



## 2019-2020 Goals and Work Plan for the NABCI Human Dimensions Subcommittee

### **Subcommittee Overview**

The Work Plan of the Human Dimensions Subcommittee is oriented towards NABCI's Vision for *healthy and abundant populations of North American birds that are valued by future generations and sustained by habitats that benefit birds and people*. Components of the Work Plan reflect each of the three goals of the NABCI Strategic Plan. This Work Plan adopts Goal II (*Facilitate science-based conservation efforts that support healthy bird populations*), Sub-goal 1 (*Promote and advance the use of ecological and social science in design and evaluation of bird conservation practices*), Action b (*Enable bird conservation partners to integrate human dimensions science and tools into bird conservation efforts*) as the overarching Goal for the activities of the Subcommittee.

The Human Dimensions Subcommittee held its first meeting in April 2015, with members recruited by founding Subcommittee Chair, Tammy VerCauteren, and Co-chair, Ashley Dayer. In February 2017, Ashley Gramza, the first National Bird Conservation Social Science Coordinator, assumed the role of Co-chair. Leadership transitioned in October 2018, when Jessica Barnes was hired as the new National Bird Conservation Social Science Coordinator and became the new Subcommittee Co-chair.

### **Subcommittee Membership**

Subcommittee membership includes representatives from a variety of NABCI partner organizations, as well as university faculty and graduate students, private consultants, and nonprofit organizations. Membership is intentionally broad and inclusive, in order to maximize the diversity of resources and expertise available to the Subcommittee and NABCI. Current members include: Scott Anderson (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission), Brad Andres (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Wilhelmina Bratton (US Forest Service), Wylie Carr (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Dave Case (DJ Case and Associates), Loren Chase (Chase & Chase Consulting), Jim Chu (US Forest Service), Nicholas Cole (USGS), Carolyn Comber (Virginia Tech), Andi Cooper (Ducks Unlimited), Ashley Dayer (Virginia Tech), Chris Deets (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Jennie Duberstein (Sonoran Joint Venture), Abby Ertel (Huron Pines), Todd Fearer (Appalachian Mountain Joint Venture), Ashley Gramza (Arkansas Game and Fish Commission), Jeff Gordon (American Birding Association), Sara Hallager (Association of Zoos & Aquariums), Elsa Haubold (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Matt Heinemann (DJ Case and Associates), Rich Iovanna (Farm Service Agency), Megan Jones (Colorado State University), Joel Jorgensen (Nebraska Game and Parks), Mike Kreger (Association of Zoos & Aquariums), Cynthia Longmire (South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks), Vicki Martin (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), Emily Neidhardt (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Andy Raedeke (MO Department of Conservation), Terry Rich (environmental consultant), Jeremy Ross (University of Oklahoma), Judith Scarl (NABCI/AFWA), Rudy Schuster (US Geological Survey), David Scott (Texas A & M), Natalie Sexton (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Ted Toombs (Environmental Defense Fund), Kelly VanBeek (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Kenny Wallen (University of Idaho).

### **Subcommittee Work Plan**

Following the format of the NABCI US Committee's Strategic Plan, the Human Dimensions Subcommittee drafted its first Work Plan in summer 2015. In developing the plan, the Subcommittee considered: the results of the NABCI Human Dimensions workshop; the results of the South Padre Island Bird Conservation Partnership workshop; and the Work Plan of the North American Waterfowl

Management Plan's (NAWMP) Human Dimensions Working Group and Public Engagement Team (HDWG-PET). The Work Plan was updated in July 2016 to reflect the added capacity of the National Bird Conservation Social Science Coordinator, and in March 2017 to reflect identified HD needs of the bird conservation community. After two years of Work Plan implementation, the Subcommittee updated and revised its Work Plan in February 2019. The following Work Plan reflects this history, as well as additional feedback from members of the bird conservation community about their needs and priorities for HD research and integration. This Work Plan will serve as a guide for Subcommittee efforts over the next two years.

Numbered items below are broad Actions that will help the Subcommittee achieve its Goal, and lettered items are short-term Tasks that Subcommittee members will undertake in 2019-2020. Where relevant, Roman numerals are more specific Sub-tasks. The dates for the Tasks listed below are tentative; this Work Plan is a working document that can be adapted as opportunities arise.

