

2018 Multistate Conservation Grant Program

National Conservation Needs

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Proposed NCN 2

Title: Management of the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (National Survey) and planning for the 2021 National Survey.

Submitted by: the Angler and Boating Participation Committee

Statement of Need: The National Survey has been conducted every five years since 1955 to measure participation and expenditures of fishing, hunting, and wildlife-associated recreation by residents in the U.S. The quantification of participation and economic impacts of wildlife-based recreation is an important source of data used by Association members, state and federal fish and wildlife agencies, as well as nongovernmental organizations and industry to assess trends in wildlife-related recreation in the U.S. The 2016 National Survey is especially critical in this progression of survey efforts. During 2016, the National Survey will use two different survey methodologies to “bridge” from old survey procedures to a new survey method and sample frame to make the future surveys more precise and cost efficient. Due to this “bridging” between survey methodologies, the National Survey Technical Workgroup (Workgroup) will continue to play a major role in helping manage these surveys. Therefore, a pressing need exists to maintain the Workgroup through 2018 to complete these surveys and evaluate their findings. Through the evaluation of the 2016 survey the workgroup will also lay the foundation for the initial planning of the 2021 National Survey.

Desired Proposals: Proposals submitted for this NCN will address Workgroup’s management aspect of the 2016 National Survey into 2018 as well as an evaluation team of the two survey methodologies. The evaluation team was stood up and will begin work in 2017.

A successful proposal will ensure the continuation of the 2016 Workgroup that was formed in 2013. This Workgroup will have the responsibilities of overseeing and approving survey protocols, reports, and coordination of the 2016 National Survey. The Workgroup will also be responsible for specifying the requirements and recommendation for an independent evaluation team that will need to be operational in 2017-2018. This evaluation team will be responsible for comparing the two survey methodologies and results to provide an assessment that will be used for recommending the 2021 National Survey. The Workgroup will also continue working with the shooting sports and archery communities to develop a set of objectives and questions that will be considered for inclusion into the 2021 National Survey as funding permits.

Desired Outcomes: The desired outcomes for this project include overseeing and approving technical materials, conduct, and evaluation of the 2016 National Survey efforts. The Workgroup will be collaborating with the project coordination team to remedy any survey issues among the survey contractors. After an independent evaluation team assesses this “bridging” of survey methodologies, the Workgroup will report their findings to the Association’s members, federal fish and wildlife agencies, and the broader conservation-related NGO community in preparation for use in specifying the 2021 National Survey.

Proposed NCN 4

Title: Improve benefits for fish, wildlife, and their habitats through Farm Bill implementation

Submitted by: Agricultural Conservation Committee

Statement of Need: The Farm Bill is one of the most important pieces of legislation for providing fish and wildlife habitat on millions of acres of privately owned and managed lands. Commodity market volatility, emerging bioenergy demand, and tight federal budgets have combined to create unprecedented pressures on our natural resources and the programs that work to achieve conservation for the well-being of all citizens.

Desired Proposals: Proposals should address one or more of the following:

- Provide recommendations on how fish, wildlife, and their habitats can best be integrated into Farm Bill programs, rules, policies, and guidelines used to implement the laws.
- Work with State fish and wildlife agencies, NGOs, producers, USDA, FWS, forestry, and others to optimize fish and wildlife benefits from Farm Bill programs and policies and expand Farm Bill programs to regions of the nation where they are under-utilized.
- Increase the capacity to deliver fish and wildlife expertise/technical assistance and educational outreach to current and potential Farm Bill program participants.
- Develop and coordinate scientific methods for conservation program outcome reporting.
- Assess the economics, human dimensions, promotional strategies, fish and wildlife benefits, and/or hunter/angler recruitment/retention effects of Farm Bill programs and policies.
- Facilitate information sharing of conservation program results to traditional and new audiences and identify information needs and success stories that support strategic delivery of Farm Bill programs.
- Assess the effectiveness of the regional Sodsaver provision and the linkage between crop insurance and conservation compliance on wildlife population and habitat trends.
- Work with USDA to track Farm Bill-funded cover changes and investigate how programs and provisions have impacted native grassland habitat and use by birds/pollinators.
- Assess methods that increase the use/availability and improve establishment techniques of native plant materials used in farm bill programs across the country to enhance habitat.
- Identify and evaluate approaches to maintaining conservation benefits on expiring CRP acres and retaining enrollment of high wildlife value CRP acres.
- Assess CRP Mid Contract Management activities and determine whether/how practice and program intent is being met across the country; evaluate the efficacy of incentives, cost share, or other methods that promote quality wildlife habitat.
- Assess the impacts of increased agricultural pattern tile drainage on wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat, and evaluate relationships between pattern tile drainage and flooding, water quality, crop yields and agricultural productivity, or actuarial risk and indemnities.
- Increase engagement and immersion with the bioenergy industry to ensure the consideration of fish and wildlife needs in bioenergy development.
- Evaluate and increase the extent to which Farm Bill programs impact at-risk species conservation and decision-making.

