

**ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND REACTIVATION
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP COMMITTEE**

Mission:

To foster increased communication, collaboration, coordination and execution of region-wide recruitment, retention, and reactivation efforts along with engaging and serving broader constituencies in order to advance fish and wildlife conservation in the member states and provinces.

Objectives:

1. Hire and manage a Regional R3 and Relevancy Coordinator to enact strategies to meet objectives as directed by the committee. The main roles and responsibilities of this position are as follows:
 - a. Identify, coordinate, and manage grant funding opportunities
 - b. Assist states with securing funds and implementing multi-state and regional marketing campaign efforts
 - c. Assist states with identifying and implementing strategies for engaging and serving broader constituencies
 - d. Communicate and foster cross-committee collaboration regarding R3 and relevancy priorities at the regional and national level
 - e. Provide technical assistance and timely insights to states regarding R3 related efforts and opportunities
2. Maintaining and increasing our understanding, acceptance, and support of recruitment, retention and reactivation of programs and benefits among anglers, boaters, hunters, trappers, and recreational shooters.
3. Identify opportunities to increase relevance to non-traditional audiences.
 - a. Establish and implement regional action items through collaboration and grant funding opportunities.
4. Develop multi-state and regional grant projects that provide tools and resources to help member states and provinces further their R3 and relevancy priority initiatives.
 - a. Through partners and collaborations, needs are identified.
 - b. Grants proposals are written and submitted for consideration, in coordination with member states and provinces and their directors.
 - c. Funds are procured and projects are implemented and evaluated.
 - d. Tools and resources are distributed to Midwest states and beyond.

5. Provide leadership and technical assistance to Midwest states Directors, R3 Coordinators and Partners regarding R3 related issues, needs and opportunities.
 - a. Stay up to date on relevant R3 research, publications, and other findings, then disseminate this information to member states and provinces.
6. Collaborate and share information with other fish and wildlife agencies and national organization committees including the other three regional R3 committees on regional and national R3 and relevancy efforts and planning.
 - a. Other partner committees include, but not limited to, Midwest Private and Public Land Working Groups, Midwest Wildlife and Fish Health Committee, Midwest Landscape Initiative, AFWA Angler & Boater R3 Committee, AFWA Hunting/Shooting Participation Committee and AFWA Education, Outreach & Diversity Committee.

Membership:

The membership of the MAFWA Recruitment Retention and Reactivation Committee is open to employees of member states and provinces. Representatives of federal agencies, conservation organizations, academia, industry, private citizens, and other individuals may be invited to attend Committee meetings.

Officers:

The MAFWA Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation Committee shall appoint a Chair. The Chair shall be an employee of a member state or province agency. The Chair and his/her member agency shall provide clerical support needed for conducting committee business and shall maintain a file of all minutes of committee meetings, correspondence, and other items as necessary. The Chair's responsibility shall include, but not be limited to, organizing a minimum of one Committee meeting per year, maintaining Committee files, preparing necessary correspondence, managing the Regional R3 and Relevancy Coordinator on behalf of the committee and preparing a report of all Committee activities for submission to the MAFWA Executive Committee.

The MAFWA Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation Committee shall appoint a Vice-Chair. The duties of the Vice-Chair will be to assist the Chair and perform the duties of Chair in the event that the Chair is unable to perform the duties. During the annual committee meeting, held on even years, the position of Chair and Vice-Chair will be reviewed and a call for a vote of confidence and/or new appointments shall occur.

Sub-Committees:

Ad-hoc Sub-committees may be appointed by the Chair to investigate and report on specific issues. Sub-Committees will be appointed by the Chair upon review of requests from members or the Executive Committee for specific Committee action.

Meetings:

The MAFWA Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation Committee will meet at least once per year. The meeting may be held in any member state. The schedule and duration of each meeting will be determined by the Chair after consultation with other members of the Committee. Notice of meeting dates and locations will be made available to members far enough in advance to enable them to secure out-of-state travel authorization for attendance.

Meeting Agenda:

The program will be organized to permit adequate time for discussion of agenda items. One aspect of the agenda will be a short 10-minute report from each state on recruitment and retention issues from that state. Other topics on the agenda will reflect the current issues reference recruitment and retention in the Midwest. The Chair may request special reports from states and individuals on current topics. State and special reports will also be submitted in written format to permit the forwarding of them to agency directors, maintenance of proper files and provision of reports to other appropriate persons. Guest speakers may be invited to Committee meetings to make presentations on topics of interest. Short field trips may be arranged in conjunction with the meetings.

Attendance:

To enhance an atmosphere of participation and exchange of ideas, attendance from all member states and provinces is strongly encouraged.

Business Meeting:

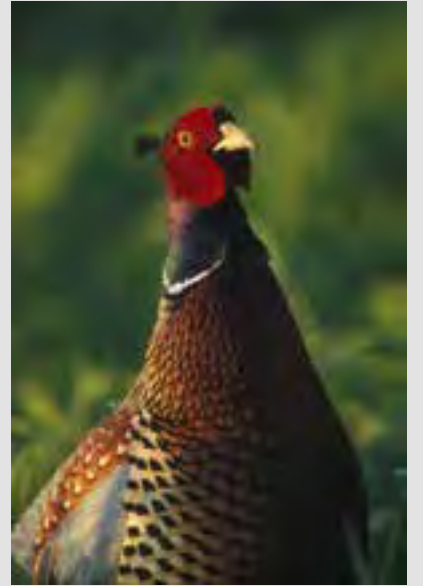
A formal Committee business meeting will be held in conjunction with any Committee meeting. The business meeting will discuss and determine specific recommendations to the MAFWA Board of Directors. Recommendations to the Board of Directors must represent the majority view of member states and provinces. Each member in attendance will be allowed one vote. Representatives of invited federal agencies, conservation organizations, academia, industry, private citizens, and other individuals in attendance are not eligible to vote. In the event an in-person formal business meeting cannot occur, the use of an accessible electronic meeting platform will be utilized by the member states and provinces.

Report:

Following any Committee meeting, the Chair will prepare a report for the MAFWA Board of Directors. The Chair will also send a copy of the report to all members of the Committee. Committee members should brief their own administration immediately following the Committee meeting. The report shall contain a summary of the information presented at the Committee meeting, items covered in the business meeting, any recommendations from the Committee, appropriate handouts obtained at the meeting and names and address of all attendees. This report shall be submitted to the Board of Directors 30 days prior to the annual MAFWA Directors meeting. A verbal presentation from the Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation Committee will be made at the MAFWA Annual Directors Meeting.

National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan & Partnerships

Scott Taylor, Plan Coordinator
MAFWA Director's Meeting
June 30, 2022

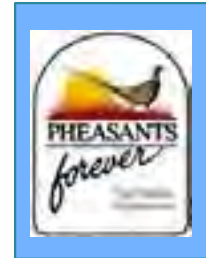


Partnership Structure

- Plan Coordinator funded by ~18 state wildlife agencies and Pheasants Forever, with MAFWA banking the state funds



■ Current Funding Partner



Partnership Structure

- Plan Coordinator funded by ~18 state wildlife agencies and Pheasants Forever, with MAFWA banking funds
- Management Board and Technical Committee representing ~24 states



The Revised National Plan

- Approved by Management Board in July 2021
- Partnership objectives and work items, most importantly:
 - How much nesting habitat (particularly CRP) is enough to meet the states' collective pheasant management needs?

