

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

ANNUAL REPORT

COORDINATOR'S REPORT TO MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES July, 2003

This constitutes my first official annual report to the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA). I became the first coordinator of the Association during its 69th year of existence on September 1, 2002 by way of my retirement from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and subsequent re-employment with MDC on a half-time basis for two years with half of this work to be committed to Midwest Coordinator functions. My role is to increase the viability of MAFWA by carrying out liaison services with member Directors or their designated representatives and affiliate leaders to obtain their direct involvement and commitment to build strength in the Association as a leading force in the Midwest on behalf of fish and wildlife conservation issues. Additionally, I carry out directives of the Association's President and Executive Committee and assist the Executive Vice-President of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) and the coordinators of the other three regional associations in carrying out actions and communications relevant to IAFWA. In addition, I assist the host state, along with the Secretary/Treasurer and Recording Secretary, in planning the annual meeting.

I traveled extensively during this first year attending the following meetings: IAFWA Convention, West Yellowstone, MT; Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) annual conference, Baltimore, MD; U.S. Animal Health Association annual meeting, St. Louis, MO; R. Max Peterson retirement event, Washington D.C.; Southeast Deer Study Group meeting, Chattanooga, TN; North American Wildlife and Natural Resources conference, Winston-Salem, NC; and the SEAFWA Spring Director's meeting, Montgomery, AL. In addition, I traveled to Lincoln, NE to assist in planning our annual meeting and to Madison, WI to meet the new Secretary of the WI Department of Natural Resources, Scott Hassett. While several of these trips were not associated with MAFWA affairs, I was able to conduct substantial networking on our behalf. I met with Larry Kruckenberg (in association with Sheila Kemmis), coordinator of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) and Bob Brantly, coordinator of SEAFWA, to learn about how our sister organizations function and to coordinate our duties. I helped the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (NEAFWA) establish a coordinator position for the first time. This was accomplished in association with the above mentioned travel. I project the best ever attendance of Directors and national conservation leaders at our 70th annual conference partly due to the networking I have accomplished, but also due to the direct help of member Directors who encouraged attendance. Peer pressure works!

I assisted President Amack with committee assignments, letter writing, and finding replacements for Mike Budzick on the Executive Committee (EXCOM) and for Chuck Pils as our CITES representative. Steve Gray and Carolyn Caldwell's willingness to serve in these positions,

**Midwest Meeting
July 13, 2003
(Bobby Acord)**

- Delighted to be here - have opportunity to visit about issues of concern
- We've had our busiest year in APHIS that I can remember - AI, END, CWD, BSE, Homeland Security
- Slight reorganization because of DHS - 2600 Ag. Quarantine Inspectors moved to Bureau of Customs for border protection
- Plum Island, NY facilities transferred
- We have spend hundreds of hours working on Homeland security issues
- Ag. Food Security and safety have been designated as part of nation's critical infrastructure
- Making sure all the disease surveillance is in place - lab capacity and plans
- Yellow, orange and red really mean something
- White House Homeland Security Council - National Secretary Council - means a lot of work
- BSE- Lots of concern by International and state agencies about Canada border closure - all ruminant and ruminant products; We've been working with Canada on investigation; Concern about trophies and meat from hunter; I keep telling Gary Taylor to be patient and wait until next week - that's been 5 weeks now; This has now moved to White House for decision - Meeting Monday with President
- WS - Has new expanding responsibility for foreign animal disease; Surveillance in wildlife, 5.2 million 2003 budget; 22 wildlife disease biologists; Will be part of our Emergency Response Team
- Rabies Program - significant benefit to Midwest, pushing the barrier all the way to Alabama
- Wolf Control - 1 million for Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan
- CWD - Compliments to International, Gary Taylor and Nebraska Game, Fish and Parks, Bruce Morrison
- Appropriations 2004 - House 16+ million, most to Wisconsin, power of appropriations, Senate yet to accept; we will distribute under same formula as 2003; Tier 1 states - those with CWD, Tier 2 - surrounding states; 4 million, 12 plans approved

