

Minutes of the Illinois Fish and Wildlife Action Team's 2nd Meeting Nov 15, 2006

Meeting: 10 AM - Noon Lakeview Room A
IDNR building One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL.

Members Present: Leslie Sgro, Mike Conlin, Joel Cross, James Renn, Mike Redmer, Tom Clay, Thomas Trent, Jack Darin, Steve Chard, Randy Nyboer, Gregg Good, Randy Heidorn, Brenda Potts, Gene Barickman, Tom Schartz, Traci Barkley, Mel Gajewski, Kevin Bennett, Brad Thomas, Steve Widowski, Nick Giannettino, Donald King, John Buhnerkempe, Tim Schweizer

INTRODUCTIONS / CALL TO ORDER.....Leslie Sgro, Wildlife Action Team Chair

- a. First Meeting Summary/Comments
- b. Overview of Agenda

An update of the current participants of the Action Team workgroups was discussed and leads are still needed for some of the workgroups (Streams; Forests; Wetlands; Invasive Species and Green Cities)

Interstate coordination – A brief review of the conservation activities with other states / Doris Duke Funding with AFWA, TWW & MAFWA – confluence of the IL MO and Mississippi rivers as well as work being done along the upper Mississippi in coordination between Wisconsin and Illinois.

Updates to the Action Plan were discussed with respect to the Flora update via research work by Southern Illinois Univ.

The status of the IDNR MATS / BATS system was updated.

IDNR Workgroup Update on the formation and first meeting of the IDNR workgroup and it's being divided into three sub groups, Public, Private and Applied Science and the leads of each one. Other IDNR personnel assigned to various Conservation Initiatives were listed.

Mike Conlin is the chair of the IDNR workgroup and will report back to the Action Team the results of the 2nd IDNR workgroup meeting, which will be held before the end of this year.

Joel Cross updated the team on the progress of setting up a “wiki” website. He explained the Central Management System parameters that IDNR must operate within which means that IDNR will be using a software program that CMS has agreed will meet the needs of a “wiki” website. That Microsoft software is called “SharePoint”. It

is server based and also has the capability of offering a Survey function as well. Joel said that the Charter has been submitted to CMS and that IDNR is in the process of recording all of the names of the 150 organizations so that user names and passwords can be assigned and that the webpage should be operational very soon.

Jim Renn updated the IDNR effort in reviewing a survey option called SurveyMonkey and a copy of the Survey had been distributed to each team member for comment. Only a few team members responded with comments and most of those comments were that the Survey was too long. Suggestions that the Survey be released by Conservation Initiative were presented and Leslie Sgro suggested that all of the Conservation Initiatives be listed on a webpage but that the user could pick the Survey that they wanted to take at that time. It was agreed that IDNR would go back to the drawing table and come back with a solution that was more user friendly.

The team was updated on the new 8 page Executive Summary of the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan that is at the printers right now and will be available for distribution to the team members very soon. This media piece is a great tool to help promote the Wildlife Action Plan in Illinois.

Guest Presentation: John Buhnerkempe (Chief, IDNR Division of Wildlife) and Tom Schwartz (Pheasants Forever Quail Forever) presented an overview of the project in which they are involved which addresses the action items within the Southern Till and Grand Prairie Conservation Initiatives as an example of work toward the Implementation Phase of the Plan.

Different funding opportunities, State Projects, Interstate Projects, NGO Grants, the Illinois Environmental Council and Doris Duke Funding, were discussed.

Leslie Sgro talked about the teams Next Steps / Meeting Summary and **next meeting date was set for Feb 7th 2007 at the IDNR bldg in Springfield, IL.**

Adjournment

Illinois Fish and Wildlife Action Team