NAWMP Revision

North American Waterfowl Management Plan
Plan nord-américain de gestion de la sauvagine
Plan de Manejo de Aves Acuáticas de Norteamérica

Consultation Workshop

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Portland, OR

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Draft Purpose of the NAWMP

The purpose of the Plan is to sustain abundant waterfowl populations while preserving the traditions of wildfowling and achieving broad benefits to biodiversity, ecosystem processes and the people of North America.

(NAWMP Scoping Report for the 2011 Plan Revision, 8 Aug 09)

A Vision for Integrated Waterfowl Management

- … the Plan should seek to establish a unified system of waterfowl conservation …

- … a fully coherent management system would feature:
  - A set of widely supported fundamental goals for waterfowl conservation
  - A decision framework that allows managers to understand and balance tradeoffs
  - Managers using that framework to efficiently allocate resources

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Two key elements of SDM

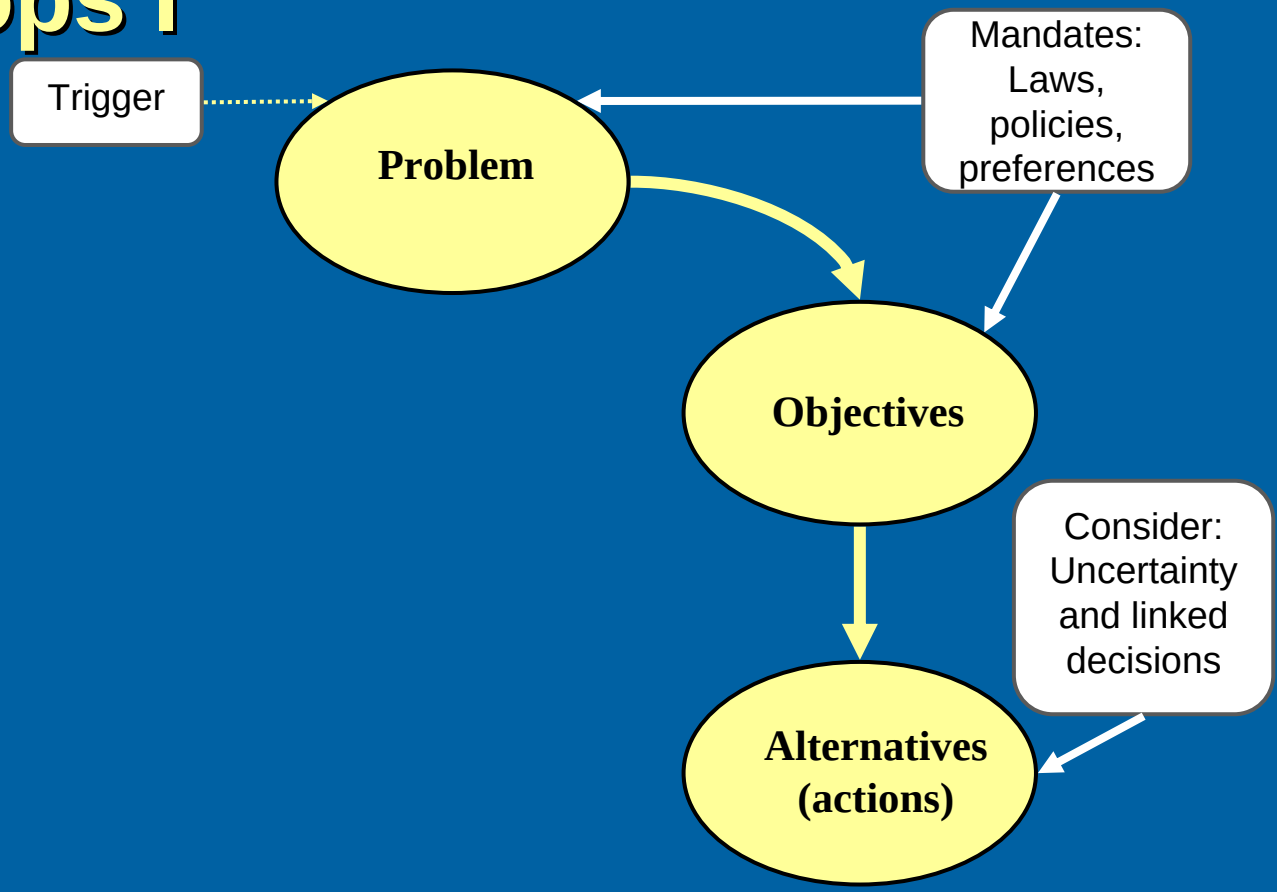
- **Values-focused**
  - The objectives (values) are discussed first, and drive the rest of the analysis
  - This is in contrast to our intuitive decision-making, which usually jumps straight to a debate of alternative actions or outcomes

