

WORK TABLE: EXECUTIVE

Co-Chairs:

Canada - Tara Shannon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service

Mexico - María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre – SEMARNAT

USA - Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary - Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior

This year's agenda was developed based on the following criteria identified in the (i.e. 2023-2024) Action Items Report. Special consideration was given to . . .

Trilateral Committee Priorities 2021-2024

- Climate Change (Connectivity)
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Integrating Human Dimensions
- Technology Innovation for Conservation
- Zoonotic Diseases

Thursday May 2, 2024

Room: Cortez II

(9:00 am)

AGENDA ITEM 1: Welcome, Introductions, and Adoption of the Agenda; 2023-24 Action Items Report; and Country Updates

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS: Executive Table: Tara Shannon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service; María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre – SEMARNAT; and Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior

SUBMITTED BY: Trilateral Coordination Committee (TCC): Dena Cator / Erin Down - Canada, Leonel Urbano-Mexico, and Valencia Richardson-U.S.

DESCRIPTION: The hosting Co-chair Matthew Strickler, greets fellow Executive Table Co-chairs and other table participants. The agenda is adopted, and any modifications are noted.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: Adoption of the agenda

AGENDA ITEM 2: Country Updates

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS: Executive Table: Tara Shannon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service; María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre – SEMARNAT; and Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior

AGENDA ITEM PRESENTOR(S):

Tara Shannon – Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service
María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre
Matthew Strickler - Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior

SUBMITTED BY: TCC

DESCRIPTION: Heads of Delegation give a presentation (10 min. each) on major developments in their countries which might be of interest to and/or have an impact at a tri-national level (i.e. legislation, policies, regulations, budgets, strategic priorities, agreements, conventions, programs, projects, etc.). The Association of Fish Wildlife Agencies and U.S. State Agencies report will also be presented by Stewart Lily

BACKGROUND: The Executive Table Co-chairs use this opportunity to exchange information relevant to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation taking place in their countries that are of interest to their trilateral partners.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: Exchange of information that helps understand challenges and/or opportunities in the other countries to promote a shared vision and a common agenda.

10:15 am - Break

(10:30 am)

AGENDA ITEM 3: Presentation of Final Letter of Intent on Coordinated Conservation of the American Bison

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

Dr. Brendan Moynahan, US National Park Service, brendan_moynahan@nps.gov
Gregory Wilson, Parks Canada, gregory.wilson@pc.gc.ca
Jose Eduardo Ponce Guevera, National Commission of Natural Protected Areas Mexico, jponce@conanp.gob.mx

AGENDA ITEM PRESENTOR(S):

Dr. Brendan Moynahan, US National Park Service

SUBMITTED BY:

Dr. Brendan Moynahan, US National Park Service

PRESENTATION DESCRIPTION:

The Trilateral bison representatives to the Species of Common Conservation Concern Table (SCCCT) will present the final joint Letter of Intent (LOI) outlining collaboration toward continental-scale bison conservation in North America. The LOI aims to organize collaboration around shared principles, including commitment to science and metapopulation management, shared stewardship, support for restoration of bison to indigenous peoples, and efforts to link ecological and cultural restoration in recognition of the keystone role and iconic status of bison.

BACKGROUND:

A preliminary draft was presented to and endorsed by the Executive Table in 2022, since which time the technical leads have been working with SCCCT leads and legal review at all three nations, coordinating suggested revisions, preparing translations, and acquiring agency and departmental review.

PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TO EXECUTIVE TABLE?

Yes, see above.

TRILATERAL IMPACT/OPPORTUNITY:

This bison LOI will set the stage for coordination and collaboration across our three nations to bring a truly continental-scale scope to our collective bison conservation and restoration actions.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

We request review, consideration for final approval, and signature of the LOI at this 2024 Trilateral meeting, or agreement to sign the LOI at the June 2024 meeting of the North American Intergovernmental Committee on Cooperation for Protected Areas Conservation (NAPA Committee).

SPECIFIC REQUEST OF ACTION FROM THE CO-CHAIRS:

- (1) LOI review and decision on signing
- (2) Audience with the Co-Chairs to present preliminary actions for inclusion in a 2024-2025 workplan under the LOI, based on discussions at the Species Working Table.

