Western Governors’
Species Conservation and ESA Initiative Webinar Series

Sept. 7, 2017 • 10:30 a.m. - Noon MT

Species Conservation Funding

MODERATOR
Timothy Male

PANELISTS
Christy Plumer
Virgil Moore
Gary Frazer

Learn more about the Species Conservation and ESA Initiative at westgov.org/initiatives/esa-initiative
Per Species, US Fish and Wildlife Endangered Species Funding
State Wildlife Grants

![Bar chart showing millions of state wildlife grants over the years from 1985 to 2017. The highest grants were in 2003, with significant variation across years.]
Today, we are still at a lower Farm Bill conservation spending level than in the 1930s.
Bright Spots

- 1937: Pittman-Robertson – excise tax
- 1950: Dingell-Johnson – excise tax
- 1976: Missouri “Design for Conservation” - sales tax
- 1992: Colorado Constitutional amendment – lottery fund
- 2010: Oregon Measure 76 – lottery fund
- 2000: Massachusetts Community Preservation Act – property tax surcharge
- 2001: National State Wildlife Grants Program – federal appropriations
- 1988: No net loss – private mitigation funds
Timothy Male

Executive Director, Environmental Policy Innovation Center

tmale@policyinnovation.org
WGA September 7, 2017 webinar on Species Conservation Funding

Idaho: a perspective for the next steps

Virgil Moore, Director
Fish and Game Mission Statement – Idaho Code 36-103

“All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho.

It shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed.

...for the citizens ...for continued supplies of wildlife for hunting, fishing and trapping.”
73% of Idahoans voted to amend their constitution to add:

“...the rights to hunt, fish, and trap...shall forever be preserved.”

“...that public hunting, fishing and trapping of wildlife shall be the preferred means of managing wildlife”.

2012 –
Engage Idahoans in their wildlife

91% of Idahoans consider the state's abundant wildlife an important reason to live in Idaho when compared to other reasons.
Wildlife and Idahoans

35% hunted in past 2 years
53% fished in past 2 years
63% taken a trip away from home to view wildlife in past 2 years
Idaho Fish and Game

2015

$105,000 million budget – no general funds
55% license and WSFR funds

574 FTE

61,000 deer harvest - 40% success

20,400 elk harvested - 24% success
Idaho’s Wildlife Diversity Program

Plate Sales Revenue

- $0
- $200,000
- $400,000
- $600,000
- $800,000
- $1,000,000


Income Tax Check-off

- $0

DO SOMETHING WILD!
Check off a gift for watchable wildlife on your Idaho income tax form. It's deductible!
State wildlife agencies are viewed the most positively of any entities tested in the survey.

(Key findings from 600 registered Idaho voters July, 2013 - Public Opinion Strategies)
Support for this ballot proposal falls below the critical 50% threshold.

*Online Sales Tax Ballot*

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Yes</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total No</td>
<td>49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Definitely Yes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Probably Yes</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probably No</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Definitely No</td>
<td>24%</td>
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CHARGE: Recommend a mechanism to sustainably fund the conservation of ALL fish and wildlife

Leaders of the private and public sector, who understand the responsibility to ensure an abundance of fish and wildlife through legislation for long-term permanent funding.

NATIONAL CO-CHAIRS

John Morris, Founder Bass Pro Shops
David Freudenthal, Former Governor Wyoming
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

The TRCP Mission

To guarantee all Americans quality places to hunt and fish.

We help create federal policy and funding solutions by uniting our partners and amplifying the voices of American sportsmen and women in service of Theodore Roosevelt’s conservation legacy.
TRCP Sportsmen’s Campaigns
Species Funding

- Conservation Funding (Function 300)
- Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (Blue Ribbon Panel)
- Farm Bill: Title II Conservation Programs
- LWCF & Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund
- Infrastructure Package
Conservation Funding & the Federal Budget

- Conservation Funding in the Federal Budget is expected to drop below 1% of total budget by 2019.

- We need increased levels of “Function 300” funding for conservation in the FY2018 Budget and beyond.
State Wildlife Action Plans outline work needed to prevent species from becoming threatened or endangered.

**Current Funding**
- 80% funded by license fees, excise taxes
- *$60 Million annually

**Funding Needed**
- $1.3 Billion annually
- 25% state match
- $25 Million on average per state

*Current funding through State and Tribal Wildlife Grant Program funds only reaches a national total of ~$60 Million, a shortfall of more than $1.2 billion annually needed for states to conserve the full array of fish and wildlife.*
Overview of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Appropriations

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director – Ecological Services
USFWS
Sept. 7, 2017
Budgeting at the Service: 
FY 2017 Request / Enacted & FY 2018 Request

FY 2017 Total Discretionary Request = $1,562,899,000  
FY 2017 Total Discretionary Enacted = $1,506,553,000  
FY 2018 Total Discretionary Requested = $1,302,619,000

2017 RM Funding

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<td>$1,309,912</td>
<td>$1,258,761</td>
<td>$1,151,129</td>
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Other Discretionary Accounts

Acronyms:
- RM - Resource Management
- MSC - Multinational Species Conservation
- Land - Land Acquisition
- Neo Trop - Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund
- NAWCF - North American Wetlands Conservation
- State/Tribal - State & Tribal Wildlife Grants

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2017 Enacted Resource Management Funding
By Activity/Program

- National Wildlife Refuge System
  - $483,927
  - 39%
- General Operations
  - $145,504
  - 12%
- Ecological Services
  - $240,022
  - 19%
- Fish & Aquatic Conservation
  - $155,210
  - 13%
- Science Applications
  - $16,985
  - 1%
- Habitat Conservation
  - $65,151
  - 5%
- Law Enforcement
  - $75,053
  - 6%
- Migratory Birds
  - $48,105
  - 4%
- International Affairs
  - $15,816
  - 1%

Total:
- $1,000,000
2017 Enacted - FWS Discretionary Accounts

- **Constr:** $18,615, 1%
- **Land Acq.:** $59,995, 4%
- **NWRF:** $13,228, 1%
- **CESCF:** $53,495, 4%
- **MSCF:** $11,061, 1%
- **NAWCF:** $38,145, 2%
- **NMBCF:** $3,910, 0%
- **CLC:** $12,988, 1%
- **STWG:** $62,571, 4%

**Resource management, $1,245,773, 82%**
FWS 2001 TO 2018 APPROPRIATIONS VS INFLATION

Blue - nominal dollars
Red - inflation adjusted
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