

1. Please evaluate the professional value you received from the NAWMP and plenary sessions at NADS6:

#	Question	Highly Valuable (4)	Moderately Valuable (3)	Marginally Valuable (2)	Not Valuable (1)	Did Not Attend (0)	Total Responses	Mean
1	Sunday Special Session: NAWMP	10% 37%*	12% 41%*	5% 19%*	1% 3%*	72%	279 78*	0.9 3.1*
2	Monday Plenary: Waterfowl habitat use and selection	41% 45%*	40% 45%*	8% 9%*	1% 1%*	9%	282 256*	3.0 3.3*
3	Tuesday Plenary: Annual cycle/Carry-over effects	42% 44%*	37% 39%*	13% 14%*	2% 3%*	6%	281 264*	3.1 3.2*
4	Wednesday Plenary: Life-history strategies and fitness	43% 47%*	32% 35%*	15% 17%*	1% 1%*	8%	280 258*	3.0 3.3*
5	Thursday Plenary: Population and community dynamics	44% 50%*	31% 35%*	12% 13%*	1% 2%*	12%	280 246*	2.9 3.3*

* Attendees only

Statistic	Sunday Special Session: NAWMP	Monday Plenary: Waterfowl habitat use and selection	Tuesday Plenary: Annual cycle/Carry-over effects	Wednesday Plenary: Life-history strategies and fitness	Thursday Plenary: Population and community dynamics
Min Value	0	0	0	0	0
Max Value	4	4	4	4	4
Mean	0.9	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.9
Variance	2.2	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.7
Standard Deviation	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3
Total Responses	279	282	281	280	280

2. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about NADS6:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses	Mean
1	Information presented at NADS6 was directly relevant to my work	1%	1%	6%	42%	51%	281	4.4
2	The registration cost for NADS6 was a fair value	1%	5%	10%	55%	29%	283	4.1
3	The Peabody Hotel cost was fair relative to amenities received	5%	22%	24%	38%	12%	279	3.3
4	The symposium was well organized	1%	8%	6%	42%	44%	280	4.2
5	Adequate time was allowed for breaks	1%	5%	4%	56%	34%	280	4.2
7	Adequate time was devoted to issues of waterfowl management	1%	8%	7%	62%	23%	281	4.0
8	Professional and student presentations should be intermingled by topic	2%	2%	16%	51%	28%	280	4.0
9	Evening receptions were a good time for poster sessions	1%	8%	12%	57%	23%	279	3.9
10	Speakers and entertainment during lunch enhanced the conference program	12%	36%	23%	21%	8%	279	2.8
11	Breakfast should not be included to reduce registration costs	28%	39%	16%	15%	2%	280	2.3
12	The cost of beer or wine in limited quantity during evening programs should be included in	6%	16%	24%	39%	15%	281	3.4

	the registration fee							
13	It is important that restaurants and nightlife be available within walking distance of the symposium hotel	1%	2%	10%	48%	40%	281	4.3
14	It is important that the conference be within a cab ride of \$30 or less from a regional airport	1%	8%	35%	39%	18%	279	3.7
15	Future symposiums should address ducks only and not all waterfowl	35%	38%	16%	7%	5%	282	2.1
16	The Student Panel Discussion and Mentor/Mentee session should be continued	1%	3%	33%	35%	28%	273	3.9
17	Service from the staff at the Peabody Hotel was excellent	1%	1%	11%	39%	47%	280	4.3
18	Door prizes for students should be continued	1%	2%	19%	52%	26%	278	4.0
19	Door prizes should be available to all conferees	6%	18%	44%	24%	7%	279	3.1

NADS6 Post-Conference Survey

Final Descriptive Report

Last modified 3/21/2013

Statistic	Information presented at NADS6 was directly relevant to my work	The registration cost for NADS6 was a fair value	The Peabody Hotel cost was fair relative to amenities received	Service from the staff at the Peabody Hotel was excellent	The symposium was well organized	Adequate time was allowed for breaks	Adequate time was devoted to issues of waterfowl management
Min Value	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Mean	4.4	4.1	3.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.0
Variance	0.5	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7
Standard Deviation	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8
Total Responses	281	283	279	280	280	280	281

Professional and student presentations should be intermingled by topic	The Student Panel Discussion and Mentor/Mentee session should be continued	Evening receptions were a good time for poster sessions	Door prizes for students should be continued	Door prizes should be availed to all conferees	Speakers and entertainment during lunch enhanced the conference program	Breakfast should not be included to reduce registration costs
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5	5	5	5	5	5	5
4.0	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.1	2.8	2.3
0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.2
0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.1
280	273	279	278	279	279	280

