

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), as amended, \$80,001,000 to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended, of which \$5,066,666 shall be for the Idaho Salmon and Clearwater River Basins Habitat Account pursuant to the Snake River Water Rights Act of 2004. (P.L. 108-447; Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006.)

Authorizing Statutes

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Prohibits the import, export, or taking of fish and wildlife and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered species; provides for adding species to and removing them from the list of threatened and endangered species, and for preparing and implementing plans for their recovery; provides for interagency cooperation to avoid take of listed species and for issuing permits for otherwise prohibited activities; and implements the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 1992.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l). Authorizes appropriations to the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for national wildlife refuges as otherwise authorized by law. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2015.

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change from 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation Grants (\$000)		9,852	10,001	-	-	10,001	-
HCP Planning Grants (\$000)		7,531	7,642	-	-	7,642	-
Species Recovery Land Acquisition (\$000)		13,977	14,186	-	-	14,186	-
HCP Land Acquisition Grants to States (\$000)		46,160	40,587	-	-	40,587	-
Nez Perce Settlement (\$000)		0	5,067	-	-	5,067	-
Administration (\$000)		2,481	2,518	-	-	2,518	-
Estimated User-Pay Cost Share (\$000)		[296]	[257]	-	-	[259]	
Impact of the CR (\$000)			+506	-	-506		-506
Total Appropriations (\$000)		80,001	80,507	-	0	80,001	-506
FTE		22	22	-	-	22	-
Payment to Special Fund*		39,302	46,200		+2,088	48,288	+2,088
Total, Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (\$000)		119,303	126,707	-	+2,088	128,289	+1,582
FTE		22	22	-	-	22	-

*Amounts shown reflect an annual deposit of an amount equal to 5% of total Federal Aid/Sport Fish and Lacey Act violation collections above \$500,000 into this special fund. The cumulative total payments are available for subsequent appropriation to the CESCOF.

Summary of 2008 Program Changes for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Request Component	Amount	FTE
• Impact of the CR	-506	0
Total, Program Changes	-506	0

Justification of 2008 Program Changes

The FY 2008 budget request for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund is \$80,001,000 and 22 FTE, a net program change of -\$506,000 and +0 FTE from the 2007 continuing resolution.

Impact of 2007 Continuing Resolution (-\$506,000)

The 2008 budget includes a \$506,000 program decrease to align the priorities of the 2007 President's budget with the 2007 continuing resolution level, implementing the program enhancement and other program reduction proposals included in the 2007 President's budget, including fixed costs for 2007.

Program Overview

The Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF; Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act) provides grant funding to States and territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-federal lands, including habitat acquisition, conservation planning, habitat restoration, status surveys, captive propagation and reintroduction, research, and education. Because most listed species depend on habitat found on State and private lands, this grant assistance is crucial to listed species conservation. States and territories have been extremely effective in garnering participation of private landowners. Section 6 grants assist states and territories in building these partnerships that achieve meaningful on-the-ground conservation.

The CESCF program contributes directly to the Department's Resource Protection mission strategic goal to sustain biological communities by focusing on the conservation of the most imperiled components of these communities; CESCF grants support activities that benefit species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Because many of these grants provide for the protection and improvement of habitat for listed species, they also contribute to the Department's Resource Protection goal to improve the health of watersheds and landscapes. The Department's relevant end outcome measures are the percent of species listed a decade or more that are in stable or improving condition and the number of candidate and species at-risk not listed due to conservation efforts.