Habitat Units: "CRP Acre Equivalents"

CRP, small grains, pasture, hay

Plan Goal = Sum of State CAE Goals

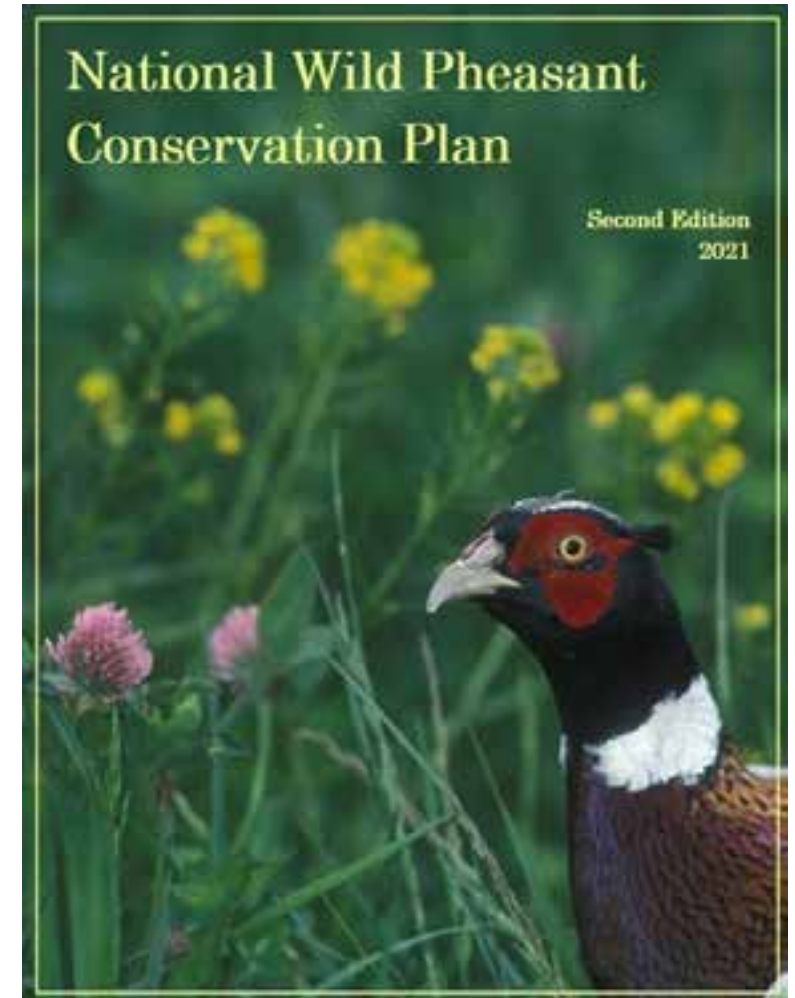
Total CAEs needed = 62.3 million

"Current" (2015-19) average = 43.6 million

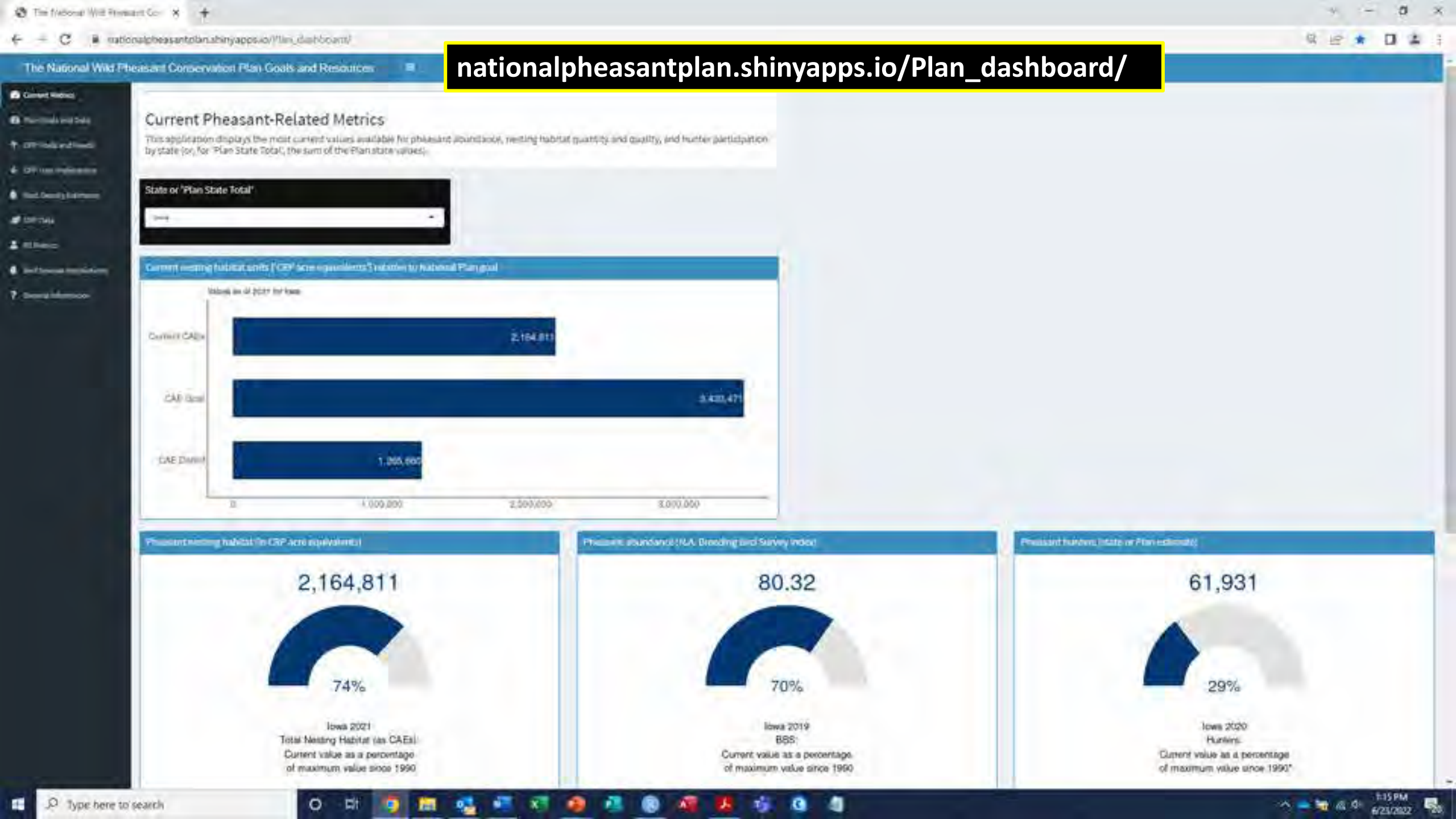
New CAEs needed = 18.7 million

Final National CRP Goal

45 million acres would fully meet 12 of 24 state CAE goals, and make significant gains for ~10 more



www.nationalpheasantplan.org



nationalpheasantplan.shinyapps.io/Plan_dashboard/

Pheasant nesting habitat (in CRP-acre equivalents)

2,164,811



74%

Iowa 2021
Total Nesting Habitat (as CAEs):
Current value as a percentage
of maximum value since 1990

80.32



70%

Iowa 2019
BBS:
Current value as a percentage
of maximum value since 1990

Plan-estimate)

61,931



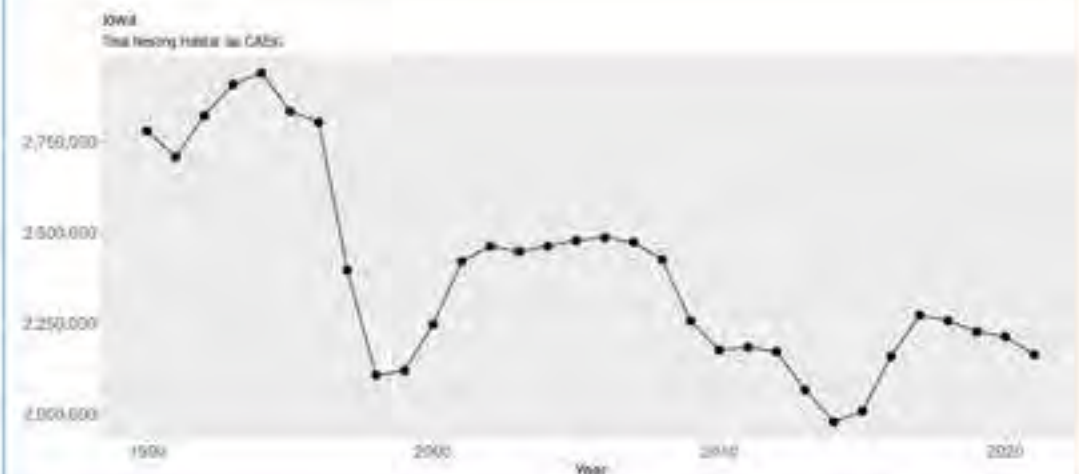
29%

Iowa 2020
Hunters:
Current value as a percentage
of maximum value since 1990*

*If "Plan State Total" is selected, 2019 is the only year an estimate is available.

