



## **P Soup: The vital ingredients in Wildlife Recovery**

**Lisa Williams, Chief  
Wildlife Recovery Division**



1966 – Endangered Species  
Preservation Act

\*\* precursor to Endangered Species Act

1966 – Little Lisa is born

Coincidence??

Redacted photo

Passion

1970s



## Passion without Planning is Chaos

1970s

Endangered Species Act - 1973  
Species Lists but no Plans

Redacted photo

# Purpose

1980s



## The Plan??

Count everything!! (bats)

Find stuff!! (least shrew, woodrats)

Build stuff!! (eagle platforms)

Hack Birds!! (eagles, peregrines, osprey)

The program didn't have a Plan, but it did have Vision

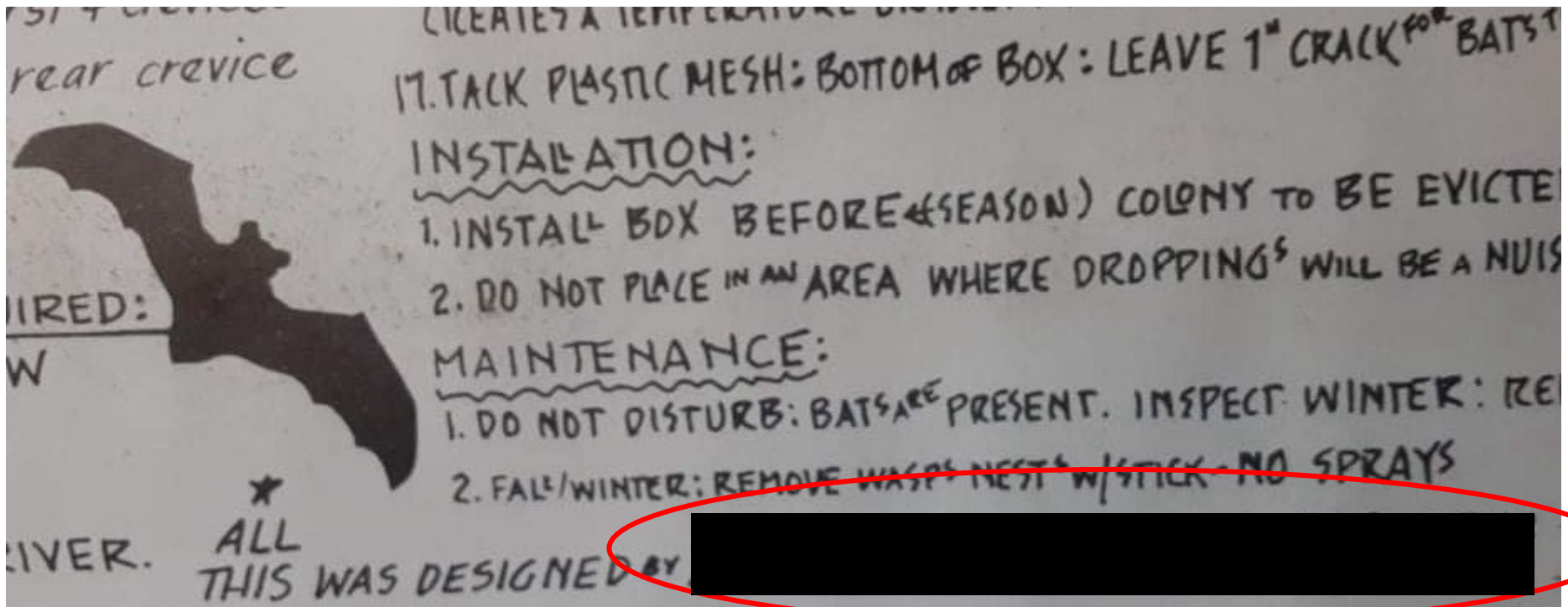
Partners in Purpose

1980-90s

# Support Wild Resource Conservation Program



## Otter License Plate





## Partners

### Pennsylvania Teaming with Wildlife Supporters

Last Updated: 10/25/07

1. Allegheny Plateau Audubon
2. Allegheny Society of American Foresters
3. Allegheny Valley Land Trust
4. Alliance for Wetlands Mercer County
5. American Entomological Society (National)
6. American Fisheries Society-Pennsylvania Chapter
7. Appalachian Audubon Society
8. Armstrong County Conservancy
9. Audubon Pennsylvania
10. Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania
11. B. Dalton Bookseller #488
12. Beaver County Conservation District
13. Berks County Conservation District
14. Beta Beta Beta-National Biological Honor Society
15. Blacklick Creek Watershed Association
16. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Assn.
17. Bucks County Audubon Society
18. Bucks County Conservation District
19. Bushkill Stream Conservancy
20. Capital Area Greenbelt Association
21. Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
22. Centre Co. Federation of Sportsmen
23. Centre Co. Women's Resource Center
24. Chester Ridley Crum Watershed Association
25. Citizens Alert Regarding Environment (C.A.R.E.)
26. Clean Air Council
27. Clover Leaf Mill & the Mill Store
28. Codorus Monitoring Network, Inc.
29. Conococheague Audubon Society
30. Conococheague Creek Watershed Association
31. Conservancy of Montgomery County, The
32. Cowanshannock Creek Watershed Association
33. Crawford County Conservation Club
34. Cumberland County Junior Conservation School
35. Cumberland Valley Sportsmen's Conservationists
36. Dauphin County Conservation District