- 2002/2003 Surveillance - 37 states = 90,000 samples; 26 contract labs approved; have capacity for 250,000 samples
- Famed Cervids - Elk and Deer; proposed rule undergoing final review
- Disease Issues
- Cultural Changes
- Wildlife Flea Markets
- Free, Unregulated Monument
- Emerging Diseases

Economic Transitions & Natural Resource Managers

Presentation to The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

14 July 2003

Ernie Niemi, ECONorthwest

(niemi@eugene.econw.com)

I. Transition #1: From Abundance To Scarcity (i.e., There Is Competition)

- A. Beware the fallacy of the economic-base model.
- B. **Every** resource use has rippling effects on industries and consumers.
- C. Economies now grow by two mechanisms:
(1) jobs first, people follow; and (2) people first, jobs follow.
- D. As nonmetropolitan and metropolitan areas become more integrated,
 - 1. The spatial dimensions of competition for natural resources expand.
 - 2. Most individuals and communities adjust more quickly to economic change.

II. Transition #2: Services Are Preferred Over Commodities

- A. The economic importance of commodities extracted from public lands is declining, relative both to services from these lands and to other sectors of the economy.
- B. Much of the competition for resources does not manifest itself through prices.

III. Transition #3: Intolerance Of Subsidies And Environmental Externalities

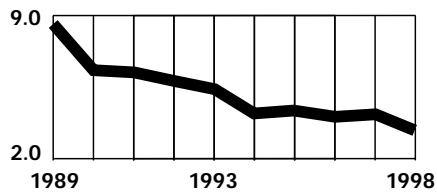
- A. Subsidies and externalities are not benign.
- B. Measurement — awareness — action.

IV. Some Implications

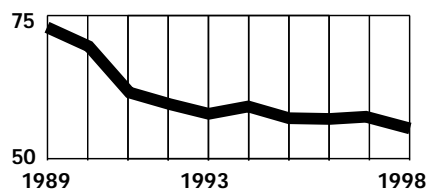
- A. **The sky will NOT fall** if natural resources are managed in an ecologically-sound manner.
- B. **Resource managers and economic-development planners** increasingly will have to:
 - 1. Make different types of decisions to increase the services derived per resource unit.
 - 2. Consider the full costs of their actions, reduce waste, and manage both demand and supply.
 - 3. Measure performance relative to sustainability benchmarks and pressures for decoupling economic growth from environmental impacts.
- C. **Natural-resource institutions** will bear more pressure to change.
- D. **These transitions are occurring in the Midwest.**

The Sky Did NOT Fall

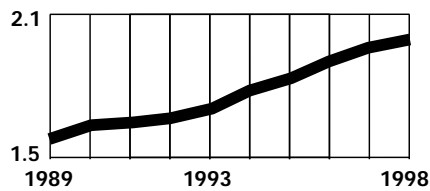
Total Timber Harvests (bbf)



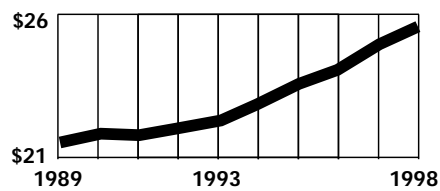
Timber Employment (thousands)



Total Employment (millions)



Per Capita Income (thousands \$1998)

