



ASSOCIATION of
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

LEGISLATIVE AND FEDERAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

Chair: Tim Schaeffer (PA)

Vice-Chair: Kendra Wecker (OH)

Thursday, March 12, 2020

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**85th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference
Room TBD / Hilton Omaha / Omaha, NE**

AGENDA

- 1pm Call to order, introductions, review agenda – Tim Schaeffer, Chair
- 1:05pm State Roundtable Discussion: Sharing the Challenges, Strategies, and Lessons Learned from Working with your State Legislature
- 1:35pm Legislative Discussion: *As we discuss each of the following, please tell us what can AFWA do better to enhance states' Congressional engagement.*
- Recovering America's Wildlife Act ([HR3742](#)) – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA; Mike Leahy, NWF
 - Bill status, changes made by the House amendment in the nature of a substitute, new apportionment table, and talking points – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - What are states and partners doing and what else can you do?
 - Land and Water Conservation Fund ([HR3195/S1081](#)) and Restore our Parks and Public Lands Act ([HR1225](#)) – Steve Kline, TRCP; Joel Pederson, NWF
 - Status update
 - What's missing? What else needs attention? – All
 - What are outstanding state needs? – All
 - Transportation bill reauthorization
 - Reauthorization of Wallop-Breaux ([HR4828](#)) – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Wildlife connectivity and reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions ([S2302](#)) – Mike Leahy, NWF; Andy Treharne, CSF
 - Timelines and discussion of state needs and perspectives on the legislation – All
 - Water Resources Development Act – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Aquatic invasive species
 - Congressional appropriations – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Aquatic invasive species – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Chronic Wasting Disease legislation and funding – Steve Kline, TRCP
 - America's Conservation Enhancement Act ([HR925](#)) – Steve Kline, TRCP

- Migratory Bird Protection Act of 2020 ([HR5552](#)) – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
 - Sharing perspectives on the proposed permit system – All
 - Discussion of definition of “commercial activity” and implications for the management of state lands and states’ wildlife management actions – All
- Abandoned Mine Reclamation legislation – Tim Schaeffer, Chair

2:30pm

Review of committee charge and work plan – Tim Schaeffer, Chair

2:35pm

Wrap-up, next steps, and actions for the Business Meeting; break

2:40pm-3pm

- Introductions of Government Agency participants
- Government Agencies Only Roundtable Discussion—sharing strategies for fully implementing conservation programs that require non-federal match, specifically RAWA
- Additional perspectives on AFWA’s aquatic invasive species work
- Adjourn

Committee Charge:

- *Identify and evaluate bills and policy issues coming before the U.S. Congress having the potential for affecting the needs, interests, role and authority of the Association members.*
 - *Develop and recommend positions on such measures.*
 - *Develop recommendations on the budgets of the federal resource agencies.*
 - *Explore ways of working with Canada and Mexico on significant legislation.*
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