

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of International Conservation  
African Elephant Conservation Fund Summary FY 2011**

In 2011, the USFWS awarded 29 new grants from the African Elephant Conservation Fund totaling \$1,774,464.50, which was matched by \$3,662,480.31 in leveraged funds. Field projects in fourteen countries (in alphabetical order below) will be supported, in addition to four projects that involve multiple countries.

**Central African Republic**

**AFE-0723** *Forest elephant study, Dzanga Clearing, Central African Republic.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant will provide ongoing support to the longest running study of African forest elephants. The grantee will provide surveillance and monitoring of the forest elephant population in the region, training of research assistants on elephant identification, and analysis of elephant vocalizations.

FWS: \$44,485            Leveraged funds: \$45,381

**Chad**

**AFE-0757** *Zakouma Elephant Monitoring and Protection Program, Zakouma National Park and the greater Zakouma landscape, Republic of Chad.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant will provide ongoing support for aerial surveillance to conduct anti-poaching activities, perform wildlife surveys during wet and dry seasons, monitor elephant populations and poaching level, and improve the anti-poaching system in Zakouma, Chad.

FWS/USAID: \$126,150            Leveraged funds: \$168,043

**Congo**

**AFE-0758** *Transport for surveillance at Conkouati-Douli National Park, Republic of Congo.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This ongoing project will support the costs of a new vehicle to be used by eco-guards in Conkouati-Douli National Park in the Republic of Congo. The eco-guards will use the vehicle to conduct anti-poaching patrols, resupply remote field teams, and maintain roadblocks to prevent trafficking in illegal wildlife products, especially bushmeat.

FWS: \$48,555            Leveraged funds: \$22,145

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

**AFE-0713** *Elephant conservation in the Ituri Forest: building critical infrastructure for elephant protection in the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.* In partnership with Gilman International Conservation (GIC). This grant will support the construction of housing for wildlife personnel from the Democratic Republic of Congo's national wildlife authority, the *Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature* (ICCN), at a new outpost on the eastern side of the Okapi Wildlife Reserve. The area is under tremendous

pressure from settlers clearing land and from poachers seeking ivory and bushmeat, so additional anti-poaching presence on the main access route into the Reserve is essential.

FWS/USAID: \$104,740      Leveraged funds: \$8,820

**AFE-0768** *Securing the Tutu Basin elephant population through monitoring, reporting and associated activities.* In partnership with Lukuru Wildlife Research Foundation, Inc. This new project will improve knowledge of and security for an elephant population between Salonga and Maiko national parks in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Transects will be conducted, mapped, and repeated every six months in order to estimate baseline population levels and to rapidly detect and respond to threats in the area. The grantee will regularly visit sensitive areas where wildlife gathers at mineral licks to provide a security presence.

FWS: \$152,410      Leveraged funds: \$392,778

## **Gabon**

**AFE-0707** *Toward optimizing acoustic methods for elephant conservation.* In partnership with Cornell University. This project will further a promising new technology for monitoring elephant activity and human activity (including vehicles and gunshots) using unmanned acoustic recording units deployed in Central African forest. The grantee will further automate the software program that sifts through the recordings to isolate elephant and poaching sounds, and train local Gabonese and Congolese conservationists in using these techniques to monitor remote sites.

FWS: \$78,768      Leveraged funds: \$50,268

**AFE-0721** *Conserving the elephants of the Djoua-Zadie-Mwagna area of North-East Gabon.* In partnership with Zoological Society of London. This project will provide baseline information on wildlife in the Gabonese portion of the Dja-Minkebe-Odzala trinational landscape. The grantee will conduct rapid reconnaissance surveys to estimate mammal abundance and relative population densities and to record levels of human disturbance and threats to wildlife in the northern Belinga-Djoua area and the eastern Zadie area. These regions are currently undergoing rapid transformation due to mining and extractive industries.

FWS: \$50,555      Leveraged funds: \$25,567

**AFE-0767** *Protecting Gabon's elephant populations via aerial surveillance.* In partnership with Agence Nationale des Parcs Nationaux. This grant will support the operating costs of a small aircraft to conduct aerial surveillance of Gabon's national parks. The grantee will detect and respond to signs of poaching targeting forest elephants, prevent future illegal incursions, and conduct systematic surveys of the savannah and swamp areas of Bateke, Lope, Loango, and Wonga Wongue parks.

