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## National Grants Committee Meeting

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Virgil Moore (ID) - Chair  
Glenn Normandeau (NH) - Vice Chair

Thursday, March 9, 2017  
10:15am-12:00pm

Meeting Room 2

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### Committee Charge

Meeting convened during 10:00AM – 11:00AM EST chaired by Virgil Moore. 21 participants in attendance, including 6 (out of 8) current Committee members:

- Virgil Moore (Chair)
- Glenn Normandeau (Vice Chair)
- Jack Buckley (Member)
- William Moritz (Member)
- Tony Wasley (Member)
- John Arway

### Scheduled Discussion Items

- Call to Order, Introductions, Announcements, and Agenda Review

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM. The Committee Chair, Virgil Moore welcomed attendees and asked the participants to introduce themselves.

- Approval of the September 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from 2016 in Philadelphia were approved.

- The committee discussed the ranking of the National Conservation Needs (NCNs). Sixteen NCNs were submitted for 2018 Multistate Conservation Grants cycle. Discussion focused on how many NCNs should move forward. The committee members voted on 10 National Conservation Needs. (See the attachment)

- Letter of Intent Guidelines and Scoring Criteria are going through an update. As mentioned at the last meeting by Nick Wiley, the current LOI/Proposal Template does not align very well with the scoring criteria making it harder for the NGC to score proposals. Silvana and Rob Southwick have been working on updating those two documents. A copy was sent to the committee members to review before the request for Letter of Intent is sent out to AFWA Committee Members and Regional Committees on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
- Discussion of NGC – MSCGP Principles

The committee discussed if the NGC still wanted to create a set of funding principles similar to what the Executive Committee create for AFWA. Staff was asked to develop some draft principles for the next meeting.

- The committee asked Silvana look back on the past proposals, and pull out success stories so we can use them to publicize the achievements of the MSCG Program over the years.
- The National Survey Working Group is working to reduce the funds required for the National Survey. National Survey data is very important for many states, but it requires significant funding from the MSCGP, which reduces the funds to other projects.
- The committee discussed if some grants that are funded every year could be approved differently, to avoid the annual review process. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00Am.

### **Action Items**

- AFWA staff will work on updating the proposal template to better align it with scoring criteria and finalize it for this cycle.
- AFWA staff will work on drafting a document on guiding principles.
- Staff will begin looking at reports from previous years in an effort to publicize the success of the program.