

## Oregon-Washington Chapter Partners In Flight meeting Jan 23, 2002

<http://community.gorge.net/natres/pif.html>

### Attendees:

Barb Kott – USFS, Mt. Hood National Forest, ZigZag – [bkott@fs.fed.us](mailto:bkott@fs.fed.us) fax  
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Randy Hill – USFWS, Columbia NWR [randy\\_hill@fws.gov](mailto:randy_hill@fws.gov) or [hill@cbnn.net](mailto:hill@cbnn.net) fax 509-488-0705  
Robert Alvarado – detailed to Gifford Pinchot NF [ralvarado@fs.fed.us](mailto:ralvarado@fs.fed.us) fax 360-891-5053

### Meetings

Third International National Partners in Flight Workshop, Monterey, CA March 20-24, 2002 + USFS & BLM meetings on the 18<sup>th</sup>, Western Working Group meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Bob handed out an agenda for the Pacific Coast session. He needs folks to help out with misc tasks like note taking – contact him if you're going. See PRBO web page for lots more details and information on the sessions.

Oregon Chapter Wildlife Society at Salishan on the coast February 11-15, 2002

Intermountain West Waterbird Plan meeting March 5-6, 2002 in Reno, NV  
Contact Gary Ivey for more info.

Pacific Flyway Meeting with crane workshop in Newport will be the same week as International PIF meeting (see above). The Pacific Flyway Study Committee meeting is March 19-22. The Pacific Flyway Symposium is March 18th.

Oregon Important Bird Areas meeting will be at Portland Audubon Society April 8, 2002 from 1-5pm. Contact Sybil Ackerman for more info at – [sackerma@audubonportland.org](mailto:sackerma@audubonportland.org)

IMBD poster is out; theme is special places (IBA's). But can't access web page right now because it's hosted by USFWS. Will put a cramp/crimp on things!

Mt. Hood's Songbird Celebration at Wildwood Park will be May 11, 2002. Contact Barb Kott if you want to have an info booth, help with banding demonstrations (please, please!), bird walks, etc. There will be a PIF booth, USFWS booth.

Tualatin Valley Migratory Bird Festival will also be on May 11, 2002.

Fourth Annual Sandhill Crane Festival March 22-24, 2002 at Columbia NWR in Othello, WA – Peter Mathieson will be speaker.

Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology annual meeting April 3-5, 2002 in Hood River. Will have a session on shrub steppe birds. See web page for more info at <http://www3.eou.edu/snvb/>.

### **Announcements**

Rex Sallabanks is the new Idaho State Nongame Bird Biologist. Will remain part time for now at SEI. New e-mail is [rsallaba@idfg.state.id.us](mailto:rsallaba@idfg.state.id.us)

The Oregon Breeding Bird Atlas CD is out!!

Questions? Contact Paul Adamus (Coordinator) at: [adamus7@attbi.com](mailto:adamus7@attbi.com)

Use the form/info below to order a copy

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#### Order Form

Mail to: **Oregon Field Ornithologists (OFO), P.O. Box 10373, Eugene, OR 97440**

\_\_\_ \$20.00 if you contributed any observations to the atlas project, or you are currently a member of OFO

\_\_\_ \$25.00 if neither of the above

Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Make checks payable to *Oregon Field Ornithologists*

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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North Cascades National Park received a grant to bring 3 Latin American bios to the park in June. Anyone who wants to head that way to make some contacts, send a rep up there for International outreach, etc. contact Bob Kuntz ([Robert\\_kuntz@nps.gov](mailto:Robert_kuntz@nps.gov)). There is a proposal in by the Methow Conservancy to extend their stay for two additional weeks (1 month total). Already discussing a reciprocal trip for U.S. folks to go down there. American Airlines is sponsoring this; 7 U.S. National Parks were funded to do various projects.

### **Oregon TWS meeting PIF February 14, 2002 – OR/WA PIF sponsored landbird workshop – Barb Kott**

Draft agenda handed out for the session which will be 1-4:30 Thursday afternoon of the conference. Session title is "Landbird Conservation and Management." If you are a speaker, get your PowerPoint presentation to Barb prior to February 14.

## **Oregon Cascades Birding Trail update + other birding trails**

Audubon Society of Portland and Steve Shunk in Bend have teamed up after working on parallel projects. National Forest Foundation recently solicited pre-proposals for projects on NF lands, so a proposal was submitted to do an Oregon Cascades Birding Trail. American Bird Conservancy (Bob Altman) will take the lead on this project/proposal but will be working with many partners including Oregon Dept. Tourism, ODOT, USFS. Most of trail will be on Forest Service land. They have already met with regional office recreation person who pointed out that another trail plan failed because of NEPA. Needed to address additional traffic, people volume. Categorical exclusion didn't work. **ACTION ITEM:** Need strategies to address NEPA, if anyone has input. Also, National Forest Foundation requires a 1:1 match, so they need about \$60,000 non-federal dollars for match. Any thoughts or leads on funding, let Bob know. Trail will consist of booklet and signage – no development of parking lots or new trails. Hope to have local communities fund local signs.

Audubon Society of Portland is focusing their first trail effort along the coast. February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2002 from 4-6:30 pm in Salem is next meeting for Oregon birding trails in general. Representative from the Texas consulting agency may be there.

