

# 2018 – 2019 Public Lands Transportation Fellowship Program

## Partnerships , Perspective, Discovery: How to Create the Most Impact as a Fellow

Presented by:

Jody DeMeyere and Vince Ziols, Detroit River IWR

# Webinar logistics

- Duration is 1:00 - 2:30 PM Eastern
- Webinar – recorded and archived. For quality of recording, phone will be muted during presentation
- If listening on the phone, please mute your computer
- To maximize the presentation on your screen click the 4 arrows in the top right of the presentation
- At the end there will be time for Q&A
- There is a handout pod at the bottom of the screen



# Today's Presenters



Public Lands  
Transportation Fellow  
Vince Ziols



Visitor Services Manager  
Jody DeMeyere



# Goal of this Webinar

- Document and archive the work completed by the PLTF at the DRIWR from 2018-2019, including his lessons learned and tips and tricks for applying these to other USFWS units
- Help Refuges better utilize future Fellows
- Assist future Fellows



# Agenda

1. Introduction by Visitor Services Manager
2. Utilizing Your Fellow
3. Lesson Learned
4. Hit the Ground Running
5. General Suggestion



Source: Tom Kachelmeyer



# Introduction

Visitor Services Manager

Jody DeMeyere



# Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge





# Comprehensive Conservation Plan

## Goal #1: Partnerships

Establish functional partnerships involving communities, industries, governments, citizens, non-profit organizations, and others to manage and promote the Refuge ...













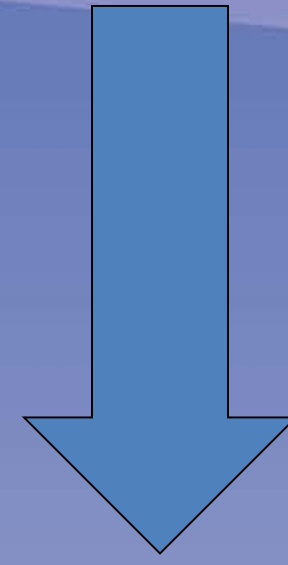




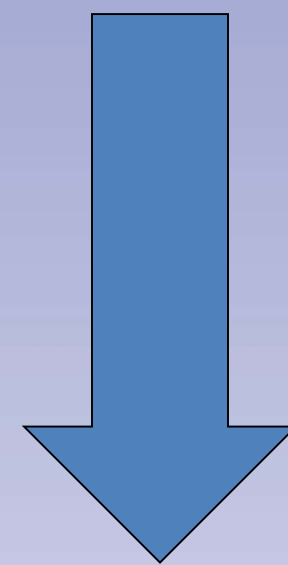




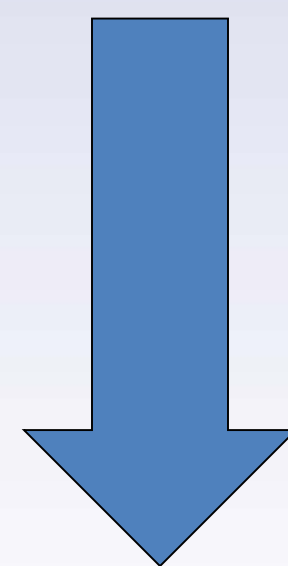
Comprehensive Conservation Plan



Habitat Mgt. Plan / Visitor Services Plan



Annual Work Plans (each program)