The cost of beer or wine in limited quantity during evening programs should be included in the registration fee	It is important that restaurants and nightlife be available within walking distance of the symposium hotel	It is important that the conference be within a cab ride of \$30 or less from a regional airport	Future symposiums should address ducks only and not all waterfowl
1	1	1	1
5	5	5	5
3.4	4.3	3.7	2.1
1.2	0.5	0.8	1.2
1.1	0.7	0.9	1.1
281	281	279	282

3. Please indicate your preference for the length of symposium presentations:

#	Question	Allow more time	Allow less time	Keep the same length	Total Responses	Mean
1	Plenary sessions	2.1%	34.6%	63.2%	280	1.7
2	Professional and student oral presentations	21.3%	1.8%	76.9%	277	2.2

Statistic	Plenary sessions	Professional and student oral presentations
Min Value	1	1
Max Value	3	3
Mean	1.7	2.2
Variance	0.3	0.2
Standard Deviation	0.5	0.4
Total Responses	280	277

4. How many concurrent sessions should the symposium accommodate?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	2-3	164	58%
2	4-5	91	32%
3	6-7	5	2%
4	Concurrent sessions should not be utilized	21	7%
	Total	281	100%


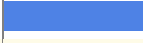




5. Which format would you prefer for future symposiums?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Every 3 years, 4-5 days (current format)	186	66%
2	Every 2 years, 2-3 days	65	23%
0	No opinion	31	11%
	Total	282	100%

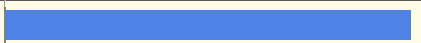

6. NADS6 featured a different plenary theme each day for four days. Which would you prefer?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	4 days with 4 different daily plenary topics and a single registration fee (current format)	203	73%
2	4 days with more integrated plenary topics and a single registration fee	33	12%
3	Topics divided into 2 day tracks, with the options to register for tracks presented in the 1st two days of the symposium, tracks presented in the 2nd two days of the symposium, or all 4 days of the symposium	29	10%
4	Another format (please indicate)	12	4%
	Total	277	100%

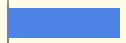

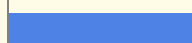



7. Please select your age group:

#	Answer		Response	%
1	25 & under		31	11%
2	26-35		86	30%
3	36-45		67	24%
4	46-55		55	19%
5	56-65		38	13%
6	Over 65		8	3%

8. Gender:

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Male		239	85%
2	Female		42	15%
	Total		281	100%

9. Which category best describes your current occupation?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Student		66	23%
2	University-affiliated educator and/or researcher		42	15%
3	Professional biologist, manager, or administrator with a state or federal agency		113	40%
4	Professional biologist, manager, or administrator with a non-profit conservation organization		46	16%
5	Professional biologist, manager, or administrator with a private or other organization		11	4%
6	Other (please indicate)		6	2%
	Total		284	100%

10. How likely are you to attend NADS7 in Delaware?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Very Unlikely		16	6%
2	Unlikely		18	7%
3	Undecided		58	22%
4	Likely		80	30%
5	Very Likely		92	35%
	Total		264	100%

11. Are you interested in serving on one of the organizing committees for NADS7?

If yes, please include your e-mail address in the space provided.

#	Answer		Response	%
2	Yes		37	14%
1	No		167	61%
0	Not sure		68	25%
	Total		272	100%

Yes
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ted.nichols@comcast.net
jaustin@usgs.gov
mick_hanan@fws.gov
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12. We welcome your comments on NADS6 and/or suggestions for NADS7:

Text Response

Really enjoyed the event in Memphis.

The motel was nice, but when others were staying at motels across the street for

I strongly ask that concurrent sessions be limited to 3. I was heavily frustrated by the overlap of sessions and it made the conference far less valuable for me than past conferences. While I really liked all of the student "in progress" presentations, I think they should be sequestered into a single session or two and possibly be limited to 10 minutes or less per. I really appreciated having lunch included in the registration price and think it helped keep people at the sessions immediately following lunch - please continue this if possible.

I really like the field trips that occurred on Sunday. I thought it was a great experience and allows you to get in touch with the people in the field in that area and see the landscape and what they are doing on the ground. It was a great way to get to know people that you would be seeing throughout the conference and make additional connections that you may not have gotten otherwise. I did feel a little overwhelmed with the size of the conference but I did really like the ability to mingle with more than one group (i.e. waterfowl, geese, seaducks). It was great to have so much expertise in one spot!

Big issue: there were too many concurrent sessions! Little issue: beverage prices at evening poster sessions were very high for folks that don't drink alcohol! Otherwise it was a very well-run symposium. I especially appreciate breakfast and lunch being provided on-site as it helps with networking as well as visiting. Nice job!!

