

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grants August 2006

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers several grant programs that may be available to military installations for natural resources management. Most of these grants require applicants to be in partnership, usually with the state fish and wildlife agency and to contribute some of their own funds to the project. Grant summaries are below. For more information see the website or contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative indicated.

Endangered Species Grants

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html>

Don Morgan, Endangered Species Program, 703-358-2061

Private Stewardship Grants – Available to private landowners and their partners. Federal agencies may apply in partnership with a private landowner.

- A 10% applicant match of cash or in-kind contributions is required.
- **Application Deadline – March 21**

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Grants (Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act) – Available to States for use in partnerships for habitat restoration, species status surveys, public education and outreach, captive propagation and reintroduction, nesting surveys, genetic studies, and development of management plans. Funds are also available for land acquisition.

- State applicants must contribute 25% of estimated program costs, or 10% when two or more states implement a joint project.
- **Application Deadline – May 24**

The Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant – For acquisition and protection of coastal wetlands <http://www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalGrants> Sally Valdes 703-358-1734

- All Coastal States (except Louisiana) and the Trust Territories are eligible to submit project proposals to the appropriate Service Regional Office annually. Federal agencies may be project partners of the coastal states.
- Grants fund 100% of the project.
- **Application Deadline – Early June**

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund - To ensure the Protection and management of neotropical migratory bird populations, maintenance, management, protection, and restoration of habitats of these birds, research and monitoring, law enforcement, and community outreach and education in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean; and to encourage inter-national cooperation.

http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/NMBCA/eng_neo.htm

Doug Ryan, Migratory Bird Program, 703-358-1784

- Matching grants program to fund projects in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean

- Project proposals need to demonstrate how a conservation partnership's activities will foster sustainable, effective, long-term programs to conserve neotropical migratory birds.
- For every \$1 received in grant funds, the applicant must commit \$3 in partner funds. Federal agencies are eligible to apply directly as a USFWS partner.
- **Application Deadline – December 1**

Federal Assistance Grants

<http://www.fws.gov/grants/state.html>

State Wildlife Program Coordinator, Division of Federal Aid. Telephone: (703) 358-2156.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act - For implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the Tripartite Agreement on wetlands between Canada, U.S. and Mexico to support efforts to promote wetlands conservation and associated habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife

<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/NAWCA/act.htm>

Tom Barnes, Federal Aid Program, 703-358-1815

- Available to a federal agency as a partner of an applicant.
- Applicant must provide 50% of funds for the project.
- **Application Deadline – Two application windows per year. March 4 and July 29**

Cooperative Conservation Initiative - To support efforts to restore natural resources and establish or expand wildlife habitat.

- Participation is limited to State agencies with lead management responsibility for fish and wildlife resources, the District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Islands. The State Agency may submit a grant application in partnership with other entities.
- Grants fund 50% of project
- **Application Deadline - None**

Invasive Species Risk Assessment - To support assessments to determine risk associated with intentional import of species to the U.S.

- Participation is limited to State agencies with lead management responsibility for fish and wildlife resources, the District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Islands. The State Agency may submit a grant application in partnership with other entities.
- Grants fund 100% of project
- **Application Deadline - None**

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Grants

(Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act)

Because more than half of all species currently listed as endangered or threatened spend at least part of their life cycle on privately owned lands, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) recognizes that success in conserving species will ultimately depend on working cooperatively with landowners, communities, and Tribes to foster voluntary stewardship efforts on private lands. States play a key role in catalyzing these efforts.

A variety of tools are available under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to help States and landowners plan and implement projects to conserve species. One of the tools, the *Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund* (section 6 of the ESA) provides grants to States and Territories to participate in a wide array of voluntary conservation projects for candidate, proposed, and listed species. The program provides funding to States and Territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-Federal lands. States and Territories must contribute a minimum non-Federal match of 25% of the estimated program costs of approved projects, or 10% when two or more States or Territories implement a joint project. A State or Territory must currently have, or enter into, a cooperative agreement with the FWS to receive grants. Most States and Territories have entered into these agreements for both plant and animal species.

The FWS will award approximately \$77 million in Federal funding in FY 2006 under four grant programs that are available through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund:



Section 6 funding has helped States protect aquatic systems that contain many rare organisms, such as the endangered fanshell clam. The purchased habitat will help meet the recovery goals for this species by providing secure, long-term protection. USFWS Photo

Conservation Grants (\$9.8 M) provide financial assistance to States and Territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and at-risk species. Funded activities include habitat restoration, species status surveys, public education and outreach, captive propagation and reintroduction, nesting surveys, genetic studies, and development of management plans.

Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants (\$ 7.5 M) provide funds to States and Territories to support the development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) through support of baseline surveys and inventories, document preparation, outreach, and similar planning activities.

HCP Land Acquisition Grants (\$46.1 M) provide funding to States and Territories to acquire land associated with approved HCPs. Grants do not fund the mitigation required of an HCP permittee; instead, they support conservation actions by the State or local governments that complement mitigation.

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants (\$13.9 M) provide funds to States and Territories for acquisition of habitat for endangered and threatened species in support of approved recovery plans. Acquisition of habitat to secure



long-term protection is often an essential element of a comprehensive recovery effort for a listed species.

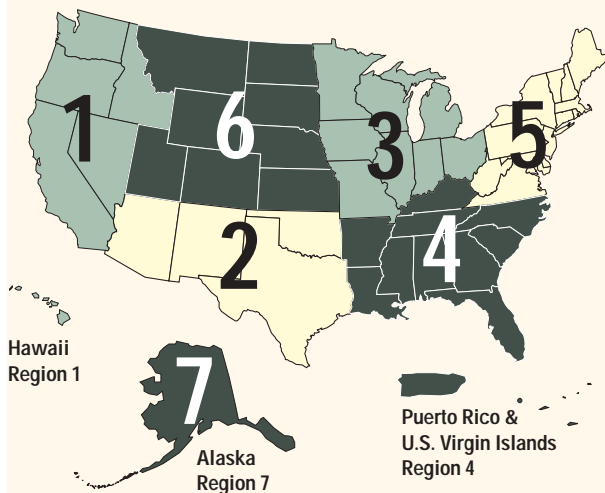
Contact Us

For more information on how to apply for Federal grants to assist States, Territories, and landowners in conserving species on non-Federal lands, please contact the FWS Regional office from the list below with responsibility for the State or Territory in which the proposed project would occur.

Additional information is also available at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/section6/index.html> You may also access www.grants.gov and search the site using the program title Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund or by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.615.



Section 6 funding has helped protect fragile ecosystems and the creatures that live there, such as the threatened bog turtle. Photo by Bern W. Tryon



Region Two — Southwest
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
500 Gold Avenue SW,
Room 4012
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Program Contact: Luella Roberts, 505/248-6654

Region Three — Great Lakes – Big Rivers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building
One Federal Drive
Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056
Program Contact: Peter Fasbender, 612/713-5343

Region Six — Mountain-Prairie
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
134 Union Blvd., Suite 645
Lakewood, CO 80228
Program Contact: Pat Mehlhop, 303/236-4215

Region Seven — Alaska
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
Program Contact: Michael Roy, 907/786-3925

**U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered Species Program
Branch of State Grants, Don Morgan
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 420
Arlington, VA 22203
703/358 2390
<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>**

Regional Office Boundaries

Region One — Pacific
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Eastside Federal Complex
911 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-4181
Program Contact: Heather Hollis, 503/231-6241

Region One — Pacific (California and Nevada)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Program Contact: Vicki Campbell, 916/414-6464

Region Four — Southeast
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30345
Program Contact: Erin Clark, 404/679-7379
OR
Ms. Mike Gantt, 919/8564627
Region Five — Northeast
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
Program Contact: Diane Lynch, 413/253-8628



November 2005





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program



Since 1990, when Congress passed the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been working with coastal States to acquire, restore, manage or enhance coastal wetlands through a matching grants program. To date, \$165 million have been awarded to 25 coastal States and 1 U.S. Territory, and more than 200,000 acres of coastal wetlands have, or will be acquired, protected or restored.

Why Protect Coastal Wetlands?

Coastal wetlands are valuable resources. They protect against flooding, help maintain water quality, and provide habitat to wildlife. Coastal environments are important economically, generating billions of dollars annually through such industries as tourism and commercial fisheries.

Why Are Coastal Wetlands in Trouble?

Thousands of acres of coastal wetlands have already been lost, and additional acres have been degraded by pollution. The concentration of the U.S. population along the coastal areas is a continuing

source of development pressure. Threats to coastal resources include agricultural and urban run-off, shoreline modification, invasive species, oil spills, residential and commercial development, municipal waste disposal, and over-harvesting of resources.

What Is the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program?

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program was established by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (Act) of 1990. Under the program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides matching grants for acquisition, restoration, management or enhancement of coastal wetlands.

Between \$13 million and \$17 million in grants are awarded annually through a nationwide competitive process. Funding for the program comes from excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat and small engine fuels.

Who Can Apply for Grants?