37. Delaware Riverkeeper
38. Dick's Sports Center
39. E. Hanover Township **Envir.** Advisory Council
40. Edward L. Rose Conservancy
41. Elk County Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
42. Environmental Action Committee
43. Evangelical Environmental Network, The (National)
44. French Creek Recreational Trails, Inc.
45. Friends of Briarbrush Nature Center
46. Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center
47. Friends of the **Saucony** Marsh
48. Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society
49. Greene County Conservation District
50. H. Rockwell & Son
51. Habitat for Wildlife
52. Harris TWP Fish & Game Association
53. Harrisburg Area Canoe Club
54. Hawk Migration Assn of North America (National)
55. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association
56. Honey Hollow Environmental Education
57. **Hopewick's** Sporting Goods, Inc.
58. Huntingdon County Conservation District
59. Izaak Walton League-Franklin County Chapter
60. Izaak Walton League-Greene County Chapter
61. Izaak Walton League-Pinchof Chapter
62. Jefferson Conservation District
63. Jefferson County Conservation District
64. Jerry's Sport Shop
65. John Heinz NWF at Tinicum
66. Juniata Valley Audubon Society
67. K.B.I., Inc.
68. Lackawanna River Corridor Association
69. Lake Wallerpaupoh Watershed Association
70. Lancaster Co. Conservation District
71. Lancaster County Conservancy
72. Laurel Highlands Schwinm
73. Lehigh Gorge Outdoor Club
74. Little Professor Book Center
75. Lower Marion Conservancy
76. Luzerne County Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
77. Lycoming Audubon Society
78. Lycoming County Conservation District
79. Marston Wildlife Sanctuary & Wilderness Trust
80. **Marble** Hill Watershed Association
81. Middletown Township Land Conservancy
82. Monroe Co. Recreation & Park Commission
83. Moraine Preservation Fund
84. Mosquito Creek Sportsmen's Association
85. N. Cambria Co. Community Development Corp.
86. National Aviary in Pittsburgh
87. National Wild Turkey Fed-Pennsylvania Chapter
88. NE Pennsylvania Audubon Society
89. NE Wildlife Administrators Association
90. Ned Smith Center For Nature & Art
91. **Neshiminy** Watershed Association
92. Newton Bicycle & Fitness
93. Northeast Federation of Sportsmen's
94. Northern Allegheny Conservation Association