FWS/USAID: \$100,000      Leveraged funds: \$187,300

## **Ghana**

**AFE-0752** *Elephant conservation through law enforcement and community awareness. Mole National Park, Ghana.* In partnership with Born Free USA. This grant will support operating costs for patrols by Ghana's national parks authority in Mole National Park. The grantee will

also conduct outreach to communities adjacent to the park to create awareness of local impacts that threaten the park's wildlife and to introduce techniques to mitigate conflict with elephants.  
FWS: \$22,200      Leveraged funds: \$224,600

## Guinea

**AFE-0753** *Improving the protection of forest elephants (Loxodonta africana cyclotis) and reducing human-elephant conflicts at Ziama forest and Ziama-Wenegesi corridor in Southeastern Guinea, West Africa.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This grant will support the second year of funding for Ziama Biosphere Reserve to continue wildlife protection and monitoring activities, identify and protect elephant corridors that are still viable, and to develop a strategy to mitigate human elephant conflict around the reserve.  
FWS: \$74,319      Leveraged funds: \$83,765

## Kenya

**AFE-0706** *Training of Northern Rangelands Trust Community Conservancy Scouts at Kenya Wildlife Service Manyani Field Training School, Kenya.* In partnership with Northern Rangelands Trust. This project will train 70 community scouts from 15 conservancies at Kenya's national wildlife training school. The scouts will be trained in basic patrol techniques and tactics, first aid, national wildlife policy, map reading and GPS navigation, radio communication procedures and physical fitness.  
FWS: \$48,380      Leveraged funds: \$75,000

**AFE-0718** *Building community scout capacity to enhance the viability of the Oldonyiro elephant corridor in Isiolo, Kenya.* In partnership with African Wildlife Foundation. This project will expand the coverage of community scouts to an additional community owned area, Oldonyiro, in northern Kenya. Locally recruited scouts will be trained, provided with equipment, deployed on patrols, and will liaise with scouts from the adjacent four communities in order to better secure the area for elephants and other wildlife.  
FWS: \$48,960      Leveraged funds: \$29,374

**AFE-0750** *Optimizing of radio communications in the network of community conservancies to improve security for elephants in northern Kenya.* In partnership with Northern Rangelands Trust. This project will install a new security radio network in and around the eighteen community conservancies that comprise the Northern Rangelands Trust in northern Kenya to improve coverage for community scouts securing elephants and other wildlife.  
FWS: \$49,190      Leveraged funds: \$75,084

**AFE-0761** *Enhancing problem elephant monitoring in and around Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Laikipia District, Kenya.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will deploy and monitor several innovative, non-invasive, non-lethal experimental methods to prevent elephants from raiding crops at farms adjacent to an important wildlife area in central Kenya.  
FWS: \$54,614      Leveraged funds: \$41,513

**AFE-0766** *Community based conservation of wild African elephant in the Mathews and Ndoto mountain ecosystems, northern Kenya.* In partnership with The Milgis Trust. This grant will support community scouts, enabling them to conduct anti-poaching patrols and to secure access to water for elephants and other wildlife, thereby alleviating conflict with livestock. The scouts will monitor ecosystem health (vegetation quality, wildlife densities, and water availability) in Kenya's arid northern rangelands, including the Mathews and Ndotos mountain ranges.  
FWS: \$24,999      Leveraged funds: \$222,070

## **Mali**

**AFE-0760** *The Mali Elephant Project, Phase III: managing human-elephant contact.* In partnership with WILD Foundation. This project will improve human coexistence with the Gourma elephants in Mali. The grant will support a collaborative effort by international and local organizations in their campaign to improve natural resource management decisions locally and nationally, and to alleviate human-elephant conflict.  
FWS: \$47,994      Leveraged funds: \$588,865

## **Mozambique**

**AFE-0736** *Upgrade of VHF security radio network in Niassa National Reserve, Mozambique.* In partnership with *Sociedade para a Gestao e Desenvolvimento da Reserva do Niassa* (SRN). This project will install a new security radio network in and around the Niassa Reserve to improve coverage for wildlife personnel protecting Mozambique's largest elephant population.  
FWS: \$49,913      Leveraged funds: \$71,365.31

## **Nigeria**

**AFE-0759** *Strengthening the protection of elephants at Yankari Game Reserve through enhanced law enforcement action and monitoring 2011-2012.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant will provide continued support to provincial government wildlife personnel, enabling them to conduct more efficient and effective anti-poaching patrols in and around the Yankari Game reserve in Nigeria.  
FWS: \$79,430      Leveraged funds: \$47,612

## **South Africa**

**AFE-0705** *Fertility and aggression control in wild African elephant bulls through GnRH vaccination.* In partnership with University of the Western Cape UWC). This project will monitor the effects of a reversible male immunocontraception method already being tested on elephants in South Africa. The technique has potential for controlling elephant population size in closed protected areas or areas with local overpopulation, without dangerous adverse effects on elephant behavior.  
FWS: \$44,680      Leveraged funds: \$186,000