NADS 6 was a great experience and I am happy I was able to attend. The amount of concurrent sessions was a bit excessive and made it confusing at times. Also, having a few of the sessions in a room on a different floor was very confusing as this room was not indicated on the map. It was also impossible to travel between talks if you were hoping to catch one on the different floor as you missed the first 5 minutes by the time you got to it. Otherwise it was awesome and great job to all of the organizers.

While I thoroughly enjoyed the symposium, I felt it was lacking in a few areas. First, there was way too much going on at any one time. Having so many concurrent sessions made it challenging to see the talks I was interested in. Also, having the rooms so far from one another was difficult, and limited my ability to see a range of talks. Second, the location was far from ideal: the Peabody was expensive and did not really fit the needs of a symposium like this. Third, the room rate exceeded the allowable cost for federal employees, limiting the number of employees who could attend (in addition to federal budget restrictions). I was unable to stay at the hotel for this reason, and had to drive to the Peabody each morning. Fourth, and this may be most important, the abstract submission period fell in the middle of my summer field season. I was not able to submit an abstract for this reason, despite having wanted to. Perhaps a few changes in the future to better suit this symposium would be a more rural venue (lower cost, more accessible for those staying at other locations), fewer concurrent sessions, perhaps by lengthening the conference by a day, and changing the abstract submission period to later in the season. Accessibility to an airport should certainly be a concern, but by limiting the possible venues to large metropolitan areas and fancy hotels/conference centers, you restrict who can or would want to attend.

The symposium doesn't need to be so swanky. Many of us are spending public dollars to attend, and should thus be as frugal as possible when attending conferences. There were a lot of expenditures that I felt would be difficult to justify to the general public, especially in this era of irresponsible (U.S.) government. I understand that finding a single facility to accommodate so many may be difficult in certain geographical regions, but I don't believe Memphis is one of those regions. I would like to attend

NADS7 but I don't know if my administration will approve the trip based on the cost. I can't say I'd blame them if we're not trying to keep costs as low as possible. I hope more of the plenary's at the next NADS will be a little less like an undergraduate lecture. Some were exceptional this year.

Great job with the conference. Thanks.

Excellent symposium

I am not sure it is necessary for plenary sessions to consume as much time as they did. A 2-3 hour plenary to start the morning would be sufficient and allow more time to be dedicated to student and professional talks.

Hotel costs need to be reduced for future NADS.

If there are going to be concurrent sessions, allow time between presentation slots for people to move from one room to another. A few times I missed the first couple of minutes of a talk because it took a couple of minutes to get from the grand salon rooms to the outlying rooms.

I can continue to develop the mentor/mentee program if it is decided to continue.

No opportunity for drinks at the second poster session resulted in low turnout for people looking at posters, and even low turnout for presenters standing next to their posters. Poster sessions are a great opportunity for students to interact with professionals, so steps should be made to encourage attendance by all.

Not enough chairs for plenary and some oral presentations. Would rather have all chairs and no tables. Poster session was disorganized and confusing, especially second day. Would prefer no talks or entertainment during lunch. Too many concurrent sessions with topics that overlapped. More frequent symposiums (every other year) would be better for students, especially masters-level students. Would like to see more student presentations.

Way too many concurrent sessions. Great organization of the conference. Great banquet.

At first I thought there were going to be too many concurrent sessions but it turned out OK. I would shorten or trim the number of plenary speakers to allow a little more room for the rest of the talks. I enjoyed the evening poster socials vs. the old sessions and hospitality room being separate. I like the idea of including all waterfowl each year and having the conference every three years as opposed to closer together ensures everything is "new" and not repeated talks in concurrent symposia.

Very well organized. Content excellent. Attendance, networking stimulating.

The hotel venue was not ideal. The WiFi was terrible and the alcohol was overpriced. The setup of the poster sessions (particularly allowing the first session of posters an 'extra' day of display time) was confusing and poorly organized. Turnout for the second session was much lower because A) people did not know that new posters were being presented then, and B) people were not willing to dedicate two evenings to poster viewing.

need for more information/opportunities on sharing applied best mgmt practices on waterfowl/wetland mgmt. More focus need on wetland benefits and waterfowl eg&s relative to societal realities.

Multiple sessions of oral presentations provided great opportunity to see results of many great projects, however it made it difficult to pick which to attend. In the future while I understood the theme of each session's grouping, there were frequently presentations on the same species going concurrently (not including green head golf course ducks). It would be nice for several of us non mallard folks to be able to target attending our favorite flavor of study and be able to hit them all.