1994-2000

### Pennsylvania Teaming with Wildlife Supporters

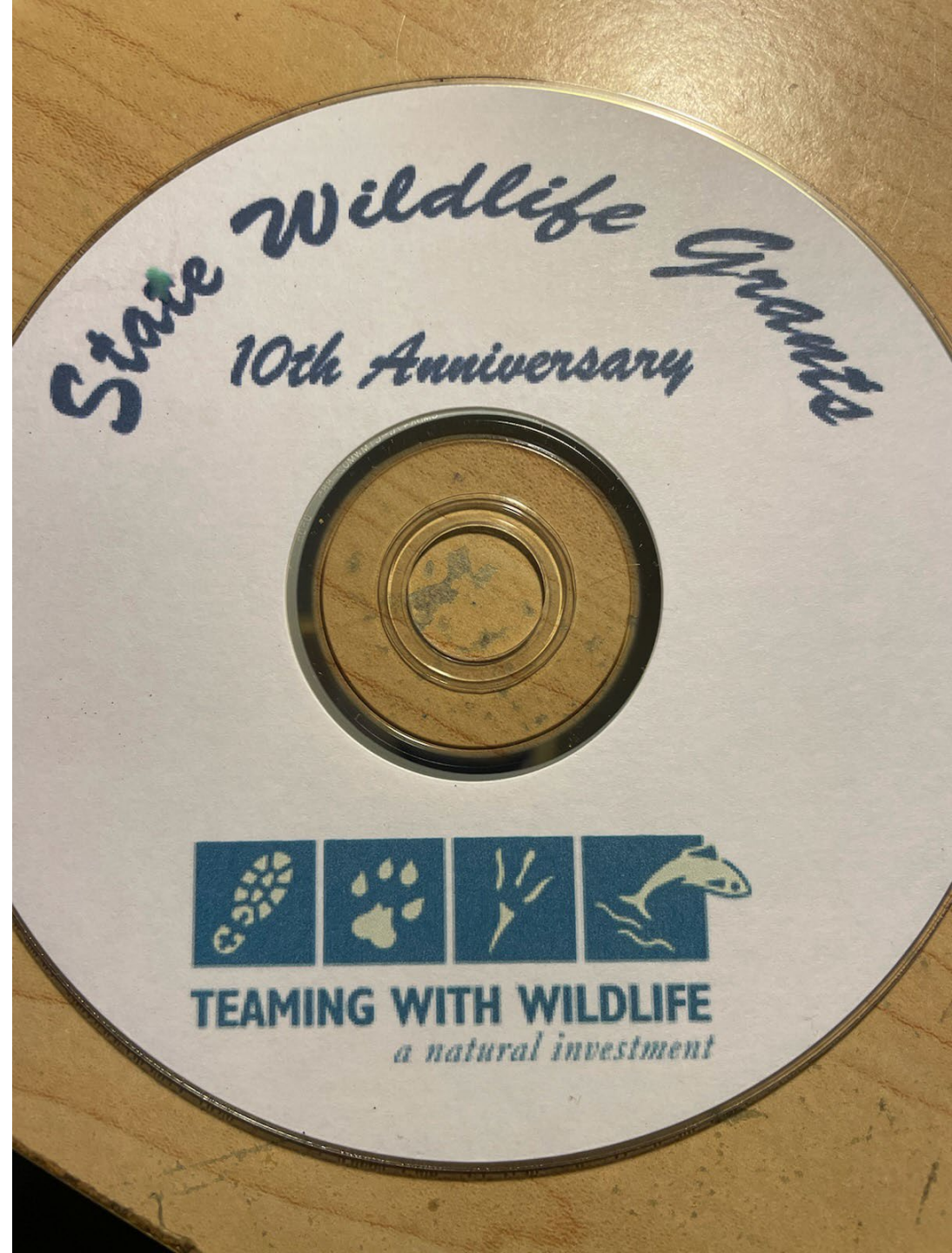
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95. Northumberland County Conservation District
96. Open Land Conservancy
97. **Paunacussing** Watershed Association
98. Penn Dutch Pacers Volksmarch Club
99. Penn Fishing Tackle Mfg. Company
100. Penn State Allentown Outdoor Club
101. Penn State Press
102. Penn-Dutch Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
103. Penns Woods Girl Scout Council
104. Pennsylvania Association of Conservation District
105. Pennsylvania Deer Association, Inc.
106. Pennsylvania Environmental Council
107. Pennsylvania Falconry & Hawk Trust
108. Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
109. Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission
110. Pennsylvania Game Commission
111. Pennsylvania Land Trust Association
112. Pennsylvania Travel Council
113. Pennsylvania Urban & Community Forestry Council
114. Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation
115. **Pennypack** Ecological Restoration Trust
116. Pike County Conservation District
117. Pine Creek Headwaters Protection Group
118. Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association
119. Pittsburg Zoo
120. Pocono Environmental Education Center
121. **Cowdewill** Nature Reserve
122. Presque Isle Audubon Society
123. Purina Mills, Inc. (Regional Office)
124. Purple Martin Conservation Association (National)
125. **Quittapahilla** Audubon Society
126. R.E.S.C.U.E.
127. Rachel Carson Homestead Association
128. Rails-to-Trails Conservancy of Pennsylvania
129. Rails-to-Trails of Central Pennsylvania
130. Rhoads Mills, Inc.
131. Roaring Run Watershed Association
132. Roving Nature Center, The
133. Ruffed Grouse Society (National)
134. S. Lancaster Co. Farmers Sportsmen's Assn.
135. Schuylkill Center for **Envir.** Education, The
