafayette, Indiana	1959	70.	Omaha, Nebraska	2003
27.	Rapid City, South Dakota	1960			
28.	Higgins Lake, Michigan	1961			
29.	Omaha, Nebraska	1962			
30.	Columbus, Ohio	1963			
31.	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1964			
32.	Toronto, Ontario	1965			
33.	Wichita, Kansas	1966			
34.	Des Moines, Iowa	1967			
35.	Chicago, Illinois	1968			
36.	St. Louis, Missouri	1969			
37.	Winnipeg, Manitoba	1970			
38.	Aspen, Colorado	1971			
39.	Wichita, Kansas	1972			
40.	Bismarck, North Dakota	1973			
41.	Duluth, Minnesota	1974			
42.	Traverse City, Michigan	1975			
43.	Rapid City, South Dakota	1976			
44.	Lincoln, Nebraska	1977			

**COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
OF THE
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES**

Effective July, 2001 - July, 2002

Standing Committees (identified in bylaws)

Executive Committee

President Jerry Conley, (MO)
Past President Tim Bremicker (MN)
First Vice President Rex Amack or Kirk Nelson (NE)
Secretary/Treasurer Joe Kramer (KS)
Director At-Large Mike Budzik (OH)
Director At-Large Doug Hansen (SD)

Auditing Committee

Chairman Rex Amack or Kirk Nelson (NE)
Doug Hansen (SD)
Member At-Large Steve Miller (WI)

Resolutions Committee

Chairman Randy Kreil (ND)
Richard Bishop (IA)
Tom Young (KY)

Nominating/Awards Committee

Chairman Gerald Ross (MO)
Glen Salmon (IN)
George Burgoyne Jr. (MI)

Technical Working Groups and Committees (include representatives from each state)

Midwest Private Lands Technical Group
Public Lands Management Working Committee (PLMWC)
Midwest Legal Committee

Colorado Division of Wildlife
Jeff VerSteeg, Wildlife Chief
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216
ph: 303-291-7393 fax: 303-291-7108
<http://wildlife.state.co.us>
Jeff.ver_steeg@state.co.us

Indiana DNR
Glen Salmon, Fish&Wildlife Division Director
402 W. Washington St., Rm 273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748
ph: 317-232-4200
www.state.in.us/dnr
gsalmon@dnr.state.in.us

Iowa DNR
Richard Bishop, Wildlife Chief
502 E. 9th St., Wallace Bldg
Des Moines, IA 50319-8895
ph: 515-281-5145 fax: 515-281-8895
www.state.ia.us/government/dnr
Richard.Bishop@dnr.state.ia.us

Iowa DNR
Dale Garner
502 East 9th St., Wallace Bldg
Des Moines, IA 50319-8895
ph: 515-281- fax: 515-281-8895
www.state.ia.us/government/dnr
dale.garner@dnr.state.ia.us

Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks
Joe Kramer, Fish & Wildlife Division
512 SE 25th Ave.
Pratt, KS 67124-8174
ph: 620-672-5911 fax: 620-672-2972
www.kdwp.state.ks.us
joek@wp.state.ks.us

KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources
Tom Young, Deputy Commissioner
#1 Game Farm Rd
Frankfort, KY 40601
ph: 800-858-1549 fax: 502-564-6508
<http://kdfwr.state.ky.us/>
tom.young@mail.state.ky.us

Michigan DNR
George Burgoyne, Jr., Deputy Director
Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909
ph: 517-373-0046
www.michigan.gov/dnr
burgoyne@michigan.gov

Illinois DNR
Mike Conlin, Chief Division of Fisheries Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271
ph: 217-782-8272 fax: 217-785-2438
www.dnr.state.il.us
mconlin@dnrmail.state.il.us

Iowa DNR
Jeff Vonk, Director
E. 9th & Grand Ave., Wallace Bldg
Des Moines, IA 50319-8895
ph: 515-281-5145 fax: 515-281-8895
www.state.ia.us/government/dnr
Jeff.vonk@dnr.state.ia.us

Iowa DNR
Marion Conover, Fish Chief
502 E. 9th St, Wallace Bldg
Des Moines, IA 50319-8895
ph: 515-281-5145 fax: 515-281-8895
www.state.ia.us/government/dnr
Marion.Conover@dnr.state.ia.us

Iowa DNR
Terry Little
502 East 9th St., Wallace Bldg
Des Moines, IA 50319-8895
ph: 515-281- fax: 515-281-8895
www.state.ia.us/government/dnr
terry.little@dnr.state.ia.us

Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks
Keith Sexson, Asst. Secretary for Operations
512 SE 25th Ave.
Pratt, KS 67124-8174
ph: 620-672-5911 fax: 620-672-2972
www.kdwp.state.ks.us
keiths@wp.state.ks.us

KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources
Roy Grimes, Deputy Commissioner
#1 Game Farm Rd
Frankfort, KY 40601
ph: 800-858-1549 fax: 502-564-6508
<http://kdfwr.state.ky.us/>
roy.grimes@mail.state.ky.us

Minnesota DNR
Mark Holsten, Deputy Commissioner
500 Lafayette Rd, Box 50
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
ph: 651-296-2540 fax: 651-296-2549
www.dnr.state.mn.us/
mark.holsten@state.mn.us

Minnesota DNR
Tim Bremicker, Wildlife Section Chief
500 Lafayette Rd
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
ph: 651-296-3344
www.dnr.state.mn.us/
tim.bremicker@dnr.state.mn.us

Missouri Dept. of Conservation
Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
ph: 573-751-4115 (ext. 3149) fax: 573-526-3976
www.conservation.state.mo.us/
torgeo@mdc.state.mo.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Kirk Nelson, Asst. Director
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us
knelson@ngpc.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
James Douglas, Wildlife Division
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5411
www.ngpc.state.ne.us
jdouglas@ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Ted Blume
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Ken Bouc
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Daylan Figgs
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Missouri Dept. of Conservation
John Hoskins, Director
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
ph: 573-751-4115 fax: 573-751-4467
www.conservation.state.mo.us/
hoskij@mdc.state.mo.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Rex Amack, Director (471-5539)
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-0641 fax: 402-471-5528
www.ngpc.state.ne.us
ramack@ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Don Gabelhouse, Jr., Fisheries Division
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5515
www.ngpc.state.ne.us
dgabel@ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Duane Arp
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Justin Boner
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Mark Brohman
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Lynn Hartog
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Mark Humpert
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Noelyn (Butch) Isom
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Bruce Morrison
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Steve Riley
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Craig Stover
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Marv Westcott
PO Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370
ph: 402-471-5539
www.ngpc.state.ne.us

North Dakota Game & Fish Department
Dean Hildebrand, Director
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501
ph: 701-328-6300 fax: 701-328-6352
www.discovernd.com/gnf/
dhildebr@state.nd.us

North Dakota Game & Fish Department
Terry Steinwand, Fisheries Division
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501
ph: 701-328-6300 fax: 701-328-6352
www.discovernd.com/gnf/
tsteinwa@state.nd.us

North Dakota Game & Fish Department
Randy Kreil, Wildlife Division
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501
ph: 701-328-6300 fax: 701-328-6352
www.discovernd.com/gnf/
rkreil@state.nd.us

Ohio Division of Wildlife
Steve Gray, Chief
1840 Belcher Dr., Fountain Square Bldg D
Columbus, OH 43224
ph: 614-265-6565 fax: 614-261-9601
www.dnr.state.oh.us
sally.biancone@dnr.state.oh.us

Ohio DNR
Dave Risley, Wildlife Division
1840 Belcher Dr., Fountain Square Bldg D
Columbus, OH 43224
ph: 614-265-6565 fax: 614-261-9601
www.dnr.state.oh.us
dave.risley@dnr.state.oh.us

South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks
Doug Hansen, Wildlife Division
523 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3182
ph: 605-773-3387 fax: 605-773-6245
www.state.sd.us/gfp
doug.hansen@state.sd.us

WI Dept of Natural Resources
Scott Hassett, Secretary
PO Box 7921
Madison WI 53707
ph: 608-266-2121
www.dnr.state.wi.us
scott.hassett@dnr.state.wi.us

WI Dept of Natural Resources
Thomas Hauge, Bureau of Wildlife Mgmt
PO Box 7921
Madison WI 53707
ph: 608-266-2193
www.dnr.state.wi.us
tom.hauge@dnr.state.wi.us

WI Dept of Natural Resources
Lauri Osterndorf, Bureau of Facilities & Lands
PO Box 7921
Madison WI 53707
ph: 608-266-2193
www.dnr.state.wi.us
laurie.osterndorf@dnr.state.wi.us

Rob Manes
WMI (Affiliate Member)
10201 S. Hwy 281
Pratt, KS 67124
ph: 620-672-5650 fax: same
www.wildlifemanagement.org
wmimanes@prattusa.com

John Baughman, Executive Director
IAFWA
444 N. Capitol St., NW, Ste 544
Washington, DC 20001
ph: 202-624-7890
www.iafwa.org
baughman@sso.org

Steve Williams, Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Dept. of Interior
1849 C St., NW, M53238MIB
Washington, DC 20240
ph: 202-208-4717 fax: 202-208-7407
www.fws.gov
Steven_A_Williams@fws.gov

Midwest Assn. of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Sheila Kemmis, Secretary
KS Dept. of Wildlife and Parks
512 SE 25th Ave.
Pratt, KS 67124
ph: 620-672-0702 fax: 620-672-2972
kdwp@wp.state.ks.us
sheilak@wp.state.ks.us

Bobby R. Acord, Administrator
U.S. Dept of Agriculture
Rm 312-E Whitten Bldg
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250
ph: 202-720-3668 fax: 202-720-3054
Bobby.R.Acord@aphis.usda.gov

Gildo Tori
Ducks Unlimited
331 Metty Dr., Ste 4
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
ph: 734-623-2000
gtori@ducks.org

Chuck Pils
CITES Representative
5725 Cedar Place
Madison WI 53705
ph: 608-266-2193
RedFox5725@aol.com

Dave Walker
IAFWA
444 N. Capitol St., NW, Ste 544
Washington, DC 20001
ph: 202-624-7890
www.iafwa.org
dwalker@sso.org

Len Sengel
IAFWA
444 N. Capitol St., NW, Ste 544
Washington, DC 20001
ph: 202-624-7890
www.iafwa.org
lsengel@sso.org

Robyn Thorson, Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1 Federal Drive
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111
ph: 612-713-5301
www.fws.gov
Robyn.Thorson@fws.gov

Brent Manning, Director
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
IAFWA President
5400 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82006.
ph: (307)777-4501
brent.manning@wgf.state.wy.us

John Fischer
SE Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
ph: 706-542-1741
www.scwds.org
jfischer@vet.uga.edu

Robert Hoffman
Ducks Unlimited
331 Metty Dr., Ste 4
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
ph: 734-623-2000
bhoffman@ducks.org

Jodi Valenta
National Shooting Sports Foundation
11 Mile Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470-2359
ph: 203-426-1320 fax: 203-426-1087
www.nssf.org

Ernie Niemi
ECONorthwest
99 W Ave, Ste 400
Eugene, OR 97401
ph: 541-687-0051
niemi@eugene.econw.com

Dan Zekor
Missouri Dept. of Conservation
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
ph: 573-751-4115 (x 3350) fax: 573-526-3976
www.conservation.state.mo.us/
zekord@mdc.state.mo.us

Dan Witter
Missouri Dept. of Conservation
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
ph: 573-751-4115 (x 3348) fax: 573-526-3976
www.conservation.state.mo.us/
witted@mdc.state.mo.us

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
(MAFWA)
Conference Call
Executive Committee Meeting
June 3, 2003**

Committee members present included: President Proxy Kirk Nelson, Nebraska; John Hoskins, Past President, Missouri; Recording Secretary Sheila Kemmis, Kansas; Secretary/Treasurer Joe Kramer, Kansas; Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado, and Steve Gray, Ohio, Directors-at-Large; Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri; Dan Zekor, Missouri; Keith Sexson, Kansas; and John Baughman, IAFWA.

After discussion Hoskins, Missouri, moved to accept minutes of March 26 North American meeting. Gray, Ohio, second.

Discussed strategic planning part of program for July 2003 conference. Dan Zekor and Dan Witter of Missouri will facilitate this session on Sunday, July 13. Discussed what we wanted to get out of this session. Agreed to do another one in Missouri. Already have fulfilled some of those suggestions by getting the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) involved. Still need to get committees more involved. Discussed Coordinator position and two main points: 1) suggestions for new projects; and 2) what he has already done. Coordinator Torgerson stated that he starts off the July 13 meeting with his report and that would be a good time to lead into that discussion. Discussed whether the Coordinator should take on a strong role in the agenda and meeting planning. This position is a way to strengthen the Association and coordinate with the IAFWA. Baughman stated that Torgerson had been a great asset, but it could take years to see the total impact and profit. The Northeast is also hiring a Coordinator this year and the IAFWA is working on their own strategic plan. Discussed developing a Midwest work plan.

Last year's strategic thinking session had fairly broad issues, but seemed to focus on three or four key issues at the end. Decided we should work on those and identify and prioritize long-term goals.

