

Appendix Q. Conservation Organization Survey

Summary of Results from the November of 2013 survey

The survey was sent to the original list of partners from the 2005 CWS plus any new partners that had been identified at the time. It was posted on the DFW website; news releases and direct email messages were sent out inviting conservation organizations to participate. We had 86 unique partner organizations respond to the survey.

1. Briefly describe the goals of your organization. (e.g. to restore 50 acres of wetlands per year, to preserve and maintain species diversity, to eliminate invasive species in forests throughout the state, etc.)

81 responses were provided. All answers can be viewed at <http://collab.dnr.in.gov>.

2. Is your organization:

| Option | Results (Count) |
|------------|-----------------|
| Nonprofit | 54% (44) |
| For Profit | 2% (2) |
| Government | 43% (35) |

3. Indicate where your organization's conservation efforts occur. Select all that apply.

| Option | Results (Count) |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Locally | 43% (34) |
| Great Lakes Watershed | 29% (23) |
| Kankakee River Watershed | 30% (24) |
| Eastern Corn Belt Plains | 41% (33) |
| Ohio River Watershed: Interior River Valleys and Hills | 31% (25) |
| Ohio River Watershed: Interior Plateau | 31% (25) |
| Statewide | 46% (37) |
| Regionally (work with neighboring states) | 29% (23) |
| Nationally | 19% (15) |

4. On which of the following types of habitats does your organization focus its efforts? For each habitat type, provide a percentage of time and resources.

| Habitats | Percentage of Time and Resources |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Agriculture | 40% |
| Aquatic Systems | 30% |
| Barren Lands | 10% |
| Developed Lands | 20% |
| Forest Lands | 30% |
| Grasslands | 20% |
| Subterranean Systems | 10% |

| Habitats | Percentage of Time and Resources |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| Wetlands | 20% |

5. What is/are your primary wildlife taxa and/or category of species of interest? Select all that apply.

| Option | Results (Count) |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Amphibians | 34% (23) |
| Birds | 66% (44) |
| Fish | 39% (26) |
| Arthropods | 24% (16) |
| Mammals | 51% (34) |
| Mollusks | 25% (17) |
| Reptiles | 27% (18) |
| Aquatic Invasive | 33% (22) |
| Terrestrial Invasive | 45% (30) |
| Federal/State Listed Species | 55% (37) |
| Nongame Species | 49% (33) |
| Game Species | 37% (25) |

6. On which of the following activities does your organization spend time and resources? Select all that apply.

| Option | Results (Count) |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Land Acquisition | 26% (19) |
| Education/Outreach | 90% (66) |
| Invasive Species Control | 68% (50) |
| Habitat Maintenance | 49% (36) |
| Restoration of Habitat | 59% (43) |
| Habitat Migration | 26% (19) |
| Research/Survey/Monitor for Habitats | 37% (27) |
| Landowner Assistance | 55% (40) |
| Restoration of Species | 33% (24) |
| Population Management for Species | 21% (15) |
| Technical Assistance for Species Management | 34% (25) |
| Research/Survey/Monitor for Species | 45% (33) |

7. Please indicate your total annual budget category for natural resources/conservation. If your organization works beyond conservation/natural resources, please estimate the budget spent on natural resources/conservation.

| Option | Results (Count) |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| \$0-\$9,999 | 26% (19) |
| \$10,000-\$24,999 | 13% (9) |
| \$25,000-\$49,999 | 10% (7) |
| \$50,000-\$99,999 | 10% (7) |
| \$100,000-\$249,000 | 7% (5) |
| > \$250,000 | 25% (18) |
| Chose not to respond | 10% (7) |

8. What is the primary source of this funding?

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Foundation Grants | 20% |
| Local | 30% |
| State | 30% |
| Federal | 40% |
| Individual Contributions/Donations | 40% |
| Dues/Memberships | 30% |

9. How has your organized used the 2005 CWS?

- 55% of the respondents hadn't used the plan in their organization activities
- 45% of the respondents had used the plan

10. Please describe your organization's project (current and proposed) that could contribute to a local, regional, or statewide wildlife action plan?

- 50 responses were submitted for this question with most of the work being done at the local level, specifically with private landowners.

11. What resources or capabilities does your organization have that could contribute to a wildlife action plan?

- 58 organizations offered ideas on how their organizations could contribute. Below is the list of general categories and percentage of organizations that could offer this type of assistance.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Funding | 24% |
| Technical Assistance/Science | 40% |
| Volunteers | 30% |
| Equipment | 2% |
| Promotion/Education | 22% |

12. What do you perceive is needed to improve existing partnerships, resources, or programs focused on resource for conservation? Below are the general categories that organizations suggested, as needs improvement to be successful.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Increase/Better Communication | 54% |
| Coordination/Collaboration of Habitat/Species Management | 21% |
| Coordination/Collaboration to Prioritize Existing Funding and to Look for New Funding | 27% |
| Public Awareness | 20% |

13. Please provide additional information you feel is relevant to our efforts in developing Indiana's SWAP.

- The answers to this question were as diverse as the organizations taking the survey. The general topics of the 33 comments related to communication and collaboration with continued engagement of diverse partners through the planning process and into the implementation of the plan.

14. How can we best engage your organization in the conservation efforts in Indiana?

- The 74 organizations that answered this question said that all of the options listed below were ‘somewhat effective’ at engaging partners. These include:
 - Indiana SWAP website – www.SWAP.DNR.IN.Gov
 - Electronic newsletter
 - Email announcements
 - Articles in select magazines, newsletters, and newspapers
 - Press release to radio, television, and print publications
 - Customized presentations to your organization at your regular meetings
 - Annual meeting of conservation partners
 - Working groups/meetings
 - Through existing committee/organizations
 - Online collaboration tool (wiki in which people add, modify, delete content in collaboration with others)
 - Electronic surveys
 - Other internet sites

15. Does your organization have strategic or operational documents that could help us identify how to incorporate your efforts into the Indiana SWAP? If so, please share the link to access the file in the comment field below or upload the file to SWAP@dnr.in.gov.

- This question has been answered 40 times.

16. Given the above information, indicate what areas of interest your organization would be interested in being part of working group/advisory committee:

| Option | Results (Count) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Environment – Water | 42% (26) |
| Environment – Habitat/Landscape Conservation Crossing Major Political Boundaries | 63% (39) |
| Invasive Species | 47% (29) |
| Climate Change | 21% (13) |
| Conservation Community | 58% (36) |
| Funding | 31% (19) |
| Citizens/Public | 19% (12) |
| All | 21% (13) |