

Workshops & Recommendations

Groups were asked to discuss 4 key areas to progress Malleefowl conservation throughout Australia. The key areas for discussion included:

1. Monitoring
2. Coordination
3. Communication
4. Resourcing

Each key area was discussed by considering: why; how; who and recommendations on a local, regional and state scale.

Key points and recommendations from the workshop discussions are summarised.

Monitoring

- Need to have data collection standards
- Many groups are monitoring for different purposes, therefore, different methods may be required
- Should have agreed National Monitoring System
- Need to develop a monitoring manual
- Should have access to and sharing of results between groups

Recommendations

1. Develop National Register of Malleefowl monitoring programs that identifies: Who is doing what; where; how and why.
2. All States commit to a National Monitoring Framework
3. Adopt a standard set of protocols for 'baseline' monitoring
4. Require a National review of adequacy of existing monitoring programs
5. National Recovery Team need to agree to procedures and protocols for monitoring

Coordination

- Need a co-ordinated effort to preserve Malleefowl and it's environment
- Should send consistent messages and have a united front across Malleefowl groups
- Funded National Coordinator is required to assist in coordination between groups, across States and within States
- National Recovery Team need to be resourced and provided with Coordinator

Recommendations

1. Secure funding for National Coordinator
2. National Recovery Team provide coordination role

Communication

- Need to develop clear message to sell across the country
- Need to develop communication between community groups, agencies and other groups to: learn from each other; share success; and, maintain enthusiasm.
- Use internet more effectively eg “ChickCam”
- Use key words to “sell the bird”:
 - Industrious
 - Weather forecaster
 - Hydrological engineer
 - Air conditional engineer
 - Ultimate survivor
 - Earth Mover
 - Tenacity
 - Can do a lot with very little
 - Measure of the mallee environment

Resourcing

- Access funding for Malleefowl conservation through State, Federal & Local Government; and, private sector
- Community groups need a coordinator to assist in accessing funds

Recommendations

1. National Coordination required to assist in developing local and regional priorities
2. Organise another National Malleefowl Forum in 3 years time to maintain and enhance human resource base

Key resolutions of the National Forum

All participants of the National Malleefowl Forum were asked to take part in a meeting of the National Recovery Team. The National Recovery Team hadn't met for some time and the National Malleefowl Forum was a perfect opportunity to reconvene and reinvigorate the Recovery Team. It was also seen as a good opportunity to discuss the outcomes of the National Malleefowl Forum.

Compiled by Donna Tidey, Mallee Catchment Management Authority

- Need for a National Malleefowl Recovery Team
- Need goals and objectives of NMRT
- Gap Analysis needs to be conducted on the Recovery Plan in each state.
 - WA has completed Gap Analysis
 - VIC, SA and NSW need to follow suite
- Need to identify terms of reference
- Need to nominate and select Recovery Team members. Communication between members will be by phone, email and maybe group meetings. Membership could include; Government, non-government, Academics, Community Groups, local government and CMA's.
- Each state could nominate and select Recovery team Members.
- How will each state co-ordinate and move forward?

Western Australia

Responsible: Raquel Carter (TSN, WWF), Susanne Dennings (Malleefowl Preservation Group)

- Look at results from Gap Analysis and develop a relevant strategy
- Apply for funding for WA Coordinator and National Coordinator application
- Conduct a workshop to nominate and select WA representatives for National Malleefowl Recovery Team

South Australia

Responsible: Peter Copley (DEH), Karina Mercer, (TSN, WWF)

- Follow up on National Malleefowl Forum
- Determine who or which agency is responsible for management of Malleefowl data, TSN, DEH or community
- Need to nominate and select SA representatives for National Malleefowl Recovery Team

Victoria

Responsible: Neil McFarlane (VMRG, President)

- In next VMRG meeting (potentially March 2004) need to nominate and select VIC representatives for National Malleefowl Recovery Team, prior to this process happening, I think other stakeholders should be involved. I.e Mallee CMA, DSE, PV etc.
- VMRG to look into Gap Analysis for Vic section of Recovery Plan.

New South Wales

Responsible: Matt Chambers (Threatened Species Recovery, NSW PWS)

- Investigate outcomes and check out representation of issues and then identify representation on Recovery team at a later date.

Other Issues

- Possibility of a part-time National Recovery Team Convenor, National Co-ordinator, and State Co-ordinators (WA, SE Australia (SA, VIC and NSW) subject to funding
- VMRG website will have a list of forum attendees, forum proceedings and a link to the Recovery Plan. VMRG can circulate contact details including phone numbers internally (i.e. those that attended forum)

Key contacts:

WA Raquel Carter (WWF, TSN) rcarter@wwf.org.au

SA Peter Copley (DEH) copley.peter@saugov.sa.gov.au

VIC Neil McFarlane (VMRG), Peter Sandell (PV) psandell@parks.vic.gov.au

NSW Matt Chambers (NSW PWS)