MAFWA added another Working Group and we should make sure we have a representative at the summer meeting to act on recommendations. Discussed whether we were on the right path to getting Director involvement.

Talked about whose responsibility it is to do the agenda, in the past, the host state has done it with help from Kemmis. Suggested we institutionalize agenda process to include: Working Group reports; new issues; and develop an annual work plan. Last two states did an excellent job, but in the past we have focused on committee reports only.

Asked if we should assign a voting member or Director to each Working Group? Chairman would then work more closely with the group, have better networking and cooperation. The WAFWA has 18 committees, all chaired by Directors. We have better connections with the newer groups, but not with the older groups.

Discussed Sunday session and the fact that it was an invitation only event and that Steve Williams and John Baughman were also invited. Zekor stated he would work out the ideas with Torgerson and asked for someone else to bounce the ideas off from and Kirk Nelson was nominated. Zekor also facilitating three meetings on Monday and stated he would be available if needed to facilitate any others. Nelson stated they could jump in whenever they saw fit as they

had the foresight and experience.

Jeff Ver Steeg brought up the amended By-Laws that he sent out yesterday. Stated no formal action was needed until annual meeting, but that the proposed amended By-Laws needed to be sent out 30 days in advance of the meeting. Read amendment on page 6 and after discussion it was decided to change the wording to: "received by President and Secretary/Treasurer and sent to the members"

There is also a draft modification on the coordinator contract needed and Missouri would send that to Ver Steeg today. Kemmis will mail out By-Laws and Coordinator Contract once amendments are made. Discussed how detailed the duties should be regarding the coordinator and the recording secretary. Changed "takes minutes" to "completes and mails proceedings" for the recording secretary. Kramer stated two states never did proceedings in the past, so a procedure process is important. Kemmis stated that we now have a complete set of proceedings published, except 1991 and 1997. Also, 1944, 1945 and 1946 were not printed because of World War II. There is also a complete set of published proceedings at the Colorado State Library.

Torgerson asked about changing the alphabetical rotation of meetings and after discussion it was decided the rotation was good, but should discuss the officers not being placed because of alphabetical rotation. Decided to list By-Laws and Coordinator Contract separate in agenda and list Jeff Ver Steeg as presenting the By-Law amendments.

Torgerson asked Nelson if they had been contacted by Bass Pro about door prizes. Nelson stated Gabelhouse working with them. Did receive a pheasant print from Cabela's and other large items from contributors, such as a muzzleloader and a fly fishing rod. States can donate to the door prizes also.

Torgerson stated he had been contacted by National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) about attending the summer meeting. Kemmis suggested asking them if they wanted to become an affiliated member.

Torgerson asked if he should travel to Minnesota to meet with Robyn Thorson, the new USFWS person there. Hoskins stated she would be in Missouri this Friday. Amack and Gray thought it a good idea to go to Minnesota. Will wait until after this week to see if he gets a chance to visit with her.

Kemmis asked if anyone had applied for the Jaschek grant awards. Asked Torgerson to get with Doug Hansen for guidelines or look in last year's proceedings. He will check into this.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45. Kramer moved, Ver Steeg second.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

QUORUM

APPROVAL OF STEVE GRAY AS BOARD MEMBER

APPROVAL OF CAROLYN CALDWELL AS CITES REP

FINAL REVIEW OF ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

COORDINATOR'S LETTER TO BRENT MANNING

MIDWEST ASSN. WEB SITE

COORDINATOR'S CONTRACT

OTHER BUSINESS

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
(MAFWA)**

**Executive Committee Meeting
July 12, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER

President Rex Amack called the meeting to order.

QUORUM

Committee members present included: President Rex Amack, Nebraska; Recording Secretary Sheila Kemmis, Kansas; Secretary/Treasurer Joe Kramer, Kansas; Dean Hildebrand, First Vice President, North Dakota; Randy Kreil, First Vice President Proxy, North Dakota; Steve Gray, Ohio, Director-at-Large; and Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator, Missouri.

Bruce Morrison, Nebraska came in and gave away a few door prizes.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 3, 2003 EXCOM MINUTES

After discussion Joe Kramer, Kansas, moved to accept minutes of June 3 conference call, Steve Gray, Ohio, second.

ROTATION OF OFFICERS

Discussed rotating officers on an election basis, rather than a state rotation basis. This item will be discussed in the business meeting on Tuesday, in the bylaws' portion of the meeting. Torgerson wanted to get a feel of how the Executive Committee felt. His proposal would have officers put in place by the Nominating Committee rather than by the rotation of the state. The meeting rotation would remain the same, alphabetically. He felt there was a weakness in the Association if the Director is not interested or has no experience. Discussed what the Western Association and the Central Flyway does. They do the same as we do now, alphabetical rotation. Kreil stated that this forces participation within the state. Also, some Directors will not leave their state to attend a meeting. Gray said this does not work in Canada, however, because in most cases they are not allowed to hold the conference or have a travel budget to go to other states. Hildebrand stated that it would be hard if someone lost their job six months after appointment. Kramer said that we should word this in the bylaws in such a way that allow the states an opportunity to bow out if they are not interested. In the memo from Ver Steeg that accompanied the bylaw changes, he mentioned getting a consensus. No action is required, Torgerson will speak to Ver Steeg of our discussion.

JASCHEK ACCOUNT DISCUSSION

Discussed Coordinator position and possibly funding it from the Jaschek Trust Fund monies. This year Missouri still covers all of the salary and half of the travel costs. Talked about the procedures for using Jaschek money that was written in July, 2000. May have to rewrite the guidelines to accommodate this.

Steve Gray asked about Carolyn Caldwell's travel expenses. She is the new CITES person from Ohio. IAFWA is covering the expenses under a grant at this time. Gray asked if MAFWA would back up that money if the grant is not renewed. Discussed that MAFWA paid for Pils expenses in the past, before the grant began paying them, so thought that we would do so again.

Talked about the Merrill Lynch fund. The fund matures this year and we are in the hole. Of the original \$50,000 placed in the fund we have a little over \$40,000. It was decided to sit on the money right now and that we should be conservative with our money and only spend it on direct costs and things that would directly benefit MAFWA, not give it away.

MAFWA does need a full time person, but we may need to go back to the states at some point in time to have the states each pay a share of the cost. Amack and Hoskins spoke previously and Hoskins did not want MAFWA to feel like Missouri was running the Association. Having a coordinator was Jerry Conley's brain child and it was a good decision. MAFWA has every chance to become as good, or better, than the other Associations. The Western has a lot of committees and does a lot of work. Also, strong International committees come out of the Western and we need to become more involved. Work for IAFWA needs to come from grass roots efforts. The Northeast Association is going to establish a coordinator, Bob McDowell, and that will give Baughman and IAFWA four coordinators working closely with him. Strength lies in Legislative torque, full time people and information. Also, this will give us a stronger voice to express our feeling to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. States are paying fairly large dues to IAFWA. Kramer stated he thought we should draft a resolution to fund a grant from IAFWA to help pay for the Coordinator positions as this makes the most sense for long time health of the Association. The Association needs to keep pushing Teaming With Wildlife also. IAFWA is primarily working groups while the regional Associations are more into information sharing. Discussed the fact that we need to continue to make meetings worthwhile so people keep coming back.

Discussed changing the dates of the annual meeting. Right now the meeting is set because of the fiscal year and because of reporting guidelines to the IAFWA conference.

Hildebrand discussed the meeting next year in North Dakota and ideas to bring people there. Need to keep the agenda interesting, possibly center some events around the Lewis and Clark celebrations. Talked about Bismarck or Medora as possible locations. Medora has an amphitheater and the Badlands are one of the 100 best attractions in the U.S. Other possible visits included Fort Abraham Lincoln and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Washburn.

Hildebrand also stated that there are some excellent golf courses there, both in Bismarck and Medora. Discussed having a Directors-only activity. The key will be busing people from Bismarck to Medora, if that is the choice. Could make the bus ride a learning experience by having a tour guide on board. Asked about moving the meeting to October and it was decided to leave the meeting in July making sure not to overlap the Western meeting. July 10 - 13, 2004 was chosen as the dates, with the same Saturday through Tuesday schedule.

MAFWA WEB SITE

Discussed using the web site to provide leadership to the meeting. Western is working on their site and IAFWA has one up and running. Torgerson spoke to the Southeast who also has a website going. Spoke to Kirk Keller in Missouri who could possibly set up a site for us. Rough parameters would include 40 hours of development equaling 20 pages. It would take him about 60 additional hours to get the site up and running for a total of 100 hours. The high end cost would be \$2,000 to set it up, \$300 a year to host the site and \$70 every two years to register the domain. We could make the site interactive with the other Association sites and with the IAFWA site. If we put the proceedings on the site, this would cut printing costs because we would only have to have about 18 copies, one per state and province and one file copy, instead of the 60 or more copies we are printing now. This would be a good year to implement this site because Missouri is still paying the Coordinator position's salary. Discussed contracting IAFWA to set up the site, but they are not interested. Torgerson feels this will professionalize the Association and he would be responsible for keeping items posted, for putting state updates on the site, and for registration information.

OTHER BUSINESS

Talked about the timing of the business meeting and possibly having it on Monday instead of at the end of the conference. No decision made.

Canada is losing their hunting heritage because it is too hard for Americans to go across the border to hunt. We need to keep on top of that.

Jeff Ver Steeg moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:50, Dean Hildebrand second.

**Association of Midwest
Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA)
Annual Meeting
Doubletree Hotel - Omaha, Nebraska**

(The following papers and presentations are attached in the Exhibits Section)

Agenda (Exhibit A)

Saturday, July 12, 2003

The Midwest Association State Directors met at 3:00 p.m. to approve the June 3, 2003 minutes, rotate the officers, discuss the Jaschek account and the MAFWA website (June 3 and July 12, 2003 minutes - Attachment 7).

Everyone met for supper at Rick's Café Boatyard restaurant on the Missouri River waterfront.

Sunday, July 13, 2003

At 8:30 a.m., President Rex Amack, welcomed all of the Midwest Association State Directors, Non Government Organizations (NGOs), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) to the conference.

Coordinator Ollie Torgerson gave report on his work for the past year (Exhibit B). Became first coordinator September 1, 2002. Missouri Department of Conservation hired me back half time, after my retirement, with part of my duties to do this job. My role is to increase the visibility of the MAFWA. I also carry out directives of the President and Executive Committee and work with the IAFWA and the other three regional associations. In addition, I aid the host state, secretary/treasurer and recording secretary in planning the annual meeting. Traveled extensively during my first year, 230 hours and eight meetings, which will increase this year. Thanked speakers and nine directors present at this meeting, a record turn out. Hope to start an Association website and open up the Association to more NGO partners.

Dan Zekor, Missouri, facilitated the Strategic Thinking session with the assistance of Justin Boner, Nebraska (Exhibit C). Dan Zekor, Facilitator - What issues should the Association devote time and energy to over the next year and in what priority? Need to come up with 10 or 12 top issues and prioritize them. The discussion continued from last year's session facilitated by Dynamic Solutions in Missouri which began with three organizational and administration needs. Discussed the three goals set last year.

1) Improved continuity within the Association, was the first item of discussion and whether the creation of the coordinator position was making progress; needed additional guidance; or new actions. President Rex Amack - President of the Association in 1992/1993 and it was hard to get the conference going. Coordinator has been working with the Association and getting members interested. The key is getting someone to do those things. He traveled a lot and visited new Directors when appointed, which is hard to do when you are an Agency Director. I feel the Coordinator was very successful. Doug Hansen - Echoed Amack's thoughts. His expectations were met and exceeded. Kirk Nelson - How does Baughman (IAFWA) see the Coordinators helping him in his job? John Baughman, IAFWA Executive Vice President - They are a

tremendous help and the teamwork is great. There is more communication going both ways. Felt that we couldn't give more support than we are already doing, but it is nice to have someone to track items from year to year. He stated that he gave his wholehearted support to the Coordinator positions. Brent Manning, IAFWA President - At the regional level the outreach to new Directors was great. Sharing proactive strategies; data and information; icon influence of hunters, for instance; threatened and endangered (T&E) species issues; cost of non game; all are absolutely necessary, but whether this should be handled at the Regional Coordinator level or hire someone at IAFWA level, unclear at this point. Dean Hildebrand - Organization at regions, legislative coordination for critical issues very important, in other words, politicking at the local level. Joe Kramer - If each Association has a Coordinator, is there a potential for grants from IAFWA to aid the Associations in covering the costs? Brent Manning, IAFWA President - If we can show the public influence we have, and what we can do, we could get private monies. Joe Kramer - It is critical to establish. We need to take steps forward not backwards. Brent Manning, IAFWA President - We are part of a big business and belong to several organizations. We need to toot our own horn so they know who we are. If we do that, we could possibly get permanent funding. John Hoskins - How do the Southeast and the Western pay for their Coordinators? Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - The Southeast pays through dues, Brantly gets about \$8,000 a year for about 20 hours a week of work. They also sell proceedings to make money. Kruckenberg, in the Western, spends 20 - 40 percent of his time on Association business. Wyoming pays his expenses, except for a token payment from the Western for travel to the Western meetings and half of his travel to the IAFWA annual meetings. The Northeast is planning on paying McDowell through a dues increase. Brent Manning, IAFWA President - There appears to be a critical need for funding. Doug Hansen - There are several new faces around the table. *Zekor had everyone introduce themselves.* John Hoskins - Ollie has been working half time for Missouri and has shown a dramatic increase in productivity (HA HA). Glen Salmon - As effective as he is, with one quarter of his time spent on Association business the next 2-10 years. We need consistency and need to find a secure funding source. Is Missouri going to keep up the payments? John Hoskins - It is OK for one more year, but it depends on who the Coordinator is in the future. Richard Bishop - We have a higher level of attention and communication. Ollie has done a tremendous job keeping things flowing. Lost attendance in the past due to lack of communication. Have to keep issues of importance on our table or Directors will not continue to come. We need to keep them interested and form a tighter group by building camaraderie, teamwork and not lose sight of where we need to go. John Hoskins - We need to justify travel at home when we do something outside our state boundaries. Need to keep agendas with meat in it. Keith Sexson - The Western involves Commissioners in their annual meetings. Is that something we want to do? Afraid of where they may go with these things, but they would be more supportive and knowledgeable when they go back to their states. It is important to act regionally because things don't just stay within our state boundaries. Kansas also belongs to the Western. John Baughman, IAFWA Executive Vice President - Funding this position with multi-state grant money is something we are already doing with CITES. There is a process to go through to work with regions and put a Coordinator in place. We would still need some Association or state money, especially when it comes to lobbying. Communication needs to be better on committees and policies will bring continuity. Doug Hansen - Beyond Missouri, how much will the salary be? Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - It depends on what you want the Coordinator to do, hours and level of job depends. Right now I receive \$38 an hour, Brantly receives \$8,000 a year. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - Need to work out the duties, term, etc.