EPAP



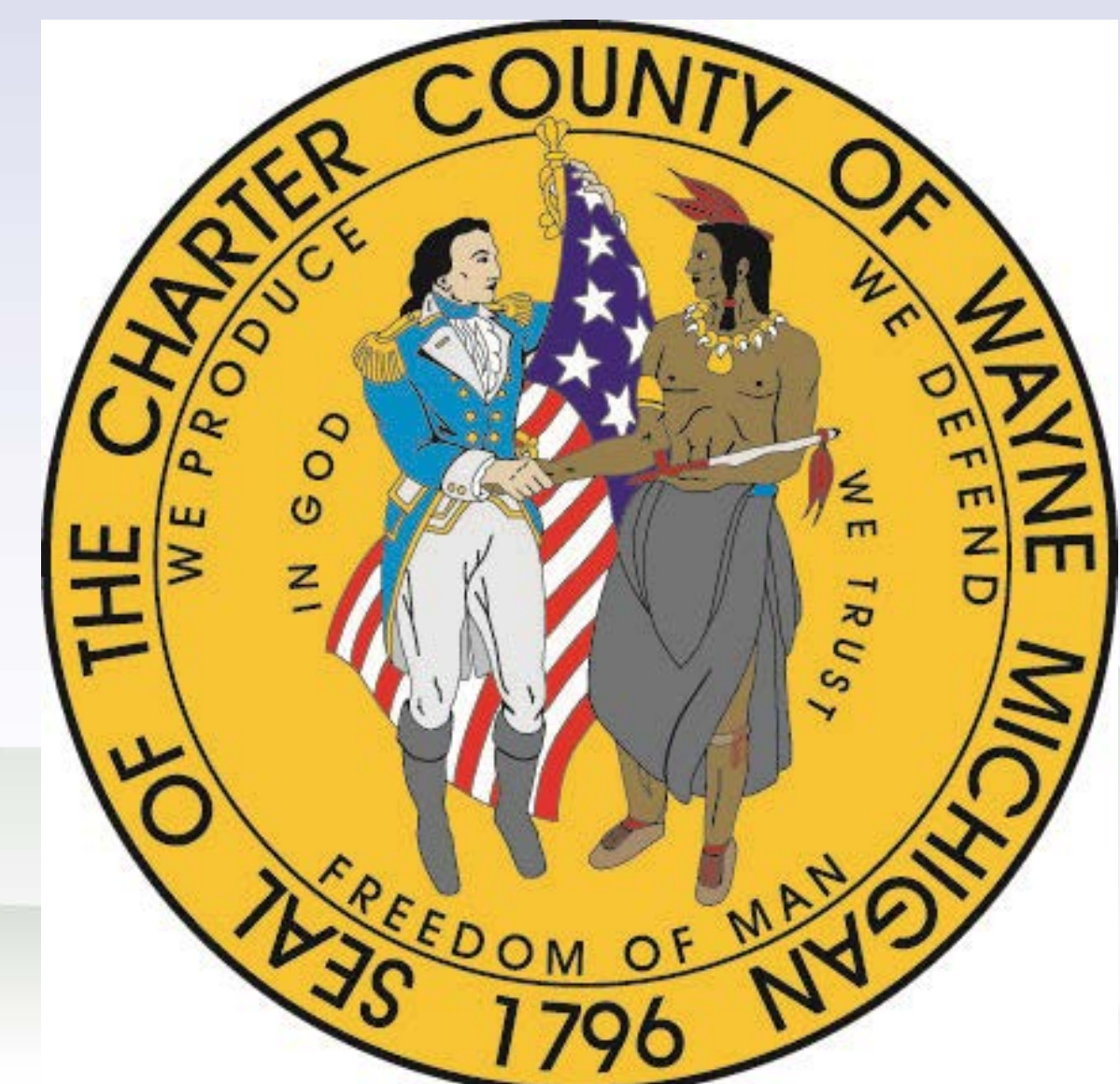
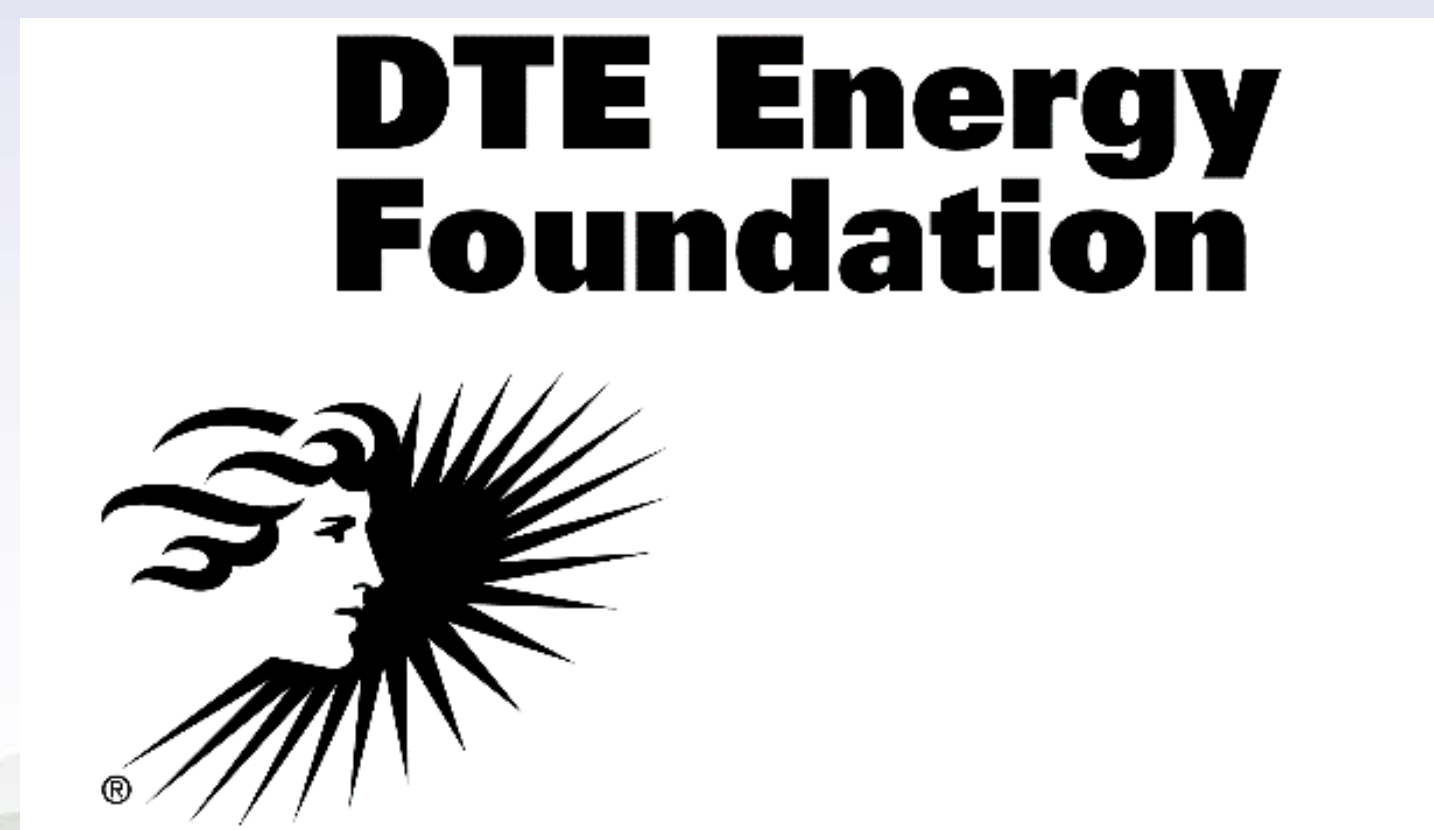
# TRANSPORTATION ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2019

