PIF Conservation Design Workshop Agenda:

Tuesday, 11 April 2006

8:00 – 8:15  Welcome, meeting logistics, housekeeping, etc. (Jane Fitzgerald, Central Hardwoods Joint Venture, American Bird Conservancy)

8:15 – 8:45  Objectives and Challenges of Goal-oriented Landscape Design (BRYAN WATTS and Mike Wilson, Center for Conservation Biology, College of William and Mary)

SESSION I - GIS-based Habitat Assessment and Landscape Characterization (8:45 – noon)

8:45 – 9:25  Utility of national spatial data for conservation design projects (STEVE WILLIAMS, Biodiversity and Spatial Information Center, North Carolina State University)

9:25 – 10:15  Resolving habitat classification and structure using aerial photography (MIKE WILSON, Center for Conservation Biology, College of William and Mary)

10:15 – 10:40  BREAK

10:40 – 11:20  Ecosystem Modeling and Some Applications to Management (DAVID DIAMOND, Missouri Resource Assessment Partnership, University of Missouri, Columbia)

11:20 – 12:00  Methods for generating landscape metrics (ED LAURENT, Biodiversity and Spatial Information Center, North Carolina State University)

Noon – 1 p.m.  LUNCH

SESSION II - Approaches to Linking Bird Distribution and Abundance with Habitat Assessments at the BCR Scale (1:00 – 5:00 p.m.)

1:15 – 2:00  Landcover/database approaches (CHRISTOPHER RUSTAY, Playa Lakes Joint Venture)

2:00 – 2:45  Building models from point count data (TIM JONES, Atlantic Coast Joint Venture, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

2:45 – 3:00  BREAK
3:00 – 3:45 Building models from Breeding Bird Surveys (WAYNE THOGMARTIN, U.S. Geological Survey, La Crosse, Wisconsin)

3:45 – 4:30 Building models from existing knowledge – HSI approaches (FRANK THOMPSON, North Central Research Station, USDA Forest Service)

4:30 – 5:00 Wrap up (TOM WILL, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Wednesday, 12 April 2006

8:00 – 9:30 Approaches to Linking Bird Distribution and Abundance with Habitat Assessments at the BCR Scale: PANEL DISCUSSION

SESSION III - Projecting Bird Numbers and Habitat Conditions into the Future (9:30 – 5:00)

9:30 – 10:00 Introductory remarks (REX JOHNSON, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

10:00 – 10:15 BREAK

10:15 – 10:45 Landbird population and habitat objective-setting in oak and conifer forest habitats in the Pacific Northwest: contrasts in process and use of results (BOB ALTMAN, American Bird Conservancy)

10:45 - 11:15 Introduction to the USDA Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) Program (MARK NELSON, USDA Forest service)

11:15 – noon Application of FIA data to spatial modeling of landscape change and bird habitat suitability (Todd Farrand and John Tirpak, University of Missouri, Columbia)

Noon – 1 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 - 2:00: Simulating landscape changes due to habitat succession, natural disturbance events, and management and predicting impacts on birds. (STEVE SHIFLEY and Frank Thompson, North Central Research Station, USDA Forest Service)

2:00 – 3:00 The constraints of urbanization on population goals (MIKE WILSON, Bryan Watts, and Bart Paxton, Center for Conservation Biology, College of William and Mary)

3:00 – 3:15 BREAK
8:00 – 10:00  **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** - Participants will break into four groups to apply the tools discussed above to develop population goals and habitat objectives for one of four habitat/landscape types. Each group will be given a hypothetical set of criteria regarding priority bird species’ habitat needs; the population and habitat data available to planners and modelers; the landscape’s condition and threats to its integrity.

10:00 – 10:15 **BREAK**

10:15 – 11:15 **Reports from Breakout Sessions**

11:15 – noon **Where do we go from here? (CHARLES BAXTER, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)**

*ADJOURN at noon.*