Definitely enjoyed the conference. My only complaint was too many concurrent sessions but was impressed how, for the most part, they all managed to stay on schedule.

I would suggest shorter plenary sessions each day so that professional/students sessions could be longer

so there would be fewer (ie:

I am a wetland hydrologist with a mandate that includes the promotion of wetland functions and values. These include water quality, hydrologic functions, carbon sequestration, T&E species habitat, and many, many others. I fully understand that this venue is specifically tailored to the wetland function that may be called "Maintenance of Waterfowl Habitat". However, I am frustrated by a lack of consideration of other wetland landscape functions, some of which are often decreased when the waterfowl habitat function is increased. I would appreciate a program that included wetland restoration or enhancement work that was planned using assessments of wetland functions that are specific to the wetland type, not a particular suite of fauna. Waterfowl habitat managers will have more success with increasing habitat if they are willing to share the habitat functions with other functions valuable to society and the ecological system. This may mean backing off on a strict focus on maximization of waterfowl populations, but I believe it will result in a better long term result for waterfowl, as well as a host of other issues.

I see no reason why NADS, Inc. should not consider being a hosting unit for an ALL-WATERFOWL future meetings, as was NADS 6. Or, perhaps the other organizations could host a joint meeting (e.g., Arctic Goose and Sea Duck).

This was an excellent and stimulating symposium. Plenaries were particularly valuable to bring many of us (even in research) up to date on current theory and ideas, and at times put me into information overload. While my attendance tended toward special sessions, I perceived an imbalance: more on waterfowl population/life history, fewer papers or sessions on wetland habitat. While such topics may be more appropriate for the Society of Wetland Scientists, understanding wetland ecology and management for meeting the seasonal needs of waterfowl is crucial. As Leigh Fredrickson paraphrased Clinton: "it's the habitat, stupid". Overall, Great job!! Looking forward to Delaware.

I was not able to attend because the number of attendees was limited by our agency and I was not aware of the symposium date and location until a couple months before hand. I would like to remain on a mailing list to keep informed as to where and when the symposium is in the future so that I can go through proper attendance approval channels in a timely fashion. I think this symposium would be highly beneficial for me to attend to keep informed and better perform my job duties.

I think it is important that the hotel that hosts the conference is flexible to allow the Hospitality Suite, as we have had one in the past NADS. Also, while the Peabody was nice, it was so expensive and had restrictive rules which help us from being able to have kegs of free beer flowing. Both of these aspects are important for the meeting, because it was difficult to find folks you wanted to catch up with because everyone wanted to leave the hotel. We are a tight knit community and I think it would be better to have drinking habitat right at the hotel, rather than spread out throughout the town.

Organizers did a super job on NADS6.

It would be nice to have more applied waterfowl presentations. The majority of presentations were theoretical (i.e. university research for the sake of research) or unusable for many attendees in the management, implementation, and actual conservation fields. We need to know what your research actually means in the real world and how we can attempt to implement it, or else it is of no use to us, i.e. Eurasian Green-wing harvest in France.

I missed too many presentations due to the number of concurrent sessions. I think we should reduce the number of concurrent sessions if possible. However, I think Rick et al. did a wonderful job coordinating NADS6. I liked the format of NADS5.

Get back to the tradition of NADS and have no concurrent sessions and fewer plenary talks. Also, need to have more free drinks at night so folks can stay around and chat more on site rather than split in small groups and leave, limiting networking among folks. Try to select plenary speakers that give good talks -

those at NADS6 varied in quality and could have done without a few of them and allowed more time for some good contributed talks. Students took it in the shorts at the last meeting, with respect to being able to give talks in front of the entire crowd, and they should be focus of any NADS meeting.

Too many concurrent sessions. Too expensive of a location for a bunch of duck heads. Evening socials were abbreviated because of lack of beverages and cost of cash bar, people dispersed to other places for these reasons which ultimately limited the interactions among attendees. I feel liberal interaction with as many colleagues as possible is a very important aspect of these symposiums, and having been to 4 of the previous 5, feel this one had the least amount compared to the previous ones. If the hosting entity mandates such expenses for the social (such as \$650 kegs), there might be less expensive options nearby which would facilitate more productive socials.

