

JOINT ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION & WILDLIFE DIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION FUNDING WORKING GROUP

Co- Chair: Shelly Plante (TX)

Co-Chair: Brett Anderson (NE)

Co-Chair: Olivia DaRugna (NE)

Agenda

- Call to Order/Review Agenda
- Legislative Update, David Lind (AFWA)
 - We are making progress on hill staffers at least hearing about SWAPs and SGCNs. At least half are aware of the issues.
 - Cooperative Research Units are being seen as priorities on the hill.
 - Working under a continuing resolution with the budget; not sure when house and senate will pass a true budget
 - Natural Resources Committee prioritizing permitting reform packages
 - ESA reform and Habitat bills coming in the near future; keeping an eye on that as they progress.
- DISCUSSION
 - Need to work on messaging that resonate with Congress; funding going toward the districts that resonate with the congressmen/women
 - Projections on project cost so we have something that we can put in front of the hill staff, so we know what to ask for/at what level the ask needs to be for funding
 - RAWA needs to stay out of the conversations
 - Focus on ESA and SGCN
 - NEED: Give 2 bullet points on species that were kept off the ESA list because of the work that state fish & wildlife agencies have done; preventing regulation because of the work of state FW agencies in keeping species off the ESA list.
 - What is the priority list of states??
 - Chairs of the committees of jurisdictions. [ask David for a priority list of those states- see list at end of notes]
 - What is the timeline? [David]
 - What do you want to see in the 2-3 bullet points? [David- see list]
- Opportunities for Engagement
 - Work on SWAP as key outreach and engagement
 - Make it versatile to be used for multiple purposes and be more timeless
 - Create a template for states to use to help keep messaging consistent and guide states as to what needs to be covered.
 - Make SWAP more actionable and understandable
 - Show why you want to put funding toward SWAPs → marketing to potential partners and funders
 - Create internal and external communication plans
- Updated CHARGE: Collaborate to develop outreach tools, communications, and actions that will facilitate state agencies and our partners in supporting and in building support for State Wildlife Actions Plans and other projects as needed.

- Work Plan Review

Adjourn

PRIORITY LIST THAT WAS REQUESTED:

Request: 2-3 bullets of species (preferably SGCN, but other species including plants are fine) that were downlisted, delisted, found not warranted for listing, or even prevented from being petitioned/considered and include any credit that can be given to SWAPs, investments of STWGs, or habitat/ecosystem work where benefits to the species were secondary. In the example:

- Helpful if can show where habitat is and what Congressional District(s) it falls under.
- Good to explain what land use, commerce, investment, or development – of any kind – has occurred within that habitat.
- Good to highlight what resources were invested in that species' habitat by either partners or the state.
- Worth highlighting where SWAP projects would be implemented and how much would be invested in those areas with full funding of SWAP.

Tier 1:

AR
UT
WV
OK
ID
ME
AK

Tier 2:

NV
PA
TX
MT
KY
ND
NE
SD

Tier 3

SC	MI
KS	VA
LA	IA
MS	GA
TN	NC
AL	MO
CA	NY
OH	
FL	

MD
WA