

Blue Goose Alliance Bulletin

#46- July 10, 2006

The Board of Directors of the Blue Goose Alliance (BGA) at its annual meeting adopted a proposal to implement a network of regional contacts. The purpose is to provide a direct line of communication for refuge managers and others interested in the Refuge System to ask the Alliance to review major issues and consider acting upon them.

In recent years, the BGA, in addition to its efforts to promote agency status for the National Wildlife Refuge System, has spoken out forcefully on a few critical issues including, among others, the proposed transfer of Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge, the outsourcing of work at the National Bison Range and Yukon Flats, and a proposed amphitheatre threatening the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

The Alliance has only limited capability to engage itself on individual refuge issues. However, its affiliates have a broad knowledge and talent base and experience that can be called upon in select instances where the Refuge System faces precedent setting threats resulting from unwise or inappropriate actions.

Refuge Managers throughout the System are being provided the name and contact information for the BGA representative identified for their region as listed below. Managers (and others) can call upon these representatives and ask for BGA consideration of threatening issues they believe may warrant outside intervention. The representative will consider each request and make a judgment as to whether the matter should be referred to the Alliance Executive Committee for further consideration. Only highly significant and severe threats will be acted upon but in those cases selected, the BGA can be an effective and persuasive voice.

Regional Representatives, as with all Alliance Affiliates, are available to listen to and discuss any topic of major importance to the Refuge System. Visit the Alliance web site at www.bluegoosealliance.org and click on "Contact Us" as an additional way to communicate with the Alliance.

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