

2020 Multistate Conservation Grant Program

Grant Proposal

Executive Summary

(Limit – 2 Pages)

1. **Project Title:** **Fisheries Research Tracking and Information Exchange Tool**

2. **Full Legal Name of Organization:** American Fisheries Society

3. **Organization Information:**

a. Applicant Classification: Non-profit 501(c)3

b. Nongovernmental Organization Classification (if applicable):

4. **Lead Applicant's Contact Information:**

Dr. Douglas Austen
Executive Director
American Fisheries Society
425 Barlow Place, Suite 110
Bethesda, MD 20814
dausten@fisheries.org
(office) 301-897-8616 x230 (cell) 717-609-2998

5. **Name and Affiliation of Co-Investigator(s)/Partner(s) (if applicable):**

- Grant Price, President, ByRivers Tech
- Aaron Lerner, Director of Publications, American Fisheries Society
- Dr. Jonathan Mawdsey, Science Advisor, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
- Devin DeMario, AFWA, Government Affairs Manager, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Policy

5. **Project Length : One year**

6. **Funding Requested:**

a. Total Amount for 2020: **\$84,373**

7. **Estimate of Partnership Funds to be Leveraged (if applicable): \$0**

(note that there will be a substantial contribution of time and effort by the Advisory panel and staff support by AFS but this does not been included as partnership funds)

8. Funding Source.

Percent WR: _____%

Percent SFR: **100%**

9. State Benefit Requirement:

- a. **At least 26 States.** (Anticipated to benefit all state and Provincial agencies)
- b. ~~A majority (over 50%) of the States in a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Region (for a map of the USFWS regions, please visit <http://www.fws.gov/where/>), or~~
- c. ~~A majority (over 50%) of States in a Regional Association of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies.~~

10. Primary National Conservation Need (NCN) Addressed: NCN16

11. Terms and Conditions. *Use of MSCGP Grants - All applicants must ensure that their proposed project does not fund, in whole or in part, an activity that promotes or encourages opposition to the regulated hunting or trapping of wildlife or taking of sport fish.*

☒ I agree with the above terms and conditions.

12. Summary Statement (200 words or less):

In a highly dispersed, non-centralized fisheries community the consequent lack of timely awareness of ongoing and planned research has resulted in inefficiency, duplications, and loss of opportunities, particular for state and provincial agency staffs. Past solutions depended upon regular participation by research and management staff in regional and national meetings, workshops and other forums are not effective in the current environment due to travel and staff restrictions. Yet effective web-based tools have not been developed to either supplement or replace past practices. The AFWA Science and Technology Committee has attempted to compile current research information through tedious and inefficient requests of documents that were then compiled into static reports, an exhausting and inefficient process. By efficiently building on the technical platform developed for the Grey Literature Clearinghouse (2019 MSCG funded project), this proposed Research Information Exchange Tool will provide an elegant and cost-effective solution for researchers and managers to be aware of current and planned research and create communities-of-interest around topics where collaboration will enhance and improve the research projects. The result will be a fisheries community operating with greatly enhanced knowledge of ongoing research working more effectively together to frame, implement and share the results of research programs.

Project Narrative
(Limit – 10 Pages)

Title **Fisheries Research Tracking and Information Exchange Tool**

Problem Statement (350 words or less)

The fisheries management and research community is dispersed geographically and administratively through literally hundreds of agencies, universities, and other institutions nationwide. Frequently, this results in lack of awareness by management biologists, administrators and researchers, particularly state and provincial fisheries agency staffs, of existing research and research needs with consequent loss of coordination, inefficient duplication, and missed opportunities for collaboration. Past practice used professional meetings, working groups, or other in-person gatherings to share updates on current research and future needs. As the fisheries research and management community has diversified with new university, NGO and local partners, more frequent travel restrictions, and ever broader spatial needs identified, the challenge of even being aware of research activities, much less developing effective coordination, has been increasingly challenging. Given the limited resources for research and the substantial unmet need, the fisheries community needs to be as efficient as possible with research efforts.