TRILATERAL COMMITTEE PRIORITY:

- CLIMATE CHANGE (CONNECTIVITY)
 - Bison and grassland restoration in support of soil development and carbon sequestration
- DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
 - Co-stewardship of conservation with First Nations and Tribes (expressly linking ecological and cultural restoration)
 - Incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge into conservation and management practices
- TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION FOR CONSERVATION
 - Genetic technology (continental scale metapopulation management strategy)
 - Applying genomics and wildlife health in support of movement of bison for restoration and genetic augmentation

(11:00 am)

AGENDA ITEM 4: Presentation of Draft Proposed Letter of Intent on Coordinated Ocelot Conservation

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

Comision Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas:

Gloria Tavera, gtavera@conanp.gob.mx

Jose Eduardo Ponce Guevara, jponce@conanp.gob.mx

Jose Feliciano Gonzalez Jimenez, jose.gonzalez@conanp.gob.mx

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

Janess Vartanian, janess_vartanian@fws.gov

Laura de la Garza, laura_delagarza@fws.gov

Amanda Gonzalez, amanda_gonzales@fws.gov

Seth Willey, seth_willey@fws.gov

Grant Harris, grant_harris@fws.gov

AGENDA ITEM PRESENTOR(S):

Janess Vartanian and Laura de la Garza, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SUBMITTED BY:

Janess Vartanian and Laura de la Garza, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PRESENTATION DESCRIPTION:

Representatives from the Trilateral Species of Common Conservation Concern Working Table will present a proposed binational Letter of Intent (LOI) between the United States of American and the United Mexican States to further ocelot conservation and recovery. This LOI will provide a framework for the Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), the Direction General of Wildlife (DGVS), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to continue and strengthen efforts to collaborate on binational ocelot conservation and recovery. We will present a brief background on the need for and progress toward ocelot conservation, and the purpose and benefits of a binational LOI. The LOI will strengthen collaboration toward binational ocelot conservation through support for establishment of shared goals and desired outcomes for the conservation, management and recovery of the ocelot, and fostering long-term partnerships. Further, the LOI intends to expand binational cooperation in support of establishment of a genetically diverse captive breeding program in the United States aimed at establishing a new population in the U.S and facilitating connectivity between populations in the United States and Mexico through release of captive-bred or wild- origin ocelots and increased habitat conservation, restoration, and connectivity for the ocelot.

BACKGROUND:

The USFWS and CONANP recognize the importance of binational collaboration to the conservation and recovery of the ocelot and share a long history of collaboration on binational ocelot recovery, including establishment of a binational working group focused on international wildlife corridor design and implementation, the binational recovery team participation in the development of the USFWS 2016 Ocelot Recovery Plan, and collaboration toward the translocation of ocelots to increase genetic diversity of ocelot populations in Texas. We agree that development and signing of a LOI will enhance the existing collaboration and result in substantial conservation gains for the ocelot and have begun development of a joint LOI. Southwest Regional Director of the USFWS has reviewed the draft LOI and supports the continued joint development and signing of the LOI for ocelot conservation, management, and recovery.

PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TO EXECUTIVE TABLE? No

TRILATERAL IMPACT/OPPORTUNITY:

This ocelot LOI will set the stage for binational (U.S. and Mexico) coordination and collaboration to reinvigorate and expand our existing partnership toward binational conservation and recovery of the ocelot.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

We request review and endorsement of the draft LOI at this 2024 Trilateral meeting allowing for signature of a final joint LOI following necessary department, agency, and country clearances.

SPECIFIC REQUEST OF ACTION FROM THE CO-CHAIRS:

- (1) LOI review and decision on endorsement

TRILATERAL COMMITTEE PRIORITY:

- CLIMATE CHANGE (CONNECTIVITY)
- TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION FOR CONSERVATION
- ZONOTIC DISEASES

(11:30 am)

AGENDA ITEM 5: Discussion on Trilateral Committee Priorities 2025-2028

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

SUBMITTED BY: TCC

DESCRIPTION: The Executive Table will review the Trilateral Committee's current three-year priorities (2021-2024) and establish the next set (2025-2028). Working Tables have focused on the following priorities: Integrating Human Dimensions, Technology Innovation for Conservation, Connectivity (Terrestrial), and Adaptation to Ecosystem Change.