In order to receive funds under the CESCF program, States and territories must contribute 25 percent of the estimated program costs of approved projects, or 10 percent when two or more States or territories implement a joint project. The balance of the estimated program costs is reimbursed through the grants. To ensure that State and territory programs are able to effectively carry out endangered species conservation efforts funded through these grants, a State or territory must enter into a cooperative agreement with the Service to receive grants. All 50 States currently have cooperative agreements for animals, and 44 States have agreements for plants. All but one territory have cooperative agreements for both animals and plants. In addition, in an attempt to achieve more effective conservation efforts, the Service intends to consider the priorities established in State Wildlife Conservation Plans when awarding grants, focusing on priority species and habitats.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

- HCP Land Acquisition, HCP Planning Assistance, and Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants are awarded through national and regional competitions. The established eligibility and ranking criteria for the program and the competitions conducted to select grants allow the Service to focus the program on its overall goals and ensure that program performance goals are achieved.
- The Service continues to analyze results from previous years of the program to further refine program elements to better meet our performance goals.
- In 2006 the Service completed a program review by an independent entity to identify potential areas of improvement in the administration of the program.
- Numbers of grants awarded in FY 2006: (FY 2007 grants not yet awarded)
 - 356 Conservation Grants to States and Territories
 - 19 HCP Planning Assistance Grants
 - 27 Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants
 - 9 HCP Land Acquisition Grants

In FY 2007, the Service will be finalizing a strategic plan for the Endangered Species Program, and developing new long-term outcome and annual output performance measures to respond to the 2005 PART findings. The Service will also work to ensure regulations and policies help improve the program's effectiveness, and develop a process and timetable for regularly scheduled, non-biased, independent evaluations of the program, or key components of the program that collectively cover the entire program, as also recommended by the 2005 PART.

Program Performance Overview

Measure	2004 Actual	2005 Actual	2006 Plan	2006 Actual	2007 Plan	2007 Change from 2006	2008 Request	2008 Change from 2007
Increase the number of candidate species benefiting from Nontraditional Section 6 Project Awards. (BUR) (*)	N/A	22	21	27	27	0	27	0
Increase the number of listed species benefiting from Nontraditional Section 6 Project Awards. (BUR) (*)	N/A	283	275	214	212	0	212	0

The performance measures in this table include program-level workload measures. The program is developing new long-term outcome and annual output performance measures as a result of a PART review conducted in 2005.

(*) Costs not available for this measure.

Conservation Grants

				FY 2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
		2006 Actual	2007 CR	Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation Grants	\$(000)	9,852	10,001	-	-	10,001	-
	FTE	-	-	-	-	-	-

Program Overview

Conservation Grants provide financial assistance to States and territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and species at-risk. The Service makes a regional allocation of these funds based on the number of species covered under cooperative agreements within each Service region. Each Region then solicits proposals and selects projects based on species and habitat conservation benefits as well as other factors. Through the Conservation Grants program, States receive funding to implement recovery actions for listed species, implement conservation measures for candidate species, and perform research and monitoring critical to conservation of imperiled species. These actions directly support the outcome measures for endangered, threatened, and candidate species conservation under the Department’s Resource Protection goal to sustain biological communities. Activities funded by these grants aid in meeting the intermediate outcome strategies for the outcome measures relating to creation of necessary habitat conditions and managing species populations.

2008 Program Performance

The Service will publish a request for proposals in the third quarter of 2007 and anticipates making award announcements early in the 2008 fiscal year, pending appropriations. Issuing the fiscal year 2008 request for proposals late in fiscal year 2007 will promote timely obligation of funding and will maximize conservation resources. The Service expects that approximately the same number of grants will be funded in FY 2008 as are expected in FY 2007, which is similar to 2006.

The Service awarded 356 Conservation Grants in FY 2006; examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESC program; however, in all cases these funds were leveraged by State, county, city, or private matching funds.

- **Assessing the value of Alaska state lands for an imperiled species, the Rusty Blackbird**
Alaska \$42,000
- **Piping Plover** Connecticut \$10,000
- **Sea Turtle long-term nesting survey** Florida \$19,116
- **Captive Propagation of Guam Rails** Guam \$171,000
- **Land acquisition for northern monkshood (including Iowa pleistocene snail)** Iowa \$32,600
- **Louisiana black bear repatriation** Louisiana \$52,823
- **Endangered plant assessment and recovery (262 plant species; 3 federally listed)**
Massachusetts \$30,000
- **Salt Creek Tiger Beetle** Nebraska \$53,507
- **Black-footed Ferret** Wyoming \$45,501

Six states have received funding to monitor and manage reintroduced black-footed ferrets.



