

Proceedings of the 19th Annual Meeting of the National Bobwhite Technical Committee



July 23rd – 26th, 2013
Hotel Roanoke
Roanoke, Virginia

**“Appalachian Overlap: Where the Ranges of Quail, Grouse,
Turkey, Woodcock and Golden-Winged Warbler Occur
Together”**



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NBTC Chairman's Comments

It has been a great honor to serve as chair this past year, and I look forward to the upcoming year's challenges leading up to Iowa where my time as chair will come to an end. We have had, and will continue to have, challenges. And our best laid plans will sometimes be put on hold while we work through issues that come up during the year as they are sure to. Together, if we always assume good intent, and develop trust among ourselves, we can work through any issue. Trust is built by shared experiences, by breaking bread together and by staying in touch throughout the year. I urge everyone to try to maintain contact throughout the year with your subcommittee members and the steering committee by all means available.

I want to thank our Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Director, Bob Duncan, for all the time he took to spend with us during this year's meeting. His opening comments during our plenary session were right on target and his commitment to our cause is firm. We look forward to his continued leadership, not only with VDGIF, but now as chair of the NBCI Management Board.

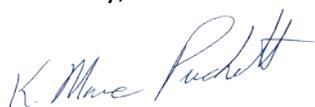
I want to thank the Steering Committee, especially, and all the Subcommittees for their work during the meeting, but also for the countless hours they put in throughout the year. I want to thank them all for their patience with me as I grow into a role I am not especially suited for. I want to thank the NBCI Staff for their tireless efforts, too. We are going through a growth period and in some ways breaking new ground each day. I hope our Steering Committee, our Subcommittees and our NBCI staff will continue to develop their working relationships and define through time an effective and also enjoyable way to work together.

As I write this, funding for NBCI staff is still our number one concern. So many have worked hard this year to try to move forward the idea of Pittman-Robertson Funding for NBCI staff, but the verdict is not yet in. We feel optimistic that the majority of state agencies will be willing to support for a three year period funding NBCI staff at a high level. The critical period will be leading up to the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference this March. By then we should have a clear picture of where NBCI stands with regards to state support.

I also want to commend the "above and beyond the call" efforts of the ad hoc committee on focal areas and monitoring led by John Morgan of Kentucky, and NBCI Science Coordinator Tom Dailey, with help from many as they would be the first to say. They are very close to producing a protocol and support tools that will help all states to reach the next level in quail focal area establishment, monitoring and promotion.

I also want to commend everyone out there working for quail, whether through NBTC and NBCI or not. Please know that everything done in the name of quail or early-succession species is greatly appreciated regardless of the flag under which it is done. We realize that not everyone is a "joiner" and that some feel more comfortable working on their own. This does not detract from the hard work they do.

Sincerely,



K. Marc Puckett – NBTC Steering Committee Chair

Conference Agenda

Tuesday, July 23rd:

8:00 – 6:00 – Continuous registration

8:15 – 12:15 – Steering Committee meeting

1:00 – 6:00 – State Coordinators meeting

6:30 – 9:30 – Welcome reception with live music

Wednesday, July 24th:

8:15 – 5:15 – Silent auction

8:15 – 5:00 – Poster session

8:30 – 10:00 – General Plenary Session 1

8:30 – 9:00 – Welcome and opening comments, Mr. Bob Duncan, *Executive Director, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries*

9:00 – 9:30 – Virginia's Quail Recovery Initiative, Challenges to Maintaining Momentum, *Marc Puckett, VDGIF Biologist NBTC Chair*

9:30 – 10:00 – NBCI Report to Stakeholders, *Don McKenzie, NBCI Director*

10:00 – 10:30 – Break

10:30 – 11:00 – Collaboration and the Working Lands for Wildlife Program, *Galon Hall, NRCS National Working Lands for Wildlife Program Leader*

11:00 – 11:30 – Unifying an Early-Succession Habitat Message, *Dr. Todd Fearer, Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture Coordinator, American Bird Conservancy*

11:30 – 12:00 – Appalachian Overlap – USFS Multi-Species Habitat Management, *Dr. Carol Croy, USFS GW-Jeff National Forest Biologist*

12:00 – 1:00 – Lunch

1:00 – 5:00 – Committee meetings (Ag. Policy, Forestry, Grazing and Grasslands, Mined Lands – *Note this is the first ever meeting of the Mined Lands subcommittee, Outreach, and Research*)

5:00 – 5:30 – Silent auction ends and winners announced

6:30 – 9:00 – Dinner and Awards Banquet. Key note speaker – Mr. David Ledford, President and CEO of the Appalachian Wildlife Foundation. *Mined Land Reclamation: What is the Goal*

Thursday, July 25th:

8:00 – 10:00 – Poster session

8:15 – 11:30 – Committee meetings continued

11:30 – 1:30 – Lunch (Extended to allow time to prepare committee reports)

1:30 – 2:30 – Group discussion of the concept of Pittman-Robertson dollars to be used to fund NBCI state and operations

2:30 – 5:15 – NBTC Business meeting

5:30 – 7:30 – Steering Committee continued

Friday, July 26th:

8:15 – 8:30 Load transportation for field trip

8:30 – 9:15 – Travel to field trip stop 1, Wysor Smith property

9:15 – 10:15 – Walking tour of Wysor Smith property

10:15 – 11:00 – Travel to Fenwick Mines USFS Burn Units – stop 2 including break at Eastern Divide USFS Work Center

11:00 – 12:00 – Stop 2 walking tour – USFS large scale burn units

12:00 – 12:30 – Travel to stop 3 lunch site with an overview

12:30 – 1:30 – Lunch at Potts Mountain Overlook

1:30 – 2:30 – Travel back to Hotel Roanoke - adjourn

Steering Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday – July 23rd

8:15 – 8:20 – Welcome and introductions of new participants (All)

8:20 – 8:30 – Treasurer’s report (need to select audit committee and conduct audit before Business meeting)
(Kowaleski)

8:30 – 9:30 – Overview of latest on NBCI funding (PR, NFWF, Park Cities, Quail, etc.) (McKenzie)

9:30 – 10:00 – State Coordinators meeting – needs from the SC (Dailey / Morgan)

10:00 – 10:30 – Sub-comm. / NBCI staff / NBCI Director operational protocol (Puckett / McKenzie)

10:30 – 10:40 – Break

10:40 – 11:10 – Focal tiers revisions and SC approval (Thackston)

11:10 – 11:40 - Outreach Committee report on status of Lands of National Quail Significance and State level NBCI awards (Smith / Robinson)

11:40 – 12:15 – Bobwhite Foundation news (Keyser)

Thursday – July 25th

5:30 – 6:15 – Discuss “asks / concerns” from business meeting (including annual meeting format)

6:15 – 6:45 - Discussion of feedback from State Coordinators meeting (Dailey / Morgan)

6:45 – 7:00 – Discussion of Pittman-Robertson after feedback

7:00 – 7:30 – AFWA planning (All) (Adjourn, or continue discussion at dinner)

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday – July 23rd

8:15 – 8:20 – Welcome and introductions of participants:

Catherine Rideout, John Morgan, Larry Heggeman, Lenny Brennan, Tom Dailey, Donnie Buckland, Don McKenzie, Bruce Neeler, Mike Black, , Bob Long, Ken Duran, Dan Figert, Mike Piccirilli, Ben Robinson, Kyle Brazil, Nick Prough, John Doty, Marc Puckett and Craig Alderman. Joined after break by James Tomberlin and Reggie Thackston.

8:20 – 8:30 – Treasurer’s report:

Chuck Kowaleski elected Treasurer/Chair Elect at NBTC meeting in Abilene August 2012

Marc Puckett, like every other treasurer before him had set up a separate personal account to handle NBTC funds. But the amounts had started becoming substantial – over \$25K and he no longer felt comfortable with this arrangement.

