



Council Teleconference

January 19, 2018 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm (Eastern)

Primary Meeting Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NABCI-Canada Priorities<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Discuss results of Refining NABCI-Canada Priorities exercise and approve proposed NABCI-Canada Priorities2) Decide on a path forward for a NABCI-Canada Work Plan
NABCI-Canada Terms of Reference – most up to date version is from 2008 https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6hp8zvW9mrpdzlxMVAzVHR4ZE0/view?usp=sharing

Time	Purpose	Agenda Item	Lead
1:30pm – 1:40pm	Admin	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening remarks <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Attendance b. Review of action items and RODs from October 16 , 2017 c. Review and approval of today's meeting agenda 	B. McLean
1:40pm – 2:30pm	Discussion/ Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. NABCI-Canada priorities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presentation of NABCI-Canada Priorities Framework b. Present the results of the <i>Refining NABCI-Canada Priorities</i> Questionnaire <p>Purpose: Re-familiarize Council with the NABCI-Canada Priorities Framework and provide an opportunity to comment on the <i>Refining NABCI-Canada Priorities</i> exercise</p> <p>Proposed Decision: Agreement on priorities for NABCI-Canada</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> c. Brainstorming session to propose actions for emerging NABCI-Canada priorities d. Drafting a Work Plan based on chosen priorities <p>Purpose: Propose potential actions for the chosen NABCI-Canada priorities and determine best approach for drafting strategic work plan</p> <p>Proposed Decision/Action: Propose members for the NABCI-Canada Work Plan or members for each NABCI-Canada role</p> 	B. McLean and M.-F. Noel
2:30pm – 2:55pm	Info/ Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Round table <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. IOC attendance b. US NABCI attendance c. Communications Subcommittee Update d. Others 	All
2:55pm – 3:00pm	Admin/ Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Closing remarks <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Timing of next NABCI-Canada Council teleconference 	B. McLean

RECORD OF DECISIONS

NABCI-Canada Council Teleconference Meeting (January 19, 2018)

Lead	Item	Status
	DECISIONS	
Council	Adopt the emerging priorities that resulted from the NABCI-Canada Priorities Questionnaire.	COMPLETE
NABCI-Canada Coordinator	<p>Create 4 small groups of 2 to 3 Council members, one group for each NABCI-Canada role, to assist in refining the proposed actions that were drafted during the brainstorming session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Groups have been created to represent each NABCI-Canada role. Each group participated in individual teleconferences to propose and edit actions for each NABCI-Canada priority. The work completed by these groups are to be presented at the upcoming NABCI-Canada Council teleconference on March 27, 2018.</i> 	COMPLETE
NABCI-Canada Coordinator	Aim to have another Council meeting in approximately 2 months to present the refined actions for NABCI-Canada priorities	COMPLETE
	ACTIONS	
Council	<p>Council members to provide comments to Marie-France Noel (NABCI-Canada Coordinator) on the October 16, 2017 Record of Decision, if applicable, by January, 26, 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>No comments received. It's therefore reasonable to assume that the October 16, 2017 is complete.</i> 	COMPLETE
Council	<p>Council members to contact Veronica or Marie-France if they have any reservations or are opposed to publishing their names or meeting materials on the public NABCI-Canada website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Veronica, on behalf of the Communications Subcommittee will be presenting a beta version of the NABCI-Canada Website at the upcoming NABCI-Canada Teleconference. She will seek input from Council and propose a mechanism to approve the publication of meeting documents.</i> 	ONGOING
Coordinator / Council	<p>Marie-France to share information on who will be attending IOC with Council members so that they can know who will be there and to help them setup meetings at the Congress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Marie-France Noel (NABCI-Canada Coordinator) has sent an e-mail to NABCI-Canada Council to obtain information on NABCI-Canada interest and potential help to provide information at a possible booth for NABCI-Canada.</i> - <i>Council members to respond to e-mail on their attendance by March 2, 2018.</i> - <i>Attendance has been confirmed by : Marie-France Noel,</i> 	ONGOING