BACKGROUND: From its inception, the Trilateral Committee’s work was primarily driven by the working tables with little input from the Executive Table. In 2007, the Executive Table decided to issue overarching strategic priorities to guide the work of the tables to achieve a more effective approach. To implement this, both Working Table Agenda and Action Item Report formats require the tables to link each activity with a strategic priority. The priorities identified for the period 2021-2024 are up for review. The TCC requested input from Co-chairs and Facilitators, and they indicated the current priorities remain relevant. The ET may consider extending the priorities for the 2025-2028 cycle, adjusting the renewal timeframe to 5-year cycles, and adding a few more.

1. Climate Change (Connectivity)
2. Diversity and Inclusion
3. Integrating Human Dimensions
4. Technology Innovation for Conservation
5. Zoonotic Diseases

The following are examples that may be of interest to the ET for consideration:

- **Promoting Conservation Finance** - Exploring innovative funding mechanisms such as conservation bonds, eco-tourism, philanthropy, and public-private partnerships to support conservation projects and sustainable development.)
- **Protecting Biodiversity:** Focus on preserving and restoring diverse ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity, (i.e. the 30x30 initiative to conserve 30% of land and oceans by 2030)
- **(Climate Change Connectivity) Climate Action:** Integrating conservation with climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, promoting nature-based solutions (i.e. reforestation, sustainable land management and carbon sequestration)
- **(Diversity and Inclusion) Community Engagement:** Empowering Indigenous Peoples and local communities (BIPOC) in conservation decision-making, acknowledging traditional knowledge and fostering partnerships

PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TO EXECUTIVE TABLE? Yes

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: Consideration and adoption of the 2025-2028 Trilateral Committee strategic priorities.

(12:00pm)

AGENDA ITEM 6: Continental Assessment of Biodiversity and Climate Change

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

T. Douglas Beard, Jr., Ph.D.
Chief, National Climate Adaptation Science Center
6006 Schroeder Road, Madison, WI 53711
dbeard@usgs.gov

Hesiquio Benítez Díaz
Director de Cooperación e Implementación en Biodiversidad
Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO)
dcib@conabio.gob.mx

Patricia Koleff Osorio
Directora de Análisis y Prioridades
Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO)
Ciudad de México, México
patricia.koleff@conabio.gob.mx

Sofía Treviño Heres
Departamento de Asuntos Bilaterales y Regionales en Biodiversidad
Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO)
Ciudad de México, México
sofia.trevino@conabio.gob.mx

Hien T. Ngo
Senior Science-Policy Lead - Assessments

Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center
127 David Clark Labs, Campus Box 7617, Raleigh, NC 27695
htngo8@ncsu.edu, hienthungo@gmail.com

Christie Spence,
Director, Landscape Science and Technology Division
Environment & Climate Change Canada
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Christie.Spence@ec.gc.ca

Anne Munier
Physical Sciences Specialist, Landscape Science & Technology Division
Environment & Climate Change Canada
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
anne.munier@ec.gc.ca

AGENDA ITEM PRESENTOR(S):

T. Douglas Beard, Jr., Ph.D.
Chief, National Climate Adaptation Science Center
6006 Schroeder Road, Madison, WI 53711
dbeard@usgs.gov

SUBMITTED BY: Douglas Beard and Hien Ngo, (USGS, DOI). Christie Spence and Anne Munier (ECCC) Patricia Koleff, Hesiquio Benitez and Sofia Trevino (CONABIO)

DESCRIPTION: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is leading the process to develop the first-ever continental (North American) assessment of biodiversity and climate change, in collaboration with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Mexico's National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO). The assessment will be conducted by scientists, knowledge holders, practitioners, and policy experts from governments (federal, Native and Indigenous Nations, state/ province/ territory, local), universities, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) from Canada, the United States and Mexico. It will characterize the state of understanding of key linkages between climate change and biodiversity, identify critical knowledge gaps, and summarize implications for biodiversity and climate-change policy. This Assessment has been presented to the Trilateral Committee's Species of Common Conservation Concern Working Table but not had the opportunity to be presented to the Executive Working Table.

BACKGROUND:

Biodiversity underlies nature's contributions to people (also known as ecosystem services), including food, food and water security, hazard protection, and cultural values. Understanding the interplay between climate change and biodiversity is critical for the implementation of effective and lasting solutions to climate change and for maintaining biodiversity and nature's contributions to people. The USGS proposed a national assessment of biodiversity and climate change in its FY'22 budget; it was subsequently decided that conducting the assessment at a continental scale was necessary to strengthen it and make the outcomes more effective and more broadly applicable. Thus, the assessment will be conducted in collaboration with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Mexico's National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO).