States which border the Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific and Great Lakes are eligible. The exception is the State of Louisiana, which has its own coastal wetlands program under the Act (see box below). Also eligible are the Trust Territories and Commonwealths of the United States.



How Does Cost-Sharing Work?

States provide 50 percent of the total costs of the project. However, if the State has established and maintains a special fund for acquiring coastal wetlands, other natural areas or open spaces, the Federal share can be increased to 75 percent. Territories and Commonwealths are not required to share the costs of projects except for Puerto Rico. Federal grants awarded under the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program cannot exceed \$1 million for an individual project.

How Are Projects Selected?

The Service's role has been to review, rank, and select projects based on their national importance and to assist State resource agencies in the planning and

Louisiana's Coastal Wetland Program

Louisiana's unique wetland resources have been seriously depleted and degraded. Recognizing this, the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act of 1990 has special provisions for the State of Louisiana. It called for the development of both Restoration and Conservation Plans specifically for Louisiana's wetlands. Since Louisiana's Conservation Plan was approved in 1997 by the Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the State's cost share for wetland projects dropped from 25 percent to 15 percent.

application process. Due to limited funding and considerable demand, projects need to be selected competitively. The Act itself calls for projects to be given priority if they are:

- Consistent with the criteria and considerations outlined in the National Wetlands Priority Conservation Plan.
- Located in States with dedicated funding for programs to acquire coastal wetlands, natural areas and open spaces.
- Located in maritime forests on

coastal barrier islands.

Additional ranking factors that have been developed by the Service include giving credit to projects that benefit threatened and endangered species, encourage cooperative efforts, and benefit other ongoing projects.

What Is Being Accomplished?

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program is an effective approach that assists States acquire, restore, manage, and enhance their coastal wetland resources. The program's emphasis on encouraging

partnerships, supporting watershed planning and leveraging on-going projects ensures that the use of limited funds results in maximum benefits.

Three examples of funded projects illustrate its accomplishments (see box below). The lasting results of the program will be the protection and restoration of thousands of acres of coastal wetland ecosystems nationwide. Wildlife and resource-based industries, like tourism and commercial fisheries, will directly benefit.

Examples of Funded Projects

Arcata Baylands Restoration/Enhancement, California

The California State Coastal Conservancy, with assistance from the Wildlife Conservation Board and the Department of Game, will purchase 77 acres of land and restore 85 acres adjacent to Humboldt Bay with its 2006 grant. This restoration will restore tidal flow and reestablish native vegetation. Humboldt Bay is one of California's most important stopovers for migratory birds. Project partners include the City of Arcata and the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission.

Thomas Island Habitat Protection, Maine

Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will acquire, in cooperation with the Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Ducks Unlimited and an individual landowner, 122 acres, including the 62-acre Thomas Island with its 2006 grant. Thomas Island provides high-quality foraging, migratory, breeding and wintering habitat for a long list of bird species.

Qwuloolt Project, Phase IV-- Estuarine Restoration, Washington

The Department of Ecology in Washington State will use its 2006 grant to remove segments of a dike in the lower Snohomish River watershed. This project will restore about 390 acres of intertidal estuarine wetlands, benefiting the threatened Puget Sound chinook salmon and other fish species. Partners include the Tulalip Tribes and the City of Maryville.



For more information about the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program, contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife Management and Habitat Restoration, Branch of Habitat Restoration at (703/358 2201) or the Division of Federal Assistance (703/358 2156), or visit us on the Internet at: <http://www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalGrants/>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
800/344 Wild
<http://www.fws.gov>

July 2006



Private Stewardship Grants Program

Endangered and threatened species, as well as many other imperiled species, depend upon privately owned lands for their survival.

Therefore, the help of private landowners is essential for the conservation of these species. Fortunately, many landowners want to help and are implementing voluntary conservation actions on their lands. These activities range from habitat protection and restoration to the implementation of land management practices that directly benefit imperiled species.

However, the costs associated with implementing conservation actions for imperiled species may be greater than a private landowner can undertake without assistance. Through the Private Stewardship Grants Program (PSGP), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) provides financial assistance to individuals and groups to support voluntary conservation efforts on private lands for the benefit of imperiled species.

In 2005, the FWS awarded more than \$7 million under this program to landowners and their partners to protect and restore imperiled species and their habitats.

Excluding education and outreach, research, planning, and land acquisition, the PSGP is open to a wide variety of on-the-ground projects. Here are a few examples of previously selected projects:

- Stream restoration to increase overhanging vegetative cover and in-stream woody debris, restoring cool waters and improving habitat structure for trout species.

Stewardship: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.



