

# OFWIM News

Newsletter of the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers

Pre-Summit Edition 2002

**Data managers and biologists from all conservation organizations are encouraged to attend the**

## **2002 National Fish and Wildlife Data Summit.**

*To identify data needs of fish and wildlife managers.*

### **Summit Goals**

- Promote improved databases and access to databases.
- Improve coordination and communication between database managers.
- Obtain input about major issues confronting database development at the state and federal levels.
- Discuss methods for enhancing collaboration and exchange of data among state and federal agencies.
- Explore how federal agencies and states can work together to advance fish and wildlife information systems.

**November 1-5, 2002 in Baltimore MD.**

- Keynote address by Steve Williams, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Includes the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers (OFWIM)

• More details online at:

**[www.OFWIM.org](http://www.OFWIM.org)**

Phone: 202 624-7744

Email: [summit@ofwim.org](mailto:summit@ofwim.org)

The National Fish and Wildlife Data Summit is to be held November 1-5 at the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore, in Baltimore, MD. You can find out more about the hotel at [www.radisson.com](http://www.radisson.com) and use the "Find a Hotel" link at the top of the page. The meeting is conducted in coordination with the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers annual meeting.

The Summit is easy to access from the Baltimore Washington International Airport which is served by most major airlines.



*Amy Martin, Editor  
OFWIM Newsletter  
4010 W. Broad St.  
Richmond, VA 23230-*

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## OFWIM Bylaws Proposed Change Regarding Membership

The following is a proposal for changing the current OFWIM bylaws to clarify membership timelines and payment of dues. This matter will be considered at the OFWIM Business Meeting in Baltimore.

The current section reads:

Section 5. There shall be no initiation fee, but all members of the Organization shall pay the annual dues specified in Section 3 per year or part thereof. All dues are payable on joining the Organization for that year and thereafter by the first day of August.

Suggested change:

There shall be no initiation fee, but all members of the Organization shall pay the annual dues specified in Section 3 per year. All dues are payable on joining the Organization and annually thereafter on or before the anniversary date of their initial dues payment.

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## Annual Election of Officers

The Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers is preparing for the annual election of officers to provide direction and leadership as members of the Executive Committee. At the annual business meeting in Baltimore, MD on November 3, the following positions will be filled: **President-Elect, Treasurer, Member at Large, and Secretary.**

The principle duty of the **President-Elect** is to coordinate all aspects of the Organization's annual meeting, serving as Chair of the Program Sub-Committee of the Communications Committee. At the completion of the year, the President-Elect automatically succeeds the President.

The **Treasurer** shall monitor and report on the finances of the Organization, its bank account and collection of annual dues. The treasurer will also provide the president with a list of paid up members at the beginning of the annual business meeting. The treasurer also serves as the Vice-Chair of the Membership Committee.

The **Member At-Large** serves a one-year term as an advisor to the Executive Committee and coordinates special projects at the direction of the President or Executive Committee. The Member At-Large also serves as Vice-Chair of the Data Standards Committee.

The **Secretary** prepares the minutes of the annual business meeting and Executive Committee meetings of the Organization. The secretary will also maintain the Organization's mailing list and provide updated lists to the newsletter editor prior to each newsletter mailing and for annual business meeting announcements. The secretary serves as the Vice-Chair of the Communications Committee.

According to the Organization's bylaws, the Executive Committee is required to mail to all active members and delegates a ballot bearing nominations for President-Elect, Treasurer, Member at Large and Secretary. Members will be allowed at least 30 days from the mailing date to return ballots. The nominee receiving the largest number of votes for each office is elected. If a tie occurs, the Executive Committee makes the selection by majority vote.

**If you will be attending the annual meeting in Baltimore**, please plan to vote there in person at the business meeting. **If you will not be able to attend the annual meeting**, please vote now using the ballot on Page 5 of this newsletter. You may also visit the Organization's website at [www.ofwim.org](http://www.ofwim.org) for more information.

You may also elect to authorize another member attending the meeting to cast a ballot for you by proxy.

