



From: Gary Taylor [mailto:[GTaylor@fishwildlife.org](mailto:GTaylor@fishwildlife.org)]  
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 9:32 AM  
To: Torgerson, Ollie - DNR  
Cc: Reiter, Mark; [RRegan@fishwildlife.org](mailto:RRegan@fishwildlife.org); Jen Mock  
Subject: RE: VPAP proposal

Mark and Ollie: Please find attached the proposal for consideration next week by the MAFWA Directors for \$2,415 (one-time) to contribute to an national assessment of the success of private lands voluntary access programs for hunting and fishing to bolster support for continued funding of the USDA Voluntary Public Access Program under the Farm Bill..Ron and I will be happy to discuss further details at MAFWA next week. We will be sending comparable requests to the other 3 Regional associations..Many thx for your consideration and I look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis.

Best, Gary

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Gary J. Taylor, Legislative Director  
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies  
444 North Capitol Street, NW  
Suite 725  
Washington, DC 20001  
Email: [gtaylor@fishwildlife.org](mailto:gtaylor@fishwildlife.org)<<mailto:gtaylor@fishwildlife.org>>  
Phone: (202) 624-1402  
Fax: (202) 624-7891

**A Proposal to Provide:**

**Assess How AFWA Can Quantify the Economic Contributions of VPA  
and other Public Access Programs**

Background & Purpose: the AFWA is leading efforts to secure and distribute millions in Farm Bill VPA dollars to state agencies to expand public access programs. Future funding depends on Congress understanding the income and jobs such programs provide to rural communities and landowners. The purpose of this project is to prepare the AFWA to quantify and report these economic returns.

The first round of proposals for state funding is expected to begin in July. At this time, states will be gathered at an AFWA workshop to develop their VPA proposals. This is the time to engage states in discussions about existing evaluation efforts, to help states build evaluation tasks into their VPA proposals, and to start efforts to organize a national VPA/public lands access evaluation framework. After the workshop, the AFWA would assume management and funding – depending on the outcome of a proposed Multi-State Grant request. This proposal covers the time and cost for Southwick Associates to lead the AFWA's economic evaluation planning efforts before and during the workshop.

**Tasks:**

- I. Conduct a survey of state agencies to inventory current public access programs, current funding and partner sources, and which states currently evaluate their access programs. The results will provide the framework for workshop discussions. Normal out-of-pocket cost is approximately \$2,000. Southwick is now conducting this survey pro bono for the AFWA.
- II. Assist in preliminary AFWA discussions about VPA evaluations, including workshop needs and planning: 12 hours @ \$105 per hour = \$1,260.
- III. Evaluate the survey results and prepare materials for the workshop: 32 hours @ \$105 per hour = \$3,360.
- IV. Attend the workshop to participate in evaluation discussions, assist in designing a national evaluation framework, and help states develop evaluation components in their VPA proposals: 40 hours @ \$105 per hour plus \$1,500 in travel costs for up to two to attend = \$4,200.
- V. Post-workshop follow-up: develop written plans based on workshop conclusions and results, develop cost estimates for use in future AFWA program planning, etc: 8 hours @ \$105 per hour = \$840.

**Total cost = \$9,660**

**Request from Each Regional Association (\$9,660/4) = \$2,415**

**320**