PRIORIT Y RANK (ABC)	RANK (123)	MISSION CRITICAL (Y-N)	PROJECT/ACTIVITY	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	COMPLETE (Y)	NOTES
			Partners				
A	1		Develop safety strategy for W. Jefferson Greenway	Vince	Spring 2019		Work with the city of Trenton for consistent signage and pavement markings
A	1		Develop shuttle service with DCC and WCCC	Vince/VS	Summer 2019		Schedules, route coordination, comment cards, etc.
A	2		Develop/Support Grosse Ile Pwk pathway FLAP Grant	Vince	Winter/ Spring 2019		
A	3		Help DLGI for Destination Downriver with community input and MOUs	Vince	Spring/Summer 2019		Downriver communities and other organizations
B	1		Install wayfinding maps created by DLGI	VS	Spring 2019		
B	2		Stakeholder meeting for Detroit Water Taxis	Vince			
B	2		Develop cross-promotional partners campaign for recreational areas	Vince/VS			
B	2		Begin development of paddle share	Vince			VOLPE, REI, Riverside kayak
B	3		Attend stakeholder meetings and workgroups	Vince	Ongoing		Southeast Michigan Active Transportation Committee, Destination Downriver, SEMCOG Bike & Pedestrian Task Force
B	3		Participate in SE MI Trail/Traffic Counters program	Vince	Ongoing		Active Trans Committee through SEMCOG & MDOT











**DANGER**

**STAND BACK  
100 FEET**

SmartSign.com • 800-952-1457 • S-8288





# Vince Ziols

## 2018-2019 PLTF



# Presenter Profile

**Name:** Vince Ziols

**Start Date:** June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Place of Birth:** Chicago, IL

**Education background:** M.U.P.P., University of Illinois at Chicago; B.S. in Journalism, University of Dayton

**Professional background:** Environmental & sustainability planning, communication and outreach, grant writing, community development, and transportation planning



# Projects Developed

- W. Jefferson Corridor Committee
- Open Unit Task Force
- FLAP project
- Six Points Tribal Heritage Trail Connector
- Destination Downriver
- DCC/WCCC pilot shuttle service to Refuge gateway
- Refuge transportation project database
- Refuge capacity building
- Project grant narratives
- Low-cost local bicycle infrastructure improvements
- Refuge directional road signage
- Refuge non-motorized count program
- SWOT analysis for opening up units

# Materials Created

- Bicycle infrastructure cost-estimate tool
- New refuge tear sheet map
- Water access points collector app map
- Greenways trail kiosk panels
- Transportation AWP
- Transportation goals & objectives for Refuge
- Multi-governmental path agreement
- Memorandum of Understanding for project grants
- Performance measures for refuge transportation goals
- Refuge units matrix
- Greenway trail safety signage strategy
- Refuge transportation handbook
- Refuge transportation training materials
- SOP for collecting ATS counts data
- Future directional signage consideration and vicinity maps
- Resource reference database



