# Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap

#### Enhanced conservation through broader engagement





#### **US Population Growth**



#### Urbanization



## **Ethnic Diversity**

% of the total population



#### Woman in Workforce





### **College Education**

#### Share of U.S. Population (25 Years+) That Completed 4+ Years of College, 1940-2017



## **Hunting Participation**

#### SHARE OF ADULT POPULATION WHO HUNTS





Wildlife Values in the US (Manfredo et al. 2018) Traditionalist - wildlife should be used and managed for the benefit of people

Mutualist - see wildlife as part of their extended social network

Pluralist - exhibit values of both traditionalists and mutualists

Distanced - exhibit low levels of thought about or interest in wildlife



# Wildlife Value Orientations



Figure 2: Wildlife value orientation types across the United States

For more information on methods for creating this typology, see Teel and Manfredo (2009).

#### Wildlife Value Orientations

% Public % Agency Staff







HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF NATURAL RESOURCES COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



#### **Blue Ribbon Panel**

on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resource



#### **RECOMMENDATION 2**

The Blue Ribbon Panel will examine the impact of societal changes on the relevancy of fish and wildlife conservation and make recommendations on how programs and agencies can transform to engage and serve broader constituencies.



#### **GOAL** of the Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap

# "Enhanced Conservation Through Broader Engagement"





# **Key Barrier Categories**

#### Agency Capacity

e.g. Lack of agency expertise (i.e., social science, marketing) to understand and serve the needs of broader constituencies

#### Agency Culture

e.g. Fear of loss of identity, control, power and political support for the agency

#### Constituent Capacity

e.g. Lack of understanding of the health benefits of spending time in nature

#### Constituent Culture

 e.g. A lack of understanding of how cultural differences affect participation in outdoor recreation

#### Political & Legal Constraints

Lack of executive and legislative support to become more relevant





#### **Relevancy Roadmap**



Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap (v1.0)

Enhanced Conservation Through Broader Engagement



A practical guide to help fish and wildlife agencies engage and serve broader constituencies



A recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources September 2019



## Roadmap Contents

- Dedication, Co-chair Message, Foreword, Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Development Process & Next Steps for Roadmap
- How to use the Roadmap & Evaluation
- Barriers-Strategies-Tactics
  - Agency Culture
  - Agency Capacity
  - Constituent Culture
  - Constituent Capacity
  - Political and Legal Constraint
- Appendices



## **Overarching Themes:**

- Agency leadership and governing bodies must
  - recognize the need for conservation agencies to adapt and must demonstrate support
  - Demonstrate commitment to being more inclusive of diverse perspectives and interests
- Agencies need to increase acquisition and application of social science information to identify, better understand, engage and serve broader constituencies.
- Agencies need to commit to assessing, evaluating, and improving agency structures and processes and share lessons learned (be adaptive!)
- Agencies need to commit to increased and improved partnering and collaboration

#### AFWA Resolution Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies adopts and supports the implementation of the Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap, recognizing that each wildlife agency may implement it in a manner and within a timeframe that meets its needs, interests and capacities.

Adopted September 25, 2019

St. Paul, Minnesota

#### How to use the Roadmap

- Review the 19 barriers in Figure 2.
- Determine which one(s) your agency wants to address
- Turn to that barrier's section in the roadmap, establish metrics to measure progress then implement the tactics for each step.
- Share your successes and learning!





Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap (v1.0) Enhanced Conservation Through Broader Engagement



A practical guide to help fish and wildlife agencies engage and serve broader constituencies



# Barrier

Agency culture and values do not align with naturebased values and outdoor interests of broader constituencies

Commit to recruit and retain diverse values and perspectives within the agency workforce

Strategy

# Agency Culture

**Agency Culture Barrier:** Agency culture and values do not align with nature-based values and outdoor interests of broader constituencies.

**Strategy:** Commit to recruit and retain diverse values and perspectives within the agency workforce.

**Step 1:** Leadership demonstrates support for a diverse and inclusive workforce.

Tactic: Create policies and working environments that encourage and support diversity and inclusion. **Step 2:** Change hiring practices to attract and recruit more diverse staff at all levels.

Tactic: Adopt policies & procedures that ensure diverse selection committees. **Step 3:** Create an environment that is inclusive and supports diverse opinions and voices in decisionmaking at all levels.

**Tactic**: Adopt policies and practices that value and support the needs of all staff.



#### Recruitment Retention

# Diversity &Inclusion

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 2017-2022 Strategic Plan

#### TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

# Education & Outreach



Constituent Culture Barrier 1: Perception by broader constituencies that fish and wildlife agency only cares about and serves hunters and anglers.