**AFE-0747** *The transboundary elephant research programme within Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, South Africa.* In partnership with Save the Elephants. This ongoing project

will monitor focal elephants throughout the Kruger National Park and adjacent areas to better understand elephant population dynamics, social behavior, dispersal, and ecological impact.  
FWS: \$64,343      Leveraged funds: \$66,112

## **Tanzania**

**AFE-0737** *Protecting connectivity, reducing conflict: conserving the elephant metapopulation of south-central Tanzania.* In partnership with Udzungwa Elephant Project. This project will improve protection of elephants and key habitat in and around the Udzungwa Mountains of southern Tanzania. The grantee will identify and monitor corridors between protected areas used by elephants. They will also initiate programs to protect connectivity and dispersal areas for these increasingly isolated elephant populations.  
FWS: \$37,035      Leveraged funds: \$64,866

## **Zambia**

**AFE-0703** *Elephant conservation through community based law enforcement; supporting village scout anti-poaching work in South Luangwa National Park, Zambia.* In partnership with South Luangwa Conservation Society. This grant will provide ongoing support for anti-poaching patrols and the establishment and maintenance of temporary outposts during the wet season. It will also cover operating expenses for aerial support to prevent poaching and enable quick response to provide veterinary care for animals caught in snares in and around South Luangwa, Zambia.  
FWS: \$52,822.50      Leveraged funds: \$187,610

**AFE-0708** *Support for law enforcement officer housing improvements to enhance the protection of elephant, *Loxodonta africana*, in North Luangwa National Park.* In partnership with Frankfurt Zoological Society. This grant will support the construction of 24 houses for wildlife police officers and their families at North Luangwa National Park's headquarters at Mano. In order to increase anti-poaching patrols and security for the region's elephants and other wildlife, ZAWA is transferring more staff to the area and additional housing is required.  
FWS: \$86,393      Leveraged funds: \$94,208

**AFE-0729** *Conserving vital habitat for the elephant population of Kasanka National Park and the Greater Bangweulu Area, Zambia.* In partnership with Kasanka Trust. This grant will support operational costs for patrol teams in Kasanka National Park to intensify patrol coverage in the park. It will also support a community outreach officer to expand the elephant conflict mitigation program outside the park.  
FWS: \$24,999      Leveraged funds: \$99,386

**AFE-0733** *Support for aerial operations and law enforcement activities for North Luangwa National Park.* In partnership with North Luangwa Conservation Programme. This grant will support ground and aerial patrols to secure the North Luangwa ecosystem in eastern Zambia. The grantee will provide rations for field patrols conducted by Zambia Wildlife Authority rangers (ZAWA) and support operating costs for vehicles and aerial surveillance.  
FWS: \$64,930      Leveraged funds: \$202,137

## Multiple Countries

**AFE-0710** *Supporting the core activities of the Secretariat of the IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group.* In partnership with IUCN (International Union for Conservation of the Nature and Natural Resources). This grant will support the African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG) Secretariat to compile and synthesize information on the conservation and status of the African elephant, and to provide technical information and impartial advice to governments, non-governmental organizations and inter-governmental organizations. The result will be improved conservation effectiveness in range and non-range states.

FWS: \$40,700            Leveraged funds: \$112,233

**AFE-0744** *Operation Lucky Dice Part II: Activating cooperation between African and Asian law enforcement.* In partnership with FREELAND Foundation. This grant will support the second year of a campaign to promote cooperation between African wildlife and law enforcement agencies with their counterparts in Southeast Asia, aiming to detect and intercept illegally trafficked wildlife and to improve prosecution rates. The grantee will arrange an exchange visit to Kenya by all participants and joint investigations into ivory smuggling.

FWS: \$49,208            Leveraged funds: \$15,045

**AFE-0749** *Supporting the management and operation of the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS): assessing illegal trade in ivory for CITES COP16.* In partnership with TRAFFIC International. The Elephant Trade Information System monitors and analyzes trends in illegal hunting and trade in ivory in elephant range states and illegal consumer markets. This grant will help finance the analysis of information from July 2011 through June 2008 in preparation for the 16th Conference of the Parties to the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species.

FWS: \$63,832            Leveraged funds: \$235,387

**AFE-0730** *Assigning origins to major versus minor ivory markets.* In partnership with University of Washington. This grant will support the genetic analysis of illegal ivory shipments intercepted in two seizures in Thailand and one seizure in Kenya in 2010. Genetic analysis will help confirm the ivory's country of origin and assist law enforcement and prosecution efforts.

FWS: \$39,860            Leveraged funds: \$39,946