POLICY AND PROCEDURES-CONSERVATION ACTIONS

Approved by the Executive Committee
November 25, 2019

Conservation Actions include; but are not limited to: 1) positions taken by FFI on specific conservation issues; 2) signing onto letters of opinion that have been drafted by FFI’s Conservation Partners; and 3) letters regarding conservation matters sent by FFI to policy makers and governmental agencies. See FFI’s Conservation Policy plan for further information on Conservation Actions.

DEVELOPMENT OF FFI CONSERVATION ACTIONS

The following outlines the procedure that will be used to evaluate and formulate Conservation Actions taken by Fly Fishers International.

Step 1- Identification of Issue:

Generally, issues being considered for Conservation Actions will be identified by an FFI member, a Board Member, an FFI Council or Club or an FFI Conservation Partner. Issues may also be raised by individuals or groups that are not affiliated with FFI but share common conservation goals with FFI.

Requests for action should be forwarded to the FFI Operations Manager, the FFI Conservation Chair and the Chair of the Conservation Actions Sub-committee. Requests that are made regarding issues where FFI has not previously taken a position should include sufficient background, references and recommendations to enable the Conservation Actions Sub-committee to fully evaluate the request for action. Members of the Sub-committee are the Senior Conservation Advisors appointed by the Board.

Step 2- Formulation of Recommendation by Conservation Action Sub-committee:

Requests for Conservation Action are first evaluated by the Chairman of the Conservation Actions Subcommittee. The Subcommittee Chairman shall collaborate with Senior Conservation Advisors in evaluating the request and may involve other members of the Conservation Committee when evaluating the request. Proposed Conservation Actions must be consistent with the FFI Policies on Public Lands and Waters.
The Sub-committee Chair will formulate a recommendation for action or no action and forward it to the Conservation Committee Chair, President and CEO, and Operations Manager for concurrence.

If the issue is clearly consistent with a previously approved action or FFI policy, the action can be disseminated without further approval. If the issue has not been considered previously, the final recommended action shall be forwarded to the Sub-committee of the Executive Committee for Day to Day Business Decisions (Board Officers and President and CEO) for final approval.

Step 3- Dissemination of Conservation Action:

Action is finalized and approved as outlined in Step 2, shall be disseminated by the Operations Manager.

Conservation Actions Taken by Clubs and Councils

The following steps shall be followed when a Club or Council is considering a Conservation Action.

1. The first threshold for Councils and Clubs shall be to determine whether the issue has implications beyond the States within the Council. For example, legislation regarding increased fishing and hunting license fees in a specific state have no impact on other States and will not require approval by the FFI Board. If the Council’s determination is that the policy will only impact the Council’s geographic area then no further referral for review and approval for action as described in Steps 1-3 above, shall be required. However, Councils and Clubs are encouraged to have procedures for development of Council support action regarding a given conservation issue. Councils and Clubs shall not take a position on federal legislation or a federal regulatory action that will impact other Councils without following Steps 1-3 below.

2. If the Council determines that the legislation/regulatory action will impact beyond their geographic area, the Council shall confer with FFI Operations Manager to determine whether an FFI policy already exists on the issue. If a policy already exists, there shall be no need for FFI Board approval for the proposed action. However, the Council shall be required to follow the established policy regarding the issue.

3. If in the event the Council or Club determines that the issue could affect other states or federal legislation/regulatory action and there is not an existing policy, then the Council Board shall refer the issue to the FFI Operations Manager for review.

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4. The FFI Operations Manager shall refer the issue to the Conservation Committee Chair and the Conservation Actions Sub-committee for review and approval in accordance with Steps 1-3 above.

5. In cases where FFI Board approval is required, no public statement or declaration shall be issued by a Council or Club until the required approvals have been received.

6. While not required, Councils and Clubs are encouraged to report their actions to the FFI Operations Manager, so that the information can be posted to the FFI website for public viewing.