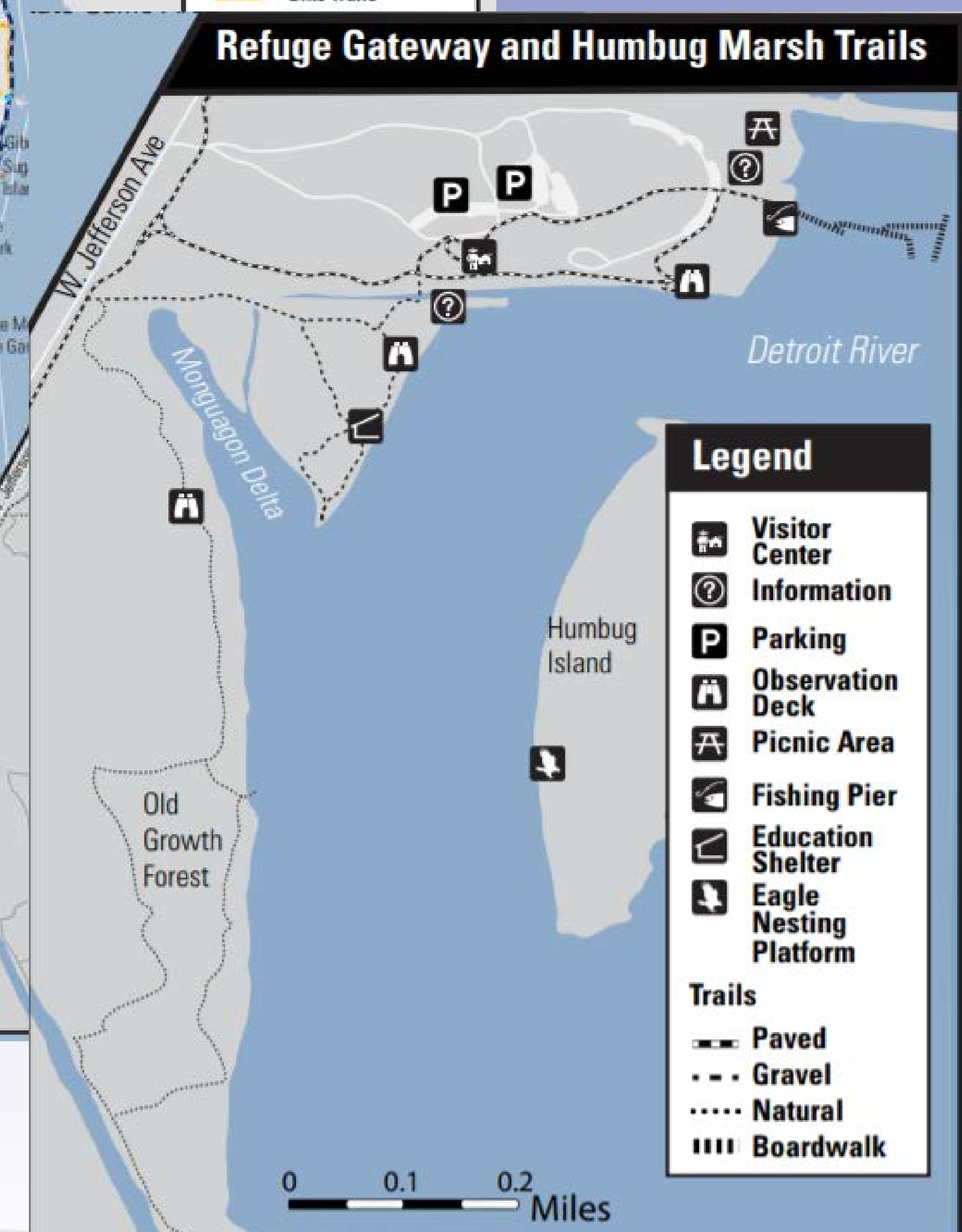
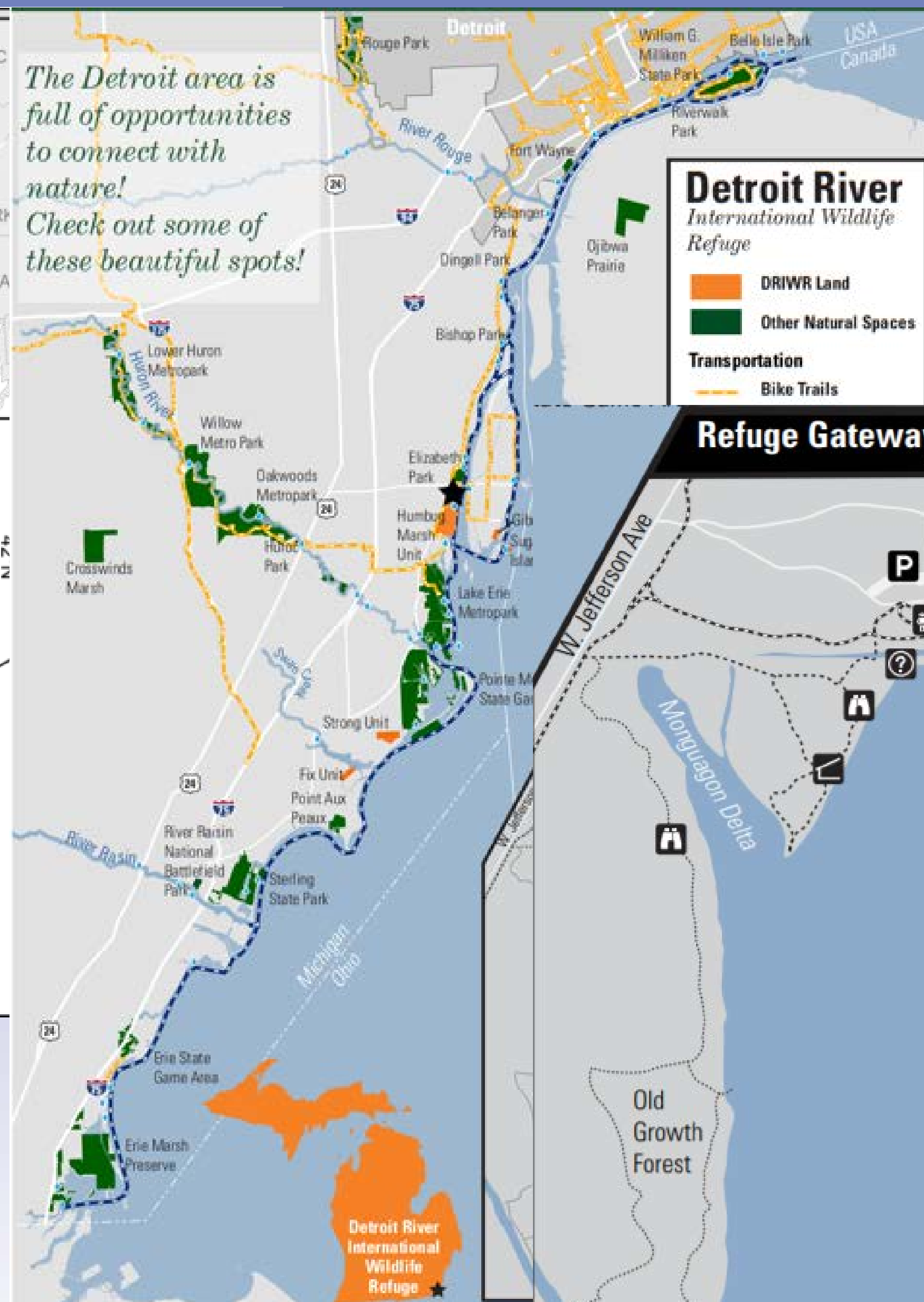