Metric trends for selected geography, 1990-present

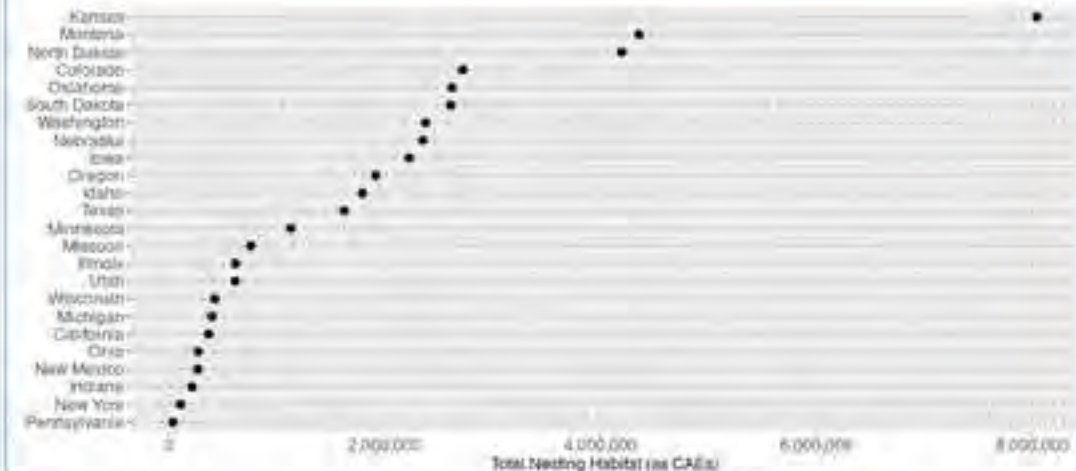
Total Nesting Habitat (as CAEs)

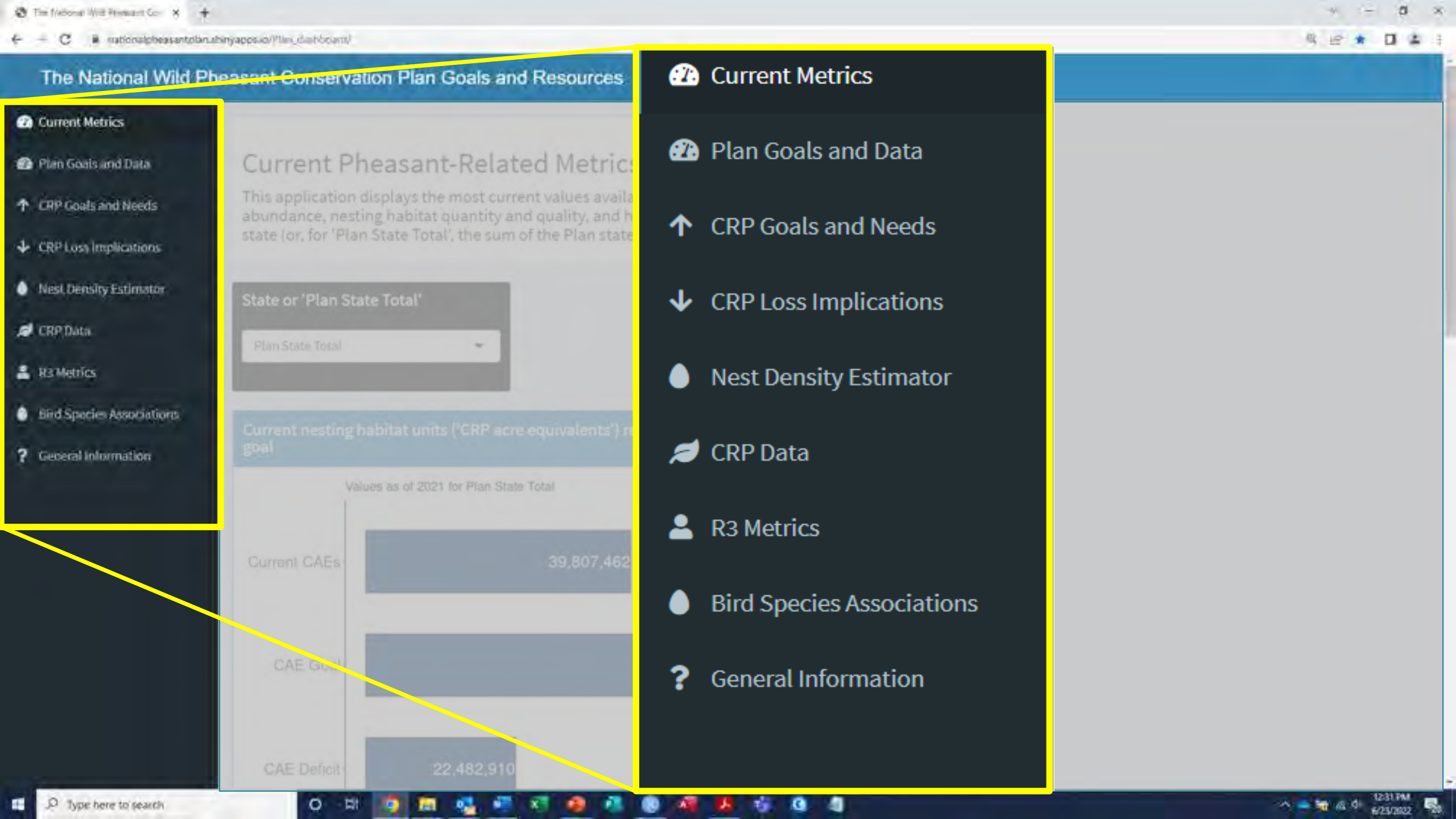


Relative metric values by state (data unavailable for some state x year combinations)

Total Nesting Habitat (as CAEs)

2019





The National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan Goals and Resources

- Current Metrics
- Plan Goals and Data
- CRP Goals and Needs
- CRP Loss Implications
- Nest Density Estimator
- CRP Data
- R3 Metrics
- Bird Species Associations
- General Information

Current Pheasant-Related Metrics

This application displays the most current values available for pheasant abundance, nesting habitat quantity and quality, and habitat loss. It also provides a state (or, for 'Plan State Total', the sum of the Plan state)

State or 'Plan State Total'

Plan State Total

Current nesting habitat units ('CRP acre equivalents') relative to goal

Values as of 2021 for Plan State Total

Current CAEs 39,807,462

CAE Goal

CAE Deficit 22,482,910

Current Metrics

- Plan Goals and Data
- CRP Goals and Needs
- CRP Loss Implications
- Nest Density Estimator
- CRP Data
- R3 Metrics
- Bird Species Associations
- General Information

What's Next...

- GIS-based models and tools for small- and large-scale habitat change questions
- Engage with the Midwest Landscape Initiative and similar partners to integrate our products into their decision support tools
- Help Pheasants Forever use our products to quantify the multi-resource outcomes related to our collective work



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



WHO WE ARE

The Midwest Landscape Initiative is a collaborative of partners engaged in the conservation and management of fish and wildlife in the Midwest. We work with others to identify shared, landscape-scale fish and wildlife priorities and co-develop effective conservation solutions.

The Initiative was started in 2018 by the state directors belonging to the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and leadership of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the regions intersecting with the Midwest association.

OUR VISION

A thriving landscape of healthy lands and waters supporting wildlife, fish, and plants, embraced by all who live, work, and recreate in the Midwest.

OUR GOALS

By 2030, our goals are to achieve:

- A 10% increase in the health and connectedness of Midwest lands and waters, to include conservation of intact landscapes, as well as restoration and enhancement of degraded landscapes.
- Sustainable populations of wildlife, fish, and plant species.
- An increase in the relevance of nature and the practice of pro-conservation and outdoor recreation behaviors of those who live, work, and recreate in the Midwest.

HOW WE OPERATE

The Midwest Landscape Initiative's organizational structure includes a steering committee that provides leadership, direction, and access to resources and capacity; a technical committee that recommends priorities, provides technical guidance and coordination; and a number of working groups and teams that provide specialized technical resources and coordination for priorities and oversight of product development.



MLI IS GROWING

In addition to the expanding participation on the Midwest Landscape Initiative's committees, working groups, and teams, the initiative has added staff capacity in the past year. They include Landscape Conservation Biologist Alex Wright, of Fish and Wildlife Service Region 3; User Support Specialist Kate Parsons, of Fish and Wildlife Service Region 3; and Spatial Analyst Rachael Carlberg, of the National Conservation Training Center.

With the upcoming retirement of Ed Boggess, the Missouri Department of Conservation has contributed the time and talents of Lorisa Smith as the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Executive Liaison.

MLI STRUCTURE



OUR WORK

Regional Species of Greatest Conservation Need

The Midwest Landscape Initiative developed a Regional Species of Greatest Conservation Need List to provide an effective, collaborative focus and approach for regional wildlife diversity conservation in the Midwest. The Midwest RSGCN process evaluated 1,817 species of greatest conservation need across 13 taxonomic groups and selected 340 as regional priorities. Taxa groups included mammals; birds; reptiles; amphibians; fish; crayfish; mussels; dragonflies and damselflies; bumble and solitary bees; lepidopteran butterflies, skippers and moths; mayflies; stoneflies; and caddisflies.

In the next phase of this project, the At-Risk Species Working Group will analyze the habitats and threats data for these species to reveal patterns of significance and identify highest priority actions for the Midwest.

