

## Transcript for 2011 Migratory Bird Conservation Commission Habitat Grant Awards

**USFWS Narrator Kim Betton:** The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission met in Washington (D.C.) to announce it has approved spending more than \$ 3 million from the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund--this to protect an estimated 1600 acres of waterfowl habitat on 3 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Commission also approved \$23.5 million in federal funding for grants to conserve more than 140,000 acres of wetlands and associated habitats in Canada through the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, better known as NAWCA. AnaMarie York is a grant officer under NAWCA grants with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Migratory Bird program in Washington.

**USFWS Anna-Marie York:** "These grants, particularly the small grants, happen when a community comes together to try and protect their own resources. They raise private funds, and they get together and build partnerships and make a plan, and work with scientists from the Joint Venture community. And then they present this plan to the. Fish and Wildlife Service and ask for the grant funds. And these grants are matched at least 1-to-1. And most of them bring in 2 private dollars for every 1 federal dollar we send out."

**USFWS Betton:** The Commission was presented with a summary of 45 projects that were previously approved for funding by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council under the NAWCA U.S. small grants program. These grant awards total more than \$3 million in federal funds. Partners will contribute more than \$12 million in matching funds toward the projects which will enhance more than 26 thousand acres of wetlands and associated habitats in 24 states from Maine to California.

**USFWS York:** "The great thing about NAWCA is it's bringing people together around the resource."

**USFWS Betton:** For a complete listing of the projects funded with NAWCA small grants in fiscal year 2011, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). In Washington, Kim Betton, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.