**Strategy:** Demonstrate the agency recognizes, represents, values, and respects broader constituencies.

<b>STEP 1:</b> Identify all constituencies and decide which to engage.	<b>STEP 2:</b> Assess what is and is not being done by the agency that reinforces perceptions of constituencies.	<b>STEP 3:</b> Partner with constituencies to establish and implement strategies that result in fostering	
Tactic: Engage experts in identifying constituencies and decide which to engage.	<b>Tactic</b> : Use social science, marketing, and communications experts to assess perceptions about the agency.	relationships	
		<b>Tactic</b> : Develop and implement a comms strategy to change perceptions about who the agency serves.	

# Example list of Constituents

#### Hispanics

- Polynesians
- Other minority populations
- Legislature/ Congressional delegation
- Urban planners
- Urban county officials
- State agencies
- Other agencies

- Mutualists
- Traditionalists
- Outdoor recreationists
- Youth/School Districts
- Influencers
- Industry and business partners
- Parents/Grandparents
- Retirees
- NGOs



#### **Implementation Pathways**







MARKETING CAMPAIGN TOOLKIT

#### **Diversity Joint Venture**





FISH & WILDLI

AGENCIES

What are you doing?

#### **Efforts underway**

Multi-state cons. grants WMI – pilot CSU – scenario planning

Design Thinking – Harvard Visiting Scholar

**USFWS** Urban

Wildlife

Diversity Joint Venture How to Connect?

NABCI & NWF Toolkits

State Efforts -FL, MO, NV, MA, PA, TX, VA, WA ..... National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Leadership Academy

# How YOU Can Help

- Need States for Pilot Testing
- Share Success Stories, Tools and Challenges
- Champion in your agencies and with your networks
- Help Communicating...
  - ...not prescriptive (just a tool)
  - ...will build on successes of SFWAs
  - ...not abandoning our CORE constituents







## Supplemental Slides

Agency Culture	Agency Capacity	Constituent Culture	Constituent Capacity	Political & Legal Constraints	
Agency culture and values do not align with nature-based values and outdoor interests of broader constituencies.	Agency lacks sufficient and diverse funding to provide programs and services to broader constituencies. Agency lacks capacity to identify, understand, engage with, and serve the needs of broader constituencies. Agency lacks capacity to develop and implement plans that engage and serve broader constituencies.	Perception by broader constituencies that fish and wildlife agency only cares about and serves hunters and anglers.	Broader constituencies' outdoor recreation pursuits are limited by real and perceived barriers	Agency decision- making processes are used and influenced by a limited number of constituencies.	or
Agency is not adaptive to the changing nature- based values and outdoor interests of broader		Constituents may have fears, concerns, or beliefs that prevent them from engaging with nature.	such as economics, cultural norms, nature-based values, outdoor interest and access limitations.	Lack of higher-level executive support for agency engagement with broader constituencies.	
constituencies. Agency has a competitive and siloed culture that inhibits collaboration.		Constituents may not recognize theBrothreats facing fishconand wildlife, theirnothabitats, andber	Broader constituencies do not value the benefits nature provides.	bodies may not represent the nature- based values and outdoor interests of broader constituencies.	
	Agency lacks capacity to create and sustain effective partnerships to serve broader constituencies.			Lack of legislative support to engage and serve broader constituencies.	
	Agency lacks expertise and knowledge to provide outdoor recreational experiences that			Policies, practices, legal authorities, and funding restrictions limit an agency's ability to serve broader constituencies.	
	serve broader constituencies.				

Category

Barriers

## **Agency Culture**

Agency Culture Barrier: Agency culture and values do not align with nature-based values and outdoor interests of broader constituencies.







## **Agency Capacity**

Agency Capacity Barrier 2: Agency lacks capacity (expertise, staffing, resources) to identify, understand, engage with, and serve the needs of broader constituencies.

Strategy (continued): Identify ways to increase the expertise, staffing and resources that will support activities to engage and serve broader constituencies.

STEP 4: Assess the expertise needed to develop programs and practices that engage and serve broader cultures and constituencies.

Tactic: Identify the expertise needed to develop effective programs.

Tactic: Assess staff social science expertise.

Tactic: Determine staff willingness to engage and serve broader constituencies.

\_\_\_\_\_

STEP 5: Develop programs and practices that engage and serve broader cultures and constituencies.

Tactic: Create a strategic, comprehensive plan to engage and serve all current and future constituents. Tactic Use social science information to identify currently unknown, underserved or

unengaged constituent groups.

Tactic: Identify constituent interests.