Desired Outcomes: Successful proposals will improve Farm Bill benefits for fish, wildlife, and their habitats, and State fish and wildlife agencies' ability to manage their public trust resources.

Proposed NCN 8

Title: Enabling State Fish and Wildlife Agencies to Coordinate and Implement Large Scale Conservation Initiatives

Submitted by: Executive Committee

Statement of Need: State fish and wildlife agencies need to collectively address emerging national conservation issues to ensure they can continue to meet their management responsibilities and sustain the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. Agencies face barriers that impact their ability to collectively address national conservation issues and manage trust resources. For example many state agencies face significantly curtailed out of state travel funding.

Desired Proposals: Proposals will be considered that assist state agencies with the coordination and implementation of programs that address important conservation issues related to fish and wildlife management. Applicants must demonstrate they have a history of collaboration and the ability to coordinate work with all fifty state fish and wildlife agencies.

Desired Outcomes: Proposals funded under this NCN will enable coordination and provide states with technical, administrative and professional expertise and services. Detailed coordination objectives should be included along with an explanation of how these efforts will assist state agencies with their mission of fish and wildlife management.

Proposed NCN 9

Title: Outdoor Heritage – participation, recruitment, retention and reactivation in hunting, fishing, boating, and conservation-related recreational activities; enhanced relations among state fish and wildlife agencies and the related industries.

Submitted By: The Hunting & Shooting Sports Participation Committee

Statement of Need: Participation in outdoor and conservation related recreational activities is key to strengthening the ability of state fish and wildlife agencies to protect the nation's natural resources and preserve opportunities for future generations. Generally, participation rates in traditional outdoor recreational activities are on the decline, and this trend is expected to continue into the immediate future. The reasons for declining participation are varied and complex; however, all states recognize a need for action to stabilize or reverse this trend. Ramifications of declining participation include 1) a citizenry further disassociated from our conservation heritage, nature, and all related benefits, 2) a direct loss of funding to fish and wildlife conservation programs, and 3) detrimental effects on critical industries that support and are supported by hunting, recreational fishing, boating, and the shooting sports. Successful recruitment, retention, and reactivation efforts rely on maximizing crossover opportunities in outdoor recreation; developing partnerships to implement state, regional, and national programs; and sharing best practices and the financial and intellectual resources necessary to create needed innovations.

Desired Proposals: Proposals submitted under this NCN should address needs related to participation, recruitment, retention and reactivation of people in hunting, recreational fishing, boating, and the shooting sports and ways to enhance industry and state agency relationships. This NCN also takes into consideration outdoor activities with valuable crossover applications. For example, approximately 73 million Americans participated in boating activities in 2006, and more than half of all anglers in 2006 fished from a boat. Proposals submitted under this NCN should address one or more of the following: a) innovative tools and actions that foster initiation, recruitment, and retention, including efforts to increase opportunities for target markets; b) partnerships and cooperation between or among successful recruitment/retention programs and related industries; c) new approaches to marketing that document and promote the social and economic benefits of hunting, fishing, boating, and related recreational activities; d) tools to assist hunting, fishing, and boating education instructors in communicating the history and role of hunters, anglers, and boaters in the conservation of North America's fish and wildlife; e) methods to assist state fish and wildlife agencies in assessing and meeting the demands for public shooting facilities, access to public waters for recreational fishing and boating, and public access to land for hunting; f) actions that help related recreational industries understand and enhance the important role they play in fish and wildlife conservation and promoting these benefits to the public at large; and g) efforts to evaluate the efficacy of recruitment and retention programs and strategies.

