### 24-25 January 2012 US NABCI Committee

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

### Outcomes

1. *Agenda Item:* **Proposed process for filling NGO vacancy left by WMI on the NABCI Committee**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* A NGO seat on the US NABCI committee previously held by the Wildlife Management Institute is vacant. There is no process for filling the seat set forth in the NABCI charter. In consultation with Jerome, Allison has drafted a recommended process for the Committee’s consideration. In addition, Allison has updated the NABCI Charter with minor changes to accurately reflect the current organization of the US NABCI Committee and to generalize the text for greater longevity.

*Decisions at meeting:*

* The Committee approved a process to fill vacant seat formerly held by Wildlife Management Institute with new NGO NABCI Committee member as recommended in document entitled “Proposed process for selection of new NABCI Committee members”
* The Committee approved the formation of an ad hoc nominations subcommittee consisting of Dave Scott, David Pashley, and USFWS representative (individual TBA) to oversee advertisement for the position and review of applications from prospective NGO committee members. This subcommittee will also make recommendation regarding whether or not to impose a maximum number of Committee members.
* Approved minor administrative changes to NABCI Charter (update version with changes reflected available on [www.nabci-us.org](http://www.nabci-us.org)

*Next steps:*

* Allison convenes nominations subcommittee and assists in implementation of approved nominations process
* New NGO member will be invited to participate in Summer 2012 NABCI meeting

1. *Agenda Item:* **Discussion on the future of All-Bird Bulletin**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* The All-bird Bulletin has been published several times a year under the leadership of Roxanne Bogart. Greg Butcher will lead a conversation about methods to better connect NABCI Committee members to the development of the All-bird Bulletin.

*Decisions at meeting:*

* Many NABCI partners are willing to engage directly with Roxanne in developing of future editions of the All-bird Bulletin. The Committee will work to connect the key issues from NABCI meeting agendas to articles and themes for the All-bird Bulletin.

*Next steps:*

* Allison and Greg Butcher will work with Roxanne to outline themes and articles for future issues of the All-Bird Bulletin and connect Roxanne with NABCI partner organizations willing to help in the development of a particular edition.

1. *Agenda Item:* **NABCI Award**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* The Awards Subcommittee will bring forward their recommendation for a potential 2012 NABCI Award recipient for the Committee’s review and decision.

*Decisions at meeting:*

* A recommendation for the 2012 NABCI/ AJVMV Gary T. Myers Bird Conservation Award recipient put forward by the Awards Subcommittee was accepted by the full Committee. The award will be presented as part of the Director’s reception at the North American wildlife conference in March 2012.

*Next steps:*

* Allison will make preparations for the award to be presented at the North American.

1. *Agenda Item:* **Recap of Progress made relative to discussions at July 2011 NABCI meeting**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* Allison will remind committee members of decisions and issues discussed at the July 2011 meeting and highlight where progress has been made and also seek guidance and assistance in areas that have been stagnant.

***Topic: Land use change assessment:***

*Decisions at meeting:*

* The Committee is interested in pursuing the topic brought to NABCI from the Tri-Initiative Science Team (TRIST) regarding how land use change is tracked among various federal agencies.

*Next steps:*

* Allison will work with Tim Jones and Anne Bartuszevige, chairs of TRIST, along with Mary Rowland, Ken Williams, a USFWS representative and Danielle Flynn to more clearly articulate our goals and tasks and move forward as appropriate.

***Topic: US NABCI Committee 2009-2013 Strategic Intent document***

*Decisions at meeting:*

* The Committee agreed that a check-in on progress to date relative to this document is appropriate prior to the Summer 2012 NABCI meeting.

*Next steps:*

* Geoff Walsh, Greg Butcher, Ken Williams, the 3 Initiative Coordinators, and a USFWS rep will work with Allison to review this document and update it accordingly. Results of this work will help define future NABCI meeting agendas.

1. *Agenda Item:* **Improving bird conservation by uniting and engaging our constituents**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* As bird conservation evolves within the context of landscape scale planning and science, common conservation challenges continue to threaten the sustainability of bird populations, regardless of species group. In the face of dwindling conservation budgets and declining numbers of hunters, the bird conservation community must strategically unite and educate the constituents who care about our bird populations and their habitats. The 3 presentations will provide an update on current efforts to engage traditional (hunting) and non-traditional (wildlife viewing) communities in bird conservation efforts. The presentations will be followed by a discussion of possible roles for the NABCI Committee and/or NABCI partners in these efforts.

*Decisions at meeting:*

* This is an appropriate topic for NABCI to play a leadership role as it is well in line with the 3 key objectives stated in the NABCI charter. However, to make real progress we need to bring in those with expertise in human dimensions and more clearly articulate which piece of this very large issue NABCI wishes to address.
* The Committee is fully supportive of the Friends of the Duck/Migratory Bird stamp and would like to be kept in the loop during its development.
* The Committee is fully supportive of the Bird Conservation Committee’s proposed NCN and will work to communicate their support to key individuals within AFWA.
* State of the Birds reports are a potential tool in this work and their role in future human dimensions work for NABCI should be considered as part of their development.

