

**2015 Maine Wildlife Action Plan
Steering Committee – Meeting #2
October 16, 2014
Viles Arboretum, Augusta**

Attendees: Barry Burgason (MFPC), Judy Camuso (MDIFW), Phillip deMaynadier (MDIFW), Tom Doak (SWOAM), Molly Docherty (MNAP), Jeff Norment (NRCS), Amanda Shearin (MDIFW), Mark Stadler (MDIFW), Sally Stockwell (Maine Audubon), Charlie Todd (MDIFW), Angela Twitchell (BTLT), Barbara Vickery (TNC), Nate Webb (MDIFW), Jed Wright (USFWS)

1. Additional representation on steering committee

Northern Maine: Andy Whitman suggested that the committee have greater representation from Northern Maine. He suggested the following:

Jensen Bissell or Jean Hoekwater, Baxter State Park
Aaron Megquier, friends of Baxter State Park
Peter Lowell, Lakes Education Association
Matt Libby, Libby Sporting Camps
Steve Young, former Fraser wildlife biologist
Tom Pelletier, broadly-based knowledge of the NMW and wildlife

The committee decided that such representation was better suited to the conservation partner group. **MDIFW** will review this list and invite individuals as appropriate.

Post meeting action: MDIFW invited Jean Hoekwater to participate in the action plan update during the initial outreach to conservation partners. **Mark Stadler** will contact Steve Young to ask him to participate as a conservation partner representing Northern Maine.

Maine tribes: **Amanda Shearin** will talk with the Fred Corey [Aroostook Band of MicMac Indians], Sharri Venno [Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians], John Sewell [Passamaquoddy Tribe: Indian Township Reservation], Marvin Cling [Passamaquoddy Tribe: Pleasant Point Reservation], and Kristin Peet [Penobscot Nation] to ask them to select a representative for the committee.

Agriculture: The committee considered the following:

Dave Bell, Wyman Blueberries
Don Flannery, Maine Potato Board
Dave Lavway, Maine Dept. of Conservation, Agriculture, and Forestry
Tom Gordon, Soil and Water Conservation District
thomas.u.gordon@myfairpoint.net.
Maine Farm Bureau
Maine Organic Gardeners and Farmers Ass'n

After discussion the committee decided that agricultural interests would likely defer until the development of conservation actions. **MDIFW** will invite agricultural interests to be involved in the development and review of conservation actions.

Post meeting action: MDIFW invited Jon Olson, Maine Farm Bureau, to participate in the action plan update during the initial outreach to conservation partners. **Mark Stadler** will invite Dave Lavway to participate as a conservation partner representing agricultural interests.

Marine: **Charlie Todd** will invite Claire Enterline, DMR, to participate. Claire may need funding assistance to participate.

2. Maine WAP / SGCN species: consideration of flora [Refer to Barbara's email of 10/02, sent to steering committee]

The committee considered whether flora should receive SGCN designation; if flora should be entered into the action plan fauna database to create a holistic database; and the role that flora [non-habitat] should have in the action plan.

Committee members held differing views on each of these considerations. After discussion the committee decided that 1] flora would not be designated as SGCN, 2] MNAP would add flora listed on Maine's threatened and endangered plant list to the MDIFW / DMR faunal database, and 3] that flora would be considered in the action plan to the extent that it helps to prioritize conservation actions for SGCN or SGCN habitats, including the identification of Focus Areas. Flora and their habitat associations will be included in the action plan as an appendix.

3. Operational charter

The committee reviewed and discussed the 10/16 draft of the operational charter. Much of the discussion centered around decision-making. **Mark Stadler** will consolidate the comments and prepare a revised draft for committee review.

4. Launching public outreach & communication plan Deferred to next meeting

5. November 18 conservation partner meeting, Spectacular Events Center, Bangor

The committee requested that **MDIFW** seek outside peer review of habitat associations, and simultaneously commence discussion of habitat prioritization. It also asked **MDIFW** to provide it with a draft proposal for the mechanism to prioritize habitats.

The committee discussed the agenda and format for the 3rd conservation partner meeting.

Goals:

- Further consideration and wrap-up of SGCN habitat associations, element 2
- Introduction to criteria used to assess SGCN / habitat stressors, element 3
 - Review, discuss stressor assessment for priority 1 SGCN
 - Review, discuss stressor assessment for habitats
- Discuss process that the partners will use to prioritize 1) habitats and 2) habitat-stressors for conservation action.

Format:

- Morning plenary
- Two rounds of afternoon breakout groups
 - SGCN priority 1 threat assessment
 - Habitat threat assessment
- Breakout groups reports
- Element 4, conservation actions
- Wrap up discussion

6. Action Plan timeline and progress to date
Deferred

7. Archived AFWA/TWW SWAP webinars
Deferred

8. Next meeting: 9:00 – 12:00, November 20, 2014, at MDIFW