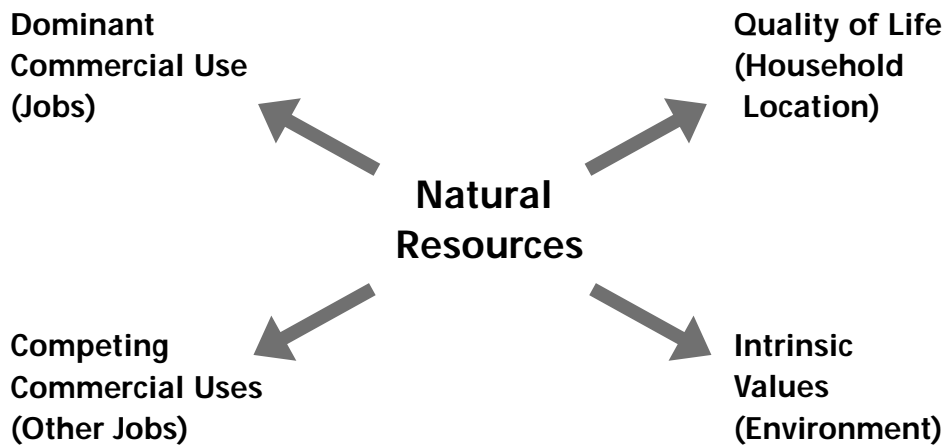


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SOURCE: ECONorthwest with data from U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Competition for Natural Resources:

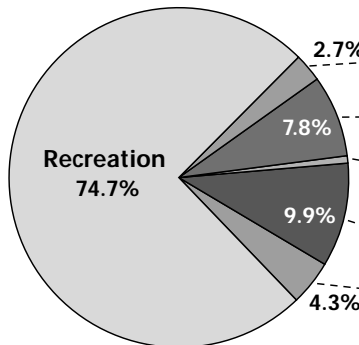
Current Reality



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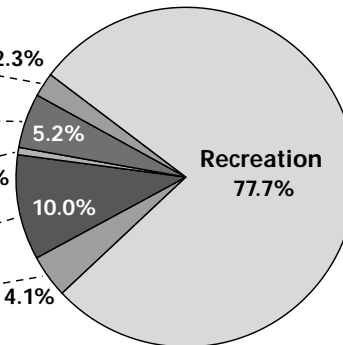
Goods, Services, & Jobs from U.S. National Forests

Contribution to Gross Domestic Product



Total Value \$145 billion
(1999 dollars)

Contribution to Jobs



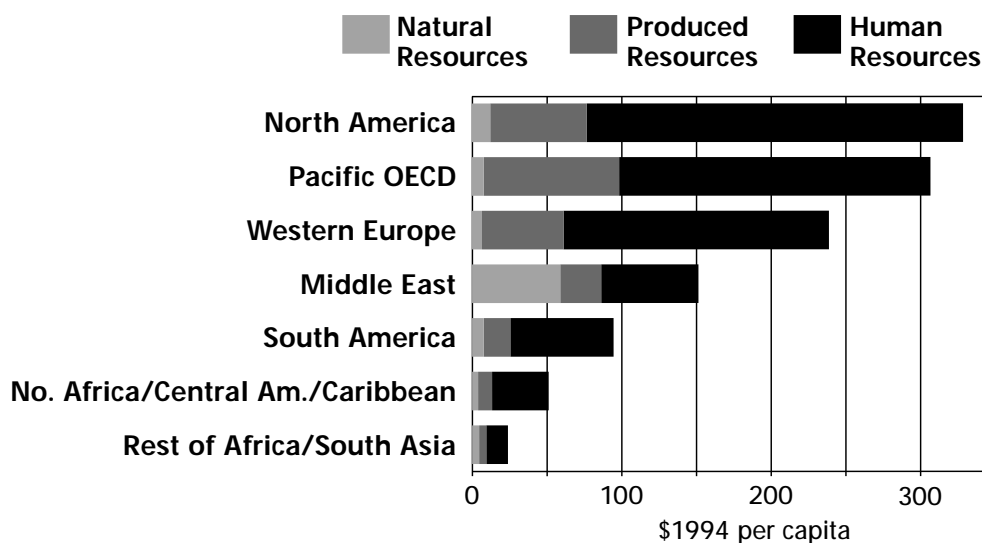
3.3 million jobs derived
from the national forests

NOTE: Data exclude contributions associated with impacts of forest amenities on household location, or with carbon sequestration, clean water, and other service provided by national forests.

SOURCE: E. Niemi and A. Fifield (2000). *Seeing the Forests for the Green: Economic Benefits of Forest Protection, Recreation and Restoration*, with data from U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

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Sources of Wealth



SOURCE: The World Bank. 1997. *Expanding the Measure of Wealth: Indicators of Environmentally Sustainable Development*. The World Bank. Washington, D.C.