Marc, Chuck and Don McKenzie investigated setting up a business account that would remain in one location even as new treasurers were elected. This also made it easier to register the account with the IRS. It was decided that Marc would continue to handle NBTC funds until such an account was set up, preferably before the beginning of 2013.

Criteria:

1. Had to be with an extensive national banking chain so future chairs could easily access
2. Had to have convenient, and preferably no cost online banking
3. Had to allow access by several folks so that remote auditing could be easily performed
4. Needed to have a branch near Don in Arkansas so that it could be tied to a permanent address

After visiting several banks and talking to their business account folks it was decided to use Bank of America.

On September 20th - Don rented a post office box to be used as NBTC’s permanent business address.

October 16th - Marc writes Don an NBTC check for \$500 to be used to establish the account. Chuck becomes a signatory of the account and the rest of the NBTC funds are transferred to the new permanent NBTC account.

Beginning balance when Chuck became treasurer was \$25,281.82. Deposits since then totaled \$45,327.63. Withdrawals totaled \$35,782.99 including \$4,138.38 in travel reimbursements. Our current balance is \$34,826.46. Quail VII Income = \$32,575.99. Expenses = \$29,743.46. Net Profit = \$2,682.53

8:30 – 9:30 – Overview of latest on NBTC funding, Pittman-Robertson, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Park Cities Quail, etc. (McKenzie)

Park Cities has agreed to fund ½ Kyle Brazils position for another year (\$75,000) – good until the end of June 2014, NFWF has provided NBCI with a 6 month probationary grant while we work on addressing issues that came up during a NFWF review – Don is hoping to have an additional year of funding approved this November – which would fund current staff through November 2014, One of NFWF recommendations was to have a more overt connection with PIF community, focal area monitoring is a good opportunity to connect to these groups. NFWF prefers funding work on the ground, rather than funding core capacity. Don said that he would ideally like to see P-R fund core capacity and NFWF fund on the ground work. Discussed third draft of P-R Project Statement – hopes to have states commit to 3-5 years of funding, hope to have final draft ready by the Management Board meeting at AFWA in Portland, Oregon in September.

Mike Piccirilli – States can send in a P-R grant application any time of the year, in Region IV, can use for eligible activity, on the ground work, research and survey. P-R preliminary apportionment comes out in Nov – Feb-March final apportionment. FY13 \$130 M, FY14 looking like additional \$150 M on top of this year's increase. Mike emphasized that this is a state effort and not a FWS effort, can do a multiyear agreement, depends on how much match the entities can put up. Research and survey work is eligible. There are a lot of forms of in-kind match that States can use for match. If you can get discount price on equipment and the dealer signs a paper showing it as a donation it can also be used as a match.

States may believe that identifying different eligible projects is a limiting factor, but there are a lot more eligible practices out there than many States currently ask for funding for.

FWS Region 4 and Don are developing a model that hopefully will be accepted by other regions P-R coordinators. Larry is wondering how States will coordinate this across FWS regional lines. Discussion on how we will need to have the state quail coordinators work with state P-R folks will need management board blessing. Each state could possibly use the NBTC project within their current normal Technical Assistance grant but it's easier for FWS if these are handled by individual new grants to the States. Annual report will probably have to come from either Don or the States to show how the grants funds were used in that individual state during each reporting period – details will need to be worked out. NBCI will provide info, coordinate or run workshops, work with landowners or other federal agencies to benefit quail. Objectives have to be measurable and it might be interesting on coming up with ways to accurately report how Don's staff's work is measured and reported to the States for their P-R coordinator's reports. State quail coordinators probably need to start interacting with their P-R coordinators to lay the groundwork for this effort. First thing is to get this idea approved at the management board meeting.

Craig Alderman - QUWF - NSSF – a small number of companies provide 80% of the funding – may want to talk to them about endorsing this project. Also a suggestion was made to inform hunters about how their P-R funding helps quail.

Don – recently signed renewed agreement with UT to continue waiving 41% overhead for all state contributions which can be used for match for P-R funds.

Marc- states are getting criticized by sportsman questioning about where P-R funding is actually being spent – states need to do a better job informing their customers.

Don – wonders about only having some states buy in. Current idea is that \$25k maintains current services while \$52k provides full services. If only receive funding from part of the states we won't be able to provide full services to any of them. Chuck suggested bumping up these amounts to help cover the states that can't provide full funding. Discussion on whether we stop providing services for states that don't provide funding. Need to be

able to join us later? **Don would like the steering committee to come up with expectations, deliverables – maybe working with coordinators.**

Ken suggested Don put together a list of what the full vision is (what you get for full funding). Maybe get the subcommittees to develop a list of what they would like to see as deliverables. – Maybe have Marc include that in subcommittee charges?

Marc – is there any action we need to take? Dan suggested that we reevaluate this on Thursday evening after discussion during the week with the larger group.

9:30 – 10:00 – State Coordinator’s meeting – needs from the Steering Committee (Tom Dailey) John Morgan – coordinators will be meeting numerous times. **Discussion on providing up to \$2,000/meeting in travel assistance for 2 more Shaker Village style meetings for the coordinators. (\$4K total).** Approval to supply this meeting funding was motioned and seconded and received unanimous approval during vote.

Public relations push aimed at state directors at this September’s AFWA meeting with full approval from the States hopefully at March North American meeting.

Do we need to add days to meetings since quail coordinators focal area meetings are taking so long? This focus area effort should be mostly done by the end of this meeting but inventory work and tiers work will remain for next year. To be revisited during Thursday business meeting.

10:00 – 10:45 – Sub-committees / NBCI staff / NBCI Director operational protocol (Puckett)

In March the Steering Committee approved a set of guidelines for forestry committee working with Don’s staff. This led to a general set of guidelines for committees working with staff. With the introduction of P-R funding concept it was suggested we come up with a codified set of operational guidelines – NBTC currently has a set of suggested guidelines for annual operational protocol between NBTC subcommittees and NBCI staff.

Working with Don, subcommittees would submit activity reports to steering committee. This report would be presented at the NBCI Management Board meeting at AFWA in September. NBCI staff would provide a follow-up mid-year report in mid to late winter outlining progress on committee goals as well as other opportunities. Mike Black noted that there was some value in NBCI staff in giving the management board a short overview of their annual activities. Discussion occurred on these operational protocols. Maybe have the committees set some long term goals so that there is a vision for the future that will help steer decisions. Marc asks folks to provide comments on these guidelines within the next 3 weeks.

10:45 – 11:20 – Focal tiers revisions and SC approval (Thackston)

A 3 rung system will be the format that Georgia will be using for establishing tiers in the focal areas. Hope to have this model adopted across NBCI landscape for consistency and buy in from other resource agencies. John M had problems with Ranks 4 & 5 that doesn’t contain focal areas. Reggie explained that some states may not have the ability to do the monitoring required for focal areas but still want to be involved. Georgia has 22 focal landscapes but will probably only have 5 focal areas but hope to use the landscape designation to help target farm bill funding to even those without focal areas. Reggie hired 4 farm bill biologists through a contribution agreement and used the focal landscape boundaries to determine where they were placed. **Motion was made to adopt Reggie’s tier system – motion passed unanimously.** NWTF will be using 8 digit watersheds to establish turkey focal areas and will have a similar tiered system.

11:20 – 12:00 - Outreach Committee report on status of Lands of National Quail Significance and State level NBTC awards (Smith / Robinson)

Handout on proposed criteria for designating an area as a landscape of national significance for quail conservation promoted as a press release. Discussion on involving grasslands committee, forestry and state quail coordinators in developing these criteria. Lenny would like an answer sooner rather than later (before a year from now). Discussion ensued. **Outreach, forestry, grasslands and research committee will be offered a chance to work on that set of criteria and report back on Thursday.** We may then circulate that around to the committee members that aren't here for additional feedback.

