



## Schedule for the 2011 Cycle of the Multistate Conservation Grant Program (MSCGP)



### **2010:**

#### **November**

- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association) solicits National Conservation Needs (NCNs) from each Association committee and the four Regional Associations of state fish and wildlife agencies. Criteria for NCNs are distributed with requests.

### **2011:**

#### **February**

- The Association's committees and the four Regional Associations develop proposed NCNs. Each may submit one proposed NCN to the Association's MSCGP Coordinator by Friday, February 11, 2011.

#### **March (North American Wildlife & Natural Resources Conference; March 14-18, 2011 (Kansas City, MO))**

- The Association's MSCGP Coordinator compiles and distributes proposed NCNs to members of the Association's National Grants Committee. The Committee consists of the four Regional Association Presidents (or designees), and the Association's Fish & Wildlife Trust Funds Committee Chair, Executive Committee Vice Chair, Executive Committee Chair (Vice Chair of National Grants Committee), and the Association's Vice President (Chair of National Grants Committee).
- During the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, the Committee will convene to review proposed NCNs and prepare a list of recommended NCNs for the State Directors' approval.
- State Directors approve NCNs at the Association's Business Meeting at the Conference for the upcoming grant cycle.

#### **April**

- The Association distributes an Announcement of Opportunity to solicit Letters of Intent (LOIs) to address the selected NCNs. LOIs are due (Date TBD).

#### **May**

- The National Grants Committee and other appropriate Association Committees review the submitted Letters of Intent. The National Grants Committee selects the most competitive to invite to submit full proposals.

#### **June**

- Applicants are notified by (Date TBD whether or not their LOI has been selected to submit a full proposal.

#### **July**

- Full proposals along with required federal forms are due to the Association's MSCGP Coordinator (deadline TBD.)

## **August**

- MSCGP grant proposals are submitted and reviewed by the National Grants Committee. The MSCGP Coordinator will review proposals for eligibility, and consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The FWS reviews proposals to conduct a debarment and suspension and audit records check; ensure NEPA and ESA compliance; and review financial management systems of applicants.

## **September (Association's Annual Meeting; September 19-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011; Omaha, NE)**

- The National Grants Committee convenes; reviews the comments and scores of each proposal; and prepares a recommended "priority list" of projects for the State Director's approval. The Committee may request changes to a proposal. Grant applicants may attend this meeting.
- During the Association's Business Meeting, the State Directors approve the "priority list" of projects to be funded through the Multistate Conservation Grant Program.
- The Association submits its list of priority projects, and the final proposals, to the USFWS by the mandated October 1, 2011 deadline.
- The Association's MSCGP Coordinator notifies submitters of proposal status – all applicants are provided with reviewers' comments and scores.

## **October-November**

- Priority projects are reviewed and processed by the USFWS, which is required by law to only fund projects on the Association's priority list, although there is no requirement to fund all recommended projects.

## **December**

- USFWS awards Multistate Conservation grants to successful applicants.

## **2012:**

### **January to December**

- USFWS manages recipients and their implementation of Multistate Conservation grants.
- The Association initiates the process for the 2013 cycle of the MSCGP.