

2010 Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture Bird Habitat Conservation Accomplishments

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Introduction

Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture (JV) partners submit bird habitat accomplishments to the Joint Venture Office each year. Tracking partner conservation actions provides valuable information on the land area influenced by the partnership, as well as a measure of funding expended to accomplish established goals.

In 2009, the accomplishment reporting form was changed from the previous version. The 2007 - 2008 report form mirrored the level of cover type description in the 2007 JV Implementation Plan. Although this level of detail is ideal, several partner agencies struggled with reporting resulting in incomplete/inconsistent responses. To overcome this issue, partners were surveyed by JV staff and the identified reporting impediments were addressed. A new form was developed prior to the 2009 reporting period and was considered a success; reports were completed more consistently. Reports from 2010 were completed using this same revised format. Estimates of the JV partner influence on bird populations is a further JV monitoring goal and our understanding of bird-habitat relationships will improve with consistent tracking and monitoring of landscape changes.

2010 Accomplishments

The JV partnership reported accomplishments on 298,920 acres, expending approximately \$102 million. Bird habitat enhancement was the primary conservation action (51% of the reported area), followed by restoration (42%), and protection (7%).

Enhancement highlights

- 39,480 acres of wetlands enhanced across the region
- Majority of emergent marsh enhancement occurred in BCRs 12 and 23
- Mudflat and shallow water enhancement was focused in BCR 22
- 111,350 acres of uplands enhanced across the region
- 52,000 acres of grassland enhanced, with 45,500 acres reported for BCR 22
- 59,000 acres of woodland enhanced, with 51,057 acres in BCR 12

Restoration highlights

- 15,000 acres of wetlands restored across the region
- Majority of acres were emergent marsh in BCR 22
- 102,900 acres of upland cover restored
- 96% of upland restoration was grasslands
- Greatest amount of grassland and woodland restored in BCR 22

Protection highlights

- 5,000 acres of wetlands protected across the region
- 1,250 acres of emergent marsh were protected in BCR 23 and 2,200 acres in BCR 22
- 14,500 acres of uplands protected
- Majority of upland acres were forest cover in BCR 12

JV cumulative accomplishments since Implementation Plan completion (2007 – 2010)

Cumulative accomplishments are compiled for two categories: protection and restoration / enhancement. Protection accomplishments typically represent existing bird habitats now under management of a conservation organization through acquisition or long-term agreements (easements). Restoration / enhancement accomplishments represent additional new area available for target bird species through manipulations in cover type or quality at a site. Since 2007, JV partners have restored or enhanced 617,170 acres in the region. Also during this time, 84,000 acres of bird habitat were protected. Comparing cumulative total accomplishments against the 2007 JV Implementation Plan objectives the percent of JV Plan objectives achieved can be calculated. These percentages were determined for restoration / enhancement objectives and are presented in Tables 1 (wetlands) and 2 (uplands). These percentages are not calculated for protection objectives because a complete assessment of the area of various cover types protected before 2007 has not been completed. In addition, bird habitat losses during the assessment period were not determined but should be considered in the bird habitat accounting process. Current data is insufficient for these assessments.

Acknowledgements

Joint Venture partners in the Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes region are transitioning from largely opportunistic conservation to science-based and targeted actions following the 2007 JV Implementation Plan. Bird habitat objectives and decision-support maps were developed by the JV Science Team to increase efficiency and effectiveness of bird habitat delivery. However, the engine for bird conservation in the JV region remains in habitat delivery, and partner accomplishments since 2007 have been impressive.

Percent of wetland objectives accomplished (%) and cumulative acres (2007 - 2010) restored and enhanced by the Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture compared to habitat objectives identified in the 2007 Joint Venture Implementation Plan. Cumulative totals for BCRs represent data from 2009 - 2010 partner accomplishment reports; data from 2007 - 2008 were reported by state and are included in the "unknown" category. Percent (%) = the cumulative total / objective * 100.