MLI Website

The Midwest Landscape Initiative's website went live in November 2021 and serves as a public-facing informational resource about the initiative and its mission, people, and projects. The website also features news updates as well as links to relevant external news articles and will host future Initiative products and resources as they become available. Find it at www.MLI-midwest.org.

Midwest Conservation Action Plan

The Midwest Landscape Initiative is developing several elements of a Midwest Conservation Action Plan. The plan is a comprehensive, regional framework intended to coordinate voluntary conservation actions and investments across the Midwest. The action plan includes a series of decision-support products that will help achieve the Vision and Goals of the Initiative by prioritizing action across space, measuring progress over time, and providing the technical science to best inform action. Action plan products under development include: Midwest Conservation Blueprint; a State of the Midwest Report; and a web-based Data Hub.

SWAP Coordination and RAWA Readiness

In response to the September 2021 Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies report, *Leading At-Risk Fish & Wildlife Conservation: A Framework to Enhance Landscape-Scale and Cross-Boundary Conservation Through Coordinated State Wildlife Action Plans*, the Initiative created a Midwest State Wildlife Action Plans and Landscapes team comprised of state, federal, and nonprofit members. This team will investigate and pursue methods for improved regional collaboration around action plans, Species of Greatest Conservation Need, and will prepare for potential passage of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act.



WHERE WE'RE GOING

The Midwest Landscape Initiative continues to serve as a forum for those taking conservation action across the Midwest to collaborate in a proactive manner. The Initiative provides space for those responsible for putting conservation on the ground to connect with strategic thinkers and others in the region.

Ultimately, participants within the region will be able to jointly identify conservation priorities and deliver conservation actions across broad scales to showcase the conservation success that can be realized when we work together. The efforts are an intentional step away from random acts of conservation toward a framework that allows us to leverage our work across boundaries to conserve our shared nature.

Participation in the initiative is voluntary, but strategic. The hope is that conservation partners at every level will find value in the initiative's products and framework and will engage with the collaboration.



JOIN THE EFFORT

If your organization wants to find out more about how to plug into MLI, please reach out to kelly_myers@fws.gov. We look forward to working with you on future projects.

MAFWA Cooperative Agreement for Monarch and MLI Support, Amendment

FFY2023-2024

Term Sheet

Proposed Amendment*

Duration: October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2024

Objectives:

1. Continues the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Liaison and the Technical Coordinator
2. Implements Communications and Engagement Strategy
3. Provides for Grant reporting

Total Cost: \$300,300 over two years, plus two years of conference support**

Highlights:

- Contemplates, as a pilot, a MAFWA-state employee or representative to serve as the Executive Liaison, as a contribution from that state
- Provides for an Annual Report and website maintenance and expansion, as needed
- Accounts for professional growth of and additional duties taken on by the Technical Coordinator over the past few years as well as cost of living adjustments consistent with the CPI
- Encourages Technical Coordinator to attend NCLI and provides funds for tuition
- Provides travel for Executive Liaison
- Allows flexibility in the event other services or needs (like those previously provided by WMI) are identified
- Includes provision and evaluation of continuing regional monarch and pollinator conservation support efforts

Original Grant Information

Duration: October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022

Objectives:

1. Defined the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Liaison and the Technical Coordinator
2. Defined the development of Communications and Engagement Strategy, to include creation of a website
3. Improved collaboration between WSFR programs and regional SWAP committees of MAFWA
4. Developed a list of regional conservation challenges over the next 15-20 years
5. Reviewed of MLI operations and governance and made related recommendations for corrective and improvement actions
6. Required Final Reports related to Objectives 3-5

Cost: \$595,692, plus one year of conference support**

* This grant and proposed amendment follow prior grants, from FFY14 through FFY19 for related work.

** \$10,000 for Annual Conference Support was amended onto the original grant in FFY21 and is proposed to be included in this subsequent amendment

**North American Non-Lead Partnership
Joint MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention and
Wildlife and Fish Health Technical Working Committees
Recommendations**

RE: Director Review and Consideration – Immediate and Long-Term Recommendations

Background

The goal of the partnership is to work collaboratively to minimize the unintended impacts of lead ammunition on wildlife and support the continued contributions of legal hunting to wildlife conservation by: designing and promoting voluntary measures to increase the use of lead alternative ammunition, supporting the continued long-term viability of scientifically managed hunting and the associated conservation culture by providing programs that encourage sports-men and -women participation in conservation actions, supporting continued efforts to conduct scientific research into the relative risk associated with specific lead exposure pathways between use of lead ammunition and wildlife, and use scientific evaluation to assess and improve programs.

The MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention and Wildlife and Fish Health Technical Working Committees worked collaboratively to develop immediate and long-term strategic recommendations to set the framework for individual state and regional action in accordance with this partnership.

Immediate Recommendations

Support and encourage state agencies to commit to using lead alternatives within their own programs, events, and initiatives when applicable.

- Provide lead alternative training sessions for staff and key public facing instructors so they have a general knowledge base and familiarity with the unintended impacts of lead ammunition on wildlife and what is currently available for lead alternatives.
- Provide easy to digest, factual lead alternative talking points during hunter education programs, advanced hunter education programs, learn to hunt workshops, hunt for food workshops, wingshooting workshops, etc.
- Provide easy to digest, factual lead alternative information and outreach opportunities at sporting goods retailers, shooting ranges (especially agency owned) and clubhouses.
- Promote use of lead alternatives on state managed public hunting areas.

Long-Term Strategic Recommendations

Develop a strategic approach to address the needs, challenges and limitations surrounding lead alternatives for both angling and hunting.

- MAFWA to take the lead in assembling a partnership committee "think-tank" comprised of state agencies, NGOs and industry partners to address the needs, challenges and limitations surrounding lead alternatives so we can better inform and educate our anglers, hunters and the public as a whole.
- Need to identify what credible, current research is available on the unintended impacts of lead ammunition on fish and wildlife, lead alternatives and the sports-men's and -women's attitudes on both subjects.
- Identify what's missing from current research (if anything) and develop a whitepaper based on credible, factual information that identifies the definitive impact that lead from fishing, hunting and shooting sports has had on fish and wildlife populations.
- Develop individual state and/or regional Lead Action Plans based on current research and the partnership committee's recommendations.
- Provide support for/work with social scientists/marketing firm to generate messaging that can be used around lead alternatives that is backed by state agencies, NGOs and industry and also resonates well with sports-men and -women.

Megan Wisecup, Chair
MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and
Retention Technical Working Committee

Lindsey Long, Chair
Midwest Wildlife and Fish Health
Technical Working Committee

**Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
Midwest Directors**

Decision Item

Contract with Wildlife Management Institute

Midwest Directors approval is requested to enter into a contract with Wildlife Management Institute, of Cabot, VT to hire and co-host a Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Regional R3 and Relevancy Coordinator position.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$360,000

Dates: 08/01/2022 to 06/30/2025

Funding Source(s): Combination of thirteen (13) Midwest states license and federal dollars.

Contract Purpose: To foster increased communication, collaboration, coordination, and execution of region-wide recruitment, retention and reactivation efforts along with engaging and serving broader constituencies by hiring a MAFWA Regional R3 and Relevancy Coordinator to serve the thirteen (13) Midwest states.

Background: Midwest Directors challenged the MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Technical Working Committee to increase R3 related communication and collaboration among the region. In response to this request, the technical working committee has taken several strides towards improving communication and collaboration within the region including but not limited to the development of a MAFWA Quarterly R3 Newsletter, increased email communication among member states, more frequent conference and video calls to address committee needs and foster sharing of ideas and collaboration and most recently the successful application and securing of Multi-State Conservation Grant funding to begin addressing key committee R3 priorities.

Through the increased communication and collaboration among the committee and the recent implementation of the Modern Multi-State Conservation Grant Program which now provides a consistent funding source for states and partners to apply for, the need for a regional position has become increasingly apparent, if not undeniable. This need has been clearly communicated by MAFWA states as they recognize that MAFWA staff do not have the capacity to support and manage multiple grants and/or projects on behalf of the committee.