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Klamath Basin

Old View: Irrigators vs. Fish

Reality: Farm Income as % of Total: 1980 = 6% 1998 = 0.5%

Tradeoffs: Salmon fishery
Hydropower
Tribal interests
Quality-of-Life amenities

Snake River Dams

Old View: Salmon vs. Economy

Reality: Breaching = 13,000 construction jobs
Long-Run Job Loss = 1,081
Recreation Job Gain = 2,000
Potential Net Benefits = \$2.6 billion

Challenges for Resource Managers

- Manage competition: demand as well as supply
- Accelerate the definition, development, and implementation of win-win options
- Clarify the distinction between the rights and the responsibilities of property ownership

MIDWEST PRESENTATION FOR DISCUSSION

Omaha Nebraska - July 14, 2003

Presented by: Noelyn "Butch" Isom
Assistant Director - Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

- I. Electronic Migratory Stamp
Why?
 - 1. Project that in NE 50 to 60% of hunting permits purchased online in 03'
 - 2. Convenience to the hunter
 - 3. Tremendous cost savings
 - 4. Presently, it is difficult to procure a Duck Stamp - Result, many don't hunt or hunt without

 - II Plan
Len Single with IAFWA working on draft legislation to:
 - 1. Involve a six state pilot
 - 2. Stamp collectors able to acquire the actual stamp from the Service subsequent to the valid period for a small handling fee
 - 3. The Service supports the action and has no intention of abandoning the printing of actual stamp
 - 4. States will be allowed to charge a issuing fee in addition to the cost of the stamp

 - III Review info on % of States presently using a Point of Sale System
 - IV Present concerns about the perceived lack of use of the customer data collected
 - V Update on the implementation of Internet point of sale (iPOS) in NE
- Discussion Topics
- 1. The superiority of web based technology
 - 2. Associated cost savings
 - 3. Wal-Mart stores first iPOS agents in North America
 - a. Extremely pleased with the system
 - b. Have began installation of iPOS terminals in other states
 - 4. Advantages of live time report generation
 - 5. Report menu available on web based permitting systems
 - 6. The percentage of NE online sales of big game permits in the last three years has increased from 35% to 69%.
 - 7. Predict that in NE, 75% of all permit sales will be on the web based system in 2003. \$8000,000 in revenue
 - 8. Utilizing law city reports to instantly evaluate the effectiveness of marketing efforts

Good Afternoon and Welcome to DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge and our Centennial Partners
Celebration

I am Larry Klimek the Refuge Manager

On behalf of the staff at DeSoto and the National Wildlife Refuge System I would like to thank all of you for coming today to help us celebrate the 100th anniversary of the national wildlife refuge system. One hundred years ago President Teddy Roosevelt designated the first wildlife refuge. I think he would be amazed with what the Refuge System has become today and impressed with the number, quality, and diversity of partners who have assisted us here on this refuge and across the country. Today, we will be highlighting several projects on the refuge and recognizing the partners that have made them possible.

I would like to introduce the guests who are on the stage at this time. On my left is US fish and Wildlife Service Director Steve Williams and to my far right is Iowa Congressman Steve King and next to me Nebraska Congressman Doug Bereuter. We have Congressman from two states today because the refuge is split almost evenly between Iowa and Nebraska. In addition, I would like to recognize Robyn Thorson, Regional Director for the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Minneapolis and members of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies which consists of 14 Midwestern states and 3 Canadian provinces. I appreciate everyone taking time out of your busy schedules to be here with us today.

Will you please rise for the presentation of the colors by Scout Troop 558 from Missouri Valley, IA and followed by the singing of the Star Spangled Banner which will be lead by Park Ranger Don Jorgensen.

Thank-you and please be seated.