Desired Results/Expected Benefits: Desired results and expected benefits of proposals would be: 1) successfully implemented strategies that increase participation and retention rates in hunting, recreational fishing, boating, and shooting sports; 2) a steady and reliable source of revenue to state fish and wildlife agencies from license sales, registration fees, taxes, and associated federal aid; 3) national policies and programs to help recruit and retain participants; 4) continued long-term social and economic benefits through participation and increased recruitment of new hunters, anglers, boaters, and recreational shooters; 5) strategic guidance to state wildlife agencies to assist them in meeting demands in their state for public shooting facilities, boating and fishing access to public waters, and public access to land and public waters for hunting; 6) enhanced networking and understanding among agencies, related industries, and other committed partners; 7) identification of opportunities to maximize excise tax collected under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program; and 8) an improved conservation ethic among outdoor recreational participants, and a more understanding and supportive public – all of which will help ensure a bright and sustainable future for our North American hunting, fishing, and boating heritage.

Proposed NCN 10

Title: Coordination of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Management of Wildlife Resources in Concert with Federal Actions Required by International Treaties, Conventions, Partnerships, and Initiatives

Submitted by: The International Relations Committee

Statement of Need: Rules established under international treaties often impact state management of fish and wildlife. Added regulations can result from restrictions adopted through international treaties such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). State tagging requirements for otters and bobcats stem from CITE actions in 1975. State agencies looking to ensure sustainable harvest of turtle species desired by international markets are updating turtle regulations. Active involvement in CITES has ensured that permits are not required for international movement of items such as wallets and garments. Without these provisions, it would be virtually impossible to travel abroad with alligator garments leading to catastrophic declines in sales in these sustainable use products.

These are examples that have significant implications to state management. Additionally, migratory species that spend part of their life cycles in our states often spend more than half of each year outside the United States. Thus, conservation actions outside of the states' influence the status of Species of Greatest Conservation Need within the states. It is necessary for states to be able to participate in international conservation initiatives and actions that affect our migratory species. Other initiatives and treaties including IUCN, CMS, CBD require membership and participation in order to positively affect sustainable use issues and promote state priorities.

Understanding issues and developing working relationships over a sustained period by the CITES Technical Work Group and AFWA are essential for effectively resolving issues and require routine engagement with international colleagues. The Work Group has a long-standing and positive working relationship with key international counterparts and any disruption would result in lessening of state agency influence in many important forums. Working as a team is effective and makes it easier to maintain expertise in CITES and other international forum. It is also an asset in building and maintaining a rapport with the international community. Over the past decade, there has been an increase in NGO participation (e.g., HSUS and the Animal Welfare Institute) to push a protectionist/no use approach in CITES, IUCN, etc. It also allows the Work Group and AFWA to support the Canadian Provinces when needed. Without funding, our combined expertise and coordinated approach to state participation in international fora would need to be paid for by the Regional Associations or other means.

Desired Proposals: Proposals submitted under this NCN should address one or more of the following needs— fund a representative from each Regional Association and the AFWA to participate in international treaties, conventions, and associated meetings; allow AFWA to maintain memberships in international initiatives; and allow for state agency participation in international bird conservation partnerships and projects.

Desired Outcomes/Expected Benefits: Successful proposals will provide two or more of the following. 1) an efficient, effective approach for state agencies to have input into federal policy on international treaties, 2) a means whereby state agencies may be apprised of pending developments internationally and respond appropriately, 3) a streamlined approach to coordinating state responses to provide state input into federal and / or international policies, rules, and procedures, 4) a mechanism to provide biological and administrative information to assist the federal government in executing its international responsibilities, 5) support sustainable use principles in international arenas, 6) ensure AFWA and the states have a voice in international initiatives, 7) ensure state agencies can participate in international bird conservation partnerships and projects.