	<i>Steven Price, Kathryn Folkl, and potentially Ted Cheskey</i>	
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Results : Refining NABCI-Canada Priorities

For the NABCI-Canada Council

Prepared by Marie-France Noel and Bob McLean

January 19, 2018

Process of identifying strategies

- Extracted recommendations from SONAB, SOCB and CWS bird technical committees' reports on research and monitoring priorities
- Recommendations were numerous (over 40) and an initial triage prompted the creation of the NABCI-Canada Priorities Working Group
- Strategies were placed in a framework to better align items of equivalent scale and scope (goals and strategies)

Strategy Framework

DOUBLE CLICK

the icon below to
access the
Strategy
Framework

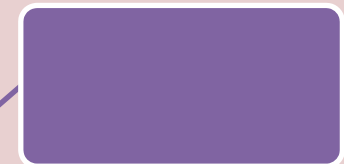
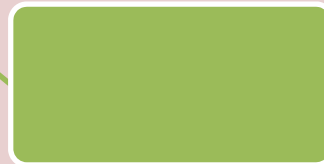
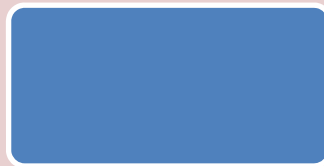


Strategic
Framework

**NABCI-
Canada's
4 roles:**
(Coordinate,
Communicate,
Track bird
conservation,
Influence policy)

Goal:
A brief and
general
statement of the
desired state

Strategy:
A group of
actions with a
common focus



Refining Priorities Questionnaire

NABCI-Canada Council members were asked to:

- Identify tasks that would make a significant difference/impact to bird conservation
- Identify strategies that would be feasible to undertake

Questionnaire: dimensions considered

- Priority level: assessed using a matrix of Feasibility and Potential Impact rankings

		Potential Impact			
		Very High (VH)	High (HI)	Medium (ME)	Low (LO)
Feasibility	Very High (VH)	Very High	High	Medium	Low
	High (HI)	High	High	Medium	Low
	Medium (ME)	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
	Low (LO)	Low	Low	Low	Low

Questionnaire: participation

- Level of response from NABCI-Canada Council:
 - 15 (of 29) Council members responded
 - Level of participation required to reach quorum is 50%
 - Responses from all types of NABCI-Canada council members were received : Federal, provincial, non-government and industry.

Questionnaire: rolling-up results

- Results were rolled-up by NABCI-Canada's 4 roles:
 1. **Coordinate**
 2. **Communicate**
 3. **Track bird conservation**
 4. **Influence policy**

The priority level of each strategy was ranked within each role.

Coordinate : Top 2 emerging priorities

1. Collaborate with habitat conservation partnerships (such as Joint Ventures) for effective all-bird conservation.
2. Ensure dynamic partnerships to actively implement bird conservation at multiple scales across Canada.

Communicate : Top 2 emerging priorities

1. Coordinate the periodic production of the State of the Birds reports (Canada and North America).
2. Using various communications platforms showcase success stories, best practices and interesting pilot projects that demonstrate progress especially for bird groups at high risk (grassland birds, shorebirds, seabirds and aerial insectivores).

Track bird conservation : Top 2 emerging priorities

1. Advocate for a national habitat monitoring system to support adaptive management of bird conservation.
2. Coordinate the development of a comprehensive tracking system of bird conservation action in Canada that supports progress reporting and adaptive management.

Influence policy: Top 2 emerging priorities

1. Assist cooperation on migratory bird conservation across the Western Hemisphere through existing, or by creating new, international agreements.
2. Successfully influence invasive species policies and best practices for wetlands, grasslands and islands/seabirds.