2) *Promote open communications between Association and outside interests*, by inviting other agencies and organizations to present reports/briefings at the meetings. President Rex Amack - Touched on communication already, federal to state, and state to state. Bigger playing field, have

procedures and protocol in place to be able to move on items. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) always has been involved and the USFWS is getting more involved. Need more involvement with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/APHIS coordination regionally. We are also getting new interest from NGOs like the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) and federal agencies. Canadian members can not get to these meetings because of lack of travel approval. Other Associations are also fighting getting their Canadian members. Richard Bishop - The USFWS is an important part and regional Directors should continue to come. Would like to see this a high priority and we are glad to see Steve and Robyn and would like to see that continued. Robyn Thorson, USFWS - Important to USFWS also. Sharing information is important to us and I plan to be here at all of these in the future. Tom Hauge - We need to involve the Migratory Bird world, and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) should be here on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) issues. The Forest Service should also be here as several states have wooded regions. There are a lot of groups not hot-wired to this Association, such as the Midwest Law Enforcement and Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference people, and they should be connected. Bobby Acord, USDA/ APHIS - We have two regions, east and west of the Mississippi River and I think our regional coordinators could be here. The diseases you mentioned are important to us. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - It seems there are other groups out there we need to invite in.

3) *Avoid fragmentation within the Association through improved internal coordination and communication*, by having organizations and committees report progress at meetings. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - We have new reports from USFWS and USDA/APHIS this year. We have not done real well with hard wiring with our committees. Maybe we should name a Director to liaison with each committee. In the Western, Directors chair and run the meetings. The question is who should go and interact with these committees? Some groups are good and some have no communication whatsoever. We are not getting good cross communication. Also, we may want more committees in the future. Keith Sexson - Right now field people are attending these meetings and we need to hard wire them to the regional or federal level. It is a good idea to have a conduit to this body. Roy Grimes - It is hard for groups to bring stuff back to their Directors. Doug Hansen - Had a research group 10 or 12 years ago and had the exact same discussion, each reported, others grandfathered out (LE, etc.). We need to let them know that we have a desire to be more effective, not power grab. George Burgoyne - That would add value to the committees also. If we are just one additional report we want them to make, they won't be interested. Doug Hansen - Directors could take away travel rights if they don't comply. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - Committees are sanctioned in the Western and that protects travel to the meetings. We should make it clear that this is not a power grab. Glen Salmon - There is no one to let them know who to report to. The Coordinator would be a good connection. Tom Hauge - We need to have structure or value to the meetings. No one knows what we do. The Deer and Turkey Working Group is a good example of that, no one understands what those field guys do either. In one way the Association could improve their public image if we could amplify their work and get it out there. John Hoskins - Networking and sharing of technical knowledge is the greatest benefit. Sometimes strategic and policy level items need to be brought forth and they can't do anything about that and need our help. Tim Bremicker - We need to ask the groups to make a presentation and see what they are doing and what we can do to help them. Marion Conover - We could help them and could broaden our interest and focus also. Steve Williams, USFWS - It would be a good point to charge those groups with issues. Jeff Ver Steeg - Some of the groups we created and new groups need to submit a mission statement to us. Some of the groups have no direct ties to us. Steve Williams, USFWS - Nebraska was charged to tackle an issue to bring groups together in a non-threatening way. Jeff Ver Steeg - The Private Land and Farm Bill groups are good examples. Steve Riley - There is frustration at the group level when

you have to go back to the Directors for policy issues. We have been on our own for years, before we came to the Midwest. We require the host state to be present and we need Directors to send people to these meeting from all states.

Break

Bruce Morrison gave away more door prizes.

Jeff Ver Steeg - Do we need an action item to have Directors attend these group committee meetings when they are held in their state? Randy Kreil - Also we need Directors to offer to help and ask them to send someone to meetings.

Dan Zekor, Facilitator - We need to develop an annual Association wordplay. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - There needs to be specific targets, like what do we want to get done next year, for example - establish a website to make the Association more visible and more action oriented.

Dan Zekor, Facilitator - Consensus? Roy Grimes - Funding for Coordinator. President Rex Amack - Executive Committee could develop and present to business meeting on Tuesday. Tom Hauge - We need to reflect and work on this and present it to IAFWA. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - States need to prepare and share annual reports like the Western. Roy Grimes - The Southeast also does that. Tom Young - We used to do that. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - I shared the Western reports with you by email to give you an idea of what we might be looking for. Richard Bishop - How detailed do you want them? Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - However long you want. Rex Amack - "Brag and Steal". Jeff Ver Steeg - We did reports orally to begin with, then started running short of time and just put them in the proceedings only. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - We could post them on the website. Tim Bremicker - We are more regionally based now, not as distinct and separate as we used to be. There are more integrated issues which are easy to identify. Glen Salmon - There could be an advantage to breaking down into categories like budget, etc. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - Maybe we could come up with an outline for reports. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - Other new issues? Tom Hauge - We need to align the Fish and Wildlife Conference with the Midwest Association. Maybe change calendar or time of gatherings to work in a business sense. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - When is the best time? Spoke with the Executive Committee, maybe we should meet in December and meet with Fish and Wildlife Conference. We could have problems with publishing. Richard Bishop - The Midwest in the winter is not a good time to travel, if we changed the time of the meeting. Steve Williams, USFWS - Besides it is the beginning of deer season. Glen Salmon - It could end up being a numbers game. Three biologists could go to the Midwest, we couldn't send any more. Tom Young - The benefit in the Southeast is that committees can meet directly with Directors there and have the advantage of technical people and Directors. Roy Grimes - Directors meet twice a year. Tom Young - Why doesn't the Midwest meet in December? Roy Grimes - Timing. There needs to be enough time ahead of the IAFWA meeting to bring items to that meeting. Tom Hauge - Such as action items and resolutions. John Baughman, IAFWA Executive Vice President - Committees are putting out notices right now. The timing is really good the way it is now. Brent Manning, IAFWA President - Historically, resolutions go to committee, maybe not best way to handle those. If coming from Regional Associations, should be heard on floor at Executive Committee meeting at IAFWA. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - Should we have another strategic thinking session in North Dakota? It means coming in on Saturday again. We could meet on Sunday morning and keep Saturday or change back. Keith Sexson - This is an organizational mode that can't occur overnight. It will take another round or two to put everything in clear focus. Glen Salmon - It is frustrating. We like to do it, used to do it and then dropped off. We need to meet annually to keep things up front, wheels fall off if there is no

discussion. Randy Kreil - Ollie brought up having a Director-only retreat at the Executive Committee meeting on Saturday. George Burgoyne - The extra time is worthwhile, it takes so much effort to get here. The turn over of Directors is great, sometimes last year's assistant is this year's Director. Randy Kreil - We could keep Saturday and walleye fish. Doug Hansen - That meeting adds legitimacy and credibility. Glen Salmon - Is Ollie comfortable with the direction he is getting? Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - On board for 10 months, have gotten good direction from the President and Executive Committee, but I represent you also. Would like to keep the Executive Committee meetings going throughout the year because we are building relevance. We need Baughman to be comfortable also, form good synergy. We have never been this well connected before. Dean Hildebrand - We need agenda items for next year, hot topics. Talk amongst yourselves and capture those Tuesday and we will have those in North Dakota. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - What about the Director representation at each meeting to get connection? Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - The Western Directors chair the committees. We don't want to take over and I can be our representative on some of them. Directors can get ownership by attending. I can't, and shouldn't, do it all. It makes a big difference when Directors contact committee chairs. Also, we need to get reports 30 days before the annual meeting and submit them to Sheila. We don't need to threaten or change the way they do things, just get involved. Tom Hauge - I could act as representative to the Fish and Wildlife Conference, introduce ourselves to some of these groups. Do we want to have an introductory packet for new directors, develop a profile of the Association? Richard Bishop - We could compare with the Western. We are focused, but we need to realize that other people in the organization fit the bill other than just Directors. Keith Sexson - May not be Director or Secretary, but representative of this body. Link has to be made with committees. Lauri Ostendorf - I am new and don't know the details, but the process is good. On issues, there is no decision made? George Burgoyne - Yes, on annual reports, electronically. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - Review at business meeting: Directors of Host State; closer affiliation with committees; what do we say, what message do we deliver. Look at the brainstorm top six issues identified in Missouri. We need to list and prioritize what we want to see.

1. Stable long term funding for states, based on Missouri plan (Tim Bremicker, Minnesota);
2. Natural Resources Education for children (Kirk Nelson, Nebraska);
3. Solidify existing issues (Roy Grimes, Kentucky);
4. Farm Bill Coordination (Keith Sexson, Kansas);
5. Invasive species (Marion Conover, Illinois);
6. Hunter/Angler recruitment and retention (Tim Bremicker, Minnesota);
7. Fish and Wildlife disease and health training (Keith Sexson, Kansas);
8. Privatizing wildlife; high fences (Richard Bishop, Iowa);
9. Economics of hunting and fishing; need for data sharing (Roy Grimes, Kentucky);
10. Managing success e.g., geese, deer, turkey (Richard Bishop, Iowa);
11. Access to private lands for hunting, fishing, wildlife recreation (Keith Sexson, Kansas);
12. Competing demands for water resources (Doug Hansen, South Dakota);
13. Threatened and endangered species (Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado);
14. Federal aid (George Burgoyne, Michigan);
15. Marketing (Keith Sexson, Kansas);
16. Partnerships - NGOs, etc. (Tim Bremicker).

Dan Zekor, Facilitator - A representative from each state needs to prioritize these items (see Exhibit C). George Burgoyne - Why don't you just write it up on the board and we can go up and prioritize individually. Tom Hauge - Hard wiring would be hard. Dan Zekor, Facilitator - Need to capture ideas in advance of next years meeting.

President Rex Amack - We need to move on with reports. I commend Bobby Acord for sitting in on this meeting.

IAFWA

Brent Manning, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies President - (Exhibit D)

I need to leave to attend another meeting so I am stepping out of agenda order to present my report. Favorite quotes from Yogi Berra, "You gotta be careful, if you don't know where you're going, 'cause you might not get there." or "When you come to the fork in the road...take it!" It is hard to make predictions. Who would have predicted deer and elk population increases. The biggest challenge for us is maintenance of tradition of public hunting and fishing. We have to work to keep our roots planted. Constituents expect it, we know it, and we need to do it. I am happy to see Scott Hassett here and would like to thank him for hosting the IAFWA meeting this year. The average tenure for most state Directors is three to eight years, so we need to make a lasting impression. We must move from a single species focus to a landscape focus, considering multiple species, multiple habitats and make a connection between them. Species don't recognize state boundaries. Also, education and outreach was dropped when money was tight, and it is the last thing brought back. The importance of IAFWA and professionalism in the ranks. We are all that stand between extirpation or extinction of many species. One final quote, from Teddy Roosevelt, "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who know the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

USDA/APHIS

Bobby Acord, Regional Director - This has been the busiest year, especially with Homeland Security and reorganization (Exhibit E). We lost 2,600 Ag. Quarantine Inspectors to the Bureau of Customs for border protection and invasive species are coming through our ports of entry. Also, the Animal Damage Disease Center on Plum Island, New York was transferred to that department. The Homeland Security Council has caused more work than the department can handle. Ag. food security and safety have been designated as part of U.S. critical infrastructure. Yellow, orange and red, means a lot of work for us regarding food safety, animal health, etc. States are the first responders in animal health. Because of Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (BSE) in Canada we are worried about closure of border. We are having difficulty getting a decision. Products have been categorized such as meat, hides, etc., as low risk. We hope a decision will be made next week because there is a meeting Monday with the President. Wildlife Services (WS) programs \$5.2 million in 2003, expanding wildlife disease control. There is a problem with backyard farming of exotic species. The rabies program might benefit the Midwest because it is pushing the barrier to Alabama. The wolf control program will get \$1 million of the money for Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. On CWD surveillance program, there has been no increase and all of the dollars being spent are going to Wisconsin. There were 37 states in the CWD program collecting 90,000 samples being tested at 26 labs. Two tests have been approved, but there may be a few more before the season begins. We are viewing food safety test, none at this time. The solution needs to fit the risk. Hope to have the farm survey in place by the end of

the year. State wildlife agencies and farm service organizations are working together better than in the past. Questions included: Is there a CWD live test? Bobby Acord - One, but not practical because animal needs to be tranquilized. Research has been prioritized and we had different groups working on different problems. Is the live test very far off? Bobby Acord - A couple of years yet. Cost to create? Call Dennis Slate, Rabies Program Manager, New Hampshire.

