

Fiscal Year 2006 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Project Proposals

Alabama

Point Caddy Wetlands. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will purchase 1730 acres on Grand Bay in the Mississippi Sound. Another 239 acres are being provided as match. The Grand Bay wetlands provide habitat to recreationally important fish species like spotted sea trout, red snapper and red drum and coastal-dependent and migratory birds.

Partners: The Nature Conservancy of Alabama and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program.

Coastal grant:	\$ 928,000
State share:	\$ 745,150
Partners share:	\$ 197,700
Total cost:	\$1,870,850

Alaska

Eagle River South Estuary. Alaska's Department of Natural Resources will protect 236 acres near Juneau through a combination of conservation easements and acquisitions. This project will help protect the water quality of Dowicher Slough and the mouth of the Eagle River which is important for marine mammals, including the threatened Steller sea lion, and for a number of fish species, including pink, chum and sockeye salmon.

Partners: The City and Borough of Juneau, Southeast Alaska Council of Boy Scouts of America, Simpson, Tillinghast, Sorenson & Logenbaugh, Horan and Company, and an anonymous donor working through the Southeast Alaska Land Trust.

Coastal grant:	\$606,065
State share:	\$ 250
Partners share:	\$293,250
Total cost:	\$899,565

Long Lagoon Coastal Habitat Protection. The Department of Natural Resources in Alaska plans to acquire 1,002 acres on north Afognak Island's coastline. The coastline of Afognak Island provides feeding, pupping, and calving habitats for 14 species of marine mammals including sea otters, seals and several varieties of whales. Sport fishers, hunters, kayakers and campers would also benefit from this acquisition.

Coastal grant:	\$ 888,300
Partners share:	\$ 454,750
Total cost:	\$1,343,050

Nushagak Bay/Wood-Tikchik State Park: Final Phase. Alaska's Department of Natural Resources will acquire a perpetual conservation easement on 2,788 acres within the Nushagak Bay Watershed. This includes 4 miles along the Agulowak River, a major anadromous fish system that provides spawning habitat for nearly 2 million adult salmon.

Partners: The Conservation Fund and the Nushagak-Mulchatna Wood-Tikchik Land Trust.

Coastal grant:	\$ 928,000
Partners share:	\$ 455,000
Total cost:	\$1,383,000

California

Arcata Baylands Restoration/Enhancement Project. The California State Coastal Conservancy, with assistance from the State Wildlife Conservation Board and the California Department of Game, as part of a larger 560+ acre project, will purchase 77 acres of land and restore 85 acres of wetland habitats adjacent to Humboldt Bay. This restoration will help to improve tidal flow and reestablish native vegetation along Jacoby Creek and Gannon Slough. Humboldt Bay is one of California's most important stopovers for migrating birds.

Partners: The City of Arcata and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Coastal grant:	\$ 928,000
State share:	\$1,082,400
Partner share:	\$ 37,000
Total cost:	\$2,047,400

Georgia

Sansavilla Wetlands Acquisition. The Department of Natural Resources in the State of Georgia will acquire 1,250 acres and 4.5 miles along the Altamaha River. The Altamaha River Basin is recognized as Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network site and an Important Birding Area by both the Audubon Society and the American Bird Conservancy.

Partner: The Nature Conservancy.

Coastal grant:	\$ 928,000
Partners share:	\$1,000,000
Total cost:	\$1,928,000

Hawaii

Kawainui Marsh Wetland Restoration and Enhancement. Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources plans to restore 20 acres and enhance 60 acres of coastal wetlands and associated uplands at Kawainui Marsh in Honolulu County. The project area is part of a wetland complex that was recently added to the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance, recognizing it as a significant wetland on an international scale.

Partners: Castle Foundation, The Wildlife Society, Le Jardin Academy, Kailua Urban Design Task Force, City and County of Honolulu.

Coastal grant:	\$646,250
State share:	\$ 50,000
Partners share:	\$262,500
Total cost:	\$958,750

Illinois

Hegewisch Marsh Restoration. The Office of the Lieutenant Governor, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Agency, will restore 55 acres of a 100-acre coastal wetland of Lake Michigan within the 4,800 acre Calumet Open Space Reserve in south Chicago. Restoration will include the removal of non-natives, planting native plants and excavations to provide more emergent wetland areas.

Partners: City of Chicago, the Conservation Fund and the Field Museum of Natural History.

Coastal grant:	\$ 750,000
State share:	\$ 218,501
Partners share:	\$ 292,038
Total cost:	\$1,260,539

Maine

Thomas Island Habitat Protection. Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will acquire 122 acres, including the 62-acre Thomas Island in Hancock County. Thomas Island provides high-quality foraging, migration, breeding, and wintering habitat for a long list of bird species. Long-term protection of this habitat will also help buffer and contribute to the biological integrity of the Maine Coastal Island National Wildlife Refuge.

Partners: Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Ducks Unlimited and an individual landowner.

Coastal grant:	\$453,000
Partners share:	\$305,000
Total cost:	\$758,000

Massachusetts

Great Neck and Moody Island. The Department of Conservation and Recreation in Massachusetts plans to acquire 254 acres of wetlands and buffering uplands at the mouth of the Ipswich and Eagle Rivers, which drain directly into Plum Island Sound. The proposed acquisition is immediately adjacent to and/or in the vicinity of 7,000 acres of permanently protected public and private conservation areas, including the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge.

Partners: Town of Ipswich and Fields Pond Foundation.

