



## ***February 2015 meeting agenda J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel, Florida***

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### **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

**8:30-8:45**     **Welcome and introductions:** Scott Kovarovics, Council chair, and Paul Tritaik, J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sanibel, Florida

**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 Kovarovics, 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,

Assistant Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, Georgia

## **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.**