- **Problem decomposition**
  - Break the problem into components, separating policy from science
  - Specify components, gather & analyze relevant information
  - Recompose the parts to make a decision

SDM process


Trigger
Problem
Mandates: Laws, policies, preferences
Decide & Take Action
Objectives
SDM Analysis Toolkit
Consider: Uncertainty and linked decisions
Tradeoffs & Optimization
Alternatives (actions)
Values: Preference scales, objective weights & risk attitudes
Consequences
Modeling Toolkit
Data

Workshops I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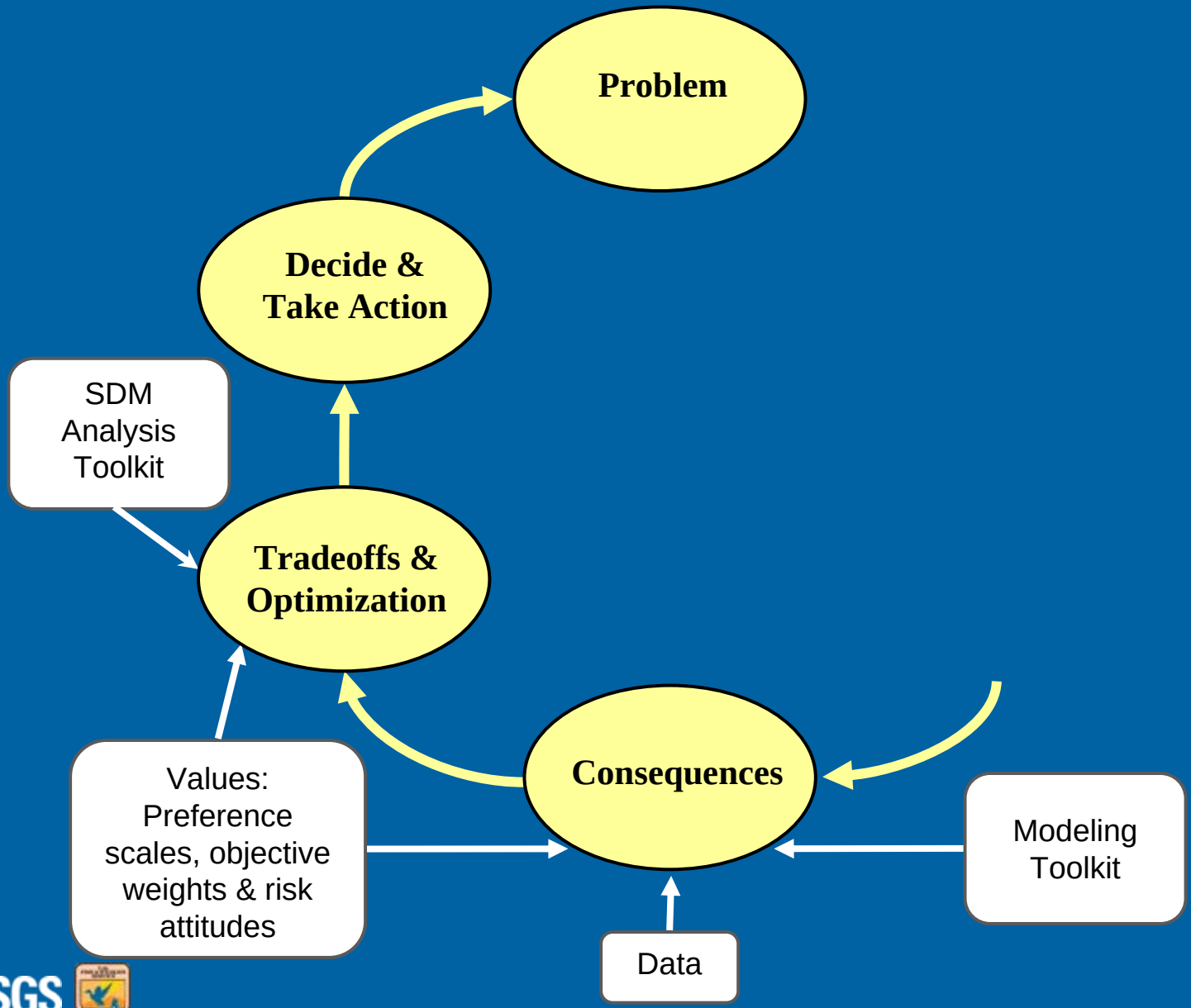
Workshops II