USFWS

Steve Williams, Director - Continue to appreciate the support. Your participation at meetings is incredible (Exhibit F). I would like to recognize the new Region 6 Director, Robyn Thorson. Current priorities of the Service are: 1) Fisheries additional dollars for national fish hatchery system (\$6 million); 2) Strategic bird plan, North American migratory bird meeting scheduled with Canada and Mexico at 2004 meeting; 3) Form liaison partnership, six people from the Service will work to build partnerships with state, federal and NGOs. Partnerships for many years, but not using all the sources we have, need to institutionalize cooperation with groups; 4) Science Excellence Initiative because integrity has been called in question working with USGS. Need to integrate our research needs with their capabilities, with closer coordination at regional and DC level. Asked regions to get involved with local coop units. 5) Refuge policies, seven policies, three on the streets with four more being developed. They are integrated and work well together as we refine them; 6) New way to talk about refuge land acquisition transitions. Need to stretch dollars for easements within boundaries of adjacent lands (rounding out acreage); and 7) Native species issues including critical habitat designation. Scope out issues before package development and find new ways of coordinating with states on threatened and endangered species (Section 6). Plan to reauthorize Endangered Species Act (ESA), two hearings to date, critical habitat and section 7 consultations. Court orders on critical habitat are eating our lunch, the system is broken and we need to figure out a way to fix it. Asking for budget increase for 2004 and 2005 to keep this from becoming a continuous problem. CWD is a concern, and I want to thank Bobby Acord, Bruce Morrison and John Fischer for the incredible job they are doing for you. Also, Gary Taylor, USGS, just put out a report on their website called "biology". In the 2004 budget request we have asked for \$3.1 million for CWD. Another problem in the Midwest is invasive species such as the bighead and silver carp and possibly the Asian carp. The Service will spend \$2.3 million on the native Fish Passage Program. We are setting up an online national database to prioritize barriers and we plan to involve landowners, farmers and ranchers in conservation efforts. We need to balance issues, get hunter and angler support on conservation efforts to preserve our heritage. I look forward to coming back next year. Randy Kreil - On acquisition, have concern about consolidating the Department of Interior, all under one direction? Steve Williams - Problems in oversight and supervision. Locations of folks not decided yet, maybe under the Assistant Secretary. Marion Conover - Dam removal barriers to native fish. Is it advisable in some areas because of invasive species? The process is not working to keep invasive species out of this country. I am talking about species not found in North America, we should not even bring them into the country. State Directors need to consider this, we need federal help, but not too much. Steve Williams - We have a committee, a forum to express your views on the IAFWA. Thanks for putting the meeting together and for helping us celebrate the Refuge system at DeSoto.

President Rex Amack - We need to move Robyn Thorson's report to tomorrow morning because we are running very late. Also, will discuss the Strategic Thinking results. I would like to introduce John Fisher, Southeast Coop Wildlife Disease Study; Don Young, Ducks Unlimited CEO; and Jeff Nelson, Ducks Unlimited. Tim Bremicker - I would also like to introduce Mark

Holsten, the Minnesota Deputy Commissioner. Mark Holsten - Thanked everyone for the chance to come to the meeting.

Left Doubletree for DeSoto Wildlife Refuge for lunch and to participate in Fish and Wildlife Service Centennial celebration.

DeSoto Notes from Larry Klimek, Refuge Manager (Exhibit R).

Returned from refuge and departed for the Missouri River Boat River City Star Cruise Ship for a social, supper and a cruise.

Monday, July 14, 2003 (Summary)

(The following papers and presentations are attached in the Exhibits Section)

WELCOME

Rex Amack, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Director - Welcomed everyone to the 70th MAFWA meeting. New people present, Jeff Vonk, Mike Conlin, Chuck Pils, Bob Hoffman, Terry Little, Dale Garner, Steve Riley, Mace Hack, Mark Brohman, Larry Hutchins, Ted Blume. Introduced John Baughman.

SPEAKERS

IAFWA

John Baughman, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Executive Vice President - Thanked Nebraska for hosting. Last time I was here was last year with U-Haul on my move east, and in 1996 for IAFWA. Don MacLauchlan and Sheila Kemmis are writing guidelines for planning IAFWA meetings. Handed out IAFWA Washington Staff Report (Exhibit G). The IAFWA office is a tremendous asset, in a great location, and is one of the things that make the IAFWA so successful. Working through the committee structure and direct involvement makes all the difference in the world. Tom Bennett sent out committee nominations last week, be sure and get your staff signed up. There are some slots open for chairing some committees and would like Directors in those chair positions. Turn over is one of the biggest things we face, we could have 21 plus or minus 2, with less than two years of experience, so we can't wait for experience, they have to jump in and get their feet wet. Leadership development training coming up. Communication (Ollie's position), things are coming along fast, but we need to be able to get in touch with Regional Associations. Legislation, "don't feed the bears bill" moved up to vote tomorrow. Big problems there, being marketed if we don't ban bear baiting, it is being painted as unethical hunting of bears. States are doing a remarkable job on conservation of bears in their states. Need to be sure that we get involved in this issue to keep the federal government from coming in and taking over individual species. Hunting with hounds, etc., could be next. State wildlife grants, \$75 million, chance for more money yet, floor amendment offered in House to up all those programs. They have grown, but not where we want them to be. Stay involved in the planning effort. I heard three things about plans 1) will cause federalization 2) generate mother of all plans 3) financial 50 percent matching. Seven simple elements in that law. Make them work for you, don't worry about the federal government. You can use in-kind match for the funding, I don't think it will be anything to be afraid of. Working on some multi-state plans. May have some workshops on creating the match. Wallop-Breaux amendment (motor boat

fuel tax) may not be done until 2005. Compromise will make boating safety a permanent appropriation and all of the accounts would be on a percentage basis. Also, 4.8 cents tax still going to general fund and trying to get it into the boating fund (\$110,000,000). Tackle box 3 percent was dropped. High end rod and reel distributors are trying to get a cap on tax. Archery people trying to raise cap to 30 pound draw instead of 10 pound draw. Custom gun makers also trying to get a deal. We have to be in opposition to those types of features. Need to look at this whole tax bill and clean it up. Other legislation in report, multi-state grant programs. Encourage states to look at draft guidelines, but would like states to look at them to help people. Friday is Bob Miles' last day, and Rick Kearney left to go to the Biological Resources. Hiring another staff person for research, paid for by USGS. On CWD, we do have the multi-state grant for research on that. Send in an invoice and make a description of what you are doing in each state to receive \$6,000 plus, also an aquatic grant. Doug Hansen - Committee reviewing CITES position, not just regional. Need to resubmit next year to keep that position going. Regional associations need to keep on top of grants we need to apply for.

USFWS

Robyn Thorson, Regional VI Director - (report moved from yesterday) (Exhibit H). In position for three months. I am a listener and plan to run the region that way. Bring greetings from Sam Hamilton. I am the Coordinator for eight states in the Midwest. Refuges, endangered species, federal aid, migratory birds, etc. I have to learn a lot more so my speech will be brief. Thanks for help on the 100th celebration yesterday and all over the country. There is a centennial blanket being made and each state Governor will receive one. Changes in appraisals, Department of Interior is looking to coordinate efforts by consolidation. Changes are also happening in land acquisition. Bill Hartwig is the chief of that now. It is a work in progress. Development in Montana, rights of tribes, to request management from Indians because they have a reservation that surrounds a refuge. Ralph Morgenweck is the one working on this. Fisheries committee (Doug Hansen), working with each of the different states on the fisheries plan. Fisheries Conservation Stakeholder Plan. I no longer oversee law enforcement in my region, coordination with states. Migratory birds, NAWCA grant, lower this year. Strategic plan, is doing what fisheries plan did. Look at where we are going (Paul Schmidt head of this in Washington) with migratory birds. Will be sending out review for states to look at and then planning a conservation forum for January. Federal aid positions are reasonable and we need to listen to each others comments. I am a lawyer by trade. On the road a lot because best way to learn is to meet you and see plans on the ground. I plan to come to these meetings unless otherwise directed by my boss. Approach job with no surprises, we will keep you informed. Challenge to leaders to maintain conservation heritage for hunters and anglers, recruitment and retention important. Work with USDA and Forest Service, I would be happy to assist you in encouraging them to attend. Pleased to be here. John Hoskins - Nationalized law enforcement structure? Robyn Thorson - Organizing seven regions, after 9/11 headquarter law enforcement under Secretary and Bureau chief in DC will oversee that. Have refuge based law enforcement officers. Reviewing plan.

Other Speaker Presentations

Ernie Niemi, ECO Northwest - Recreation and Economics (Exhibit I). "The sky is falling" scenario and what we have learned in Pacific northwest (NW). Emotions - fear of logging road restrictions, President quote, Sociologist quote (prediction of gloom) Senator (prediction of fear). Underlying reasoning is that each state natural resource industries has an economic base in rural communities. The sky did not fall in the timber industry; harvest down; timber employment

down; total employment up; and per capital income up. In NW, take natural resources, dominant commercial use (jobs) and intrinsic values (environment). Timber in NW, agriculture here, ranching in other areas. Trade off is quality of life (household) location, competing commercial uses (other jobs). When one industry goes down another one will come up. In 1960s people followed jobs, since then people came first and jobs followed (sorting by quality of life). First, paycheck where you work; second, paycheck is living near things that you enjoy doing. Half of economy based on jobs first, half on people first. Need audience participation, how many want 20 percent income increase (all), how many would move to NY to get it? (none). Gross domestic product (GDP) and jobs from national forests (federal lands), 75 percent recreation, timber, minerals, range, wildlife and fish and other a small percentage (pie chart). What is missing is other services, carbon sequestration, clean water, etc. Same for rivers, state lands, refuges. Sources of wealth: natural resources, human resources, produced resources. North America is first (bar graph). Make mother nature healthy and let her work for you. Case: Klamath Basin - Old view: Irrigators vs. Fish; Reality: Farm income as percent of total - 1980: 6 percent, 1998: 0.5 percent; Tradeoffs: salmon fishery, hydro power, tribal interests, quality-of-life amenities. Competition is growing and we don't have a system to regulate that competition. Become economic development planners if you can show that you can produce jobs with resources. Eight lawsuits out there right now, one is a \$1 billion suit from a potato farmer who said because he didn't get water he lost his crop. Case: Snake River Dams - Old View: Salmon vs. economy; Reality: breaching would generate 13,000 construction jobs, long-run job loss 1,081 jobs; recreation job gain 2,000 and potential net benefits will be \$2.6 billion. Dams will not be removed in our life time. Reality is that nothing will ever replace the timber industry. Quality of life is important to jobs, no one has ever tallied it. In years to come you will see companies held accountable for environmental damages. Challenges for resource managers: 1) manage competition: demand as well as supply; 2) accelerate the definition, development, and implementation of win-win options; 3) clarify the distinction between the rights and the responsibilities of property ownership.

Break

Bruce Morrison, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, and John Fischer, Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS) - CWD facilitated discussion.

Bruce Morrison - National CWD plan (powerpoint - Exhibit J) Congressional hearing, Bobby Acord and Steve Williams formed national plan, 75 professionals involved completed June 26, 2002. Plan: communications (professional and public); scientific & technical information dissemination; diagnostics (3 tests available right now); disease management; research; and surveillance. Bobby and Steve appointed National Implementation Committee (10 people from various organizations). Plan done in short time by conference calls and email. Three year estimate: \$41.8 million; \$34.8 million; and \$31.7 million; for \$108.3 total, not officially adopted yet. Last year only got \$14 million, working on getting funding, state and federal agencies jumping through hoops to get money. Accomplishments: 46 states surveillance; national data base to track disease; 18 new research projects to look at aspects; National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) developing professional training module (January/February first training); congressional legislation introduced. May 9, \$27 million from House Bill, Senate Bill provides \$24.5 million. Also, two other bills introduced (my opinion waste of time) - HR2430 and HR2431 introduced by Wisconsin congressman.; congressional task force has been formed. National data standards have been developed; certified more vet labs (now 18); quicker tests; controlled import and export of captive cervids; media guide for CWD developed by National Wildlife Federation (NWF); techniques manual has been developed. Available at www.cwd-

info.org Continue work at national level to: obtain outside funding; long term monitoring and surveillance; continued research; continued cooperation among states, tribes and agencies; complete disclosure of information to public; tracking of all captive and wild cervid movements; training of appropriate persons. States must continue to play role of ringmaster to maintain attention of congress and others. Gary Taylor has been very helpful. Thanks for staff help and Bobby and Steve.