12:00 – 12:15 – Bobwhite Foundation news (Keyser) (Adjourn until 5:30 Thursday July 25th)

Joe Crafton – initial donation of \$100k, with \$1 M pledge to match any other contribution for 2 years. Pat and Keith Barber – made good contacts in Tennessee, may have presentation tonight during presentation – maybe 2 Virginia folks will pay up to be members of the donor board and possible person in Tennessee making 7 digit estate gift. Lenny asked if there were any plans for a capital campaign. Should you hire a capital campaign manager to push this effort along? Or is this the purpose of the members of the development board.

Thursday, July 25th – Steering Committee wrap up after business meeting:

Marc Puckett reports - 129 folks attended – 61 folks signed up for field trip.

Discussion on points brought up during meeting on meeting schedule changes, PR feedback, AFWA Meeting schedules - no extra day, possibly shorten plenary session, place field trip at beginning or end of meeting, subcommittee time – more involvement (emails) outside of the regular meetings, possibly more evening meetings.

Feedback for state coordinators meeting – John, do we need evaluation by outside folks of monitoring plan? General feedback is that it's pretty late in the game and this is a realistically doable effort by field staff. Decided that we didn't need to send the plan out for outside review. Discussion on whether to get the Management Board to bless the plan (yes) keep it simple, send it out in September and March.

Discussion on P-R funding - lots of back and forth. John suggested helping Don on deliverables. By this time we were all quite burned out, we adjourned by 6:30 and went our separate ways to dinner, too much in one meeting. Just had to step away for a few days.

Awards (at banquet Wednesday evening, July 24th)



Dr. Tom Dailey (left in jacket) receives the National Bobwhite Technical Committee's Annual Award from NBTC past-chair Dan Figert. Tom has had a distinguished career in quail research and management having been involved with the Southeast Quail Study Group since its inception and having been a key player in helping transition the SEQSG to the National Bobwhite Technical Committee. Tom has been active on the NBTC Steering Committee for many years and also served as an active member of the NBTC Research Subcommittee. Tom's name is on an

impressive list of research papers related to bobwhite quail and other species, many focusing on human dimensions. Tom was instrumental in Missouri's quail recovery efforts and helped lead Missouri to be the first state to adopt the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative's goals and step those down to the county level. Tom chose after retiring from the Missouri DNR to continue his career in quail conservation by becoming the NBCI's Assistant Director and head of science. His professionalism and dedication as co-coordinator of the Quail VII conference and proceedings led to a high quality meeting and an excellent set of proceedings. Tom has also played a key role in the ad hoc NBCI committee on focal area monitoring. But more than all else, his always positive attitude has served the quail community well for over three decades.



Don McKenzie, NBCI Director, presents the NBCI's Group Achievement Award to Dave Hoge, FSA's Washington planning director accepting on behalf of Kansas FSA (left photo), and Galon Hall, NRCS Working Lands for Wildlife Program National Coordinator accepting on behalf of the Kansas NRCS. Back in the very beginning of the Conservation Reserve Program, the Kansas FSA and NRCS had a key

decision to make “what kind of cover should be allowed under the program?” Staff involved from the FSA, NRCS, the state wildlife agency and others determined that a mixture of native warm season grasses would be most appropriate. The decision was not met with enthusiasm by all, as many states chose to allow non-native cool season grasses to be planted under CRP. But Kansas FSA and NRCS staff refused to back down and they became the first example of a “natives first” planting policy under USDA programs. The result – by targeting thousands of acres of enrollment within western Kansas within the native range of the lesser prairie chicken, these grand birds began showing up in portions of their historic range where they had not been seen in years. In addition, increases in pheasant and bobwhite quail populations have been noted. In the case of the bobwhite, this represents one of the few places within its range where it has increased over the last decade. Individuals deserving special recognition from the early days of the program include: James Habinger, former NRCS State Conservationist, Jess Crockford. Former NRCS State Range Conservationist, Bob Higgins and Rich Hager, former NRCS biologists, Al Schmatter, former FSA Conservation Program Manager, Bob Wood and Charles Lee, former KDWPT Agriculture Liaisons, and Sharp Brothers Seed Company of Healy Kansas. These Kansas FSA and NRCS staff, among many others, are worthy of recognition for their past and ongoing commitment to conservation practices benefitting all wildlife (nominated by Matt Smith and Jim Pittman – Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism).

Pittman-Robertson Funding Discussion Special Session

In an effort to facilitate Director McKenzie's moving forward with the idea of requesting states fund NBCI staff and operations with Pittman-Robertson (Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration) funds, NBTC Chair Puckett and NBCI Director McKenzie led a discussion prior to the business meeting of all attendees on this concept. Sub-committees had been asked by Chair Puckett to make this a topic within their sub-committee meetings to further facilitate the discussion. Some further notes on this issue are found in the Business Meeting Minutes under subcommittee reports. This is a summary of the PR discussion from Steering Committee member Catherine Rideout.

- Mark Jones: will state contributions affect who can serve on the steering committee meetings and who can serve as chairs of subcommittees? Will NGOs not contributing PR funds then be seen as 'telling states what to do'?
- Puckett – says states that may not be able to afford contributing might at a later date be in a position to help, that he sees this in some ways as states that can support it helping to lift up states that cannot.
- How can we justify equivalent contributions from states based on the PR that states receive? Concept of 'fringe' states versus 'core' states and also the idea of contributing based on the amount of PR funding states receive.
- Applegate – what about reverted PR funds? Funds may be de-authorized? Not sure. McKenzie should check into how this money can be spent and by whom.
- Applegate – says states may already have designs on what they want to do with a two year bump of PR funds. If states are thinking about using PR funds to jump start a focal area there might be a conflict between starting a focus area versus supporting staff.
- Reporting issues – do state coordinators have any concerns about reporting issues? Morgan – state fed aid coordinators might have a large role in this – some might be ok with this and some may not. McKenzie – a current similar example – one report annually done by NBCI staff would go to the service as the annual report on behalf of the states. This would preclude state PR coordinators from having to worry about this.
- McKenzie- if we get PR, this does indicate that we would want to fall back on our NFWF relationship or other outside funds. Would allow us to refine how to spend NFWF funds on purposes closer to the ground.
- Mark Jones – justifying return on investment is important. Those states that contribute should be guaranteed steering committee positions and leadership on subcommittees.
- McKenzie does not see the make-up of the steering committee changing. Right now there is a management board with a seat for every director or appointee. Directors may insist on changing the way board is comprised or may insist on changing bylaws of the steering committee.
- McKenzie needs help outlining deliverables – can be incorporated into a document to outline the deliverables and objectives – here is what we are striving to achieve – perhaps in five year timeframes.
- Two sales jobs – easier one is to four regions of FWS. Harder sales job is with 25 states. Details are going to be critical to convince all states that services are worth the investment.

- Applegate suggests NBCI get up to National Conservation Training Center for Fed Aid training.

Additional comments from Puckett – take home message – no states seemed adamantly opposed, but details are problematic and lots of work remains. Much work to do on deliverables and sales pitch. Seems like a lot of concern was about how to equitably allocate burden among states. Need fair way to see who pays what. There also seemed to be some concern from a few states as to what services states who pay very little if anything would expect versus states that paid a lot – “pay to play” maybe not one to one, but some way to weight services for states that were bearing the most burden. Puckett states again that he sees this as states lifting up states – we are all in it together – so all states should get some services regardless of pay in.