This assessment compliments and builds on previous efforts and synergizes with existing processes to assess the most current evidence base regarding status and trends, drivers, and effectiveness of responses.

TRILATERAL IMPACT/OPPORTUNITY:

We seek cooperation with the Trilateral Committee Executive Working Table for enhanced coordination, having the overview and guidance role for all other working tables. Acknowledging that the Trilateral Committee has recognized climate change as a priority, we are convinced that this cooperation will significantly contribute to provide very useful information for the region.

We have primarily presented to the Species of Special Concern Working Table, but many aspects of this project (Assessment) are relevant across working tables (i.e., CITES, Ecosystem Conservation, etc.). This Assessment involves the work of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous knowledge within conservation and management options – which is a cross-cutting theme undertaken previously by the Executive Working Table.

During the Assessment process’ first review of chapters (Summer 2024) – we would like the Executive Table Working group to be directly involved in the review and/or also to support the mobilization of networks to participate in the review.

During the same timeframe – we would be holding engagement events which we would appreciate members of the Executive Working Table to attend.

These would be the steps that would lead to working with the Executive Working Table to garner support for any project and/or outreach opportunities involving continental/international collaboration resulting from assessment report key findings (final publication late 2025).

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES:

We would like the opportunity to present our Assessment to the Executive Working Table and receive any input or comments from the members, including the co-chairs. This is the first-ever trinational (regional) Assessment on Biodiversity and Climate Change. We would like to ask the co-chairs any areas of synergy this Assessment could have with the Trilateral Committee and/or ongoing initiatives that co-chairs and the Trilateral Committee are aware of.

TRILATERAL COMMITTEE PRIORITY:

- Climate Change (Connectivity)
- Diversity and Inclusion - Co-management of conservation with First Nations

12:30-2:00pm LUNCH

(2:00pm)

AGENDA ITEM 7: Trinational Monarch Butterfly Scientific Collaboration

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

Ryan Drum - US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), ryan_drum@fws.gov; Gloria Tavera Alonso, National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), gtavera@conanp.gob.mx; Greg Mitchell, Environment Canada and Climate Change (ECCC), Gregory.Mitchell@ec.gc.ca

AGENDA ITEM PRESENTOR(S):

Ryan Drum - US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); Gloria Tavera Alonso, National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP); and Greg Mitchell, Environment Canada and Climate Change (ECCC).

SUBMITTED BY:

Ryan Drum - US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); Gloria Tavera Alonso, National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP); Greg Mitchell, Environment Canada and Climate Change (ECCC)

DESCRIPTION: As previously reported, the expected reestablishment of the Trilateral Scientific Group for Monarch Butterfly conservation occurred in February, 2024, allowing all participants to present and learn of updates on the species efforts in each country, including updates on regulatory processes and listing status, new scientific developments, conservation efforts, plans and strategies, recommendations and/or opportunities for collaboration.

One of the priority topics identified, particularly given the low population numbers of Monarch butterflies reported by Mexico during the above-mentioned meeting, was the need to follow-up with further meetings to discuss best ways to jointly approach this issue, implementing strategic actions and/or targets that will contribute to the recovery of the species.

Another important issue that was identified, was the need to continue promoting the Trilateral Monarch Butterfly conservation program at higher levels, such as the upcoming NAWPA meeting, that could assist the implementation of joint recovery actions

BACKGROUND: During the 2023 Trilateral meeting, the Monarch Butterfly conservation issue was transferred from the Ecosystems Conservation to the Species Conservation work table allowing the group an opportunity to address these efforts on a single-species approach to identify new specific challenges and developments.

As a result, representatives from the three lead agencies (USFWS, CEC and CONANP) agreed to meet in Mexico on February 6, to re-establish the trilateral scientific group, giving all parties a chance to resume discussions held in 2015 on issues, such as: Conservation economy, habitat restoration and conservation, research and monitoring, law enforcement, social participation and environmental education, coordination and funding strategies.

PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TO EXECUTIVE TABLE? NO

TRILATERAL IMPACT/OPPORTUNITY: Allow involved parties to implement joint actions that will positively impact on the population of monarch butterfly throughout the three countries

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

- Convene senior executive government leadership to re-evaluate, coordinate, and re-energize trinational monarch commitments and shared priorities.
- Conduct a scientific evaluation to prioritize a connected trans-national network of climate-resilient protected areas, public lands, and other conservation areas throughout the migration corridor from the

Mexican overwintering area to the core breeding range. Focus our work in these priority areas.

