

OHIO BIRD



OBCI Outreach Meeting
August 24, 2006
Held at the Columbus Zoo

Review agenda items from last meeting:

1. Education

CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

IMBD promotion and Events/ Resources

How can we promote more events, even aside from IMBD?

What key words are on our site name? (birding, birding Ohio) How can we drive more people to our website?

Do we link to others web listings of events? (Listserves, - OOS), BBS, BBA, CBC
Suzanne mentioned that anyone can add an activity or an event to the new OBCI web site. There is an online form to submit any upcoming event. Members suggested that we inform other people about this feature of the web site. Suzanne will research what key words will link web browsers to the new site.

Myra suggested including a teacher's link to the web site; possibly putting together some teaching curriculums that could be downloaded from the site. Also she suggested having a place that could inform teachers/educators about different programs offered to school groups.

A "*Hands on for Conservation*" link was suggested as well.

2. New Projects to discuss at Workshop

a) Ohio Birding Trail – Breakout session at workshop - PETE to facilitate

Produce a map to show all birding trails throughout Ohio. Possibly come up with a brochure. Pete suggested contacting Marilyn Ortt about her work with the Washington County birding trail. Someone suggested describing habitat for each trail. Also, providing birding hotspots on the web site may be useful for birders.

b) Lights Out/Cats Indoors – Bird Hazards Possible Breakout session – BARB to facilitate

Target multiple cities for lights out and Cats Indoors. Jack hanna and Hope Taft were suggested to help promote these programs. With the new web site, some interested citizens have said they are interested in volunteer opportunities. We could use these volunteers to conduct these projects.

Ask Jack Hanna and Hope Taft to do PSA's to promote the program and create awareness? John Ritzenthaler suggested tapping into local meteorologists—they are the most watched on the nightly news.

Both programs have statewide relevance.

Target shelters/Humane Societies and Vets as a place to handout brochures. Include a way to measure success for each project we decide to tackle. Track the number of brochures given out. Perhaps distribute a poster in to display in community areas.

c) Shorebird Habitat restoration/creation breakout session (Research)

John and Suzanne project

d) Cerulean Warbler breakout session (Research)

Landowner project

Other topics:

- Monitoring: Should we come up with a statewide monitoring project? i.e. such as the frog and toad or butterfly monitoring programs which is recognized and used throughout Ohio. Might be a good way to get more citizens involved in research.
- Why do we want/need to monitor and what do we expect as an outcome from the data? Sources for this already exist.

Outreach section of the All-bird Plan:

- What are the education and outreach needs for Ohio in regards to birds?
- What should be included in the Plan?
- What is out there?
- What is an Ohio Specific need that would make us different from other state wide plans?

Hot Topics for the Workshop:

Should we create a current events committee?

Wind power, cormorants, and gas pipelines

Present the pros and cons of each issue on the web site to help inform the public.

Members in Attendance:

John Ritzenhaller (Audubon Ohio), Barbara Revard (Columbus Zoo), Pete Whan (The Nature Conservancy), Myra Vick (National Park Service), Al Parker (The Wilds), Dick Tuttle (Ohio Bluebird Society), Suzanne Cardinal (OBCI)