136. Schuylkill Conservation District
137. Schuylkill County Environmental Education
138. Schuylkill Township **Envir.** Advisory Council
139. Seneca Rocks Audubon Society
140. Sierra Club-Allegheny Group
141. Sierra Club-Lake Erie Group
142. Sierra Club-Lancaster Group
143. Sierra Club-Moshannon Group
144. Sierra Club-NE Group-Pennsylvania Chapter
145. Slate Run Sportsman Association
146. Somerset Conservation District
147. South Mountain Audubon Society
148. Southern Alleghenies Conservancy
149. STAND
150. State College Bird Club
151. **Susquehanna** Smallmouth Alliance
152. Susquehanna River Watch Inc.
153. Susquehannock Trail Club
154. Svoboda's Books
155. Tannersville Cranberry Preserve
156. The Avian Promise
157. The Wildlife Society-Pennsylvania Chapter
158. Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership-Cambria County Chapter
159. Toby Creek Watershed Association
160. Tobyhanna Creek, Tunkhannock Creek Watershed Assn.
161. Todd Bird Club
162. Trout Unlimited-Cumberland Valley
163. Trout Unlimited-Forbes Trail Chapter
164. Trout Unlimited-Mountain Laurel Chapter
165. Trout Unlimited-Mountain Streams Chapter
166. Trout Unlimited-Oil Creek Chapter
167. Trout Unlimited-Pennsylvania Council
168. Trout Unlimited-**Parkomen** Valley Chapter
169. Trout Unlimited-Seneca Chapter
170. Union County Conservation District
171. Upper Allegheny Preservation Assn.
172. West Chester Fish, Game & Wildlife
173. Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
174. Westmoreland Conservation District
175. Wild Bird Center-Willow Grove
176. Wild Bird Crossing-**Southampton**
177. Wildlands Conservancy
178. Wildlife Information Center
179. **Willistown** Environmental Advisory Council
180. Wissahickon Restoration Volunteers
181. Wyncote Audubon Society
182. York College Biology Club
183. Zoological Society of Philadelphia