- All costs were too high at NADS 6, NADS 7 should occur at a less expensive venue. - Presentations should be 15 minutes (or less), 20 minutes is unnecessary for presenting the results a single research project and causes presenters to provide too much detail - Alcohol from registration fees should be provided at poster sessions - An informal evening event needs occur each evening with reasonably priced alcohol so all attendees can remain in the same location - Ideal format would be every 2 years for 4-5 days - Morning plenary presentations should end at the first break

The event was very well organized and the facilities were very good. Kudos to the organizing committee and a big thanks for all of the hard work that went into putting it on. Comments and suggestions below by topic Facilities: Overall the Peabody was excellent. During the concurrent sessions, some of the rooms were on the small side and seating was limited. As far as lodging, I was not able to stay at the Peabody due to the room rate being substantially more than the federal per diem rate. During most of the previous NADS this might not have been a problem, but in the current budget climate it definitely was. In the future this should be something the planning committee considers. Format: I personally prefer fewer concurrent sessions. I believe the Toronto NADS had no concurrent sessions. I might be wrong here but I do remember being able to see all of the talks that I wanted to see. Overall, the moderators did a good job of keeping people on time, allowing us to bounce from session to session, but I still found it frustrating at times. I wound up missing enough talks that I wanted to see that it lessened the value of the conference for me. Plus the constant flow of people in and out of rooms was distracting at times, particularly in those rooms where the doorways were alongside the screen/presenter. Reducing the number of concurrent sessions is the main reason I voted for limiting future conferences to the "old" NADS format of ducks only. Overall Vibe of the Conference - Okay this is in no way a criticism of the conference organizers, but the audience was lifeless. Where were the vocal people in the crowd ready to stand up and challenge, disagree, argue? I recall this being a really important part of earlier NADS. I don't know how much of the lack of audience participation was the nature of the presentations or how much was the guys like Nudds, Eadie, Rohwer, Afton, Reynolds mellowing out. Ankney drives me freaking nuts but we needed him there. Who is gonna pick up the reins from these guys? Next Conference: Delaware? Are you kidding me?? Seriously, I am excited about it. Never been to Delaware and I'm really looking forward to it. Particularly if it scheduled when there is an opportunity to make a hunt for black ducks in the salt marsh.

Too many concurrent sessions at NADS6!

The symposium always attracts some land managers because of their passion for waterfowl and wetlands but insights into how the information provided at the symposium might have value for a land manager was weak at best. There is a unique opportunity to link basic information into better decision making on the land where private, state, and federal land managers must make a host of decisions daily to optimize the production and provision of resources but that linkage was not clearly evident at this symposium. Furthermore there were many naive statements made that reflect a disconnect with the land and the complexity of actions that are required for success in the highly modified habitats that we

most all face now that we are well into the Anthropocene.

Great location, beautiful venue, and fantastic staff and service! I'll never forget it!

I wish that the materials on my lanyard USB had been made clearer at registration. I didn't realize until I was home that all the abstracts were available there. I also would have liked if names of all authors had been included in the program, along with an index by name, so that finding people and networking would have been easier (again, some of this information was in the abstracts on the usb, but I didn't realize it at the time).

Plenary talks are great, entire plenary sessions are gratuitous - this is coming from a plenary presenter. It is wonderful to allow a few amazing scientists or managers some longer time in front of the full audience. We all benefit. Every morning and all morning was too much even though I thought these presentations were about 80% excellent. I go to these meetings to hear about what my colleagues are working on and to socialize with them. Less concurrent sessions would assist me in my first objective. A little more time for socializing and venues to do so would assist in my second. 3 hour poster sessions, too long. Speakers at lunch, I'd rather talk with the people at my table. Entertainment at events, again, I'd rather just socialize. Please keep government hotel rates in consideration when choosing a venue. I did not stay at the Peabody because it cost too much. If you don't know what those rates are, just ask a fed. It was a great meeting and I had a great time. Thanks for allowing us to provide input.

Well done!

Had a great experience at NADS6/ECNAW. Overall, the afternoon concurrent sessions were good, because you could tailor your participation to topics most relevant to your interests/research. However, In my opinion there were too many concurrent sessions on a few days (e.g. 4-5). Resulting in missed opportunities to listen to presentations. I also think not having a consistent evening reception room with longer hours and more free/moderately priced drinks was a negative. The reason being that, again in my opinion, it cut down on relaxed mingling opportunities of the participants. Though the peabody is an outstanding venue, the pricetag may have been excessive and cut down on other amenities that would have been more beneficial (e.g., evening receptions).

Had a great time, although perhaps a bit too large with all groups together. Too many concurrent sessions with overlapping topics of interest. Also having music or a speaker during lunch takes away from our time to speak with people. My primary complaint was the format of the program - very difficult to follow or know which day, which room - flipping back and forth - plus did not have all names of authors (et al ?) or affiliations for later contact. I would pay for a paper, bound proceedings - especially since the abstract submission format was so extensive! It would also give the student who do not have any publications, a Conference Proceedings for their CV.