- **Management and Conservation of the Mexican Wolf in New Mexico** New Mexico \$45,000
- **Big Spring spinedace monitoring and recovery implementation** Nevada \$14,625
- **Biology, propagation, and reintroduction of northern riffleshell and clubshell** Ohio \$49,663
- **Leon Springs pupfish recovery and genetic diversity: spawning habitat restoration and enhancement** Oklahoma \$24,104
- **Fender's Blue Butterflies – effects of herbicides on butterflies at-risk** Oregon \$8,000

Habitat Conservation Planning Grants

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	FY 2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Habitat Conservation Planning Grants	\$(000) FTE	7,531 -	7,642 -	-	-	7,642 -	-

Program Overview

Through the development of regional, multiple species HCPs, local governments and planning jurisdictions incorporate species conservation into local land use plans, which streamlines the project approval process and facilitates economic development. The HCP Grants program provides funding to States to assist local governments and planning jurisdictions to develop regional, multi-species HCPs. These grants, which fund conservation planning for listed species, support outcome measures for endangered, threatened, and candidate species conservation under the Department’s Resource Protection goal to sustain biological communities. The planning activities funded by these grants help direct future implementation of intermediate outcome strategies for outcome measures pertaining to the creation of necessary habitat conditions and management of species populations.

2008 Program Performance

The Service will publish a request for proposals in the third quarter of 2007 and anticipates making award announcements early in the 2008 fiscal year, pending appropriations. Issuing the fiscal year 2008 request for proposals late in fiscal year 2007 will promote timely obligation of funding and will maximize conservation resources. The Service expects that the same number of grants will be funded in FY 2008 as are expected in FY 2007, which is similar to 2006.

The Service awarded 19 HCP Planning Grants in FY 2006; examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCFC program; however, in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds.

- **Multi-species HCP for the City of Tucson** (Pima County, AZ): \$252,829. This grant will enable continued development of two habitat conservation plans for 19 species in the greater Tucson area (Avra Valley and Greater Southlands/Santa Cruz River Corridor). City of Tucson, in collaboration with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, began developing a multi-species HCP in 2003; this effort has since expanded into the development of 2 multi-species HCPs. Covered species in the planning areas include the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl, lesser long-nosed bat, Pima Pineapple cactus, western yellow-billed cuckoo, Chiricahua leopard frog, Gila topminnow, and others. Advisory groups to the city represent local governmental jurisdictions and areas of technical expertise such as natural resource conservation, civil engineering, and transportation planning.
- **Butte County HCP/NCCP** (Butte County, CA): \$500,990. At the northern end of the Sacramento Valley, Butte County was largely untouched by the rapid urban growth in much of California until recently. Now however, it is being hit by an unprecedented surge of growth. The Butte County Association of Governments, the county, and its four incorporated communities have agreed to develop a HCP that potentially will cover 330,000 acres with up to 11 different vegetation communities, that are home to 15 federally listed species, including all known populations of the endangered Butte County meadowfoam, plus 15 other species at-risk.