## Pivot – 2000

State Wildlife Grants

Planning - *Federal Funding  
w/a Planning Requirement*



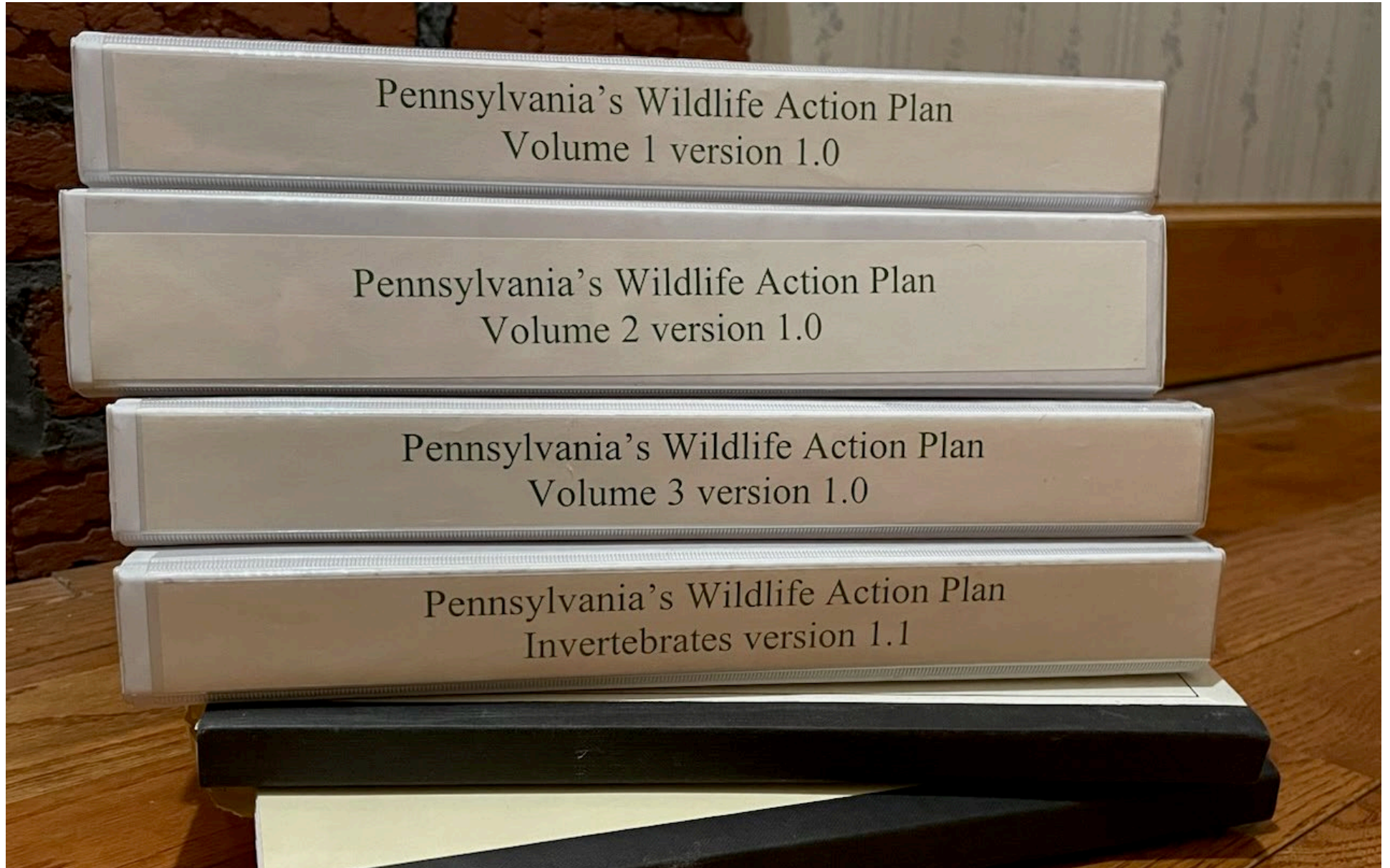


# Wildlife Action Plan - 2005

Planning yes  
... but the  
focus was on  
Product:

8.5" stacked

18.5 lbs



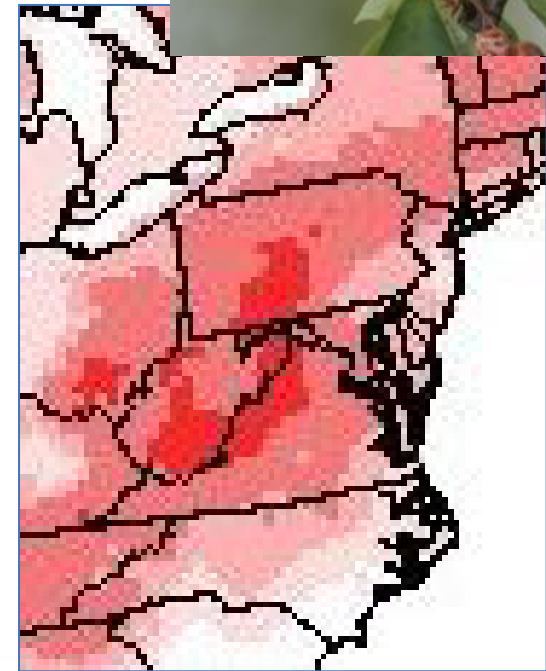
# Proactive / Prevention

“Endangered Species Prevention”

