

February 3, 2022

TWS – Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Restoration Working Group

Participants: Robert Magill, Sara Kramer, Krysten Zummo, Tito Marchant, Meghan McBride, Jordan Gotts, Marcella Tarantino, Rs Duesaer, Drew Jacobsen, Julien St-Amand.

Committee Updates:

Sara will be sending a Request to Council that the working group be a part of the discussion when evaluating applications for awards recognizing habitat management and managers.

Krysten – This should be a straightforward request not requiring a lot of background information. She is on the awards committee and will provide the working group with activity updates.

Program Planning – 2022

Thanks go out to Ray for all of his efforts on the task of program planning. He contacted the chair for the International Working Group via email at the beginning of the month address to Scott Brainerd but he has not heard back as of the meeting.

The purpose of the email was to incorporate wildlife into the up-front planning conversations on ecological restoration project. As of yet, there has not been a lot of feedback from the International working group. They do however have a 10-year planning style document on their website.

Potential next steps are to set up a meeting with Ray, Sara, and Mariana to develop a proposal for a symposium, panel discussion or other activity for the 2022 TWS conference in Spokane this coming November. Subject matter would correspond to incorporating wildlife into restoration projects and the UN Decade on Environmental Restoration.

Sara will be keeping the Technical committee informed as discussions progress.

Krysten – Discussion on developing a position statement on the role of wildlife in restoration. She will follow up on inquiring about TWS developing a position statement regarding time lines, the process. This follow-up will be formalized in the next “Request to Council for Recommendations”

Also the option for a communications piece in “The Wildlifer”.

Meghan – Tribal contacts. There has been no response to previous conversations about indigenous perspective on wildlife in restoration projects.

RAD – Rob will send out an email to the group letting them know about the working groups idea of putting together a workshop on RAD at the Spokane meeting. Full proposals are due on March 11 so there is not a lot of time.

Rob sent an email on Monday, February 7, 2022

Scholarship Awards – Drew

Proposal format for questions

Ray provided a series of questions to guide future development of the scholarships.

How advertise the scholarship opportunities?

Call for proposals

Who to review the applications?

Grading

The Biodiversity Working Group has an active scholarship program so there is no need to build this from scratch.

4 Awards identified Undergraduate

Graduate student

Travel

Early professionals

Brief discussion on inclusion of mid-career professionals who may not have funding to attend meetings

Funding Amounts

Available funds for all 4 awards – what should these awards go to support – Registration or travel?

Currently have enough money to award \$1200 in scholarships/awards. This amount will change annually based on the working groups income

Drew will draft a proposal and send it out to the group for feedback

Communications - Julien

Progress on the website and the social media account(s) (Facebook)

For the website, the main tabs are complete and the sub links are moving forward

Julien requested photographs depicting habitat conservation and/or restoration activities.

News page – good option for advertising the UN Decade for Ecological Restoration and getting it out to wildlife focused professionals.

Meeting minutes – post these on the website – good opportunity to demonstrate to TWS membership that the working group is active. Meeting notes can be uploaded to the google drive and made available to the working group Executive Board, committees, and members

Social Media – progress is being made on the Facebook page which is currently open to the public with about 560 followers.

The LinkedIn page has over 2,000 followers but hasn't been updated in a while

Instagram – no account currently set up but establishing one is a consideration for the future.

Website identified as the priority and then move to social media pages once that is fully established and operational

Membership email list – one is available quarterly. A monthly roster for the working groups may also be available.

Perhaps need a Membership Manager/Chair? This may be an elected “official” – Mariah will need to provide additional information on how to approach this need, if it is developed further.

Next Meeting March 3, 2022

April 3, 2022

May 3, 2022

Sara will be scheduling a Technical Committee meeting over the next couple of weeks.

Rob Magill announced that he will have only periodic internet/email availability from the end of February through roughly Mid May while he is walking the Arizona Trail.