- **Development of a HCP for the Cumberlands Region** (Wayne, McCreary, Pulaski, Clinton and Whitley Counties in KY; Anderson, Roane, Rhea, Scott, Campbell, Morgan, Cumberland, Bledsoe, Fentress, Pickett, Putnam and Overton Counties in TN): \$442,080. This third year grant will further support the States of Tennessee and Kentucky in the development of a multi-species, multi-county, landscape-level plan in the Northern Cumberlands area, including portions of the upper Tennessee and Cumberland River watersheds. The Northern Cumberlands area is well known for its biologically diverse ecosystems as demonstrated by the fact that the area supports over 19 federally-listed species. During this planning grant period, project objectives include continuing to build stakeholder support, reaching consensus on the species that will be addressed in the HCP, defining the specific area for the plan, continuing research priorities related to plan development, identifying major impacts to the species as well as addressing the alternatives that may be appropriate for minimizing and mitigating these impacts. The plan seeks to address imperiled species conservation needs while carrying out activities such as coal mining, water supply development or forestry.
- **Montana Division of Natural Resources Forested Trust Land HCP** (Twenty Five Counties in Western MT): \$574,334. This grant will enable the Montana Department of Natural Resources to complete a HCP that covers half a million acres of State lands protecting five listed species (grizzly bear, Canada lynx, bull trout, bald eagle, gray wolf) and two State sensitive species (Columbia River redband trout and westslope cutthroat trout) in northwestern Montana. This project will set a statewide precedence for balancing forest practices and public land management with species conservation. The overall conservation strategy will emphasize forest management practices that maintain healthy ecosystems, promote biodiversity, and protect important ecological features across all HCP-covered lands.
- **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Area HCP** (Statewide, all 39 counties, WA): \$ 590,000. This grant funds the second year of an HCP process for the State's wildlife areas covering a total of approximately 830,000 acres. The HCP will offer benefits to protected species and land users by providing certainty that land management activities meet Federal species protection requirements. Federally listed species expected to benefit include, but are not limited to: pygmy rabbit, woodland caribou, snowy plover, spotted owl, marbled murrelet, bull trout, Chinook salmon, steelhead, Oregon silverspot, golden paintbrush, and Kincaid's lupine. Additional species expected to benefit include greater sage-grouse, northern goshawk, burrowing owl, Oregon spotted frog, Larch Mountain salamander, coho salmon, Mardon skipper, Taylor's checkerspot, and giant Columbia River limpet.

Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	FY 2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants	\$(000) FTE	13,977 -	14,186 -	- -	- -	14,186 -	- -

Program Overview

Loss of habitat is the primary threat to most listed species. Land acquisition is often the most effective and efficient means of safeguarding habitats essential for recovery of listed species before development or other land use changes impair or destroy key habitat values. Land acquisition is costly and often neither the Service nor the States and territories individually have the necessary resources to acquire habitats essential for recovery of listed species. Recovery Land Acquisition grant funds are matched by States and non-federal entities to acquire these habitats from willing sellers. Because the criteria used to evaluate and award grants focus on the benefits to listed species, these grants directly support the outcome measures for endangered, threatened, and candidate species conservation under the Department’s Resource Protection goal to sustain biological communities. The activities funded by these grants aid in carrying out the intermediate outcome strategies for these outcome measures relating to creation of necessary habitat conditions and managing species populations.

2008 Program Performance

The Service will publish a request for proposals in the third quarter of 2007 and anticipates making award announcements early in the 2008 fiscal year, pending appropriations. Issuing the fiscal year 2008 request for proposals late in fiscal year 2007 will promote timely obligation of funding and will maximize conservation resources. The Service expects that approximately the same number of grants will be funded in FY 2008 as are expected in FY 2007, which is similar to FY 2006.

The Service awarded 27 Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants in FY 2006; examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCOF program; however, in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds.