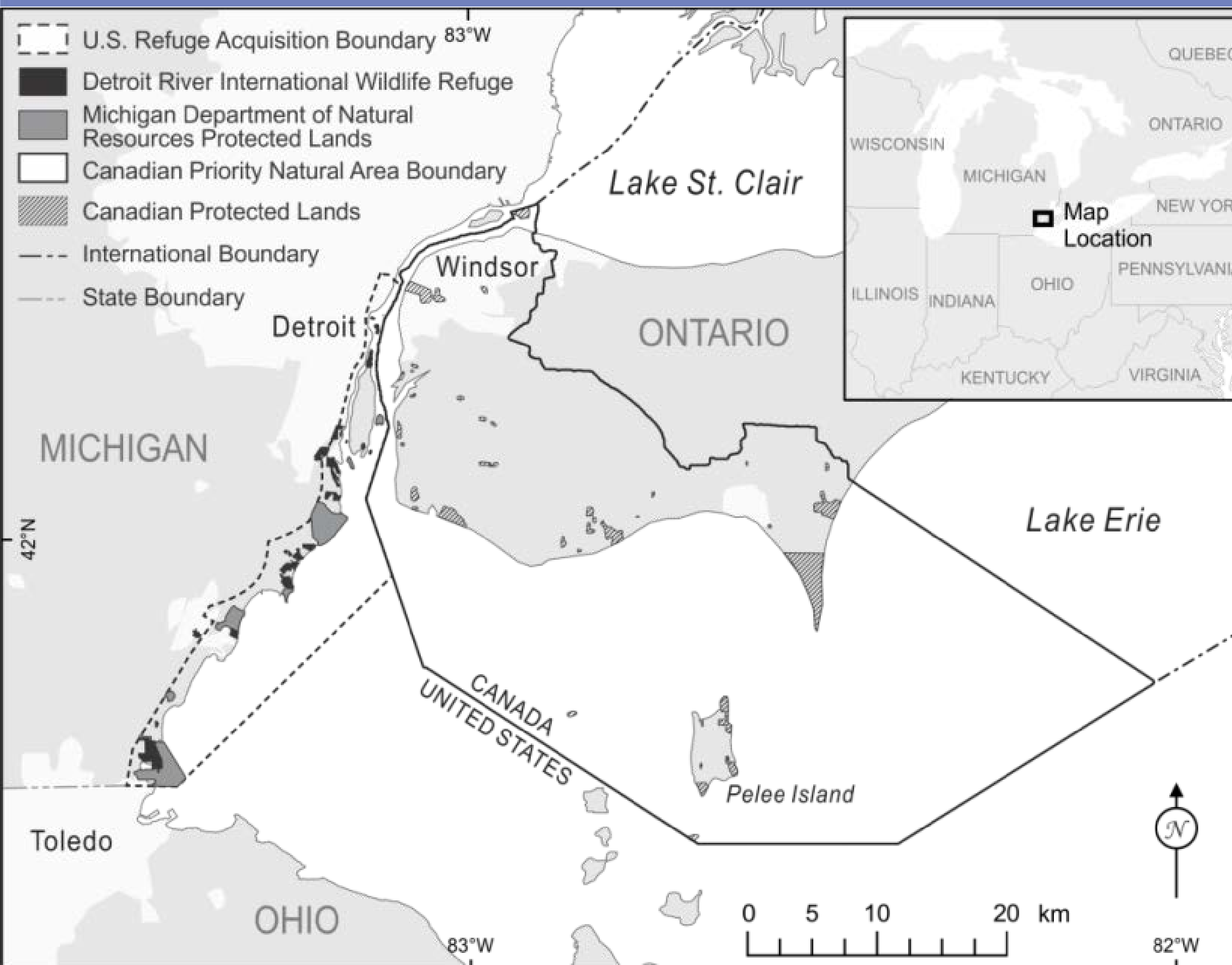
# Lessons for Future Fellows: Timing is Everything