John Fischer - (powerpoint - Exhibit J) "Chronic Wasting Disease of Deer and Elk: Technical and Research Update", 15 member states. Human health concerns, no evidence of transmission to human, remain alert; diagnostics, two tests available, new live test, intense interest in captive cervid and cattle industries, another new test under development. Gene Thera company, test for marker in red blood cells, covers all TSEs not just CWD. Susceptibility study, read what is out there. Deer/cattle oral inoculation; contact trial; transmissibility; pathogenesis studies ongoing. Studies in Ames, Iowa by USDA-ARS-NADC on deer to cattle, 4 of 13 animals inoculated show brain lesions, also testing additional species. Other research efforts throughout the states. Captive cervid epidemiology: Saskatchewan, 40 infected herds, 38 traced to one source herd in South Dakota in 1989, all depopulated at cost of \$15 million U.S. dollars. South Dakota 2002, single source herd. Half of infected herds linked to two herds, Colorado and South Dakota. Surveillance 2002/2003 147,000 deer and elk nationwide, SEAFWA 19,363 animals, 331 target profile animals, no positive animals, 8,940 samples in 11 states, 13,000 next year. Information from Wisconsin, July 2003, 207 positive deer to date, core area 7 percent prevalence - difference between males and females; and yearlings, bucks and does. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 8 and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) deer and elk rendering are sources for information. Roy Grimes - Environmental study being done where? John Fischer - Beth Williams and Mike Miller and others. Roy Grimes - Potential problems with deer lure sales, etc. John Fischer - Possible, but not probable, deer urine samples provided to be tested. Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - Frustrated at lack of national surveillance program. Bruce Morrison - Captive one APHIS working on, in federal agency, first of the year. Randy Kreil - Carcass importation and exportation, no regulation, managed by Governor proclamation. Could this group work on standardizing a proclamation for this? Bruce Morrison - Several states have passed, but could be an assignment to Midwest Health Committee or Task Force. All states might not agree with it. Also talk to other Associations about getting health committees started, if they don't already have one. Jeff Ver Steeg - In your state, if someone harvests a Colorado CWD animal, we need to know who to contact to let them know about that animal. Bruce Morrison - Same goes for Nebraska.

Ollie Torgerson, Coordinator - Meeting December 18, at Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, on emerging research. Need someone that could come talk at that conference. (Bruce will supply names.) Talked to Beth Williams and Akins. Doug Hansen - Brief update on EPA's guidance on lab waste disposal. Jeff Ver Steeg - Headed towards zero tolerance on CWD generated by publicity and have heightened the level of paranoia, but don't know where it will end up. We want moderation. I will keep you posted. Bruce Morrison - We are waiting on the new EPA directive. Jeff Vonk - Any federal money available for Wisconsin to build a high fence along their border? Scott Hassett - We will work on that (HA HA).

David Walker, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Steve Riley, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - Farm Bill Report and facilitated discussion. Steve Riley - Last farm bill had a lot of goodies (Exhibit K). Technical service providers, agreements with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide services, concerns that NRCS may divorce themselves from some things and move farther away from that. Hope to strengthen our relationship with NRCS. New language for new contracts, option on old

contracts. Crop Reduction Program (CRP) management access program, Nebraska - 10 percent legumes added each year. Concerns are removing wildlife by doing away with their habitat. Need support from agencies to keep up with local policies. Some programs have great promise but don't know how we are going to keep ahead of this. Constant effort to keep NSA and NRCS informed.

David Walker - Thank Midwest for money and staff time to support my position. Highlight items in staff report. Handout of allocations for four state programs (Exhibit K). CRP \$1.5 billion this year. A significant amount of money is being spent. Wildlife is purpose or co-benefit of program. Make sure USFWS at table when state decisions are being made. CRP first sign up, number 26, completed June 13, 2003, 2 ½ - 3 million acres, anticipate 2.8 million acres to be signed up. Two million acres for continuous CRP. Sent in comments recently, appreciate help from staff, especially new working group, received last Monday. Rob Manes, Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) - Added option can pursue spring grazing of CRP, South Dakota and Missouri pursuing. Important that Director level contact occur with state NRCS. Steve Riley - One thing occurring is producers that don't have equipment any more and will be required to disk and interseed. We are recommending that people hire a contractor to do this so that the interseeding is happening on an even basis. David Walker - New programs: grassland reserve program (GRP), no program, but money allocated. Ranking criteria will be coming out and will be posted on the NRCS website. States need to be discussing the ranking criteria and make comments. Forest Land Enhancement program (FLEP) - \$20 million this year, rule out and we will be sending out comments. Conservation Security program (CSP) - \$3.9 million this year, no rule until later this fall. Rob Manes, WMI - GRP, varies from state to state being able to protect 500 acres of grass compared to protecting 5,000 acres of virgin sod. This week is the time to be pounding home your points on this issue. David Walker - State participation on these programs is very important. Wildlife habitat enhancement program (WHEP), final rule, \$39 million, \$21 million for research. Environmental reserve equality program (EREP), \$695 million, \$107 million donated to other programs this year. The final rule is out and technical assistance concerns in Congress with funding and how it was resolved this year. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) had to follow the Justice Department where the money could come from. Congress not happy with approach, taking money from some of these other programs to pay for Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and CRP programs. Ongoing issue that we need to have resolved, recommendations floating around in DC have been to cut the acreage and we don't want that, so we need to find ways to get technical assistance dollars. Technical Service providers, certification problems, states not have to go through certification programs, but would need Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and requires a 50 percent match. Thanked states for providing the input. Rob Manes, WMI - Another opportunity for leadership, state committee interests, need to speak out and get non government folks to those meetings to get assistance from them. Tim Bremicker - What about swampbuster and sodbuster level of compliance? David Walker - Will get website link and send you information. Findings were that NRCS had problems enforcing those programs. Kirk Nelson - Midwest put forward fee to support your position, what is the current status? NCN for this year or last year? David Walker - This year, submitted grant proposal for two more years. Decision will be made at meeting in Madison. Richard Bishop - Grassland program, one big pool or allocations to regions? David Walker - 75 percent to states based on a formula. John Baughman, IAFWA - So much money available here and agree with Rob about support from outside agencies of these things. Most states have problems with staffing. Steve Riley - Tremendous amount of effort goes into this. In Nebraska, Amack made this a priority and we set up teams within each of our districts and tried to find people who knew people and get with landowners and NRCS personnel who have never worked with these types of things. We need to make this a high priority. Need a lot more people who are

knowledgeable. May start at state level, but needs to also happen at county level. Rob Manes, WMI - Private land programs, biologists are planning food plots and working with landowners, challenge them to target farm bill because there is so much money on the table here. If this should go away in 2006, you need to get as many programs on the table as possible. Some states, like Kansas have put biologists in the NRCS offices. Steve Riley - North Dakota just started a new program, Missouri and Iowa also have programs. Need to look at the needs and best fit them. Roy Grimes - In Kentucky we were able to hire some people to take advantage of this money. Now we need to put this on the ground. Rob Manes, WMI - WMI just did a survey to what John asked about. On the website. Steve Riley - Will talk about that a little more tomorrow in Private Lands Report. Good history now of collaborating with the states. John Hoskins - Has anyone done a MOU with NRCS for technical service? Conlin and Sexson said they have one, but not yet signed. Walker said copies of those contracts would be good to provide to other states. We have a technical assistance working group and several others. Staff coming to Madison to get involved in those working groups.

Group Photo at 11:45 followed by lunch (Exhibit L).

Jodi Valenta, NSSF - Gave short talk at lunch (Report K) on: 1) Article in Field and Stream magazine - "The Future of Hunting" by Bob Marshall - we can assist states in changing these trends; 2) The Hunting Heritage Partnership, 26 states submitted 66 proposals; Report on major findings from NSSF reports facts and figures: a) more women participate in target shooting than any other shooting activity, including hunting (don't ignore these other shooting sports); b) there has been an increase in the number of female bow hunters age 7 or who older participated in bow hunting more than once this past year; c) 1990-2000, unintentional deaths from firearms declined 45 percent; d) firearms are involved in less than one percent of all accidental deaths in the U.S.; e) unintentional deaths from firearms accounted for only three percent of all firearm-related deaths; f) since 1975, the annual number of firearm accident deaths among children has been decreased by 84 percent; g) only 776 deaths were caused by the accidental discharge of a firearm; h) the most popular shooting sport among all shooting sports is target shooting, followed by hunting; i) sporting clays are the fastest growing shooting sports. Roy Grimes - Did sporting clays increase because of bird declines? Jodi Valenta - I don't know. 4) Step Outside program is a good family program; 5) applied for multi-state grant with Responsive Management for a study on "The Future of Hunting and Shooting Sports:..."; and 6) magazine survey clipping from The Washington Times by Gene Mueller - "While the anti-hunting movement screeches loudly about the "rights" of animals, a much quieter American hunter population that hovers between 17 and 20 million has taken steps to ensure the protection and even the survival of wildlife species. Had it not been for the cooperation of hunters, self-imposed limits, even asked-for curtailment of the hunting of several waterfowl species over the years, the survival of canvasback duck, the Canada goose and others might be in doubt. Ditto for wild turkey, bighorn sheep and pronghorn antelope." "When was the last time you asked how much money PETA, the Fund for Animals or the U.S. Humane Society has spent to save a wildlife species? If any money was ever spent, it would be a pittance compared to that expended by hunters. But, friends, do they ever shout, holler and pound their chests." - This is fantastic press. NSSF would like to continue our partnership with states, especially the Midwest. Don't hesitate to call me with new ideas. Showed artwork from National campaign which we would like to run in state agency magazines, but because of no budget we can provide CD copies only, no artwork. President Rex Amack - "Lead in the air, hope in the heart." Thanks Jodi and NSSF for providing this lunch today and for speaking to us.

SPEAKERS (continued)

Gary Moulton, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - Lewis and Clark (L&C) Celebration (Exhibit M). (Nebraska magazine provided in packet, has an article on journal entries on information provided by Dr. Moulton). Living legacy, notebook diaries, kept meticulous records. Celebration possible because of these records - 1 million words (natural history) and they drew maps and collected plants. All of these items are actively enjoyed items from the expedition and are being studied all of the time. April 12, 1805 L&C pulled up to a camp on the Little Missouri River in North Dakota after wintering at Fort Mandan. These men ate tremendous amounts of meat (especially buffalo) on their journey. Entered Great Plains in June, 1804. One of the Privates wrote that the herd of buffalo he saw was more than he had ever seen in his life combined. The herds ranged from 30,000 to 70,000 buffalo. Using the journals, Martin and Souter, got information on habitat, etc., L&C also noted that the numbers of game were less where the river was close to Indian tribes, game sink (Mandan and Assiniboine tribal area). Animals moved to game park (several tribes surrounded this area), tribes hunted in small groups only and then got out of the area before they were attacked by other tribes. Most all of Montana, now into Shoshone area, another game sink. Strong literature on L&C natural history. Lewis studied plant history and learned some Latin and preservation techniques. Lewis was write notes on tags on the plants and supposed to only list short information, but he wrote such full descriptions of the plants, even the ones he did not collect, that they could also be identified. Sent back 60 specimens in the spring (to Philadelphia). Only 30 remain, starting with number 31, don't know where the first 30 went. Started collecting again and when he got to head waters of the river he stashed plants he had collected. When he returned they were destroyed because water had seeped into the site. Around 3/4 of plants collected came from the Rocky Mountains and Pacific NW, Great Plains plants were not available. Collected 240 plants total, 11 of those are currently at Q Gardens in England. Tease, at Syracuse University, did a study of lipids, carbon 12 and 13 analysis on the plants and gave a snapshot of habitat compared to modern day plants. Clark did most of the study and mapmaking with crude and unreliable instruments. On field maps (day by day maps he made each day). He used about a one inch grid and what he did was back osmose reading and noted the physical landscape. Used a compass and then guessed or used dead reckoning. Also, used sextant to mark longitude and latitude. He did that for 4,000 miles out and 4,000 miles coming back. For the most part he made route maps or trail maps and when he got back he used a ghost writer, made a grand map and published it. It was not changed until 1850. His estimates are, for the most part, right on. Clark plotted the Missouri River, 29 maps for that area for St. Louis to Fort Mandan. Modern map makers are trying to redo the maps using the original maps, but maps are missing from St. Louis to Omaha and the others are copies only. Maximilian's copies of the maps are all that survive from Omaha to Fort Mandan. Clark's course and distance readings was all he had, in place of the maps, from St. Louis to Omaha. Martin Plamonden's (Vancouver) modern map has 153 maps to take the place of 29 maps, finishing his third volume now. Chuck Pils, CITES Representative - Comment on buffalo. It is controversial whether Indian tribes had much impact on their demise. Gary Moulton - Indians were environmentalists, but were human beings, when times were good they took just the heart, hide, whatever. Mark Brohman - How many animal specimens survived? Gary Moulton - None, some fossils, hides, etc. Can not find the actual, L&C exhibits. L&C had a museum at that time, but they sold to PT Barnum and then some of it was lost in a fire. The rest is lost and scattered or cannot be identified as L&C exhibits.