Tactic: Develop programs and services for broader

\_\_\_\_\_

constituencies.

STEP 6: Implement programs and practices that serve broader cultures and constituencies.

Tactic: Market

programs and services to broader constituencies. Tactic: Provide programs and services to broader constituencies. Tactic: Evaluate offered programs and services. Tactic: Partner with others that offer programs and services

to broader

constituencies.

Tactic: Address conservation challenges that are important to broader constituencies.



#### **Constituent Culture**

Constituent Culture Barrier 1: Perception by broader constituencies that fish and wildlife agency only cares about and serves hunters and anglers.

Strategy: Demonstrate the agency recognizes, represents, values, and respects broader constituencies.

STEP 1: Identify the full suite of constituencies who may be served by and engaged with the agency and decide which to engage.

Tactic: Use existing information or engage social science experts in the identification of key served and underserved constituencies and decide which to engage. and is not being done by the agency that reinforces perceptions of broader constituencies.

STEP 2: Assess what is

communications experts to assess constituent perceptions about the agency.

#### Tactic: Evaluate agency

practices, employee behaviors, and communications to identify if messaging style, content, channels, etc., reinforce perceptions.

Tactic: Evaluate agency staff and constituents' values and biases and provide safe forums for staff discussions.

Tactic: Identify what experiences constituents want and determine how the agency can provide those experiences or centries.

STEP 3: Partner with identified constituencies to establish and implement strategies that result in fostering relationships, trustbuilding, and engagement.

Tactic: Develop and implement a communications strategy with mescaging to change perceptions about who the agency serves. Tactic: Invest in new, and support current, programs that provide experiences and services that broad constituencies want.

employees whose wildlife value orientations and outdoor interests more closely resemble broader constituencies.

Tactic: Seek expertise or provide training in social science, strategic thinking, communications, outreach, education, and marketing to agency staff to improve engagement and service with broader constituencies.

Tactic: Support and reward employees for regularly engaging broader constituencies.

Tactic: Participate in organized approaches to connecting with target communities.



### **Constituent Capacity**

Constituent Capacity Barrier 2: Broader constituencies do not value the benefits nature provides.

Strategy 1: Work with partners to provide opportunities to broaden the spectrum of constituencies who understand the ways in which nature improves their quality of life.

STEP 1: Research and define how specific outdoor activities improves quality of life, including economic benefits.

#### Tactic: Conduct a comprehensive review of existing evidence of how nature improves quality of life.

- Tactic: Identify naturebased values of constituents and how they impact engagement with nature.
- Tactic. Use social science to understand how broader constituencies are currently engaging with the outdoors and nature.

STEP 2: Work with partners and their networks to communicate with target audiences regarding how engaging in outdoor activities improves quality of life.

Tactic: Use social science to identify and define constituency groups. Tactic: Max proximity and access of outdoor activities to proximity of key broader constituencies. Tactic: Identify partners and

avenues to effectively communicate to target constituencies (e.g., industries, community leaders, and influencers). STEP 3: Work with partners to develop effective audience-specific communications strategies.

Tactic: Support or develop expertise and capacity in social science, communication, outreach, education, and marketing within the agency. Tactic: Engage social scientists in developing, testing, and evaluating messages before implementing constituentspecific communications campaigns.

Tactic: Use focus groups for targeted audiences to inform the communications strategy.

Tactic: Identify existing, or develop new, communities of practice that are already developing audience-specific messages and programs.



#### Political & Legal Constraints

Political and Legal Constraints Barrier 1: Agency decision-making processes are used and influenced by a limited number of constituencies.

Strategy: Modify decision-making processes at all levels to be inclusive, transparent, and collaborative.

STEP 1: Identify current decisionmaking processes and where and when constituencies are engaged in that process.

Tactic: Assess how constituencies currently engage in legal and planning decisionmaking processes.

Tactic: Identify key constituencies and describe how they currently, or can potentially, engage in decision-making processes. STEP 2: Formally assess if, how, and why constituencies engage in the decision-making process.

Tactic: Assess motivations and barriers to constituent participation in decisionmaking processes.

\_\_\_\_\_

Tactic: Determine desired level of constituency participation in decisionmaking process. Tactic: Join or establish a community of practice for constituency

engagement.

\_\_\_\_

STEP 3: Identify opportunities to increase constituency involvement in the decision-making process.

Tactic: Develop a plan to improve outreach to nonparticipating constituencies.

\_\_\_\_\_

Tactic: Identify organizations that can help reach nonparticipating constituencies.

Tactic: Identify and evaluate potential changes to legal and planning processes.