I would like to begin by thanking the numerous individuals who have made this day possible;

the DeSoto Refuge Staff for all their hard work in planning and putting this event together, the many refuge volunteers including members of our new friends group the Friends of Boyer Chute and DeSoto refuges, the Midwest Interpretive Association, our partners and the public. Without your help and dedication it would be impossible to have this type of activity.

Our first speaker this afternoon is Mr. Steve Williams, the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, D.C. Mr. Williams became director in February of 2002 and before that was the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Please assist me in welcoming Fish & Wildlife Service Director Steve Williams.

Thank-you Director Williams

Our second speaker this afternoon is US Congressman Steve King

Congressman King was first elected to Congress last year and represents all of Western Iowa in the newly-formed 5th Congressional District. The Congressman is on three House committees: Agriculture, Judiciary, and Small Business. Before being elected to Congress he served in the Iowa Senate. Born and raised in Western Iowa, he grew up with a great appreciation for wildlife. He and his wife, Marilyn, have been married for 31 years, and have raised three sons.

We are honored to have you with us today. Please join me in welcoming Congressman...Steve King

Thank-you Congressman King

Our third speaker this afternoon is US Congressman Douglas Bereuter from the First District of Nebraska. Congressman Bereuter has been a member of Congress since 1978 representing

eastern Nebraska. The Congressman is currently on several committees including Financial Services, International Relations, Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Select Committee on Intelligence. In addition, he is Co-Chairman of the Lewis and Clark congressional Caucus.

We are honored to have you with us today. Please join me in welcoming Congressman... Doug Bereuter.

Thank-you Congressman Bereuter.

I would now like to recognize a group that has partnered with the refuge for the past 22 years, the Midwest Interpretive Association. The Association has operated the bookstore since the visitor center opened in 1981. In addition to the bookstore the association has contributed to several of the projects we are recognizing today including the Visitor Center Wetland, the bronze eagle sculpture, and the Visitor Center Exhibits. I would like to specifically acknowledge Bruce Barkley, the business manager for the Association. Bruce has worked at the refuge for MIA since 1982. Bruce has contributed to the refuge in many ways especially helping with computers, the phone system, visitor center displays and exhibits, and art shows. Bruce would you please come forward and receive this plaque on behalf of DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge.

The first project we would like to highlight today is the Visitor Center Wetland. This project began as an idea to provide wildlife viewing and environmental education opportunities adjacent to the Visitor Center. The area consists of a new 6 acre wetland and an additional 12 acres of

existing wetlands. We began filling the wetland at the end of March and within 3 weeks we had already counted 25 species of birds using the area. So, the old adage, build it and they will come seems to be true in this case. It was decided that an electric well would be the most efficient way to provide water to the area. This is where our partners played a major role. Don Radentz of ConAgra provided a grant to the refuge as a result of an award his division received from the company's Sustainable Development program which awards money for projects that sustain and protect the environment. The second partner is the Southwest Iowa Planning Council which sponsors a program to provide water for fire departments in rural areas. The new well will provide the water needed to assist fire protection in the area. The third partner is Ducks Unlimited. When the local DU representative, Jon Schnieder, learned about our plans he inquired as to how they could be of assistance. Jon secured the remaining funds necessary to make the project a reality. Three partners from three very different organizations and the result is the wetland to your right.

At this time I would like to thank each of our partners on the wetland project by presenting them with a certificate of appreciation.

One at a time

Representing ConAgra Foods- Phil James, Senior Vice-President Environment Health Safety

Representing Ducks Unlimited - Don Young, Executive Vice-President

The Southwest Iowa Planning Council was not able to have a representative here today.

Thank-you all for your support.

Our next partnership is the hunting reciprocity agreement between the States of IA, NE and DeSoto NWR. This agreement will allow the public to hunt on the refuge without the concerns

of crossing state boundaries. If you looked at the map near the tent you could see that the state lines cross the refuge in several places making it very confusing. This agreement is unique and as far as we know the only one of its kind in the country between two states and a national wildlife refuge. I applaud both states for stepping forward and making this possible for the benefit of the public. Earlier this year in Washington Director Williams asked me how we approached developing the agreement. The answer was simple, I just asked the two states if they were interested. Sometimes good partnerships are out there for the asking. I would like to thank Kirk Nelson and Jim Douglas from The NE Game and Parks Commission and Dick Bishop from the IA Department of Natural Resources. Without their belief that this was a good idea it would not have happened.