Committee Reports

Committee Reports

Ag Policy – James Tomberlin – group a bit smaller this year (11 folks) introduced Kyle Brazil hired due to Bridget Collins moving on to AFWA. Kyle worked with Don to establish his work plan – identified priorities but tried to provide flexibility. Since his MOU for office space with FSA expires at the end of the year he will focus on FSA projects for a while such as pollinator planting projects. Bridget called in and provided a farm bill update, WHIP likely to be absorbed by EQIP, Senate at least 5% for wildlife, House capped at 7.5% - prefers Senate version. Bridget would like folks who can to work with their elected representatives. 1 million acres of additional CCRP is available including 250,000 new acres of CP33, **Action item – re-request to allow fallow pivot corners to be eligible for CP33, WLFW – Galon Hall – asked for help with coming up with numbers of new BWQ produced by implementing certain WLFW practices and help selling applicable WLFW benefits for BWQ to increase sign ups.** Discussed the possibilities of using P-R funding to cover some of Kyle’s expenses with other nonfederal funding used for any lobbying like efforts. The Ag Policy Committee recommended maintaining 1 days worth of time (8 hours total) for committee meetings during annual meetings. Discussed: new NRCS cover crop soil health initiative; joint meeting with Grazing Lands Committee on Native’s First proposal – polite no from former NRCS Chief but suggested working with WLFW for possible quail benefits. Discussion on Kyle’s efforts to put together a Native’s First Coalition. Kyle is working on FAQ sheet and will provide for America’s Grassland Conference and Chuck will also send around to AFWA EQIP committee. Suggested that we continue to pitch Natives First idea to state conservationists and groups in natives friendly states.

Forestry – Mark Jones - 22 folks in attendance – 8 state wildlife agencies, 2 JVs, 2 National forests, university and NGO’s. Mike Black gave report on his activities, LLP, SLP, NSF. Reggie asked about SLP acreage impacts especially compared to LLP initiatives. Mike gave discussion on possible impacts of this work. Information found in Mike’s weekly reports have been beneficial for many folks efforts in their states. Mike involved with several JV’s, prescribed burning efforts. Discussed forested CRP mid-contract management project training module – worked hard, but when NRCS’s efforts unveiled there was almost no mention of forested CRP midcontract management. Will make the material available to outreach committee and post on NBCI website. Will continue working with Penn State and Univ. of Wis. to make these materials available for states to be able to incorporate in their CRP training. No southern states opted to take the training. Committee sees a lot of opportunity to improve CRP program. Discussed with Don the priorities for Mike, incorporated them into his work plan including time frame and measurable. Committee asked Mike to elaborate more on some of the items. Committee will review in a year. **Discussion on P-R funding with Don, with the outcome of it being best for State P-R coordinators to work with Don. Discussion on lack of use of currently available farm bill precommercial thinning funding on forested CRP. Do we continue to support? Need to change some of the wording – working with Ag Policy and Bridget.** On changes to meetings – need to have state success stories brought up, suggest doing away with field trip and allocating that time to additional committee meetings. Monday travel and go home on Friday just like now. David Hoge gave 5 minute summary of current farm bill conditions. Reggie gave update on 7 state projects looking at LLP stands to determine if goals were being met. Reggie also gave an economic model update on alternative forest management going on in Georgia.

Grazing lands and Grasslands subcommittee – Nick Prough - 10 states represented. Discussed P-R - lively discussion – will change some states expectations, more focused approach, changed deliverables, especially if Committee gets staff member. Will need to show an increase in covey numbers, may need to expand beyond quail. Redirect more farm bill dollars toward quail restoration. Current meeting format is fine, don’t add days,

look at larger venues where it's easier (cheaper) to fly into. Discussed article – grass for the future, 27,000 hits, new variety of giant drought tolerant Bermuda grass praised by NRCS in south Texas. Why isn't native grass being promoted? Difficult to find NRCS recommendations for natives on the web. Committee would like to work on that. Kyle came by and gave Farm Bill update, committee does use Kyle sometimes due to lack of current staff person, discussed Natives First and gave a couple of action items that need a quick (2 week turnaround).

Mined Lands Subcommittee – David Ledford – (This NBTC meeting represents the first ever meeting of the Mined Lands Subcommittee) reports most quail range mining states represented except Illinois. What could they do with a staff member? First job; identify (map) mines that can be reclaimed – mines that have been reclaimed. Will identify regulatory issues and challenges, top 3-5 research needs on reclaimed lands, why are birds showing up on poor sites, what would be the best way to reclaim a site for quail, new staff member would also need to get to know the major mining players. Recommend the Iowa meeting be during first 2 weeks of Nov for free nonresident licenses.

Outreach Subcommittee – Mark Smith - 16 folks attended – largest number ever, discussed landscapes of national significance – modified draft criteria quite a bit, which will be sent to steering committee, did approve NBTC state level award, could be landowner, legislator, group etc. Detailed information will be required. Draft of application forthcoming –suggested deadline for submitting nomination – April 1, award announcement in May. **John Doty proposed guidelines for soliciting or accepting outside donations to NBCI – will be voted on next year after minimum review period.** Meeting changes (near saltwater or good hunting) near good airport connections, field trips – some folks really liked them, others didn't like to spend that extra time, would like to increase meeting times by shortening plenary session or having meetings during steering committee meetings, would like to have separate meeting to finish hammering out communications plan – 3-4 day meeting in November, maybe around Nashville – looking for free facilities and facilitator, Ben Robinson taking over as Chair for next meeting, Jena Donnell from Oklahoma is new vice chair.

Research Committee – James Martin - 20 attendees, Quail VII published in Jan, lots of hard work between annual meetings at Shaker Village – habitat evaluation of model focus area, 25% of 5,000 acre focus area, model developed on what is bobwhite habitat (18 pages of selections), will continue to improve model through time, folks participating in model focus area had questions on measuring bare ground, etc, A second topic was population modeling – roadside versus non-roadside points – all states should have road side points, whether to have rest periods, look at sample data from pilot states, will be doing literature review and finish monitoring plan by end of the year, concern was voiced about lack of other university scientists attending this meeting.

John Morgan – discussed participants reaction to focus area parameters after introducing all the folks that have worked on the project so far. Expanded data collection time and changed to road based collection points with an allowance of up to 10% of points off road. Need to standardize training, want I&E committee to create training video. John and Ken will take a break and then shoot to finish final draft by December and put it out for final review and minor edits.

Additional notes:

- I. Habitat evaluation discussion
 - a. Ken Duren provided an overview of the habitat classification system
 - i. How do you apply consistent habitat across the range
 - ii. Structure, food
 - iii. The classification tree does not currently account for quality in its assessment

- b. Goals of Habitat Monitoring
 - i. Am I reaching my habitat goal of 25%?
 - 1. Current model is sufficient to achieve this goal
 - ii. What are the opportunities for improving habitat?
 - 1. Model may need some tweaking
 - iii. How is the population responding to the habitat?
 - 1. Model may need some tweaking (different model)
 - iv. Measuring variables
 - 1. Needed: Size, juxtaposition
 - 2. Bare ground: under canopy?
 - 3. Percent Cover: Grasses Forbs
 - a. Forb diversity: 3 or more
 - b. Measure of year round food to grass
 - 4. Distance to cover: base it on covey movement data (30-100m)
 - 5. Shrub density: heavy stem density below one meter
 - 6. Distance to herbaceous cover: base on covey movements (30m Guthrie)
 - 7. Crop: remove crop type, change access to cover to access to quail habitat, remove tillage, but continue to measure crop type and tillage in the field
 - 8. Linear Features: remove distinction, map all cover spots down to some map able unit
 - 9. Anything within range of protective cover counts
 - 10. Remove negative stops on canopy closure coniferous and deciduous
 - 11. Appropriately word the expert opinion "is this quail habitat" question.
- II. Population Monitoring
 - a. Standardized vs. Coordinated Monitoring
 - i. Reference and focus area must be monitored the same
 - 1. Roadside and off road are acceptable
 - 2. Initially off road points may be 10% of area so long as on road points represent at least 10% of the area
 - 3. Where off road points are defined as having at a center at least 250 meters from the road
 - ii. Define Roadside
 - iii. Rest Period
 - 1. Rest period is not needed, start collecting data when ready
 - 2. Time of detection is related to count start time, not arrival time
 - iv. Number of points after initial year should be driven by the target CV
 - v. What is the appropriate level of power needed for determining that population goals were achieved
 - 1. Pilot data will be used to estimate CVs, starting densities, and will be used to determine if appropriate power is likely to be achieved to show target density achieved.
 - 2. Pilots will put data into a common format for analysis (Access DB)
- III. NBCI Database
 - a. Potential Features
 - i. One **stable** central system for all NBCI Data
 - ii. Subscription through ArcGIS online
 - iii. Tall Timbers could host the web server
 - 1. Migration from Tall Timbers to NBCI site in the future