I thought it was well done. Would return regularly, except for the lack of a travel budget. I happened to be in the area for this one. I thought it was great just the right stuff for me to use in my classes. Personally, I would have loved to have had a single session for the private manager and talk about the latest and great on GTR and moist soil management. I only attended Monday and Tuesday so please excuse the gaps in my survey.

Thanks very much for a well-organized and highly informative conference.

NADS6 was a great event !!!!

Enjoyed the conference. Multiple concurrent sessions was a bad deal. Missed 80+% of the papers. Cash bars were very expensive. Food was generally good. Hotel was very expensive. Thanks for all your hard work putting this together.

While the concurrent sessions allowed for more talks, I found myself missing a lot of presentations that I

wanted to see. If concurrent sessions were necessary, then perhaps only 2-3 concurrent sessions at one time. Additionally, while the idea of having all waterfowl papers considered is nice, probably best to limit to just ducks, thus eliminating need for concurrent sessions. Also, some of the special symposium should have been separate or the all of the attendees should have heard. For example, the light goose special sessions is one that covered a very relevant, near future outcome. It would have been good that all managers got to hear the topic discussed. One or two plenary talks would have been good, rather than a whole morning, again, trying to get away from concurrent sessions. Did not like speakers at lunch. Lunch is a time to discuss things with colleagues, not listen to another talk. Peabody was just way too expensive. I thought the expensive drink prices really hurt the banquet. A lot of people left. Overall, though, a great conference and things did run smoothly. My compliments on a job well done.

Did not mind that this event was all waterfowl, but was greatly frustrated by the 5-6 concurrent sessions that it then required. Wouldn't have minded an additional day or so to have spread it out more and allow attendance at other presentations that were of interest but unattendable due to overlapping interesting presentations.

Concurrent sessions and extraordinary costs were a bummer.

Field trips should be continued and advertised more. Lunch time presentations are generally wasted on the audience. Part of the benefit of these meetings is to network and re-connect with old friends, over lunch is a perfect opportunity to do that. The conference organizers did an exceptional job of keeping to the schedule and keeping all sessions on track. Very well done! I definitely, however, prefer the past conferences without concurrent sessions.

If the only opportunity to have free drinks is the closing banquet, have them then. Noone listened to the closing entertainment due to cost of drinks the last day of the session. Otherwise very nice conference

No need for a plenary session every morning (maybe only one or two mornings of plenary sessions), shorter number of days (3), and 15 minute talks for concurrent sessions (limit to 2-3 concurrent sessions at most). More than 4 concurrent sessions is too many; many of the concurrent sessions at this NADS had very few people in attendance, although presentations were excellent. One NADS every 2-3 years would allow for better talks, as a 3-4 year rotation does not line up well for graduate students, as their only chance to present at a NADS may early in their graduate work when they have limited information to present. Peabody was exceptional in all ways, but cost was extremely high for students and government workers.

Please keep the mentor-mentee session for future NADS conferences. It was a very helpful and rewarding experience!

NADS6 was a excellent conference with great talks and events. I particularly enjoyed the wetlands tour of Mississippi the Sunday before the conference commenced. I did find with the concurrent sessions that there were a lot of talks that I was interested in attending that were scheduled at the same time, in which I ended up not seeing a lot of talks that I would have liked to.

Excellent conference. Highlights: walkable restaurants & bars for evening activities, breakfast and lunch provided, high quality research. Negatives: price of beer in the hotel, lunch time entertainment not necessary, student/professional mixer very difficult to locate

While I feel that more than adequate time was devoted to management topics, there could have been more time devoted to conservation topics. There also could have been more time devoted to newer research methods and analysis techniques. Almost all students are using the same exact statistical methods. Should they be?

I am willing to help moderate sessions or serve on a committee if deemed suitable

This was my first NADS conference and I was very impressed by the people attending. I've only been to

Wildlife Society meetings and this was in a different league. The information and contacts were all very relevant to my research and career. Job well done!

I like the idea of adding beer/wine to the registration fee, but I could see that creating a potential problem for federal and state employees. I'm not sure it's illegal per se, but maybe unethical that public dollars go toward alcohol for public employees at a sanctioned event. Getting funding to attend these conferences is becoming increasingly difficult for public employees. Having it more often would likely result in lower attendance given the cost associated with travel - and traveling long distances for 2-3 days may not be worth it for some people.

I personally would have preferred far fewer plenary speakers and more professional and student presentations. There were too many concurrent sessions. With fewer plenary speakers, the professional and student presentations could have begun in the morning, allowing for fewer concurrent sessions. Also, the price for beer was outrageous. Let's be honest, biologists aren't rich and like to drink beer. Bad combination in Memphis. :)

Thanks for a great conference!!!

