

# National Wild Pheasant Conservation Plan and Partnerships

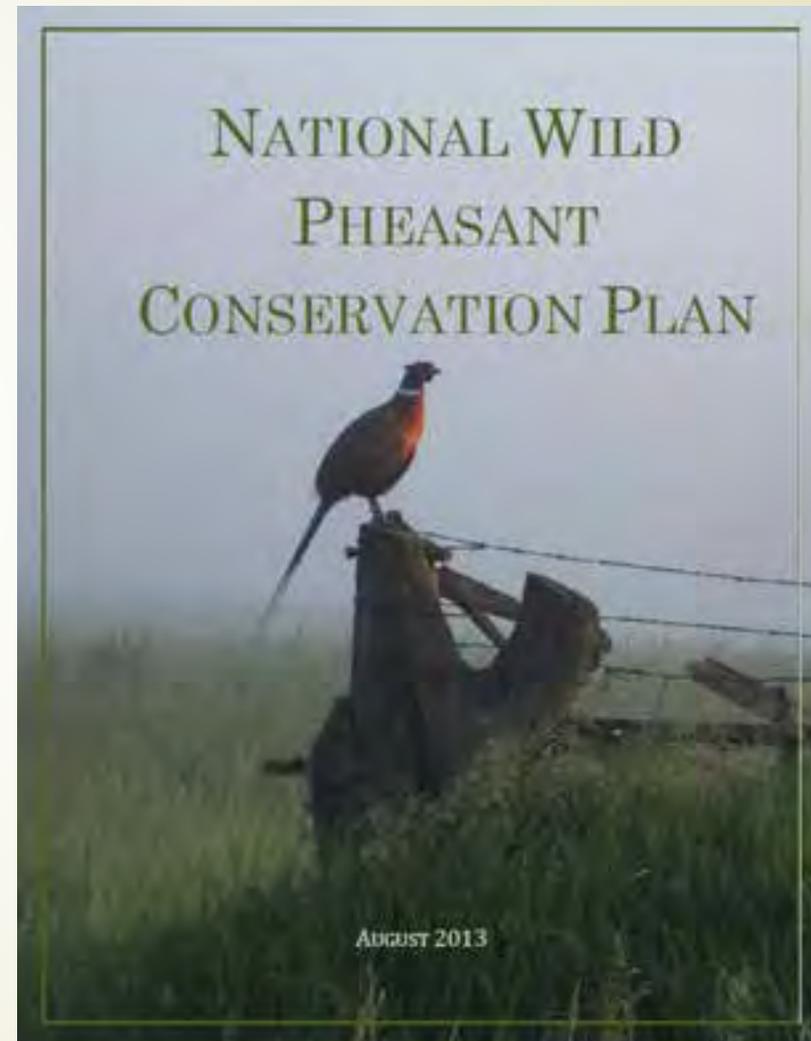
**2006-2013**: National Plan written by agency pheasant biologists across the range; National Tech Committee formed

**2013**: Plan approved by MAFWA Directors and AFWA

**2013-16**: Fundraising among the states to support the Plan Coordinator position; agreement between MAFWA and Pheasants Forever for administrative support

**2016**: Plan Coordinator hired to lead implementation; Management Board created to provide strategic direction

**2020**: 20 states and PF providing funds



## Coordinator Funding Appears Sufficient Through 2024-2025

State	2020 Invoice Amount	Pledge Amounts to Date		
		2021	2022	2023
Colorado	\$4,900	\$4,900		
Idaho	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Illinois	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Indiana	\$5,000			
Iowa	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Kansas	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Michigan	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Minnesota	\$5,000			
Missouri	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Nebraska	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
New Mexico	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
North Dakota	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Ohio	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Oklahoma	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Oregon	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Pennsylvania	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Pheasants Forever	\$10,000	\$10,000		
South Dakota	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
Texas	\$5,000	\$7,500		
Washington	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Wisconsin	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$105,400</b>	<b>\$110,400</b>	<b>\$88,000</b>	<b>\$88,000</b>



***Partnership Mission:***

**Foster science-based, socially-supported policies and programs that enhance wild pheasant populations, provide recreational opportunities to pheasant hunters, and support the economics and social values of communities.**



