

PREFACE

This 23rd gathering of mooseters marks what could be the beginning of a new era in moose management. This conference is unique in bringing together a coalition of managers, researchers, modelers and facilitators that developed a moose habitat suitability model for the Lake Superior region. After all of these years of presenting individual reports on single slices of moose life we are learning to pool our knowledge across political and institutional boundaries to advance the scientific management of moose. This effort recognizes that few agencies have the moosepower to fully address the problems of managing moose in today's rapidly changing world. We can no longer be content with individual papers addressing thin slices of moose life, but must form working coalitions to assimilate our knowledge into working models with direct application to management and the identification of critical areas in need of research.

Future meetings should explore and develop stronger coalitions of experts to maximize the benefits of the conference, and the application of our pooled knowledge to moose management. Managers of future conferences are challenged to explore the technologies of meeting management and electronic conferencing to involve participants who are unable to travel to the conference

site. They are challenged to produce one good piece of work from a coalition of working moosters. Such a move will stimulate the groups' productivity, and move it into the 21st century.

These are the challenges that will see the group well into the 21st century as a viable working organization making significant contributions to resource management.

COCHAIRS: Patrick D. Karns and Edward L. Lindquist

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