State	BCR	Marsh ^a			Mudflat / Shallows ^b			Open water / Beach ^c		
		Objective	Cumulative total	%	Objective	Cumulative total	%	Objective	Cumulative total	%
Iowa	22	23,356	13,416	57.4	55,117	1,037	1.9	2,974	0	0.0
	23	2,471	573	23.2	3,184	158	5.0	796	0	0.0
	Unknown		5,279			410			0	
	Total	25,827	19,268	74.6	58,301	1,605	2.8	3,770	0	0.0
Illinois	22	22,542	605	2.7	63,163	288	0.5	3,584	0	0.0
	23	1,649	0	0.0	1,487	0	0.0	376	0	0.0
	24	1,995	2,011	100.8	2,484	0	0.0	230	0	0.0
	Unknown		174			212			22	
Total	26,186	2,790	10.7	67,134	500	0.7	4,190	22	0.5	
Indiana	22	14,781	1,067	7.2	22,852	1,366	6.0	1,242	126	10.1
	23	9,086	50	0.6	5,795	0	0.0	1,445	0	0.0
	24	4,337	0	0.0	4,612	0	0.0	388	0	0.0
	Unknown		1,371			80			40	
Total	28,204	2,488	8.8	33,259	1,446	4.4	3,075	166	5.4	
Kansas	22/Total	4,344	649	14.9	33,705	160	0.5	2,018	30	1.5
Michigan	12	66,795	2,532	3.8	4,945	921	18.6	8,882	0	0.0
	22	1,440	1,054	73.2	2,124	328	15.4	175	0	0.0
	23	56,881	4,004	7.0	25,869	0	0.0	7,289	0	0.0
	Unknown		4,817			0			0	
Total	125,116	12,407	9.9	32,938	1,249	3.8	16,346	0	0.0	
Minnesota	12	75,321	7,632	10.1	4,668	na	na	7,128	na	na
	22	5,412	na ^d	na	3,959	na	na	207	na	na
	23	86,643	na	na	11,473	na	na	2,835	na	na
	Unknown		822			0			0	
Total	167,376	8,454	5.0	20,100	0	0.0	10,170	0	0.0	
Missouri	22/Total	5,167	32,419	627.4	42,304	25,281	59.8	2,440	0	0.0
Nebraska	22/Total	5,985	149	2.5	11,323	220	1.9	649	0	0.0
Ohio ^e	13	8,784	1	0.0	7,057	0	0.0	7,457	0	0.0
	22	12,517	498	4.0	26,758	5	0.0	4,515	15	0.3
	24	170	0	0.0	4,895	0	0.0	524	0	0.0
	Unknown		479			274			0	
Total	21,471	978	4.6	38,710	279	0.7	12,496	15	0.1	
Wisconsin	12	31,652	1,137	3.6	2,617	0	0.0	12,503	94	0.8
	22	1,428	1	0.1	760	0	0.0	311	0	0.0
	23	159,326	6,455	4.1	42,882	659	1.5	28,543	68	0.2
	Unknown		5,032			20			99	
Total	192,406	12,625	6.6	46,259	679	1.5	41,357	261	0.6	
All states	12	173,768	11,301	6.5	12,230	921	7.5	28,513	94	0.3
	13	8,784	1	0.0	7,057	0	0.0	7,457	0	0.0
	22	96,972	49,858	51.4	262,065	28,685	11.0	18,115	171	0.9
	23	316,056	11,082	3.5	90,690	817	0.9	41,284	68	0.2
	24	6,502	2,011	30.9	11,991	0	0.0	1,142	0	0.0
	Unknown		17,974			996			161	
Total	602,082	92,227	15.3	384,033	31,419	8.2	96,511	494	0.5	

^aMarsh category includes wet meadow with open water, shallow semi-permanent marsh, hemi-marsh, deep-water marsh, and marsh with associated shrub / forest. The larger value for shallow semi-permanent marsh, hemi-marsh between breeding and non-breeding season objectives at the state/BCR level was used. Deep water marsh values for the breeding season were used because objectives were greater than the non-breeding season.

^bMudflat / shallows category includes dry mudflat / agriculture, wet mudflat / moist soil plants, shallow water, and moderate water. Dry mudflat / agriculture values for the breeding season were used because objectives were greater than the non-breeding season.

^cOpen water / beach category includes extensive open water and beach. The larger value for beach between breeding and non-breeding season objectives at the state/BCR level was used.

^dNot available.

^eOhio totals only from 2010.

Percent of upland objectives accomplished (%) and cumulative acres restored and enhanced (2007 - 2010) by the Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture compared to habitat objectives identified in the 2007 Joint Venture Implementation Plan. Percent (%) = the cumulative total / objective * 100.