Proposed NCN 11

Title: Sustaining the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine through Outreach to Law Schools, and Reviewing and Communicating to State Agency Members New Developments in Conservation Law and Policy.

Submitted by: AFWA Legal Committee

Statement of Need: Conduct legal research; monitor the progress of court cases, statutes, and regulations involving State agencies' management of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in accordance with the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

Desired Proposals: Proposals will be considered that would:

- Assist AFWA in developing and offering wildlife law courses at law schools across the United States, as well as coordinating with law schools to provide clinical and occupational learning opportunities for law students
- Assist AFWA in developing continuing legal education (CLE) seminars for practitioners and observers of wildlife law
- Broaden members' and partners' understanding of State wildlife management and jurisdictional issues
- Collaborate with conservation stakeholders (e.g., renewable energy firms, outdoors companies, landowners' organizations) to build legal frameworks for State agency participation in areas of law relevant to conservation
- Convene groups of experts to review developments in conservation law and policy, at AFWA's recommendation
- Encourage State agency coordination in responding to Federal agency decision-making (e.g., rulemaking, departmental guidance)
- Enhance relationships and pre-regulatory information-sharing between State and Federal agencies, including between legal counsel
- Facilitate use of the best available fish and wildlife scientific data in State agency management actions and policy-making
- Improve processes for, and increase State involvement in, evaluating and responding to Federal budget priorities relevant to State wildlife conservation
- Otherwise conduct legal research to facilitate State management of fish and wildlife resources in accordance with the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

Desired Outcomes / Expected Benefits: A proposal funded under this NCN would:

- Assist AFWA and State agency legal advisors in performing review of, and coordinated response to, legal issues involving State wildlife management
- Provide legal education and updates to law students, judges, and practitioners to enhance the wildlife law community's understanding of State wildlife conservation
- Clarify the effects of statutes setting forth fish and wildlife management within State borders, and promote State, provincial, territorial, and Federal agency understanding of jurisdictional issues

Proposed NCN 12

Title: The Management Assistance Team (MAT) or similar entity to increase leadership capacity and agency effectiveness within state fish and wildlife agencies and the conservation community through leadership and professional development initiatives, training, consulting, and support of the National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI).

Submitted by: Leadership and Professional Development Committee

Statement of Need: Significant loss of senior leadership across state fish and wildlife agencies continues to impact and put at risk the conservation community's future. Recent statistics reveal a turnover of 50 State Directors since 2010 affecting 40 state agencies. This staggering loss of leadership capacity, coupled with the challenges facing SFWA's to remain relevant, adapt to changing landscapes and constituencies, and/or secure funding – just to name a few—requires continued, ongoing, and focused leadership and professional development. In a 2015 survey by AFWA's Management Assistance Team, a 76% response rate identified succession planning, development of adaptive leadership capacity, and strategic planning/agency relevancy as priorities. This further supported a 2014 survey where an overwhelming 92.6% of those directors surveyed believed that “leadership and professional development programs would help agencies achieve their conservation mission” and stressed succession planning and the need to develop a greater capacity of strategic thinkers in their organizations as their top two critical needs.

Desired Proposals: Proposals submitted under this NCN should outline strategies to increase the leadership capacity of tomorrow's fish and wildlife leadership through programming that provides:

- 1) leadership development programming that can reach a significant portion of the nation's state fish and wildlife agencies;
- 2) leadership program development, delivery expertise, and staff support to maintain an elite-level leadership development program, the National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI), on a nationwide basis reaching governments, NGOs, conservation-oriented businesses and tribes;
- 3) knowledge, expertise, and consulting services to expand leadership capacity and developing workforce planning strategies;
- 4) programs and opportunities for state fish and wildlife agency staff to increase their capabilities for delivering leadership development to their employees.

