



*A Fish Habitat Partnership*

**Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, August 19th, 2012  
State I Room, Crowne Plaza Hotel, St. Paul, MN  
3:30-5:00 PM**

**Stated purpose of this meeting: Review of Partnership Vision and Direction, Elections, Assessment Presentation, updates, and discussion of partnership needs**

**Action items in red**

Meeting convened at 3:30 pm.

Steering Committee (SC) Members Present: Mike Staggs (WIDNR), Gary Whelan (MIDNR), Dirk Peterson (MNDNR), Katie Haws (MNDNR), John Lott (SDGF&P), Maureen Gallagher (for Todd Turner USFWS)

Others Present: Jim Breck (MIDNR), Will Saylor (SDGF&P), Michael Duval (MNDNR), Tom Busiahn (USFWS), Todd Tisler (USFS), Don Pierera (MNDNR), Lyn Bergquist (MNDNR), Pete Jacobson (MNDNR), Tim Cross (MNDNR)

Mike Staggs (Chairman) convened the meeting, and made some general comments: Thanks to MN for providing resources, the last in person meeting was held in Madison, Wisconsin. Updating the website is a worthy goal and improved outreach is an outcome. Mentioned touring the "Fish Sticks" project in N. Wisconsin "wood is Good" project with the Div. management team. Projects like this are success stories and we need to increase the visibility of these projects as well as explaining why they are important.

Communication

This is an important item to the National Fish Habitat Partnership and they recently asked all fish habitat partnerships to submit items from their Strategic Plans which addressed Communications Strategies. MGLP submitted an informal communications 11 step plan to Steve Perry. A national approach is being developed and will be due out later this year.

Katie Haws led discussion and review of the 2011 document: "Vision and Direction for MGLP."

The steering committee members present agreed that this document shall serve as a work plan for Katie, with details **and general strategies for implementing the vision to be added which will allow this document to guide work planning for the Project Coordinator.**

Lyn Bergquist gave a powerpoint presentation entitled: Midwest Glacial Lakes Lake Assessment Progress Report 2012. In the presentation she gave a nice summary of the assessment project for MGLP developed with the assistance of Downstream Strategies. The SC requested a copy of this presentation

**-Katie to mail out**

Staggs wondered if there were any lakes with CNQI or CASI scores of 100? The protection/restoration map is simply an illustration of how the model might be used, and not a formal decision tool for the partnership. The decision tool is still not completed by Downstream Strategies, and this is an issue.

SC members discussed some inadequacies which are apparent in our model based on inputs selected. It appears that the only way to generate more useful model outputs would be to fine-tune or re-run this model. A Phase 11 analysis (P2) based on recommendations from science/data team members might be a project which would be worthwhile funding. Ideas need to be coalesced in order to prioritize what needs to be done before we can be comfortable explaining the amount of variation seen. The USFWS will need a brief outline of what we have and where we need to go - shy we want to use this information as part of MGLP proposal for NFHP funding.

**Katie will convene science/data staff from WI, MI and MN to formulate priorities for a possible effort.**

Mike Staggs presented a slate of candidates with Dirk Peterson as Chairman and John Lott as Vice-Chair. According to the bylaws, a quorum is not present, so the voting will be done via email response to a call for election by Mike Staggs.

**Staggs will send out email to SC**

MGLP personnel roster had been mailed out, and there will be a few corrections made. Via these minutes and attachment, a second request for review is submitted with **any comments or changes to be sent to Katie via email.**

<u>"Chair"</u>	Mike Staggs	<u>KatiComments from the</u>
<b>Information item</b>	1. Review of the "Vision and Direction" for MGLP (July 2011)	Katie Haws/all
<b>Information item</b>	2. Presentation of the Assessment Model	Lyn Bergquist
<b>Action Item</b>	3. Phase two Assessment Analysis Project Proposal	All
<b>Action Item</b>	4. Election of Chair/Vice Chair	All

<b>Action Item</b>	5. Staff Assignments to MGLP...deletions, additions changes	Mike Staggs
<b>Discussion item</b>	6. Long-Term Funding	Mike Staggs
	a. Coordinator salary support	All
	b. National Fish Habitat Conservation Act	M. Gallagher
<b>Discussion item</b>	7. Communication within MGLP	Mike Staggs
<b>Information Item</b>	8. Updates	
	a. 2013 Fish Habitat Partnership Proposals	Katie Haws
	b. Outreach Products	Katie Haws
	<u>Closing Comments</u>	Katie Haws