Summary of Primary Position Roles and Responsibilities: All duties are to be conducted on behalf and in support of the MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Technical Working Committee. The MAFWA R3 and Relevancy Coordinator will be responsible for the delivery of the following:

- Identify, coordinate and manage grant funding opportunities and projects to address MAFWA R3 priorities as well as additional state, regional and national resources for needed research and regional R3 efforts. The coordinator will serve as the project manager on regional grant efforts and their corresponding contracts and performance reports. The coordinator will assist MAFWA states with the implementation of grant funded efforts including the use of toolkits, score cards and program evaluation resources.
- Assist MAFWA states with securing funds and implementing multi-state and regional marketing campaign efforts to further recruit, retain, reactivate and diversify anglers, boaters, hunters and recreational shooters.
- Identify opportunities to increase relevancy to non-traditional audiences and coordinate communication that results in establishing regional action items such as assisting states with the implementation of the Relevancy Roadmap. The coordinator will also interact and collaborate with the AFWA Diversity and Inclusion Working Group to ensure Midwest states have access to and are utilizing the established best practices and guidelines developed by this working group to further serve a broader constituent base.
- Coordinates and communicates with other established committees and working groups at the regional and national level that have initiatives that align with Midwest R3 and relevancy priorities. These committees and working groups include but are not limited to AFWA and Midwest Private and Public Land Working Groups, Midwest Wildlife and Fish Health Committee, Midwest Landscape Initiative, AFWA Angler & Boater R3 Committee, AFWA Hunting/Shooting Sports Participation Committee and AFWA Education, Outreach & Diversity Committee.

- Assist MAFWA state R3 coordinators with the development of statewide strategic plans. Provide technical assistance and timely insights to states regarding R3 and relevancy related efforts and opportunities to collaborate within the MAFWA region and beyond. Coordinator will stay up to date on relevant R3 and relevancy research, publications and other findings and disseminates this information to MAFWA states.

Summary of Benefits: The following have been identified as key benefits by Midwest states and their partners of having a Regional R3 and Relevancy Coordinator:

- Reduces responsibilities and workload for MAFWA staff, committee chairs, members and Midwest states by streamlining and creating efficiencies.
- Ability to take advantage of grants and other co-funding opportunities that are currently being throttled by lack of capacity and expertise within states.
- Run more efficient work-production of regional expertise through established R3 and Relevancy-related committees. Establish and constantly implement committees according to the ½ model (lessons learned, new innovations and knowledge and strategic adaptation).
- Creates a marketplace for local/regional R3 projects.
- Addresses regional specific R3 and Relevancy issues that prioritize agency implementation and resource realities.

Selection Process Summary: The MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Technical Working Committee solicited proposals from interested NGO and Industry partners that had interest in hosting a shared position. Calls were held with six potential host partner entities (National Wild Turkey Federation, Pheasants Forever, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports, DJ Case and Associates, and Wildlife Management Institute) to discuss their level of commitment and capabilities of hosting a shared position. Results were summarized and discussed with MAFWA R3 Committee on April 19, 2022.

Criteria Reviewed: Criteria reviewed included contractor's ability to host and hire a shared position, their experience and ability to manage any subsequent grants, including Multi State Conservation Grants that support the position, and amount of oversight that would be granted to the MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Technical Working Committee to provide the overall vision, direction and guidance for the shared position.

Proposal Due Date: February 28, 2022

of Proposals Received: 5

Recommendation: Wildlife Management Institute

Proposed Three (3) Year Budget:

	Year One		Year Two		Year Three	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Base Salary	\$52,000.00	\$62,639.20	\$52,000.00	\$62,639.20	\$52,000.00	\$62,639.20
Fringe	\$14,320.80	\$14,320.80	\$14,320.80	\$14,320.80	\$14,320.80	\$14,320.80
Fixed Direct Costs	\$6,873.54	\$7,687.44	\$6,873.54	\$7,687.44	\$6,873.54	\$7,687.44
401 K	\$5,305.66	\$6,156.80	\$5,305.66	\$6,156.80	\$5,305.66	\$6,156.80
WMI Fee	\$6,280.00	\$7,264.34	\$6,280.00	\$7,264.34	\$6,280.00	\$7,264.34
Operational	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Grand Total	\$104,780.01	\$118,068.58	\$104,780.01	\$118,068.58	\$104,780.01	\$118,068.58
Cost Per State	\$8,060.00	\$9,082.20	\$8,060.00	\$9,082.20	\$8,060.00	\$9,082.20

*Once this position is established and fully functional, we anticipate that the individual will be able to leverage additional grants and resources to help offset their position's cost going forward and state contributions could be reduced.

Submitted by:

Megan Wisecup, MAFWA Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention Technical Working Committee Chair

Midwest Annual Director's Meeting Date: 06/30/2022



**Midwest Association Fish and Wildlife Agencies’
Conservation Social Science/Human Dimensions
Technical Working Committee**

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Background

Effective governance and sustainability of wildlife resources for future generations requires knowledge and integration of people's diverse values, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors, including processes designed to engage them in management and decision making related to public trust resources. As such, conservation social science and human dimensions practitioners are essential parts of contemporary fish and wildlife management. Social scientists employ myriad theories and methods to understand people, their preferences, and behaviors. Conservation social science (CSS) refers to the constellation of social science approaches applicable to conservation issues including fish and wildlife management. Researchers and practitioners in CSS come from diverse backgrounds rooted in disciplines like sociology, psychology, economics, geography, anthropology, and political science, as well as the interdisciplinary conservation sciences. Human dimensions (HD) of fish and wildlife management is a subfield under the broader umbrella of CSS and refers to the application of social psychology to understand fish and wildlife stakeholders' preferences and behaviors. We have named this working group Conservation Social Science/Human Dimensions to reflect the breadth of topics, theories, and methods used by social scientists and practitioners while recognizing the term human dimensions.

Ensuring that partner institutions implement the best social science possible, and translate that science into practice, requires regional coordination and support. Social scientists and practitioners from state and federal agencies, along with counterparts from academia, coalesced around this need. MAFWA technical working committees and work groups exist to support topical fish and wildlife research and management including fish and wildlife health, game management, wildlife diversity, and outdoor recreation among others. The ***Conservation Social Science/Human Dimensions (CSS/HD) Technical Working Committee*** (hereafter referred to as 'the Committee') was approved, in concept, at the June 2021 MAFWA Board meeting. Final approval will be sought at the June 2022 Board meeting and will operate per MAFWA guidelines and as described herein.

Mission

Advance conservation and management of public trust resources in MAFWA member states and provinces by providing a forum to promote awareness of practical social science applications to conservation challenges, and to elevate the integration of social science research and practice into agency management and decision making.

There are four overarching objectives to assist in achieving the Committee's mission:

- ***Elevate fish & wildlife governance*** in Midwestern states and provinces by enhancing the capacity of partner institutions to conduct and understand social science research.
- ***Form action initiatives to elevate the integration of social science*** into fish and wildlife management and resource-based recreation in Midwestern states and provinces. Identifying opportunities and strategies to increase social science integration will part be part of the committee's ongoing work.

- ***Enhance communication and engagement, facilitate inclusive collaboration and decision-making, and foster innovation*** among agencies and conservation partners, as it pertains to social science research and practice.
- ***Support social science researchers and practitioners*** across Midwestern states and provinces through a formal network of colleagues.

Specific Responsibilities

The Committee will stay abreast of current issues, prepare letters and resolutions for consideration, and make recommendations to the MAFWA Board for actions on issues pertaining to social science research and practices. This committee will also handle any assignments made by the MAFWA Board.

The Committee will serve several critical functions including, to generate capacity, provide forums for the exchange of ideas, further integrate of social science into and provide support for regional and national initiatives (e.g., Midwest Landscape Initiative), and ensure that rigorous social science is informing agency decision-making and management of public trust resources.

Membership

Voting members

MAFWA membership consists of Midwestern state and provincial fish and wildlife agencies and their authorized representative(s). MAFWA state and provincial membership include the following: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, and Canada Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario. See Addendum for current voting membership designees.

The Committee shall be comprised of individual(s) appointed by their respective agency's leadership and are permitted to vote/cast ballots as an official voting member. More than one representative from a state member agency may be appointed to the committee, but each agency is limited to one committee vote. State agencies may designate a proxy if the state representative is unable to attend a meeting; authorized designees (proxies) shall be fully entitled to represent an absent member in all matters. Membership held by an individual representative of a member state or provincial fish and wildlife agency terminates with the expiration of that member's term of office as a state and provincial fish and wildlife employee.

Non-Voting members:

Non-voting members (i.e., anyone not an appointed voting representative for MAFWA member agencies) are encouraged to attend and participate in committee meetings, as well as in topically-specific work groups or ad hoc committees. Indeed, ongoing non-voting member engagement and support are integral to this committee's long-term viability and success because social science/human dimensions capacity is (at the time of this writing) significantly limited across voting member agencies. Moreover, sustained partner collaboration is fundamental to addressing

complex conservation challenges, which are inherently social and cross jurisdictional boundaries. However, due to potential conflicts of interest, and at the discretion of the Executive Committee, non-voting members representing private research companies or other research interests may not be permitted to attend committee meeting discussions about grant-funded research opportunities.