Desired Outcomes / Expected Benefits: As agencies continue to experience high levels of employee retirement / turnover creating a void in leadership experience, this NCN's programs will increase leadership capacity of the majority of states through leadership series workshops, consulting, assessments, online and on demand training, webinars, and other tools including building rich networks among state, federal, tribal, provincial, NGO, and for-profit organizations in the conservation arena. Agency access to leadership and professional development services specifically tailored to the unique needs of state fish and wildlife agencies will also be a critical tool to help them develop their own internal leadership development programs. During this grant the National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI) will graduate its 12th cohort of Fellows and the 13th cohort will be in mid-program. By the end of this grant cycle the NCLI will have an accumulated cadre of approximately 450 Fellows across the spectrum of conservation – creating a powerful professional network of graduates to effectively lead fish and wildlife conservation work through the challenging and unpredictable future.

Proposed NCN 13

Title: Multistate Conservation Grant Program Coordination

Submitted by: National Grants Committee

Statement of Need: The Multistate Conservation Grant Program was established in 2000 by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000 (Improvement Act), which amended the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. The Improvement Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make up to \$6,000,000 available each calendar year under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Assistance Program to fund Multistate Conservation Grants (CFDA Number 15-628). These grants may be awarded by the Secretary of the Interior only for projects identified on a priority list of wildlife or sport fish restoration projects submitted by the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies by the mandated October 1st deadline. To ensure MSCGP funds are used to address important concerns of state fish and wildlife agencies, the Association has developed detailed requirements for the grant program applicants. The Act that established the MSCGP did not provide administrative funds for the Association to use for administration and implementation of its responsibilities. In 2016, the Association was awarded a Multistate Conservation Grant that currently supports the Multistate Conservation Grant Program Coordinator responsible for implementing the grant program, which expires December 31, 2017.

Desired Proposals: The Multistate Conservation Grant Program Coordinator will continue to coordinate with Association Committees and interested NGOs regarding the solicitation of NCNs and proposals, review of proposals, and selection of priority projects.

The Coordinator is responsible for:

- Disseminating information and responding to inquiries about the grant program.
- Ensuring that the Association's responsibilities for executing the grant program are met and for managing the resultant Multistate Conservation Grants administered by the Association.
- Continuous improvement of the program's processes as well as ensuring effective evaluation and communication of the accomplishments of the MSCGP to State Fish and Wildlife agencies.

Desired Outcomes: This project will:

- Enable the Association to meet its responsibilities under the Act, and ensure grant funds are used for projects that provide maximum benefits to state fish and wildlife agencies and the wildlife resources they manage.
- Provide accomplishments and results of the program to the State Fish and Wildlife agencies and other applicable audiences.
- Provide necessary resources to the Association for the administration and coordination of the Multi-State Conservation Grant program, which is jointly managed with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Proposed NCN 14

Title: Broadening Conservation Partnerships through the National Fish Habitat Partnership

Submitted by: Fisheries and Water Resources Policy Committee & Ocean Resources Policy Committee

Statement of Need: The National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) seeks to arrest and reverse declines to the quality and quantity of our nation's fish habitat in freshwater, estuarine, and marine waters through voluntary partnerships throughout the United States. The NFHP is comprised of 20 Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs), based on fish species, landscapes or habitat types, that develop and implement landscape-scale approaches to protect, restore, and enhance priority fish habitats (natural and manmade) across the United States. All 50 states are engaged in one or more of the FHPs. The conservation practices of the umbrella National Fish Habitat Partnership and Regional FHPs are guided by the framework set forth in the 2nd Edition of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (2012) and by the National Fish Habitat Board (Board) which includes AFWA and representatives from the four regional associations and the Chair of the Board, who holds an at-large seat representing a state fish & wildlife agency. FHPs implement on-the-ground conservation activities that complement and strengthen efforts to conserve fish habitat by coordinating closely with many other local, regional, and national programs and priorities. The Multi-state Conservation Grant Program helps FHPs leverage other federal, state, and private resources to implement the priorities of the Board and the FHPs. Grant resources support FHPs, Board and other committees under the Board, including the Science and Data Committee by providing funds to:

