Title: Funding Committee

Desired outcome: An informational briefing to the Board on the Funding Committee's 2012 work plan outcomes and Board concurrence for the Funding Committee's proposed priority issues it will address in 2013.

Background: At its April 2012 Meeting, the Board established a Habitat Conservation Committee to address the following priority issue during 2012:

- *Development of strategies focused on obtaining new funding sources that support implementation of the National Fish Habitat Partnership (Board Priority 3).*

2012 Work Plan Outcomes:

- The Funding Committee has met once to brainstorm approaches that would contribute to an overall strategy to obtain new funding sources for NFHP. These include approaches to enhance federal and private investments, including corporate commitments.
- Non-governmental members of the committee have pursued specific funding opportunities as they arose, for example with the Pennsylvania Boating Commission, as well as Multi-State Grants program.
- NFWF continues to search for ways to give grants and leverage FHP funds for specific projects and raise additional resources for the More Fish Campaign.
- NFWF briefed WNTI steering committee on NFWF fish and water keystone initiatives and will align priority areas to fund as much as feasible for maximum conservation impact.
- NFWF awarded five grants in support of FHP coastal habitat protection priorities through a NOAA/NFWF partnership worth $135,000 in NOAA Federal funds and matched with $314,000 in non-federal funds. This is one approach to leverage non-NFHP specific Federal funding sources to support NFHP implementation that may be considered as part of a larger strategy.

Tentative list of priority issues to be addressed in 2013:

- Develop a timeframe for drafting a funding strategy to implement the National Fish Habitat Action Plan and Partnership.
- Assemble FHP and Board priority needs for the next 2-3 years.
- Identify specific approaches to fill those gaps.
- NFWF to implement branding guidelines/outreach to FHPs prior to release of RFPs for fish related grant programs by November 2012.
- Brief Board on draft strategy February 2013.
- Provide Board with strategy for Board approval in June 2013.
- Potential budget need: None at this time.

Funding committee includes: Krystyna Wolniakowski, Steve Moyer, Anne Zimmermann, Erica Stock, Karen Abrams, and Cara Rose. (Other volunteers welcome!)