- iv. Priority is the Model Focus Area Program data
- v. Hiring a Database manager is a priority for NBCI
- vi. In the interim some kind of system to facilitate coordinated data collection between MFAP cooperators is needed by next spring (ad-hoc DB committee)

Business Meeting Minutes – Thursday July 25th

Chuck Kowaleski gave treasurers report (copy of which is in earlier Steering Committee minutes) and reported that the NBTC account had been audited by Dan Figert and John Morgan. Marc covered expected income of current meeting – plan to break even with all annual dues to go into the NBTC account.

Lots of emails this last year, mostly on funding – Kyle has found funding from Park City Quail for another 6 months.

Discussion on impact of citizen's use of NBCI 2.0 wording that implied hunting had no impact on quail populations. Steering committee meeting in Tennessee discussed this with Tennessee leadership. Tennessee is working on a state quail management plan and will withhold comment until then.

Reggie Thackston and Donnie Buckland - NBCI Focal Tiers presentation – looking for endorsement from committee for focal tier system that would take bottom up science of focal areas with the top down delivery of focal regions to leverage support. It's easier to sell the idea of increasing ranking points for a large focal region to NRCS and then have staff locally promote signup in a focal area. Reggie presented on PowerPoint the Georgia example. They are already implementing this system and are making it available to all states. Steering committee endorsed and voted unanimously to approve of the current plan with some revisions by the SC in the interim. Goal is to have it in final form for the NBCI MB meeting at the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting in September. With their approval it will then be available to any states that wish to use the framework and will be required for NBCI recognition. Donnie shows an example of how the NWTF program will dovetail with the Focal Tiers concepts. Many of their focal areas will overlap with NBCI and State focal areas.

Donnie Buckland mentioned a new NWTF initiative "Save the Habitat – Save the Hunt" – which has the goal of creating or improving 4 million acres of habitat, and recruiting 1.5 m new hunters. This major initiative will have many benefits not only for turkey, but quail, grouse, and other species.

Andy Rosenberger – field trip – meet at registration at 8 am – have locking room for luggage – will carpool – wear walking shoes.

Outgoing Steering committee members – Bob Long of Maryland, John Morgan – KY, Donnie Buckland –NWTF. Chair Puckett thanks these outgoing officers for their dedicated service above and beyond the call. Particular recognition for John Morgan who simultaneously led the ad hoc monitoring committee.

Election results – Andrew Burnett – NEAFWA representative, Reggie Thackston – State agency member at large, Jim Wooley – QF NGO representative. Chair Puckett congratulates the new officers and also thanks those who ran and were not elected. He appreciates everyone's willingness to serve. States that we are all a bit worn out, time to have a little fun and hopes everyone will go out and enjoy Roanoke as this is the "on your own" night. He reminds folks that Orvis has a special reception for attendees at their store only a few blocks away. Adjourns.

Poster Abstracts

Northern Bobwhite Patch Occupancy in a Heterogeneous Landscape

Kelsey M. Drey, Agricultural Ecology Laboratory, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762

James A. Martin, Agricultural and Carnivore Ecology Labs, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Animals are continually faced with human-modified landscapes that alter their behavior, demography, and distributions. Typically these managed landscapes consist of patchy resources with varying degrees of connectivity among patches and differential matrix effects on patch quality that determine habitat occupancy and abundance. Additionally, the relative importance of patch versus landscape characteristics will be species and scale dependent. Landscape connectivity and the capacity to support a viable metapopulation can be measured via metapopulation capacity. However, it is also important to understand the environmental drivers of patch occupancy to better design managed landscapes for wildlife. Northern bobwhite is a model species to study the effects of habitat degradation, fragmentation, and loss because of their limited dispersal capability and sensitivity to vegetation structure. We hypothesize that three patch characteristics will affect patch occupancy including patch area, isolation, and seral stage. We further hypothesize that the patch capacity, each patch's contribution to the metapopulation capacity, will reflect patches occupied by Northern bobwhite. Occupancy sampling was used to determine which covariates influence the probability of patch occupancy. Our results show seral stage and proximity of patches influence occupancy. The metapopulation capacity was estimated at 112 ha of available habitat in the landscape for metapopulation viability. Future analysis will include landscape specific dispersal estimates as well as covariates such as predation risk and food availability. The long-term goal is to build spatially-explicit models for bobwhites.

Early Successional Vegetation Communities on Restored Longleaf Pine in Southeast Virginia

Robert Glennon, Conservation Management Institute, Virginia Tech, Smithfield, VA 23430

There were 90 million acres of longleaf pine in the southeastern United States in 1680. By 2000, that area had decreased to 3 million acres as stands were converted to loblolly pine and cropland and developed. The natural range of longleaf pine extends from southeastern Virginia to East Texas. Efforts have been launched to restore the longleaf pine ecosystem, especially on droughty soils to which it is uniquely adapted. Longleaf pine has value as timber, especially as utility poles. However, the motivation for the restoration is the restoration of the ecosystem, which includes a herbaceous understory maintained by prescribed fire and a suite of wildlife species dependent on that herbaceous understory. The typical understory grass throughout the range of the ecosystem is wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*). Southeastern Virginia is north of the range of wiregrass. However, there is a wide variety of grasses, forbs, vines, and shrubs that occur in association with longleaf pine. The grasses include velvet panicgrass (*Dichanthelium scoparium*), variable panicgrass (*Dichanthelium commutatum*), needleleaf rosettegrass (*Dichanthelium aciculare*), purpletop (*Tridens flavus*), broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*) and purple lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*), and hairawn muhly (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*). The forbs include lespedeza (*Lespedeza* spp.) and beggarweed species (*Desmodium* spp.). Vines include muscadine grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*), roundleaf greenbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*), and poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*). Shrubs

include winged sumac (*Rhus copallina*) and scrub oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*). The poster will summarize the results of transects on a forest converted from loblolly pine to longleaf pine with well-drained Uchee loamy sand in Sussex County, Virginia.

Early Successional Vegetation Communities on Idled Cropland in Southeast Virginia

Robert Glennon, Conservation Management Institute, Virginia Tech, Smithfield, VA 23430

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has initiated three best management practices to encourage landowners to develop early successional habitat for wildlife. One of those practices, called the Idle Land practice, provides an incentive payment of \$50 per acre per year to landowners who sign a three-year contract to allow their cropland to go idle. In southeastern Virginia, these crop fields go through succession to a plant community dominated by the native annual forbs chickweed (*Stellaria media*), cutleaf evening primrose (*Oenothera laciniata*), annual ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) and the biennial horseweed or marestalk (*Conyza Canadensis*). Annual hard-seeded legumes germinated from the seed bank: hairy crabgrass (*Digitaria sanguinalis*), rabbitfoot clover (*Trifolium arvense*), common vetch (*Vicia sativa*), and hairy vetch (*Vicia villosa*). A small percentage of the area is occupied by the native perennials broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*) and purple lovegrass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*), hairawn muhly (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*), and Canada goldenrod (*Solidago Canadensis*). The poster will summarize the results of transects on an idled soybean field with well-drained Uchee loamy sand in Sussex County, Virginia.