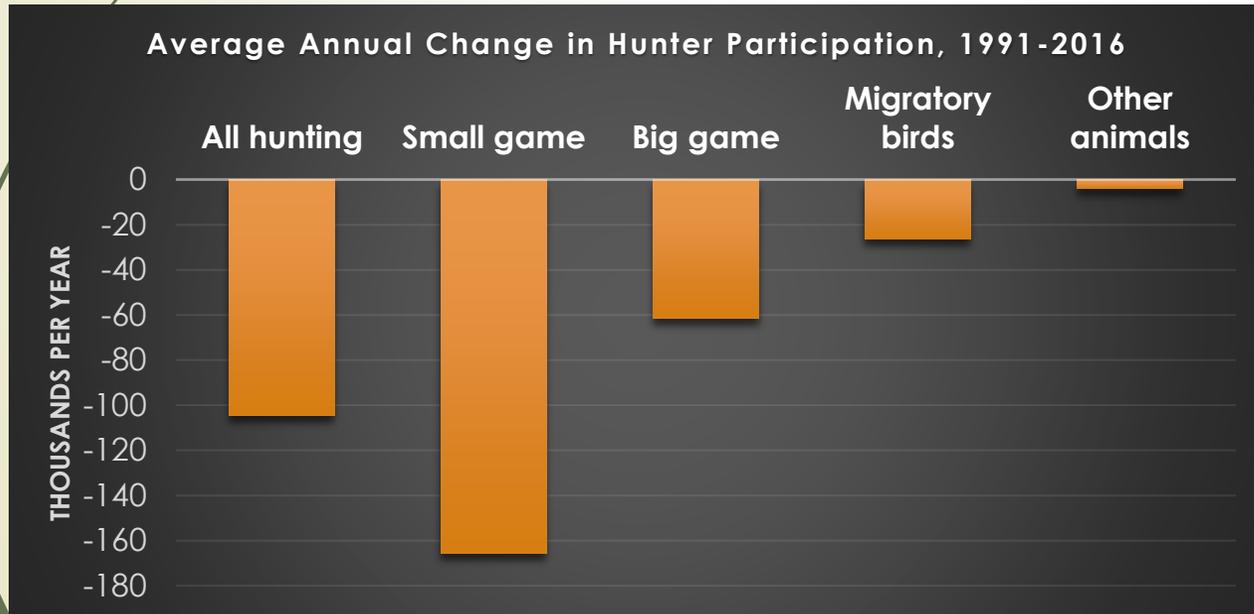
# 2019-2020 Highlights

**Multi-state research: Do roadside brood surveys reliably predict population size and hunting prospects?**

- Funding from 7 states, data from 13
- Data collection concludes in 2021

**Small game hunter R3 crisis**

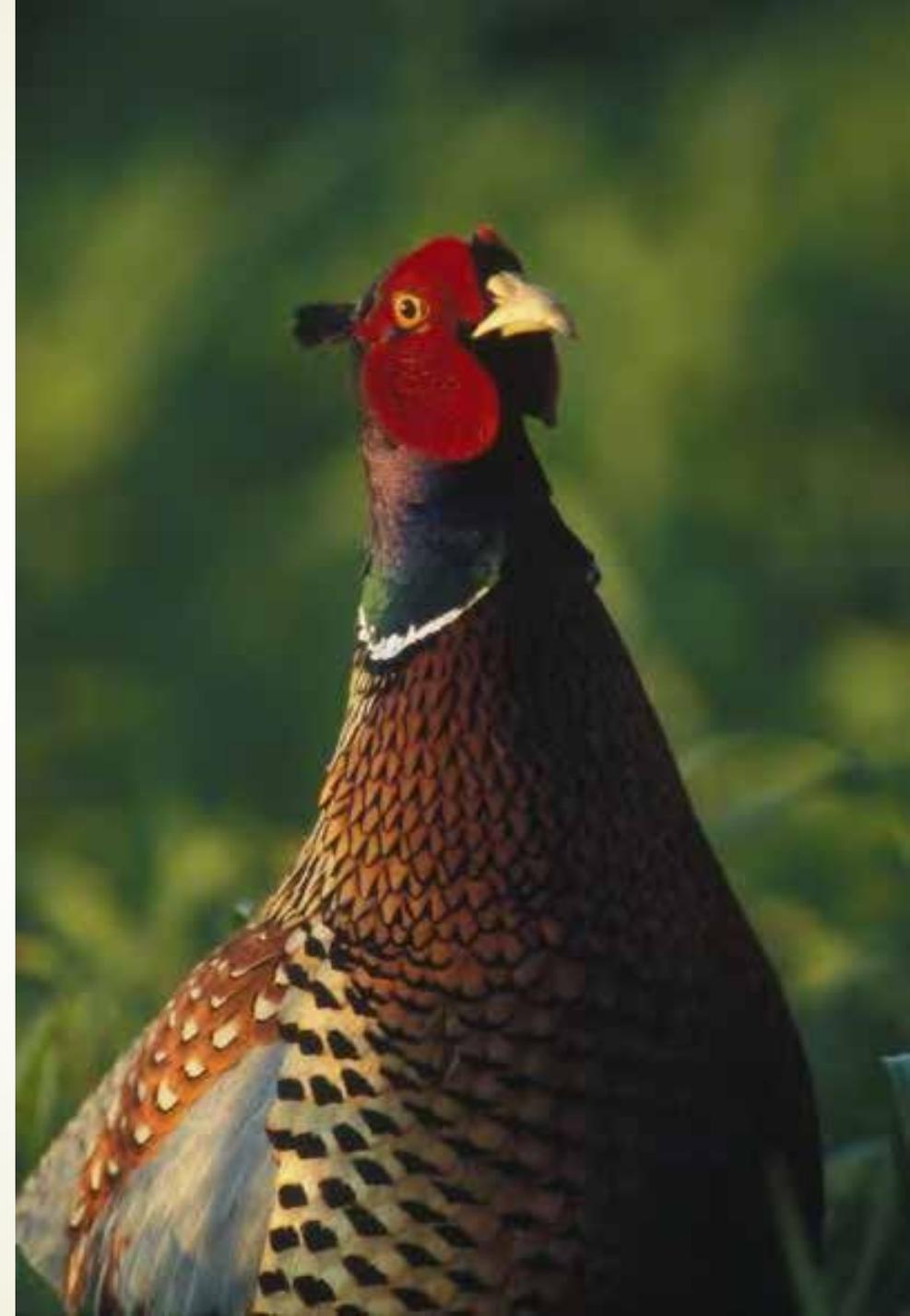
- AFWA Resolution 2019-05-10



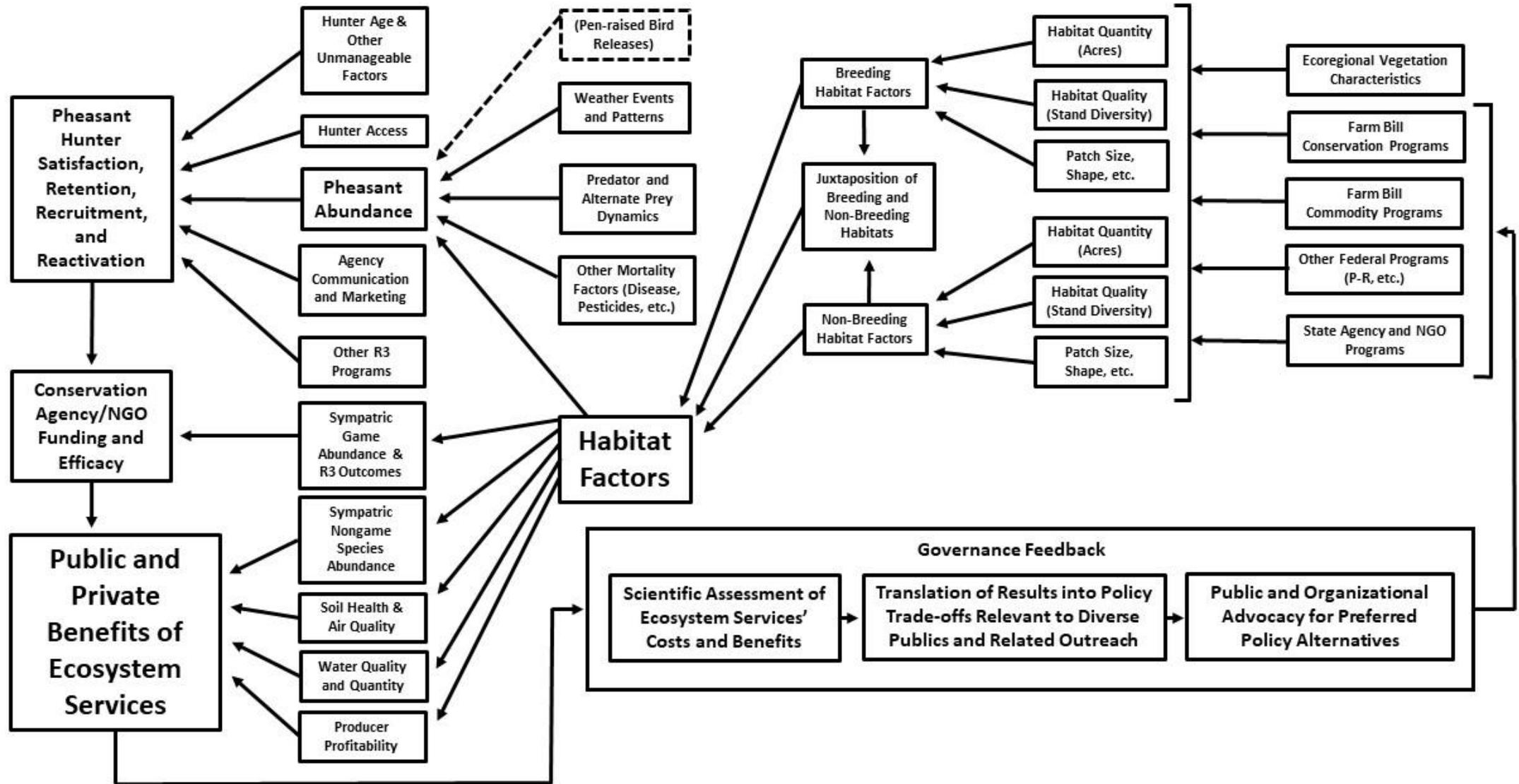
## 2019-2020 Highlights

### Major revision of the National Plan

- Joint meeting of the Management Board and Technical Committee in October 2019
- Development of Problem Statement, Objectives, Issues, and Prioritized Work Items (16 new, 9 ongoing)
- Development of improved state-scale habitat-pheasant abundance model to quantify predictions
- Development of conceptual chain-of-influence model



# Draft Conceptual Model





# National Fish Habitat Partnership Update

September 10, 2020

Ed Schriever  
NFHP Board Chair





## National Fish Habitat Action Plan Revision Timeline

- **April 1** – Outline Draft Action Plan changes and highlight areas for Board comment and input
- **Early April** – Full Draft Action Plan will be provided to Board
- **May 15** – Board comments and suggested edits on Draft Action Plan due to Core Writing Team
- **June 24** – Board Conference Call – Review and discuss any remaining concerns or unresolved issues (Ongoing)
- **September 30** – Completed Draft Action Plan provided to Board
- **October Board Meeting** – Board approval of Draft Action Plan



## Board Work Plan Working Group Members

- Doug Nygren
- Adam Ringia
- Stan Allen
- Mike Bailey
- Gary Whelan
- Daniel Wieferich
- Ryan Roberts
- Alex Atkinson

**Goal: develop a 2-year Board work plan to accompany the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Action Plan**



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<b>Task</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
<b>Complete draft Work Plan</b>	By end of July 2020
<b>Board review of draft Work Plan</b>	August 2020
<b>Working group revises Work Plan</b>	September - October 2020
<b>NFHP Board Work Plan rollout</b>	October 2020 (in tandem with the revised Action Plan)

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### **Proposed format for each Work Plan item:**

1. Short Title
2. Short description for publication purposes
3. Narrative description – including what success means for that item – for Board Review/Approval
4. Narrative justification of why this is a board action – For Board Review/Approval
5. Sub-Task list (bullets) for each (*This will allow simplified reporting*)



- Board Work Plan will operate on calendar years - January 2021 – December 2022
- Each task will be S-M-A-R-T
- Plan will be integrated with Board Committee plans
- Working group has discussed end of the plan reporting options with a Board check-in midway through implementation (1 year)



# National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act

- (H.R. 925) America's Conservation Enhancement (ACE) Act was passed out of the U.S. Senate w/unanimous consent on 1/09/20
- Bill is being considered by the U.S. House of Representatives
- Board has established a legislative working group to manage through issues related to when/if the bill passes



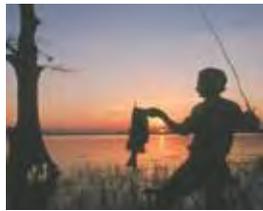
# NFHP Communications Update

- NFHP Waters to Watch for 2020 – News story [HERE](#)
