Report on FY 2012 Funding - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Fish Habitat Action Plan

Background

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) first received funds for the National Fish Habitat Action Plan in FY 2006, with Congressional direction "*to implement on-the-ground, cost-shared habitat restoration projects, identified in the Fisheries Operational Needs System and in direct support of fish habitat partnerships … and … to support continued development of the National Fish Habitat Plan*" (House Report 109-080). Each year, the Service has reported on the allocation of NFHAP funds at meetings of the National Fish Habitat Board.

The Service's NFHAP funding for 2006-2013 is shown in the table below. The 2012 appropriation was reduced by an across-the-board Congressional rescission of 0.16%. The 2012 funding includes two earmarks: $240,793 for the Healthy Lands Initiative in the Green River Basin, Wyoming and $1,996,800 for projects that address adaptation to climate change.

Fiscal Year	President's Request ($ millions)	Appropriated ($ millions)
2006	--	0.985
2007	2.985	2.985
2008	5.235	5.153
2009	5.153	5.153
2010	7.153	7.153
2011	7.153	7.153
2012	7.153	7.142
2013	7.142	--

To promote consistency within the Service and transparency for our partners, the use of Service funds for NFHAP is guided by written policy, accessible online at http://www.fws.gov/policy/717fw1.html.

It is important to note that these funds are the Service Fisheries Program's contribution toward implementing the Action Plan. The Service encourages its Fisheries Program field stations to take an active role in developing and implementing projects that are highly ranked by Fish Habitat Partnerships. While many of the funds are passed through to partners to implement FHP-ranked projects, the funds also support Service staffs in each Region, who assist FHPs, some as FHP coordinators, in strategic planning, assessment, outreach, and project implementation. These Fisheries Program operational funds should not be confused with a grant program that may be established by proposed NFHAP legislation.

Allocation of FY 2012 funds

In FY 2012, the Service received an appropriation of $7,141,555 to implement NFHAP. The amount available for allocation was reduced by 2.4% ($172,932) for assessments to support national Service and Departmental priorities. At this writing, the allocation shown below is awaiting final approval by the Director.

National		
Board priorities	$300,000	Supports Board communications and science priorities through contracts with AFWA and Michigan State University.
Board staff	$180,905	Full-time staff support for Board activities, including travel.
Coordination & Leadership	$230,149	Reservoir FHP coordination, additional Washington Office staff support, space costs, and other operational costs.
Subtotal National	$711,054	
Regional		
FHP development & operations	$978,104	Supports development and operational costs of Fish Habitat Partnerships, including FHP coordination, meeting and travel expenses, strategic planning, and development of scientific capabilities.
Coordination & Leadership	$1,721,472	Includes staff support, helping FHPs rank and select projects, reporting accomplishments of projects, providing biological expertise and technical assistance to FHPs, and outreach in support of the Action Plan.
Healthy Lands Initiative	$240,793	Projects that address priorities of Fish Habitat Partnerships in the Green River Basin, Wyoming (potentially WNTI and DFHP).
Subtotal Regional	$2,940,369	
Local projects		
	$556,800	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
	$556,800	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
	$556,800	Western Native Trout Initiative
	$278,400	Driftless Area Restoration Effort
	$278,400	Mat-Su Basin Salmon Conservation Partnership
	$100,000	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership
	$90,000	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership
	$90,000	California Fish Passage Forum
	$90,000	Fishers and Farmers Partnership
	$0	Pacific Marine & Estuarine Partnership (recognized Jan 2012)
Subtotal local projects	$3,317,200	
GRAND TOTAL	**$6,968,623**	

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