

A working group approach to climate change and wildlife management in a state agency



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Overview

- **Background**
- **Formation**
- **Guidance**
- **Activities**
- **Next steps**



Background

Motivation

- **Personal & professional interest of Div. Director**
- **Desire to be proactive**
- **Communicating with public**
 - **expectations, opportunities, decisions**

Previous Activities

- **Fall 2006:** Senior DNR managers briefed
- **Fall 2006:** Field staff briefed during annual training
- **Jan. 2007:** Division engaged stakeholders, legislators



Formation of the Working Group

Purpose of the Working Group

- **Guide the Div. of Fish & Wildlife**
 - describing climate change in MN,
 - its effects on wildlife & habitat, and
 - developing actions to address climate change

Intentions

- **1st step to get started**
- **Initial recommendations by spring 2008**
- **Next steps undetermined**

Members of the Working Group

- Research / Policy (6)
- Operations (1)
- Programs (1)
- Outreach
- Administration



Guidance of the Working Group

Administrative Guidance

- **Documentation**
- **Chair selected by members**
- **Trained facilitator**
- **Advisors**

Guiding Principles

- **Rely on scientific evidence**
- **Document assumptions and uncertainties**
- **Acknowledge normative decisions**
- **Focus on mitigation, adaptation, & resilience**
- **Address multiple audiences**

Activities of the Working Group

First Meeting

- Addressed by Div. Director, Wildl. Research Manager
- Presentations about other initiatives



First Meeting

- **Team organization**
 - **Ground rules, expectations, roles, membership**

Logistics

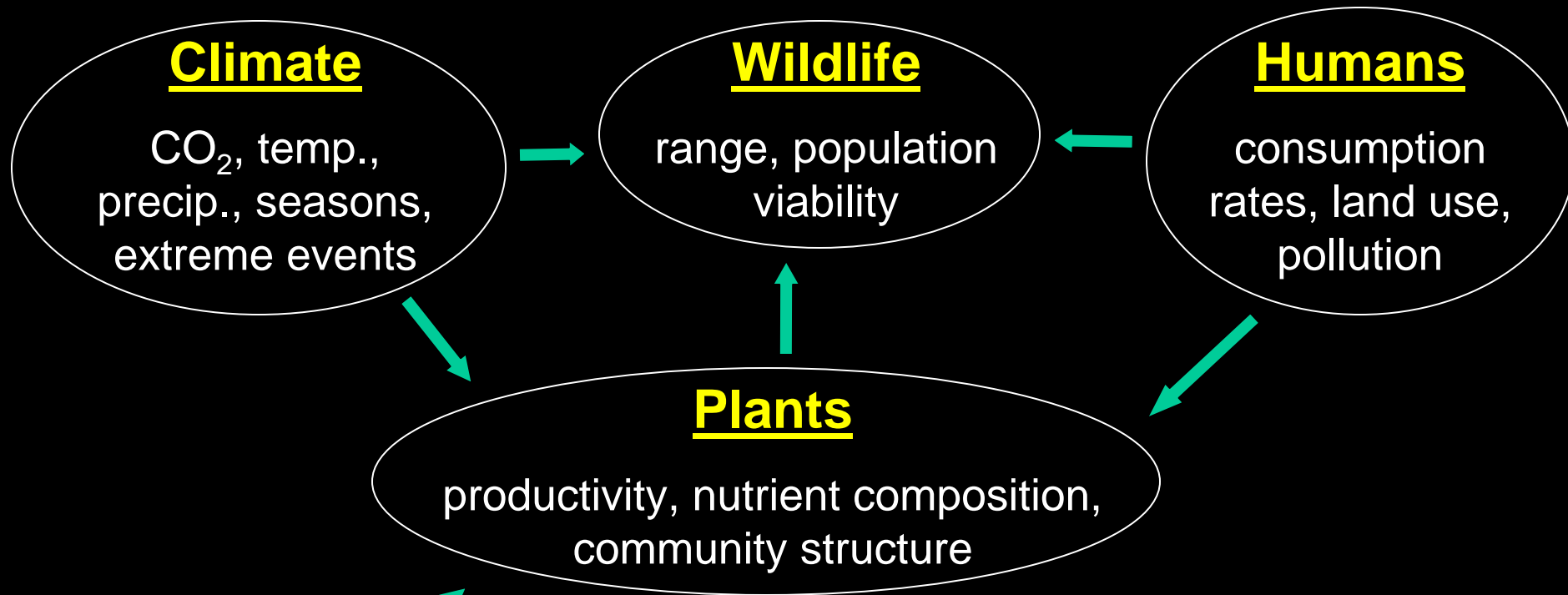
- **Face-to-face meetings**
- **Conference calls (~monthly)**
- **Video conferencing option**

Selecting Wildlife Species

- All for which there is a harvest season
- Selected nongame species
- Consider audience



Primary considerations



Additional considerations

invasive exotics, pathogens,
ecological relationships, corridors

Next steps in the Process

Next steps

- **Recommendations of the working group**
 - **Involve entire Division**
 - **Mitigation & adaptation**
- **Options for the working group**
 - **Dissolve, continue, expand, collaborate**