- NFHP Annual Report published in August



» Download your Copy [HERE](#)





# FHP 2021 Funding Opportunities



[Desert Fish Habitat Partnership \(Deadline: September 25, 2020\)](#)

[Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture \(Deadline: October 9, 2020\)](#)

[Fishers and Farmers Partnership \(Deadline: October 1, 2020\)](#)

[Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership \(Deadline: October 16, 2020\)](#)

[Pacific Marine & Estuarine Partnership \(Deadline: October 30, 2020\)](#)

[Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership \(Deadline: August 15, 2020\)](#)

[Western Native Trout Initiative \(Deadline: October 30, 2020\)](#)

All Announcements that are open can be found [HERE](#)





# Upcoming Meetings

- Virtual National Fish Habitat FHP Workshop (Hosted PM EST) on October 19-20
- Virtual National Fish Habitat Board Meeting (Hosted PM EST) on October 21-22



October 13, 2020

NFHP Board Members, FHP Coordinators, and USFWS Coordinators,

On October 1, the House passed America's Conservation Enhancement Act (S. 3051; ACE Act) which contains the National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act. As most of you know, this bill's passage will mean changes to the Partnership and a resulting transition period.

One of the first orders of business once the President signs the bill into law will be the reconstitution of the initial NFHP Board as outlined in the legislation. This initial NFHP Board includes representatives from the following agencies; Department of Interior, US Geological Survey, Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), and four state AFWA representatives. This initial Board is responsible for appointing the remaining Board members, including those new positions as outlined in the ACE Act within 60 days of enactment. As discussed among the Board, staff, and the Legislative Working Group, the initial Board will reappoint all current Board members whose seats remain and this group will consider nominations for the new Board positions (bolded below).

Tribes (2)

Council/Commission (1)

Sportfish and Boating Partnership Council (1)

Other members (7) – recreational sportfishing, commercial fishing, marine recreational anglers, freshwater recreational anglers, habitat conservation organizations, and science-based fishery organizations

**National private landowner organization (1)**

**Agricultural production organization (1)**

**Local government (1)**

**Corporate industries (2)**

**Leadership position in private sector *or* landowner representative of an active FHP (1)**

We are contacting all Board members, FHP coordinators, and USFWS Coordinators to source your existing network of contacts to identify potential Board members for these new seats (in bold above). Please consider whether anyone within your network would make an effective addition to the NFHP Board. This Board membership expansion is an excellent opportunity for us to strengthen the Partnership by injecting diversity into the Board and broadening perspectives that are represented. Please carefully consider individuals, for potential membership, who will bring value added to NFHP and be engaged and enthusiastic about the work of the Partnership. The Board staff is gathering an initial list of names that will be further discussed by the Board before formal invites are distributed.