- **Arroyo Toad, Whitewater Canyon** (Riverside County, CA): \$335,000. Acquisition of approximately 230 acres of land within Whitewater Canyon will enhance recovery of the arroyo toad by protecting habitat for the only known location of the species in the Coachella Valley. The acquisition of these lands will contribute to the conservation of breeding and non-breeding habitat for the arroyo toad and reduce threats to the species from development and activities that degrade the habitat.
- **Wacker Ranch – Clay-loving Wild Buckwheat Preservation Project** (Montrose County, CO): \$159,450. The magnitude and imminence of the threat of development and associated increase in off-road vehicle use and an approved new highway have increased the urgency of acquiring this 43-acre private land parcel. The parcel, which is adjacent to a preserve on BLM land, contains the largest and most viable population of the endangered clay-loving wild buckwheat. The project has strong local and State support and is essential to the eventual recovery of the species.
- **Acquisition of the Raccoon Creek Tract** (Paulding County, GA): \$1,000,000. This purchase, located within the Etowah River basin, is expected to result in the protection of 3,296 acres to benefit listed species of fish, including Etowah and Cherokee darters. This project is expected to result in protection of over two miles of stream frontage and buffers along the main stem of

Raccoon Creek. The acquisition will also complement previous State acquisitions in the area, such as the Sheffield Wildlife Management Area.

- **Northern Monkshood and Iowa Pleistocene Snail Recovery Land Acquisition** (Clayton County, IA): \$326,887. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will acquire 167 acres for the conservation and protection of the Northern monkshood and the Iowa Pleistocene snail. Both species require cold, moist conditions provided by the outflow of cold air on algific (cold producing) talus slopes. The site is in the Cow Branch and is adjacent to a 110 acre unit of the Driftless Area National Wildlife Refuge. It contains sinkholes and critical buffer areas important to the function of the algific slope habitat that both species depend upon.
- **Heart of the Watershed: Protection of the Barth and Weary Properties** (Lincoln County, ME): \$172,147. This grant will contribute to the landscape level program to protect the riparian buffers along the Sheepscot River. Together with numerous partners, including The Nature Conservancy, Maine Audubon, and the Sheepscot Valley Conservation Associations, the project will protect both in fee and conservation easement approximately 527 acres including 3 miles of the Sheepscot River shoreline. It will protect habitat important to the endangered Atlantic salmon and the threatened bald eagle.
- **Zumwalt Prairie Acquisition** (Wallowa County, OR): \$707,000. This grant is for the acquisition of 6,065 acres at Zumwalt Prairie in northeast Oregon to protect a population of Spalding's catchfly as well as Snake River steelhead, both federally listed threatened species. This acquisition is also expected to benefit Columbia spotted frog, nesting raptors including ferruginous hawks and northern goshawks, and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse.
- **Sink Creek Watershed and Recharge, San Marcos Springs** (Hays County, TX): \$1,000,000. For the City of San Marcos, in partnership with Hays County and Texas State University, to acquire approximately 250 acres for the benefit of the San Marcos and Texas blind salamanders, Texas wild-rice, fountain darter, Comal Springs riffle beetle, and golden-cheeked warbler. This is the largest undeveloped property immediately upstream of San Marcos Springs / Spring Lake, with all 250 acres draining into Sink Creek or the San Marcos River, and over half the property located within the recharge zone of the Edwards Aquifer. Protection of this tract could therefore contribute significantly to the recovery of these aquatic species by helping to protect the water quality and recharge features associated with their habitats.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
HCP Land Acquisition	\$(000)	46,160	40,587	-	-	40,587	-
Grants	FTE	-	-	-	-	-	-

Program Overview

The conservation benefits provided by HCPs can be greatly increased by protecting important habitat areas covered by HCPs. HCP Land Acquisition funds are used by states and non-federal entities to acquire habitats from willing sellers and are meant to complement, not replace, the mitigation responsibilities of HCP permittees. States and territories receive grant funds for land acquisitions associated with approved HCPs because of their authorities and close working relationships with local governments and private landowners. These grants directly support outcome measures for endangered, threatened, and candidate species conservation under the Department’s Resource Protection goal to sustain biological communities. The activities funded by these grants would carry out the intermediate outcome strategies for outcome measures relating to the creation of necessary habitat conditions and managing species populations.

