

# **Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative -- Second Hemispheric Conference**

**Title:** Hands Across the Hemisphere: Helping People to Help Wildlife

**Purpose:** To convene a meeting of Western Hemisphere governmental representatives and partner organizations interested in international conservation of migratory species.

**Objectives:**

- Update activities since the first conference (Chile, Oct. 2003)
- Consider establishment of a permanent forum
- Use the present forum to begin unique hemispheric dialogue

**Location:** Costa Rica

**Dates:** January 16-20 2006

**Theme:** "Investing in Human Capital." Partnering in Capacity Building and Training.

This theme is:

- a specific priority identified at the Chile Conference
- an issue at the root of delivering effective conservation
- a concern which has received limited attention despite its importance
- an issue of broad concern to all countries of the hemisphere
- a theme which can lead to concrete follow-up actions

**Process:**

- Brief presentations to set the stage regarding the issue
- Subregional breakout discussions to identify and prioritize needs (eg: Desire in-service training for managers of protected areas which support migratory species)
- Develop specific proposal(s) for each subregion for delivery to funding entities
- Report results

**Participants:**

- Directors of wildlife agencies throughout the hemisphere
- Representatives of other agencies responsible for migratory species
- International non-governmental organizations
- International conventions
- All other entities or individuals interested in the goals of WHMSI

**Expected Outcomes:**

- Development of specific capacity building funding proposals for each subregion of the hemisphere
- Possible development of a draft hemispheric funding proposal for the GEF
- Outline future steps to advance the initiative
- Identify priority actions over the next two years
- Time of future meeting

**Cost:** \$100,000 – 150,000 U.S.

## **DRAFT**

### **Tentative Agenda:**

#### **Day 1**

Morning:

- Inauguration and welcome (1 hour)
- Update participants on recent developments (priority matrix, webpage, new projects) (2 hours)

Afternoon:

- Regional break-out sessions – Develop list of regional training needs
- Prioritize list
- Select several top priorities for framing into proposal
- Report to plenary
- Form break-out groups based upon each of highest priorities derived in morning
- Each group drafts funding proposal framework and progress milestones

#### **Day 2**

Field Trip

#### **Day 3**

Morning:

- Continue drafting of proposals

Afternoon:

- Report to Plenary

- Plenary comments on proposals
- Teams prepare final edits
- Close Capacity Building element

#### **Day 4**

##### Morning:

- Introduce issue of initiative endorsement
  - draft terms of reference
  - letter to minister
  - Summit guidance
  - propose future scenario (by Interim Steering Committee) (Summit actions; continuation of ISC or an alternative; role of meeting participants to move WHMSI forward)
- Plenary discussion of how to proceed

##### Afternoon:

- Adapt session based upon comments from previous plenary
- Summarize future steps to implement WHMSI
- Decide on future meeting