**Please send any potential names, including skills, qualifications, and useful attributes to the NFHP Board via [Alex.Atkinson@noaa.gov](mailto:Alex.Atkinson@noaa.gov) with a cc to [RRoberts@fishwildlife.org](mailto:RRoberts@fishwildlife.org) and [Michael\\_Bailey@fws.gov](mailto:Michael_Bailey@fws.gov) by Friday, October 30.**



Thank you for helping to shape the future Board of the National Fish Habitat Partnership.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Schriever". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

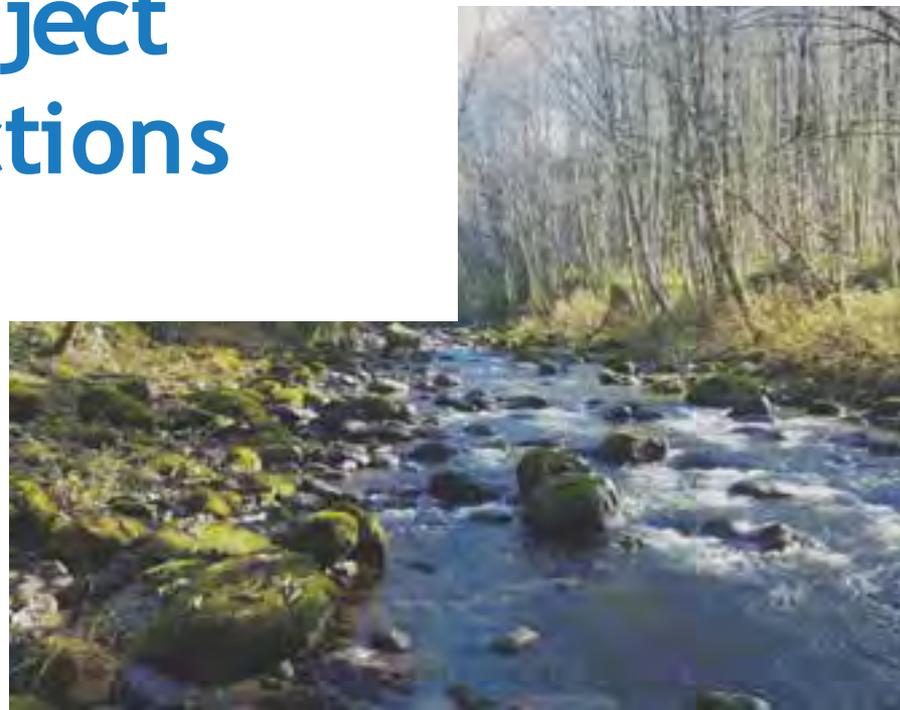
Ed Schriever, Chair  
National Fish Habitat Partnership Board

**RESERVOIR FISHERIES HABITAT PARTNERSHIP ([www.friendsofreservoirs.com](http://www.friendsofreservoirs.com))  
MAFWA Report 2020**

- 2019 Annual Report completed and posted on website
- 10-year summary of RFHP activities completed and posted on website
- [www.friendsofreservoirs.com/science](http://www.friendsofreservoirs.com/science)
  - State by state habitat impairment assessment by reservoir available
  - Best Management Practices manual
    - Recently completed chapter on climate effects on reservoir habitat
    - Funding for developing a model of reservoir-specific vulnerability to climate effects
- Developed full-day Best Management Practices workshop
  - Presented at 2018 and 2019 RFHP Annual Meeting and SDAFS meetings
  - Scheduled for next “in-person” Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference
- <https://www.friendsofreservoirs.com/about-us/history/annual-reports/>
  - 2019 Annual Report
  - 10-year Summary (2009-2019)
- Serve as financial partner with Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to house mitigation funds (\$1,115,000) for bentonite pipeline leak on Raystown Reservoir
  - PFBC purchasing is streamlined
  - Friends of Reservoirs charges 3% banking fee which will be used to fund future “Small Projects Grants”
- RFHP awarded one of three of the initial Bass Pro Shops/NFHP Small Projects Grants (\$15,000)
  - Continue habitat restoration efforts on Elephant Butte Reservoir, NM
- Coordinator awarded the Stan Moberly Excellence in Habitat Conservation Award (NOAA, AFS, National Fish Habitat Partnership)
- Friends of Reservoirs
  - Chapter (71) and Group (38) membership totals 130 in 31 states
    - Texas-27
    - Illinois-14
    - Pennsylvania-9
    - B.A.S.S. State Conservation Affiliates-18
  - Chapters (7) and Group (2) members added in FY2020
  - 21 Kansas Community Fishing Program members
  - Project grant applications single most reason for added membership



<b>RESERVOIR FISHERIES HABITAT PARTNERSHIP NFHP GRANTS</b>				
<b>FISCAL YEAR</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>RFHP FUNDING</b>	<b>PARTNER FUNDING</b>
2011	KS	Reduce Fish Entrainment at Lovewell Reservoir, Kansas	\$10,000	\$250,000
2012	NE	Reservoir Habitat Enhancement Project-Arnold Lake and Victoria Springs Lake	\$5,000	\$1,200,000
2012	MO	Smithville Lake Habitat Enhancement Partnership in Missouri	\$15,000	\$147,800
2013	MO	Mozingo Lake Habitat Enhancement Project	\$20,000	\$39,842
2014	IL	Shoreline Stabilization and Fish Habitat Enhancement at Lake Bloomington, IL	\$20,000	\$76,500
2014	KS	Olpe City Lake Shoreline Stabilization and Habitat Restoration	\$10,000	\$47,000
2015	KS	Smithville Lake, MO Habitat Enhancement Partnership	\$20,000	\$115,620
2015	IL	Stream Stabilization of Tributary 2 entering Evergreen Lake, IL	\$20,000	\$35,149
2016	IL	Rend Lake Fishery Habitat Enhancement Project	\$17,306	\$14,828
2017	IA	Easter Lake Restoration Project	\$40,000	\$1,030,936
2017	IA	Carlyle Lake Point #1 Fisheries Habitat Improvement Project	\$33,585	\$46,000
2018	IL	Lake Shelbyville Fish Habitat Development and Restoration Project	\$47,893	\$754,699
2020	IL	Lake Shelbyville Fish Habitat Development and Restoration Project	\$40,000	\$373,325
2020	IL	Coles Creek (Lake Carlyle) Habitat Improvement Project	\$30,000	\$60,000
2020	MO	Mark Twain Lake Shoreline Fishing Development Project	\$10,000	\$22,000
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$338,784</b>	<b>\$4,213,699</b>
<b>FRIENDS OF RESERVOIRS SMALL PROJECTS GRANTS</b>				
2015	IL	Native Aquatic Vegetation Enhancement at Clinton Lake, IL	\$1,000	\$2,000
2020	IN	Structure Addition to Patoka Reservoir, IN	\$1,000	\$21,575
2020	KS	Lake Tanko Habitat Project, KS	\$1,000	\$1,268
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$24,843</b>
<b>MOSSBACK GRANTS</b>				
2018	IN	Structure Addition to Harden Reservoir	\$1,000	\$36,010
2018	KS	Banner Creek Habitat Project	\$1,000	\$2,204
2020	KS	Horsethief Reservoir Habitat Project	\$1,000	\$600
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$38,814</b>
Total RFHP Project Funding (FY2010-FY2020) slightly <\$1,000,000				
Total Partner Project Funding (FY2010-FY2020) ~ \$9,000,000				
49 projects in 19 states				



