

# NSST Action Groups

## *Recommendations for structure and funding*

August 3, 2007

### **Proposed mission of NSST action groups:**

*"To advocate and support planning, coordination and assessment of priority management, research and monitoring activities among the relevant NAWMP Joint Ventures, Flyways, government agencies and other organizations to enable efficient and effective delivery of resource conservation."*

### **Services provided to NAWMP by NSST action groups should include efforts to:**

- 1) Facilitate technical information exchange, acquisition of knowledge, and coordination of research and experimental management activities at regional and continental levels.
- 2) Ensure priority research is coordinated and cost-efficient, and that greater attention is paid to supporting priority research, management and conservation actions.
- 3) Synthesize new relevant information and facilitate analyses of existing data.
- 4) Provide a forum for identifying and tackling key information needs beyond the scope of individual habitat JVs.
- 5) Engage with relevant habitat JVs, Flyways and other entities on delivering and evaluating priority conservation activities.
- 6) Pursue increased partner funding for priority research, evaluation, monitoring and conservation activities.
- 7) Aid the NSST, JVs and other entities in development of planning, monitoring, and assessment programs at multiple scales.
- 8) Provide annual report progress and recommendations to the Plan Committee via the NSST.

### **The NSST recommends that the Plan Committee consider the following recommendations for NSST action group structure:**

- 1) The Plan Committee may consider approving a charter or prospectus prepared by proponent(s) of proposed action groups. Membership of approved action groups will be composed of interested biologists, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and other entities, to address waterfowl conservation science needs, while maintaining strong linkages with the habitat joint ventures important to those species. Participation on action groups will be open to any entity committed to implementing the objectives of the action group and its charter or prospectus.

- 2) Once established, an action group chair is elected by the action group membership.
- The incumbent is the primary representative to the NSST for an NSST action group and is a voting member of the NSST. The incumbent reports to the Plan Committee (PC) at least annually through the NSST. The primary function of the positions would be to ensure that NSST action groups actively pursue their respective missions by advocating and communicating NSST action group priorities at appropriate meetings, organizing group meetings, facilitating internal communications within the group, maintaining websites, and assisting with fundraising to address action group priorities. Primary duties include service that will focus on information gathering, conservation planning, and advocacy.
  - A Chair's duties includes these functions:

<b>Action Group Chair Duties</b>
Coordination of proposal process
Administration of grants and contracts
Coordination & preparation of technical team meetings, and other meetings
Communication & outreach
Participation in research and monitoring projects
Other general coordination and administration tasks

- 3) Action Group recommendations should be submitted to the Plan Committee. The Plan Committee would then forward recommendations to various management agencies, on behalf of the Plan community, and seek specific commitments to address high-priority conservation needs.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, corporations, foundations, and individuals should provide funding and staff support to approved action groups. Incremental actions should also be pursued through these same partner organizations.