

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE MIGRATORY SPECIES INITIATIVE
AND
THE UNITED STATES COMMITTEE OF
THE NORTH AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

The Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI) and the US Committee of the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (US NABCI) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the basis of shared interests and a wish to build synergy.

The differences in geographic and taxonomic scope between WHMSI and US NABCI can be highly complementary. Whereas WHMSI is concerned with all migratory species that cross international boundaries of the entire Western Hemisphere, US NABCI is concerned with all birds, migratory and resident, that occur regularly within the boundaries of the United States. US NABCI is part of a trinational effort that also includes Mexico and Canada, so its concerns extend into those countries, as well as other countries in the hemisphere in which US target birds regularly spend portions of their life cycle. US NABCI does not address migratory species other than birds, nor is it involved in conservation of birds of the Western Hemisphere that do not regularly occur in North America. WHMSI, on the other hand, does not focus on resident birds that do not migrate across international boundaries.

US NABCI can assist WHMSI through improved conservation of many of the birds under the mandate of WHMSI. US NABCI can also assist WHMSI through its well-developed infrastructure and organizational strengths within the United States, eliminating or reducing the need for WHMSI to create redundant bureaucracies. WHMSI can assist US NABCI through improved conservation of birds that regularly occur within the United States during other portions of their life cycle in Latin America and the Caribbean.

WHMSI and US NABCI recognize the breadth of each others' mission, respecting those missions in their entirety, while focusing on those portions that overlap. Therefore, WHMSI and US NABCI intend to seek ways to work together more effectively and to build on each others' strengths and thus enhance the effectiveness of both institutions.



Bruce McCloskey
Chair US NABCI Committee



Date



Herb Raffaele
Interim Chair WHMSI Steering
Committee



Date