Noelyn (Butch) Isom, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - Automated License Systems facilitated discussion (Exhibit N). Point of sale (POS) or internet point of sale (IPOS) for federal

migratory bird stamp. Roy Grimes - Louisiana is currently selling federal stamp? Terry Little - No not at this point, Nebraska is the only one right now. Louisiana should have it available by first of September. John Hoskins - Traditional point of sale, can print with terminal, not the actual stamp, will need the actual system. Terry Little - They don't print a stamp, just a line that says point of sale stamp or permit. Butch Isom - From the "IAFWA Washington Staff Report". Automated Wildlife Data Systems (AWDS) program assists fish and wildlife agencies in education, development, implementation and improvement of automated license data systems while developing techniques and standards to enable agencies to share and utilize data for administration, enforcement, resource management, customer service and marketing. Originally initiated in 1997, continued through April 2000 and revived again in 2001. There are currently 48 states that have some form of license automation or are in the process of automating their licensing system. Twenty seven states are using POS technologies, while 38 are using IPOS and 25 are using Telephonic systems. Also, a majority of states use at least two automation methods to issue licenses (see report for state licensing methods). Could not get POS through Nebraska Game & Parks, did get IPOS, but that couldn't have happened if the point of sale hadn't failed. No comparison in cost to internet sales and PC sales. In spring of 2000, old system did not work very well, slow and did not issue to the people we needed to. We had to figure out something to fix this. We were told it would cost \$400,000 to \$500,000 and \$35,000 to get an analysis done. Went back to INS and they told us it would cost about \$2.5 million. Went to a company in California and they put a process together for us for nothing, we both took a chance. We wanted to issue applications and permits on same system and they said they could do it and it would only cost \$16,000. The biggest difference is the system could be changed in an hour at no cost to us. Tried phone system, but don't see any need for it, or see it surviving. Background report: 1998 - 23 sold online; 1999 - 6,295; 2000 - 23,843; 2001 - 98,146 (new system); 2002 - 125,299; and 2003 - 64,102 as of July 1, projected 163,000. This year 60 percent of big game applications and permits are done online. Estimated, for each license sold, \$1.95 - \$2.95 saved per permit. Still have vendors and have a data entry company to put in that information, so we have a complete database, this is the 3rd year. It costs \$2,100 a month for the system management fee. Jeff Vonk - Do you have a phase out for your paper system? Butch Isom - Yes, dropping some agents because of noncompliance to sending in timely records. Decision up to Rex and the department. My recommendation would be that in three years time we no longer have agents (vendors). WalMart doing it and they love it. They put in all of their own computers and flat screen monitors. Their main concern was security of their own system. Jeff Vonk - WalMart does the permit, I don't have to go to a Kiosk? Butch Isom - Right. Randy Kreil - How are you handling HIP registration? Butch Isom - Not in this system yet, BASS Pro does it for us. Randy Kreil - How do they do that? Butch Isom - Go on line or call. When you click on a permit type at WalMart, it shows who bought, date sold, clerk who sold it, time, etc. Keith Sexson - What is vendor fee on top of a license? Butch Isom - We drafted legislation, when we failed to get POS, they get \$1 a permit, split with Great Lodge. Glen Salmon - How much was credit card charge? Butch Isom - Don't know, originally going through Cybercash, based on per item. Cost is minimal, don't have to print books, or enter data, so system is constantly saving us money. Jeff Vonk - Who pays the credit card costs? Butch Isom - We do, except WalMart does their own. In the beginning we didn't have to verify card number and to be sure they have money. Don't charge their card if they are not drawn, so there are no refunds. Law Enforcement reports designed, wildlife designed there report, all departments had a hand in the final reports. With email addresses we can market deer hunters, etc., and send them the information electronically. It cost us four cents a piece to send the information out, we could do it but it would tie up our servers. We also get reports back from the company. Roy Grimes - Could you use same information to get them to do some action for you? Butch Isom - Maybe in the future. We really

protect that because we don't want to lose these people. Doug Hansen - What was the percent applying on line? Butch Isom - 69 percent. Also, had 85 percent of spring turkey permits applied for during the season because they get their turkey and can apply again. Licenses can be printed at home on your own computer. If the animal requires a tag, keep permit issued and put it in the animal's ear.

Jerry Rasmussen, Coordinator MICRA, IA - Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS). Handout for definitions of: Alien species - ; invasive species - ; aquatic nuisance species (ANS) - ; cryptogenic species - ; naturalized species - ; native species = ANS (Exhibit O). Showed silver carp jumping on video, serious problem with recreational users as well as fisherman. Need an aggressive approach to getting these fish. They are plankton feeders. Brought into this country by channel cat fisherman in the south. (Powerpoint presentation - Exhibit O) Source - country and mechanism of introduction - Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Central America, Australia, New Zealand, Middle East, Atlantic Ocean: Fish culture/farming; ship/barge; canals, etc. What can we do? ANS task force formed in 1990, Great Lakes panel and NW panel, now added NE, Mississippi River Basin and Gulf of Mexico. (List of people signed up for committee). Panel plans on meeting twice a year. Plan to interrupt pathways where ever we can. Revolving door in Chicago that needs to be addressed. Will see billboards, signage, electric barriers, canal closures, pamphlets and books. Doug Hansen - Commend you for your efforts. Mentioned team that has been put together that will work with the states and bring the expertise and training needed. Jerry Rasmussen - Panel is excellent. Tom Hauge - If this was an oil spill we would be going after the firm that brought it in. Is this something the legal committee needs to look at so that these industries take responsibility? We are talking about a billion dollars worth of damage from this. Jerry Rasmussen - We could see the salmon fishing disruption in the Great Lakes. This is certainly not over. Iowa is putting in a \$2 million barrier. Mike Conlin - Also, putting together a rapid response plan. Tom Hauge - Need organized effort to recover damages. Jerry Rasmussen - Will see some because of silver carp and white perch. Marion Conover - System is broke and we need to fix it. Need to be listed as injurious before they get into this country. It is too late now to stop carp and it is serious business. Need to take a look at the program to take out dams, etc. Don Gabelhouse - Comment on fish bypass system? Jerry Rasmussen - Good program, needs to be done heads up and intelligent. Chuck Pils, CITES Representative - Everyone should be aware that we are not the only ones that have non native injurious species. Jerry Rasmussen - We all need to do better.

Break

Roy Grimes, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources - National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) Described program, explained why states are interested, summarize, and explain how to get started. (Powerpoint presentation - Exhibit P) Gave figures on Kentucky license sales. Losing more hunters than gaining young hunters. Canned program, instruction in "Olympic-style" target archery, exceeds national physical education (PE) standards for 4-12th grades, teacher training put together by US Olympic Archery governing body, utilizes equipment that works for students and teachers. Before this program, why not more schools: safety (archery safer than every ball sport played in schools); lack of equipment (put together package of equipment, costs 50 percent of retail price); no place to practice or compete (meant to be taught in gym); teachers lacked archery training (8-12 training offered). Kentucky pilot program started in 22 schools in 2001 in PE classes. Every school has a curriculum, so Department of Education wrote this for us. This is also a life skill. Schools have to agree to have one other teacher trained (cost \$20 for materials). Equipment must fit every kid in the class, use a modern compound bow

(four companies make this bow - Genesis Compound Bow); use full-length aluminum arrows for safety; use Olympic-style bull's eye targets, core is \$25 full target is \$165; and use archery box/bow rack (cost \$100 for materials). Want to encourage more youth to be active in the outdoors; archery to become a High School team sport choice; number of shooting enthusiasts to grow rather than decline, 55 percent of target archers are also bowhunters. This is a two-week archery curriculum. Of 1,600 kids surveyed, 89 percent enjoyed class, 62 percent never shot a bow; 73 percent don't own a bow; 49 percent want to own a bow; most want to use their new life skill; 59 percent want to be target archers; 38 percent are interested in bowhunting. Many schools have even started after school archery clubs. After one year, 120 counties have schools, we had 110 schools enrolled last year, after July 18, and we will have over 150 schools this year. People from every state have inquired about this program. In 2003, was the first Kentucky state championship, with 651 student archers. Awards were given. Next year the tournament will be on March 18, 2004 in Louisville, Kentucky. Not a negative thing has been said, after 18 months, about this program. If teaching this program in 30 states, 30 million students will learn to archery shoot every year, if we match Kentucky's success. We recommend that each state starts a pilot program: this minimizes cost, promotes quick start, learn as you go, demonstrates interest & "do ability", and create success story. A 10-school pilot program will cost approximately \$26,000 to equip schools. Money can be found: Federal section 10; grants (NRA, Step Outside and private sector); sportsman's clubs & chapters; education grants - 21st Century, After School Alliance, etc. There are eight steps to get started: 1) grassroots shooter development fit mission; 2) identify money; 3) identify key staff; 4) recruit 10-15 pilot schools; 5) order equipment kits; 6) organize and conduct teacher training; 7) deliver equipment; and 8) schedule future teacher training to meet demand. Get more information from www.genesisbow.com/nasp *Rob Manes, WMI* - Suggest IAFWA funds. *John Baughman* - Video is really good. (Other handouts - Exhibit P).

Mark Humpert, Nebraska Game and Fish Commission - State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans (powerpoint presentation - Exhibit Q). Seven guidelines provided by USFWS to be given to states. Met three times now. Took guiding principles and that became the basis for regional workshops. Agenda identified things that were in the guiding principles which were sent from IAFWA to each state Director. Had another meeting in June to form sub-workgroups to go over the ideas that came from regional workshops. These will be for recommendation only. Formed 10 sub-workgroups and plan to meet again in August to go over recommendations to bring to meeting in Wisconsin. We are going to come up with a format that everyone could use to get consistency. Need to role all state plans into one national plan. Two co-chairs of program.

Tim Bremicker, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Brought forward three draft resolutions: Missouri River Enhancement and Monitoring; Ban on Importation of Ruminants and Ruminant Parts from Canada; Importation of Exotic Animals and Possible Wildlife Disease Ramifications (see Report D).

Someone asked Steve Williams a question about the non-resident waterfowl hunting issue. *Steve Williams* - In regards to limiting non-resident waterfowl hunters from coming into a state. I don't know if that is an issue for Clint Riley or the Federal Aid Task Force. We would need to sit down with our legal department to assess if that is legal from the federal aid standpoint.

Richard Bishop - I would like to invite everyone to view the CONCEP video called "The Wounding Problem: three causes and three solutions" regarding wounding loss. It is an excellent hunter education tool. We can meet in this room after we return from the Park.

Left the Doubletree Hotel for a tour of the Henry Doorly Zoo (Wildlife Safari Park) and then arriving at the Riverview Lodge at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park for supper and socializing. Everyone enjoyed the tour and activities at the State Park. Events were hosted by the Nebraska Game and Fish Commission. Arrived back at the hotel at 9:00 p.m.

Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

(Summary of the business meeting taken from notes and reports)

(The following items are attached in the Reports Section)

CALL TO ORDER

Rex Amack, MAFWA President, Nebraska - Called the business meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Asked for additional agenda items.

ROLL CALL

Joe Kramer, Secretary/Treasurer, Kansas - Called roll call: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin were all present (Report A). We have a quorum, 14 out of 14 states are present. None of the three Canadian Provinces were present.

MINUTES

Rex Amack - Need a motion to accept the minutes from last year. **Motion made by Doug Hansen, and second by Mike Conlin.** No discussion. **Motion carries.**

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Joe Kramer, Kansas - (Report B) Total assets as of July 1, 2001 - \$230,526.95. We had receipts of \$4,700.00 for annual dues; \$900.00 for the Missouri conference; \$5,250.00 received so far from Nebraska registrations; and \$7,306.05 in interest; for a total of \$21,356.05 in receipts. Disbursements included: \$2,324.67 for Missouri conference expenses; \$474.06 to pay Sheila for her expenses in Missouri; \$80.32 to pay Parson's Jewelry for plaque engraving; \$11.32 for receipt books from Bolen's Office Supply; \$287.15 to buy plaques from the Trophy Shop; and a loss of \$970.08 in Merrill Lynch, if we were to sell our stock now. Assets include \$7,797.76 in checking; \$22,534.30 in savings; \$159,534.44 in the five CD accounts; and \$40,660.45 in the Merrill Lynch account (we put in \$50,000 and need to consider moving this upon maturity this year or hold out until we gain our money back and then move the money into something a little safer like CD's). Total income from the investments from 1996 to present, not including Merrill Lynch profits or losses, is \$70,116.87, which is primarily money we have made off the CD's. Income that has been invested off of this trust was some CITES money in 1997, Teaming With Wildlife in 1998, CARA in 1999, and IAFWA in 2002 and those funds amounted to \$40,638.83, with the remainder being spent for day to day expenses. Total investments remaining for use, as outlined in the draft, \$22,534.30, of which \$10,000.00 was spent this fiscal year, but was not taken out of the savings yet. Rex Amack called for approval of the Treasurer's report. **Dean Hildebrand moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Keith Sexson second.** Discussion?

