

WHSRN-US Committee

Teleconference Notes – 3 October 2017

Present: Alex, Brad, Darrin, Joe, Khara, Monica, Rob

1. The Terms of Reference were reviewed and accepted. We discussed the need to work with WHSRN Executive Office to soften the language with regards to the “Agreements of the Landowner(s)” criteria in the nomination package. There was also discussion about how the landowner criteria apply to landscape nominations, where there are a lot of landowners. There was also a question about the structure and relationship of WHSRN, the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Partnership Council, and WHSRN-US.

Action: Draft replacement language for landowner criteria to be considered by the WHSRN Executive Office and Hemispheric Council. Intent is to have it applicable across the hemisphere and available on the WHSRN website. Brad. by 10 October 2017. Send recommendation to Rob Clay, copied to USSCP Council. Rob, by 16 October 2017.

Action: Current WHSRN-US members are listed a revised Terms of Reference, and a diagram of the structure and relationships among WHSRN, WHSRN-US, and USSCP Council has also been added (attached with these notes).

Action: In the work plan, provided documents for actions to be taken by the USSCP Council. Brad and Rob by 16 October 2017.

3. We discussed the task to review potential WHSRN sites in U.S. to identify those not in the network that meet the numerical criteria at the hemispheric or international levels. For the % of biogeographic populations that meet hemispheric or international criteria, we agreed to focus on non-ESA listed taxa of “Greatest Concern”, as indicated in the Shorebirds of Conservation Concern in the United States of America — 2016.

The following immediate actions were identified (by 5 November 2017):

- a. Review previous work on potential USA sites that meet hemispheric or international numeric criteria. Brad.
- b. Compile information on wintering concentrations of American Oystercatchers in the USA. Thresholds are: 110 (regional), 1,100 (international), 3,300 (hemispheric). Alex
- c. Determine if concentrations areas for staging Bar-tailed Godwits and Bristle-thighed Curlews are covered by potential or existing numerical sites in Alaska. Brad
- d. Compile information on wintering concentrations of *roselaari* Red Knots along the Pacific Coast. Thresholds are: 218 (regional), 2,180 (international), 6,540 (hemispheric). Brad, with input from Joe.

e. Defer action on Snowy, Wilson's and Mountain Plovers and American Oystercatcher until more detailed discussion of landscape delineation.

4. We discussed the need to increase communication with site partners and to develop a functional learning network. Currently, Manomet does not have a formal forum or network for management workshop participants, although Monica has a large email contact list. The idea was forwarded to use existing platforms, to the greatest extent possible, to enhance network communications. The WHSRN (<http://www.whsrn.org/>) and U.S. Shorebird Plan (<https://www.shorebirdplan.org/>) websites were suggested as two possible platforms. We need to know how WHSRN site managers and other management partners want to engage to develop a thriving communication network that provides benefits to participants. The Integrated Waterbird Management and Monitoring program was suggested as a possible example to review (<http://iwmmprogram.org/technical-user-blog/>). Besides the communication forum, there is a need to deposit documents and other materials, such as the revised shorebird management manual, that will be useful to shorebird managers.

Action: Check into the possibility of building forum and repository features into the WHSRN website. Monica, by 5 November 2017

Action: Share any “thriving” communication forum examples with committee members. All.

Action: Confirm site contacts for distribution of materials and letter of site support by WHSRN-US. Brad and Rob, by 5 November 2017.

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Action: Contact Bowdoin and Benton Lake NWRs (Montana), specifically, to inquire about how WHSRN-US can help them learn more about shorebirds use their refuges. Brad, Rob and Darrin, by 5 November 2017.