Old-school efforts have been attempted to address this problem. For example, on specific topics individuals have contacted researchers and requested copies of research proposals which were then collated into a single document and distributed. This required an immense amount of work, resulted in a static and very awkward document that was outdated as soon as it was compiled. The development of better tools to provide for open access to ongoing and proposed fisheries research projects has been identified by WAFWA fisheries chiefs and others (e.g. AFS Fisheries Management and Administrators Sections) as a significant need. It is regularly recognized that fisheries staffs, particular at the state and provincial levels, are often unaware of ongoing research that would benefit substantially from coordination across states, regionally and nationally. Increased research activity awareness will greatly enhance efficiency of communication, data sharing and project improvements, and collaboration. Importantly, this information will be of critical importance in development of future research priorities and research agendas being addressed in a companion 2020 MSCG proposal under NCN16, *Assessing the State of Fisheries Research Agendas in the United States and Outlining Best Practices for Development of Agendas*.

Project Goals and Objectives (400 words or less)

1. Actively engage fisheries research and management community through an Advisory Committee

Objective 1. Work with WAFWA and other regional associations, AFWA Fisheries and Water Resources Policy and Science and Research Committees, and the AFS Fisheries

Administration and Fisheries Management Sections to develop a strong, diverse and representative advisory group to provide guidance, feedback and act as emissaries for this project. Many of the members of this advisory group are also currently involved in the MSCG 2019 project developing the Grey Literature Clearinghouse, thus are already engaged in working with the prime contractor on an issue with similar technical challenges.

Objective 2. Regularly engage the Advisory Committee in planning, design, progress review, and final acceptance of research web tool. Advisory group updates will be provided at annual meetings of AFWA and AFS committees and final demonstration of tool will be given by Advisory Committee members at a wide variety of events where appropriate.

2. Develop web interface and related tools for metadata and document storage, search and retrieval

Objective 1. Retain contractor for web tool development.

The prime technical contractor (ByRiver Tech LLC) has extensive experience in addressing the needs of this proposal and has already developed approaches building upon existing, tested applications. The Advisory Committee will be fully engaged in design, testing, and implementation of the tool.

Objective 2. Complete development of a complete and fully operational trial version of the research web tool in time for delivery to AFWA and AFS committees at fall 2020 annual meetings.

ByRivers Tech has already produced a development timetable that will meet deadlines and allow sufficient time for review and testing prior to fall meeting delivery dates.

3. Engage in outreach to research and management community through workshops using an appropriate online tool, science meetings, and conferences.

Objective 1. Distribute the research web tool to all state and provincial fisheries agencies. This can be done via direct contacts but also through sessions at appropriate AFWA and AFS committees.

Objective 2. Convene sessions or symposiums at conferences to build upon research information sharing and coordination.

Objective 3. Use other venues for distribution of research web tool such as Fisheries magazine article, working with National Association of University Fish and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP), and other outlets and entities to inform potential partners of the tool and encourage use.

Program Methods and Design (600 or less)

We will develop a web-based tool and related information systems for state, provincial and other fisheries researchers to input critical metadata about current research projects on economically and recreationally important fish as well as other species of interest. The tool will provide the ability for researchers, fisheries managers and administrators to: search, find, and access critical project information; engage in information exchange; create new collaborations and efficiencies; and greatly enhance research awareness.

