Title: 2015 National Fish Habitat Board Budget and Priorities Approval

Desired Outcome: Board action to approve the proposed Board 2015 Budget and Priorities.

Background:

2015 Board Budget

The National Fish Habitat Board is presented with its annual budget during their January teleconference for approval for operations of the Board for the current year. A draft was presented to the Board for consideration and feedback at the November 2014 meeting. Three items that remain as needs for NFHP and the FHPs, but are outside of the scope of this budget are as follows:

- $60,000 – GIS FTE for NFHP and FHP Assessment
- $35,000 – Socioeconomic Data analysis for FHPs and Board
- $30,000– 2-Day FHP Workshop

The GIS FTE is important to the work of the Science and Data Committee in obtaining quality data sets, working with the FHPs on national assessment data. The socioeconomic data will help the Board and FHPs have a better valuation for their projects and the benefit to the public and economies. This would help build upon some very baseline information we have overall as a partnership.

Board leadership and staff will work with FHPs to determine which of these unmet needs are priority, and whether they are open to dedicating a certain portion of 2015 MSCGP funds to addressing, or if other options should be explored.

2015 Board Priorities

The Board Priorities document represents a set of tasks that the Board, working with its staff, committees, and partners, can reasonably achieve in the calendar 2015 year. A draft set of priorities were presented to the Board for consideration and feedback at the November 2014 meeting. Revisions to the draft priorities are shown in red and are based on Board and staff recommendations.

2015 Board Budget Justification

The 2015 Board Justification document provides information to help relate expenses presented in the 2015 Budget to (1) the *National Fish Habitat Action Plan, 2nd Edition* and to (2) Board Priorities. Specific budget notes are provided to help clarify spending plans. This document does not require action by the Board, rather it is provided as background information to aid in the Board's discussion pertaining to budget and priorities.

Please reference the below Board tabs for further detailed information on the budget document and Board priorities for 2015.

Briefing Book Materials: Tab 3a – 2015 Board Budget, 3b – 2015 Board Priorities, 3c – 2015 Board Budget Justification