

AFWA Grassland Work Group



- Develop a NATIONAL resolution outlining the crisis and prioritizing grassland birds conservation
- Facilitate evaluation of tri-national grassland habitats & bird conservation efforts
- Develop an NCN to address grassland bird conservation needs
- AFWA encourage prioritization of grassland birds conservation

How did we get here

AFWA 2016 BCC meeting

- Talk on loss of grasslands- WWF Plow Print report
- Talk on loss of grassland birds across the 8 JVs (CAN, US, MX) (3 lowest funded) - Central and Mississippi Flyways
- PIF landbird report and half life for several grassland birds
- Grassland Work Group



ASSOCIATION *of*
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES



NCN Proposal

- Partners put in proposal for Grassland NCN- gap analysis for grassland conservation efforts
- 2 Workshops for Central and Mississippi Flyways included to build off gap analysis
- Workshop for Central Flyway modeled after NABCI priorities



Grassland in PLJV, Ashley Gramza



Cattle grazing in TX, Ashley Gramza





National Community Approach

- On behalf of AFWA grassland Subcommittee ABC/OPJV hired Grassland Conservation Associate
- Workshop for Central Flyway-- Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit-- USFWS Region 6 Leadership
- Mississippi workshop happening too
 - Chair, Bill White Missouri Dept of Conservation (**Grassland Subcommittee session 2:30pm Tues**)



NABCI PRIORITIES

Elevating Grasslands as a Community

- Increasing coordination between federal and state partners
- Diversifying partnerships, leveraging \$\$
- Many priority actions outlined align with grassland conservation needs
- Created framework - Grassland challenges overlap with all 5 themes from priority document

The 2020 Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit

A Conservation Roadmap for the Future

3-DAY SUMMIT

to identify the tri-national objectives needed to sustain grasslands for generations to come.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

Conservation leaders in

- ▶ Canada
- ▶ Mexico
- ▶ United States

5 MAJOR THEMES

ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

ADDRESSING THREATS

POLICY AND FUNDING

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION



When:

Aug 4-6, 2020



Where:

Fort Collins, CO





Update

- Planning team assembled across 8-cross section of community players
- Federal, State, NGO, Foundations, Industry, Private lands, Tribal, Academia
- First Planning Call, September 5th,

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A Conservation
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Planning Team Members

- **States**

- Jeff Raasch (TPWD)
- Catherine Wightman (MFP)
- Brant Kirychuk (Saskatchewan)

- **Federal**

- Brian Smith (USFWS Reg 6)
- Greg Butcher (USFS Intl)
- Bob Ford (USFS, PIF Coord)
- Barry Robinson (CWS)
- Tate Lantz (NRCS-SD)
- Astrid Martinez (NRCS – WY)
- Humberto Berlanga (CONABIO)

- **Private Landowners**

- Steve Jester- Partners for conservation
- ACES or South Dakota Grasslands Coalition

- **Academia**

- Recommendations

- **Tribal**

- Recommendations

Planning Team Members

- **Non-governmental**

- Tammy VerCauteren- Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
- Jim Giocomo- Oaks and Prairies JV/American Bird Conservancy
- Alison Holloran- Audubon Rockies
- Kevin Ellison- WWF

- **Industry**

- Josh DeMorrett- ConocoPhillips
- Excel or Tri-state

- **Foundations**

- Seth Gallagher- NFWF
- Jesse Beckers- North Dakota Resource Trust

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Next Steps

- Each planning team member will communicate within their broader network
- Help gather existing documents and plan 3-day summit
- Raise funds to help support facilitation, coordination, meeting space, food and travel support
- NCN does provide some resources for state travel and workshop implementation

The 2020 Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit
A Conservation Roadmap for the Future



Outcome

- Decision-makers and experts from 3 countries, 20 states/provinces
- Develop a Unified roadmap that informs how the diverse community operates
- Commitment to advance science priorities, conservation investment strategies and policies for next 10 years
- Evaluation strategy to ensure we stay on target

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Get involved

- Let us know if you want to get communications between planning call
- Provide list of folks you recommend being invited to summit (leaders and experts)
- Funding to help support
- NABCI endorsed Summit
- AFWA –Grassland Subcommittee endorse Summit

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