Officers and Executive Committee

CSS/HD Technical Working Committee shall have two officers, a Chair and a Vice-Chair. Both committee officers shall be employees, other than a Director/Secretary, of a member agency and shall be determined by simple consensus of voting members (or their proxy) in attendance (virtual, hybrid, and/or in-person). Committee officers may serve unlimited consecutive terms.

The officers, together with two additional members, shall comprise the Executive Committee, which provides guidance and oversight to ensure continuity of governance and business, as well as effective communication. All Executive Committee members shall be determined by simple consensus of voting members (or their proxy) in attendance (virtual, hybrid, and/or in-person) and up to one seat may be filled by a non-voting member.

Duties of Officers

Chair responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to:

- Schedule committee meetings and prepare agendas, including notification to committee members, and others as appropriate; all minutes of committee meetings, correspondence, and other items as necessary shall be maintained in electronic files.
- Conduct committee meetings in a manner to best accomplish the charge of the committee. Chairs have discretion in running meetings but must ensure procedures and rules sufficient to properly address the issues and matters being considered, including the soundness of committee recommendations.
- Provide written and verbal reports of committee meetings and recommendations to the MAFWA Directors, Executive Secretary, and others as appropriate.
- Determine if issues or matters within the purview of this committee are of sufficient importance or urgency to bring to the attention of the Executive Committee.
- Coordinate committee issues, actions, and recommendations with the other MAFWA committees and regional conservation partners which have overlapping responsibilities or mutual interests.
- Maintain files and other documents of historical or other significance to the committee and forward to succeeding chairs.
- Other functions as may be necessary, including communicating periodically with the assigned Director-liaison.

Vice-Chair responsibilities may include, but not be limited to:

- Assume the duties of the Chair when the appointed Chair is temporarily unable or unavailable to carry out such duties.
- Assume the position of Chair upon expiration of the current Chair's term of office if so designated by the MAFWA President.
- Assist the Chair in preparing minutes from committee meetings and preparing the report to the Directors.
- Assist the Chair in maintaining files and other documents of historical or other significance to the committee and ensure they are forwarded to succeeding chairs.
- Assist the Chair in coordinating committee issues, actions, and recommendations with the other MAFWA committees and regional conservation partners which have overlapping responsibilities or mutual interests.
- Arrange accommodations and assist in planning for in-person committee meetings and retreats.

Operating Procedures

- At a minimum, the committee shall hold membership and business meetings twice per year (virtual, hybrid, and/or in-person). Participation in committee discussions and deliberations shall be inclusive and encouraged.
- For the purposes of HD/CSS Technical Working Committee operations, a **quorum** is defined as a simple attendance (virtual, hybrid, and/or in-person) of a majority (i.e., $\geq 51\%$) of appointed voting members (or their proxy).
- On issues or items (e.g., white paper, issue statement) being considered for forwarding to the MAFWA Directors, **consensus** is defined as approval by a majority (i.e., $\geq 51\%$) vote of all members (or their proxy) in attendance (virtual, hybrid, and/or in-person). Only those items receiving such approval will be forwarded to the MAFWA Directors through the Director Liaison.
- The Committee may elect to establish work groups or ad hoc committees to investigate and report on specific issues or address various areas of their broader responsibilities. However, such work groups or ad hoc committees shall remain a part of and report to the parent committee. Only voting members may serve as Chair of a work group or ad hoc committee.
- Resolutions from Committees' action shall be submitted to the MAFWA Resolutions Committee Chair 30-days in advance of the annual meeting for consideration by the Board of Directors.

- Formal letters prepared on behalf of MAFWA should be reviewed by the Committee's Director Liaison for discussion and finalization. The Director Liaison for the Technical Working Committee that is preparing a letter on behalf of MAFWA and its President, needs to verify that the content of the Committee's letter does not conflict with decisions, actions, statements and so forth of MAFWA, other MAFWA committees, AFWA, and AFWA's other regional association members.

The purpose and content of the letter need to be relevant to MAFWA's mission and objectives in order to obtain the signature of MAFWA's President. Examples of appropriate letter topics include:

- Internal policy between states
 - Resolution position statement
 - Federal policy/legislation
 - Action items
- A brief written report detailing the Committee's progress must be submitted electronically in PDF format to the President, Recording Secretary, and the Executive Secretary of MAFWA 30 days before the MAFWA annual meeting. The written report should be as brief as possible. This written report will be shared with members and posted on the MAFWA website (<http://mafw.org>).
- MAFWA Technical Working Committees are required to verbally present (in-person or virtually) their report to the Midwest Directors at the MAFWA annual meeting (June of each year). The purpose of the written report is to serve as an executive summary of the Committee's actions during the past year.
- MAFWA does not provide banking or contracting services for its committees unless by special authorization of the MAFWA Executive Committee.

Addendum

Director Liaison (Year 1)

Secretary Kevin Robling (South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks)

State Agency Representation (Year 1)

IL	Open
IN	Open
IA	Peter Fritzell, IADNR Human Dimensions-Survey Specialist
KS	Open
KY	Open
MI	Emily Pomeranz, MIDNR Human Dimensions Research Specialist
MN	Adam Landon, MNDNR Human Dimensions Scientist
MO	Open
NE	Open
ND	Open
SD	Open
WI	Bob Holsman, WIDNR Social Scientist

Canada Province Representation (Year 1)

Manitoba	Open
Saskatchewan	Allison Henderson, Fish, Wildlife and Lands Branch, Ministry of Environment, Wildlife Ecologist and Human Dimensions Specialist
Ontario	Open

ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
FISH AND WILDLIFE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mission: *Advance fish and wildlife conservation in the member states and provinces of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) by promoting collaborations, sharing subject matter expertise, and developing best management practices to support healthy fish and wildlife populations and by extension healthy people and environments.*

Objectives:

1. Identify common challenges, opportunities, and responses to develop joint strategies for addressing fish and wildlife health issues.
2. Stimulate an exchange of information among member states and provinces on legislation, administrative rules, program implementation, education, funding, and research as related to fish and wildlife health issues.
3. Enhance coordination among state and federal agencies to address fish and wildlife health issues and programs that affect member states and provinces.
4. Inform/advise the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Wildlife Health Committee, Wildlife Health Committees of the three other Regional Associations, the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, the National Wildlife Health Center, the National Wildlife Disease Program and other institutions, organizations and groups working on fish and wildlife health issues.
5. Inform and advise the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency directors on pertinent fish and wildlife health issues and solutions.
6. Advance One Health by defining, clarifying, and strengthening the role and authority of fish and wildlife agencies in health management within member states and provinces.
7. Provide a forum for the discussion and guidance regarding organizational structure, policy, delivery systems and effectiveness of fish and wildlife health programs in member states in particular and North American in general.

Membership: The membership of the MAFWA Fish and Wildlife Health Committee is open to employees of member states and provinces. Representatives of federal agencies, agricultural and conservation organizations, private citizens and other individuals may be invited to attend Committee meetings.

Officers: The committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-chair. The Chair shall be an employee of a member state or provincial agency. The Chair and their member agency shall provide for clerical support needed for conducting committee business and shall maintain a file of all minutes of committee meetings, correspondence and other items as necessary. The Chair's responsibility shall include, but not be limited to, organizing a minimum of one Committee meeting per year, maintaining Committee files, preparing necessary correspondence and preparing a report of all Committee activities for submission to the MAFWA Executive Secretary. The duties of the Vice-Chair will be to assist the Chair and perform the duties of Chair in the event that the Chair is unable to perform the duties. '

Sub-Committees: Ad-hoc Sub-committees may be appointed by the Chair to investigate and report on specific issues. Sub-Committees will be appointed by the Chair upon review of requests from members or the MAFWA Executive Committee for specific Committee action.

Meetings: The MAFWA Fish and Wildlife Health Committee will meet at least once per year. The meeting may be held in any member state or province. The schedule and duration of each meeting will be determined by the Chair after consultation with other members of the Committee. Notice of meeting dates and locations will be made available to members far enough in advance to enable them to secure out-of-state travel authorization for attendance.

Meeting Agenda: The program will be organized to permit adequate time for discussion of agenda items. One aspect of the agenda will be a short 10-minute report from each state on disease issues from that state. Other topics on the agenda will reflect the current issues reference wildlife disease in the Midwest. The Chair may request special reports from states and individuals on current disease topics. State and special reports will also be submitted in written format to permit the forwarding of them to agency directors, maintenance of proper files and provision of reports to other appropriate persons. Guest speakers may be invited to Committee meetings to make presentations on topics of interest. Short field trips may be arranged in conjunction with the meetings.

Attendance: To enhance an atmosphere of participation and exchange of ideas, attendance from all member states and provinces is strongly encouraged.