*Next steps:*

* Allison will work with Vaughn Collins and Paul Baicich to craft a letter of support for the Friends organization that all members of the US NABCI Committee can be signatories to.
* Based on the discussion during the NABCI meeting, Allison will work with Ashley Dayer, Greg Butcher, Alicia King, Brad Bortner, Dean Smith, Terry Rich, and Dale Humberg to define how NABCI might best play a role in this topic by 1) defining ongoing related activities (e.g., NAWMP revision HD working group); 2)define the possible audiences for NABCI’s work in this arena
* As appropriate relative to the decisions made by the small group listed above, Allison will work to engage social scientists and human dimensions experts and look into the possibility of hosting a workshop as part of or in conjunction with the Summer 2012 NABCI meeting.

1. *Agenda Item:* **Partners in Flight Strategic Planning Outcomes**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* Timed with the 20th anniversary of the Partners in Flight Initiative, the PIF Steering Committee has recently undertaken a strategic planning process. The goals and actions are based on 3-year time horizon. Terry Rich, the National PIF Coordinator, will update the NABCI Committee on the specific goals and actions associated with the plan. The Committee will discuss how the NABCI Committee and/or individual partners might be involved in the plan’s implementation as well as how the PIF goals might complement existing NABCI partner efforts.

*Next steps:*

* Terry’s presentation and handout are posted on [www.nabci-us.org](http://www.nabci-us.org)*.* Committee members who wish to engage in specific goals and tasks should contact Terry directly.

1. *Agenda Item:* **State of the Birds- *Using the 2011 Report on Public Lands & Waters to leverage on-the-ground conservation***

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* As you’ll remember, the Committee spent significant time at the July 2011 meeting offering ideas and discussing how the 2011 State of the Birds (SOTB) report might be ‘implemented’ and how the NABCI Committee might serve in a leadership role in that effort. Two needs identified during that discussion were 1) improving coordination among NABCI partners at the regional or habitat level and 2) improving the understanding of SOTB key messages among staff of NABCI partner organizations. With effort and well-timed luck, the SOTB executive team has made progress in engaging several NABCI partners in a pilot effort centered on aridlands habitats in the west. David Pashley, Dave Mehlman, Greg Butcher, Geoff Walsh, and Allison will update the Committee on the template being developed for the aridlands and explain plans for expanding that template to additional habitats. The SOTB executive team is seeking input and feedback on the progress to date and plans for additional work.

*Decisions at meeting:* Committee is supportive of ‘implementation’ work thus far and would like to continue to be briefed on progress. There is particular interest on any publications stemming from the State of the Birds analyses.

**8)** *Agenda Item:* **State of the Birds- 2013 Report on Private Lands**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* A State of the Birds on Private Lands report is slated for release in May, 2013. Development of the scope and content of the report will begin in early 2012. Alicia King, USFWS, is coordinating the development of the report and will update the Committee on the current thinking and timeline for the report. The SOTB Executive Team will seek feedback from the NABCI Committee on the scope, content and specific ‘stories’ related to bird conservation on private lands that should be considered for inclusion in the report.

*Next steps:*

* Members of the NABCI Committee who serve on the SOTB 2013 science team will reflect the thoughts shared by Committee members during the discussion in their planning and development of the 2013 report.
* Allison will host a series of calls that will serve as a forum for NABCI partners to offer their ideas relative to the themes and content in the report.

**9)** *Agenda Item:* **Species-specific Issues and Programs**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* The following presentations will update the NABCI Committee on specific bird conservation issues or programs underway across the US: **Shorebird declines in the Western Atlantic Flyway; NRCS and BLM Sage Grouse Initiatives; and NRCS Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative**

*Next steps:*

* All presentations will be posted on www.nabci-us.org

**10)** *Agenda Item:* **International Programs Roundtable Discussion**

*Purpose of Agenda Item:* This roundtable will be moderated by Terry Rich and will feature a series of presentations reviewing the ongoing efforts of NABCI partners in international (primarily Mexico and Latin America) bird conservation. Each presentation will include a summary of relevant, ongoing projects or programs as well as significant bottlenecks or capacity issues the programs face. The goal is to provide the full Committee with a shared understanding of where things stand with the programs collectively and thus foster an informed discussion of what collaborations or efficiencies might be gained by working together more closely. Another objective is to explore how the federal programs might better integrate with ongoing NGO and/or state programs.

*Decisions at meeting:*

* Committee recognizes the importance of using the NABCI table as a forum for information sharing among the various partners and encourages using future meeting time in a similar fashion.

*Next steps:*

* All presentations and available notes will be posted on [www.nabci-us.org](http://www.nabci-us.org)
* Allison will work with Deb Hahn/ Gordon Myers for AFWA, John Beavers, a USFWS representative, and Terry Rich to determine the best way to maintain communication among international programs and consider whether a standing NABCI subcommittee would be fruitful.

**11)** *Agenda Item:* **Loose Ends; Review next steps**

*Next steps:*

* Please offer any feedback on the meeting’s content or structure directly to Allison
* Save the date for August 8 & 9, 2012 for the NABCI Summer meeting to be held at the USFWS offices in Arlington.