- improve ecological condition, restore natural processes, or prevent the decline of intact and healthy systems leading to better fish habitat conditions and better recreational fishing opportunities.
- Increase public awareness of the importance of healthy fish habitats and communicate conservation outcomes
- Improve and continue coordinating with federal initiatives to maximize impact and results
- Improve and continue ensuring projects are consistent with national conservation initiatives for fish species
- Continue filling significant gaps in the National Fish Habitat Assessment, and further improve coordination for Fish Habitat Assessments implemented through the Partnership
- Desired Proposals: Grant recipients would compete for Multi-state Conservation Grants (MSCG) to:
 - build upon a previous MSCG that promotes strategic fish habitat conservation through regionally-coordinated science and conservation efforts
 - build upon a MSCG in assisting FHPs with development, growth, organizational capacity and management
 - improve FHP capabilities to implement assessments and habitat-related projects to identify priority watersheds
 - compile the socio-economic and recreational benefits associated with FHP projects, and
 - improve communications related habitat action improvement to the greater fisheries community and to the Board, FHPs, state fish chiefs, AFWA Fisheries and Water Resources Policy and Ocean Resources Policy Committees and the National Fish Habitat Fund on fisheries issues affecting state fish and wildlife agencies.

Desired Outcomes: Desired outcomes of successful proposals would include:

- 1) improved cost effectiveness and more conservation activities coordinated by and among FHPs
- 2) improved and continued development of FHP coordination, strategic planning, and partnership management
- 3) FHP Coordination and data collection for the 2020 National Fish Habitat Assessment
- 4) increased funding opportunities for FHP-sponsored conservation projects
- 5) maintaining and improving capacity to engage new partners for FHPs and the Board
- 6) increased awareness and support for fish habitat conservation

- 7) improved angling opportunities
- 8) increased coordination on marine-related FHP efforts including collaboration among partners and enhanced opportunities for FHP cooperation and collaboration on priority projects

Proposed NCN 15

Title: Strengthening Fish and Wildlife Health Capacity through the National Fish and Wildlife Health Initiative

Submitted by: the Fish and Wildlife Health Committee

Statement of Need: The importance of maintaining healthy populations of fish and wildlife has long been recognized by fish and wildlife managers, and several disease issues are of growing concern to fish and wildlife, animal health, and public health professionals and the publics they serve. Significant diseases, such as chronic wasting disease, plague, viral hemorrhagic septicemia, hemorrhagic disease, white-nose syndrome, West Nile virus, whirling disease, bacterial coldwater disease, and others have been found in wild and farmed fish or wildlife populations in North America and can significantly and negatively affect public trust resources. Reservoirs of economically important diseases like bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis have inadvertently become established in native wildlife and threaten livestock industries regionally. Also of concern are foreign animal diseases, such as New World screwworms as well as foot and mouth disease, which were eradicated in the U.S. decades ago, and highly pathogenic avian influenza, which was found in wild birds in North America in December 2014 for the first time. Intentional or accidental introduction of these diseases are likely to negatively affect wildlife, domestic animal, or human populations and would require a coordinated multi-agency response.

In view of the increasing need for fish and wildlife managers to effectively address wildlife health and disease issues, the Association resolved in 2005 to develop and implement a National Fish and Wildlife Health Initiative, in cooperation with appropriate governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations. Although national in scope, the Health Initiative will not mandate programs at the state, tribal, or local level. The goal of the initiative is to protect fish and wildlife health through the enhancement of capabilities of state fish and wildlife management agencies to prevent, detect, manage, research, and educate the public about disease issues.

This NCN is designed to assist fish and wildlife management agencies in all 50 states and addresses several goals and strategies identified in the Association's Strategic Plan including Goal 3: Coordinated Conservation Initiatives – Support National Outreach and Education Initiatives, and Goal 4: Member Support and Coordination-Support and facilitate education, participation, communication and leadership capacity among state, provincial and territorial agencies to enhance fish and wildlife conservation.

Desired Proposals: Proposals are requested that facilitate implementation of the National Fish and Wildlife Health Initiative. Successful proposals should support the national initiative through the development of state expertise and capacity in fish and wildlife health, particularly in critically important areas such as disease detection, control, management, and prevention, as well as effective communications about disease and disease outbreaks.

Desired Outcomes: Desired outcomes will be the development and support of the National Fish and Wildlife Health Initiative, as well as progress toward the implementation of specific goals and objectives to enhance state agency capacity and response to current and emerging fish and wildlife disease issues.