**Goal: Enable bird conservation partners to integrate human dimensions science and tools into bird conservation efforts.**

***1. Support and connect the human dimensions efforts of NABCI partners across scales, regions, and bird taxa***

- a. Liaise between NABCI and other bird or wildlife-related human dimensions teams, including NAWMP HDWG-PET, Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) HD Committee, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) HD Committee, and the Kirtland's Warbler Conservation Team HD Group  
*Lead: Ashley Dayer, Andy Raedeke, Nicholas Cole, Jennie Duberstein (NAWMP); Ashley Gramza (SEAFWA, Kirtland's Warbler); Loren Chase (WAFWA)*  
*Timeframe: ongoing*
- b. Support the integration of human dimensions into the work of the Joint Ventures, continental bird conservation plans, and Flyways by participating in the Unified Science Team (UST) Theme Team on HD Integration  
*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Ashley Gramza, Wylie Carr*  
*Timeframe: First meeting in April 2019, then ongoing*
- c. Assist bird conservation partners in developing social science research and surveys with broad transferability: help frame the problem, connect researchers and practitioners, review research proposals and instruments  
*Lead: Jessica Barnes and Ashley Gramza (Association of Zoos and Aquariums); Kenny Wallen (North American Falconers Association);*  
*Timeframe: Ongoing, as needs arise; AZA project through 2020; NAFA survey development in 2019*

***2. Strengthen social science capacity and facilitate the integration of social science into bird conservation by developing, supporting, and sharing human dimensions resources and trainings***

- a. Partner with US FWS, the UST, Joint Ventures, and the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative to offer or support HD training opportunities through workshops and webinars
  - i. Collaborate with the UST and US FWS on a webinar series that addresses HD issues

relevant to the bird conservation community, including translating the findings of national surveys (America's Wildlife Values, the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (FHWAR), Nature of Americans, and NAWMP surveys) in order to facilitate implementation of results

*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Brad Andres*

*Timeframe: Summer 2019*

- ii. Contribute content to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) Human Dimensions Foundations of Natural Resource Conservation course

*Lead: Ashley Dayer, Natalie Sexton and Wylie Carr (2019) and Jessica Barnes (2020)*

*Timeframe: USFWS Pathways training in Fall 2019; HD webinar series in Spring 2019; planning for Sonoran JV partner training in 2019*

- b. Promote use of Subcommittee products and other HD resources; continue to distribute resources and improve mechanisms for sharing with the bird conservation community

- i. Consider the creation of an online clearinghouse for bird-specific HD resources and whether a listserv for those interested in bird conservation HD is needed

*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Natalie Sexton (HDgov Team Page)*

*Timeframe: Summer 2019*

- ii. Distribute 1-page document, "Understanding Humans to Conserve Birds," in order to establish a shared understanding and common language of social science in the bird conservation community

*Lead: All subcommittee members, where relevant*

*Completion Date: ongoing*

- iii. Promote use of the HD Success Story Map through the NABCI blog, social media outlets, and webinars; consider updating map as need and capacity arise

*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Megan Jones*

*Timeframe: Ongoing*

- iv. Distribute the guidance document "Integrating Human Dimensions into JV Implementation Plans" and expand applicability to the work of BCPPs, Flyways, and other NABCI partners

*Lead: Ashley Dayer, Ashley Gramza, Jessica Barnes*

*Timeframe: Release document in July 2019; consider how/whether to make relevant to others by December 2019*

- c. Lead development of a series of Relevancy Success Stories featuring non-traditional partnerships that have benefited human communities and birds; collaborate with the Private and Working Lands and Communications Subcommittees to collect and communicate stories

*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Judith Scarl, Nicholas Cole, Chris Deets*

*Timeframe: Develop call by September 2019; collect and then distribute stories through 2020*

### **3. Share and translate the implications of social science research for bird conservation practice**

1. Collaborate with Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence to organize a

symposium at the 2019 American Ornithological Society (AOS) meeting in Anchorage, Alaska that highlights the importance of social science in bird research and conservation

*Lead: Terry Rich, Ashley Dayer, Jessica Barnes*

*Timeframe: Conference in July 2019; distribution of products through Winter 2019*

