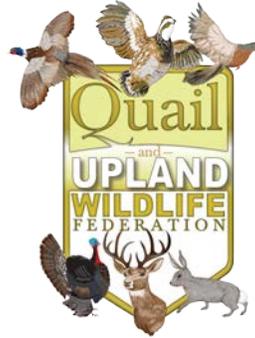


QUWF Establishes Focal Conservation Approach



Buffalo, MO- In concert with the growing national trend of identifying and applying resources to very local lands, the Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation, Inc. announces its establishment of the Focal Area Tier Approach for its chapters, members and partners. “This is exactly what QUWF does. We help local chapters work on their local lands with the majority of money they raise for the benefit of upland wildlife identified in their area” states Craig Alderman, Executive Director of QUWF. “We drill this down to what we call the local Anchor Farm, the core building block of the tier approach, of 50 acres or more. Then we look to combine contingent lands to form larger Coop Areas, 1500 acres of combined lands and manage for a more impactful effect on our wildlife. This also includes public lands and easily adapts to state, federal or tribal ownership” explains Craig.

Good for all upland species, QUWF is using the new tier approach with its chapters to begin identifying, tracking and logging work done on the lands. Using the common excel program on the majority of computers today, it allows tracking of work performed, dollars and in-kind benefits applied and program success. Thus providing a historical catalog for QUWF members and quality comparison to the initial and always updated wildlife habitat plans. It includes the observation data of wildlife on the property in the process and a tracking of their progress as various habitat practices are applied and monitored. “This can be fun for the whole family, working the ground for wildlife, keeping a sighting log, and using trail cameras all keep the focus on the wildlife” states Nick Prough, Chief QUWF Wildlife Biologist.

QUWF just signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative (NBCI) to save the bobwhite quail using this approach, at the recent Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency meeting in Portland, Oregon. QUWF is the first multi-specie conservation organization to do so and adopt the Focal area approach for all wildlife. QUWF is also using the approach to save the native, wild ruff grouse whose population is about to expire in Missouri because of habitat loss and lack of habitat maintenance.

Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation, Inc., a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) conservation organization, serves its members and chapters nationwide providing a strong local source of habitat focus on quail and upland wildlife habitat and population recovery. Millions of dollars of habitat work have been completed by its members on millions of acres of both private and public lands. The work of QUWF members continues today with a renewed vitality. Its chapters from coast-to-coast, provide grass roots local habitat work that is making a difference in upland wildlife populations. For more information or to join QUWF, visit the organization’s website at www.quwf.net.