



*North American Waterfowl
Management Plan*

*Plan nord-américain de
gestion de la sauvagine*

*Plan de Manejo de Aves
Acuáticas de Norteamérica*

North American Waterfowl Management Plan 2011/12 Plan Revision

The North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP or Plan), first signed in 1986, has remained a leading model for other international conservation plans. In large measure, this is because it is a living and evolving document that is updated periodically with engagement of the broad waterfowl conservation community. This important work is underway again with a target date of January 1, 2012, for completion.

Today we face greater pressures on waterfowl populations and habitats than ever before, including expanding human populations; increased urbanization; global demands for food, energy and fresh water; and climate change. The challenge of sustaining waterfowl populations in the face of such fundamental change is daunting. We need to be confident that we are pursuing shared and achievable goals and working as effectively and efficiently as possible. It is urgent, therefore, that waterfowl managers review and re-establish their fundamental conservation objectives—something that has not been done in a quarter century. This is our opportunity to provide the framework for a more coherent and effective waterfowl management system that will enable us to achieve essential conservation goals.

In 2009, the Plan Committee pledged to engage the waterfowl management community in generating fundamental goals for the Plan, using a facilitated process to ensure consistency in approach across stakeholder groups. Goals of the Plan Revision include:

- address the environmental challenges of our time,
- harness recent advances in science and public policy to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our conservation actions,
- improve the allocation of resources within the waterfowl management enterprise,
- be more accountable and responsive to values and goals important to stakeholders and funders, and
- contribute to advancements in wildlife management in North America.

The first round of stakeholder consultation workshops—attended by 155 individuals from the waterfowl management community—was held in the United States and Canada between December 2009 and March 2010. The workshops focused on identifying shared fundamental and means objectives for waterfowl management. We received additional input from Mexico, flyway councils and technical committees, and via the comment form on www.nawmprevision.org.

Fundamental objectives rising to the top during Round One consultation included: “Maintain healthy waterfowl populations as part of the North American Fauna” and “Maintain landscapes capable of sustaining waterfowl populations in perpetuity.” A third suite of ideas, which were expressed differently in various workshops, addressed human uses of waterfowl, including perpetuation of the tradition of waterfowling. The Plan Revision Steering Committee is considering expanding this third objective to include additional user groups. How this expansion will take shape will be a topic of discussion during Round Two consultation workshops.

A Plan Revision Technical Team has been tasked with evaluating the NAWMP Revision consultation workshop results and the views of other stakeholders. Results of this analysis, along with a process for assessing stakeholder values, examining consequences among multiple objectives and resultant trade-offs, will frame the agenda for Round Two consultation workshops, slated to begin in the fall of 2010.

Results from Round One workshops are posted on the NAWMP Revision web site, <http://www.nawmprevision.org>. A list of dates and locations for Round Two workshops, along with other background and logistical information, will be available on the web site in late summer.

-NAWMP-

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