2. Organize and present in sessions on bird conservation on private lands and the role of birdwatchers and other wildlife viewers in conservation at Pathways: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference  
*Lead: Ashley Dayer, Jessica Barnes, Ashley Gramza, Kenny Wallen, Jennie Duberstein, Megan Jones, Natalie Sexton, Chris Deets, Tammy VerCauteren*  
*Timeframe: Conference in September 2019; distribution of products through Winter 2019*
3. Conduct further analysis of data from NAWMP surveys and produce manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication; communicate findings and implications for bird conservation practice through presentations, webinars, and other products  
*Lead: Ashley Dayer, Jennie Duberstein, Rudy Schuster, Andy Raedeke, Wylie Carr, Nicholas Cole*  
*Timeframe: Pathways presentations in September 2019; Peer-reviewed publications ongoing*
4. Conduct survey to explore birdwatcher behavior and involvement in conservation funding  
*Lead: Terry Rich*  
*Timeframe: Survey administration in Spring 2019*
5. Conduct research and a public engagement process to aid the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries in developing a plan for engaging wildlife viewers, and share results and lessons learned from this approach with the bird conservation community  
*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Ashley Dayer*  
*Timeframe: Through 2020*
6. Disseminate and translate research on the persistence of conservation behaviors after private lands incentive programs end; coordinate with local partners to facilitate implementation of results  
*Lead: Jessica Barnes, Ashley Dayer, Tammy VerCauteren, Rich Iovanna*  
*Timeframe: Share results and develop step-down products for states throughout the Great Plains in 2019; conduct follow-up, regional focus groups in 2020*

## **Accomplishments: Completed April 2015 – February 2019**

1. Ensure survey items are included in the NAWMP survey that measure conservation behaviors of wildlife recreationists and the public (e.g., Cooper et al., 2015) [Lead: Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 04/15]
2. Facilitate NABCI feedback on the NAWMP Public survey [Lead: Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 04/15]
3. Facilitate NABCI feedback on the NAWMP Viewer Task Force Work Plan [Lead: Jennie Duberstein; Completion Date: 10/15]
4. Facilitate NABCI feedback on the Hunter and Viewer surveys [Lead: Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 9/15]
5. Advocate for the creation of a National Social Science Coordinator by preparing a document related to the role, developing a strategy to fund the position, and championing the need for the position [Lead: Tammy VerCauteren, Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 12/15]
6. Develop a full day symposium at NAOC on engaging birdwatchers in conservation including social scientists and conservation professionals [Lead: Terry Rich; Completion Date: 8/16]
7. Hire National Bird Conservation Social Science Coordinator [Lead: Tammy VerCauteren, Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 9/16]
8. Central Valley Joint Venture Human Dimensions Chapter [Lead: Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 12/16]
9. Contribute to USFWS Programmatic clearance Suite of Questions [Lead: Natalie Sexton, Ashley Dayer; Completion Date: 3/17]
10. Promote USFWS's HD foundations course at the Pathways HD conference in Fall 2017 and help contribute bird-related examples to program [Lead: Ashley Gramza with USFWS; Completion Date: 9/17]
11. Create HD 1-page document to develop a shared understanding and common language of social science in the bird conservation community [Lead: Ashley Gramza, Andi Cooper, Scott Anderson, and Ted Toombs; Completion Date: 8/17]
12. Collect and disseminate information about HD research projects and success stories (format TBD) to encourage connections [Lead: Ashley Gramza, Megan Jones, Kelly VanBeek; Completion Date: 8/18]
13. Organize "The State of Knowledge on Private Lands Habitat Conservation Behavior: Insights for Conservation Professionals" and linked session to share landowner perspectives about private land conservation programs at Pathways [Lead: Ashley Gramza, Ashley Dayer, Todd Fearer, Tammy VerCauteren, Ted Toombs, Natalie Sexton; Completion Date: 9/17]
14. Conduct research on predictors of private lands incentive program adoption and retention. [Lead: Ashley Dayer, Ashley Gramza, Tammy VerCauteren, Rich Iovanna; Completion Date: 1/19]
15. Contribute to the State of the Birds report on the Farm Bill [Lead: Tammy VerCauteren, Ashley Gramza; Completion Date: 8/17]
16. Work with the Priority Landscapes Committee to help with the integration of social science

information into the mapping exercise for the determination of priority landscapes for wetland and waterfowl conservation [Lead: Ashley Gramza; Completion date: Fall 2018]

17. Complete the guidance document “Integrating Human Dimensions into JV Implementation Plans” and post on the NABCI website [Lead: Jessica Barnes, Ashley Dayer, Ashley Gramza; Completion date: May 2019]