NFHP/BASS PRO SHOPS

# Small Grants Program Project Selections



## RESERVOIR FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

ELEPHANT BUTTE ADAPT-A-COVE,  
NEW MEXICO

\$15,000 Grant Contribution



## FISHERS AND FARMERS PARTNERSHIP

GILBERT CREEK TROUT HABITAT  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, WISCONSIN

\$15,000 Grant Contribution



PACIFIC MARINE & ESTUARINE PARTNERSHIP

SOUTH FORK TOUTLE-BEAR AND LITTLE COW  
CREEK RESTORATION, WASHINGTON

\$12,000 Grant Contribution

## **CWD Value Stream Mapping Recommendation and Proposed Actions, September 2020**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Midwest Landscape Initiative (MLI) is a forum comprised of state fish and wildlife agencies of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) and related regional US Fish and Wildlife Service directors and staff, intended to align efforts to the extent practicable around shared priorities. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a shared concern of the MLI leadership, who recognizes that many organizations and agencies are engaged in research and identification of best management approaches in addressing CWD. This event was intended to help all the organizations working in CWD research and response find some additional ways to coordinate going forward within the Midwest geography but with national efforts in mind.

### **SCOPE**

This event, held December 2-5, 2019 in Columbia, MO, examined various research, prevention and management, and communication efforts ongoing or in development for addressing CWD, within the boundaries of the MLI (or MAFWA), occurring at state, federal and non-governmental organizations. Participants evaluated how those efforts interact, where opportunities exist for improved collaboration and what venues, forums or organizations may be most appropriate to communicate efforts, outputs and outcomes within the MAFWA region.

### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

CWD continues to be found in more locales within and outside the MAFWA region. Efforts to address the disease are primarily specific within the state where it occurs. Management, communication and research responses are largely bounded by the affected state's legal authority, cultural legacies of deer management within that state, and financial/staffing resources. MLI, as a forum intended to align efforts on landscape level issues within the MAFWA region, was asked to make recommendations to improve efforts to act consistently, share consistent messages and direct limited resources to more effectively address CWD across our various jurisdictions in the MAFWA region.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Understand existing authorities, priorities, basic functions, associated partners and users for the major CWD prevention, response and research efforts ongoing in the Midwest (and beyond, as relevant)
- Compare goals of various efforts, including prior coordination efforts, and organizations and document gaps in research, prevention and management, and coordination opportunities
- Identify areas of greatest need for further/improved collaboration (intra, interagency and external partners/stakeholders)
- Develop, or detail what should be included in, a framework for communication of research, legal authorities, and prevention and management needs occurring across or arising from complex multi-jurisdictional issues

## GOALS AND DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Develop a list of recommended actions to improve communication, coordination, research, and prevention and management of CWD in the Midwest among all the various organizations working on or responding to CWD. (Leave the event with a list of actions to take, even if not for the MLI to manage, to ensure that state fish and wildlife agencies, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and partners have appropriate responses and are best able to coordinate research and management around CWD.)
2. Develop a framework, if needed, for an intra and inter-agency plan, including communications needs, related to the programs, priorities and gaps/ventures identified to facilitate meaningful and effective CWD efforts and authorities.
3. Report all findings to the MLI Steering Committee, the AFWA Wildlife Health Committee and Wildlife Health Initiative, other appropriate AFWA Committees, and the appropriate MAFWA Committees.

## PARTICIPANTS

Sponsor	Sara Parker Pauley, Missouri Department of Conservation Director
Facilitator(s)	Ginny Wallace, Missouri Department of Conservation Charles (Chuck) Anderson, Missouri Department of Conservation
Team leaders	Kelley Myers, MLI Coordinator Jason Sumners, Missouri Department of Conservation
Members	Mark Chase, US Fish and Wildlife Service Ryan Drum, US Fish and Wildlife Service Matt Dunfee, CWD Alliance and Wildlife Management Institute John Fischer, Wildlife Management Institute Colin Gillin, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and AFWA Health Committee Scott Hull, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Will Inselman, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Levi Jaster, Kansas Department of Parks, Wildlife and Tourism Tamara McIntosh, Iowa Department of Natural Resources Bill Moritz, Wildlife Management Institute Nick Pinizotto, National Deer Alliance Bryan Richards, USGS Mike Tonkovich, Ohio Department of Natural Resources Sonja Christensen, Michigan State University

Members not present at VSM Event but assisting in subsequent discussions:

Jonathan Mawdsley, AFWA  
Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSED ACTIONS:

MAFWA has been a leader in addressing complex, multi-jurisdictional challenges; chronic wasting disease presents such a challenge. However, our system of CWD research, management, response and coordination in the MAFWA region is producing an insufficient response and not for lack of effort or passion. We have tremendous professionals in every corner and from every profession engaged on this. But we need draw more connections between the work, provide more support, advocate for their needs and amplify the messages they are trying to share. If we want to improve our response and coordination, we are going to need to add resources and change how we are approaching the coordination and/or implementation of CWD research, management, response and funding.

The Recommendations included below encompass what the VSM participants believe it will take to achieve the Goals and Desired Outcomes for the event. We designed them based on the history of the Midwest and MAFWA supporting these collaborative actions where there is a need.

An overview of the Recommendations is as follows:

Recommendation 1: MAFWA members should engage with the hunting community, related industry stakeholders, landowners and the public by exploring and using change management and public engagement expertise to help understand and incorporate motivations and values that shape behaviors in those communities to enable implementation of effective disease management strategies.

Recommendation 2: MAFWA should more effectively utilize its governance structure and authority to coordinate and communicate efforts, outputs and outcomes of CWD actions within and outside MAFWA boundaries; MAFWA should serve as a hub for regional CWD-related activities. Parallel efforts and some outcomes of this effort are already underway (e.g. Multistate CWD research consortium, USDA APHIS request for proposals, 4 Corners meeting of MAFWA members (NE, KS, MO, IA)).

Recommendation 3: MAFWA should define a clear and consistent position on CWD, including what MAFWA considers a successful outcome in light of the nature of CWD, and MAFWA's member states should align research, response and management where possible to endeavor to accomplish it.