Coastal grant:	\$ 846,000
State share:	\$ 100,000
Partners share:	\$ 919,840
Total cost:	\$1,865,840

Salisbury Marsh Land Acquisition. The Department of Fish and Game in Massachusetts will acquire about 256 acres of salt marsh and estuary habitat in the Salisbury Marsh in Essex County. The Salisbury marsh has been designated as an important habitat for the American black duck, a species that has been identified as a high priority in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Partners: Essex County Greenbelt Association and Essex County Sportsmen's Association.

Coastal grant:	\$525,400
State share:	\$228,063
Partners share:	\$ 26,000
Total cost:	\$779,463

Michigan

Detroit River Wetland Restoration and Enhancement. Michigan's Department of Natural Resources will restore or enhance 65 acres in and adjacent to the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. The Canada-United States North American Waterfowl Management Plan has identified the Detroit River and western Lake Erie as one of 34 waterfowl areas of major concern.

Partners: Wayne County, Friends of the Detroit River and Integrated Vegetation Management Partners, Inc.

Coastal grant:	\$ 746,000
Partners share:	\$ 535,000
Total cost:	\$1,281,000

Keweenaw County Land Acquisition. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will acquire 1,475 acres along the coast of Lake Superior on the Keweenaw Peninsula in Keweenaw County. Three federally-listed species that would benefit include the gray wolf, Canada lynx and bald eagle.

Partners: North Woods Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy and Eagle Harbor Township.

Coastal grant:	\$ 928,000
State share:	\$ 200,200
Partners share:	\$ 797,875
Total cost:	\$1,926,075

New Jersey

De Soi-Stinger Property Acquisition. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will acquire 164 acres of important migratory bird stopover habitat on the lower Cape May peninsula. This area is recognized as one of the most significant concentration areas for migratory birds in the world.

Coastal grantz'	\$ 928,000
State share:	\$2,197,400
Partner share:	\$ 297,000
Total cost:	\$3,422,400

Texas

North Deer Island, Protection and Restoration, Phase II. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, in cooperation with the Texas General Land Office, will protect 82 acres of habitat from erosion and to restore 8 acres of estuarine marsh on North Deer Island in Galveston County. Phase II is the final part of a plan to protect and restore over 135 acres of habitats associated with the island. North Deer Island is the largest rookery island in the Galveston Bay system and is used each year by up to 30,000 breeding pairs of 19 species of coastal-dependent birds including over 1,000 nesting pairs of federally listed brown pelican.

Partners: Galveston Bay Estuary Program, Gulf of Mexico Program, the Service's Coastal Program in Texas, Texas Genco EcoCenter, and Audubon Houston.

Coastal grant**	\$ 653,300
State share:	\$ 350,000
Partners share:	\$ 167,000
Total cost:	\$1,170,300

Washington

Crockett Lake Coastal Wetlands Acquisition and Protection. Washington State Parks and Recreation will acquire and permanently protect 355 acres at Crockett Lake in Island County. With the addition of this acreage, almost the entire Crockett Lake wetland system (approximately 700 acres) will be protected. Crockett Lake is a shallow, brackish lake and complex of salt and freshwater marshes, is an important habitat for resident and migratory birds, and provides estuarine rearing and foraging habitat for salmonids and other fish species.

Partners: Whidbey Camaro Land Trust, Washington Trout, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Trust Board, National Park Service, Whidbey Chapter of the Audubon Society, and an individual landowner.

Coastal grant:	\$ 850,700
Partners share:	\$ 345,000
Total cost:	\$1,195,700

Eld Inlet Tidelands and Freshwater Wetlands. The Washington Department of Ecology, in conjunction with the Washington State Coastal Protection Fund, will purchase a conservation easement to permanently protect 2.5 miles of marine shoreline and restrict development on 203 acres in Eld Inlet, which is in the southern portion of Puget Sound. The project would benefit a variety of species including anadromous fish and migratory and resident waterfowl.

Partners: The Trust for Public Lands, Capitol Land Trust, and Entrix.

Coastal grant:	\$ 799,000
State share:	\$ 50,000
Partners share:	\$ 339,000
Total cost:	\$1,188,000

Port Susan Phase 2: Acquisition and Protection. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, in conjunction with Washington State Salmon Recovery Board, will purchase 3,318 acres and conservation easements on another 63 acres in Port Susan Bay in Puget Sound. When combined with existing reserves in Port Susan Bay, this proposal will contribute to a contiguous tidelands system totaling more than 7,000 acres. Over 30 shorebird species regularly use Port Susan Bay and it provides important habitats for several species of fish, including federally threatened chinook salmon and bull trout.

Partners: Whidbey Camano Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Washington Trout, Pacific Coast Joint Venture, Stillaguamish Tribe, Ducks Unlimited, and individual community volunteers.

Coastal grant:	\$ 928,000
State share:	\$ 385,000
Partners share:	\$ 15,000
Total cost:	\$1,328,000

Qwuloolt Project, Phase IV—Estuarine Restoration. The Washington Department of Ecology plans to remove segments of a dike along Ebey Slough in the lower Snohomish River watershed to restore about 390 acres of intertidal estuarine wetlands. This project will restore important intertidal transitional salmon habitat benefiting the threatened Puget Sound chinook salmon and many other species, including resident and migratory birds.

Partners: Tulalip Tribes, the Natural Resources Damage Assessment Trustees for the Tulalip Landfill Superfund Site, and the City of Maryville.

Coastal grant:	\$ 902,400
Partners share:	\$ 440,000
Total cost:	\$1,342,000