Comments on the Plan Revision
Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit comments on the draft North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) Revision. We received written comments from more than 50 individuals and organizations in the United States, Canada and Mexico, and heard from dozens more at opportunistic dialogue sessions at the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agency meetings and elsewhere. The input was cogent and valuable.

The Revision Steering Committee met October 12-13 to discuss the comments. The committee recommended a number of changes to the draft, including:

- More discussion on the conservation challenges facing waterfowl and a more inspiring “call to action”
- Greater inclusion of sea ducks, arctic geese and habitats outside of the prairies
- More direction on how to foster progressive policies and sustain funding and other support for waterfowl conservation in an era of shrinking resources
- A map depicting areas of continental significance to North American waterfowl

In addition, many in the community are anxious to see details contained in the still developing NAWMP Action Plan (AP), and some commenters expressed that actions advocated in the AP should occur at a measured pace and involve the entire management community. To address these concerns, the writing team will strive to produce an AP that provides clear direction and sufficient momentum to implement the goals of the new NAWMP, and that will be a living and evolving plan that requires the waterfowl community to be engaged in its implementation.

Timeline for the Plan Revision
Where do we go from here? The writing team will complete a revised document for Revision Steering Committee review by mid-November. The Plan Committee will review the resulting document in December, ahead of its meeting in January. Final edits to the Plan Revision document will occur in early 2012, and we anticipate unveiling the new NAWMP Revision at the 2012 North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in March. We hope to hold a signing ceremony for the Secretary of the Interior and Ministers of the Environment later in the spring.

We anticipate that the Action Plan will be released in mid-2012, following additional dialogue with waterfowl scientists and managers.

For more information, please see the FAQs section of www.nawmprevision.org.

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