

ENVIRONMENTAL ROUND TABLE 2001

SUCCESSSES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

November 6-8, 2001

at Lake Lawn Resort, Delevan, Wisconsin

MNRG membership to gather at Lake Lawn Resort *Semi-final AGENDA*

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

4:30 – 6:30 Registration

6:30 – 8:30 pm Meet and Greet Reception

Join the members for a Hors d'ouerves reception

**Wednesday morning, November 7 (Breakfast at
Lake Lawn Lodge on your own)**

7:00 – 8:00 Registration

**8:00 – 8:30 Convocation and Welcome – Dr. Bonnie
McGregor, U.S. Geological Survey**

Introductions

Meeting Goals and Objectives

Wednesday morning, November 7

8:45 – 9:00 Plenary Session

Hear about the accomplishments of selected Focus Areas

**8:45 – 9:00 “Working Landscapes in the
Midwest “ – Speaker to be announced**

**9:00 – 9:30 “Success stories and meaningful
progress in the Illinois River Basin” –
Kirby Cottrell, Director, Office of Resource
Conservation, Illinois Department of Natural
Resources**

**9:30 – 10:00 “Success stories from
collaboration with multiple stakeholders in the
Detroit River Focus Area” -- Panel discussion**

**10:00 – 10:15 “Cooperative Education Study Units” –
Gary Vequist, Associate Regional Director, Midwest
Region, Nat’l Park Service**

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee and Tea Break

**10:30 – 12:00 Work Shops on MNRG Future
Directions**

<p><i>Wednesday, November 7 Workshops 10:30 am – Noon</i> with demonstrations and panel discussions <i>Develop new ideas for future projects and collaborative efforts with other federal agencies in your Focus Area. Each workshop is presented in the morning and repeated in the afternoon)</i></p>	
<p>1. Decision Support Systems and the MNRG – Use of “science based” approaches to natural- resources management can be difficult and time consuming because of the multitude and complexity of the landscapes, partnerships, and data in the Focus Areas where we work. Find out how Decision Support Systems (DSS) can help MNRG members work together to solve natural-resource issues</p>	<p>2. Aquatic Invasive Species vs Native Species - Call for coordinated action to prevent and control invasive species in MNRG Focus Areas</p>
<p><i>a. Decision Support System examples from the Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center of USGS</i></p>	<p><i>a. Current Status and Science</i></p>
<p><i>b. Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET) – Dr. Rex Johnson, U.S. FWS</i></p>	<p><i>b. Introduction and Dispersal</i></p>
<p><i>c. Panel discussion of various types of DSS applications in Focus Areas with input from the audience</i></p>	<p><i>c. Call for Action/Coordination</i></p>

Wednesday, November 7

12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch

Luncheon Speaker - Former Senator and Governor from Wisconsin, Gaylord Nelson will speak on “Environment, population, and sustainable development – Where do we go from here?”

<i>Wednesday, November 7 Workshops 10:30 am – Noon</i>	
<i>Demonstrations and panel discussions (each workshop is presented in the morning and repeated in the afternoon)</i>	
1. Decision Support Systems and the MNRG – Using a “science based” approach to natural resources management is often a difficult and lengthy process because of the complexity of the landscapes, partnerships, and spatial data for the Focus Areas where we work. Find out about Decision Support Systems (DSS) that can help MNRG members work together to solve natural-resource issues more easily and efficiently within our Focus Areas	2. Invasive Species vs Native Species - Call for coordinated action to prevent and control invasive species in MNRG Focus Areas
<i>a. Decision Support System - examples from the Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center of USGS</i>	<i>a. Current Status and Science</i>
<i>b. Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET) – Dr. Rex Johnson, U.S. FWS</i>	<i>b. Introduction and Dispersal</i>
<i>c. Panel discussion of DSS applications to solve natural resources problems and issues in Focus Areas</i>	<i>c. Call for Action/Coordination</i>

Wednesday afternoon, November 7

3:00 – 3:15 Refreshment Break

3:15 – 5:00 Self-facilitated breakout sessions for Focus Areas (FAs) and GIS committee

FA Leaders and GIS committee will each come prepared with information on current activities. Leaders and Members will meet to discuss and develop Plans for 2002 to include

- New Project Ideas and Needs
- Recommendations

A 10-minute highlights report for the next day’s meeting will be prepared

5:30 – 7:00 Dinner at Lake Lawn Resort

7:00 – 8:00 Senior Managers – meeting

Thursday morning, November 8

6:30 – 7:30 am Breakfast on your own at Lake Lawn Resort

7:30 – 9:45 Highlights to Senior Managers (10 minutes each)

GIS Committee

Big River Focus Areas

- Upper Mississippi River
- Missouri River
- Ohio River
- Illinois River
- Minnesota River
- Ozark Plateau

Great Lakes Focus Areas

- Great Lakes
- Southern Lake Michigan
- Southern Lake Erie
- Detroit River
- Saginaw River and Bay
- Fox River and Green Bay

9:45 – 10:15 Discussion and Q/A session between Senior Managers and Focus Area Teams

10:15 – 10:30 General Assembly

- Set date for ERT-2002
- Awards
- Adjourn

THE WORKING LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE IS BEING HELD IN COORDINATION WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDTABLE. MNRG MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKING LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE AFTER THE ENVIRONMENTAL ROUND TABLE ADJOURNS ON NOVEMBER 8.

ANNOUNCING:

WORKING LANDSCAPES – CREATING SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FOR AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND COMMUNITIES

November 8-9, 2001 Lake Lawn Resort, Delevan, Wi.