Workshop I goals

1) To gather input on the overarching objectives of waterfowl management, and opinions on how such objectives might best be pursued from a large-scale, strategic perspective

2) To obtain information from stakeholders that will help inform the Plan Committee as they develop the scope and nature of the pending Plan Revision

3) To discuss with waterfowl managers the practical aspects of fulfilling “A Vision for Integrated Waterfowl Management”

Workshop agenda

- Today:
  - Introduction
    - The Revision Vision
    - Taking a SDM approach
  - Break-out groups to:
    - Identify fundamental & means objectives for waterfowl management
    - Identify some measurable attributes
  - Group discussion; opportunity for individual input
- Tomorrow:
  - Introduction to objectives hiearchies
  - Break-out groups to:
    - Construct an objectives hierarchy
    - Identify strategic actions to achieve objectives
  - Group presentations; synthesis

Break-out Groups

- Review the handout of potential objectives
- Add missing objectives
- Discuss and reach agreement on whether each is a fundamental or means objective
- Suggest re-wording for clarity if necessary
- Suggest one or more measurable attributes for your fundamental objectives
- More detail provided on handout

Fundamental vs. means objectives

- **Fundamental objectives**
  - An essential reason for your interest in the problem or decision
  - Constitute the broadest objectives influenced by your (conservation) actions
  - Important because *it just is!*

- **Means objectives**
  - Represent a way station in the progress toward a fundamental objective (e.g., decrease natural mortality)
  - Serve to help generate potential actions and can deepen understanding of the decision problem

Fundamental vs. means objectives

- Is this where I want to go? (FUNDAMENTAL) or is it a way to get there? (MEANS)
- Fundamental objectives answer “why?”
  Means objectives answer “how?”
- The distinction usually is dependent on the decision problem; a means objective in one problem may be a fundamental objective in another (and vice-versa)
- The distinctions in our context can ultimately help us define and bound the scope of “integrated waterfowl management”

USGS

Objectives vs. actions

- The two are often confused in wildlife management planning documents
- E.g., “protect 1000 additional acres of habitat” - Not an objective, but a management action chosen (either explicitly or implicitly) from a broader set of actions
- Means objectives help define a potential set of actions; e.g., increase recruitment (means objective) by restoring native prairie, or constructing predator-proof fences, or creating nesting islands (set of potential actions)

Measurable attributes

Fundamental objective	Measurable attribute
Maintain duck hunting tradition	Number of people who identify themselves as duck hunters
Ecosystem goods and services	Wetland acres (not counting farmed wetland)
Hunt quality	Proportion of hunters who say they were satisfied or very satisfied with their season
Promote conservation behavior in the public	Annual total of public and private dollars for habitat conservation ($billion)

Break-out groups

After the break-outs: *Individual input (1)*

- You will be given the opportunity to express *your* opinion (via Turning Point) about the list of potential objectives

- Purpose is *NOT* to conduct a "vote," but a means to:
  - ensure everyone has a "voice" in a short period of time
  - determine the degree of variation in opinion
  - understand the sources of variation
  - have a record of (anonymous) responses

After the break-outs: *Individual input (2)*

- First step is to gather some basic demographics (nationality, affiliation, etc)

- Then for each potential objective provided, indicate whether you think it is:
  - 1 = not a relevant waterfowl management objective
  - 2 = a fundamental waterfowl management objective
  - 3 = a means waterfowl management objective

After the break-outs: *Individual input (3)*

- Individually, first rank and then score each fundamental objective
- Rank the relative importance of the objective, with 1 being the highest
- Score each objective on a scale of 0-100, with 100 given to the one ranked #1; then decide how important #2 is compared to #1; then how important #3 is to #1, and so on

Obj #	Description	Rank	Score
8	Tradition of waterfowling	2	50
14	Healthy populations	1	100
15	Max ecological goods & services	3	45

EXAMPLE

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