



Fish Habitat Partnership Performance Evaluation Work Group

Progress Update

National Fish Habitat Board Meeting
October 18, 2017



Background

What is it?

Ten measures aimed at evaluating Fish Habitat Partnership performance levels for core operational functions

Purpose

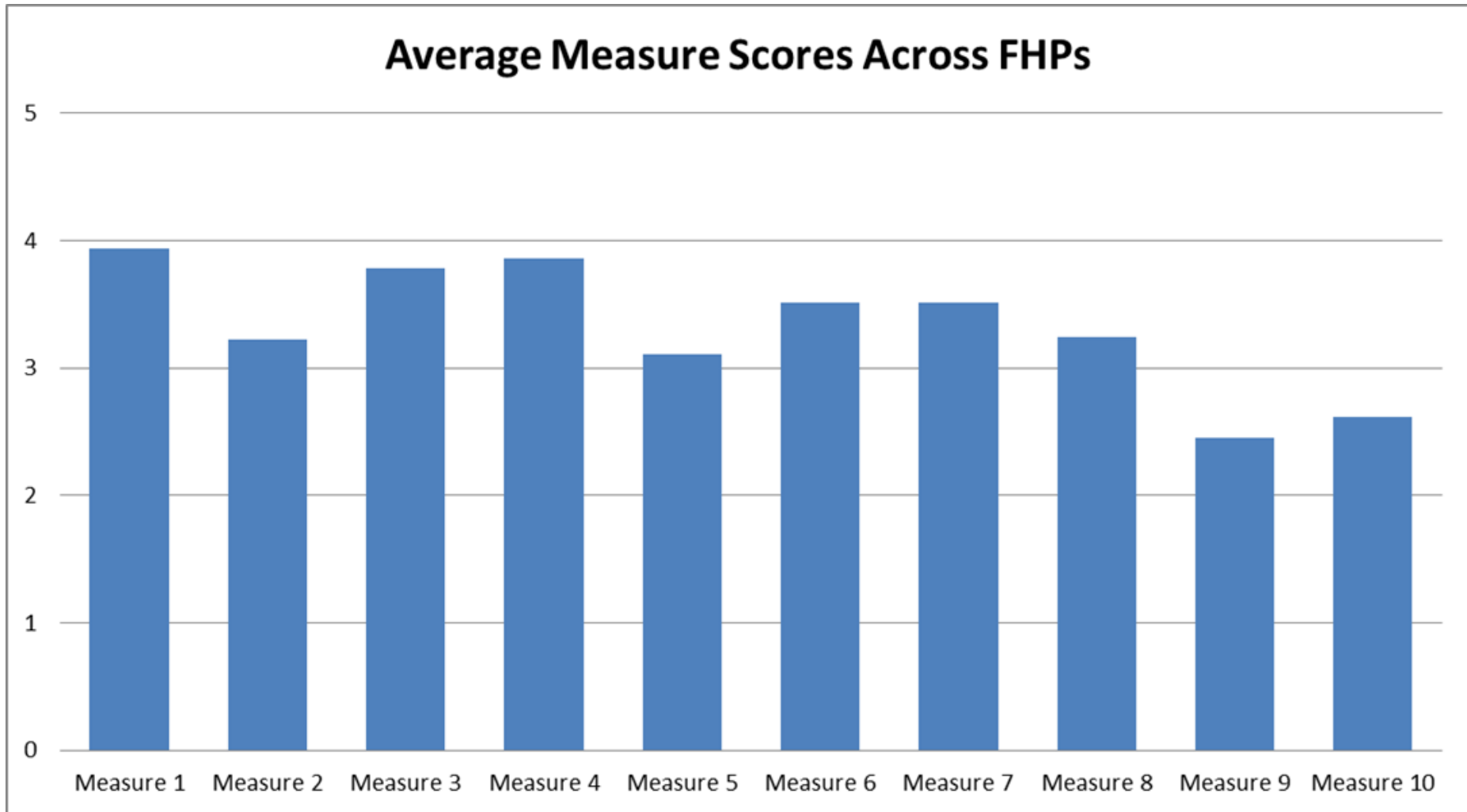
- To uphold the high standards set by the Action Plan
- In the event National Fish Habitat Conservation legislation becomes law, the Board may have increased responsibility to review FHP performance and allocate funding provided under the Act.



History

- In **July 2011**, the Board conditionally approved a set of Fish Habitat Partnership performance measures and requested a “test drive” of the evaluation process.
- In **July 2012**, the Board reviewed the recommendations resulting from the “test drive” and voted to:
 - begin the first “formal” performance evaluation of Fish Habitat Partnerships in **January 2015**, covering a 3-year period (2012-2014)
 - to repeat this process **every 3 years thereafter**.

2015 Results





History

- In **March 2016**, the Board approved the following 2015 Evaluation Team recommendations:
 - This evaluation process be improved and **repeated in 2018**.
 - The Partnership Committee should include interested FHP Coordinators and Review Team members to *consider and recommend improvements* to the **performance measure wording and overall evaluation process** for Board consideration during 2016.



Update

- During **July-August of 2018** a **Fish Habitat Partnership Evaluation Working Group** was formed:

Lisa Havel (Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership)

Jeff Boxrucker (Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership)

Therese Thompson* (Western Native Trout Initiative)

Gary Whelan (MI Department of Natural Resources)

Tom Bigford (American Fisheries Society)

Stan Allen* (Pacific Marine and Estuarine Partnership)

Brian Moore* (Trout Unlimited)

*Partnerships Committee Tri-Chairs



Update

- The 2018 Work Group has focused its efforts on comments collected by staff during the 2015 Performance Review process.
- The Work Group has reached consensus upon revisions to measures **#1-5 and #7-9** (shown in the Board Book)
- The Work Group will **consider revisions** to measures **#6, #10, and a potential new measure** during its upcoming **October call**.



Revision Highlights

- **2018 Process:** Shifting the deadline for completed reports from FHPs back from March to May.
- **Measure 2:** Limiting the evaluation of whether a project has an effective monitoring/evaluation plan to on-the-ground conservation projects and not communications, assessment, or operations projects.



Revision Highlights

- **Measure 3:**
 - Providing examples of 'protecting' and 'addressing declines' of vulnerable habitat.
 - Requesting that the FHP provide a description of the vulnerable habitat as defined in its strategic plan.
- **Measure 8:** Further defining 'strengthening relationships with policy-makers' with an example that includes providing information to individuals at state and federal agencies



Revision Highlights

- **Measure 9:**
 - Revised criteria pertaining to coordinating information sharing with the Science and Data Committee to include participation in the development of the National Fish Habitat Assessment.
 - Additional options for achieving maximum points



Future Revisions Under Consideration

- **Measure 6:** Improved definition and evaluation of work conducted with neighboring/overlapping entities.
- **Measure 10:** Major review and possible rewording regarding expected responses with respect to timeline, need, and available resources.
- **Additional Measure:** Captures additional FHP activities (other than on-the ground habitat conservation projects listed in Measure 1) that address the NFHP National Conservation Strategies



Timeline

- **October:** FHP Performance Evaluation work group meets to finish deliberations
- **November:**
 - Draft of the 2018 performance evaluation measures will be sent out for full Partnership Committee;
 - FHPs will then receive the 2018 performance evaluation measures as approved by Partnership Committee and asked for comments



Timeline

- **January:**
 - The 2018 performance measures and timeline will be ready for consideration and approval at the NFHP Board meeting.
 - At this same meeting, the Board will also need to determine which Board members and staff will be the Review Team