2008 Program Performance

The Service will publish a request for proposals in the third quarter of 2007 and anticipates making award announcements early in the 2008 fiscal year, pending appropriations. Issuing the fiscal year 2008 request for proposals late in fiscal year 2007 will promote timely obligation of funding and will maximize conservation resources. The Service expects that approximately the same number of grants will be funded in FY 2008 as are expected in FY 2007, which is similar to FY 2006

The Service awarded 9 HCP Land Acquisition Grants in FY 2006; examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCFC program; however, in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds.

- **Western Riverside County MSHCP** (Riverside County, CA): \$12,000,000. This grant will fund the acquisition of approximately 450 acres in the San Jacinto River area and 128 acres in the Santa Rosa Plateau area to benefit 18 federally listed species. The acquisition of land in the San Jacinto River area will conserve core populations of several federally listed plants, including spreading navarretia, San Jacinto Valley crowscale, thread-leaved brodiaea, and slender-horned spinyflower. Conservation of these lands along the San Jacinto River will also protect one of three major populations of the federally endangered San Bernardino kangaroo rat. The acquisition of land in the Santa Rosa Plateau area will protect one of the most ecologically significant complexes of vernal pools in southern California that supports populations of the Riverside fairy shrimp. Other species that will benefit from acquisition of these lands include Californica Orcutt grass, Munz’s onion, least Bell’s vireo, and the coastal California gnatcatcher.
- **Point Betsie Piping Plover HCP** (Benzie County, MI): \$550,823. This grant will acquire inholdings of piping plover habitat along Lake Michigan within the Zetterberg Preserve. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and The Nature Conservancy have developed this acquisition strategy to support the Magic Carpet Woods Association HCP by providing land management and protection for both the piping plover and the Pitcher’s thistle. This site is designated piping plover critical habitat and is ranked by the Michigan Natural Area as very good quality for Pitcher’s thistle. The site was identified in the Pitcher’s thistle recovery plan as an

acquisition target to meet the recovery goals for the plant. A Lake Michigan dune and swale management plan will be jointly developed by The Nature Conservancy and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources that will guide protection and management activities to aid in the recovery of both species.

- **Native Fish HCP: Blackfoot Easement Project** (Lewis & Clark, Missoula and Powell Counties, MT): \$2,699,000. The Blackfoot watershed provides crucial connectivity for many imperiled wildlife species including native bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout and mountain whitefish. Intrinsic to this system as well are the imperiled grizzly bear, gray wolf, Canada lynx, trumpeter swan, bald eagle, and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. The lands proposed for conservation easement acquisition are adjacent to National Forest and State lands and fill a critical void in maintaining the unfragmented landscape.
- **Sandhills HCP – Odom Tract** (Scotland County, North Carolina): \$280,650. This grant will help provide perpetual protection and habitat management on 260 acres of land that will support one of the largest remaining populations of the federally-listed endangered red-cockaded woodpecker in the nation. This land protection will ensure conservation of a key inholding in the North Carolina Sandhills Game Lands, the core habitat of the Sandhills West essential support population of red-cockaded woodpeckers.
- **Cibolo Canyonlands Golden-cheeked Warbler Land Acquisition** (Comal County, TX): \$3,500,000. This grant will assist The Nature Conservancy and City of San Antonio in the purchase of golden-cheeked warbler habitat to complement the Cibolo Canyon HCP. Acquisition of the property will contribute to the species' recovery plan goals, and will provide critical connectivity to several existing warbler conservation areas. Due to its location over the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone, the property will also provide water quality protection for 17 listed species associated with the Edwards Aquifer and regional karst formations.
- **Plum Creek HCP – Methow Watershed, Phase 4** (Okanogan County, WA): \$4,380,120. This phase of the partnership will secure up to 2,360 acres and 3 miles of stream frontage. Protection of these low elevation mature conifer and riparian forest habitats contributes to the State's most successful acquisition effort with almost 15,000 acres already protected. The Methow River Watershed supports a unique and diverse assemblage of fish and wildlife species and is one of the few places where northern spotted owls, bald eagles, grizzly bears, gray wolves, lynx, bull trout, and salmon can be protected together.