- Work with CEC to identify and pursue potential resources to support re-convening the Trilateral Monarch Conservation Science Partnership – annually, if possible.
- Produce a 5-Year science-based Monarch Conservation Action Plan that aligns and unifies conservation efforts, recovery plans and targets across the 3 countries – ensure that we are seeing the full picture and doing enough collectively to successfully conserve the migration phenomenon.

SPECIFIC REQUEST OF ACTION FROM THE CO-CHAIRS:

Endorse the continued promotion of the Trilateral Monarch Butterfly conservation program within high-level conservation events, such as the NAWPA meeting, and when possible, help facilitate recovery actions via networking, coordination, or funding

TRILATERAL COMMITTEE PRIORITY: (Select at least one category, and any relevant sub-categories or suggest any additional sub-categories that you find applicable as this list is not intended to be exhaustive)

- **CLIMATE CHANGE (CONNECTIVITY)**
- DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
 - *Co-management of conservation with First Nations*
 - *Incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge into conservation and management practices*
 - *Urban conservation*
 - *Reducing inequalities on conservation tech*
- INTEGRATING HUMAN DIMENSIONS
 - *Managing collection, hunting, and fishing.*
 - *Mitigating and avoiding human-wildlife conflict*
 - *Habitat restoration and invasive species management*
- **TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION FOR CONSERVATION**
 - Remote cameras, satellite imagery, and GPS for species monitoring.
 - Synthetic biology, genetic technology
 - Sampling environmental DNA (eDNA) for biodiversity monitoring
 - Use of AI (i.e. combat wildlife trafficking/facial recognition tool for wildlife)
 - Increasing connectivity for better conservation outcomes (i.e. [Smart Parks](#), [Sensing Clues](#))
- ZOONOTIC DISEASES
 - Mitigating and avoiding zoonotic disease

(3:00 pm)

AGENDA ITEM 8: MENTOR – BAT: Implementation Update

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS:

- 1) Nancy Gelman
Nancy_gelman@fws.gov
Program Officer, Africa Branch
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, International Affairs
- 2) Margaret Francis
margaret_francis@fws.gov

Western Hemisphere Branch Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, International Affairs

AGENDA ITEM PRESENTOR(S):

Daphne Carlson, PhD
Daphne_Carlson@fws.gov
Head of the Division of International Conservation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, International Affairs

SUBMITTED BY:

Margaret Francis
margaret_francis@fws.gov
Western Hemisphere Branch Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, International Affairs

DESCRIPTION:

Conservation depends on people— individuals who value and are dedicated to preserving the world’s wildlife and their habitats into the future. To achieve success, conservationists not only require technical competencies to promote evidence-based approaches to species conservation and reducing threats, but also skills in leadership, team building, conflict management and communications.

The MENTOR Fellowship Program is a model the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implements internationally to develop in-country capacity. This program brings together transdisciplinary teams of emerging conservation leaders for rigorous academic and field-based training, long-term mentoring, experiential learning, and project design and implementation to address major threats facing wildlife populations. To date, seven MENTOR programs have supported 61 fellows from 11 countries. Many MENTOR fellows have gone on to lead initiatives within governments and NGOs in wildlife law enforcement, protected area management, CITES, and wildlife research, among others.

The newest program, MENTOR-Bat, is just taking flight. It will tap the Service’s and partners’ expertise to develop a global team working on bats and One Health and seeks to develop bat champions who promote an understanding of the value of bats and their importance to our shared environment.

This session will present the MENTOR-Bat program within the context of ongoing Service bat conservation efforts. The program seeks to harness the skills of bat experts from Mexico and Canada in the following ways:

- Teach fellows via their virtual training;
- Serve as mentors; and
- Advise fellows on team projects to conserve bats and ways to maintain intact ecosystems.

BACKGROUND:

See above, Presentation Description, for background on the MENTOR Fellowship Program.

