**2023 Atlantic Colonial Waterbird Breeding Survey Planning Workshop Agenda and Outline**

LaQuinta Inn and Suites

300 S. Salisbury Blvd

Salisbury, Maryland 21801

LaQuinta Ballroom

November 6, 2019; 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Purpose of this Workshop**: To develop and initiate a planning process for a 2023 large-scale, coordinated Colonial Waterbird (CWB) breeding survey focused on the North American Atlantic Flyway. Below the agenda is an outline, which further details the Workshop’s purpose and approach. Please come prepared by reviewing the outline ahead of time.

**Agenda:**

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| **Time** | **Topic** | **Presenter** |
| 10:00 AM | Welcome, Housekeeping, and Introductions | Boettcher/All |
| 10:30 AM | Overview of the 2023 CWB survey planning, steps completed to date and Workshop approach | Boettcher |
| 11:00 AM | Group Discussion Topic #1: Methodology | All |
| 12:00 PM | Lunch on site (to be provided) |  |
| 1:00 PM | Group Discussion Topic #1: Methodology (cont.) | All |
| 1:45 PM | Group Discussion Topic #2: Data Management | All |
| 2:45 PM | Break |  |
| 3:00 PM | Group Discussion Topic #2: Data Management (cont.) | All |
| 3:30 PM | Group Discussion #3: Overall Funding Needs and Sources | All |
| 4:30 PM | Review of identified Workshop committees & action items | Spiegel & Boettcher |
| 5:00 PM | Adjourn |  |

**CWB Survey Planning Workshop Outline**

**Workshop Objectives:**

1. Identify and address major issues and associated tasks that need to be considered, decided upon and completed prior to the implementation of the survey.
2. Compile information necessary to draft a rough timeline for issues and tasks that need to be decided upon and completed.
3. Clarify who needs to be involved (e.g., subject experts, decision makers) at different points in the planning process.
4. Begin identifying existing resources that can help with additional planning.

*Keep in mind throughout the discussions that the 2023 survey will serve as a template and launching pad for regular, recurrent surveys beyond 2023.*

**Justification and need for large-scale, coordinated CWB breeding surveys**

* + To establish regional (and broader) population trends that take into account local and regional interchange of breeding adults among colonies;
  + To document shifts in distribution and habitat use over time;
  + To inform CWB management decisions at multiple spatial scales (local, state/provincial, regional, flyway, national); and
  + To measure effects of CWB management actions (*e.g*., permitted take of colonial nesting conflict species) and CWB conservation actions (*e.g*., predation management, beach closures, signage, habitat restoration) at multiple spatial scales.

**Workshop Approach**

Following an introductory presentation that will set the stage for the Workshop, we will engage in group discussions from which we will gather and log ideas, suggestions and expertise on key issues pertaining to the planning of a recurrent, large-scale coordinated CWB survey. Workshop discussions will address three major topics: Methodology, Data Management, and Overall Funding Needs and Sources. For each topic, the group will be asked a series of general questions designed to solicit guidance on how to best address a series of issues (see lists below) in a timely and logical fashion. Not all questions will be applicable to each issue. Be prepared to propose new issues and associated questions, as necessary. If progress has been made on an issue, a brief description of the work completed will be provided.

**Discussion Topic #1: Methodology**

Associated Issues:

* Geographical extent of the survey (*e.g.,* Atlantic coasts states and provinces, Atlantic and Gulf coast provinces and states, other)\*
* Geographical coverage of the survey (coastal only or coastal and inland)
* Survey species (all CWB species or select priority species only)\*
* Survey frequency (once every *x* number of years)\*
* Survey methods
* Data collection methods (*e.g.,* sub-sampling for some species, geographic areas, etc.; determination of common metrics, parameters, etc.)
* Ensuring survey results inform CWB management decisions to the greatest extent possible and at multiple spatial scales\*
* Needs for difficult-to-survey species

\*Issues for which progress has been made.

**Discussion Topic #2: Data Management**

Associated Issues:

* CWB survey objectives at multiple scales
* Data and tools necessary to meet CWB survey objectives at multiple scales
* Long term (or permanent) CWB data storage, access, sharing and management\*

\*Issues for which progress has been made.

**Discussion Topic #3: Overall Funding Needs and Sources**

Associated Issues:

* Survey resource (technicians, boats, etc.) and funding needs, by state or province
* Potential resource and survey funding sources (state/provincial/federal contributions, grants, etc.)
* Funding needs for data entry, proofing and analyses per survey, by state or province
* Funding needs for long term data management and storage\*

\*Issues for which progress has been made.

**General questions to consider for issues under each topic**:

1. What do we need to know or figure out to address this issue?
2. Are there partnering organizations or individuals with relevant expertise that need to be consulted to help address this issue? If so, which organizations and/or individuals?
3. Is funding required to address this issue?
4. Do we need to get state/provincial and/or federal buy-in to accept, adopt and/or fund this issue?
5. What is the timeline for deciding upon, defining or coming to a conclusion on this issue (start date and end dead)?
6. Does this issue require a stand-alone committee? If so, any volunteers to chair or co-chair?
7. What tasks need to be completed to fully address this issue? Who will be responsible for ensuring that they are completed?

***Many thanks for your participation!***