Recommendation 4: MAFWA should evaluate the financial implications of CWD response, research and management.

A more thorough discussion of these recommendations, including some proposed actions to implement them, follow. As a final note, implementation of these recommendations will require robust engagement with various groups represented on this team and others to ensure the methods of

implementation for these recommendations are effective, feasible and accomplished in a manner that will allow for the greatest participation among the states.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: MAFWA members should engage with the hunting community, related industry stakeholders, landowners and the public by exploring alternative approaches using change management and public engagement expertise to help understand and incorporate motivations and values that shape behaviors in those communities to enable implementation of effective disease management strategies.**

Problem Statement: Established CWD management goals may not be attainable without broader support from authority figures, the hunting community and the public. Engagement with the public on this issue has been limited and is often not collaborative in looking for ways to address CWD. Hunters and the public need to be part of our solution, but they will want to know that any behavioral changes they are making will be worth their sacrifice. They may also have more influence with decision-makers than agency personnel. In addition, transmissible fish and wildlife diseases often require management actions that are outside of the historical authority given/delegated to state wildlife agencies. If authority does exist, stakeholders are often opposed to actions that they perceive will be detrimental to their enjoyment of fish and wildlife resources. Stakeholder buy-in has been challenging but is of paramount importance.

**Proposed Actions:**

1. Acquire expert services, including human dimensions and social science, to assist MAFWA and its member states with change management support and public engagement in an effort to design and amend CWD management strategies that incorporate and build public will and buy in.
2. Pull influential hunters, landowners and industry representatives together from around the region to hear them and their concerns. Identify what information is available and what varies from state to state. Use these discussions to evaluate management actions and potentially identify additional science needs.
3. Craft our messages taking these gatherings and surveys into account and recognizing that the messages may not be positive, but they must be sincere. Partner with industry groups and media personalities who are regarded as trustworthy by the public.
4. MAFWA member states should assemble, share and disseminate success stories and provide information about what actions (or inactions) individuals, landowners and other organizations can take or have taken to slow the spread of CWD.

**RECOMMENDATION 2: MAFWA should more effectively utilize its governance structure and authority to coordinate and communicate efforts, outputs and outcomes of CWD actions within and outside MAFWA boundaries; MAFWA should serve as a hub for regional CWD-related activities in the region.**

**Parallel efforts and some outcomes of this effort are already underway (e.g. Multistate CWD research consortium, USDA APHIS request for proposals, 4 Corners meeting of MAFWA members (NE, KS, MO, IA)).**

Problem Statement: Chronic wasting disease management and wildlife disease health issues for MAFWA members are here to stay. Just as state agencies can no longer treat the occurrence of CWD as an isolated or singular incident, neither should MAFWA. CWD and disease management tolls existing staff and resources. Leveraging and coordinating resources and priorities is critical. In addition, we are not going to be able to legislate or regulate CWD consistently. Therefore, we need to utilize the existing committees and shared systems more effectively to address the challenge now and into the future.

### **Proposed Actions**

1. MAFWA should hire a coordinator to provide support for communication and coordination of Wildlife Health responses, with a current emphasis specifically on CWD, across the MAFWA Committees and the MAFWA member states and to support the implementation of the recommendations herein.
2. The MAFWA Wildlife Health Committee and Deer and Turkey Committee should increase formal communication between them and with their member states and partners. They should also clarify committee roles as they may impact effectiveness of other regional and national collaboration and utilize any resources made available in Proposed Action 6 of this Recommendation to allow for improved sharing of information coming out of those committees.
3. MAFWA should review forums and tools in which information is shared from the committees to the directors and modify or develop such forums or tools to provide more effective dialogue and feedback between the directors and the committees as information is shared and decisions are made. This could be a task for the coordinator described in paragraph 1 above to address and accomplish.
4. MAFWA member states should meet annually with neighboring states to discuss local issues related to addressing priority CWD issues within their state and across the other states.<sup>1</sup> Where possible, MAFWA member states should develop Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with neighboring states to agree to take coordinated actions in response to CWD. This could range from management tactics to reduce prevalence to coordinated response to positive cervids along shared borders.
5. Each MAFWA member state should designate a CWD coordinator who is responsible to share information, ensure state information on CWD is accurate and provide meaningful input to any

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<sup>1</sup> An example of this meeting would be the recent Four Corners meeting held by Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa and Kansas. This meeting was successful, in part, because it was action-oriented and pulled together a blend of staff responsible for CWD response.

shared messaging effort. This person should not be the director though it would ultimately be the discretion of each MAFWA member state to determine who should be the point of contact.

6. MAFWA member states should support the development and maintenance of a shared website that provides basic information about CWD as well as provides a state-specific page for each MAFWA member state that could provide state-specific information. The site would be intended to provide a restricted access virtual location for collaboration, communication, information sharing, and conducting business among MAFWA committees, member states, their contractors and partners with additional open access opportunities to share information with the general public.
7. MAFWA should engage with the appropriate regional experts within FWS, USDA, US Forest Service and the US Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate disease management, deer management, identification of research priorities, and impacts of policy decisions (i.e, carcass disposal). A joint sub-committee or ad-hoc working group of the Wildlife Health and Deer and Turkey Committees could be a forum for this action.

**RECOMMENDATION 3: MAFWA should define a clear and consistent message and position on CWD, including what MAFWA considers a successful outcome in light of the nature of CWD, and MAFWA's member states should align research, response and management where possible to endeavor to accomplish it.**

Problem Statement: No clear or unifying vision or approach to CWD exists across the MAFWA region, and response and management actions are disparate from state to state. These inconsistent and sometime conflictual responses have stymied implementation of best management practices to address CWD and has undermined trust agencies are trying to build with their constituents and stakeholders. While a list of "Best Management Practices" has been developed and adopted nationally for CWD, many state agencies are not able to implement these BMPs due to issues of authority or a lack of public or peer support. At the same time, agency staff and interested public desire science-based communication resources in order to respond to questions that arise regarding CWD consistently and without over-burdening disease specialists on agencies' staffs.

**Proposed Actions:**

1. MAFWA members should adopt a clear, consistent message and position about CWD, what causes it and how to minimize and/or slow the spread of it, and MAFWA and its members should share that message liberally. The message and position should include explicit goals and metrics and should be informed by MAFWA committees working on CWD, based in scientific facts and the best available research and should be consistent with findings or conclusions made in the Best Management Practices adopted by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in September of 2019 (AFWA BMPs). All member states should use this common message and position, and non-traditional modes for dissemination should be explored by their communication professionals.

