



National Fish Habitat Action Plan Overview

National Fish Habitat Board Meeting
- Monday, July 26, 2021

Ryan Roberts, Program Manager



NFHP History

- Concept formed in 2001 through the Sportfishing and Boating Partnership Council with Gary Myers (TN) spearheading effort
 - Modeled after the North American Wetlands Conservation Act
 - 2006 – 1st National Fish Habitat Action Plan (Signed in 2006)
 - First Board Meeting – September 22, 2006 Aspen, CO
 - Five initial FHPs – SARP, EBTJV, WNTI, DARE and Mat-Su
 - 2010-11 – 1st National Fish Habitat Assessment completed
 - 2011 - Adopted National Fish Habitat Partnership branding
 - 2012 - 2nd National Fish Habitat Action Plan
 - 2016 – 2nd National Fish Habitat Assessment completed
 - 2020 – ACE Act
-
- **1,115 Projects implemented to date!**

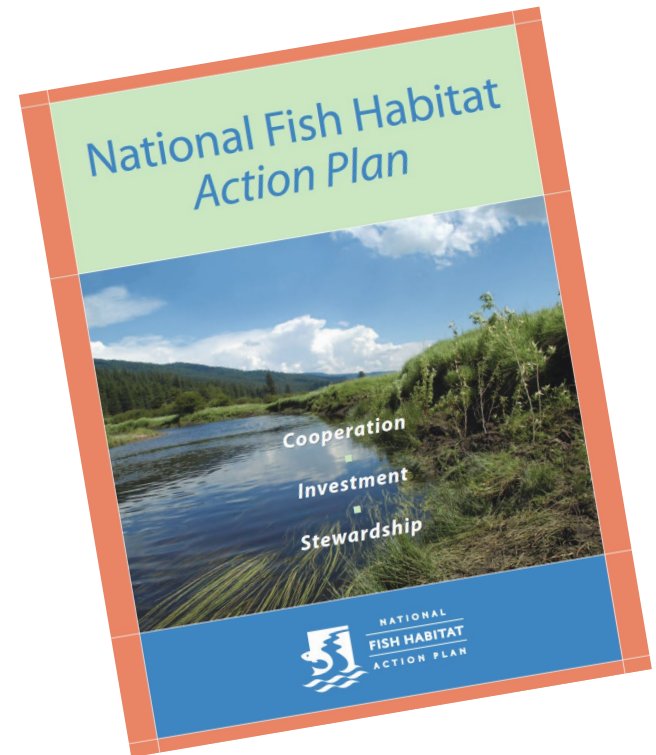


National Fish Habitat Action Plan (2006)

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

This mission will be achieved by:

- Supporting existing fish habitat partnerships and fostering new efforts.
- Mobilizing and focusing national and local support for achieving fish habitat conservation goals.
- Setting national and regional fish habitat conservation goals.
- Measuring and communicating the status and needs of fish habitats.
- Providing national leadership and coordination to conserve fish habitats.





National Fish Habitat Action Plan (2006)

- **Goals**

- Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems.
- Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected.
- Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve the overall health of fish and other aquatic organisms.
- Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species.



National Fish Habitat Action Plan (2006)

• Objectives

- Conduct a condition analysis of all fish habitats within the United States by 2010.
- Identify priority fish habitats and establish Fish Habitat Partnerships targeting these habitats by 2010.
- Establish 12 or more Fish Habitat Partnerships throughout United States by 2010.
- Prepare a “Status of Fish Habitats in the United States” report in 2010 and every five years thereafter.
- Protect all healthy and intact fish habitats by 2015.
- Improve the condition of 90 percent of priority habitats and species targeted by Fish Habitat Partnerships by 2020.



