

**Summary of JV Science Team Meeting (from Greg Soulliere)
St. Louis, 13 April 2006**

Attendance: Dave Ewert, Diane Granfors, Melinda Knutson, Brad Potter, Mike Roell, Greg Soulliere, Wayne Thogmartin, Tom Will

Most members of the JV Landbird Subcommittee attended the PIF Landscape Design Workshop and were available for the follow-up JV meeting, and most members of the other JV bird-group subcommittees were not able to attend either meeting. Therefore, we cancelled the planned shorebird, waterfowl, and waterbird subcommittee meetings and concentrated on the JV landbird strategy during our afternoon session.

Our meeting began with review of several aspects of the workshop that we might apply to JV planning. For example, we discussed the use of software like MS Access to facilitate compiling important literature used in model development, habitat objectives, and planning decisions. A “Hierarchical All-Bird Strategy Database” has been developed by the Playa Lakes Joint Venture, and a “literature database storage system” by Ed Laurent of North Carolina State University. We decided to investigate a similar system for our JV, but because of the tight timeline, application of this software will most likely be done in later iterations of the plan. Many other aspects of the workshop were useful, and the information presented largely paralleled the planning effort being used by the JV Science Team (i.e., ID priority/focal species, ID population/conservation deficits, develop HSI models and decision-tools / maps, ID monitoring and performance measures).

JV Landbird Strategy

Since our last meeting, Bradley and Melinda spent a significant amount of time editing the species accounts and developing a simple technique for establishing breeding habitat objectives. Breeding habitat will continue to be the focus for future work; stopover and winter habitat information will need to be incorporated into later iterations of the landbird plan.

Relative abundance and distribution maps were reviewed. Adjustments to some range maps are needed as inaccuracies were identified. A standard approach to editing should be used to prevent bias. Use of NatureServe distribution map boundaries and adjustment to color shades in the Krig maps were discussed.

Timelines for completion:

June 1. Complete review of landbird species accounts by members who were assigned the accounts. Special attention should be given to threats (best placed in the limiting factors section), so we can evaluate threats throughout the JV region, and to any information regarding patch size, landscape requirements (and their interaction) and spatial and ecological features associated with source populations. Range maps must be carefully reviewed; this information will be especially critical to mapping the best places to protect focal species.

June 20. Introductory sections of the plan, plus all landbird species accounts will be edited (Dave, Tom, Melinda, Greg and Bradly).

July 1. Information on species distribution will be provided to Bradly for cover-type (pooled species) map development.

Aug. 1. First draft of landbird plan completed.

Sept. 1. Draft all-bird plan completed.