

## **Indiana State Wildlife Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting**

March 25, 2014 11 am – 2:30 pm  
Atterbury Fish and Wildlife Area

### **In Attendance:**

Kevin Crane, IDEM  
Rob Chapman, Purdue Extension  
Justin Schneider, Farm Bureau  
Mark Reiter, IN DNR – Fish and Wildlife  
Mike Sertle, Ducks Unlimited  
Barb Simpson, Indiana Wildlife Federation  
Jeff Keifer, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mike Mycroft, IN DNR – State Parks  
John Bacone, IN DNR – Nature Preserves  
Joe Robb, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Annie Walker, IN DNR – Fish and Wildlife (guest)  
Jack McGriffin, IN DNR

### **Core Team**

Nate Levitte  
Adam Phelps  
Sandy Clark-Kolaks  
Steve Donabauer  
Shannon Winks  
Julie Kempf  
Amanda Wuestefeld

## **Introduction**

Meeting started by welcoming everyone back after a long break. Several important notes since last meeting:

- Annie Walker joins DFW as the Science Stewardship Director. She will be working with all parts of the Division, and will have a role in the citizen piece of the SWAP.
- Purdue was hired to fulfill the technical component to gather data, analyze it, facilitate meetings with experts and the conservation community, and to revise key parts of the Plan. We will be working with ecologists, social scientists, and extension folks.

## **What's Next – Partnerships and Info Sharing**

Results from the organizational survey were shared. 84 responses total. We talked about how we could incorporate these results into an online, sharable map similar to the partner priority map the group compiled last year.

Wildlife Habitat Council was mentioned as an organization that may be able to provide a list of industry partners, which we are currently light on.

Justin Schneider shared a watershed resource that could serve as an example to our efforts – [www.ctic.purdue.edu/WIIN/projects](http://www.ctic.purdue.edu/WIIN/projects)

For an online map for sharing information, simple is best. Don't need to go into very specific projects. The goal should be to connect people to the right organization. The map doesn't have to be exclusive to the SWAP, but should it should connect to the SWAP priorities.

The purpose of the exercise was to find ways to make this map useful. We were also looking for ways to engage the Advisory Team. Finally, there was some discussion and agreement that the four highlighted items could very easily be rolled up in to one action item or statement.

- Capture counties interests
- Identify different species with which they are working
- KISS //// agreements (I don't have a checkmark key)
- What partners can offer/\$
- Show geographic focus areas /
- More/New focus on business investment ///
- User friendly or simpleness
- Be flexible to change as needed
- [Who is working where? /](#)
- [What are they doing? //](#)
- [Interaction where locals can be engaged //](#)
- [Something to encourage participation /](#)

### **Purdue University**

The afternoon was filled by Purdue University and their plan to fulfill the technical component for the next year.

In April and May, they are focused on developing the survey for technical information. They will begin with some focus groups, and the Advisory and Core Teams will be a part of them. Additional people, like the technical committee experts, will be invited as necessary.

What land cover data should be used? Two primary options include the National Land Cover Dataset or the baseline habitat from the 2005 Plan. Each is summarized below:

<u>NLCD</u>	<u>2005 Plan</u>
30 m resolution	15 m resolution
Many habitat classifications	8 habitat classifications based on the SWAP
Updated at least 3 times	Done just once; would need to do again
National coverage	State coverage
Used in "Habitat Book"	

### **Measuring success discussion**

It is clear everyone wants the SWAP to be able to provide enough guidance to measure success. The level of guidance and precision to provide, however, was debated. It comes down to whether the plan should outline clear prioritized strategies or actions. Example of strategy: protect more

wetlands through acquisition, mitigation, restoration. Example of action: acquire 5,000 acres of wetlands. Strategies allow for more flexibility and could potentially link to other funding sources more easily.

**Developing partnerships with business**

Jeff Keifer, Barb Simpson, Justin Schneider, and Mike Sertle agreed to be a part of a working group to develop business and industry partnerships to be tied to the SWAP.