Business Meeting: A formal Committee business meeting will be held in conjunction with any Committee meeting. The business meeting will discuss and determine specific recommendations to the MAFWA Board of Directors. Recommendations to the Board must represent the majority view of member states/provinces. Each member state/province will be allowed one vote when voting is necessary. Invited agencies, private citizens, NGOs are encouraged to participate in discussions but are ineligible to vote.

Report: Following the annual spring meeting of the Committee, the Chair will request, through the chain of command in the host state, at least 15 minutes of the agenda at the summer meeting of the Executive Committee of the MAFWA. The Chair will send the report the director's liaison to share with the Executive Committee and, at the same time, to all members of the Committee. Committee members are encouraged to provide the executive summary of the meeting including any director information and action items to their own administration immediately following the Committee meeting. The report shall contain a summary of the information presented at the Committee meeting, items covered in the business meeting, any recommendations from the Committee, appropriate handouts obtained at the meeting and names and address of all attendees. This report shall be submitted to the MAFWA Executive Secretary within 30 days of the close of the Committee meeting.



MIDWEST

Association of
Fish & Wildlife
Agencies



CONFERENCE ACCOUNT PROPOSED CALENDAR YEAR 2023 BUDGET

June 27, 2022 Draft

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

Conference Account Calendar Year 2022 Proposed Budget

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June 27, 2022 Draft

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MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2021 BUDGET VS ACTUAL
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT

Line #	Receipts	Calendar Year 2021		Difference Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Budget	Actual	
1	Conference:			
2	Sponsors	\$25,000	\$35,988	\$10,988
3	Conference registrations	27,025	4,800	(22,225)
4	Hotel Commissions	1,000	-	(1,000)
5	Total Conference Receipts	\$53,025	\$40,788	(\$12,237)
6	Membership Dues	53,775	57,912	4,137
7	13 states @ \$4,111.10 & 3 provinces @ \$108.92			
8	Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	975	1,125	150
	Administrative Fee:			
9	Southern Wings administrative fee	1,125	500	(625)
10	National Pheasant Coordinator	4,165	5,270	1,105
11	Federal Indirect Cost	16,860	35,761	18,901
12	Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow (CLFT)	1,615	2,352	737
13	Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference	-	3,129	3,129
14	Ohio Projects	-	7,106	7,106
15	Interest & Donation	100	105	5
16	Total Receipts	\$131,640	\$154,048	\$22,408

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2021 BUDGET VS ACTUAL
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT

Line #	Disbursements	Calendar Year 2021		Difference
		Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable)
17	Conference Disbursements.			
18	Delaney Meeting and Event Management	\$13,125	\$9,965	\$3,160
19	Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality room, etc.	36,235	2,099	34,136
20	Credit Card Fees	1,375	488	887
21	Conference gifts and Award plaques	4,200	1,037	3,163
22	Total Conference Disbursements	\$54,935	\$13,589	\$41,346
23	Executive Secretary:			
24	Pay - 1,200 hours @ \$51.25	61,500	53,141	8,359
25	Travel	8,000	1,841	6,159
26	Treasurer:			
27	Pay - 450 hours @ \$40.80	18,360	18,539	(179)
28	Travel	4,500	475	4,025
29	Recording Secretary Travel	1,790	-	1,790
30	Tax Preparation Fees	1,675	1,110	565
31	Insurance			-
32	Website Maintenance	2,840	459	2,381
33	Wildlife Society - North Central Section	670	250	420
34	Miscellaneous	1,495	375	1,120
35	Total Disbursements	\$155,765	\$89,779	\$65,986
36	Receipts over Disbursements	(\$24,125)	\$64,269	\$88,394

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2022 BUDGET STATUS - AS OF JUNE 10, 2022
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Receipts	Calendar Year 2022		Difference Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Budget	Actual To Date	
1	Conference:			
2	Sponsors	\$56,000	\$24,500	(\$31,500)
3	Conference registrations	26,075	-	(26,075)
4	Hotel Commissions	1,000	-	(1,000)
5	Total Conference Receipts	\$83,075	\$24,500	(\$58,575)
6	Membership Dues	54,415	4,111	(50,304)
7	13 states @ \$4,160.02 & 3 provinces @ \$110.22			-
8	Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	975	75	(900)
	Administrative Fee:			
9	Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow (CLfT)	1,615	-	(1,615)
10	Federal Indirect Cost	16,860	-	(16,860)
11	National Pheasant Coordinator	4,165	-	(4,165)
12	Southern Wings	875		(875)
13	Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference	3,129	-	(3,129)
14	Interest	100	65	(35)
15	Total Receipts	\$165,209	\$28,751	(\$136,458)

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2022 BUDGET STATUS - AS OF JUNE 10, 2022
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Disbursements	Calendar Year 2022		Difference
		Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable)
16	Conference Disbursements:			
17	Delaney Meeting and Event Management	\$6,860	\$8,894	(\$2,034)
18	Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality room, etc.	36,235		36,235
19	Credit Card Fees	1,375	526	849
20	Conference gifts and Award plaques	4,200	999	3,201
21	Total Conference Disbursements	\$48,670	\$10,420	\$38,250
22	Executive Secretary:			
23	Pay - 1,200 hours @ \$51.86	62,235	35,577	26,658
24	Travel & Conference Registrations	8,000	5,270	2,730
25	Treasurer:			
26	Pay - 450 hours @ \$47.50	21,375	9,809	11,566
27	Travel & Conference Registrations	4,500	250	4,250
28	Recording Secretary Travel	1,790	-	1,790
29	Contract Manager	8,000	-	8,000
30	Tax Preparation Fees	1,675	1,110	565
31	Insurance	-	-	-
32	Website Maintenance	900	400	500
33	Wildlife Society - North Central Section	955	-	955
34	Miscellaneous	1,500	649	851
35	Total Disbursements	\$159,600	\$63,484	\$96,116
36	Receipts over Disbursements	\$5,609	(\$34,733)	(\$40,342)

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
PROPOSED 2023 BUDGET - JUNE 27, 2022 DRAFT
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #		Calendar Year 2020 Actual	Calendar Year 2021 Actual	Calendar Year 2022 Budget	Calendar Year 2023 Proposed Budget	2023 Proposed Budget Description
	Receipts					
	Conference:					
1	Sponsors	\$33,500	\$35,988	\$56,000	\$56,000	2022 Budget
2	Conference Registrations	1,800	4,800	26,075	26,075	2022 Budget
3	Hotel Commissions	-	-	1,000	1,000	2022 Budget
4	Total Conference Receipts	\$35,300	\$40,788	\$83,075	\$83,075	
5	Membership Dues	44,332	57,912	54,415	58,699	7.88% CPI change-Jan 2021-Jan 2022*
6	13 states @ \$4,487.83 & 3 provinces @ \$118.91					
7	Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	975	1,125	975	975	2022 Budget
	Administrative Fee:					
8	Southern Wings	875	500	875	500	2021 Actual
9	National Pheasant Coordinator	4,270	5,270	4,165	5,270	2021 Actual
10	Federal Indirect Cost	16,581	35,761	16,860	26,175	2020 & 2021 Actual Average*
11	Conser. Leaders for Tomorrow (CLFT)	1,059	2,352	1,615	2,352	2021 Actual
12	Midwest F&W Conference	3,129	3,129	3,129	3,129	2021 Actual
13	Ohio - Spatial Habitat and Modeling	-	7,106	-	-	2022 Budget
14	Interest and Other	173	105	100	100	2022 Budget
15	Total Receipts	\$106,688	\$154,048	\$165,208	\$180,275	

* Total proposed budget amount rounded up to the nearest five dollars.

