February 2015 meeting agenda
J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel, Florida

Meeting Logistics:

We will be meeting both days at the headquarters of the J.N. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, 1 Wildlife Drive, Sanibel, Florida. Please look for meeting signs at the facility. Contact the refuge with any questions for directions (239/ 472-1100).

Tuesday, February 24, 2015
Meeting of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council

Location: J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters
1 Wildlife Drive
Sanibel, Florida 33957


8:45-10:15 Proposed Pilot Project- Boating Access Infrastructure Permit Process Coordination:
John Sprague, Council member and invited participants
a) Boating access permitting in Florida: an applicant’s perspective: Todd Turrell, P.E., Naples, Florida (10 minutes)
b) Understanding the Corps of Engineers permit process- Tori White, Chief, Regulatory Division, Jacksonville, Florida (10 minutes)
c) Understanding the State of Florida permit process- Tim Rach, Program Administrator, Office of Submerged Lands and Environmental Resources Coordination, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, Florida (10 minutes)
d) Status of boating access permits- Nicole Bonine, ESA Consultant, Protected Resources Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, St. Petersburg, Florida (10 minutes)
e) Perspectives on boating access from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission- Nick Wiley, Executive Director (invited), Tallahassee, Florida (10 minutes)
f) Perspectives from the Florida Inland Navigational District- Spencer Crowley, Florida Inland Navigational District, Jupiter, Florida (10 minutes)
g) Perspectives from the West Coast Inland Navigational District- Chuck Litowski, Executive Director, Venice, Florida (10 minutes)

h) Lessons learned from the manatee permitting- Victoria Foster, Chief of Staff to State Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vero Beach, Florida (10 minutes)

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-10:40 Proposed Pilot Project continued:
National summary and perspective- Janine Belleque, President, States Organization for Boating Access, Salem, Oregon

10:40-12:00 Council Working Discussion to identify specific recommendations for improving interagency coordination and communication to provide to FICOR and federal permitting agencies.

12-1:00 Lunch catered on-site- Box lunches available for purchase for Council and attendees

1:00-2:30 Outreach and Communication Committee Report: Final draft assessment of the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation- Scott Kovarovic, Council chair, Betty Huskins, Council vice chair, Phil Seng and Ed Rudberg, PhD., D.J. Case and Associates, Mishawaka, Indiana

2:30-3:00 Update on the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation: Frank Peterson, President, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, Alexandria, Virginia, and Ken Hammond, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, Board of Directors Chairman

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-4:00 Status and roles of Tribal fish and wildlife programs in national conservation and recreation: Mic Isham, Board Chairman, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah, Wisconsin and James Zorn, Executive Administrator, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah, Wisconsin)

4:00-4:15 Status of Department of Interior Native American Policy: Richard Christian, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Branch of Communications and Partnerships, Fish and Aquatic Conservation, Falls Church, Virginia

4:15-5:00 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service program updates:
Status of Fish and Wildlife Service budget and programmatic priorities- 30 minutes David Hoskins, Assistant Director-Fish and Aquatic Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Falls Church, Virginia
Status of southeast region fisheries and recreation efforts- (15 minutes) Allan Brown,
**Wednesday, February 25, 2015**

**8:30-8:35**  **Introductions:** Scott Kovarovics, Council chair

**8:35-9:30**  **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fish and Aquatic Conservation Strategic Plan and Programmatic Update:** David Hoskins, Assistant Director- Fish and Aquatic Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Falls Church, Virginia

**9:30-10:00**  **Status of government marketing and aquatic education programs:** Mike Nussman, Council member and Bob Wattendorf, Marketing Coordinator, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, Florida

**10:00-10:15**  **Break**

**10:15-10:45**  **Review and adoption of Council priority issues (2015-2016):** Scott Kovarovics, Council chair, and Betty Huskins, Council vice chair

**10:45-11:00**  **Status of Boating Access in Biscayne National Park:** Brian Carlstrom, Superintendent, Biscayne National Park, National Park Service, Homestead, Florida

**11:00-11:20**  **Status of boating access obligations, expenditures and reversions: A Boating Committee requested report:** Christy Vigfusson, Branch Chief, Programs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Falls Church, Virginia

**11:20-12:00**  **Status of Highway Bill reauthorization and implications for conservation programs**

- Status of the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund reauthorization efforts- Chris Edmonston, Council member (10 minutes)

- Implications of the Highway Bill reauthorization for federal land management agencies recreation access efforts- Steve Suder, Transportation Program Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Falls Church, Virginia (15 minutes)

- Implications of the Highway Bill reauthorization for fish and wildlife passage programs- Susan Wells, Fish Passage Program National Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Falls Church, Virginia.

**12:00-12:30**  **Status of NOAA Recreational Fishing Policy**  Russell Dunn, National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Fisheries Service, St. Petersburg, Florida.
12:30-12:45  Status of poaching in the Gulf of Mexico- A Fisheries Committee Requested Report  
Lt. Commander Jason Brand, U.S. Coast Guard, New Orleans, Louisiana

12:45-1:15  New Council business, public comments: Scott Kovarovics, Council chair  
Topics include: Discussion regarding potential meeting with Wildlife and Hunting  
Heritage Conservation Council, general discussion and other topics

1:15  ADJOURN

**NOTE: Meeting minutes will be made available 90 days after the meeting date.**