Source: Tom Kachelmeyer



# Lessons for Future Fellows: Give Your Work Perspective





# Lessons for Future Fellows: Partnerships are Key





# Lessons for Future Fellows: Discovering Tasks

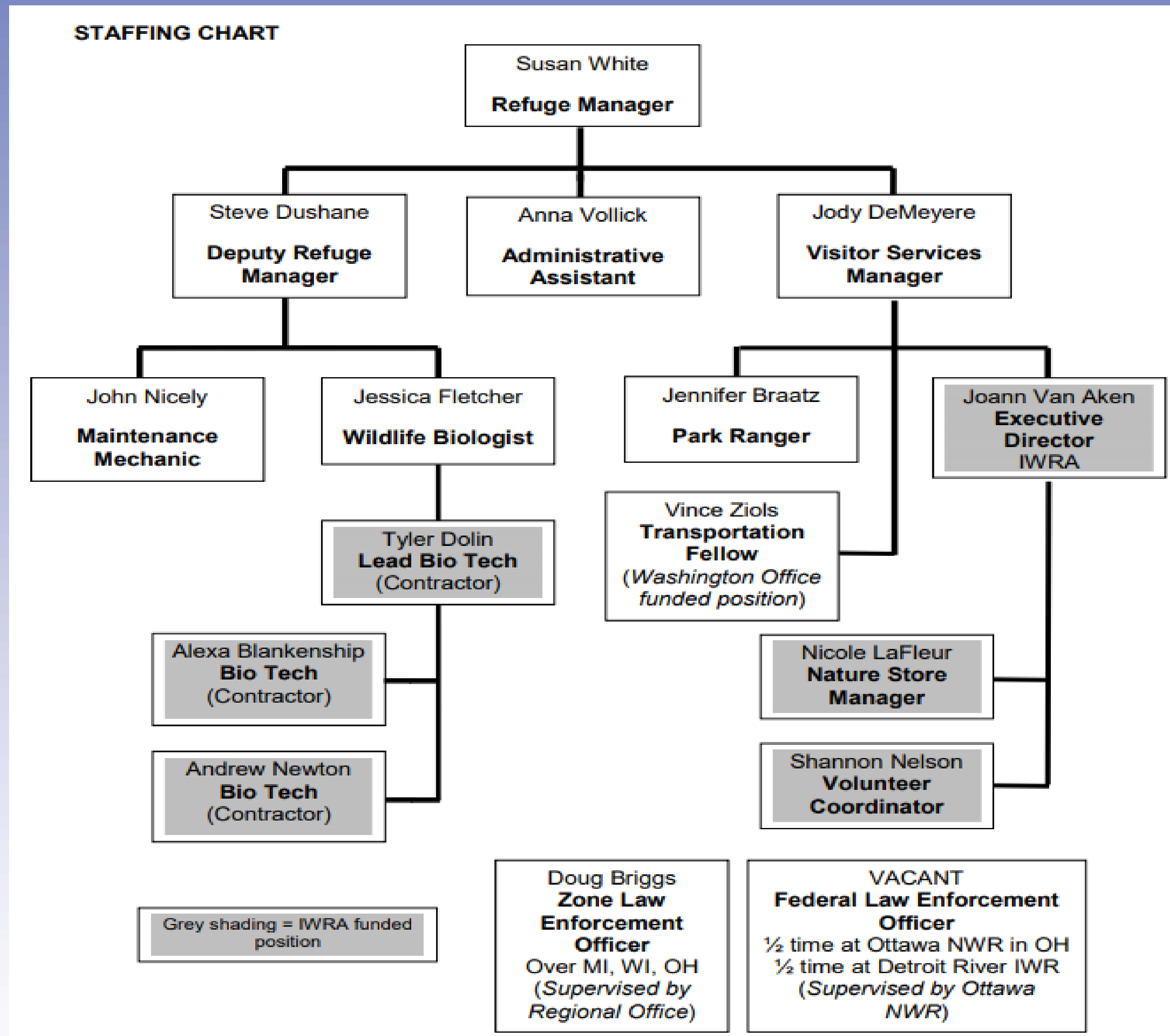
- Inventories...databases....  
lists...
- Follow those leads
- Feel free to think outside  
the box
- Discussion from staff
- Be a reporter
  - Ask questions!