Short-Statured Native Grasses in the Coastal Plain of Virginia and North Carolina

Robert Glennon, Conservation Management Institute, Virginia Tech, Smithfield, VA 23430

Herbaceous plant communities in eastern Virginia and North Carolina are dominated by a suite of short-statured native grasses. These communities occur on regenerating forests disturbed by natural phenomena or timber harvest or thinning, or on power line rights-of-way. Landowners maintain these areas by maintaining low stand densities in pine forests and conducting prescribed burns to suppress hardwood species. The local utility companies manage these areas to control the woody species with herbicides without destroying the herbaceous communities. Grass species include velvet panicgrass (*Dichanthelium scoparium*), variable panicgrass (*Dichanthelium commutatum*), needleleaf rosette grass (*Dichanthelium aciculare*), purpletop (*Tridens flavus*), broomsedge bluestem (*Andropogon virginicus*), splitbeard bluestem (*Andropogon ternarius*), bushy bluestem (*Andropogon glomeratus*), slender woodoats (*Chasmanthium laxum*), shortbeard plumegrass (*Saccharum brevibarbe*), sugarcane plumegrass (*Saccharum giganteum*), and Virginia wildrye (*Elymus virginicus*). Forb species found in association with the grasses include partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*), lespedeza species (*Lespedeza* spp.), and beggarweed species (*Desmodium* spp.). The poster will present data from transects conducted on a utility right-of-way on a moderately well-drained Slagle fine sandy loam in Isle of Wight County, Virginia.

Species Composition in a Native Grass and Forb Seeding for Wildlife in Southeast Virginia

Robert Glennon, Conservation Management Institute, Virginia Tech, Smithfield, VA 23430

Conservation agencies and organizations have been seeding mixtures of native grasses and forbs for wildlife for 70 years. Over that time, the number of commercially available species, cultivars, and ecotypes of seed has

increased dramatically as has the technology behind the establishment and management of the stands. This poster will summarize the vegetative composition of a stand established with USDA Farm Bill funds as an upland wildlife habitat seeding. These areas are now seeded at a seed density that allow upland wildlife birds and mammals spaces for nesting and travel within the stand as well as forb species that provide seed as a food source. Landowners and conservationists are often disappointed that these stands are not solid stands of the seeded species. The stand that was surveyed was seeded to a mixture of switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), Indianrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), and back-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*). Eighteen months after seeding, the stand had an average of one 12-inch diameter clump of native warm season grass every 36 inches, a density that wildlife biologists recommend. The spaces between the seeded grass clumps were occupied by broomsedge bluestem (*Andropogon virginicus*), ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), Canada goldenrod (*Solidago Canadensis*), slender goldenrod (*Euthamia tenuifolia*), and horse nettle (*Solanum carolinense*). The volunteer grass and forbs all contribute to wildlife habitat. Ragweed in particular is a critical element of the diet of bobwhite quail. The future management of the stand with prescribed fire and light disking will ensure that it continues to provide the habitat it provides today.

Native Grass Cultivars, Ecotypes, Germplasm, and Their Adaptations for the Eastern United States

Robert Glennon, Conservation Management Institute, Virginia Tech, Smithfield, VA 23430

The widespread use of native grasses depends on an inexpensive, reliable supply of seed with dependable growers and known ranges of adaptation. Over the past seventy years, the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA, Agricultural Research Service, State Agricultural Experiment Stations, and private seed companies have developed cultivars of grasses to restore ecosystems and produce forage and wildlife habitat. Each cultivar has a known production capability in the nursery and seed production field as well as the situation into which it is established. Each cultivar has a known range of adaptation to climate, soil characteristics, hydrology, and stress such as grazing within which it will perform. Knowledge of these adaptations has allowed the effective use of these cultivars beyond the area in which they were originally collected. Since the largest market for the tall prairie grasses is in the Midwest, much of the cultivar development has occurred in the states from Texas to North Dakota. Knowledge of the cultivars' adaptations has allowed their use in the eastern part of the United States until more local origins are developed. Recently, ecotypes and germplasm have been released for use in very localized areas. The poster presents a list of the released cultivars, source-identified material, and germplasm, their intended uses, and range of adaptation.

Monitoring Northern Bobwhite Breeding Populations in the Central Hardwoods Bird Conservation Region

Christopher M. Lituma, David A. Buehler, Evan P. Tanner, Ashley M. Unger, Patrick D. Keyser, and Craig A. Harper, Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-4563

Northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) populations declined by 3.8% annually from 1980-2006 in the Central Hardwoods Bird Conservation Region (CHBCR). Monitoring bobwhite populations and developing accurate population estimates by incorporating detection functions and occupancy estimates is an important component of the conservation initiative in this region. Our goal was to provide guidance for managers on how to maximize surveying efforts for bobwhite. We used radio-tagged bobwhites to document calling availability by minutes-

since-sunrise, day-of-year, and by influence of calling conspecifics. We designed a roadside survey by randomly locating five 15-km routes with 5-min unlimited distance point counts (30 counts/route), along secondary roads within bobwhite focal counties (n = 37) in the CHBCR. We conducted roadside and off-road point counts to assess roadside detection probability and occupancy bias. We used occupancy estimation to model radio-tagged bobwhite calling availability and off-road detection probabilities and occupancy. We modeled roadside detection probabilities using Huggins closed capture module in program MARK. We estimated an effective detection radius using program DISTANCE. Bobwhite calling availability was affected by daily and seasonal temporal variables as well as abundance of conspecifics calling. Bobwhite calling availability declined by as much as 30%, if surveys continued beyond 4 hr after sunrise. If at least one other bobwhite called during a count, availability for detection of a radio-collared individual increased by 46%. Detection probability between observers was as much as 33% different. Bobwhite detection probability and occupancy was unaffected by roads, but bobwhite detection probability during the second visit was 26% greater than the first and third visits (n = 270). Surveys for bobwhite can be roadside based, should begin early in the morning, and occur during the peak breeding months (June-July), while accounting for differences in observer detection as well as the influence of conspecifics on bobwhite calling availability.

The Effects of Management on Northern Bobwhite Population Persistence

Jesse T. Kamps, A. James Martin, and Mark D. McDonnell, Agricultural Ecology Laboratory, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762

William E. Palmer, Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy, Tallahassee, FL 32312

Wildlife managers of harvested species focus management on obtaining a target abundance or density to achieve a maximum sustainable yield. However many harvested species have life histories that include significant demographic stochasticity coupled with environmental variability. For example, northern bobwhites have a fast-paced (early maturation and short life-span) life history characterized by significant annual variation in population growth rates. Traditional bobwhite management has focused on providing consistent vegetation structure and composition; however, other components of bobwhite ecology are important such as its role as a prey species. Consideration of the entire bobwhite ecological niche should reduce demographic stochasticity. We tested the effect of management intensity on population variability using a natural experiment in a long-term bobwhite study. We utilized forty years of population estimates from Tall Timbers Research Station to derive population growth parameters from periods of non-intensive habitat management and intensive bobwhite management including timber thinning, supplemental feeding, and predation management. We calculated bobwhite population persistence to 100 years using a stochastic simulation model. Annual growth parameters were drawn from a gamma distribution based on the respective management regimes. Following a quasi-extinction criterion of ≤ 14 birds, non-intensive and intensive management regimes were significantly different with respect to population persistence ($P < 0.001$). Non-intensive management resulted in population persistence to 100 years in 12.1% of simulations (121 of 1000) while intensive management resulted in population persistence in 71.7% of simulations (717 of 1000). The results of our simulations point to the effectiveness of intensive management for bobwhite population persistence.

Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) Response to Habitat Change and Woodlot Edge Enhancement

Randall T. Knapik, Coree A. Brooks, and Robert J. Gates, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210

A multi-year research project is underway to understand effects of land use change and edge enhancement on survival, habitat use, and covey densities of northern bobwhites (*Colinus virginianus*) on 4 private land study sites in southwestern Ohio. Earlier work demonstrated that population growth is limited by a lack of preferred early successional woody cover during winter. Usable space for bobwhites declined from 2009-2013 as linear woody habitats and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) fields were converted to cropland. Managing succession along woodlot edges could offset these losses and possibly stem population declines if edge enhancement raises annual survival rates to 37%. Edge-feathering is a technique used to create a transition zone of early successional vegetation adjacent to open land by cutting mature trees on woodlot edges. Eighty-nine edge-feather treatment blocks were created on 2 of 4 study sites in Highland county Ohio during 2012 and 2013. Treatment blocks ranged from 15.24 m X 9.14 m (n=6) to 60.96 m X 9.14 m (n=20) with the majority of sites being 30.48 m X 9.14 m (n=47). Edge-feather placement was stratified by adjacent habitat type to compare use among treated sites adjacent to old fields, land enrolled in CRP, and cropland. Vegetation composition and structure was quantified before and after treatment and during winter with overhead cover, horizontal visual obstruction, shrub density, and basal area measurements. A subset of habitat metrics was used during winter to characterize vegetation where radio-marked bobwhites were located. Results will be used to evaluate behavioral and population responses to edge-feathering. Preliminary results from ongoing analyses of survival, habitat use, and vegetation change across 2 treated and 2 control sites will be presented.

Private Land Partnership in Ohio: Creating a Covey Headquarters Across the Fenceline

Mark Wiley, Wildlife Biologist, Ohio Division of Wildlife (Mark.Wiley@dnr.state.oh.us)

Charlie Payne, Regional Biologist, Quail Forever (CPayne@PheasantsForever.org)

Donnie Knight, USFWS Private Lands Partners Program (donald_knight@fws.gov)

Heidi Devine, Private Lands Biologist, Ohio Division of Wildlife (Heidi.Devine@dnr.state.oh.us)

Barb Bauer, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist (bbauer@PheasantsForever.org)

Robert Gates, Associate Professor, The Ohio State University (gates.77@osu.edu)

Creativity is often required to provide early successional woody cover for bobwhites on private lands where there are limitations from CRP practice standards, the financial burdens of the management activities, or compatibility with farm operations. To avoid maintenance restrictions on existing CRP contracts and landowners' reluctance to commit tillable acres to habitat, edge feathering was performed within woodlot edges to simulate woody bobwhite cover. During 2008-2011, researchers with the Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources (OSU SENR) determined that changes in winter survival of bobwhites had the greatest impact on population growth on 4 private land study sites in southwest Ohio. They identified early successional woody habitat as the most important cover type during winter. In response to these findings, a partnership between OSU SENR, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Wildlife (ODNR-DOW), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Private Lands Program (USFWS-PLP), Quail Forever (QF), and private landowners was established to create additional early successional woody cover within the study sites. Funds for all management activities were contributed by ODNR-DOW, USFWS-PLP, and QF. QF developed a request for proposals and hired a contractor to complete all work. Staff from ODNR-DOW and Pheasants Forever Farm Bill program hosted informational meetings and made landowner contacts within the management areas to educate landowners and solicit permission to conduct the habitat work. Benefits to participating landowners were: 1) no out-of-pocket expenses 2) did not have to work with a contractor individually, and 3) timing and placement of created habitat did not affect farming activities or CRP contracts. A total of 2.9 hectares were impacted within 2 study sites in 2012 and 2013; more than 20 landowners participated. Continued research by OSU SENR will evaluate use of newly created habitat features by bobwhite.

Meeting Attendees List

first_name	last_name	work_company	preferred_email
Craig	Alderman	Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation	calderman@quwf.net
Roger	Applegate	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency	roger.applegate@tn.gov
Glen	Askins	VDGIF	glen.askins@dgif.virginia.gov
Mike	Black	National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative	mblack_NBCI@utk.edu
Todd	Bogenschutz	Iowa DNR	todd.bogenschutz@dnr.iowa.gov
Al	Bourgeois	Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries	al.bourgeois@dgif.virginia.gov
Jim	Bowman	Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries	Jim.Bowman@dgif.virginia.gov
Kyle	Brazil	NBCI	kbrazil_nbcI@utk.edu
Jarred	Brooke	University of Tennessee	jbroke2@utk.edu
Coree	Brooks	The Ohio State University	brooks.729@osu.edu
David	Bryan	Virginia Tech	david.bryan@va.usda.gov
Andrew	Burnett	NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife	andrew.burnett@dep.state.nj.us
Shane	Butler	Roundstone Native Seed	shane@roundstoneseed.com
Karen	Canody	Dominion Virginia Power	karen.k.canody@dom.com
Steve	Capel	Quail Unlimited	stevecapel41@gmail.com
Al	Cire	VA State Parks	al.cire@dcr.virginia.gov
Raymond	Cooper		Robin.Cooper@tn.gov
Robin	Cooper	TN Dept of Env and Conservation-Water Resources	Robin.Cooper@tn.gov
John	Craynon	VCCER-Virginia Tech	jcraynon@vt.edu
Dean	Cumbia	Virginia Department of Forestry	dean.cumbia@dof.virginia.gov
Tom	Dailey	NBCI	tdailey7@utk.edu
Ben	Davenport	VDGIF Board Member (vice-chair)	
Jason	Davis	DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife	jason.davis@state.de.us
Matthew	DiBona	DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation	matthew.dibona@state.de.us
Jena	Donnell		jdonnell@odwc.state.ok.us
John	Doty	NBCI	jdoty3@utk.edu
Bob	Duncan	Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries	Director
Stephen	Dula		Shdula@centurylink.net
Ken	Duren	Ohio Division of Wildlife	kenneth.duren@dnr.state.oh.us
Bob	Ellis	Virginia Dept. of game and Inland Fisheries	Bob.ellis@dgif.virginia.gov
Beth	Emmerich	Missouri Department of Conservation	beth.emmerich@mdc.mo.gov
Todd	Fearer	Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture	tfearer@abcbirds.org
Randy	Ferguson	Ernst Conservation Seeds Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources	rferguson@ernstseed.com
Dan	Figert		dan.figert@ky.gov
Justin	Folks	Virginia Tech	justin.folks@va.usda.gov
Elsa	Gallagher	Quail Forever	egallagher@quailforever.org
Robert	Gates	Ohio State University	aixsponsa56@gmail.com
Chris	Gerecke	The Timmons Group	chris.gerecke@timmons.com
Robert	Glennon	Virginia Tech	robertglennon@embarqmail.com
Dave	Godwin	MS Dept Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks	daveg@mdwfp.state.ms.us
John	Gruchy	MS Dept Wildlife Fisheries and Parks	johng@mdwfp.state.ms.us
Mark	Gudlin	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency	mark.gudlin@tn.gov
Greg	Hagan	Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission	greg.hagan@myfwc.com
Galon	Hall	USDA/NRCS	galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov
Richard	Hamrick	MS Dept. Wildlife Fisheries and Parks	rickh@mdwfp.state.ms.us

