



SCIENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr. David Yoskowitz, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Vice Chair: Jason Sumners, Missouri Department of Conservation

Tuesday March 11, 2025

8:00am-10:00am (CT)

Room: Coombs Chandler (2nd floor east)

90th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference Louisville, KY

Committee Charge: The Science and Research Committee is responsible for keeping the Association informed of the ecological research and information needs of the States and managing a process for addressing those needs through a variety of mechanisms, including enhanced Federal-State partnerships.

Meeting Agenda

<u>Time (CT)</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>
8:00am	Introductions, Review Agenda, Approve September 2024 Meeting Notes-David Yoskowitz, TPWD
8:05am	Social Science Subcommittee Report-Mike Quartuch, CPW & Natalie Sexton, USFWS (written report)
8:10am	USGS Ecosystem Mission Area Update-Anne Kinsinger & Jonathan Mawdsley (written report) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview• Cooperative Research Units• Big Data
8:20am	USFWS Science Applications Update-Elsa Haubold, USFWS (written report)
8:30am	Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Research Questions-David Yoskowitz, TPWD; Jason Sumners, MOC; Darin Moore, VDWR (see list of potential questions below)
9:00am	National and Regional Landscape Conservation-Gordon Myers, AFWA and Lorisa Smith, MDOC/MLI
9:15am	Geospatial Needs Survey-Jen Newmark, WMI & Jessica Burnett, NASA
9:30am	'Hot' Science & Research Topics-All
9:45am	Discuss Annual Work Plan-Jason Sumners, MDC
10:00am	Adjourn

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning Research Questions

Q#	Potential AI Research Question for Survey	Comments
1	How is your agency currently using AI & ML for its work?	
2	What do you foresee as future uses of of AI & ML for your agency's work?	
3	What do you see as the greatest challenges/impediments for using AI &ML for fish and wildlife conservation?	Could Q3 be combined with Q6?
4	How can the AFWA Science and Research Committee and Technology & Data Subcommittee help further the use of AI & ML to support your work?	
5	What is the status of agency policy with regard to AI& ML? (none, in development, in effect; deferring to statewide policy in effect)	Could Q5 be combined with Q9?
6	What are major concerns of the agency at different levels?	Could Q3 be combined with Q6?
7	What specific technologies (software, etc.) are agencies currently using operationally?	
8	What accomplishments or successes of the agency, if any, can be attributed to use of AI & ML?	
9	What type of oversight/approvals are in place to use/ leverage AI & /ML for your agency, both inside agency and outside? For example, VA Gov issued EO that requires all projects be approved by IT oversight agency.	Could Q5 be combined with Q9?
10	If your agency is engaged with AI & ML technologies, where is this function "housed" in your agency?	
11	Has you agency developed any best practices for AI & ML?	
12	Are there specific "off limits" applications that your agency is unable to pursue involving AI & ML	
13	Has your agency developed specific training requirements or opportunities; or specific skillsets that you are trying to foster when it comes to AI & ML?	
14	Has your agency recruited for new positions/skillsets to support AI & ML efforts, and what does this look like?	
15	Does you agency have specific quality standards, requirements, or prerequisites for data or data sets before use in AI & ML applications?	