There is much interest and cooperation among the wildlife management agencies of Mexico, the U.S. and Canada to further bat research and conservation, exemplified by a Letter of Intent that was signed by the three countries. In addition, for nearly a decade, trilateral actions to protect this migratory species have been featured at the Trilateral, especially at the Species of Common Concern Table. The Covid-19 pandemic has also highlighted the importance of One Health and the role of maintaining healthy ecosystems. This session will

provide an overview of the MENTOR-Bat Program and use the Trilateral as a platform to raise awareness and seek expertise from the three countries to help engage in its implementation.

PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TO EXECUTIVE TABLE? Yes

TRILATERAL IMPACT/OPPORTUNITY: By engaging bat experts from the Trilateral countries and leveraging their expertise, the MENTOR-Bat program can benefit from diverse perspectives, knowledge exchange, and enhanced capacity to conserve bat populations and their habitats.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

- 1) Raise awareness around the MENTOR-Bat program in the context of ongoing Service bat conservation and recovery efforts.
- 2) Engage bat experts from the Trilateral countries to potentially share expertise in MENTOR-Bat program implementation.

SPECIFIC REQUEST OF ACTION ON THE PART OF THE CO-CHAIRS: None

TRILATERAL COMMITTEE PRIORITY: (Select at least one category, and any relevant sub-categories or suggest any additional sub-categories that you find applicable as this list is not intended to be exhaustive)

- CLIMATE CHANGE (CONNECTIVITY)
- DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
 - *Co-management of conservation with First Nations*
 - *Incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge into conservation and management practices*
 - *Urban conservation*
 - *Reducing inequalities on conservation tech*
- INTEGRATING HUMAN DIMENSIONS
 - *Managing collection, hunting, and fishing.*
 - *Mitigating and avoiding human-wildlife conflict*
 - *Habitat restoration and invasive species management*
- TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION FOR CONSERVATION
 - Remote cameras, satellite imagery, and GPS for species monitoring.
 - Synthetic biology, genetic technology
 - Sampling environmental DNA (eDNA) for biodiversity monitoring
 - Use of AI (i.e. combat wildlife trafficking/facial recognition tool for wildlife)
 - Increasing connectivity for better conservation outcomes (i.e. [Smart Parks](#), [Sensing Clues](#))
- ZOO NOTIC DISEASES
 - Mitigating and avoiding zoonotic disease

3:15 – 4:00pm BREAK

(4:00)

**AGENDA ITEM 9: Executive Table meeting with Working Table Co-chairs
(order of presentation – SCCWT, MBWT, LEWT, ECWT, CITES - 10 min each)**

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS: Executive Table: Tara Shannon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service; María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre – SEMARNAT; and Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior

DESCRIPTION: The Executive Table meets with all Co-chairs and Facilitators to get a report on each working table's progress and highlights as well as input on technical/ thematic priorities.

BACKGROUND:

The incorporation of a meeting between the Executive Table and Co-chairs/Facilitators as a permanent feature of the annual meeting serves multiple purposes. It establishes a direct channel for the Executive Tables to receive input from the working table Co-chairs and Facilitators on technical and administrative matters, which enhance the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Trilateral Committee. Additionally, this forum fosters information exchange, facilitates coordinated activities, and prevents siloed work efforts, promoting a more integrated and collaborative approach across the committee.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: The Executive Table to listen to Co-chairs and Facilitators regarding their progress, highlights, priorities, and suggestions.

SUBMITTED BY: TCC

(5:00)

AGENDA ITEM 10: Executive Table Closing

COLLABORATORS & CONTACTS: Executive Table: Tara Shannon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service; María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre – SEMARNAT; and Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior

DESCRIPTION:

2025 Trilateral Committee Meeting - The Trilateral Committee annual meetings are hosted on a rotational basis among the three countries. The US is hosting this year, Canada is scheduled to for 2025 followed by the Mexico in 2026. Canada will make an announcement regarding the 2025 annual meeting.

BACKGROUND:

2025 Trilateral Committee Meeting - Each year, the Executive Table commits to a specific Trilateral Committee annual meeting date for the following year to secure the participation of members and to allow for adequate planning time.

REQUESTED SPECIFIC OUTCOMES:

2025 Trilateral Committee Meeting – Canada will announce the date, proposed location and any other relevant information regarding the 2025 annual meeting

SUBMITTED BY: TCC

5:00-5:30pm - 2024 Trilateral Committee Meeting Closing Remarks (Cortez III)

Executive Table: Tara Shannon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Wildlife Service; María de los Ángeles Cauich García, Director General de Vida Silvestre – SEMARNAT; and Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Department of the Interior