Key project features include:

1. The project will be guided by an advisory team of fisheries managers, researchers and administrators from state, provincial, and federal agencies, universities and non-profits. This team will build upon the existing advisory panel for the Grey Literature Clearinghouse and will overlap extensively with the sister project proposed in the 2020 MSCG process to address development of research agendas and strategies. All advisory team members listed below have been contacted have agreed to participate. Additional members will be invited to address key gaps in coverage.
2. By efficiently building upon some of the software tools and approaches developed for the Grey Literature Clearinghouse project (2019 MSCG cycle), a web-based interface and related components (document storage, etc.) will be designed to allow efficient data entry of key metadata that effectively describe research projects. We have engaged ByRivers Tech LLC as the lead software developer for the project and their staff have already provided initial design proposals. ByRivers Tech is the lead contractor for the Grey Literature project and also does web development for AFS. Their knowledge of the fisheries community will be helpful in developing a product that meets needs of the target audience.
3. Build efficient and effective search tools to allow easy identification of research projects by topic (taxonomy, gear, etc.), geography (including a GIS mapping component), aquatic system type, researcher name, institution and other key criteria. Furthermore, the system will allow users to upload search criteria so that they are notified of new projects entered into the system that are of interest.
4. Upon completion of research projects, the interface will provide for linkages to research project results such as theses, dissertations, and publications. This will include linkages to documents stored in the Grey Literature Clearinghouse where appropriate.
5. Establishment of notifications so that users are informed of new research projects on topics of interest.
6. The tool will include fisheries community engagement capabilities that provide for dialogue between researchers and managers. This could include use of social media platforms, moderated chat boards or similar tools that encourage and support conversation among the users.

Deliverables and Benefits (450 or less)

This project addresses a number of clearly identified needs by the state, provincial and federal fisheries management and research community and will result in significant benefits:

- A. The web tool and research information system will greatly enhanced awareness of ongoing research throughout the country on a real-time basis. This will be immensely helpful in information sharing, reducing unnecessary duplication, and creating opportunities for efficiencies and collaboration.
- B. The web tool will substantially improve and enhance the work of a wide variety of working groups and committees that are focusing on defining research needs, developing coordination among disparate programs, or otherwise attempting to better identify and coordinate research activities in support of management needs.
- C. Enhance national efforts to document fisheries research in support of development national research needs and strategies statements.
- D. This project builds upon the structure and tools developed for the Grey Literature Clearinghouse (funded by MSCG in 2019) and will benefit substantially from efficiency and economy of the two related projects.
- E. This work will also support the companion project on “Assessing the state of fisheries research agendas” submitted in this MSCG round under NCN16 by building an information system on research activities.
- F. The project team will work with AFWA Science and Research Committee and Fisheries and Water Resources Policy Committee as well as relevant AFS Sections, Regional Associations of state agencies, the National Association of University Fish and Wildlife Programs, and federal agencies to engage all partners to the greatest degree possible.

Monitoring and Evaluation (250 or less)

The Advisory Committee has developed a timeline of project events and deliverables to ensuring project compliance with described goals and objectives. Key events, deliverable timetables and progress markers include:

- A. Initial design and project deliverable timetable.
This will be established within 45 days of project initiation as set by federal funding approval and funding provision and will include the development and completion of subcontractor work order.
- B. Advisory Committee working calls will occur approximately every 30-45 days depending upon the development timetable.
- C. Delivery of test web site for research tool within 4 months of project initiation. Upon delivery, the Advisory Committee will review, develop any needed revisions to the schedule, and will approve final product development.
- D. Delivery of completed fully operational trial web tool for full distribution and testing by September 1, 2020.

- E. All additional changes and improvements will be completed by December 1, 2020.
- F. Tool will be fully available and implemented by January 1, 2021.

Experience (200 or less)

The four-person management team (Austen, Lerner, Mawdsley and Demario) and primary contractor (Grant Price) represent substantial experience in fisheries management and research at all levels in federal, state, NGO and private sectors and also incorporate a strong publishing, web development and information management expertise (Price and Lerner). This management team ties together related projects in such a manner that they will benefit from co-production. The Grey Literature Clearinghouse (Lerner, MSCG2019) utilizes a similar information infrastructure while a companion MSCG2020 project proposal (Research Agendas) makes the strong and crucial connection between knowledge of current research and developing effective research plans for future work. The project management team is intimately familiar with the regional associations, state and federal agencies and the various AFS and AFWA committees that will provide extensive access to the entire body of professionals who will need to be involved in this project. AFS brings considerable expertise and capacity in designing and managing information systems but also in supporting advisory groups such as has been developed to support this project. The project advisory panel brings to this project an immense amount of experience and knowledge of research management and agency engagement.

