

## **Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Climate Change Technical Working Committee Report**

**Meeting Time and Place** – Due to travel restrictions in many states, it was not possible for the entire committee to meet face-to-face in 2010 or spring of 2011. However, several members of the technical committee did meet as part of the Midwest Climate Workshop sponsored by AFWA. That meeting was held December 11, 2010, in Minneapolis, MN.

**Attendance** - 6 attendees representing 6 Midwest members states (see Appendix 1 for list of attendees), in addition to

**Executive Summary** – This technical committee is working to define its mission and its role within MAFWA. The meeting held in conjunction with AFWA’s Midwest Climate Workshop provided a forum for discussion of the most effective use of this newly formed technical working committee (see Appendix 2 for meeting agenda). The members feel that the committee can serve MAFWA by coordinating with the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, assisting in regional adaptation planning efforts, fostering multi-state collaborations on climate adaptation projects, assisting other technical committees with climate-related issues, and possibly organizing a Midwestern climate summit.

**Director Action Items** – No actions by the directors are requested at this time.

**Director Information Items** –

- A statement of purpose for the technical committee has been drafted (see Appendix 3).
- The committee recommends adding the following representatives from their respective states to this Technical Working Committee:
  - i. Kansas – either Brad Simpson or Steve Adams
  - ii. Michigan – either Tammy Newcomb or Christopher Hoving

**Time and Place of Next Meeting** – Due to travel restrictions in many member states, it is uncertain whether we will be able to have a face-to-face meeting in 2011. If we cannot meet in person, we will meet via conference call.

## **Appendix 1**

### Attendee List:

\*James Renn (IL)  
\*Katie Smith (IN)  
Kim Bogenschutz (IA)  
\*Katy Reeder (IA)  
Steve Adams (KS)  
Brad Simpson (KS)  
Pat Lederle (MI)  
\*Kathy DonCarlos (MN)  
Mike Larson (MN)  
Ann Peirce (MN)  
Don Periera (MN)  
Brian Stenquist (MN)  
\*John Schulz (MO)  
Rick Schneider (NE)  
Jeff Lusk (NE)  
\*John Lott (SD)  
Jack Sullivan (WI)  
Karl Martin (WI)  
Olivia LeDee (UW-Madison)  
Rick Nelson (USFWS)  
Robin O'Malley (USGS)  
Linda Parker (USFS)  
Arpita Choudhury (AFWA)

(Members of the Climate Change Technical Working Committee denoted with an asterisk)

## Appendix 2

### AGENDA

#### MAFWA CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE MEETING - 12 /11/2010

(2:15 pm – 5:00 pm)

1. Welcome/Introductions Brian Stenquist
  
2. Background and Purpose of the Session Katy Reeder
  - a. explore/decide the functions, membership, leadership for the Committee
  - b. get to know each other better
  - c. share insights on climate change work in the midwest
  
3. Pre-Meeting Survey Questions Arpita Choudhury
  - a. pre-meeting survey results
  - b. “run it in real time”
  - c. discussion
  
4. Possible Functions, Membership, Leadership Katy Reeder
  - a. possible functions – policy analysis - letters for directors ?  
technical analysis – reports for agencies’ staff ?  
liaison/networking within MAFWA ?  
coordinating regional work ?  
other ?
  - b. membership – who from the states? Non-state members?
  - c. possible leadership – host state/chair; next year host state/co-chair ?
  
5. Next Steps Group Consent
  - a. these functions – What, if any, policy analysis-letters for the directors to pursue? How to organize?  
What, if any, technical analysis? How to organize?  
What, if any, liaison/networking functions? How to organize?  
What, if any, coordinating work? How to organize?  
What, if anything, else? How to organize?
  - b. this membership – who’s on?
  - c. this leadership – chair – Katy?; co-chair - ?
  
6. Final Thoughts Individual Participants

## Appendix 3

### MAFWA Climate Change Committee Statement of Purpose

Climate Change can serve as an impetus to generate increased cooperative conservation planning across state lines in order to achieve a more ecosystem-based approach. Planning across state lines has always been a challenge due to different mandates, authorities and missions of natural resource agencies. Due to the broad-scale nature of climate change predictions and climate processes, a more proactive and cooperative approach will be necessary to successfully protect and manage Midwestern natural resources into the future. Our cooperation in this effort will demonstrate the effectiveness of state-based conservation in meeting current and future challenges.

MAFWA member states are taking a variety of approaches to adaptation planning for climate change. Most Midwestern states are still in the early to middle stages of adaptation planning. At this time, there is considerable opportunity to help member states by sharing information, and to improve the success of adaptation planning across the region through cooperation. The MAFWA Climate Change Committee will function as MAFWA's principal forum for discussion, gathering information and/or identifying actions relative to all aspects of climate change as it relates to fish and wildlife.

The MAFWA Climate Change Committee will be responsible for:

- Increasing coordination and communication among Midwestern states on key climate change related issues. This includes:
  - Supporting regional efforts to develop strategies to manage the effects of climate related changes to fish and wildlife habitats.
  - Identifying cross cutting issues that require multi-state coordination and collaboration.
  - Creating a network of Midwestern climate change contacts that will work together to share information.
  - Working with MAFWA's State Wildlife Action Plan Technical Working Committee to integrate climate change and regional climate change planning into State Wildlife Action Plans.
  - Identifying regional approaches for fish and wildlife monitoring, evaluation, and management responses.
- Providing a venue to share information with state, federal, and provincial partners, as well as other conservation partners to improve development, integration, and implementation of fish and wildlife conservation plans and habitat objectives into state and federal agency planning.
- Assist AFWA's efforts to provide training for state fish and wildlife managers to develop strategies to address climate change by listing desired outcomes.
- Advancing priorities or actions for discussion and consideration by the designated committee(s) within AFWA and MAFWA.
- Upon request, reviewing white papers advanced by other MAFWA committees for consideration of climate change.