“Keep Common Species Common”

New Program *Pivot*:

- Ecological Function
- Regional Responsibility



PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION



# Proactive Planning 2007-2014

## Piping Plover

- *Habitat suitability assessment*
- *Priority management ID'd*
- *Veg management begins*

*If we build it, will they come?*

**Game Commission, Western Pennsylvania  
Conservancy, DCNR Presque Isle State  
Park, Audubon**



(Figure 3A, photo by Ephraim Zimmerman)



(Figure 3B, photo by Sarah Sargent)

## Panic – 2006 - 2010

Recovery is not a straight line.

Program Pivots are required. Resiliency!

\*\*2009 PGC led the Eastern state response; 24 hour effort on Fed funding proposal. \$1 M

\*\* PGC Greg Turner now a national leader in WNS response, research & mitigation



# Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan - 2015

Process  
prioritized!!

Public Input  
prioritized!!



## Species of Greatest Conservation Need

BIRDS						
Common Name	Scientific Name	Combined Global and State Ranks	FINAL SCORE Category 1	FINAL SCORE Category 2	FINAL SCORE Category 3	FINAL SCORE Category 4
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	G5S2	4	6	3	6
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	G5S2	4	5	3	6
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	G5S1	4	5	2	6
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	G5S3	4	1	3	5
Bald Eagle - B	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	G5S3	4	1	3	5
Bald Eagle - W	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	G5S5W	6	5	5	5
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	G5S2	4	5	3	6

2012 Partner Forum led to:

Welcome to the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan  
**Conservation Opportunity Area Tool!**

**\*\*Updates\*\***

This site was last updated on **10 February 2024**. Refer to the *Data Info tab* for data status. It is recommended to clear your browser's cache for the updates to be visible.

Planning Tools  
prioritized!!

Under  
development –  
Implementation  
Tracker!



