

# FISCAL YEAR 2026

## FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR ENTOMOLOGY



ENTOMOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
SHARING INSECT SCIENCE GLOBALLY

The Entomological Society of America (ESA) urges sustained funding growth at federal agencies to allow researchers to work toward revolutionary breakthroughs in food security and safety, environmental and human health, as well as fundamental understanding of insect biology.

ESA recognizes the difficult environment as our nation works to address high inflation, reduce the national debt, and ensure fiscal sustainability. Nonetheless, it is also necessary to make strategic investments, including in scientific research, to address national priorities, foster long-term economic growth, and drive job creation. Robust investments in agencies and programs detailed below are vital to ensure America's ability to meet critical challenges. These include improving crop production and protection, training the next generation of scientists and engineers, preventing and treating vector-borne diseases, and ensuring a safe and healthy environment. These investments will also drive future economic success and job growth.



### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA): **ESA requests**

- No less than \$2.08 billion for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), including at least \$500 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), which administers competitive funding for innovative research, extension, and education activities.
- Top-line funding level of at least \$1.95 billion for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS).
- \$1.188 billion for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).
- Strong support for pest management research, invasive species programs, and pollinator health.

**CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC): **ESA supports**** \$11.581 billion for CDC, including at least \$114.603 million to address vector-borne disease research, surveillance, management, education, and outreach. This funding should include programs authorized in the Kay Hagan Tick Act.

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF): **ESA requests**** \$11.9 billion for NSF, including strong support for the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO), which is the nation's primary funder of fundamental research on biodiversity, ecology, and environmental biology. The request also includes strong support for workforce training programs such as the Graduate Research Fellowship Program and the Faculty Early Career Development Program.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (NIH): **ESA supports**** \$51.3 billion for NIH's base program funding, and increased support for vector-borne disease research at National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA): **ESA requests**** \$976 million for EPA Science and Technology, \$40 million of which is requested to support the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program. Additionally, ESA asks for strong support for programs across the agency that advance safe application of pesticides.

### U.S. FOREST SERVICE (USFS): **ESA requests**

- \$9.7 billion in discretionary funds for USFS, \$349 million of which for Forest and Rangeland Research.
- No less than the FY 2020 enacted level of \$100 million for Forest Health Management. These programs support research, development, and land-management activities designed to mitigate hazards posed by invasive species and other harmful insects, diseases, and plants.



**NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL (NISC): **ESA requests**** at least \$2 million for NISC to coordinate policy, communication, and technology across 16 federal agencies that manage invasive

ESA, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland, is the largest organization in the world serving the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and individuals in related disciplines. Founded in 1889, ESA has nearly 7,000 members affiliated with educational institutions, health agencies, private industry, and government. Members are researchers, teachers, extension service personnel, administrators, marketing representatives, research technicians, consultants, students, pest management professionals, and hobbyists. [www.entsoc.org](http://www.entsoc.org).

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## ESA LEGISLATIVE ENDORSEMENTS

**ESA endorsed the following bills during the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress; none have been reintroduced so far in the 119<sup>th</sup>. ESA expects to endorse the reauthorization of the Kay Hagan Tick Act of 2019 when it is introduced.**



### **S.1837/H.R.3867 - Spotted Lanternfly Research and Development Act**

(Sen. Fetterman, Rep. Morelle)

This bipartisan bill makes spotted lanternfly a high-priority research and extension initiative for NIFA.



### **S.1149 - Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2023**

(Sen. Heinrich)

This bipartisan bill provides more funding for state conservation and wildlife recovery.



### **S.322 - SWAT Act of 2023**

(Sen. Peters, Rep. Chavez-DeRemer)

This bipartisan bill directs APHIS to establish a fund to address the agricultural pest spotted-wing drosophila. (House counterpart bill needed.)



### **S.1238/H.R.3174 - Invasive Species Prevention and Forest Restoration Act**

(Sen. Welch, Rep. Balint)

This bipartisan bill provides APHIS flexibility to respond to forest pests and provides restoration and research grants.



### **S.1555 - Pollinator Power Act of 2023**

(Sen. Merkley)

This bill incentivizes pollinator habitats at new solar-power projects. (House counterpart bill needed.)



### **S.2333 - Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Response Act** (Sen. Casey, bipartisan)

### **H.R.4420 - Preparedness and Response Reauthorization Act** (Rep. Hudson)

These bills reauthorize the Strengthening Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health (SMASH) Act.

### **S.2580 - SMASH 2.0 Act**

(Sen. King)

This bipartisan bill reauthorizes the SMASH Act, with expanded and clarified use of funds for vector management. (House counterpart bill needed.)



### **Farm Bill (TBD)**

ESA urges strong support for agricultural research and extension through NIFA and AFRI.