National Fish Habitat Partnership
Science and Data Committee Action Update
April 2012

1. Assessment Strategy – The National Fish Habitat Assessment Strategy (Strategy) has had three revisions completed on it by the Science and Data Committee (Committee) since the October 2011 Board meeting. The process for completion is as follows:
    a. Review 3rd Draft at Science and Data Committee Meeting – April 2-5, 2012 in Kerr, Texas
    b. Complete final draft Strategy by May 1.
    c. Provide final draft Strategy to FHPs, Board, and other interested parties by May 7 with a 1 month review period.
    d. Complete final Strategy by June 28 for submission to July 2012 Board Briefing Book.
    e. Seek Board approval of Strategy at the July 2012 then implement approved strategy.
2. Science and Data Committee Meeting – The Science and Data Committee will be meeting from April 2-5, 2012 in Kerr, Texas. This will be the first full committee meeting in 3 years. Key agenda items include: revision of Strategy; review of current Assessment work; review of key information and data system gaps; approaches for measuring effectiveness, determining how to integrate socioeconomic data; Committee membership gaps; and Committee communications.
3. Gary Whelan participated in the interview process for the new Inland Assessment Team Post-Doctorate Position at Michigan State University. After an extended search, a suitable candidate has been found. This process again showed that individuals with the unique needed skill set required to evaluate fish habitat at a landscape scale are rare commodities and are in high demand.
4. Committee Co-Chairs participated in all Board staff calls along with the January Board conference call.

Submitted by:

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