Nez Perce Settlement - Snake River Water Rights Act of 2004

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Nez Perce Settlement – Snake River Water Rights Act of 2004	\$(000) <i>FTE</i>	0 -	5,067 -	- -	- -	5,067 -	- -

Program Overview

Since 1998, the Nez Perce Tribe, the United States, the State of Idaho, and local communities and water users in Idaho have engaged in mediation as part of the Snake River Basin Adjudication to resolve the water rights claims of the Nez Perce Tribe in the Snake River. The Tribe’s claim to instream flow rights in the Snake River in order to protect its treaty-based fishery was one of the significant issues involved in this dispute.

In 2004 the parties reached an agreement to settle this dispute. Under the obligations of the Snake River Water Rights Act, Interior will provide \$29 million in 2007 to the Nez Perce Tribe and the State of Idaho to fund water supply and habitat restoration projects. This cooperative venture with the State and Tribe will protect threatened and endangered salmon in Idaho and restore Clearwater Basin habitat. It will allow Idaho to complete adjudication of Snake River water rights, develop a long-term public water policy, and enable the Department to fulfill trust responsibilities. The \$5,066,666 requested through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund is for the Idaho Salmon and Clearwater River Basins Habitat Account, which was established as part of the settlement. This account will provide funding for habitat improvement projects.

Administration

Program Element		2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Administration	(\$000) <i>FTE</i>	2,481 22	2,518 22	- -	- -	2,518 22	- 0

Program Overview

Federal grant management and administrative oversight are necessary to ensure compliance with program requirements and purposes. The funding requested for Administration allows the Service to carry out these responsibilities.

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 14-5143-0-2-302	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Obligations by program activity:			
00.01 Grants to States	32	30	33
00.02 Grants to States/Land Acquisition/HCPs	66	68	70
00.03 Grant Administration	3	3	3
00.05 Payment to special fund unavailable receipt account	39	46	48
10.00 Total new obligations	140	147	154

Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
21.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	112	95	74
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	119	126	128
22.10 Resources available from recoveries of prior year obligations	4	0	0
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	235	221	202
23.95 Total new obligations (-)	-140	-147	-154
24.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, end of year	95	74	48

New budget authority (gross) detail:			
Discretionary:			
40.20 Appropriation (LWCF special fund, 14 5479) [14-5005-0-302-N-0513-01]	62	60	80
40.20 Appropriation (CESCF special fund 14 5143) [14-5005-0-302-N-0500-01]	20	20	
40.37 Appropriation temporarily reduced [14-5005-0-302-N-0514-01]	-2		
43.00 Appropriation (total discretionary)	80	80	80
Mandatory:			
60.00 Appropriation	39	46	48
70.00 Total new budget authority (gross)	119	126	128

Change in obligated balances:			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	125	184	205
73.10 Total new obligations	140	147	154
73.20 Total outlays, gross (-)	-77	-126	-128
73.45 Recoveries of prior year obligations	-4	0	0
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	184	205	231

Outlays, (gross) detail:			
86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority	9	8	8
86.93 Outlays from discretionary balances	29	72	72
86.97 Outlays from new mandatory authority	39	46	48
87.00 Total, outlays (gross)	77	126	128

Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00 Budget authority	119	126	128
90.00 Outlays	77	126	128
95.02 Unpaid obligation, end of year	184		

Object classification (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 14-5143-0-2-302	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Direct obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	2	2	2
11.3 Other than full-time permanent			
11.5 Other personnel compensation			
11.9 Total personnel compensation	2	2	2
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	1	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	98	98	103
94.0 Financial transfers	39	46	48
99.95 Below reporting threshold			
99.99 Subtotal, direct obligations	140	147	154

Personnel Summary

Identification code 14-5143-0-2-302	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Total compensable workyears:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	22	22	22