NATIONAL FISH HABITAT ACTION PLAN UPDATE





- Anne Kinsinger (Federal Agency)
- Pat Rivers (State Agency)
- Adam Ringia (Tribes)
- Gene Gilliland (Recreational Fishing)
- Chris Moore (Board At-Large)
- Steve Perry (Board At-Large)
- Todd Ewing, Lori Maloney, Holly Steindorf (FHP Coordinators)
- Jason Olive and Alex McOwen (Board Staff)

## PROCESS TIMELINE

Action	Deadline
AP Team Formed, Draft Mission and Goals Developed	November 2024 Board Meeting
Survey NFHP Board Members and FHP Coordinators to Inform Objectives	November-December 2024
Survey Key Stakeholders to Inform Objectives	January-February 2025
Draft AP Introductory Materials, Mission and Goals, and Descriptive Sections	January 2025 Board Meeting
Revisions to Draft Intro, Report on Stakeholder Input and Development of SMART Objectives	June 2025 Board Meeting
Completion of External Reviews	Fall 2025 Board Meeting
Final Draft for Board Approval	December 2025 Board Meeting
Graphic Design and Printing	April 2026- 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

#### NFHP MISSION

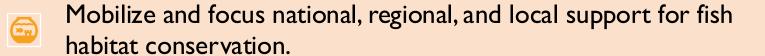
• The mission of the National Fish Habitat Partnership Action Plan is to protect, restore and enhance the nation's fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation, increase fishing opportunities, and improve the quality of life for the American people.

### **ACTION PLAN PURPOSE STATEMENT**

• The purpose of this Action Plan is to provide a blueprint to define and measure successful implementation of the National Fish Habitat Partnership.

### **DRAFT GOALS**





- Achieve measurable, science-based fish habitat conservation outcomes.
- Evaluate and communicate the status of fish habitats and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

# BOARD MEMBER, STAFF, AND FHP COORDINATOR SURVEY

- Conducted during November 7 through January 10
- 27 total responses (53%)
- Responses will be used by the Action Plan team when developing strategic objectives and actions

## WHAT ROLE SHOULD NFHP PLAY AS A NATIONAL ENTITY ADDRESSING FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION?

- A national voice for fish habitat
- A convener/coordinator of all potential partners
- Primary sources of information on fish habitat conservation
- Seek funding
- Set national priorities

# WHAT SPECIFIC ACTIONS CAN THE NFHP BOARD TAKE OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS TO EFFECTIVELY SUPPORT THE FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIPS?

- Communications and marketing
- © Complete assessment and assist with science & data needs
- Get Beyond the Pond running/ acquire funding
- Policy/Hill Visits/Connect with new Administration
- Advocacy with state fish and wildlife agencies

#### IN YOUR EXPERIENCE, WHAT HAS NFHP DONE WELL?

- Provided "scaffolding" for FHPs
- Got ACE Act passed
- Project tracking database
- Raised awareness of habitat problems
- Leveraged funding

#### IN YOUR EXPERIENCE, WHAT HAS NFHP DONE POORLY?

- Beyond the Pond/ Not acquired additional funding
- © Communications/marketing- little visibility outside of fisheries profession
- Assessments- Western habitats not accurately characterized
- Cumbersome and bureaucratic processes
- Hasn't secured durable buy-in from federal agencies

# IN LIGHT OF YOUR ANSWER TO QUESTION 1, WHAT ARE THE INDICATORS THAT WE SHOULD MEASURE TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

- Increased funding
- Increased partner organizations
- Increased use of the assessment
- Increased "mentions" of NFHP by agencies and NGOs on websites, etc.
- Project-related metrics (e.g., number completed, measured impacts)

### **EXTERNAL PARTNER SURVEY**

- Conducted January 21-31, 2025
- Sent to ~ I40 people
- Responses will be used by the Action Plan team when developing strategic objectives and actions

# **DISCUSSION**