Jeff Vonk - Audit Committee would like to move money in Merrill Lynch Fund. Dean Hildebrand - Direct Treasurer to look at no-load fund to get some recommendations. Rex Amack - Come back to that under Audit Committee and accept Treasurer's numbers. **Motion carries.**

Audit Report

Dean Hildebrand Game and Fish Department - The Audit Committee (Randy Kreil, George Burgoyne and Jeff Vonk) met and reviewed the records provided by Treasurer Kramer. Like to change Merrill Lynch monies to a different fund (Report C). **Dean Hildebrand moved to review the Merrill Lynch monies, Jeff Vonk second.** Discussion? John Hoskins - That is a poor return. Dean Hildebrand - Need more investment advice. Work with Rex and the Committee to remove that and take care of it. Accept Audit Committee report? **Motion carries. All in favor of accepting the Audit Report.**

Resolutions Committee Report

Tim Bremicker, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Three resolutions handed out yesterday (Report D) - 1) Missouri River Enhancement and Monitoring program (MOREP). Kirk Nelson - \$12 million a year, administered through Corps agencies. IAFWA would look favorably upon it if Midwest passes it. Mike Conlin - Funded for three year commitment? Kirk Nelson - Three years but concept is for whatever amount of time it takes to get the answers for the river. Doug Hansen - "Be it further resolved" should be after the "Now, therefore.." paragraph. Tim Bremicker - Will change. **Jeff Vonk moved to accept amended motion, Doug Hansen second.** Discussion? Jeff Vonk - Support concept. Rex Amack - Delegation supports this concept, paralysis by analysis. Think this would have an opportunity in Congress. Timing good, with all of the focus on the river over the next five years. All approve? **Motion passes. Will be drafted and sent to IAFWA.** 2) The Ban on Importation of Ruminants and Ruminant parts from Canada. Bruce Morrison - Requesting USDA to expedite a review. If action taken by this Friday at White House, no action will be needed, but if not, we need to take this action. Discussion. **George Burgoyne moved, Keith Sexson second.** Motion includes no action needed if action taken by Friday. **Motion carries.** 3) The Importation of Exotic Animals and Possible Wildlife Disease Ramifications. Bruce Morrison - Exportation, consolidate, review, scandalize, and enforce regulations and want records maintained of animal disease. This resolution will hit the pet industry right in the face. Several other resolutions are being passed by other animal health groups. Basically for exotic pets, all regulations lined out and enforced. George Burgoyne - Mark those guys bringing those in also. Rex Amack - Number one issue is Fish and Wildlife health disease. Keith Sexson - When they jump to humans all types of excitement takes place. In light of invasive species this needs to be dealt with. **Keith Sexson moved, John Hoskins second. Motion carries.**

Awards Committee Report

Glen Salmon, Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Presented awards to past president, Rex Amack, Nebraska; Kirk Nelson, Nebraska, for his supporting role; thanked Nebraska staff for their supporting role in getting things accomplished and Chuck Pils, Wisconsin, for his CITES work (Report E). Thanked Sheila Kemmis for helping get work done.

Legal Committee Report

Ollie Torgerson presented in place of Jane Smith, Missouri Department of Conservation - Handed out memorandum which included their agenda (Report F). No action needed from this report. States need to better support this committee. Need a director to take this group under their

wing. **Hoskins volunteered to step up as our person because he is head of the legal committee of the International.** Joe Kramer - Point of order that committees need to meet 30 days prior to this annual meeting and submit report. **Dean Hildebrand moved we accept report, support John Hoskins, George Burgoyne second.** Sexson look at Midwest states where they meet. Discussion. **Motion carries.** Rex Amack - We do not have in house legal council, but the new Attorney General just reorganized his office and we have a representative on natural resources so we should have a better opportunity in the future to send someone.

Private Lands Working Group Report

Steve Riley, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - We also need a director to report to. We have no action items. Usually we have farm bill issues that we have had to pass through the Ag Task Force in the past. In strategic thinking session, number two and four issue fall into this group to deal with. Passed around a four page report (Report G). Touched on high points and identified road blocks: communication; maintenance on long term programs; lack of flexibility; landowners get mixed messages from different people; and perceived conflict among agency objectives. Questions? Tim Bremicker - Very strict travel kept us from attending this meeting, not lack of interest. Richard Bishop - Several things we have discussed over the years, regulations in some states not conducive in other states. Rob Manes - Echo what Richard said, reiterate that where state committee and field office technical guide is what tailors these programs to meet your needs. You stand to influence your state, field office technical guide is best place to keep in touch with NRCS. David Walker - There is a working group for field service. Steve Riley - Took advantage of those working groups and I assigned someone from my staff to each one. Tim Bremicker - Publically acknowledge work of our public lands group. Take advantage of farm bill better than in the past, thanks. Rex Amack - Thank you. **Sexson volunteered to be the liaison on this committee for Midwest as he does with the International.**

David Walker, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies - Carbon Sequestration (CS) (Report G). Involved with farm bill, discussed at North American, put together a white paper and now have a final draft. Will be going out to folks in the future. Guidelines on how to determine how they are going to count activities and see if they qualify for CS and can enhance fish and wildlife interests. Great opportunity, but could also have some problems. Discussion of benefits associated with these projects and are covered in these guidelines. Working with Department of Ag. and Department of Energy and making this available to staff on the hill. Follow up to Bremicker's question yesterday, report name "USDA needs to better insure..." (report # GAO84188). Tim Bremicker - Indication of how many acres are lost? David Walker - Would have to look at the report. Rob Manes - North America look at conservation compliance, most have no consequences if there is no compliance, difficult to address. Example - Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota loss, 1985 to 1997, lost 210,000 acres of cropland converted to native grassland. Jeff Vonk - NRCS identifies, refers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) for action, in 1992 farm bill, excuses allowed for inadvertent, given a year to comply. Part of deal is every time you find a problem and it is washed away by the next agency, you need statutory change to tighten that loophole. Rob Manes - Open public meetings, but county conservation groups do not show up at those meetings. Jeff Vonk - Groups enrolled are confidential so you don't have a list. Rob Manes - There is a lack, or gap, in which groups are tied to compliance. Jeff Vonk - No will power in NRCS to go out and enforce this program. Look at state agency, uses a technical service provider to go out and take care of that, especially because of confidentiality. Rob Manes - NRCS states they are not trained to deal with that. Jeff Vonk - Need oversight. Rob Manes -

Good issue for private lands working group to pursue and come back with recommendations, knowing they will come back with some problems. Tim Bremicker - If we are not backed up by swampbuster than what is left? **Tim Bremicker moved to refer to private lands group to come up with some recommendations for us.** Richard Bishop - What are you asking them to do? Tim Bremicker - Look at compliance issues for swampbuster and sodbuster and find barrier or problem and come up with recommendations. **Jeff Vonk second.** Rob Manes - We just did a cursory analysis. David Walker - Formed five new working groups: Technical Assistance; Field Office Technical Guide; Environmental Quality Initiatives; CRP; and Conservation Compliance Work Group. This last group could make a recommendation to the work group for the Madison meeting. Rob Manes - Riley would it be feasible to develop a list of issues to send to IAFWA work group? Steve Riley - Yes we could. Who is chair? David Walker - I don't know. Steve Riley - We could touch on it again in front of this body next year. David Walker - Look at ways to strengthen compliance as it deals with next farm bill. Rob Manes - Recommendations from farm bill, wildlife community resolve not even big enough to melt that boulder. This will be a long and difficult struggle. Jeff Vonk - Agree with that statement. Need to get authority for organization outside USDA and NRCS is great, but we need a third party or someone else. Steve Riley - We will keep the ball rolling. I will have something by tomorrow. All in favor? **Motion carries.**

Public Lands Management Working Committee Report

Daylan Figgs, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - (Report H). Four topics for working groups. After 2001 meeting, sent out three letters to Attorney General, US Forest Service and USFWS. No response from those letters. IAFWA formed a committee to look into this matter. We need to know what further actions we need to take and what exactly you would like us to do? We would like to put together recommendations and guidelines for the development and operation of shooting ranges. A similar report that we would like to put together is prescribed burning. We would like to form a committee to look at this issue a little further. Last item I would like to talk about is addressing illegal activities. Just by the isolated nature of these public lands makes them candidates for illegal activities. Something else we would like to work on. We discussed a variety of other topics that are in our notes. With that I would like to address any questions or comments. Doug Hansen - It would appear that the Directors of the states would need to implement those reports. Ollie Torgerson - Do you have a representative from every state assigned to your committee? **Tim Bremicker agreed to be the liaison Director to work with the Public Land Working Committee.** John Hoskins - Item 2, Do you have access to the information from the organization? Somewhat knowledgeable of that information from that working group with shooting ranges. Glen Salmon - What would be acceptable use of that? Tom Young - Control burn field biologists are having a difficult time with this because of private landowners. We are going to do some training, but for the private landowner. He has been preparing his private lands and is now ready to burn. Richard Bishop - Partner in my farm burned off part of our land and there was an explosion Tom Young - Seasonal grasses established and now they can't burn Jeff Vonk - Providing formal training and obtaining the safety equipment needed to protect these people. Richard Bishop - The USFWS has money available. Dean Hildebrand - In our state a group of folks, on reservations, are trained to pick up and go wherever they are needed and we have taken advantage of that. We could bring these professionals in and have the where-with-all to do this, a one-stop shopping center. Tim Bremicker - Extensive burn in Minnesota three years ago about 80,000 acres. I would be willing to share that model with the public lands group. Get a better handle on what is available. Rex Amack - Small as your group was, you were very aggressive and the report was turned in thirty

days in advance. **Ollie Torgerson moved to accept report. Keith Sexson second. Discussion? Motion passes.**

Wildlife Health Committee Report

Bruce Morrison, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission - (Report I). Met in May, approximately 45 days before this meeting you received your report from us. Had fourteen people in attendance representing eight states and two federal agencies. Put this as number one on strategic thinking items. Recommend we keep myself as chair. 1) periodic newsletter; 2) white paper; 3) EPA; 4) compilation of wildlife disease outbreaks; 5) compilation of wildlife disease training; and 6) white paper West Nile Virus management. Since meeting and report you received earlier, in this report, monkey pox issue. The resolution you passed will be addressed here. Several different agencies have the authority to enforce the same act. BSE note, which brought on the ruminant resolution. Only other thing to report CWD compilation in handout. The reason SARS came on because the Asians were eating wildlife with connected disease. Cattle egrets spreading disease in the south. Next meeting is in May of 2004, Illinois will host. Chuck Pils - See article on federal proposal to combat monkey pox? Bruce Morrison - Fifty state conference call today at noon. Ollie Torgerson - On the import/export resolution, should we ask the committee to direct group to do this? **Glen Salmon moved to follow through with resolution. Mike Conlin second. Discussion? Ollie Torgerson** - Liaison with committee? **George Burgoyne stated he would. Motion to accept report, Keith Sexson, Steve Gray second. Motion passes.**

Rex Amack - Two other groups not giving reports today, Midwest Deer and Turkey and Midwest Pheasant group. Don't remember if these two groups were supposed to come up with a singular product and dissolve, or continue. Randy Kreil - We have been connected for years and have been very active. Ollie Torgerson - Formed in 70s. Also have a Midwest furbearers committee, don't know if they are affiliated with us. Need to make a formal connection with that group. Rex Amack - What about Midwest Law Enforcement Association? Sheila Kemmis - They have 28 member states and are bigger than us. Keith Sexson - Prairie Grouse Working Group? Jeff Ver Steeg - In 1995, we attempted to list all of those groups. Randy Kreil - Seems to me it might be worth the efforts of the Directors to get their arms around all of these groups and talk about committees and coordination of these committees. Steve Riley - History of Private Lands, got together and got sanctioned by this body because we got into policy level and needed to move issues forward in a more formal process. Pheasant Group did not feel they were about policy, just information exchange, said they didn't want to do that, wanted to be about science and techniques only. Need to consider what their charge is. Joe Kramer - One of other issues that has came up is criticism of not dealing with fishery issues, yesterday good presentation on aquatic nuisance, comes out of MICRA, need to get those groups back. There are 26 fish chiefs that created that group. Doug Hansen - Support for any kind of fishery exposure to this group. Take advantage of those that exist. Rex Amack - Reflecting Saturday's discussion and how Western works and their commitment to committees. It might be prudent to set how many committees we want to work with and how many directors we want. Association is taking on a whole new life compared to when we met in 1995 in Galena, IL. Richard Bishop - Agree with Kreil, bring committees together. We could request a committee report even if they have no action they can give a short report at least for acknowledgment. Pheasant group spawned from this group and Ollie attended deer and turkey meeting for years. Rex Amack - Morrison head of health committee, not much fish discussed. Dale Garner - Two fish guys on that committee and some was discussed. Ollie Torgerson - Several committees, pull list from 1995 and go over them.