Jason	Hardin	Texas Parks and Wildlife	jason.hardin@tpwd.state.tx.us
Sergio	Harding	VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	sergio.harding@dgif.virginia.gov
Jonathan	Hayes	Oaks and Prairies Joint Venture	jon.hayes@tpwd.state.tx.us
Jimmy	Hazel	Angler Environmental	jwhazel@aol.com
Larry	Heggemann	Central Hardwoods Joint Venture	lheggemann@abcbirds.org
Jay	Howell	Virginia Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries	jay.howell@dgif.virginia.gov
Heather	Inman	University of Tennessee	hinman1@utk.edu
Clifton	Jackson	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	cjackson@agfc.state.ar.us
Jay	Jeffreys	Virginia Game Dept	jay.jeffreys@dgif.virginia.gov
Jeffray	Jones	USDA-NRCS	jeffray.jones@va.usda.gov
John Paul	Jones	Alpha Natural Resources	jpjones@alphanr.com
Mark	Jones	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commiss.	mark.jones@ncwildlife.org
Tim	Kavan	Missouri Department of Conservation	Tim.Kavan@mdc.mo.gov
Patrick	Keyser	University of Tennessee	pkeyser@utk.edu
Randall	Knapik	Ohio State University	knapik.10@osu.edu
John	Knudsen	Missouri Department of Conservation	John.Knudsen@mdc.mo.gov
Charles	Kowaleski	Texas parks and Wildlife	Chuck.Kowaleski@tpwd.state.tx.us
Keith	Krantz	WVDNR	Keith.D.Krantz@wv.gov
Drew	Larson	Georgia Department of Natural Resources	Drew.Larson@dnr.state.ga.us
David	Ledford	Appalachian Wildlife Foundation	davidawf@windstream.net
Frank	Loncarich	Missouri Department of Conservation	Frank.Loncarich@mdc.mo.gov
Christian	Long	Maryland Department of Natural Resources	blong@dnr.state.md.us
William	Lovelace	VA Dept of Game & Inland Fisheries	dan.lovelace@dgif.virginia.gov
Kyle	Lunsford		KDL0914@live.com
Jeffrey	Lusk	Nebraska Game & Parks Commission	jeff.lusk@nebraska.gov
James	Martin	Mississippi State University	jmartin@cfr.msstate.edu
Katie	Martin	VA Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries	katie.martin@dgif.virginia.gov
Mark	McInroy	Iowa DNR	mark.mcinroy@dnr.iowa.gov
Don	McKenzie	National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative	wmidm@centurytel.net
Mary	Miller	USDA Forest Service	mcmiller@fs.fed.us
John	Morgan	Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	john.morgan@ky.gov
Ryan	Myers	North Carolina Wildlife Commission	ryan.myers@ncwildlife.org
Matt	Overton	Dominion	matt.overton@dom.com
Robert	Perez	TPWD	robert.perez@tpwd.texas.gov
John	Pinkowski	Missouri Department of Conservation	John.Pinkowski@mdc.mo.gov
Jim	Pitman	KANSAS DEPT. OF WILDLIFE, PARKS, & TOURISM	JIM.PITMAN@KSOUTDOORS.COM
Lisa	Potter	Missouri Department of Conservation	Lisa.Potter@mdc.mo.gov
Chris	Powell	Army Corps of Engineers	christopher.c.powell@usace.army.mil
Thomas	Pratley	James River Chapter Ruffed Grouse Society	tom@pratleyfarm.com
Aaron	Proctor	Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries	aaron.proctor@dgif.virginia.gov
Nick	Prough	Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation	admin@quwf.net
Marc	Puckett	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	marc.puckett@dgif.virginia.gov
J. Hudson	Reese	Halifax SWCD / Reese Farms	jhreese@gmail.com
Catherine	Rideout	Gulf Coast Joint Venture	Catherine_Rideout@fws.gov
Ben	Robinson	Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	ben.robinson@ky.gov
Andrew	Rosenberger	Virginia Tech	anrosenb@vt.edu
Pat	Ruble	Wildlife Management Institute	patrublewmi@columbus.rr.com

Jerry	Saggers	Northern VA QUWF Chapter	jsaggers@gmail.com
Doug	Schoeling	Oklahoma Dept. of Wildlife	schoelingd@pldi.net
John	Seymour	Roundstone Native Seed	john@roundstoneseed.com
James	Sloan	NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife	James.Sloan@dep.state.nj.us
Mark	Smith	Auburn University	mds0007@auburn.edu
William	Smyth Jr	Virginia Tech	william.smyth@va.usda.gov
Michael	St. Germain	Virginia Tech	mstgerma@exchange.vt.edu
Chris	Stanley	TECO Coal	cjstanley@tecoenergy.com
Randall	Strawbridge	R A Strawbridge Inc Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy	rasengr@verizon.net
Theron	Terhune		theron@ttrs.org
Reggie	Thackston	Georgia Department of Natural Resources	Reggie.Thackston@dnr.state.ga.us
James	Tomberlin	Georgia Department of Natural Resources	James.Tomberlin@dnr.state.ga.us
Norman	Veverka	IN DNR	bveverka@dnr.in.gov
Jenny	West	Wildlife Foundation of Virginia	jwest@vawildlife.org
Bill	White	Missouri Department of Conservation	Bill.White@mdc.mo.gov
David	Whitehurst	Virginia Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	david.whitehurst@dgif.virginia.gov
Tom	Wilcox		tom.wilcox@dgif.virginia.gov
Bill	Wilson	Virginia House of delegates (1979 – 1987)	
Mark	Wiley	Ohio Division of Wildlife	mark.wiley@dnr.state.oh.us
Debbie	Wright	Virginia Quail Team	vazany@comcast.net

PAST MEETING LOCATIONS AND DATES

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Annual Award Recipient</u>
SEQSG (1 st)	Webb Wildlife Center	Garnett, SC	8/15 – 18/1995	None
SEQSG (2 nd)	Ramada Inn, Tall Timbers	Tallahassee, FL	9/3 – 6/1996	Breck Carmichael
SEQSG (3 rd)	Sheldon's Motel	Keysville, VA	9/15 – 18/1997	Don McKenzie
SEQSG (4 th)	Ames Plantation	Grand Junction, TN	9/14 – 17/1998	Dr. Ralph Dimmick
SEQSG (5 th)	Mississippi State Univ.	Starkville, MS	9/27 – 30/1999	Reggie Thackston
SEQSG (6 th)	Camp Kanuga	Hendersonville, NC	10/2 – 5/2000	Rocky Evans
SEQSG (7 th) (with Quail V)	Omni Bayfront Hotel	Corpus Christi, TX	1/23/2002	Stephen Capel
SEQSG (8 th)	Augusta Technical College	Waynesboro, GA	8/26 – 29/2002	Mark Gudlin
SEQSG (9 th)	YMCA of the Ozarks	Potosi, MO	8/25 – 28/2003	Terry Sharpe
SEQSG (10 th)	Winrock International	Morrilton, AR	8/2 – 5/2004	Dr. Pete Bromley
SEQSG (11 th)	Dam Village State Resort	Gilbertsville, KY	8/14 – 17/2005	Dr. Wes Burger
SEQSG (12 th)	Auburn University Hotel	Auburn, AL	8/6 – 8/2006	Stephen Demaso
SEQSG (13 th)	Quartz Mountain Resort	Lone Wolf, OK	8/6 – 9/2007	Clay Sisson
SEQSG (14 th)	Hilton Lafayette	Lafayette, LA	7/15 – 18/2008	Dave Howell
SEQSG (15 th)	Columbia Marriot	Columbia, SC	3/24 – 26/2009	Stan Stewart
NBTC (16 th) (First as the National Bobwhite Technical Committee)	Hyatt Regency	Wichita, KS	8/3 – 6/2010	Dr. Bill Palmer
NBTC (17 th)	Doubletree Hotel	Tallahassee, FL	8/9 – 12/2011	Dave Godwin
NBTC (18 th)	MCM Elegante	Abilene, TX	8/7 – 10/ 2012	Dr. Theron Terhune
NBTC (19 th)	Hotel Roanoke	Roanoke, VA	7/23 – 26/2013	Dr. Tom Dailey

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