EXPLORING: BASIC PRINCIPLES, TOOLS, AND ACTION STRATEGIES

CREATING: WINDOWS INTO THE FUTURE FOR LANDSCAPES AS YOU WISH THEY WERE

FOR ACCOMMODATIONS CALL LAKE LAWN RESORT 1-800-338-5253

A BLOCK OF ROOMS HAS BEEN RESERVED UNDER THE GROUP NAME “WORKING LANDSCAPES”

VISIT THE CONFERENCE WEBSITE:

WWW.WORKINGLANDSCAPES.ORG

OR EMAIL:

WLINEO@IATP.ORG

OR CONTACT:

MARIN BYRNE, IATP

PH. 612-870-3436

FAX 612-870-4846

MNRG Luncheon Speaker on November 7

GAYLORD NELSON Founder of Earth Day

Gaylord Nelson, former United States Senator became Counselor of The Wilderness Society in January 1981. Nelson served ten years in the Wisconsin Senate, was twice elected Governor of the state, and in 1962, and began an 18-year career in the United States Senate. For 40 years he has been one of the nation’s foremost environmental leaders, best known as the founder of Earth Day.

In 1971, *Environmental Quality* magazine described him as “the leading environmentalist in the U.S. Senate.” He authored legislation to preserve the 2,000-mile Appalachian Trail, which faced numerous threats, and later introduced a measure to establish a national trail system. It became law in 1968.

Senator Nelson was the first to introduce Bills to:

- Mandate fuel efficiency standards in automobiles;
- Control strip mining;
- Ban the use of DDT; and
- Ban the use of 245T (agent orange).

In due course, all of these proposals were adopted. He also wrote the legislation that created the St. Croix Wild and Scenic Riverway, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, The Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission, and Operation Mainstream/Green Thumb, which employed the elderly in conservation projects.

In his 20 years at The Wilderness Society, Nelson has focused his efforts on protecting America’s National Forests, National Parks, and other public lands. In recent years, he has been concentrating on U. S. population issues and sustainability. He remains actively involved in Earth Day affairs as a member of its Board and served as Chairman of Earth Day XXV.

Born on June 4, 1916, in Clear Lake, Wisconsin, he received his B.A. degree in 1939 from San Jose State College in California and his LL.B. at the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1942. He was in the United States Army during World War II for 46 months, serving as first lieutenant during the Okinawa campaign. Returning to Madison, Wisconsin, Nelson practiced law from 1946 to 1958. He lives with his

LOCATION OF LAKE LAWN RESORT



From Milwaukee and Mitchell Field: Take I-94 South (toward Chicago) from Mitchell Field to Kenosha. Exit Highway 50 West. Continue through Lake Geneva and go approximately another 8-10 miles. Lake Lawn will be on your Left.

Approximate drive time is 1 hour.

OR

Take I-94 North (toward Milwaukee) from Mitchell Field to I-894 West to I-43 South (toward Beloit). Continue on I-43 South to Exit 21 (Highway 50) in Delavan. Exit, turn Left onto Highway 50. Lake Lawn will be about 1/4 mile on the Right.

Approximate drive time will be 1 hour.

From Madison: Take I-90 South to Janesville. Exit Highway 11/14 East and continue to Highway 50 in Delavan. Turn Right onto Highway 50 and continue through the city.

Lake Lawn will be about 1/4 mile past I-43 on the right.

Approximate drive time will be 1.5 hours.

From Chicago and O'Hare International Airport Vicinity:

Take I-294 and I-94 North (toward Milwaukee) to Highway 50 in Kenosha. Exit Highway 50 West. Continue through Lake Geneva and go approximately another 8-10 miles. Lake Lawn will be on your Left.

Approximate drive time from O'Hare will be 1.5 to 2 hours.

Partial MNRG Senior Leaders Meeting Notes from 11/7/01

Cumulative Impact Studies:

(Bill Franz, Larry Shepard and Ken Westlake)

- ▶ The following four handouts were provided at the meeting and discussed: Cumulative Impacts Analysis (one page summary of previous meetings and proposal), Statement of Support of the Midwest Natural Resources Group, Cumulative Impacts Analysis - Problem Statement, Considering Cumulative Effects
- ▶ Cross agency 2001 and 2002 training opportunities and cumulative impact analysis approaches were discussed
- ▶ Next Step: Establish a MNRG Working Group to address cumulative impacts/effects analysis (look at tools available on how to do the analysis, common issues, examples of cumulative impact analysis, and identify available data that can be shared)
- ▶ Action Item: Within two weeks each agency is to provide the name of a contact person for the Working Group to Ken Westlake (312/886-2910)(E-mail: westlake.kenneth@epa.gov)
- ▶ Agenda Item: Provide an update on the Working Group progress at the February 2002 MNRG Senior Leader's Meeting
- ▶ Decision: MNRG reviewed the Statement of Support and supported MNRG Chair signing the document

Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET):

(Dr. Rex Johnson)

- ▶ Presentation about a diverse partnership of Federal and state agencies and NGOs to evaluate alternative techniques for delineating drained depressional wetlands in agricultural landscapes
- ▶ Wetland restoration is increasingly favored as a means of providing multiple natural resource and socio-economic benefits including wildlife habitat, flood abatement, and water quality enhancement
- ▶ Evaluation techniques include use of digital hydric soils data, Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) and manual stereoscopic photointerpretation
- ▶ Four MN counties selected for technical assessment
- ▶ Results and costs for the assessment were discussed
- ▶ Only manual stereoscopic photointerpretation yielded satisfactory results
- ▶ Would like: to communicate with MNRG staff that the data is available and coming on line, know who would be a contact for MNRG agencies, obtain conceptual endorsement for the project, and MNRG support by any means
- ▶ Action Item: Within two weeks each agency is to provide the name of a contact person to Rex Johnson (E-mail address: rex_johnson@fws.gov)
- ▶ Decision: MNRG approved a conceptual endorsement for the project