

Prairie Grouse Technical Council Meeting
10-13 October 2013
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Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the 30th bi-annual meeting for the Prairie Grouse Technical Council. These meetings are moved around all over the county from year to year and this year it happened to land in Crookston, MN. The event was attended by a wide variety of Resource Professionals and gave the opportunity to network with many people that are very involved and experienced in grassland wildlife research and management. I was not able to attend the field trip portion to the largest prairie-wetland restorations in the world at Glacial Ridge NWR but the attached journal article gives a good explanation of the project. I found this project very interesting as there was a huge amount of coordination involved that required several key partnerships between agencies and the public. The restoration is an incredible example of what can be accomplished with persistent hard work, ingenuity and innovation.

The rest of the conference consisted of presentations of research and management projects that are going on across the country. Below are some of the select topics that I found more interesting and relevant to the mission of PF FBBs. Copies of all presentations and abstracts are included in the attached Program.

1. Climate Change and Predicted Effects on Prairie Grouse. Nova Silvy, Texas A & M.
2. Development of the Minnesota Prairie Plan. Steve Chaplin, The Nature Conservancy.
3. The Minnesota Prairie Plan in Action: Conservation of the Greater Prairie-Chicken. Greg Hoch, Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources.
4. A Preliminary Look at Greater Prairie-Chicken "Ecology" Nebraska versus Minnesota, 2012-2013. John Toepfer, Society of Tympanuchus Cupido Pinnatus, Ltd.
5. Brood Habitat and Invertebrate Biomass of the Greater Prairie-Chicken in Northwest Minnesota. Jen Syrowitz, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.
6. Reproduction and Survival of Translocated Minnesota and Local Wisconsin Greater Prairie-Chicken Hens in Central Wisconsin. Lesa Kardash, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources.
7. Developing a Landscape-level, Model-based Approach to Evaluating Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat and Populations in North Dakota. Aaron Robinson, North Dakota Game and Fish Dept
8. Distribution and Landscape Attributes of Greater Prairie-Chickens and Sharp-tailed Grouse Outside of Their Traditional Range in South Dakota. Mandy Orth, South Dakota State University.

9. Development of a Range-wide Conservation Plan for Lesser Prairie-Chickens. Jim Pitman, Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism

10. Investigation of Thermal Habitat Selection by Greater Prairie-Chickens. Torre Hovick, Oklahoma State University.

11. Quantifying Greater Prairie-Chicken Spatial Ecology in Response to Wind Energy Development in North-central Kansas. Virginia Winder, Kansas State University.