### **Candidate for President-Elect:**

#### **Kathy Quindlen, OFWIM Nominee, President Elect**

Kathy is the manager of Fish and Wildlife Information Services and Geographic Information Systems for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF). Kathy's group manages diverse databases and geo-spatial datasets that are used for many applications, including land acquisition, land management, law enforcement, environmental review, and research. They also provide GIS mapping and support to all Divisions of the Agency. Much of their work supports the development and maintenance of the Virginia Fish and Wildlife Information Service (VAFWIS), which is made available over the internet at [www.dgif.state.va.us](http://www.dgif.state.va.us), through the link to "Wildlife" and "Wildlife Information & Mapping Services" and then "Wildlife Information Online Service". A large and varied user community, including government agencies at all levels, private consultants and industry, and educators and researchers, use the VAFWIS to conduct geographic searches for threatened and endangered species occurrence and other pertinent wildlife resource information. Kathy is currently heading up a major effort to re-engineer the VAFWIS using Agency-standard software and implementing interactive mapping capabilities. She has been with VDGIF since 1995, and an active member of OFWIM since 1996. She served as OFWIM Secretary from 1998 – 2000, and was a member of the planning committee for the 2000 and 2001 annual meetings. Kathy received a Master of Environmental Management degree from Duke University (1985) and a B.S. in Biology from William and Mary (1982). She lives in Richmond, Virginia, with her two children.

Kathy Quindlen, VDGIF, 4010 W. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23230-1104, Phone (804) 367-9717, Email: [kquindlen@dgif.state.va.us](mailto:kquindlen@dgif.state.va.us)."

### **Candidate for Treasurer:**

#### **Jake Faibisch, OFWIM Nominee, Treasurer**

Jacob (Jake) Faibisch currently serves as the NBII Coordinator for the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. He holds a Bachelor of Science in wildlife and fisheries biology from the University of Vermont, and he is certified as an Associate Wildlife Biologist by The Wildlife Society.

Before coming to IAFWA, Jake created the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation Educational Web Directory, a large, database driven website, and other conservation oriented websites, as an independent contractor. Jake was an I&E Manager for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources from 1995-1999, and he served as a natural resources educator for the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

Jake has also worked on wild turkey telemetry in Arkansas, and served as a wildlife biologist for the Peace Corps in the Republic of Congo working on forest ungulate surveys.

Jacob Faibisch, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, 444 N. Capitol St, Suite 544 Washington, DC, 20001



## **Candidates for Member at Large (listed alphabetically):**

### **Trina Innes, OFWIM Nominee, Member at Large**

Trina, a registered professional forester, has 12 years of experience working in New Brunswick, Ontario, and British Columbia, as well as volunteer forestry experience in Kenya and the Philippines. Her background includes operational experience in forestry, knowledge management, land-use planning, community watershed management, biodiversity, environmental impact assessment and geospatial analysis.

Trina is currently an extension specialist with the FORREX Forest Research Extension Partnership (<http://www.forrex.org>). Her program activities focus on improving the access, exchange and organization of British Columbia's natural resource information. Her work has included building awareness of information management, promoting the use of metadata standards and building partnerships in information systems.

Trina has an excellent track record of success in leadership roles and leading large enterprise systems deployment. She also has experience building and maintaining partnerships between various federal, provincial and local governments, First Nations, academia, industry and non-government organizations. In addition to leading the development of the Natural Resources Information Network (<http://www.forrex.org/nrin>), Trina facilitated the development of the Partnership's online journal and newsletter. Trina is the founding editor for the British Columbia Journal of Ecosystems and Management's Review Committee and is currently the Canadian Representative for OFWIM.

She holds an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Western Ontario, a Masters in Forestry from the University of New Brunswick, and will receive a Masters of Business Administration from Athabasca University in December 2002.

### **Randy Meissner, OFWIM Nominee, Member at Large**

Randy Meissner works for the ND Game & Fish Department as a computer & network specialist and has been employed there since 1994. His primary duties involve working with the licensing staff and running the various big game lotteries as well as maintaining the license and lottery Internet applications. Other duties include preparing the technology budget for the department and hardware/software support and training. Randy also serves as a member of the Enterprise Architecture Review Board for the state of ND. This board oversees the use of technology in ND state government. Randy currently holds a B.S. in computer science from North Dakota State University. Randy Meissner, ND Game & Fish Department, 100 North Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND, 58501. Phone: (701) 328-6336, Fax: (701) 328-6352, Email: [rmeissne@state.nd.us](mailto:rmeissne@state.nd.us).

## **Candidate for Secretary:**

### **Barb White, OFWIM Nominee, Secretary**

Barb White works for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Lakewood, CO. Her current position is leader of the Data and Application Support Team in the Branch of Data and Systems Services, Division of Information Technology Management. Team responsibilities include defining, developing, and administering data standards for Service-wide implementation; reviewing and developing national policy and guidance on issues that pertain to Service data and information systems; and providing help desk and administrative support services for Service information systems and applications. Barb's previous experience includes 15 years of managing geographic information systems and remote sensing projects for the Service and the U.S. Geological Survey's Fort Collins Science Center.

## Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers Ballot

**President-Elect (2002)**  
**Please vote for one candidate**

Kathy Quindlen

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(write-in candidate)

**Treasurer (2002)**  
**Please vote for one candidate**

Jake Faibisch

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(write-in candidate)

**Member At-Large (2002)**  
**Please vote for one candidate**

Trina Innes

Randy Meissner

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(write-in candidate)

**Secretary (2002)**  
**Please vote for one candidate**

Barb White

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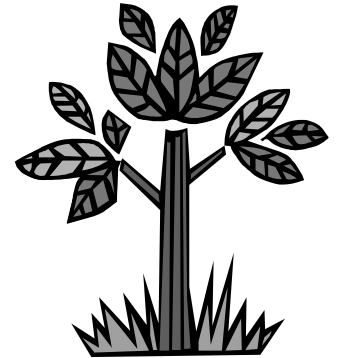
(write-in candidate)

**Deadline for ballots is October 15, 2002**  
Completed ballots should be mailed to:  
Jeff Trollinger, OFWIM Treasurer  
4010 West Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23230-1104

# NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE DATA SUMMIT

Annual Meeting and National Data Summit  
November 1-5, 2002, Baltimore, Maryland

## Preliminary Agenda



### Friday, November 1, 2002

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration

1:00 p.m.-1:45 p.m. Opening Session

- Stan Allen, President, Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers
- Gladys Cotter, USGS Associate Chief Biologist for Information
- IAFWA Remarks - TBA

1:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m. **Keynote Session**

- Keynote Speaker: Steve Williams, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- States Survey
- NBII States Focus Groups: What are the data needs of the state fish and wildlife agencies and the conservation community

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Evening Excursion

Join the Organizing Committee for a visit to the nearby internationally-acclaimed National Aquarium in Baltimore for only \$5.00. There will be many opportunities to get dinner on your own at Baltimore's renowned Inner Harbor eateries. Meet in the lobby at 5:30 p.m. for a 2-block walk to the Aquarium.

Evening Dinner (on your own)

### Saturday, November 2, 2002

7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Registration

9:00 a.m.-Noon **Plenary Session I: Regional Focus**

- Technology in general
- NatureServe

- Other regional or national examples

Noon -1:00 p.m. Lunch (on your own)

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Breakout Session I: Interstate Data Management**

Fish and wildlife agencies address a broad range of wildlife management issues, and most issues are addressed by each state within their own borders. There are some issues that can only be dealt with on regional or national scales, and effective management requires interstate cooperation and data sharing.

- What are these issues?
- What are the obstacles and resolutions to facilitate better interstate decision making.
- What is the role of non-biological data across state lines (licensing data, hunter education databases, marketing, law enforcement)?

Evening Local restaurants and free time (on your own)

## Sunday, November 3, 2002

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Registration

9:00 a.m.-Noon **Annual Business Meeting** of the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers

Noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch (on your own)

1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. **Breakout Session II: Multi-State and Federal-State Data Sharing**

Fish and wildlife agencies work with many partners to better manage the resources in their charge. What is an appropriate relationship between state and federal agencies, and how can they serve each others' mutual needs? What are some examples where states and federal organizations effectively share data and where do they need to improve data sharing relationships.

- What are the data security considerations (FOIA)?
- Where are state federal relationships working (Partners in Flight, NABCI, CWD)?
- What is an appropriate framework for state and federal data sharing relationships?

6:00 p.m. **Hacker's Ball and Poster Session**



**Monday, November 4, 2002**

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. - Noon ***Breakout Session III - Relationships between NBII and the States  
(Highlighting Partnerships)***

The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) is housed in USGS BRD and offers the ability for its partners to develop added value from their data sets. NBII has devoted more than a quarter million dollars to building relationships with state fish and wildlife agencies and providing data management assistance.

- What types of value added services do states need from their data (i.e., predictive modeling)?
- What are specific issues that should be prioritized for NBII assistance (data standards, conservation needs from Breakout I, etc.)?

Noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch (on your own)

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. ***Plenary Session II:***

***Concurrent Sessions***

- Integrating Biological and Administrative Data
- Automated Wildlife Data Systems
- Maps on the Web
- Information and Education
- XML

6:00 p.m. ***Banquet and Awards***

- Speaker: Bruce Stein, VP of Programs, NatureServe

11:00 a.m.-Noon ***General Closing Session***

**Tuesday, November 5, 2002**

9:00 a.m.-Noon ***Closing Session***

- Break-out summaries
- Announce new officers
- Wrap Up

Noon ***Adjournment***





## Donate an item to us to help support our Scholarship Fund!



**A great way to help future fish and wildlife information managers as well as to promote your organization**

**We're asking for donations in the form of raffle items or door prizes!**

All proceeds from the raffle will be used to fund OFWIM's scholarship program for students in advanced degree programs related to fish and wildlife resource management, with an emphasis on information management or geographic information systems (GIS).

Last year, several fish and wildlife agencies and private organizations contributed artwork, posters, notecards, T-shirts, jackets, sweatshirts, tote bags and hats, publications, books, software, and coffee mugs. Many of these items included the agency or organization's logo.

If you or your organization can make a contribution, contact Barb White by e-mail ([barb.white@worldnet.att.net](mailto:barb.white@worldnet.att.net)) or phone (303-275-2310). Your support and contribution will be greatly appreciated.

# REGISTRATION FORM: OFWIM 2002 Meeting and NBII "National Fish and Wildlife Data Summit"

Name (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it should appear on name tag (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation as it should appear on name tag (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form along with your method of payment to:**  
 Jeff Trollinger, OFWIM Treasurer  
 VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries  
 4010 West Broad Street  
 Richmond, VA 23230-1104  
 phone: (804) 367-8747  
 fax (804) 367-0488  
 OFWIM\_2K@dgif.state.va.us

**Registration Fee (US Dollars)**

Full Registration (on or before **9/20/02**) \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00 (includes banquet & Hacker's Ball)  
 Full Registration (after **9/20/02**) \_\_\_\_\_ \$290.00

One-day Registration (indicate which day(s) \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00  
 (Day(s): \_\_\_\_\_)  
 you are attending)

Student Registration\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00

Friday Night Trip to National Aquarium # \_\_\_\_\_ attending  
 (\$5.00, pay on arrival at aquarium)

**Additional Guest Tickets:**      **Additional Guest Tickets:**

Hacker's Ball (Sunday, **11/03/02**)      # \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 each    TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet (Monday, **11/04/02**)      # \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00 each    TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Payment Method:**      *(SORRY, we cannot accept credit cards)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Check (payable to "OFWIM")  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase order    P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_  
 (**Note:** P.O.s will not be accepted after **October 18, 2002**)

Banquet main course preference: \_\_\_\_\_ chicken    \_\_\_\_\_ fish    \_\_\_\_\_ vegetarian  
 (include guest tickets in tally)

**\*\*STUDENTS:** The signature of your advisor confirms your current enrollment as a full-time student and your agreement to provide 4 hours of service at the conference.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Advisor signature      University affiliation

## CONFERENCE / HOTEL INFORMATION

OFWIM 2002 and the National Fish and Wildlife Data Summit is being held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel-Baltimore Inner Harbor. The hotel is located in the heart of downtown Baltimore in the famous Inner Harbor area, only 15 minutes from Baltimore Washington International Airport.

A limited block of rooms have been reserved at special rates for Conference attendees (\$110/night-single, \$130/night-double). Conference rates are valid for the nights of October 31 through November 4. These rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis through October 4, 2002. Contact the Radisson Plaza Hotel-Baltimore Inner Harbor to make your reservations (800-333-3333 or 410-539-8400) now and be sure to mention you'll be attending the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers (OFWIM) meeting!!!!

Interested in sharing a room? E-mail **Kathy Quindlen at kquindlen@dgif.state.va.us** for assistance in finding a roommate. While other lodging is available in the Baltimore area, we strongly encourage you to stay at the Radisson Plaza Hotel-Baltimore Inner Harbor to ensure that OFWIM does not incur additional expenses for not meeting minimum room obligations. We thank you for supporting our efforts in that regard!

Casual clothing is in order, with a sweater or jacket likely needed for any outdoor activities. Early November weather in Baltimore:  
 Average High Temperature: **57°F** degrees  
 Average Low Temperature: **42°F** degrees  
 Average Rainfall: **3.60** inches

## TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

The Baltimore Washington International Airport, only 15 minutes from the Radisson Plaza Hotel-Baltimore Inner Harbor, serves all major airlines. Numerous rental car companies operate out of the airport. Transportation to and from the Airport is available through SuperShuttle (1-410-859-0800), \$11.00 one-way, \$17.00 round-trip. Tickets may be purchased at the airport.