Questionnaire comments

Communication and coordination are what NABCI was developed to do

Partners at the table should provide protected areas tracking systems and a national habitat monitoring system. This isn't NABCI Council's role

NABCI has little control over regulation and funding (which is needed), NABCI is not really a body that can lobby effectively

Funding for non-waterfowl species is limited but funds such as HSP prevention stream targeted to non-wet bird projects demonstrate that there is appetite and capacity to do more among our JV partners

Track Bird Conservation strategies provide potential benefits in exposing gaps or otherwise informing future policies and actions but have somewhat limited impacts on their own.

More questionnaire comments...

Designation of key sites/habitats is feasible but offers no legal protections so impacts are somewhat limited.

In the policy section, I often considered whether it is NABCI itself or one/some of the organizations within NABCI that would undertake the work.

The state of the birds report provides good information that can be used to support policy efforts.

Given financial considerations, NABCI priorities related to the influence role (e.g., influence how others spend their resources) are from my perspective the more feasible.

Protected areas tracking systems already exist. Evaluating protected areas for their contribution to bird conservation might result in useful data to support the establishment of more bird-focused protected areas

For Discussion

Are these the right priorities for NABCI-Canada?

- Are these top priorities compelling to you and your organization?
- Should NABCI-Canada choose only a subset of these priorities?
- Is there a priority that didn't make the top 2 of a particular NABCI-Canada role that would strengthen your engagement?

Next Steps

- 1) Begin drafting Work Plans, short-term and long-term, for implementing the final priorities by:
 - **OPTION A:** 2 NABCI-Canada Council members per NABCI-Canada role volunteer to lead that particular role's section of the work plan

 - **OPTION B:** Creating a Working Group to draft the Work Plan (potentially using the existing Priorities Working Group and other members who would like to join)

Work Plan and Western Hemisphere Vision for Birds

- ✓ NABCI-Canada will be drafting a NABCI-Canada Work Plan according to our chosen domestic priorities.
- ✓ Once the work plan is drafted, we will be able to determine which NABCI-Canada priority and actions will contribute to advancing the Vision

Annexes

A. NABCI-Canada Roles

B. Vision for Bird Conservation
for the Next Century

A. NABCI-Canada roles

1. **Coordinate**, NABCI-Canada will:

- Offer guidance on bird conservation in Canada
- Facilitate partnerships between governments, industry and ENGOs
- Integrate the separate bird initiatives
- Coordinate bird conservation at the national and international level to ensure that it is efficient and harmonious

2. **Communicate**, NABCI-Canada will:

- Use various media platforms to communicate about the state of bird conservation and what is being done for birds to the bird conservation community and the general public, at the national and international scale

3. **Track Bird Conservation**, NABCI-Canada will:

- Be a central repository of information and resources on bird conservation
- Track progress on bird conservation actions at the national level

4. **Influence Policy**, NABCI-Canada will:

- Promote BMPs
- Influence policy that affects birds in Canada and/or internationally

B. What is the Vision?

- **Bird populations and ecosystems are healthy** throughout the Western Hemisphere, because:
 - **Clean air, clean water, and sustainable food and habitats** meet the needs of birds and people;
 - **People recognize the value** of healthy natural environments; and
 - **All parts of society are committed** to conservation, with governments, non-government organizations, the private sector, and citizens working together

B. Vision - We will...

1. **Develop shared goals of conservation and human well-being** that consider the needs of both people and birds throughout their lives;
2. **Bring together experts from diverse fields** to identify sustainable strategies for creating healthy environments for birds and people;
3. **Cooperate across sectors to bring biodiversity into mainstream society** by developing public policies and implementing practices that sustain livelihoods and improve economic conditions for landowners and communities while benefiting birds;

B. Vision - We will...

4. **Engage people and communities in conservation and monitoring** through citizen science, stewardship, education, and capacity building;
5. **Use innovative science and traditional knowledge to develop adaptable action plans** that consider long-term drivers of change such as climate and human population growth;

B. Vision - We will...

- 6. Focus conservation efforts on protecting, managing, and connecting our most vulnerable habitats**—including oceans, tropical forests, wetlands, and grasslands—while building the foundation for conservation in all habitats; and
- 7. Maximize return on investments by integrating conservation considerations into societal aspects** such as employment, human health, education, and the economy.