State	BCR	Grassland ^a			Woodland ^b			Total Upland ^c		
		Objective	Cumulative total ^d	%	Objective	Cumulative total	%	Objective	Cumulative total	%
Iowa	22	4,250,376	202,893	4.8	2,717	10,857	399.6	4,253,093	213,750	5.0
	23	216,619	1,040	0.5	0	764	100.0	216,619	1,804	0.8
	Unknown								45,506	
	Total	4,466,995	203,933	4.6	2,717	11,621	427.7	4,469,712	261,060	5.8
Illinois	22	3,777,124	12,197	0.3	26,676	4,007	15.0	3,803,800	16,204	0.4
	23	86,944	68	0.1	4,940	3,044	61.6	91,884	3,112	3.4
	24	829,426	110	0.0	59,527	5,029	8.5	888,953	5,139	0.6
	Unknown								5,685	
Total	4,693,494	12,375	0.3	91,143	12,080	13.3	4,784,637	30,140	0.6	
Indiana	22	952,185	1,627	0.2	270,218	243	0.1	1,222,403	1,870	0.2
	23	223,535	783	0.4	75,829	13	0.0	299,364	796	0.3
	24	1,080,625	1,931	0.2	656,032	4,514	0.7	1,736,657	6,445	0.4
	Unknown								1,538	
Total	2,256,345	4,341	0.2	1,002,079	4,770	0.5	3,258,424	10,649	0.3	
Kansas	22/Total	2,782,949	2,636	0.1	6,422	571	8.9	2,789,371	3,207	0.1
Michigan	12	206,986	3,646	1.8	395,200	36,799	9.3	602,186	40,445	6.7
	22	69,901	586		34,580	22	0.1	104,481	608	0.6
	23	334,685	4,273	1.3	700,986	3,016	0.4	1,035,671	7,289	0.7
	Unknown		506						4,897	
Total	611,572	9,011	1.5	1,130,766	39,837	3.5	1,742,338	53,239	3.1	
Minnesota	12	242,060	0	0.0	800,280	26,567	3.3	1,042,340	26,567	2.6
	22	222,300	0	0.0	0	0	100.0	222,300	0	0.0
	23	736,060	0	0.0	191,919	0	0.0	927,979	0	0.0
	Unknown		0						0	
Total	1,200,420	0	0.0	992,199	26,567	2.7	2,192,619	26,567	1.2	
Missouri	22/Total	5,536,999	32,797	0.6	79,040	2,209	2.8	5,616,039	93,494	1.7
Nebraska	22/Total	1,247,597	793	0.1	0	0	100.0	1,247,597	1,680	0.1
Ohio ^e	13	277,875	0	0.0	244,283	0	0.0	522,158	0	0.0
	22	762,736	0	0.0	406,068	0	0.0	1,168,804	0	0.0
	24	6,422	0	0.0	8,892	0	0.0	15,314	0	0.0
	Unknown		0						0	
Total	1,047,033	0	0.0	659,243	0	0.0	1,706,276	0	0.0	
Wisconsin	12	69,901	356	0.5	518,700	7,497	1.5	588,601	7,853	1.3
	22	14,079	0	0.0	988	0	0.0	15,067	0	0.0
	23	1,831,999	2,684	0.2	716,300	654	0.1	2,548,299	3,338	0.1
	Unknown								1,803	
Total	1,915,979	3,040	0.2	1,235,988	8,151	0.7	3,151,967	12,994	0.4	
All states	12	518,947	4,002	0.8	1,714,180	70,863	4.1	2,233,127	74,865	3.4
	13	277,875	0	0.0	244,283	0	0.0	522,158	0	0.0
	22	19,616,246	253,529	1.3	826,709	17,909	2.2	20,442,955	330,813	1.6
	23	3,429,842	8,848	0.3	1,689,974	7,491	0.4	5,119,816	16,339	0.3
	24	1,916,473	2,041	0.1	724,451	9,543	1.3	2,640,924	11,584	0.4
	Unknown		506			0			59,429	
Total	25,759,383	268,926	1.0	5,199,597	105,806	2.0	30,958,980	493,030	1.6	

^aGrassland category includes grassland and mixed wooded openland.

^bWoodland category includes deciduous forest, evergreen forest, forested wetland, shrubland, and other forest.

^cTotal upland includes both grassland and woodland totals; reports from 2007 - 2008 grouped woodland and grassland objectives. These data were identified by states and are included in the "unknown" category.

^dCumulative totals for BCRs are separated out by woodland and grassland categories only represent data from 2009 partner accomplishment reports.

^eOhio totals only from 2010.