At this time I would like to thank each of our partners and present them with a certificate of appreciation for the reciprocity agreement. They will then each sign along with Director Williams the reciprocity agreement.

Representing the NE Game and Parks Commission- Director, Rex Amack

Representing the IA Department of Natural Resources- Bureau Chief for Wildlife, Richard Bishop,

Early last summer Richard Hart approached me about borrowing one of our Bald Eagle mounts so that he could do an eagle sculpture out of bronze. After explaining that would not be

possible, we discussed several other options. It was decided that Richard would use one of the bald eagle mounts at the refuge and we would incorporate his work into an Artist in Residence program. For approximately three months last summer Richard spent most of his time in the multipurpose room of the visitor center sculpting and visiting with the public about the project. Numerous people returned several times to view the progress. Once completed, Richard expressed a desire to have one of the eagles find a home at the Refuge as the sculpture was now being named the DeSoto Eagle. I am pleased to say that we were able to work out the arrangements and the DeSoto Eagle has found a home. The piece of granite that holds the sculpture was donated by Rinker Materials and was mined at their quarry adjacent to our west boundary near Ft. Calhoun. Of the rocks we considered, Richard chose the biggest rock in the quarry. Donations by the public, paid for the materials and foundry costs of the sculpture.

At this time I would like to thank each of our partners in the Eagle Sculpture project and present them with a certificate of appreciation:

Representing Rinker Materials West; Fort Calhoun Quarry - Jay Gould, Quarry Superintendent

Representing Hart Madsen L.L.C.- Dr. Everett C. Madsen

Our next project, the renovation of the Visitor Center exhibits, revolved around three main themes: environmental education-by providing a special area for educational activities, interpretation-through additional and updated information throughout the center, and a window onto the refuge-to encourage people to experience the natural wonders the refuge has to offer. Almost ninety percent of the \$150,000 cost was provided by our partners for this project. Sometimes you have partners and don't know who they are, as one half of the cost for the renovations was provided by an anonymous donor. Other donors included the Iowa West Foundation and Wilderness Graphics.

At this time I would like to thank each of our partners in the renovation of the visitor center exhibits and present them with a certificate of appreciation:

Iowa West Foundation-Jerry Mathiasen, Associate Director

Wilderness Graphics- could not send a representative today

Our final partner today is Raptor Recovery Nebraska. Their missions are to: provide care and support for injured and orphaned raptors in preparation for release; assist in the management of raptor populations and research; and enlist public support for these programs. Raptor Recovery Nebraska operates through a network of volunteers throughout Nebraska and Western Iowa. Since 1976 they have rescued over 5,000 raptors and released nearly 50% of those back into the wild, some of them here at DeSoto. Today we will be releasing 5 kestrels, which are a small falcon, immediately following the ceremony. Assisting in the release will be Congressmans Bereuter and King, Director Williams, Regional Director Thorson, and Mark Cunard a long-time refuge employee.

At this time I would like to thank and present a certificate of appreciation to Betsy Hancock from Raptor Recovery Nebraska for all the hard work they do on behalf of the raptor resource in Nebraska and Iowa.

Immediately following the release of the kestrels we will be moving to the front of the Visitor Center to unveil the bronze eagle sculpture and then into the Visitor Center for the ribbon cutting for the new visitor center exhibits. I would then encourage everyone to attend the dedication of the Grassland Trail at 4:00pm. We will be highlighting the trail project and several other projects that have been completed by Boy Scouts on the refuge. Also, while here on the refuge, please take time to drive the roads, walk the trails, and enjoy your visit to DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. Thank-you again for coming.

We will now have the release of the kestrels.

Unveiling of the eagle sculpture:

What to say

Who to help

VC exhibits ribbon cutting:

What to say

Who to help