2. MAFWA should formally adopt the AFWA BMPs, reflecting the voluntary nature of the BMPs provided for in the AFWA resolution adopting them. MAFWA should select two to five (or more) of those BMPs it considers essential to implement, recognizing that within-state authority and support may take time to achieve and recognizing that the selection of two to three of the BMPs does not diminish the importance or effectiveness of others. Over time, MAFWA could consider implementing other BMPs. MAFWA should track participation related to implementation of the identified strategies and report annually. MAFWA should make adjustments to which strategies are encouraged for adoption as needed.
3. MAFWA should form a small, ad-hoc group of select members from the CWD VSM participants and the MAFWA Wildlife Health Committee and Deer and Turkey Committees to coordinate specifically on a research prioritization and reporting process. That groups should:
  - a. Coordinate with the CWD research consortium developing out of Michigan State University to reduce duplication of effort but also connect the MAFWA Deer and Turkey Committee to those research discussions.
  - b. Conduct a gap analysis of ongoing or relatively recent CWD national and regional research, with a particular focus on human dimensions and connecting the general public to the basic messages and with input from deer management and disease management professionals, alike.
  - c. Facilitate discussion, with broad participation, for annual review of research ongoing, discussion of research needed and planning for priority needs. The forum could be the framework currently in development by AFWA, the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, a separate CWD workshop, or the MAFWA Annual Directors' Meeting with results to be shared at MAFWA Annual Directors' Meeting and to be used in establishing regional or multi-state grant priorities.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 4:**

**MAFWA should evaluate the financial implications of CWD response, research and management.**

**Problem Statement:** No individual agency has adequate resources to solve CWD challenges within their borders but there is an expectation that state fish and wildlife agencies are planning for and are ready to respond. A comprehensive assessment of current expenditures and related return-on-investment will benefit agencies anticipating additional investment into CWD response, research and management. As cervid hunting is important to overall agency revenue streams, such analyses should also consider impacts to the revenue side of agency budgets.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

1. MAFWA should seek to understand better economic impacts to agencies and communities, including landowners, business associated with hunting and wildlife watching and the general public who benefit from conservation investments of hunting, that wildlife diseases, and in particular CWD, may pose in terms of reduced herd size or reduced hunting opportunities, in an effort to expend communication and justify management actions. To the extent possible and

relevant, MAFWA should engage in existing national or regional efforts underway to accomplish the same.

- a. MAFWA should document current state-by-state expenditures on CWD response, research and management activities.
  - b. MAFWA should document current funding models and opportunities for CWD.
  - c. MAFWA should coordinate with other organizations engaged in similar efforts, within, outside or beyond the Midwest region to ensure Midwest issues are accounted for and to avoid duplication of effort where possible.
2. MAFWA should create a CWD long-range plan that addresses far reaching and potentially dire consequences related to CWD, such as declining herds and/or falling revenues due to lack of hunting participation, that could threaten current management approaches to CWD, specifically, and wildlife management, more generally; and identify opportunities to better coordinate management plans and identify additional research needs to address those consequences. MAFWA should refine the CWD plan, as necessary.

DRAFT

Briefing Document for MAFWA

## **CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE VALUE STREAM MAPPING UPDATE**

**September 2020**

In December 2019, a group of wildlife management and wildlife disease professionals, representing state and federal fish and wildlife and research agencies and institutions, gathered in Columbia, MO, to examine various research, prevention and management, and communication efforts ongoing or in development for addressing Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) within the U.S. boundaries of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The group utilized a business improvement process, called Value Stream Mapping, to facilitate this exploration.

During that week and in subsequent virtual meetings, participants evaluated how various existing efforts interact, where opportunities exist for improved collaboration and what venues, forums or organizations may be most appropriate to communicate efforts, outputs and outcomes within the MAFWA region as they relate to CWD and wildlife diseases.

The Midwest Landscape Initiative sponsored this effort, utilizing its forum to bring issues of shared concern between the states and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to the fore and committing resources to facilitate this process.

The group has developed a list of recommendations and proposed actions to meet the objectives of this event. A summary of the recommendations include:

- Improved engagement and reliance on the hunting community, industry stakeholders, landowners and the public to better understand and incorporate their motivations and values into CWD responses;
- Improved governance and coordination of CWD actions within the MAFWA boundaries;
- Clear positions and messages on CWD and coordinated strategies to achieve what MAFWA defines as success with respect to CWD; and
- Improved understanding of actual and potential financial implications of CWD.

These recommendations will be delivered to the MAFWA Board for consideration.



# **MIDWEST**

Association of  
Fish & Wildlife  
Agencies



CONFERENCE ACCOUNT  
PROPOSED CALENDAR YEAR 2021 BUDGET

September 22, 2020 Draft

# MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

## Conference Account Calendar Year 2021 Proposed Budget

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September 22, 2020 Draft

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**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
CALENDAR YEAR 2019 BUDGET STATUS  
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Receipts	Calendar Year 2019		Difference Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Budget	Actual	
1	Conference:			
2	Sponsors	\$56,000	\$65,000	\$9,000
3	Conference registrations	28,825	26,075	(2,750)
4	Hotel Commissions	1,000	1,446	446
5	Total Conference Receipts	\$85,825	\$92,521	\$6,696
6	Membership Dues			-
7	13 states @ \$3,979.80 and 3 provinces @ \$105.44	52,060	52,053	(7)
8	Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	975	1,200	225
	Administrative Fee:			
9	Southern Wings administrative fee	1,000	875	(125)
10	National Pheasant Coordinator	3,725	4,770	1,045
11	Indirect Cost - USFWS and NFWF	15,250	16,821	1,571
12	Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow (CLFT)		1,579	1,579
13	2019 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference - OH		3,129	3,129
14	Spatial Habitat, Wildlife Disease, Bobwhite - OH		4,292	4,292
15	Interest	330	140	(190)
16	Total Receipts	\$159,165	\$177,380	\$18,215

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
CALENDAR YEAR 2019 BUDGET STATUS  
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Disbursements	Calendar Year 2019		Difference
		Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable)
17	Conference Disbursements:			
18	Delaney Meeting and Event Management	\$15,180	\$12,790	\$2,390
19	Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality room, etc.	37,380	30,410	6,970
20	Conference gifts and Award plaques	4,200	4,135	65
21	Total Conference Disbursements	\$56,760	\$47,335	\$9,425
22	Executive Secretary:			
23	Pay - 1,200 hours @ \$50.00	60,000	52,000	8,000
24	Travel	7,000	9,917	(2,917)
25	Treasurer:			
26	Pay - 400 hours @ \$39.49	15,796	17,195	(1,399)
27	Travel	4,500	4,137	363
28	Recording Secretary Travel	1,500	1,785	(285)
29	Tax Preparation Fees	1,606	1,675	(69)
30	Insurance	1,400	663	737
31	Web posting and hosting	840	591	249
32	Wildlife Society - North Central Section	670	-	670
33	NCS-TWS Leadership Workshop	1,000	-	1,000
34	Miscellaneous	1,495	319	1,176
35	Total Disbursements	\$152,567	\$135,617	\$16,950
36	Receipts over Disbursements	\$6,598	\$41,763	\$35,165

