Prairie Pothole Joint Venture Update

Sean Fields **PPJV Science Coordinator** December 12, 2017 LSOHC Meeting St. Paul, MN











Daybreak Ranch



















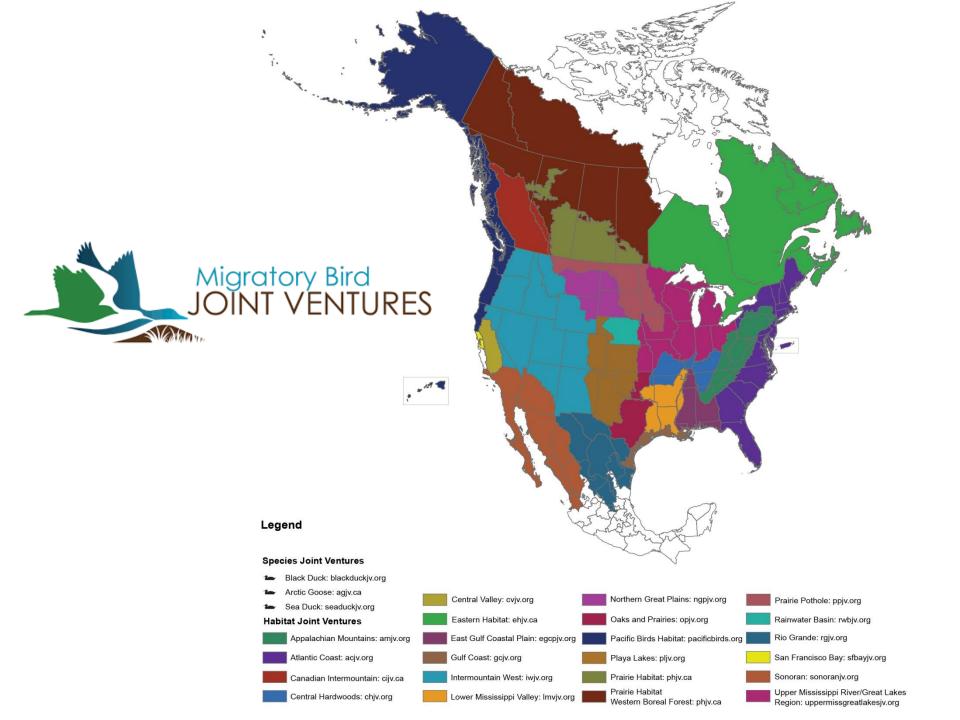












Prairie Pothole Joint Venture

Staff: Casey Stemler, Coordinator

Sean Fields, Science Coordinator

Greatest Strength as a Partnership: Long-term, robust scientific foundation that is embraced by all partners, and in turn the science is used to facilitate strategic habitat conservation delivery

- USFWS Habitat and Population Team (HAPET) Office
- USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center
- NGOs, State Wildlife Agencies, Universities

Greatest Challenge as a Partnership: "Two-sided" JV (west-east), unique politics





Enhancement	Pred. control Veg. mgmt. Winter wheat	Nest islands Predator fences Nest structures	Wetland creation (with perpetual protection)
Restoration		CRP, EQIP, etc. Wetland restorations Grazing systems	Perpetual WRP restoration Upland cover establishment
Protection	Easement enforcement	Wetland leases Nest cover leases	Easement acquisition Fee title acquisitions



Annual Term Perpetual

Over all categories: Public Policy and O&M

2017 Implementation Plan

- Includes 5-year habitat objectives for protection, restoration, and enhancement;
- Includes habitat objectives for term-limited protection to compliment perpetual protection objectives;
- Includes hunter recruitment and retention objectives;
- State Tactical Plans included as step-down plans;
- Priority species now include 4 game birds, 3 diving ducks, and wood duck.



PPJV Priority Species

WATERFOWL

mallard northern pintail gadwall blue-winged teal northern shoveler redhead lesser scaup canvasback wood duck

LANDBIRDS

Baird's sparrow
Sprague's pipit
chestnut-collared longspur
McCown's longspur
clay-colored sparrow
bobolink
western meadowlark
grasshopper sparrow
lark bunting

GAMEBIRDS

greater prairie-chicken greater sage-grouse ring-necked pheasant sharp-tailed grouse

SHOREBIRDS

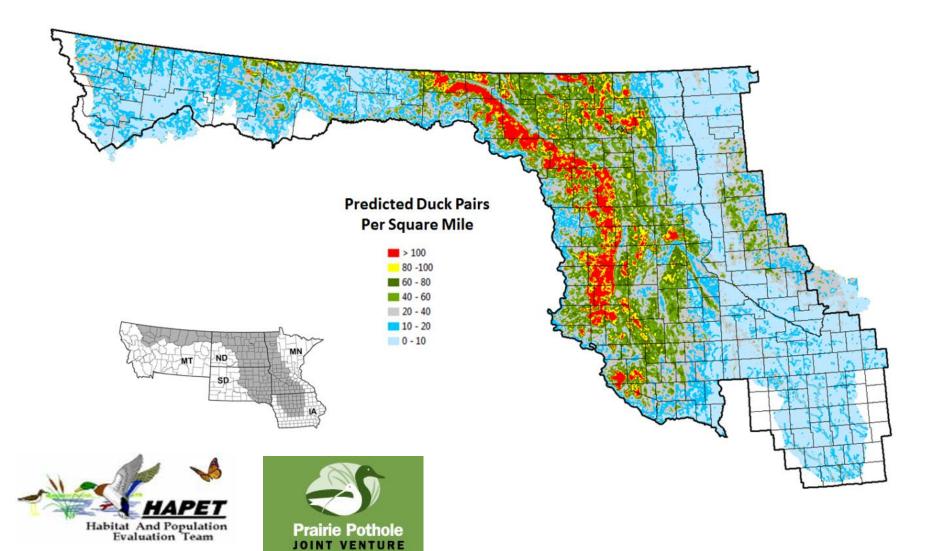
Wilson's snipe
long-billed curlew
Wilson's phalarope
American avocet
willet
marbled godwit
upland sandpiper
piping plover