Source: Smithsonian.com



# Lessons for Future Fellows: Understand the Dynamics of the Refuge

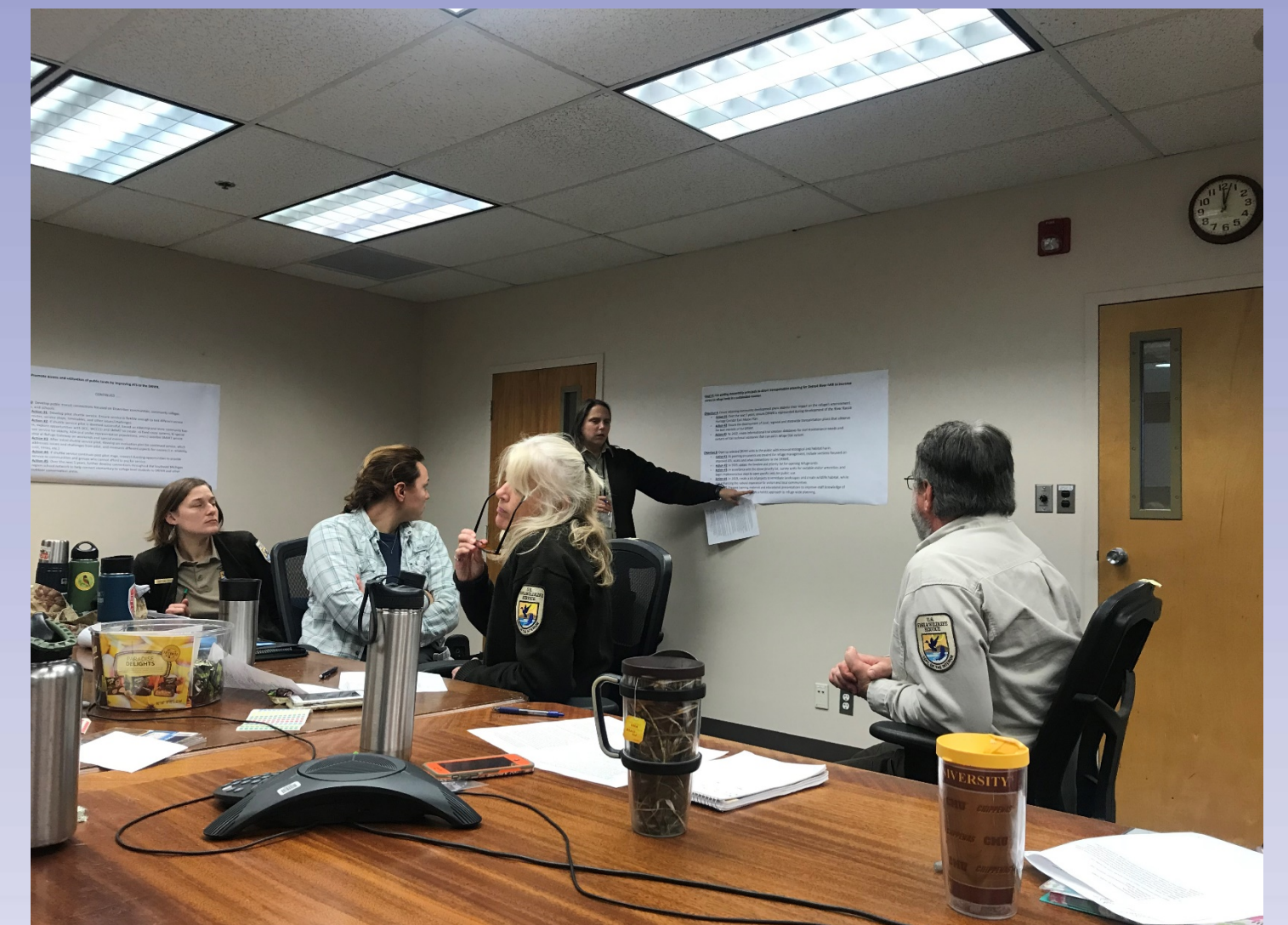




# Lessons for Future Fellows: Understand the Dynamics of Your Refuge



Source: blog.aarp.blog



PRIORITY RANK (ABC)	RANK (123)	MISSION CRITICAL (Y-N)	PROJECT/ACTIVITY	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	COMPLETE (Y)
			Opening Units			
A	1		Participate in open units discussion, start workgroup, update timeline for opening up units	Vince/Jody	ongoing	
A	1		Develop parking lot plan for Taylor Unit	Vince/Jody/ Nicely	summer 2019	
A	2		GWU: Survey of Unit	Vince/Jessie	winter/spring 2019	
A	2		PCBU: Survey of Unit	Vince/Jessie/ Steve	winter/spring 2019	
B	1		Develop Habitat Management needs and potential plan	Jessie/Steve/ Techs		
B	1		GWU: Apply for permits for culverts	VS/ Vince		
B	1		Create project list for work to be done on open units		ongoing	
B	2		Taylor Unit: Write CD	Jody/ Vince		
B	2		GWU: Write CDs	Jody/ Vince		
B	3		Begin process of laying out trails at GWU	Jody/ Vince		
C	1		Road Signage Implementation	Jody/ Vince		

Open Units TF




# Lessons for Future Fellows: Fellowship Endgame

- Leave Your Refuge with the Ability to Continue
  - Limited time on Refuge—10 months
- Ask yourself:
  - Who will take on the responsibility
  - How will they be able too
  - What resources can be created to help
  - How best to ingrate transportation projects into the Refuge
- Close Out Examples:
  - Project one sheet
  - Transportation Handbook
  - Database of projects
  - Future transportation capacity and technical assistance

Transportation Projects: Refuge Only

<p><b>Project:</b> Downriver Linked Greenways—Gibraltar Trail segment maintenance</p> <p><b>Project Scope:</b> The trail of the Gibraltar segment of the Downriver Linked Greenways, that runs parallel to the Humbug Marsh Unit, has cracks forming on outer edge of trail and in clusters groups on the trail. To extend the life of the trail and prevent much more expensive repairs in the future, the cracks need to be treated with sealant.</p> <p><b>Project Area:</b> Humbug Marsh Unit</p>
<p><b>Leading/Owner Organization(s):</b> FWS –DRIWR</p> <p><b>Related Organizations:</b> City of Gibraltar; City of Trenton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Shared path maintenance agreement</li></ul> <p><b>Referenced Documents:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Path Maintenance Agreement_renewal_2018</li></ul>
<p><b>Past Work Completed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– A small segment received past sealant treatment from possible tree root damage</li></ul> <p><b>Current Status of Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Surveying of entire trail to estimate amount of sealant needed</li></ul> <p><b>Next Steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Reach out to contractors for price estimates for project</li><li>– Before treatment, cracks need to have debris blown out of them</li></ul> <p><b>Considerations or Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Temperature needs to be above 40 °F for treatment</li><li>– Path maintenance agreement with the City of Trenton segment of trail needs to be renewed before March 2019</li></ul>





# Hit the Ground Running

- Read all of the plans
  - CMP, HMP, VSP, AWP
  - State, Regional and Local
    - Transportation plans/reports
    - Master plans
    - Recreation plans
  - Historical documents
  - Past PLTF/S past reports
- Browse Refuge's sharedrive
- Subscribe to:
  - Regional and local news feeds
  - Federal funding opportunities
  - Other federal, state, transportation and conservation agencies



# Hit the Ground Running (count.)

- Dial in
  - Local, city and regional transportation groups
- Introductory conversation with partners, communities and stakeholders
- See the refuge! Explore with Staff and see their work
- Utilized the transportation network
  - Bike, kayak, walk, ride the bus, etc.



