

2024 U.S. NABCI Summer Meeting (7 – 8 August 2024)

Overview

Day 1 (8/7)

9:00 am – 4:00 pm EST

Day 2 (8/8)

9:00 am – 1:00 pm EST

Theme

Evaluating Progress and Partnerships

Agenda in Brief

Wednesday (8/7)

9:00 am – Welcome and Chair Introductions

9:15 am – Coordinator Overview

9:30 am – Roundtable: USFWS and Partner Relationships

11:30 am – Workshop: Identifying Collaborative Opportunities to Reduce Light Pollution and Bird Building Collisions

12:30 pm – LUNCH (on your own)

1:45 pm – Roundtable: Progress Check for the 2022-27 Strategic Plan and Action Item Development

3:00 pm – Roundtable: Providing Guidance for Increased Federal Agency Involvement in US NABCI

4:00 pm – End of Day 1 Sessions; Additional Flex Time

4:30 pm – Happy Hour and Networking at The Dubliner

6:00 pm – End of Happy Hour

Thursday (8/8)

9:00 am – Roundtable: Moving Forward with a CIS Clearinghouse

10:00 am – Roundtable: Exploring an Updated Work Plan for the Monitoring Subcommittee

11:00 am – Workshop: Developing Key Conservation Messages for World Migratory Bird Day 2025

12:00 pm – Concluding Remarks; End of Public Sessions

12:15pm – Convene the Business Session

1:00 pm – End of Business Session; Additional Flex Time

Location

Hall of the States

444 N Capitol Street NW; Room 233

Lodging

Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill

525 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001

Phoenix Park Hotel

520 N Capitol Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Kimpton George Hotel
15 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Liaison Washington Capitol Hill
415 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill
400 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001

Fairfield Inn and Suites Washington DC/ Downtown
500 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Motto by Hilton Washington DC City Center
627 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Transportation

Nearest Metro Station

Union Station (Red Line)
Archives-Navy Memorial-Penn Quarter (Yellow and Green Lines)

Amtrak

Trains are available arriving and departing Union Station to multiple lines and destinations
<https://www.amtrak.com/stations/was>

Agenda in Full

Wednesday (8/7)

9:00 am – Welcome and Chair Introductions

Judy Camuso, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Jerome Ford, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

9:15 am – Coordinator Overview

Bradley Wilkinson, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Purpose: Provide a broad overview regarding the status of US NABCI, including recent accomplishments, developments in membership, meeting directions, and proposed goals.

Proposed Outcomes: Clearly define the goals of the meeting, recognize key contributions, set expectations, and align priorities for US NABCI.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 5: Unify communication to restore bird populations while ensuring communication is accessible and relevant to the broader community.

Subgoal 1: Coordinate science, policy, and communications to maximize our ability to meet objectives.

9:30 am – Roundtable: USFWS and Partner Relationships

Open Discussion

Purpose: Provide an opportunity for both federal and non-federal NABCI partners to constructively assess current partnerships given the budgetary realities facing both agencies and non-governmental organizations alike. The centering document for this discussion will continue to be the 2022-27 Strategic Plan. Given that funding for bird conservation has been and will likely continue to be either stagnant or in decline, this discussion will attempt to resolve how our partnership can best function under these conditions.

Proposed Outcomes: A document of recommendations focused on how federal agencies can better partner with other NABCI organizations in achieving bird conservation goals, and a document of recommendations focused on how NABCI organizations can better partner with federal agencies in achieving bird conservation goals.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 1: Facilitate unprecedented and authentic coalitions across the hemisphere to achieve strategic conservation.

Subgoal 3: Improve and enhance coordination with leadership across agencies and connect bird conservation priorities to emergent and ongoing opportunities, priorities, and initiatives.

A: Continue to elevate the bird loss crisis to federal agency leadership, making it an agency priority.

b: Promote and increase support of federal agency capacity to support bird conservation.

11:30 am – Workshop: Identifying Collaborative Opportunities to Reduce Light Pollution and Bird Building Collisions

Ruskin Hartley

Purpose: Building and sustaining momentum catalyzed during the USFWS Multi-Sector Summit to Address Light Pollution and Bird Collisions, the bird conservation community recognizes that “it will take intentional collaboration among a diverse group of partners to ensure bird-friendly practices are implemented at meaningful scales”. One of the organizations with which NABCI can partner to achieve desired outcomes is DarkSky International. The purpose of this workshop will be to identify specific areas where NABCI can contribute to the goals of DarkSky, and to identify specific areas where DarkSky can contribute to the goals of NABCI. A particular emphasis will be placed upon identifying areas of unique contribution. Recognizing that there are existing efforts to address light pollution and bird collisions, collaborative efforts should be non-duplicative, innovative, and address specific needs not being met elsewhere.

Proposed Outcomes: The identification of proposed actions which could contribute to achieving reductions in both light pollution and bird building collisions. Focused contributions should be novel, match the capacities of both organizations, and complement existing efforts.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 1: Facilitate unprecedented and authentic coalitions across the hemisphere to achieve strategic conservation.

Subgoal 2: Improve engagement with communities to amplify their voices as it relates to our shared environmental and social concerns.

C: Support new partners outside of bird conservation and provide a space to establish collaborative efforts to meet shared objectives.

12:30 pm – LUNCH (on your own)

1:45 pm – Roundtable: Progress Check for the 2022-27 Strategic Plan and Action Item Development
Open Discussion

Purpose: As US NABCI approaches the halfway point of the current five-year Strategic Plan, this discussion aims to provide a space for critical reflection of our progress as a Committee in achieving the goals of the Plan. The discussion will be informed by the results of an anonymous pre-meeting survey and will incorporate requested feedback. Each of the five Plan Goals will be evaluated in sequence.