Well done guys, however, I thought that there were far too many concurrent sessions, and some were too distant away from one another. Coffee and some snacks/ drinks should be available throughout sessions and I would also suggest that in future events the corking fee be taken into consideration for determining which hotel to host the symposium. Corking fees can greatly cut into contributions for the hospitality suite. Lastly, more time should be allocated to an open discussion about the direction for waterfowl management as we only grazed the surface in the open discussion session.

The conference was great and I took a lot of valuable information from it! Kudos to everyone who organized it. The attention to detail was amazing. My only thought was that there were one too many concurrent sessions. I unfortunately had to miss some talks that I would have really liked to see. As an alternative, there could have been more posters and fewer talks because the poster sessions are a great way to meet people. Other than that, well done.

Plenary sessions were too narrowly focused on topics. Need to be broader and include important looming issues in ecology, such as climate change. Hard to believe that one session wouldn't have been devoted to our changing climate and its likely effects on waterfowl.

A session linking animal behavior and habitat use/ climate change across species groups would be relevant. If geese and swans are included with ducks in the future it would be good to have at least one plenary (Jim Nichols?) comparing life history attributes and linkages to management (e.g influence of survival, fecundity, philopatry, etc.)

Nice place, but way too expensive. I'd rather go to a less luxurious place and not have to spend \$6-7 on a beer. Good material and talks overall, but too many concurrent sessions. I could only see a fraction of the talks that were interesting to me.

I am Florida's Waterfowl Program Leader and willing to organize an afternoon/evening session (1pm to 7pm?) to address current mallard complex research, specifically FL MODUs, Western Gulf Coast MODUS, hybridization issues, recent development in Mallard complex genetics - speciation, etc (Wright State folks). Should sell Tshirt/ fleece VESTS/ variety of hats (low profile) as others have. I attended the first 4 NADS and found the number of concurrent sessions in Memphis to be too many, although it did allow for more presenters. Perhaps shorter Plenary sessions, most were too broad due to time limits/material to be covered or provided only a small part of the topic. Such presentations might be good for up and coming biologists/students, but perhaps not for the broader audience of seasoned biologists. Great Job Rick and Brian I know you worked hard on this "monster project"! Joe Benedict -- Waterfowl and Small Game Management Program Leader -- 850-488-5878 --- joe.benedict@MyFWC.com

Rick and his crew did a great job organizing the conference.

I have already contacted Delaware organizers for NADS7 and am on the committee. As far as one thing I would change for NADS7 over NADS6 is the time allowed between the ending of one presentation and the start of another. If multiple concurrent sessions are being held, there should be a 3 to 5 minute break between presentations to allow people to get from one room to the next room. This also allows for concurrent sessions ending a little ahead or behind schedule. Too many times during NADS6 I had to come into the next talk I wanted to hear with it already underway. Thanks.

Would like to see future events located in the center of the continent so travel from east and west coast is not a "boom or bust" task.

It was an excellent learning experience. I am a Wildlife Biologist that manage several major wetlands. Found the talks to be more directed and related to research.....and at times the research is not conclusive and resulted in no informational value in the findings.

Overall I thought it was a great conference. Recommendations for improvement include: cost of lodging was too expensive, seven concurrent sessions was way too much, and most presentations I attended left little to no time for questions. It was very convenient having breakfast and lunch available at the hotel. Free alcohol keeps folks at the hotel and interacting with each other.

The Peabody was an excellent hotel but a little pricey for some. It would be nice if there was a nearby alternative also advertised as part of the conference. I understand there are room quotas that must be met but this conference cleared that hurdle. Perhaps more important would be the inclusion of a "jobs" platform. Where open 'positions' could be advertised - whether it is for Masters students, PhD students or full time professional positions.

All things considered, I was glad I attended NADS6, however, I was very disappointed with the lack of plenary talks given by waterfowl managers. For example, you had a plenary session on population and community dynamics (which includes harvest management). Why was there not one plenary given by someone from the USFWS, Migratory Bird Management, the agency responsible for overseeing harvest management in the United States during that session? I was also somewhat disappointed by the several of the plenary talks. Rather than seeing 4 plenary talks in a morning given by team Kaminski or Team Sedinger, a mix of academic folks and professional managers who are experts on those topics and the decision making process would have been nice to see? Again, the perspectives from the waterfowl management community were largely lacking from this symposium and there seemed to be a huge disconnect between much of the research that was presented and the process by which that information is integrated into the decision making process.