WATERBIRDS

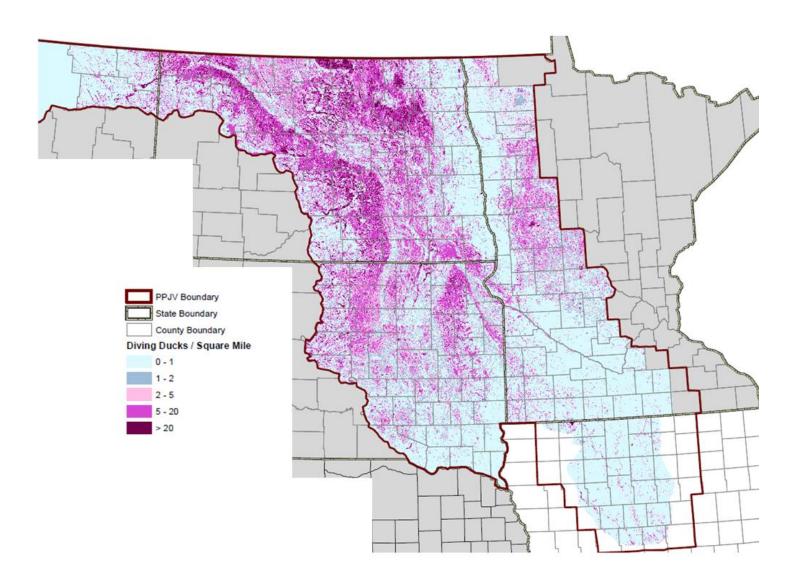
Franklin's gull
pied-billed grebe
American bittern
sora
American coot
black tern
whooping crane



PPJV Priority Waterfowl Habitats for Protection



5 Diving Duck Species Models



Minnesota PPJV State Tactical Plan







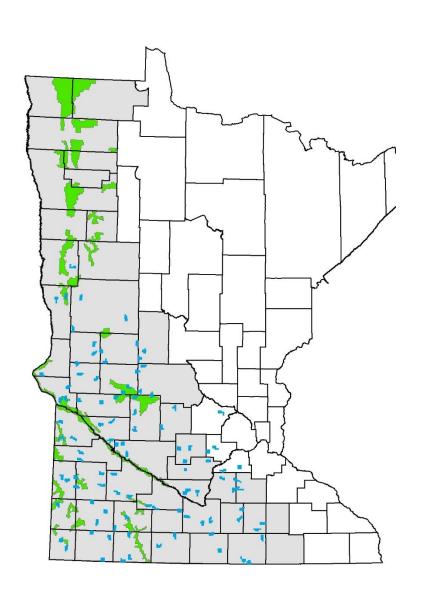








MN PPJV State Tactical Plan



Identifying the best places for conservation:

Prairie Plan

Core areas developed around remaining native prairie

Pheasant Plan

9 square mile areas developed around existing permanent protection

Waterfowl Plan

Focus on wetland habitat complexes Emphasis on wetland quality Shallow Lakes Program

State Wildlife Action Plan













Minnesota's Conservation Toolbox

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (Outdoor Heritage Fund)

Re-Invest in Minnesota (RIM)

CREP III

Wildlife Management Area Program (WMA)

Scientific and Natural Area Program (SNA)

Native Prairie Bank easements (NPB)

Working Lands Initiative (WLI)

Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA)

Shallow Lakes Program

Roving crews (3)

Conservation Partner Legacy (CPL) grants

NAWCA grants (lots of non-Fed match)







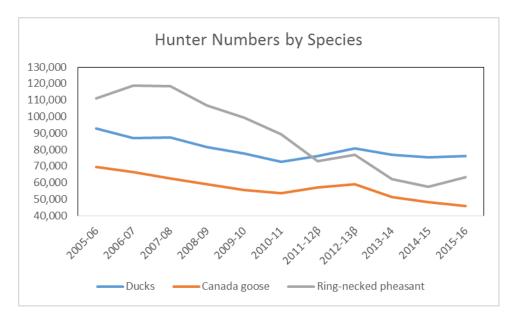








Minnesota Conservation Supporters



➤ Minnesota's bird hunters make up a small (~1%) part of the state's population 5,469,750

Numbers are going down

Achieve the long-term average hunter numbers Recruitment, Retention, Re-activation (3R)

➤ How do we get the other 99% interested in grassland and wetland conservation?