## Proactive Planning Pays Off!! 2017

*Partners built it, and they came!*

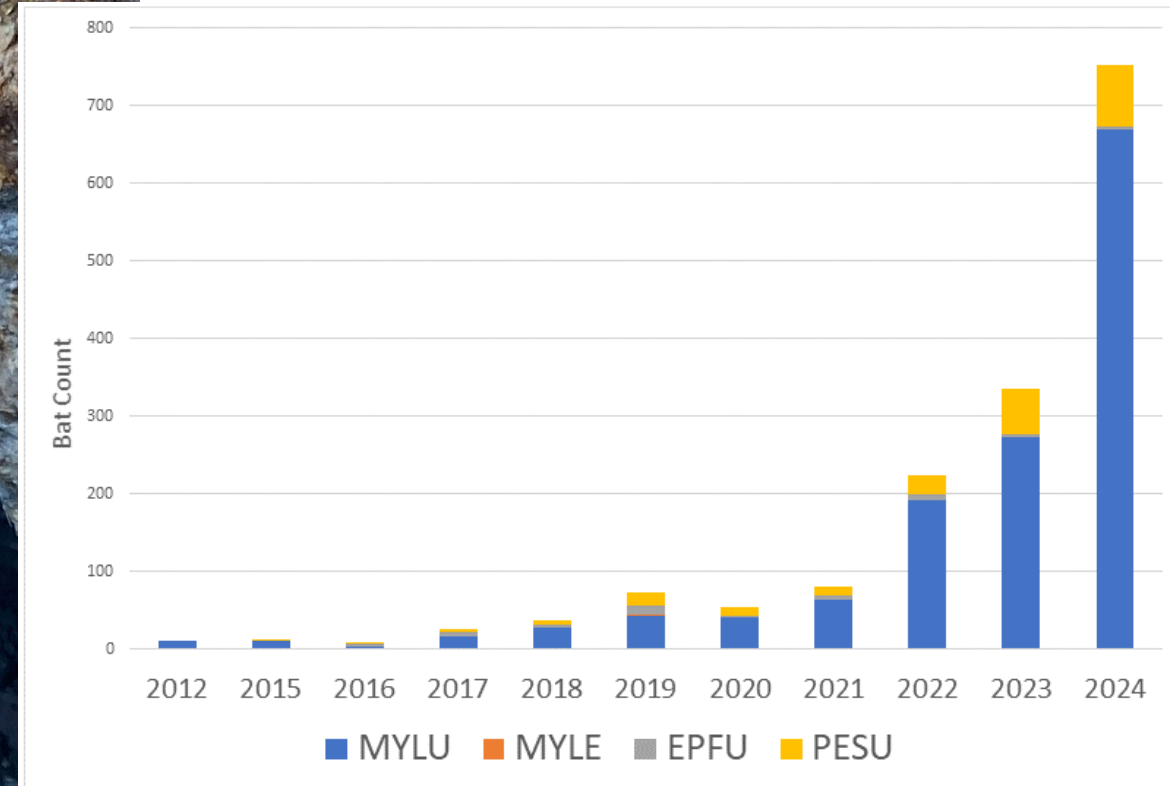


Game Commission, Erie Bird Observatory, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, DCNR Presque Isle State Park, USFWS, USFWS PA Field Office, USDA Wildlife Services

*Teamwork makes the Dream Work*

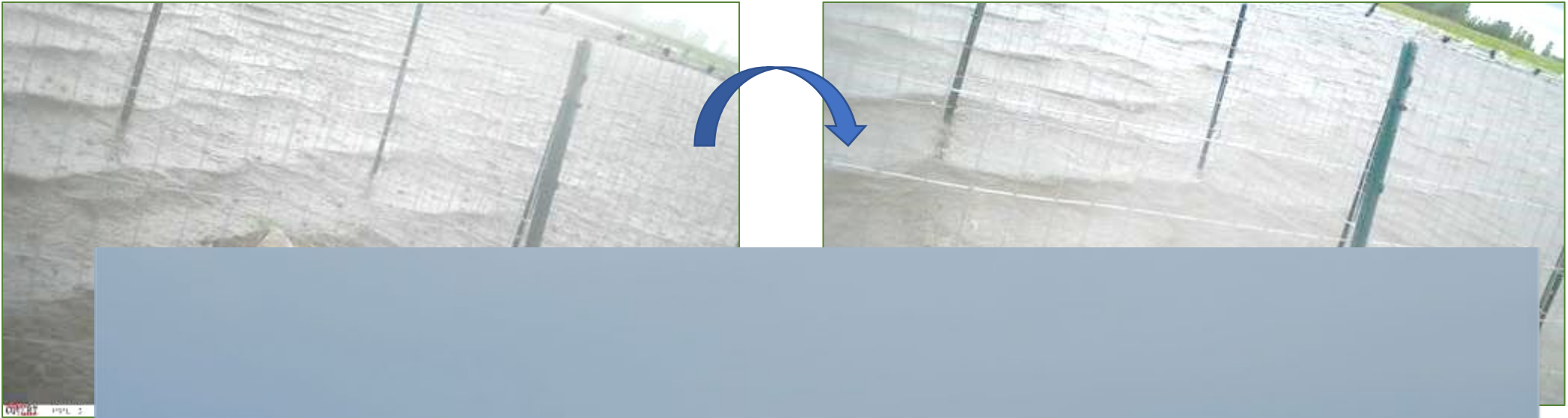
# Pilot Efforts: Scary – must be brave enough to fail

Climate Manipulation – Cooling Caves to Reduce WNS Impact - Turner





# Pilot Efforts: Scary – must be brave enough to fail



2023 Piping Plover nest flooding event - Haffner



15 July 2023 PA PIPL Nest 4 relocation

Photo: EBO/R. Kindervater



# PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION



**The vital ingredients in  
Wildlife Recovery:**

- Passion**
- Purpose**
- Planning Process & Tools**
- Proactive**
- Pilot efforts**
- Panic / Program Resilience**
- Pivots**
- Patience**
- Persistence**