I would like to see more presentations that address the challenges associated with strategic habitat conservation delivery.

No lunch speakers/bands. Need some down time and time to socialize with others

Future NADS should include more emphasis on applied application of current science. i.e. management of waterfowl and waterfowl habitat.

As an older resource manager, one of my biggest complaints about conferences is that, often times, the talks get bogged down in the methods and statistics and are very slim on the management implications. Since it has been 15+ years since my last biostats class, and I know I am not alone in this, without meaningful implications, those talks are lost on many managers because the analysis has become so complex. Talks should be required to devote more than one slide at the end to discuss the implications of the research.

An opening plenary session is all that is needed. The rest of the days should be 4 concurrent sessions thematically placed by day. Too much time was spent in plenary sessions on topics of moderate

interest, which left little time for highly interesting contributed papers and made them conflict

The goal of being inclusive, that is accepting so many presentations, made this really tough. Far too many concurrent sessions. Also the socials lacked the intimate feel of all other NADS I've attended. I think it was just the large rooms, difficulty hearing and speaking, and prohibitive cost of alcohol. We need to pack folks in tight to make them mix as they should.

Hopefully Delaware will do a better job showing hospitality in the hospitality room!

There was a lot going on at NADS 6. Kudos to the MSU crew for pulling all of it together so well, but even for professional scientists the amount of information was immense. Unfortunately, as a result I feel like it greatly detracted from those who presented on the last day as attendance at these talks was very long. Although The Peabody was an amazing location, I can see how it could have been potentially difficult for some people to participate, particularly students, which I feel is extremely unfortunate.

Third option for future symposium format: Every 2 years, 3-4 days

Overall good organization and presentations

great time! Lots of good science.

Generally, an outstanding venue, collection, and transmission of waterfowl research.

Nice Job everyone on NADS6! Make NADS7 even better. I thought the plenarys were a timely and comprehensive overview of the status of our knowledge in various areas of waterfowl biology and ecology. Not sure that I would do the same topics for NADS7 as we would see much of the same material slightly updated. Consider a different organizational scheme around different thematic areas possibly organized around habitat ecology, conservation, and management. Stuff like regional habitat status and trends and how they are affecting populations, conservation planning and delivery, ecology of different ecosystems, e.g. bottomland hardwoods, glacial wetlands, boreal and peatlands, coastal marshes, etc., but from a waterfowl perspective.

I particularly enjoyed the human dimensions sessions. A lot of us know much about waterfowl, but little about the social and human dimensions of the conservation enterprise. Unless we are willing to REALLY step outside our boxes, we will become irrelevant to a majority of society. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Great job to everyone who helped organize. For concurrent sessions, I think up to 4 sessions is the most I'd suggest for future conferences. Seems like some of the talks were poorly attended when there were 6 or 7 concurrent sessions. But having organized a much smaller conference, I know it's a balancing act. Also, a full page spread that shows all concurrent talks would be helpful, rather than having to flip pages. Barring future conflicts, I'd be willing to help format for NADS7. My email is adoniarhenry@gmail.com

Hold at a venue where costs can be kept to a reasonable level but that concurrent sessions can be reached quickly and easily.

Including all authors in conference programs (as opposed to just senior authors) would be helpful for scheduling which sessions I want to attend.

There were a lot of talks, posters and plenarys that dealt with 'Gee Whiz' science. What I mean is that it is interesting to know, but it was not very applied. As budgets get tighter, it is important that attendees from state and federal employees have the opportunity to take information back with them that they can apply to their jobs as waterfowl biologists.

Great conference. While the Peabody was nice, probably could be hosted more economically in a different venue. The Mississippi State crew et al. did an excellent job with logistics.

Excellent meeting. A job well done by all those involved.

Thank you to all of the organizers of the event. It must be a tremendous undertaking and your efforts were rewarded in a very succesful symposium. I am very interested in the Human Dynamic issues we face in our waterfowl conservation missions and hope to see more of those discussions in Delaware

Too many concurrent sessions.

Please DO NOT have entertainment at mixers. Folks come there to mix, not to listen to music, however good it may be. At this meeting's mixer, many could not hear the people they were trying to talk with, and left. It was insulting to the entertainment and very detracting from purpose of mixer.

Entertainment at farewell dinner is okay, though. Would be nice to have a site where libations could be enjoyed at more modest costs. The Peabody does not allow outside booze brought in, but perhaps a nearby site could be rented for such activities. Or request that hotels waive such rules for heavy-drinking groups like duck biologists!

Great job on "NADS6", I mean ECNAW! :)

Excellent organization fro breakfast and lunch: good food and fast service!

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	102