Report on FY 2013 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 2006-2014 is shown in the table below. The 2013 appropriation was reduced by an across-the-board sequestration of 6.7%. The 2013 funding includes two earmarks: $229,278 for the Healthy Lands Initiative in the Green River Basin, Wyoming and $1,862,795 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	6.664
2014	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 2013 funds

In FY 2013, the Service received an appropriation of $6,663,562 to implement NFHAP. The amount available for allocation was reduced by $16,659 for the Director's "deferred allocation" fund to meet emergency needs during the year.

National		
Board priorities	$279,941	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	$210,691	Reservoir FHP coordination, additional Washington Office staff support, space costs, and other operational costs.
Subtotal National	$671,537	
Regional		
FHP development & operations	$931,333	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	$1,639,155	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	$229,278	Projects that address priorities of Fish Habitat Partnerships in the Green River Basin, Wyoming (potentially WNTI and DFHP).
Subtotal Regional	$2,799,766	
Local projects		
	$518,370	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
	$518,370	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
	$518,370	Western Native Trout Initiative
	$259,185	Driftless Area Restoration Effort
	$259,185	Mat-Su Basin Salmon Conservation Partnership
	$93,400	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership
	$84,060	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership
	$84,060	California Fish Passage Forum
	$84,060	Fishers and Farmers Partnership
	$84,060	Pacific Marine & Estuarine Partnership (recognized Jan 2012)
Subtotal local projects	$3,175,600	
GRAND TOTAL	**$6,646,903**	

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