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
CALENDAR YEAR 2020 BUDGET STATUS - SEPTEMBER 22, 2020  
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Receipts	Calendar Year 2020		Difference Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Budget	Actual To Date	
1	Conference:			
2	Sponsors	\$56,000	\$33,500	(\$22,500)
3	Conference registrations	28,825	1,800	(27,025)
4	Hotel Commissions	1,000		(1,000)
5	Total Conference Receipts	\$85,825	\$35,300	(\$50,525)
6	Membership Dues	52,460	28,288	(24,172)
7	13 states @ \$4,010.83 & 3 provinces @ \$106.26			-
8	Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	975	975	-
	Administrative Fee:			
9	Indirect Cost - USFWS and NFWF	16,860		(16,860)
10	National Pheasant Coordinator	5,780		(5,780)
11	Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference - IL	-	3,129	3,129
12	Southern Wings	1,125		(1,125)
13	Interest	100	50	(50)
14	Other Income	-	92	92
15	Total Receipts	\$163,125	\$67,835	(\$95,291)

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
CALENDAR YEAR 2020 BUDGET STATUS - SEPTEMBER 22, 2020  
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Disbursements	Calendar Year 2020		Difference
		Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable)
16	Conference Disbursements:			
17	Delaney Meeting and Event Management	\$12,738	\$6,678	\$6,060
18	Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality room, etc.	36,235		36,235
19	Credit Card Fees	1,145	411	734
20	Conference gifts and Award plaques	4,200	715	3,485
21	Total Conference Disbursements	\$54,318	\$7,804	\$46,514
22	Executive Secretary:			
23	Pay - 1,200 hours @ \$50.00	60,000	40,200	19,800
24	Travel	7,000	2,054	4,946
25	Treasurer:			
26	Pay - 450 hours @ \$39.80	17,910	12,816	5,094
27	Travel	4,500	1,093	3,407
28	Recording Secretary Travel	1,500	-	1,500
29	CPA Audit	15,000	4,500	10,500
30	Tax Preparation Fees	1,610	1,120	490
31	Insurance	665	1,996	(1,331)
32	Web posting and hosting	840	218	622
33	Wildlife Society - North Central Section	670	955	(285)
34	Miscellaneous	2,495	157	2,338
35	Total Disbursements	\$166,508	\$72,912	\$93,596
36	Receipts over Disbursements	(\$3,383)	(\$5,078)	(\$1,695)

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET  
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Receipts	Calendar Year				2021 Proposed Budget Description
		2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Proposed Budget	
Conference:						
1	Sponsors	\$56,500	\$65,000	\$56,000	\$25,000	2020 Budget Less Received in 2020
2	Conference Registrations	38,350	26,075	28,825	27,025	2020 Budget Less Received in 2020
3	Hotel Commissions	1,559	1,446	1,000	1,000	2020 Budget
4	Total Conference Receipts	\$96,409	\$92,521	\$85,825	\$53,025	
5	Membership Dues	55,043	52,054	52,460	53,775	2.50% CPI change*
6	13 states @ \$4,111.10 & 3 provinces @ \$108.92					
7	Affiliate dues - 13 @ \$75	825	1,200	975	975	2020 Budget
Administrative Fee:						
8	Southern Wings	1,125	875	1,125	1,125	2020 Budget
9	National Pheasant Coordinator	4,164	4,770	4,165	4,165	2020 Budget
10	Indirect Cost - USFWS and NFWF	16,859	16,821	16,860	16,860	2020 Budget
11	Conser. Leaders for Tomorrow (CLFT)	1,615	1,579	1,615	1,615	2020 Budget
12	2019 Midwest F&W Conference - OH	3,254	3,129	-	-	2020 Budget
13	Other	-	4,292	-	-	2020 Budget
14	Interest	366	140	100	100	2020 Budget
15	Total Receipts	\$179,660	\$177,381	\$163,125	\$131,640	

\* Total proposed budget amount rounded up to the nearest five dollars.

**MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES  
PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET  
CONFERENCE ACCOUNT**

Line #	Receipts Disbursements	Calendar Year 2018 Actual	Calendar Year 2019 Actual	Calendar Year 2020 Budget	Calendar Year 2021 Proposed Budget	2021 Proposed Budget Description
Conference Disbursements:						
Delaney Meeting & Event Management:						
16	Coordinator Fees	\$8,293	\$10,050	\$10,128	\$10,385	2020 Budget plus 2.5% CPI*
17	Other Expenses	2,610	2,740	2,610	2,740	2019 Actual
18	Rooms, food, beverages, hospitality, etc	36,799	29,035	36,235	36,235	2020 Budget
19	Credit Card Fees	1,986	1,375	1,145	1,375	2019 Actual
20	Prizes and Awards	17,318	4,135	4,200	4,200	2020 Budget
21	<b>Total Conference Disbursements</b>	<b>\$67,006</b>	<b>\$47,335</b>	<b>\$54,318</b>	<b>\$54,935</b>	
Executive Secretary						
22	Pay - 1,200 hours @ \$51.25	53,000	52,000	60,000	61,500	2.50% CPI change
23	Travel	5,509	9,917	7,000	8,000	Estimated
Treasurer						
24	Pay - 450 hours @ \$40.80	16,447	17,195	17,910	18,360	2.50% CPI change
25	Travel	4,089	4,137	4,500	4,500	2020 Budget
26	Secretary travel	1,847	1,786	1,500	1,790	2019 Actual*
27	Tax Preparation Fees	1,606	1,675	1,610	1,675	2019 Actual
28	CPA Audit	-	-	15,000	-	Dropped in 2021-Completed in 2020
29	Annual Director's Meeting Website Redesign	-	-	-	2,000	New for 2021
30	Insurance	663	663	665	-	3 Year Term Paid in August, 2020
31	Wildlife Society - North Central Section	363	-	670	670	2020 Budget
32	Web posting and hosting	60	591	840	840	2020 Budget
33	NCS-TWS Leadership Workshop	-	-	1,000	-	2019 Actual
34	Miscellaneous	1,510	319	1,495	1,495	2020 Budget
35	<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$152,100</b>	<b>\$135,618</b>	<b>\$166,508</b>	<b>\$155,765</b>	
36	Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	\$27,560	\$41,763	(\$3,383)	(\$24,125)	

\* Total proposed budget amount rounded up to the nearest five dollars.