# General Suggestions

- Utilize your mentor and WTI resources
- Make lists
- Go to regional and local meetings
- Use that professional development, and tie it back to the work your are doing
- Don't be intimidated by lack of local knowledge
- Take pictures and start your final report
- Enjoy your time



# Thank you

Including, but not limited to:

- Jody Demeyere, Joann Van Aken and the rest of the DRIWR and IWRA Staff
- Jaime Sullivan (mentor), Phil Shapiro and the WTI Staff
- Current Fellows Corrine Jachelski and Dylan Corbin
- Kevin McCoy and Benjamin Rasmussen and the rest of the VOLPE Public Lands Department
- Our local and regional partners, gateway communities, non-profits, corporate and foundational funders and Planners at SEMCOG



# Resources

- Safety Signage and pavement marking guide for small town, rural and recreational trails  
<http://ruraldesignguide.com/>
- National Summit for Gateway Communities resources and presentations  
<https://www.conservationfund.org/our-work/conservation-leadership-network/1978-national-summit-for-gateway-communities>

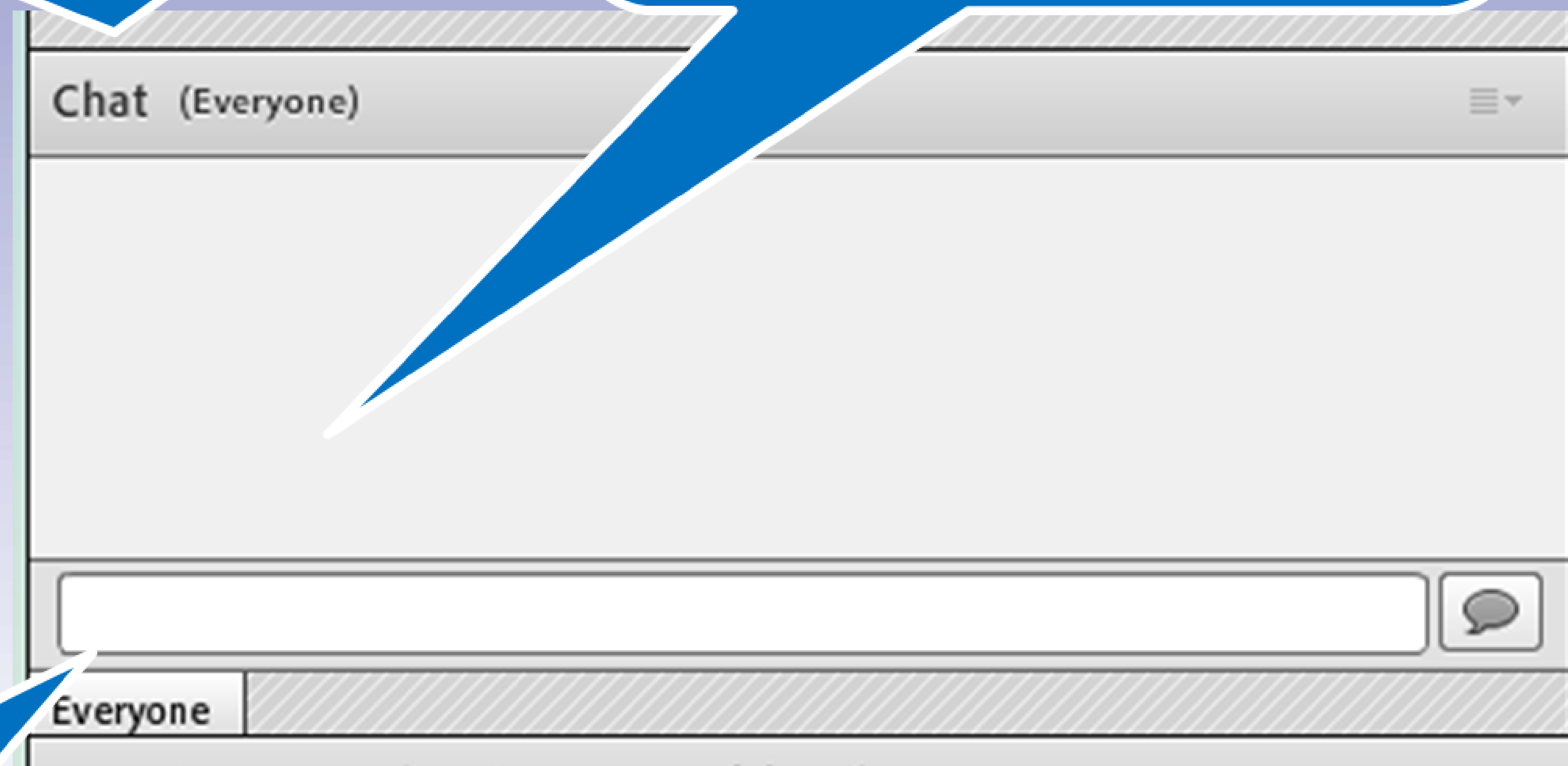


# Directing your Questions via the Chat Pod

1. Chat pod is on left side of screen between attendees pod & closed caption pod

3. Answers will appear here unless addressed verbally

2. Type your question or comment here





# Contact Information

***If you have any questions related to this presentation, please contact:***

*DRIWR Visitor Services Manager at  
(734) 288.6458 or [Jody\\_demeyere@fws.gov](mailto:Jody_demeyere@fws.gov)*

*or*

*Fellow at  
(734) 365-0218 or [Vincent\\_Ziols@fws.gov](mailto:Vincent_Ziols@fws.gov)*

***Or contact the PLTF Program Manager at:***

*(774)571-3505 or [jaime.sullivan2@montana.edu](mailto:jaime.sullivan2@montana.edu)*

<https://westerntransportationinstitute.org/professional-development/public-lands-transportation-fellows/>