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
PROPOSED 2023 BUDGET - JUNE 27, 2022 DRAFT
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #		Calendar Year 2020 Actual	Calendar Year 2021 Actual	Calendar Year 2022 Budget	Calendar Year 2023 Proposed Budget	2023 Proposed Budget Description
	Disbursements					
	Conference Disbursements:					
	Delaney Meeting & Event Management					
16	Coordinator Fees	\$6,166	\$8,440	\$4,120	\$16,560	Draft Contract*
17	Other Expenses	1,132	1,525	2,740	2,740	2022 Budget
18	Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality, etc	-	2,099	36,235	36,235	2022 Budget
19	Credit Card Fees	411	488	1,375	1,375	2022 Budget
20	Prizes and Awards	715	1,037	4,200	1,120	2021 Actual Plus 7.88% CPI Change*
21	Total Conference Disbursements	\$8,424	\$13,589	\$48,670	\$58,020	
	Executive Secretary					
22	Pay - 1,200 hours @ \$55.95	51,850	53,141	62,235	67,140	7.88% CPI change-Jan 2021-Jan 2022*
23	Travel	2,279	1,841	8,000	8,000	2022 Budget
	Treasurer					
24	Pay - 450 hours @ \$51.24	17,432	18,539	21,375	24,340	7.88% CPI change-Jan 2021-Jan 2022*
25	Travel	1,318	475	4,500	4,500	2022 Budget
26	Contract Manager	-	-	8,000	8,000	200 Hours @ \$40 Per Hour
27	Secretary travel	-	-	1,790	1,790	2022 Budget
28	Tax Preparation Fees	1,120	1,110	1,675	1,675	2022 Budget
29	CPA Audit	4,500	-	-	-	Five Year Cycle - Next Audit 2024
30	Insurance	1,998	-	-	2,000	3 Years Paid in 2020*
31	Wildlife Society - North Central Section	955	250	955	955	2022 Budget
32	Website Maintenance	896	459	900	900	2022 Budget
33	Miscellaneous	285	375	1,500	1,500	2022 Budget
34	Total Disbursements	\$91,155	\$89,779	\$159,600	\$178,820	
35	Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	\$15,533	\$64,269	\$5,609	\$1,455	

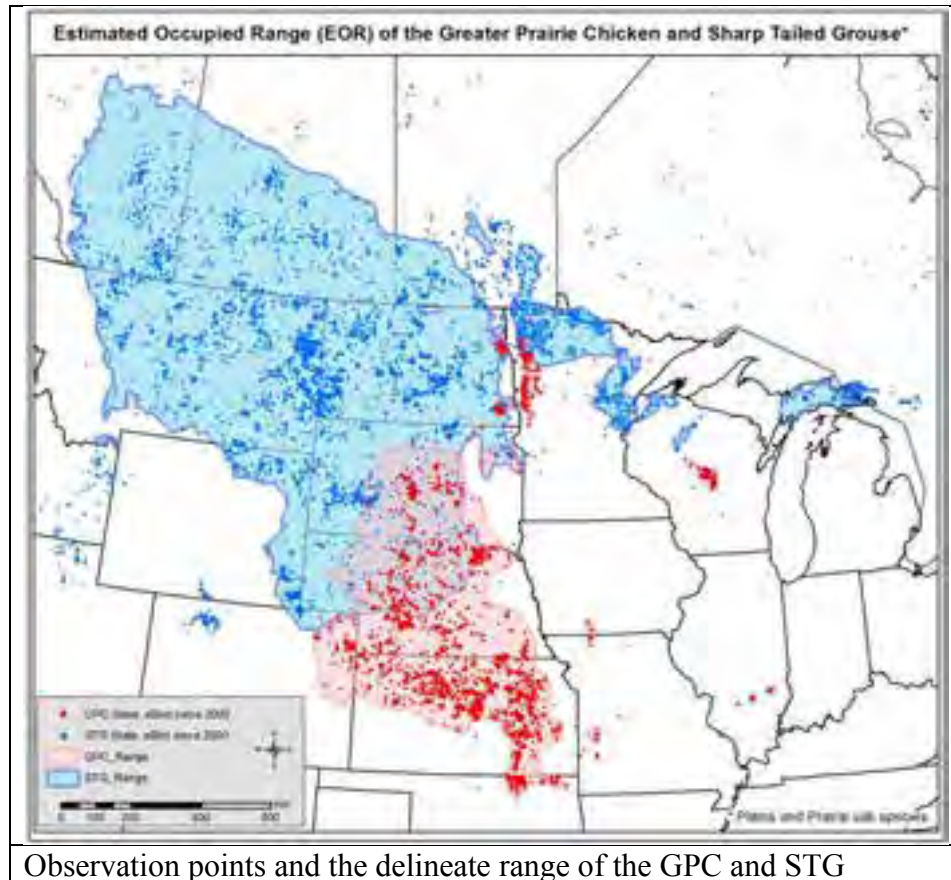
* Total proposed budget amount rounded up to the nearest five dollars.

Greater Prairie Chicken and Sharp Tailed Grouse Conservation Strategy Summary MAFWA, summer 2022

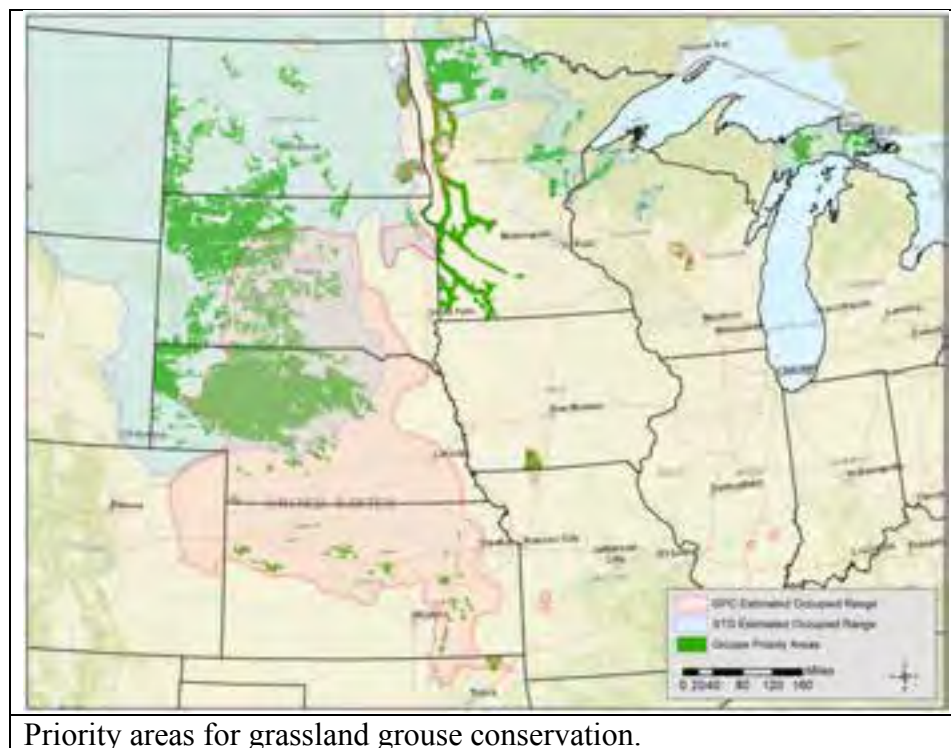
The overall goal of this effort is to develop a range-wide conservation plan for greater prairie-chickens (GPC) and the plains and prairie subspecies of sharp-tailed grouse (STG) that will expand and coordinate grassland and shrubland conservation efforts using these birds as flagship species. The long-term objective is to develop large blocks of native grasslands and shrublands of sufficient size, arrangement, and quality to support populations of GPC and STG and associated grassland and shrubland wildlife species. Once completed, it is the goal of the interstate workgroup that the project deliverables be used by agencies, industry, NGO's and decision makers to facilitate efforts and informs decisions into the future.

Project objectives and results:

- 1. Delineate the estimated occupied range (EOR) for GPC and STG.**
 - a. Completed delineation of range for GPC and STG
 - b. STG range delineation includes Canadian extent.
- 2. Identify priority areas across the species' ranges that are sufficient to maintain viable populations.**
 - a. Priority areas were identified in 8 of the 13 states
 - i. ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, WI, MI
 - b. Total priority area = 178,071 sq. km, mean size is 988 sq km.
- 3. Identify additional species that will benefit from the grassland and shrubland conservation efforts for GPC and STG.**
 - a. 113 different SGCN species identified that shared habitat with GPC/STG
 - b. SGCN details: 10 mammals, 27 birds, 13 reptiles, 8 amphibians, and 55 insects.
 - c. Report details which SGCN species are present in each state
- 4. Develop recommendations for policies, management priorities, and funding needed to effectively reverse population declines of prairie grouse and associated species.**
 - a. Increase delivery of conservation efforts into strategically located priority areas.
 - i. Conservation, management, restoration depending on needs/availability.
 - b. Establishing core areas consisting of 50,000-acre blocks of high-quality habitat distributed across the range of each species was deemed essential to assure long-term viability of each species.
- 5. Develop and recommend consistent monitoring approaches for GPC and STG.**
 - a. State methodologies were compiled, assessed, and recommendations made to compile observation data every 3-5 years to track range and population trends.
- 6. Develop an innovative habitat assessment tool for GPC and STG.**
 - a. A project web page and web mapping application are being finalized to share the report and provide users web access to the interact with the GIS data.
 - b. Final products of the effort are being shared with WAFWA CHAT coordinator for inclusion of the information in the WAFWA CHAT.



Observation points and the delineate range of the GPC and STG



Priority areas for grassland grouse conservation.