Certification Regarding Fishing/Hunting

“By submitting this proposal, the organization’s primary contact and/or authorized representative identified in this grant application certifies that the **American Fisheries Society** (1) will not use the grant funds to fund, in whole or in part, any activity of the organization that promotes or encourages opposition to the regulated hunting or trapping of wildlife or the regulated taking of fish; and (2) that the grant funds will not be used, in whole or in part, for an activity, project, or program that promotes or encourages opposition to the regulated hunting and trapping of wildlife or the regulated taking of fish.”

Certification Regarding Partnership Funds (if applicable)

“By submitting this proposal, the organization’s primary contact and/or authorized representative identified in this grant application certifies that the **American Fisheries Society**: 1) understands that partnership fund contributions are assessed in the Association’s review and selection of its priority list of MSCGP projects, but are not considered by the USFWS to be an official non-federal match/cost-share; 2) will provide the partnership funds identified in order to complete the proposed project; 3) understands that if the promised partnership funds are not provided, and there is not a sufficient explanation, potential consequences could include a poor “quality assurance” evaluation by the National Grants Committee for the organization’s future MSCGP applications; the imposition of “special award conditions” on this proposed grant and/or future grants (pursuant to 43 CFR 12); and if the failure to provide partnership funds affects the scope/objective or deliverables or other terms and conditions of the grant, then the USFWS could take necessary enforcement and termination actions (pursuant to 43 CFR 12).”

Certification Regarding Grant Activity Overlap and Duplication

By submitting this proposal, the organization's primary contact and/or authorized representative of *American Fisheries Society* identified in this grant application certifies that there is **no overlap** between the proposed project and any other active or anticipated projects in terms of activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. The proposal submitted for consideration under this program is **not duplicative** of a proposal that was or will be submitted for funding consideration to any other potential funding source (Federal or non-Federal).

Budget
(Limit – 2 Pages)

PLEASE NOTE: This table represents the Association’s preferred budget format. However, applicants are not required to use it. If an applicant wishes to use it, they may modify it to meet their needs.

Expenses	2020	
	MSCGP	P.F.
Objective 1:		
Personnel	\$11,750	
Fringe (25%)	\$2,938	
Travel	\$12,380	
Supplies		
Equipment		
***Contractual (Total)	\$46,300	
1. Contractor 1 - <u>\$46,300</u>		
2. Contractor 2 - <u>\$</u>		
3. Contractor 3 - <u>\$</u>		
4.		
Other (Specify)		
1.		
2.		
3.		
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$73,368	
Total Direct Costs	\$73,368	
Indirect Costs** (15%) (Note: 20% cap for MSCGP request)	\$11,005	
Total Expenses	\$84,373	

Total MSCGP for the X-year project is \$X; Total partnership funds for the X-year project are \$X.

** If you have a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate, please provide a copy of the agreement.

*** Please specify the estimated funds requested for each sub-recipient/contractor

Qualifications of Key Personnel

(Limit - one paragraph per individual
or if attaching resumes or CVs, max. one page per individual)

Grant Price, Web developer and lead programmer. Principal of ByRivers Tech LLC, a South Carolina based company, minority-owned company that has worked with web technologies since 1999. They have specifically worked with WordPress since 2012 and have assisted over 100 individuals and companies with leveraging WordPress to achieve their business goals. Mr. Price has designed and managed numerous AFS web sites and tools and provides technical and design support to AFS chapters and sections on web issues.