Proposed Outcomes: The Committee will have a unified understanding of areas in need of improvement for achieving the five Plan Goals and recognize recent accomplishments that have advanced one or more Goals in the Strategic Plan. The Committee will create a document of actionable items that can be accomplished in the remainder of the five-year period that will address need areas.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

All: This discussion will involve the Strategic Plan in its entirety.

3:00 pm – Roundtable: Providing Guidance for Increased Federal Agency Involvement in US NABCI
Open Discussion

Purpose: In light of the need for US NABCI to better leverage existing partnerships on behalf of all birds, this discussion will allow the Committee an opportunity to dialogue with federal partners beyond the USFWS about how to most effectively contribute to the Goals of the Committee as stated in the 2022-27 Strategic Plan. Taken together, federal agencies (e.g., BLM, USFS, NRCS, DoD, etc.) steward millions of acres of land and influence the stewardship of millions more. How do agency goals and initiatives intersect with ours? What frameworks exist? What can NABCI provide to further common purpose?

Proposed Outcomes: Reduce confusion and uncertainty surrounding how federal agencies can most effectively be partners in achieving priority US NABCI objectives. The Committee will use the document created in the preceding session to support the development and delivery of actionable items to federal partners to better facilitate their involvement.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 3: Promote strategic conservation delivery guided by well-developed strategies and measured outcomes.

Subgoal 1: Champion road maps for population recovery.

D: Improve integration of bird initiative, species working group, and MBJV planning with formal federal and state planning efforts.

4:00 pm – End of Day 1 Sessions; Additional Flex Time

4:30 pm – Happy Hour and Networking at The Dubliner

The President's Bar room has been privately reserved from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Address: 520 N Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001

Thursday (8/8)

9:00 am – Roundtable: Framework Development for Conservation Investment Strategies

Open Discussion

Purpose: Building on Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan, this discussion will complement preliminary efforts to construct a web-based clearinghouse for Conservation Investment Strategies. This discussion will review the basic tenets of CIS and how a CIS may be used or developed, and explore best practices for producing and integrating CIS documents across the conservation community. Specific barriers to developing a web-based clearinghouse will be identified, and partnerships will be identified to address these barriers.

Proposed Outcomes: The outcome of this discussion will be a list of action items which will be used to guide the production of a web-based clearinghouse, and strategies for overcoming logistical and/or capacity challenges.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 2: Integrate and strengthen natural and social science capacity across the bird conservation community to support environmental and human wellbeing.

Subgoal 3: Enhance engagement with a broader suite of scientists outside of bird conservation from a diversity of agencies, university, and organizations.

Goal 3: Promote strategic conservation delivery guided by well-developed strategies and measured outcomes.

Subgoal 1: Champion road maps for population recovery.

C: Develop a standardized prioritization framework that informs Conservation Investment Strategies utilizing structured decision making.

10:00 am – Roundtable: Exploring an Updated Work Plan for the Monitoring Subcommittee

Viviana Ruiz-Gutierrez

Purpose: The Strategic Plan outlines the need for robust and active scientific engagement within the bird conservation community, including the leveraging of both long-term and emergent databases housing critical bird population information for the benefit of all partners. The Subcommittee best positioned to address these topics within NABCI is the Monitoring Subcommittee. The goal of this discussion will be to provide informed and collaborative guidance to the Monitoring Subcommittee to further their activities moving forward.

Proposed Outcomes: This discussion will be the basis for developing a new Work Plan crafted by and for the members of the Monitoring Subcommittee that meets the current needs of NABCI.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 2: Integrate and strengthen natural and social science capacity across the bird conservation community to support environmental and human wellbeing.

Subgoal 3: Enhance engagement with a broader suite of scientists outside of bird conservation from a diversity of agencies, universities, and organizations.

A: Assess and inventory science capacity and resources of NABCI partners to better align existing science capacity and identify and address gaps.

Subgoal 4: Elevate the need and application of standardized, long-term monitoring, including demographic monitoring.

11:00 am – Workshop: Developing Key Conservation Messages for World Migratory Bird Day 2025
Susan Bonfield

Purpose: Coordinated by Environment for the Americas and in collaboration with the international bird conservation community, World Migratory Bird Day presents an opportunity to raise awareness around critical issues impacting birds. Past campaigns have led to positive outcomes for decreasing light pollution, improving water quality, protecting insects, and much more. The theme for the 2025 World Migratory Bird Day is, 'Building Bird-Friendly Communities'. Key messages related to the theme are foundational for creating relevant campaign materials, such as calls to action, educational pamphlets, press releases, etc.

Proposed Outcomes: Assist Environment for the Americas in developing unified key messaging related to the theme of World Migratory Bird Day 2025 which can be shared by all partners. Provide written suggestions for how key messages can be scientifically accurate, relevant to a broad audience, impactful for birds, and address urgent challenges.

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed:

Goal 5: Unify communication to restore bird populations while ensuring communication is accessible and relevant to the broader community.

Subgoal 1: Coordinate science, policy, and communications to maximize our ability to meet objectives.

A: Facilitate unification of NABCI partner organization messaging and identify key messages to amplify through partner communications teams to the broader conservation community.

12:00 pm – Concluding Remarks; End of Public Sessions

12:15pm – Convene the Business Session

- Award Vote

1:00 pm – End of Business Session; Additional Flex Time