

## GRASSLAND WORKING GROUP REPORT

**Chair: Bill White (MO)**

**Vice-Chair: Greg Link (ND)**

The Grassland Working Group met 10:45 AM on September 11, 2020, with 62 in attendance. Chair Bill White open the meeting with a review of the agenda which consisted primarily of reports from the team addressing our GAP Analysis and assessment of North American Grassland Conservation efforts.

Jim Giocomo, Oaks and Prairie Joint Venture, and Amanda Haverland, ABC, updated the group on the progress made toward addressing the Working Group tasks and the GAP Analysis of grassland conservation efforts. Of concern discovered during the analysis was that around half of states were not addressing grassland SGCN in their SWAP plans

Tammy VerCauteren, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, discussed the results of the Central Flyway Grassland Road Summit virtually held in August with a long-term look at future efforts in the flyway.

Jane Fitzgerald, Central Hardwoods Joint Venture gave an update on the Mississippi Flyway Grassland Roadmap Summit which is planned to be held virtually in December and will concentrate on 3-5 year objectives for the flyway.

Plans are to have a report ready for the Bird Conservation Committee during the North American with recommended actions to be addressed in the future.

Discussion was held on the need to keep the Grassland Working Group active after the assigned tasks are completed to in part help implement action items in our final report and coordinate efforts among the states and partners. A recommendation will be developed for the March 2021 Bird Conservation Committee to consider.

Several attendees expressed hope for the future of grassland conservation because of the working group's progress and the interest indicated from the high attendance during the meeting.

The meeting concluded with reports from partners:

Aviva Glaser- Update on the North American Grasslands Conservation Act proposal

Jef Hodges- An update and membership appeal for the Native Grasslands Alliance

And activities of the North American Grouse Partnership

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.