

NM All-bird Conservation Steering Committee Meeting
November 15, 2007

Attending: Gail Garber (Hawks Aloft), Tom Jervis (Audubon NM), David Krueper (USFWS), Christopher Rustay (PLJV), Janet Ruth (USGS), Hira Walker (NMDGF), Renae Held (NMDGF) – “the new Chuck Hayes”, ph. 476-8101

Email list – Walker has contacted eleven tribal agencies and is continuing through the list. For a few numbers where Walker’s phone has been restricted from calling she will try a different method. If this does not work, she will ask other folks to try to call those numbers. Charlie Lujan, with Ohkay Owinge, has extended an invitation to hold meetings there and give tours of tribal lands (riparian and WIFL work). The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center has a calendar which details all the holidays for tribal entities and is available for review for meeting determination. Mescalero hung up on her.

A variety of names for our reinvigorated group were reviewed and narrowed down to

- NM Avian Conservation Alliance
- NM Alliance for Avian Conservation
- NM Avian Conservation Partners
- NM Avian Conservation Partnership

After a web review of acronyms we eliminated the NMACA, and then eliminated NM Avian Conservation Partnership. After a vote we are the “New Mexico Avian Conservation Partners” (NMACP).

Brainstormed Ideas for General Meeting:

- Funding programs (including a how to)
- What’s on the website and the BCP
- Focus on priority species for the region where the meeting is being held and the recommendations that are in the BCP etc
- Bring up habitat work and pluses and minuses of doing work for all birds involved
- Climate Change in New Mexico (agreed that this would take a lot more work and should be considered in the future; also noted that Sandy Williams will be talking about this at the next NMOS annual meeting.)
- Re-Introduction of the NMACP effort, tools that are currently available, linkages and history of bird conservation in New Mexico and nationally and how our state can “fit” nationally
- Discussion of our prioritization effort and brainstorming what we can do with our partners for each of the elements.
- Have a retrospective of things that have been done in the state.
- Present a straw list of workgroups that are needed, add any that are raised, and ask for volunteers to be part of particular workgroups
- NM Avian Protection Group – outreach groups – presenting a model for outreach
- Introduction of RMBO’s stock tank ladders to prevent raptor stock tank drownings, an example of Best Management Practices (agreed that this was more appropriate to post on the website)

For all topics – show how partners can use the information.

Held talked about NE experience where 1 general state-wide meeting of the Nebraska Partnership for All-bird Conservation per year was capacity building (funding, volunteers, grantsmanship, how to make partnerships more effective, etc.); and 1 meeting per year was research, topical,

management issues. Capacity Building, Communications –internal and external, Education, Conservation Strategies and Implementation, Science Advisory, Birding Trails and Tourism,

Krueper mentioned developing a NM Strategic Plan for projects, research, monitoring, etc. similar to what the Western Working Group (WWG) has developed. Or knowing how NM may be able to fit within WWG plans, and projects.

For the meeting we want to ensure that folks understand who NMACP is and where it is heading, what the value of the group is to folks participating, and that there are assignments to engage partners before they leave. We want folks to be invigorated and excited.

Do we want to think of a logo for NMACP? What about announcing a contest for a logo at the general meeting?

A draft agenda for general meeting:

I. Introduction

- 1) Re-introduction/history of NM Partners in Flight and the current NMACP reincarnation,
- 2) Quick review of the four bird plans – Ruth will find and update the document from the NM All-bird workshop
- 3) A review of how the plans are operating structurally in the US
- 4) introduction of NMACP Steering Committee structure and process
- 5) A look at the Website
- 6) BCP review

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II. Priorities/Directions for NMACP

- 7) Report out of WWG – how NM ties in - Krueper
- 8) NMACP priority needs elements discussion (what have we missed?)
- 9) working groups defined with a NMACP Steering Committee member on each group
- 10) Signup for committees

III. Priority Bird Species – Needs/Issues

11) Choose a relatively unknown species (i.e. not SW Willow Flycatcher) and outline the habitat needs and management issues associated with it.

IV. Funding Opportunities

- 12) Implementation (success) stories (emphasis on how success was achieved rather than on the success itself) – potential for Zuni pueblo and riparian work, first standard NAWCA on Rio Grande, other ideas?
- 13) Funding Program outline –NAWCA (Rustay) SWG funds (Walker or Held?)

Ensure throughout our talks that we demonstrate how participation in NMACP is useful to participants and/or how programs apply to the participant.

We will review Vision, Mission and Objectives via e-mail over the next month.

Next meeting will be on Dec. 13, 2007 at 8:00am in Albuquerque at a place TBD.