Monitoring success of a Private Stewardship Grants Program project to benefit rare plants through dry forest habitat restoration in Hawaii. (USFWS Photo)

- Restoration of native plant communities through eradication of nonnative invasive plants.
- Habitat protection and restoration through modified grazing and timber management practices.
- Installation of exclosure fencing around sensitive habitats for imperiled species to prevent predation, trampling, and competition from nonnative species.
- Removal of fish migration barriers to enhance survival and reproduction of imperiled fish species.
- Implementation of effective management practices on existing suitable habitat for imperiled species.
- Restoration of wetland hydrology and vegetation to benefit imperiled water fowl.
- Fire management activities to support rangeland/grassland habitat.

How the PSGP Works

Each year, the FWS announces a request for project proposals to be considered for that year's funding.

To apply for a grant, an individual or group prepares a proposal that describes their project and how it will benefit the target species. Proposals then compete at a regional level for funding.

Summary of Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for funding, individuals or groups must submit project proposals that include:

- voluntary conservation efforts on private lands;
- benefits to species listed, proposed, or candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act, or other at-risk species native to the U.S.;

- cost-share of at least 10 % of total project cost (may be met by in-kind contributions, including time, equipment, materials, operations, or maintenance costs);
- landowner participation information;
- budget information; and
- measures to evaluate the project.

For a detailed description of the eligibility and other program requirements, see the Request for Proposals, posted at www.grants.gov, or visit our Web site at http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/private_stewardship/index.html.

Assistance in Planning and Implementing Projects

Through multiple programs, the FWS offers expertise to assist landowners in planning and implementing projects on private lands. Among others, the FWS Endangered Species program and the Fish and Wildlife

Management and Habitat Restoration program have worked hand-in-hand with a variety of partners on private lands.

Our ability to assist landowners will depend upon the type of project proposed and upon our existing workloads and priorities. For additional information on how we may be able to assist you, call or write the program contact from the list of Regional offices below. Information is also available from the FWS Web site at <http://www.fws.gov>.

Related Programs

The PSGP builds upon other FWS efforts to encourage the conservation of imperiled species on private lands.

The *Safe Harbor Policy* encourages voluntary management for listed species to promote recovery on non-Federal lands by giving assurances to the landowners that no additional future regulatory restrictions will be imposed.

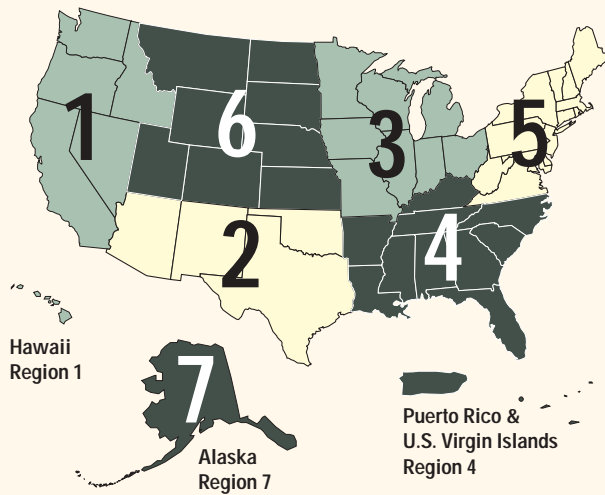
The *Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances Policy* provides incentives for non-Federal property owners to conserve candidate species, thus potentially making listing unnecessary.

Contact Us

For more information on the PSGP, please contact the FWS Regional office from the list below with responsibility for the State or Territory in which the proposed project would occur.

Additional information is also available at http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/private_stewardship/index.html, or send an e-mail to Privatestewardship@fws.gov.

You may also access www.grants.gov and search using the program title Private Stewardship Grant Program or by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.632.



Region Two — Southwest
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
711 Stadium Drive, Suite 252
Arlington, TX 76011
Program Contact: Mike McCullum, 817/277-1100

Region Three — Great Lakes - Big Rivers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building
One Federal Drive
Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056

Region Six — Mountain-Prairie
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
134 Union Blvd., Suite 645
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Program Contact: Patricia Mehlhop,
303/236-4215

Region Seven — Alaska
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Program Contact: Michael Roy,
907/786-3925

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Endangered Species Program
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Regional Office Boundaries

Region One — Pacific
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Eastside Federal Complex
911 N.E. 11th Avenue
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Program Contact: Heather Hollis,
503/231-6241

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Federal Building
#2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
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Program Contact: Deb Schlafmann,
916/414-6464

Program Contact: Peter Fasbender,
612/713-5343

Region Four — Southeast
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1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200
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Program Contact: Ms. Mike Gantt,
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November 2005