**SCAW-WG Webinar—Action Items and Decisions**

4 May 2017

10 AM – 2:30 PM EST

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**Upcoming Meeting Notices:**

Next SCAW-WG webex will be held and during the month of October (and before the 2017 Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative meeting). This webex will focus on regional sub-group reports on progress made on the following next steps: (1) membership (and leadership) recruitment; (2) regionally-specific short and long-term goals; and (3) selection of regional focal species.

Next Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative (AMBC) meeting will be two half-day webexs between Sept and Nov; no joint meeting with WBS due to location in Iceland. Current plan is for 2018 AMBC meeting to be held in conjunction with the annual Waterbird Society meeting.

**Agreed-upon changes to:**

* Mission Statement
  + US gulf coast will involve Mexico; remove “US” in mission statement
  + Discussion about role of research and outreach; decided that current language accommodates foundation in science-based information, and that outreach component can be elaborated in a topical subgroup and in goals/objectives
* Structure
  + Edit Gulf Coast subgroup from “FL-TX” to “FL-MEX”
  + Discussion about how to add topic committees to structure; Ruth will propose a way of doing this in particular for long-lasting committees (e.g. data management)
* Geographic scope and subgroups
  + Edit maps and descriptions of WG scope to include Mexico
  + Reconfigure subgroups from 4 to 5; northeast split into CAN-MA and RI-NY
  + Question arose as to how spatially extensive the WG should involve Atlantic Canada? Include Labrador and Newfoundland? The Upper Northeast subgroup will work on how far north the sub region goes.
  + Similar questions for the Gulf Coast which is large geographically and diverse biologically; same managers generally though; split biologically at Louisiana (east/west); JV boundaries?; Cuba?; subgroups are relatively autonomous. The Gulf Coast subgroup will work on how this should be defined and will engage with Mexican managers. For now will leave as Gulf Coast (broad). Ricardo and Janell will help figure out Florida boundary.
* Long term goals
  + Add a new goal to include interest in management of prey base. Possible language: *Facilitate linking seabird population trends to fisheries data and management, and other sources of prey base information.*
  + At a broad scale, interested in managing and conserving seabirds where they use coastal (as opposed to at-sea) habitats. Possible language to amend goal #6: *Facilitate linking seabird breeding population trends to nearshore staging and migration habitats, and to offshore seabird abundance and distribution.*
* Short term goals
  + Include guidance documents to obtain for monitoring efforts in short-term goal #1
  + Make a new goal of promoting coordination and implementation of seabird surveys within 2018-2020
  + Another new goal to evaluate existing seabird abundance information within SCAW-WG and report out; identify questions and next steps. Possible to expand MANEM to other regions? Work on this will be done within subgroups and will include goal setting, identifying commonalities across regions, and sharing approaches.
* Focal Species
  + Keep list as is for now (LETE, COTE, BLSK, DCCO, LAGU); subgroups will work on priority species list and will better define goals for having focal species across region as well as within subgroup.
* Next steps
  + Regional sub-groups work on increasing membership; Ruth will send members contact info to subgroup leads; coordinate with other efforts known to subgroup members
  + Subgroups work on short and long-term goals; break this out
  + Regional subgroups develop focal species lists and identify which ones would benefit from having regional perspective—deadline 15 Oct
  + Develop a data management committee that is comprised of members from each regional subgroup (sharing data, ease of access, exploring centralized database/data portal options); volunteers or suggestions of members should be sent to Ruth ([ruth.boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:ruth.boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov)).
  + Develop a place to share documents etc—sharepoint; website?
  + Coordinate the 2018 northeast colonial waterbird survey (all colonial species); focus on complete breeding surveys of focal species; form a committee for coordination—send email to Ruth ([ruth.boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:ruth.boettcher@dgif.virginia.gov)).
  + Ruth will send out co-leads and contact info
  + Avian assessment database—all birds; WG members can review status scores; if interested, members should contact Caleb Spiegel ([caleb\_spiegel@fws.gov](mailto:caleb_spiegel@fws.gov)).