

**NATIONAL WIND COORDINATING COLLABORATIVE (NWCC)
WILDLIFE WORKGROUP MEETING**

**October 30, 2008
Milwaukee, WI**

BACKGROUND

On October 30, 2008, members of the Wildlife Workgroup convened in Milwaukee, WI, to discuss priorities illuminated by *Wind Wildlife Research Meeting VII*, and to confirm 2009 workgroup activities. A meeting summary is under development and will be circulated to the workgroup when it is available. A 2009 Wildlife Workgroup blueprint incorporating feedback from the meeting is attached, along with a schedule for 2009 NWCC conference calls.

NEXT STEPS FROM WILDLIFE WORKGROUP MEETING

General: Interested parties should email Heather Whitlaw, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, at heather.whitlaw@tpwd.state.tx.us for a copy of the Lesser Prairie Chicken Working Group's recently published work plan.

GS3C Oversight Committee members will consider potential resources for additional KSU funding.

Noel Cutright (We Energies), **Aimee Delach** (Defenders of Wildlife), **Rob Fergus** (National Audubon), **Al Manville** (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service), and **Jay Pruett** (The Nature Conservancy) will coordinate with **NWCC staff** and member communications departments to produce a two-page factsheet summarizing the most recent economic data on the economic value of wildlife

Jay Pruett will suggest specific approaches for encouraging state agencies and others possessing wind and wildlife data to work collaboratively.

Members of US FWS Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) will discuss how to approach Bureau of Land Management (BLM) about opportunities for the FAC process to inform BLM wind turbine siting guidelines.

NWCC staff will:

- Draft a letter from Planning Committee thanking We Energies for hosting and staffing Wind Wildlife Research Meeting VII [*complete*]
- Provide Jay Pruett (The Nature Conservancy) with information on the NWCC to share at TNC meeting [*in progress*]
- Work with sage grouse experts to develop a problem statement on wind development and sage grouse for review and consideration by the GS3C [*complete*]
- Develop a proposal to modify current outreach strategy based on feedback from Wildlife Workgroup.
- Develop a proposal for collaboratively updating the Mitigation Toolbox [*in progress*]

In 2009, the Wildlife Workgroup will:

- Consider convening a workshop or developing a white paper on mitigation experiences by other industries. This activity should recognize that the degree of competition varies across industries.
- Consider how the workgroup might encourage power purchasers to include environmental considerations and mitigation activities in RFPs, which could even the playing field for conscientious developers.
- Host informational webcasts, possibly on topics like:
 - Environmental roadmap component of DOE's 20% Wind Vision
 - Environmental portion of AWEA Siting Handbook
 - Federal Advisory Committee recommendations
 - Logistics of and lessons learned from implementation of Avian and Bat Protection Plans (late 2009 or 2010)
- Seek engagement from BLM and U.S. Forest Service in Wildlife Workgroup activities.
- Consider how staff might work with individual members to improve information dissemination within specific sectors.
- Determine future activities for workgroup interaction on transmission and wildlife issues.
- Investigate participant desire for NWCC to address offshore wind energy issues.
- Consider hosting a workshop on the statistics used in study models.

NEXT WORKGROUP CALL:

The next Wildlife Workgroup call is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 4th, 2009, at 2:30pm Eastern** (1:30pm Central, 12:30pm Mountain, 11:30am Pacific).