Pheasant group still meeting? Steve Riley - Yes. Ollie Torgerson - I will contact Pheasant, Deer and Turkey, Law Enforcement, Furbearer, etc. Need to know we exist and let them know they can bring action items to us and we can take it to the IAFWA. If that turns out pretty good then we can ask in North Dakota for Directors to liaison with them. Don't want 18 or 20 committees like Western, but need to become more visible. Doug Hansen - Also, Missouri River group. Ollie Torgerson - Do they have a coordinator? Doug Hansen - Yes. Randy Kreil - Primary objective of 2004, Monday we would need to deal with committees. Keith Sexson - What about strategic thinking on Sunday? Dean Hildebrand - Address issues on strategic thinking chart. Think of terms of addressing these committees. Use this as the wick we keep dipping in the wax to build the candle. If anything crops up or if you have suggestions, drop me or Randy a note and we could go over that. Randy Kreil - Sunday strategic thinking session could go over issues of how you want to deal with how the committees are going to react. John Hoskins - This should be a significant agenda item. Ollie laying out what will need to be done for next year and that could be the Sunday morning.

Break

CITES Report

Chuck Pils, CITES MAFWA Representative, Wisconsin - (Report J) (powerpoint presentation) Went to Chile in November, 2002. Explained CITES (Conference on International Threatened and Endangered Species) powerful tool. Misconceptions on how CITES group works. Attending CITES Plants Committee meeting in August, in Geneva, Switzerland, the last one I will attend. We are considered an NGO and cannot vote. 77 resolutions and 170 decisions in effect. Almost becoming unmanageable in what they are allowing. 1) designate; 2) prohibit; and 3) confiscate. Scientific Authority. Three appendices: I. Species threatened with extinction, no trade prohibition; II. Species threatened with extinction, but trade controlled; III. Species that are protected by at least one country, which has asked for help in controlling trade and does not have to be discussed and approved at Conference of Parties (COP). COP is only body that can decide on contents of appendix I and II and meets every 2-3 years. Argued half a day on improving labels for caviar, and how it affected paddlefish. U.S. species on the Appendix III list are the alligator snapping turtle and map turtles. Appropriate to get more information, but the process is so slow. Thanks for support and chance to work with you. I will be in Madison.

Carolyn Caldwell, Ohio Department of Natural Resources will be the new CITES representative starting in Madison (Report J - letter and resume).

NGO Reports

Rob Manes on phone, will come back to him.

OLD BUSINESS

(The following items are attached in the Appendix Section)

Bylaw Revisions

Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado Department of Wildlife - (Appendix A) Adding Coordinator and Recording Secretary. Colorado back. Increase dues for affiliated NGOs. Increase to \$2,500. (See memo) Decided in 1993 to follow the alphabetical rotation and added that to the bylaws. Mike

Conlin - What are advantages of that change of making the president not the rotation person. Ollie Torgerson - I brought up, because we need someone who will be interested, need leadership by desire and ability, keep rotation of meeting alphabetical. That is the concept, pretty well received in strategic thinking. Mike Conlin - If state is hosting and their director is not an officer or involved it seems that they would not come. Seems like it would get the director involved. Ollie Torgerson - Southeast does it the way we are proposing. Not sure how Western does it. Doug Hansen - It is done how we do it now. Steve Riley - Two meetings a year, host state, summer meeting is president, but winter meeting is in a different state. Joe Kramer - Goal of Midwest have as an exception. If language allowed that we could have it either way. Ollie Torgerson - But what if it goes to a state where the Director does not want to? Rex Amack - Could have some problems if the Director of a state wants to do it and the nominating committee didn't appoint them. Tim Bremicker - Saw it as a positive step to be pushed into being president when I was new and Minnesota was the host. I would support what Rex mentioned by offering it to a Director and then if he declines, put it to the nominating committee. Jeff Vonk - First right of refusal. Would you give the Director the right to refuse to host also? Jeff Ver Steeg - We can isolate some of these and discuss and vote separately. Some can be dispensed with easily. **Jeff Vonk moved to recommended items 1-7 on memo from Ver Steeg, George Burgoyne second.** Discussion? Ollie Torgerson - Under duties, three proceedings, if we go to internet could reduce that number, change three to just say "copies". Rex Amack - Amendment to remove? **Accepted as friendly amendment by motion maker.** Other discussion? Article 8 is fiscal year are we leaving that out. George Burgoyne - The motion involves the seven items listed on the cover letter. All in favor? **Motion carries.** Jeff Ver Steeg - Election and nomination of officers. George Burgoyne - It is worth a little more discussion and thought, think there is value to having this thrust on you, like Tim, was more involved. Only change would be to not pass the gavel until after the IAFWA meeting. Rex Amack - I agree. Doug Hansen - Would that take a motion? Dean Hildebrand - Change 30 days to 90 days or whatever, after IAFWA. George Burgoyne - Yes. Rex Amack - Problem would be that after this meeting, Dean would be on the Executive Committee. George Burgoyne - September meeting would be a problem. Rex Amack - We need to maybe wait until next year. Jeff Vonk - This goes back to rotation and the original question. George Burgoyne - With his experience that little difference, he feels that his knowledge would help. No matter when we change this there could be a problem. We are passing resolutions to be brought forward to the fall meeting and it would be logical for Rex to carry those forward from this meeting. Doug Hansen - To adjust bylaws, change to 30 days following IAFWA instead of MAFWA and that would cover that cycle. That takes care of the length of term, but not the selection. Doug Hansen - I would defer that because we now have a Coordinator to work with the new person and I think there is value to getting immersed right away and don't see the need. **Mike Conlin and George Burgoyne agree. George Burgoyne moved to follow IAFWA, Doug Hansen second.** Discussion? Jeff Ver Steeg - Question of order, new article under 9, written copy of bylaws. Dean Hildebrand - You have the authority to do that now. Jeff Ver Steeg - Would not be until next year. Doug Hansen - Could we agree to do that now? Jeff Ver Steeg - Can do. Dean Hildebrand - Page 2, clean this up a little, strike out part after 30 days after IAFWA. Take out "one year out". **Friendly amendment. George Burgoyne** - Article One "The term of the office shall commence 30 days following the adjournment ..." Discussion? **Motion carries.** Doug Hansen - Do we need vote of affirmation that it starts immediately, **Doug Hansen moved, Burgoyne second.** Rex Amack - Notify IAFWA that we have changed our bylaws. Add that Coordinator contacts IAFWA. Discussion? **Motion carries.** Rex Amack - Thanks Jeff for all of your work. Glen Salmon - Training is important at IAFWA that they take full advantage of new director.

Coordinator Contract Position

Ollie Torgerson, Missouri Department of Conservation - (Appendix B - Draft Contract) Contract drafted up with Missouri Department of Conservation to provide my services to remain in effect to August 30, 2004. We will have to make a decision next year about how we go forth from there. John Hoskins - It needs to be a business meeting item next year to decide where we go from there. Ollie Torgerson - Randy, that needs to be a strategic thinking item, how we are going to deal with this. Rex Amack - Discussion? **John Hoskins moved, Mike Conlin second to approve contract.** Discussion? **Motion carries.**

Rob Manes, Wildlife Management Institute, Kansas - (Report K) (Wind Energy Development). For centuries, wind energy has been harnessed to power agriculture and industry. It offers an emission-free source of electricity to power homes and industry and lacks some of the obvious environmental detriments of traditional energy sources. Early wildlife concerns focused on avian collisions with wind generator blades, towers, support structures and power lines. Habitat fragmentation from roads, transmission lines, and maintenance activity is also a concern because that could inhibit the use of otherwise suitable habitat by a number of bird species. By 2010, several million acres of land could become occupied by wind power facilities, potentially rendering unsuitable important habitat for species sensitive to landscape fragmentation. Impacts on prairie grouse-greater sage grouse, Gunnison sage-grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, lesser prairie chicken, and greater prairie chicken is of great concern. How wind power production affects birds, mammals and wildlife is somewhat unknown, but there exists sufficient information to demand a deliberative approach to the issue. An extensive radio telemetry study was done in southwest Kansas by Dr. R.J. Robel which revealed that lesser prairie chickens avoid otherwise suitable habitat near human intrusions. The study, conducted over a six year period, showed that prairie chickens avoid a one-mile radius around wind turbines. Many sites targeted lie directly in untilled landscapes. Grassland birds at southwest Minnesota site, significantly lower within 180 meters of each wind turbine, whether running or not. Sage grouse avoid tall structures that could serve as perches for predatory birds. Other avian species also show tendencies to abandon otherwise suitable nesting habitat, such as waterfowl and wading birds in the Netherlands. Collision-related bird and bat deaths unlikely to be significant, but at ill-designed, ill sited facilities, such as Altamont Pass, California, could result in significant impact to very rare species populations. Conflicts can be avoided or minimized through open dialog between the stakeholders, including energy developers, wildlife professionals, landowners, consumers, wildlife advocates, policy makers and others. The dialog must resolve issues rather than protect interests. Both clean, reliable energy and healthy ecosystems are essential to the quality of human life. Mark Holstein - One component is bio-diesel. Rob Manes - We can't ignore the native impact. I have also passed out a hand out on the High Plains partnership, which I will not go over at this time. Rex Amack - Thank you Rob.

Coordinator Report

Ollie Torgerson, Missouri Department of Conservation - Looking at the Sunday Strategic Thinking draft I have come up with a work plan (Report L). Things I will get done include: 1) Notify committees that they need to send report electronically 30 days in advance; 2) Myself and John Baughman meet with new Director Brunsvold; 3) Affiliate with NSSF, ASF, DU and others; 4) Invite USDA/APHIS two regional directors to our meetings; 5) Invite Randy Moore, Regional U.S. Forest Service to meetings; 6) Invite three MICRA people; 7) Get National Conservation need approved at March North American meeting, to be voted on in 2004; 8)

Update logo (new design); 9) Formal contract with committees, start networking; and 10) Get state of State reports established again. This will keep me busy. I will work closely with Joe and Sheila, and Dean and Randy. Jeff Ver Steeg - It is great to have a bird dog. John Hoskins - Ollie has great connection.

Website Development for MAFWA

Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Coordinator, Missouri - (see Report L) - We need a formal motion on website development. **Mike Conlin moved for endorsement of outlined plan, Steve Gray second.** Jeff Vonk - Is Ollie charged with maintaining the website? Ollie Torgerson - Yes. Along with IAFWA and linking with other Associations. We will not only help ourselves, but others as well. Jeff Vonk - I just want it clear that someone has that responsibility. Ollie Torgerson - I will work with contractor to design so reports can be entered automatically. **Motion carries.**

NEW BUSINESS

Doug Hansen - I would like to contract with Rob Southwick to develop an aquatic species program (Appendix C). Want a pilot state not already involved to meet by January 2004. George Burgoyne - Michigan is interested in getting more information. John Hoskins - Missouri too. Rex Amack - Nebraska also. Dean Hildebrand - North Dakota also. Doug Hansen - Aware of activities of Sport Fishing Boating Council, would like to pursue concept of National Fisheries Habitat Plan. Not sure what it might look like, the working group is looking at it. We are holding a meeting in Region 3 and inviting all of you to attend. Also, Regional Directors have been participating.

Tom Young - I started coming to these Association meetings in 1985 and the only face in the room that was here then, was Mike Conlin. This will be my last meeting after 30 years in Kentucky. I wanted to tell all of you how much it has meant to me to be involved, especially with waterfowl. I will miss all of you. My dream is of connecting people by starting a National retirement club that could maybe meet once a year. We could become lobbyists or travel back and forth on Association business. I have a guy in Kentucky would start a webpage for me. Please send me your business cards or call Kentucky Game and Fish and they will know how to get in touch with me.

Jeff Vonk - I am the Chair of the Wildlife Resource Policy of IAFWA. If anyone has items for my committee, please let me know.

Joe Kramer - The Association knows and should recognize Tom Young's years of service with a plaque for his 18 years of service.

Tim Bremicker - On behalf of the Resolution Committee, we would like to extend our gratitude to Nebraska and would like to see the Midwest continue to make strides. Thank you.

Richard Bishop - I would like to echo that sentiment and thank Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska for putting us back on track.

Passing the Gavel

Rex Amack passed the gavel to Dean Hildebrand, North Dakota. Dean Hildebrand - You have

put the bar very high. Thanks Ollie. I will be going to the Western meeting and I would like to see the Associations compliment each other. Think we should put retirees on our website and we will do our best to get that done. Would like to thank Nebraska for all their work and invite everyone to North Dakota, there may be some logistical challenges. **After discussion, set meeting for July 10-13, 2004 in Bismarck, North Dakota.** Have a safe trip and God Bless.

Doug Hansen moved to adjourn, Mike Conlin second at 11:50 a.m.