NABCI-Canada's roles	Goal	Strategy	Timeline	Definition
Coordinate	Regionally-based, biologically driven, landscape oriented partnerships deliver the full spectrum of bird conservation across Canada and North America	Ensure dynamic partnerships to actively implement bird conservation at multiple scales across Canada.	M	S: Short = results expected within three to five years and action are already ongoing M: Medium = results expected within five to ten years and mechanisms are in place to undertake actions L: Long = results expected in ten years or longer and mechanisms need to be put in place to undertake actions
		Collaborate with habitat conservation partnerships (such as Joint Ventures) for effective all-bird conservation.	S	
	Tackle human-related causes of bird mortality through networks of engaged people.	M		
	A network of sufficient protected important habitat which sustains bird populations is established throughout their range	Support the protection and stewardship of key habitats (e.g., boreal, grasslands, wetlands, etc.) and sites (e.g., Important Bird Areas, Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, Migratory Bird Sanctuaries, etc.) to sustain bird populations in Canada.	M	
Communicate	All sectors are committed and actively contribute to addressing key threats to bird populations in and outside of Canada	Engage important industry and other sectors in bird conservation in Canada.	M	
		Coordinate the periodic production of the State of the Birds reports (Canada and North America).	S	
	Private landowners and land managers have the necessary tools and information at their disposal to enhance their ability to take conservation action that will benefit birds	Using various communications platforms (e.g., NABCI-Canada Newsletter, website, SONAB and SOCB reports):	S	
		a. share information on priority bird conservation issues.	S	
		b. showcase success stories, best practices and interesting pilot projects that demonstrate progress especially for bird groups at high risk (grassland birds, shorebirds, seabirds and aerial insectivores)	S	
		c. highlight the implementation of Bird Conservation Region strategies especially through partnerships (across jurisdictional boundaries)	S	
d. share information on important or vulnerable bird habitats in Canada (e.g., grassland, wetlands) and how to manage them for bird conservation.	S			
e. promote ways to improve domestic and international policies so as to benefit birds.	M			
Track Bird Conservation	Changes made to important habitat in North America are well monitored to be able to detect patterns of bird population trends	Share information with landowners and land managers on pertinent bird conservation issues and ways in which they can take action.	M	
		Coordinate the development of a protected areas tracking system that covers Canada, that links to systems in the U.S. and Mexico (analogous to Natura2000 in Europe).	L	
	Bird conservation in Canada is based on adaptive management principles and results-based management, and efforts are well-targeted and non-duplicative	Advocate for a national habitat monitoring system to support adaptive management of bird conservation.	S	
Influence Policy	Legal, regulatory and non-legally binding instruments are used so as to maximize benefits to bird populations throughout their range	Coordinate the development of a comprehensive tracking system of bird conservation action in Canada that supports progress reporting and adaptive management.	L	
		Assist cooperation on migratory bird conservation across the Western Hemisphere through existing, or by creating new, international agreements.	L	
		Successfully influence key policies at all levels of government impacting the status and availability of habitat for birds in Canada (e.g., agricultural policies).	L	
	Adequate resources are available in order to achieve full life cycle all-bird conservation	Lobby for international trade and/or markets that better support bird conservation objectives.	L	
		Successfully influence invasive species policies and best practices for wetlands, grasslands and islands/seabirds.	M	
Sources of direct bird mortality are reduced or mitigated and no longer have a significant impact on bird populations	Identify and influence potential mechanisms for mobilizing resources towards all-bird conservation.	M		
	Reduce sources of direct bird mortality through policies directed at pesticide use, building and tower lighting, windows, feral house cats, seabird by-catch in commercial fisheries, and/or power lines.	M		