**Decisions and Next Steps**

14 February 2013 US NABCI Committee

USFWS, 4401 Fairfax Ave., Arlington, VA, Rooms 200A & B

*NABCI Committee Member Attendees:* **Jerome Ford** (Acting Chair), US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS); **David Pashley**, American Bird Conservancy (ABC); **Gordon Myers**, Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA); **Geoff Walsh for Dwight Fielder**, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); **Ken Rosenberg**, Cornell Lab of Ornithology; **Skip Hyberg**, Farm Services Agency (FSA); **Glenn Olson**, National Audubon Society (NAS); **Cal DuBrock**, National Flyway Council and AFWA Resident Game Bird Working Group; **Jennifer Wyse** for Bert Frost, National Park Service (NPS); **Paul Schmidt**, Partners In Flight Initiative; **Greg Butcher**, US Forest Service; **Brad Andres** for Catherine Hickey, US Shorebird Conservation Plan; **Anne Kinsinger**, US Geological Survey; **Brad Bortner**, Waterbird Conservation for the Americas; **Scott Yaich**, Ducks Unlimited (DU); **Tammy VerCauteren**, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO); **Mike Carter** for Arthur Feinstein, Association of Joint Venture Management Boards

*Guest Attendees*: Steve Zack, Wildlife Conservation Society; Dean Smith, AFWA; Cyndi Perry, FWS; Guy Foulks, FWS; Dave Gordon, FWS; Antoinette Condo, US State Department; Kevin Pierson, NAS; Kacie Miller, RMBO; Deb Hahn, AFWA; Caroline Garret, DU; Anne Law, ABC; Bridget Collins, AFWA; Tanya Schenk, NPS; Alicia King, FWS; Jennifer Wheeler, FWS; Sue Bonfield, Environment for the Americas; Terry Rich, FWS; Sara Schweitzer, NC Wildlife Resources Commission; Mike Kreger, FWS; Charisa Morris, FWS; Dale Humburg, DU

[**Full Meeting Agenda**](http://www.nabci-us.org/mtg_2013-02/NABCI_draft_agenda_Feb2013.pdf)

***All handouts, presentations, and supporting documents can be found at www.nabci-us.org***

**1. Agenda Item:** Monitoring subcommittee progress report

**Action:** Approve and send [**comments**](http://www.nabci-us.org/mtg_2013-02/NABCI_Letter_Surrogate_Species_21Feb2013FINAL.pdf) drafted by the NABCI Monitoring Subcommittee regarding the FWS surrogate species initiative to Dan Ashe.

**Next Step:** Allison will work to finalize and send the letter under new NABCI Chair Gordon Myers’s signature.

**2. Agenda Item:** Consider recommendation to create an executive council for the US NABCI Committee

**Action:** Committee approved the formation of an [**executive council**](http://www.nabci-us.org/mtg_2013-02/exec_council_recommendation_13Dec12.pdf) as detailed in recommendation, changes to the [**NABCI charter**](http://www.nabci-us.org/mtg_2013-02/Revised_NABCI_charter_15Feb2013.pdf) to reflect the existence of an executive committee, and initial slate of executive council members: Gordon Myers, Jerome Ford, Catherine Hickey, Cal DuBrock, Tammy VerCauteren, and an additional Federal member.

**Next Steps:** Anne Kinsinger will convene conference call among federal members to identify representative to the executive council. Allison will coordinate the full committee’s consideration and an email vote to approve this nomination. Allison will schedule an initial call of the executive council in April.

**3.** **Agenda Item:** Update on NGO and State contributions to NABCI coordination

**Action:** Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, and National Audubon Society will each make a financial contribution for NABCI coordination.

**Next Steps:** Allison will connect the NGO reps with AFWA’s accountant and Allison will share the portion of her job description that involves NABCI with interested NABCI members.

**4.** **Agenda Item:** Consideration of recommendation for the 2013 NABCI/AJVMB Gary T. Myers Award

**Action:** The Committee approved the recommendation of the Awards subcommittee that 2 awards be bestowed this year.

**Next Step:** Allison will notify individuals that submitted nominations regarding the Committee’s decisions. Awards will be presented at the Director’s reception held on Thursday, 3/28, as part of the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference.

**5. Agenda Item:** NABCI Communications Process and Products

**Action:** The Committee supported the recommendation of the subcommittee that it focus for the next year on improving communication among NABCI member organizations as a primary audience.

**Next Step:** Subcommittee leadership (Greg, Roxanne, Allison) will develop a work plan to guide the subcommittee’s work and will share that with the full Committee.

**Action:** The Committee approved the recommendation that a working group comprised of Cyndi, Glenn, Tammy, Greg, Gordon, Geoff, and Cal proceed with the development of a value proposition for the US NABCI committee as detailed in the overview provided by Allison.

**Next Step:** Allison will convene the working group to initiate the development of the value proposition with the intent of engaging the full Committee through a brainstorming conference call and a goal of presenting a well-vetted draft at the summer NABCI meeting.

**6.** **Agenda Item:** NABCI Partner Roundtable on Shared Priorities

**Action:** Committee identified tracking land use change over time as a shared area of priority interest

**Next Step:** Allison will work with representatives from the [NSST and LCC Land Use Change Committee](http://www.nabci-us.org/mtg_2013-02/Summary_NSST_LCC_LULC.pdf) to host a webinar for Committee members that provides the details for that project.

**Next Step:** At the summer 2013 NABCI meeting, USFWS staff for the National Wetlands Inventory will be invited to present on that program and its status.

**Action:** Committee identified collaboration with the Executive Order Council and their development and application of effectiveness measures as a shared priority.

**7.** **Agenda Item**: Potential reorganization of the BCFC and NABCI Public Policy Subcommittee

**Action:** The Committee approved dissolving the NABCI public policy subcommittee and merging it with the Bird Conservation Funding Coalition. Leadership for this coalition will reside at AFWA. The scope of the BCFC will expand from solely appropriations to include work on authorizations and improved coordination of messaging among member groups. Priorities for the group will be to use AFWA’s leadership to build strong linkages with sportsmen’s community and working towards the inclusion of reauthorization for NAWCA and NMBCA in any future sportsmen’s packages. Regular updates from this group will be provided to NABCI members to ensure that NABCI members stay informed on these issues.

**8. Agenda Item:** Sneak Peak of the 2013 State of the Birds on Private Lands report

**Next Step:** Committee members are prepared to provide a review and feedback of the report in early to mid-March

**Next Step:** Alicia King will follow up with NA BCI partners that expressed an interest in becoming more involved with communications and ‘implementation’ of the 2013 State of the Birds report.

**9. Agenda Item:** [Recommendations pertaining to future State of the Birds reports in 2014 and 2016](http://www.nabci-us.org/mtg_2013-02/recommendation_2014-2016_SOTB_reports.pdf)

**Action:** The Committee approved the recommendation and next steps regarding a State of the Birds report in 2014 as outlined by the State of the Birds executive team.

**Next Step:** Allison will work with SOTB executive team to prepare detailed outline for 2014, in conjunction with those involved in developing both the Audubon/ABC watch list and BCC list. An outline for a 2016 report will be prepared by a trinational working group for presentation to the Migratory Bird Table at the Trilateral in May 2013.