Ron Freisz of WDFW (1-509-754-4624) is now heading the next Washington Birding trail effort. A North Cascades trail already exists. Working well to tie in with Scenic Byway projects.

CARA-light money is funding birding trail projects in about 1/3 of all the states, but not in Oregon.

## **Drafting Bird Conservation Plan summaries – Mike Green**

Need to make them pdf files, should happen soon. Would it be useful to pare the plans down to nuts and bolts (the biological objectives and strategies to achieve them)? Mike handed out an example of a pared-down conservation plan. Another example would be the "Birds in a Sagebrush Sea" and Willamette Valley grasslands brochures, but perhaps not so fancy. Group did agree that this is a worthwhile effort, so Mike will continue to pursue.

Existing plans are big; money was set aside to print copies, so some of the full versions will be printed to take to TWS meeting.

**ACTION ITEM:** Mike will develop a prototype pared-down version of one of the plans.

## **NTMB Conservation Act, discussion of opportunities – Bob Altman**

Congress appropriated \$3 million – of which \$750,000 is to go to the U.S. Deadline is April 5, 2002 for proposals. This is the first big opportunity for upland bird conservation projects. Need to get lots of projects in the hopper to show the need, so funding will increase in future. Match is 3:1 – cash – two years backdating allowed. BPA funds generally not usable as non-federal, nor are Packard funds because Packard money was matched by NFWF (federal dollars) already. Research and monitoring projects are fine.

Consider landscape-level, lots of partners, must tie to Bird Conservation Plans. Sizzle-value!

No web site to access, info came in mail. Contact Barb or Bob if you need a hardcopy of the announcement and directions for the grant application.

The issue was brought up yet again about having a shelf stock of projects. Send rough outlines (a paragraph will do) to Bob. Someone like Bob (Bob - "to some degree!") and Oregon/Washington PIF should brainstorm a wish list of projects, and as funding opportunities come up, we contact the organizations and agencies and landowners who would have the habitats/opportunities we are interested in and invite them to join and support the effort.

Strategies – consider USFS-industry partnerships....

**ACTION ITEMS:** Bob will dust off the old wish list, send out to list and see if there are cooperative opportunities to take advantage of this particular funding. Accompanying note should ask for two things: 1) do you have any opportunities to fit in with a proposed idea on the wish list, and 2) what are the things you would like to see done on your district (or equivalent jurisdiction) so we could possibly combine with similar objectives elsewhere into a big picture project.

### **New Urban Bird Treaty Initiative – Mike Green**

Many proposals received, but no new cities likely to be funded this year??? Chicago, New Orleans projects started with pilot project money. Houston and Anchorage were funded for projects too, with last year's money? Jenny Valdivia is trying to coordinate a Portland project. Initiative matches city money. See USFWS web site when it is active again for details.

### **Spring Bird ID Workshop – Barb Kott**

Likely to be on Warm Springs Reservation at Ka-Ne-Ta Resort, May 13-17, 2002 – still finalizing the details. Focus will be on monitoring techniques. Would like to have a poster session that highlights partnership projects...include project partners, how much they contributed, etc.

### **OR/WA PIF web site – Jenny Valdivia**

Rich Larson is on a temporary assignment in Idaho, but will continue to maintain the PIF web page. The wonders of the Internet allow him to access it from anywhere he happens to be working. His email address will remain the same as always ([rlarson@gorge.net](mailto:rlarson@gorge.net)). Richard and Jenny would like to get input on what folks would like to see on our web site. Currently site is mostly a clearinghouse for reports and very technical. Would you like to see it be more user-friendly and have more info for those not familiar with PIF. Our web site would be a great place for highlighting some of the projects we do that are listed in the project directory (photos, etc.). The newsletter could be tied to the project directory and provide project updates. Ideas may include on site examples of well-written successful grant proposals and other hints and info on grant writing. The web site could use more links to other interesting sites. If you have some favorites let us know.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Get additional documents to Jenny on CD/disk now that you would like to add to website. Jenny will contact Rich to see how long old site will be up, any funding or maintenance needed? Jenny will be building the new site in the interim, while waiting for USFWS to come back on-line.

**ACTION ITEM:** George Buckner will look for original computer files for “Management, Research and Monitoring Priorities for Neotropical Migratory Landbirds in Oregon/Washington.” so they can be added to web site.

**ACTION ITEM:** OR/WA PIF Newsletter item deadline is April 5, 2002 – get short articles on your projects to Jenny Valdivia now.

**Special Species Monitoring Strategy (SSMS)– Barb Kott for Jon Bart who is stuck at SeaTac**

USFS will take on alpine monitoring as a pilot study on Mt. Hood and Okanogan National Forests. Jon Bart has prepared maps of alpine sites, and has copy of North Cascades NP monitoring and inventory document which includes alpine. At this point Barb needs to contract with someone - likely Jon Bart - to develop the protocol...also need to start planning logistics – get out the maps, review roads, what can and cannot be accessed, etc. Bob feels most of protocol is covered in the SSMS.

SSMS document is posted on the OR/WA PIF web site.

**Next meeting**

OR/WA PIF next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> of March at the Discovery Center in The Dalles.