

SWAP Planning meeting –August 19, 2013 Conference Call

Attendees:

Jeff Kiefer – US Fish and Wildlife Service
Kevin Crane – IDEM
John Shuey – The Nature Conservancy
Gary Dinkel – US Forest Service
Chris Gonso – IDNR, Forestry
Justin Harrington – IDNR, Parks and Reservoirs
Daniel Arndt – Duke Energy
Dave Stratman – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Mark Reiter – IDNR, Fish and Wildlife
David Bausman – Indiana State Dept. of Agriculture
Amy Cornell
Cliff Chapman – Indiana Land Protection Alliance
Joe Robb – US Fish and Wildlife Service
Larry Clemens – The Nature Conservancy
Ramona Briggeman – IDNR
Randy Showalter
Austin Hochstetler – Eppley

Core Team from IDNR, Fish and Wildlife:

Amanda Wuestefeld
Julie Kempf
Sandy Clark-Kolaks
Steve Donabauer
Sam Whiteleather
Nate Levitte
Kent Hanauer
Brant Fisher
Adam Phelps
Shannon Winks

August 19, 2013: State Wildlife Action Plan Meeting Agenda

Review regional map & decision process
Kick-off meetings for partners/public
 Dates and general locations
 Invitee list
 Goals & structure

State Wildlife Action Plan meeting notes for August 19, 2013

Planning Regions –

Please refer to Planning Regions document with description and map.

Why planning regions?

- Indiana has several ecologically unique areas
- Focus actions based on regional resources and needs
- Identify priorities within regions
- If the above is achieved, the Plan should increase relevancy and applicability

Where we started:

- Reviewed several existing regional maps, such as 8-digit and 4-digit HUCs (watersheds); Homoya's Natural Regions, Omernick III and IV Ecoregions, Bird Conservation Regions.
- Initially proposed two regional maps that overlaid two types of maps: watersheds and terrestrial that resulted in 8-11 divisions
- At last meeting, Advisory group felt comfortable with general approach for planning regions. Need to remain under 12 regions. Advisory group wanted Core Team to come up with the final map and present back to group.

Decision Rationale (abbreviated):

- Important to keep regions broad (not too many; manageable size) but represent distinct areas within Indiana
- Important for regions to work for both aquatic and terrestrial habitat and species
- Three major watersheds served as initial starting point for unique regions: Great Lakes, Kankakee, and Ohio River. Ohio River watershed encompasses 2/3rds Indiana and is too broad (distinct areas exist within Ohio River Watershed). Used Omernik's ecoregions to divide southern Indiana/Ohio River Watershed. Core Team felt this was a good representation of distinct ecological areas within the state.

Kick off Meetings -

Goals:

- Inform
- Gather feedback
- Build support and create alignment

The meetings are a precursor to the future work, particularly the 2014 data/information collection from researchers, practitioners, and other experts. The meetings will also benefit those that will implement actions that are identified in the revised action plan in 2015 and beyond.

Who:

Anyone who wants to be involved!

Heads of organizations

Natural resources experts and practitioners

Recreationalists particularly those associated with wildlife (hunters, anglers, birders, etc)

Other interested public members

Dates:

- Central: September 26, 2013. At new IWF office in Indianapolis.
- Southern: October 2, 2013
- Northern: October 3, 2013

Time will be roughly 8:30 am to 3 pm. North and South locations are to be determined. If you know of spaces that can accommodate 100+ people, please let us know.

Actions/Needs from Advisory Team:

- Suggestions for meeting locations – north and south in particular
- Sharing contacts to be invited to kick-off meetings
- Please distribute invitations within our organizations and with partners.
- We are looking for a few partners to share success or your thoughts about the Action Plan (maybe in a panel-like format) during the kickoff meetings. If you would like to be involved, let Amanda or Julie know. Do not need to commit to all three, and we'd anticipate the time commitment to be 15 minutes or less.

Next Meeting – Webinar/Conference Call

October 11, 2013

Agenda: Recap kick off and next steps