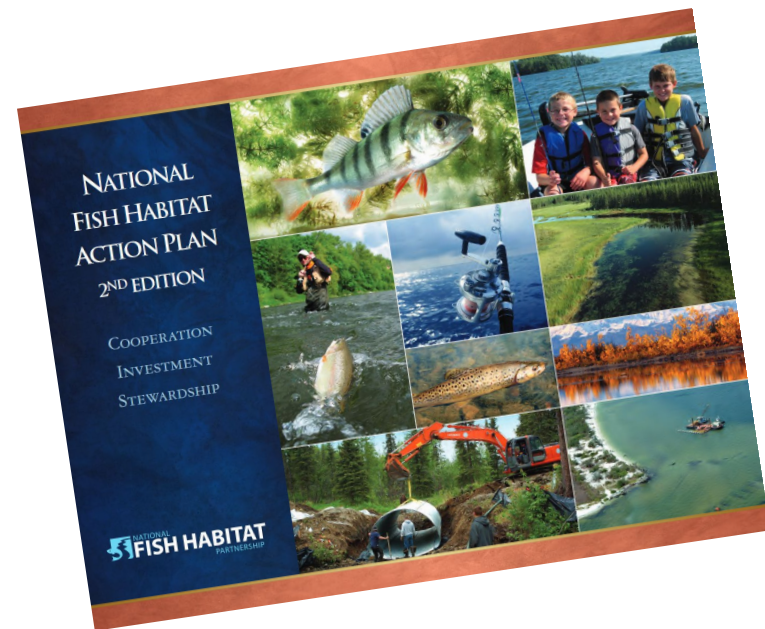
Updating the NFHP Action Plan

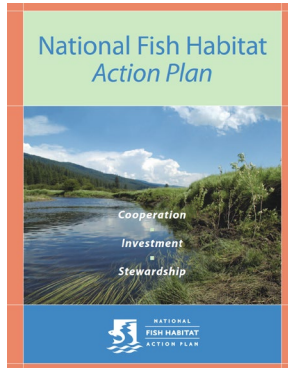
- Recognition that objectives need updating/revising.
- Board, Committees, and FHPs revisited the Action Plan's goals and objectives.
- Continue to update/revise the Action Plan every 6 years.



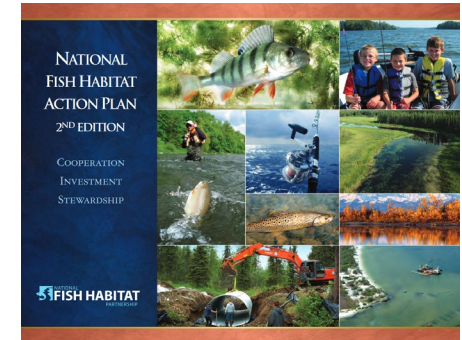
National Fish Habitat Action Plan (2nd Edition) Objectives

1. Achieve **measurable habitat conservation results** ... or prevent the decline of intact and healthy systems...
2. Establish a **consensus set of national conservation strategies**...
3. Broaden the **community of support** for fish habitat conservation...
4. Fill gaps in the **National Fish Habitat Assessment** and its associated database...
5. **Communicate** the conservation outcomes produced collectively by Fish Habitat Partnerships...





2006 vs. 2012



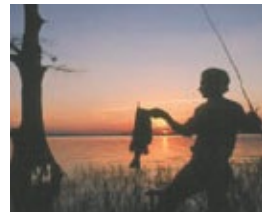
- **Framework for Habitat Conservation**
- **“Stating a case” for Action**
- **Highlighting existing efforts**

- **Focused on experience**
- **New objectives**
- **Built on Accomplishments**
- **Focused on Strategic Actions**
- **Roles explained**
- **Focused on importance of Science and data (assessment)**



National Fish Habitat Action Plan Revision Development

- Year-Long process for 2020
- Input received from FHPs, Staff, Board, Partners
- Final Stages of revision when the ACE Act passed



NFHP Board Work Plan

- To implement the Action Plan, a Biennial Board Work Plan was being developed in parallel
- Each task will have metrics to measure progress
- Board Work Plan will be integrated with Board Committee plans
- Working group has discussed end of the plan reporting options with a Board check-in midway through implementation (1 year)

Thank you for being a part of NFHP!



Visit www.fishhabitat.org
for more information

