



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240

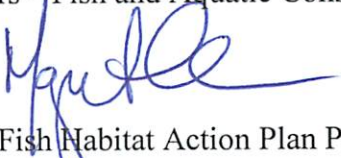


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In Reply Refer to:
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Memorandum

To: Regional Directors
Assistant Regional Directors – Fish and Aquatic Conservation

From: Principal Deputy Director 

Subject: Fiscal Year 2019 National Fish Habitat Action Plan Project Funding

Working with others to protect, conserve, and enhance fish and their habitats is an essential component of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) mission. To help achieve this, the Service is committed to supporting the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP) and the Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs) that implement it. The NFHAP is a science-based, voluntary effort to address fish and aquatic habitat issues across the United States. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the Service is providing \$4,141,000 to support cost-shared, strategic fish and aquatic habitat projects that address the goals of the Action Plan.

The Service is making concerted efforts to increase funding to the FHPs by reducing Service costs, even though the NFHAP budget has not increased. In FY 2018, the Service provided an additional \$794,125 to the FHPs. In FY 2019, the Service increased operational support from \$75,000 to \$85,000 for each eligible FHP. All twenty FHPs received operational support this year, totaling \$1,700,000.

The remaining \$2,441,000 of the NFHAP project funds will be distributed based on each FHP's FY 2019 performance level (PL) score. In FY 2019, 17 of the 18 FHPs that were eligible to apply for performance-based project funds submitted work plans and accomplishments reports for consideration of these funds. Each FHP's PL score was determined by applying the Service's NFHAP Allocation Methodology, initially adopted in December 2013, and revised in November 2015 and May 2019. The resulting PL scores and respective funding amounts for each FHP can be found in the attachment.

Funds will be used to support FHP operations, conduct aquatic habitat assessments, and implement on-the-ground conservation projects that address the goals of the NFHAP and align with the mission of the Service. Specifically, the FHPs will use the funds to implement proposed

projects identified in their Work Plan and Accomplishments Reports. All projects will be tracked and project accomplishments will be reported in the Service's Fisheries Information System – Accomplishments Module.

The Service looks forward to continuing its support of the NFHAP and partnering with the FHPs. If you have questions regarding FY 2019 NFHAP allocations, please contact Mr. David Hoskins, the Service's Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation, at 703-358-2250 or David_Hoskins@fws.gov.

Attachment

Table 1. Number of Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs) at each performance level and respective project funding amount for fiscal year 2019.

Performance Level	Number of FHPs at each PL	Project Funding at each PL
1	1	\$41,373
2	11	\$124,118
3	5	\$206,864

Table 2. Fiscal year 2019 performance levels and the corresponding funding amount for each Fish Habitat Partnership (FHP). The total funding for each FHP includes both stable operational funds and competitive, performance based funds.

Lead Service Region	Fish Habitat Partnership	Performance Level	Total FY19 FHP Funding
1	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
	Pacific Lamprey Fish Habitat Partnership	N/A	\$85,000
2	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	3	\$291,864
	Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
3	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	2	\$209,118
	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	2	\$209,118
	Fishers and Farmers Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin	1	\$126,373
	Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	N/A	\$85,000
4	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	2	\$209,118
5	Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership	3	\$291,864
	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	2	\$209,118
6	Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
7	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	N/A	\$85,000
	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
	Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership	3	\$291,864
	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership	2	\$209,118
8	California Fish Passage Forum	3	\$291,864
	Western Native Trout Initiative	3	\$291,864
Total Funding			\$4,140,991