to: Director Colleen Callahan
from: Stan McTaggart, Chairman, State Furbearer Committee
date: January 29, 2021
subject: State Furbearer Committee’s January 2021 Recommendations

The State Furbearer Committee held their meeting on January 5th, 2021 via Zoom Meeting. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the following projects from State Furbearer Funds:

**Grants**
There were no eligible grantee applications to consider for furbearer projects in FY 2021.

**The Committee approved funding for:**

- NGRECC additional funding to complete Education Projects $ 4,400
- Fur Takers of America Fur Trappers College $ 3,000
- Illinois Furbearer Trapping Workshop for IDNR staff $ 5,000
- Taxidermy funding for trapper education $ 5,000
  **$17,400**

- There was a discussion of how to attract more applications for Furbearer Fund project applications in the future. Stan McTaggart will get prices for furbearer ‘kits’ to be used as educational displays and have them for the next meeting. Wes Anderson commented that researchers speaking at conferences could be viewed as research and education.

**OLD BUSINESS**
- Furbearer funds approved for the gray fox (Competitive State Wildlife Grant – CSWG) project in 2019 will revert back into the Fund because the project was not selected for funding by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
- $3,000 was approved for sending people to Trapper’s College in Indiana.
- $2,000 was approved for taxidermy displays.
- Three of the 5 projects approved by the Committee in 2019 have been combined into one project with National Great Rivers Research and Educational Center. This was finalized in mid-November and will include the following:
  o Coyote in the Classroom curriculum development and launch
  o Online Trapper Education Website maintenance and upgrades
  o Wild Illinois History website maintenance and upgrades

**NEW BUSINESS**
There was discussion of various projects that could be completed with Furbearer appropriated funds thru the procurement system.

- **Research** - none
- **Conservation** - none
Education

- Trappers College
- Illinois Trapping Workshop
- Visitor center displays
- Update furbearer kits

**Recommended Funding - The total Furbearer Fund expenditures approved for Fiscal Year 2021 is $17,400.**

Please indicate your approval of the Division of Wildlife funding recommendations by signing below. Your earliest response will be most appreciated. Funds are currently available for the recommended projects.

Upon your decision staff of the Office of Resource Conservation will inform the State Furbearer Committee and IDNR staff.

**DIVISION RECOMMENDATION**

Stan McTaggart

[Signature]

Stan McTaggart, Chairman

Date

**OFFICE RECOMMENDATION**

Christopher L. Young

[Signature]

Chris Young, Director

Office of Resource Conservation

Date

**AGENCY DIRECTOR SIGN-OFF**

Colleen Callahan

[Signature]

Colleen Callahan, Director

Department of Natural Resources

Date