Aaron Lerner, AFS Director of Publications. He directly manages all AFS publications, which includes six major fisheries, aquaculture and fish health journals and a books program with nearly 190 titles. In this capacity, Aaron works extensively with major publishers, editors, and has broad experience with information access, referencing, and related systems. He helped implement AFS's "Fisheries Reports," a searchable database of agency gray literature that was active from 2011-2013 on the AFS website.

Dr. Jonathan Mawdsley, AFWA, Science Advisor, has worked worldwide on a diversity of wildlife, biodiversity and conservation related research projects. Dr. Mawdsley has worked wildlife and natural resource monitoring programs; developed monitoring and evaluation systems for state, federal, and tribal natural resource management clients and is an experienced conservation planner facilitating strategic planning sessions for state, federal, and tribal clients.

Devin DeMario, AFWA, Government Affairs Manager, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Policy, has worked in fisheries research and policy in Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. Her portfolio at the state and national level has been exceedingly diverse including drafting legislation, developing policy positions, and working with an extensive array of conservation partners at all levels.

Dr. Douglas Austen, Executive Director of The American Fisheries Society. He has worked extensively in fisheries and conservation science with the Illinois Natural History Survey, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, as Director of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Dr. Austen was fisheries research coordinator for Illinois DNR and coordinated and led review teams for three USFWS Fisheries Technical Centers and all eight USGS Climate Science Centers and has served on National Research Council panels. He is a Certified Fisheries Professional and adjunct faculty with Michigan State University.

Advisory Panel: A national group of experts has been appointed to serve as an advisory body for this proposal and the related research clearinghouse proposal:

Wade Cavendar	Director, Fisheries Experiment Station, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Dr. George Schisler	Aquatic Research Leader, Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife
Rebecca Krogman	Fisheries Research Biologist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Eric Palmer	Director, Fisheries, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department
Craig Bond	Director, Inland Fisheries Division, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept
Thom Litts	Operations Manager, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Paul Venturelli	Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Ball State University
James Hasbrouck	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Robert Shields	Fisheries Experiment Station, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Gary Whelan	Program Manager, Michigan DNR
Jeff Koch	Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism
Dr. Jim Peterson	USGS Oregon Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit
Dr. Kevin Pope	USGS Nebraska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit
Nathaniel Gillespie	USFS, National Fisheries Program Leader (Acting)

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

07/25/2019

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

American Fisheries Society Inc.

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

54-0683803

*** c. Organizational DUNS:**

0701081390000

d. Address:

*** Street1:**

425 Barlow Place, Suite 110

Street2:

*** City:**

Bethesda

County/Parish:

Montgomery

*** State:**

MD: Maryland

Province:

*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

20814-2199

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Dr.

*** First Name:**

Douglas

Middle Name:

*** Last Name:**

Austen

Suffix:

Title: Executive Director

Organizational Affiliation:

American Fisheries Society

*** Telephone Number:** (717) 609-2998

Fax Number: (301) 897-8096

*** Email:** dausten@fisheries.org

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

M: Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Fish and Wildlife Service

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

15.628

CFDA Title:

Multistate Conservation Grant

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

F19AS00177

* Title:

FY2020 Multistate Conservation Grant Program

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Fisheries Research Tracking and Information Exchange Tool

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="84,373.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="84,373.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

* Date Signed:

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1.		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES					
6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
b. Fringe Benefits					
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies					
f. Contractual					
g. Construction					
h. Other					
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)					
j. Indirect Charges					
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS	
8.	\$	\$	\$	\$	
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)	\$	\$	\$	\$	
SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. Non-Federal					
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT					
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)				
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth	
16.	\$	\$	\$	\$	
17.					
18.					
19.					
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19)	\$	\$	\$	\$	
SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION					
21. Direct Charges:		22. Indirect Charges:			
23. Remarks:					

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.


PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Executive Director
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION American Fisheries Society	DATE SUBMITTED 07/25/2019