

Future Meetings Committee Report – 2014

The three-person Future Meetings Committee discusses items of concern by email as they arise.

Locations/Proposals for future WbS meetings that have been accepted by Council include our current year (2014) meeting in Baja California (Felipe Chavez-Ramirez as the Local Chair) and our meeting for 2015 in Bar Harbor, Maine (John Anderson as Local Chair). We have received a very impressive proposal from Sara Schweitzer to meet in New Bern, North Carolina in 2016; it was voted on and accepted unanimously by the Council. Sara will serve as the Local Chair). Council is reminded that our meeting in 2016 will be our 40th Annual meeting and we should discuss whether we want to have any special recognition for this anniversary event.

A draft proposal to have a 2nd meeting in 2016 has been received, reviewed and returned for revisions to the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (Sarawak, Malaysia, [Borneo]). A revised version has been promised for discussion at La Paz but has not yet been received. It will be forwarded to Council and Committee Chairs for preview as soon as it is received. It is possible a representative from SFC may attend our La Paz meeting to speak to it. This would be a situation similar to that in 2005 where we had two meetings in one year; a main meeting at Jekyll Island (Georgia) and a 2nd meeting in Taiwan for those who could attend. In these situations, the jurisdictional governments provide funds to offset the cost of the meeting in exchange for drawing attention to their conservation issues dealing with waterbirds through participation and organizational assistance by WbS members.

We have not received any proposals for annual meetings beyond 2016 though initial contacts have been made concerning a possible meeting in Louisiana. We have also received ongoing overtures from the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) to have a joint meeting with them. However, they do not have a Future Meetings Committee so future planning is somewhat difficult. Here is a summary Table on where we stand with future meetings.

Year	Location	Local Chair	Joint Meeting	Status
2014	La Paz, Baja	Felipe Chavez-Ramirez	CIBNOR	Current meeting
2015	Bar Harbor, ME	John Anderson	AMOY working group	Approved
2016	New Bern, NC	Sara Schweitzer	???	Approved
2016	Sarawak, Malaysia	Sarawak Forestry Corps	????	Pending revised proposal
201?	Louisiana	tbd	tbd	Pending proposal
20??	???	???	PSG	Pending proposal

As always, suggestions for locations for future meetings as well as volunteers to serve as organizers for our annual meetings are eagerly sought. Please feel free to contact any of our Committee members.

Sincerely,

Chip Weseloh (Chair)

Susan Elbin (Member)

Jeff Spendelow (Member)