



ASSOCIATION of
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

LEGISLATIVE AND FEDERAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

Chair: Tim Schaeffer (PA)

Vice-Chair: vacant

Monday, September 23, 2019

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

109th AFWA Annual Meeting

Meeting Room TBD / InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront Hotel / Saint Paul, MN

AGENDA

- 10am Call to order, introductions, review agenda – Chair Tim Schaeffer
- 10:05am Resolution supporting the 30th Anniversary of NAWCA – Jeff Ver Steeg
- *ACTION: Discussion and vote to adopt resolution (joint resolution with Bird Conservation Committee)*
- 10:10am Recovering America's Wildlife Act (HR3742; RAWA) – Jen Mock Schaeffer & Dan Kennedy
- Status, bill differences from last Congress, talking points, and what you can do
 - *ACTION: Discussion and vote to adopt resolution supporting enactment of RAWA (joint resolution with WDCFC)*
- 10:20am Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Funds for Tomorrow's Needs Act (HR877/S2092) – Dan Forster, ATA
- Status, bill differences from last Congress, talking points, and what you can do
- 10:25am Land and Water Conservation Fund and Restore our Public Lands Act –Christy Plumer, TRCP
- What else needs attention? What are outstanding state needs? – All
- 10:35am Transportation bill reauthorization
- Reauthorization of Wallop-Breaux – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Wildlife connectivity and reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions – Mike Leahy, NWF
 - How do we promote collaboration between state agencies and the Federal Highways Administration?
 - Please join us for a more in-depth webinar after the Annual Meeting on October 10 from 1-2pm EDT.
- 10:45am Forage Fish Act – Christy Plumer, TRCP
- 10:50am AFWA's Strategic Plan for 2021-2025: opportunity for committee input - Chair Tim Schaeffer
- Questions to Consider (AFWA's current strategic plan is available at this [LINK, see back](#)):
- *#1 - What strategic objective, that is related to this committee's work, would you like to see in AFWA's next strategic plan?*
 - *#2 – How would you like to see the work of this committee reflected in the next Strategic Plan? What would you change from the current plan?*
- 11am Wrap-up, next steps, and actions for the Business Meeting; break

11am-12pm

- Introductions of Government Agency participants
- Government Agencies Only Roundtable Discussion—sharing strategies for fully implementing conservation programs that require non-federal match, specifically RAWA
- Adjourn

Note: Due to time constraints, AFWA staff will discuss the following items on a conference call after the Annual Meeting:

- Pittman-Robertson Parity for the Territories legislation
- Abandoned Mine Reclamation legislation
- Chronic Wasting Disease legislation
- Review of committee charge and work plan
- Congressional appropriations update
 - House/Senate budget, House appropriations, a CR, and Senate appropriations
 - AFWA's work with regional associations to advance federal appropriations priorities

Committee Charge:

- *Identify and evaluate bills and policy issues coming before the U.S. Congress having the potential for affecting the needs, interests, role and authority of the Association members.*
 - *Develop and recommend positions on such measures.*
 - *Develop recommendations on the budgets of the federal resource agencies.*
 - *Explore ways of working with Canada and Mexico on significant legislation.*
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AFWA Strategic Planning Questions for Committees

The Association's Strategic Plan expires at the end of 2020. As we begin working on the next Plan, we would appreciate input from AFWA's Committees. The questions below are intended to gather feedback to be used in developing the next plan. Please circulate these questions to committee members and forward any feedback to your committee staff (jenmock@fishwildlife.org) or to jlord@fishwildlife.org. For your reference a summary of the current plan is included.

2018-2020 Strategic Plan Summary

The Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies is the collective voice of State, Provincial and Territorial fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Mission: To support and advocate for State, Provincial, and Territorial responsibility for science-based fish and wildlife conservation.

Vision: Sustainable fish and wildlife populations and habitat managed in trust for and supported by the public.

The Plan is organized into four Strategic Goals and Association Initiatives:

Fish and Wildlife Funding: Protect and Enhance Trust Funds; Secure Conservation and Wildlife Associated Recreation Funding.

Coordinated Conservation Initiatives: Develop and Strengthen Conservation & Science -orientated Partnerships; Build International Partnerships; Strengthen Business and Industry Relationships; Support National Outreach and Education Initiatives; Enhance Relevancy of State Conservation Initiatives.

Policy and Legislative Advocacy: Enhance State Authority to Manage Fish & Wildlife; Build Congressional Support for State Fish & Wildlife Agencies; Secure Authorization / Reauthorization of Conservation-related Legislation; Strengthen Collaboration with the Executive Branch.

Membership Support: Raise Member Awareness of AFWA's Value to State, Provincial and Territorial Fish and Wildlife and Agencies and Conservation Organizations; Raise Awareness of the Prominent Issues and the Role of Fish & Wildlife Agencies; Provide Professional Development; AFWA Organizational Effectiveness & Operational Management.