

The Future of Waterfowl Management Workshop

Framing Future Decisions for Linking Harvest, Habitat, and Human Dimensions

The Minneapolis Marriott City Center
Minneapolis, Minnesota
August 26-28, 2008

Purpose

Identify and elaborate the institutional needs and policy decisions necessary to improve the coherence of waterfowl habitat and harvest management. By “coherent framework” we mean a structured approach for making waterfowl management decisions that integrates current scientific understanding of waterfowl population dynamics, our collective ability to provide suitable habitats, and consideration of human elements such as hunter satisfaction. Such a framework would require identification of meaningful, measurable objectives that connect our goals for habitat conservation, harvest management, and stakeholder support and help us use our human and financial resources as efficiently as possible.

Outcomes

Some desired outcomes of the Workshop are:

- A collective understanding of how an enhanced coherent framework could produce meaningful benefits for administrators, managers, and hunters;
- Identification of key concerns and uncertainties (technical or policy-level) and how they can be adequately resolved;
- Agreement on a process for addressing longer-term issues, such as remaining Joint Task Group recommendations, or other needs as identified by participants;
- Policy decisions that could be considered by agencies and organizations with the appropriate authority.

Objectives

As a result of attending the Workshop, we want participants to:

- Know enough about the features and workings of a coherent framework to understand how enhanced coherence could lead to increased benefits for administrators, managers, and hunters.
- Feel that they have a stake and a responsibility in the outcome, and should play a role in enhancing coherence in waterfowl management.
- In their respective agencies and organizations; help identify and support the decisions and actions necessary to advance the habitat, harvest, and human dimensions components of a more coherent framework.

Tuesday, August 26

11:30 **Registration Opens in Registration Area outside of Ballrooms 3 & 4.**

12:45 **Registration Closes**

***All group sessions will be held in Ballrooms 3 & 4 on the 4th floor of the Marriott. Breakout sessions will held in various rooms on the 4th floor and will be shared during the workshop.

1:00 **Call to Order**

Welcome and Introductions

Seth Mott, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alan Wentz, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Welcome on behalf of Sponsors

John Frampton, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Workshop Content and Process

Dave Case, DJ Case & Associates

2:15 **An Incoherent Truth**

Steve Williams, Wildlife Management Institute

2:35 **A Look at the Past with Focus on the Future**

Ken Babcock, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

3:00 **Break**

*** The following presentations include 5 minutes of Q&A for each.

3:20 **From Concept to Implementation: Moving Towards Coherence in Waterfowl Management**

Jim Ringelman, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

3:40 **Harvest Management in an Integrated Framework**

Michael C. Runge, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

4:00 **Habitat Management in an Integrated Framework**

John Eadie, University of California, Davis; Michael Anderson, Ducks Unlimited Canada and Jim Ringelman, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

4:20 **Human Dimensions in an Integrated Framework**

Andy Raedeke, Missouri Department of Conservation and Dale Humburg, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

- 4:40 **Feedback on Day 1 and review Day 2 agenda**
- 5:00 **Reception & NAWMP Awards until 6:00 p.m. in Atrium**

Wednesday, August 27

- 8:00 **Convene as full group**
- 8:30 **Break out Session 1: Goals of Waterfowl Management**
- 9:45 **Break**
- 10:00 **Convene as full group**
- 10:50 **Break out Session 2: Challenges of Integration**
- Noon **Lunch in Atrium**
- 1:00 **Convene as full group**
- 2:00 **Break out Session 3: Moving Forward**
- 3:15 **Break**
- 3:45 **Convene as full group**
- 4:45 **Feedback on Day 2**
- 5:00 **Adjourn—dinner on your own**

Thursday, August 28

- 8:00 **Convene as full group**
- 8:15 **Summary presentations: Results from Days 1 and 2**
- 9:15 **Full group discussion: Workshop Outcomes, Potential Actions, and/or Recommendations**
- 10:15 **Break**
- 10:30 **Closing**
Paul Schmidt, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Doug Bliss, Canadian Wildlife Service and Dale Hall; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- 11:30 **Workshop evaluation and Wrap-up**
- Noon **Adjourn Workshop**