

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Program

Appropriation Language

For wildlife conservation grants to States and to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and federally recognized Indian tribes under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished, [\$70,000,000] \$74,000,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the amount provided herein, [\$6,000,000] \$6,343,000 is for a competitive grant program for Indian tribes not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: Provided further, That the Secretary shall, after deducting said [\$6,000,000] \$6,343,000 and administrative expenses, apportion the amount provided herein in the following manner: (1) to the District of Columbia and to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, each a sum equal to not more than one-half of 1 percent thereof; and (2) to Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, each a sum equal to not more than one-fourth of 1 percent thereof: Provided further, That the Secretary shall apportion the remaining amount in the following manner: (1) one-third of which is based on the ratio to which the land area of such State bears to the total land area of all such States; and (2) two-thirds of which is based on the ratio to which the population of such State bears to the total population of all such States: Provided further, That the amounts apportioned under this paragraph shall be adjusted equitably so that no State shall be apportioned a sum which is less than 1 percent of the amount available for apportionment under this paragraph for any fiscal year or more than 5 percent of such amount: Provided further, That the Federal share of planning grants shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of such projects and the Federal share of implementation grants shall not exceed 50 percent of the total costs of such projects: Provided further, That the non-Federal share of such projects may not be derived from Federal grant programs: Provided further, That no State, territory, or other jurisdiction shall receive a grant unless it has developed, [or committed to develop] by October 1, 2005, a comprehensive wildlife conservation plan, consistent with criteria established by the Secretary of the Interior, that considers the broad range of the State, territory, or other jurisdiction's wildlife and associated habitats, with appropriate priority placed on those species with the greatest conservation need and taking into consideration the relative level of funding available for the conservation of those species: Provided further, That any amount apportioned in 2006 to any State, territory, or other jurisdiction that remains unobligated as of September 30, 2007, shall be reapportioned, together with funds appropriated in 2008, in the manner provided herein: Provided further, That balances from amounts previously appropriated under the heading "State Wildlife Grants" shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation and shall remain available until expended. (Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005.)

Justification of Language Change

- 1) Deletion: "... or committed to develop ..."

The legislative deadline of October 1, 2005 is the beginning of FY 2006 and therefore the time to develop conservation plans will have ended.

Authorizing Statutes

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544). 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; provides for cooperation with States, including authorization of financial assistance; 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.

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742(a)-754). Establishes a comprehensive national fish and wildlife policy and authorizes the Secretary to take steps required for the development, management, advancement, conservation, and protection of fisheries resources and wildlife resources through research, acquisition of refuge lands, development of existing facilities, and other means.

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661). The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to provide assistance to, and cooperate with, Federal, State, and public or private agencies and organizations in the development, protection, rearing, and stocking of all species of wildlife, resources thereof, and their habitat, in controlling losses of the same from disease or other causes, in minimizing damages from overabundant species, in providing public shooting and fishing areas, including easements across public lands for access thereto.

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants		2004 Actual	2005 Enacted	Uncontrollable & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2006 Budget Request	Change s From 2005 (+/-)
State Wildlife Grants \$(000)		61,137	61,040		+4,397	65,437	+4,397
Tribal Wildlife Grants \$(000)		5,926	5,917		+426	6,343	+426
Administration \$(000)		1,953	1,947		+149	2,092	+145
	FTE		7			7	
CAM (see General Business Operation Expenses)		121	124			128	+4
Total, State and Tribal Wildlife Grants	\$(000)	69,137	69,028		+4,972	74,000	+4,972
	FTE	7	7			7	

Program Overview

The long-term goal of this program is to stabilize, restore, enhance and protect species and their habitat that are of concern. By doing so, the nation avoids the costly and time consuming process that occurs when a species' population plummets and needs additional management protection through the Endangered Species Act and other regulatory protections. The program attempts to accomplish this goal by 1) focusing projects on species and their habitats that are in most need of conservation and 2) by leveraging Federal funding through cost-sharing provisions with State and territorial fish and wildlife agencies. The State and Tribal Wildlife Grant program is based on the Secretary's Four C's effort of communication, consultation, cooperation, and conservation.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

The Environmental Contaminants Program has been using performance based information for several years in its resource allocation process.

- To ensure that all State Wildlife Comprehensive Plans are completed by their congressionally mandated due date of October 1, 2005, the Service has increased its technical assistance efforts to State wildlife agencies through Regional Development Assistance Teams. This increased collaboration is designed also to answer State questions about the plans and to help ensure the plans meet the strategic intent and detailed requirements of the Service and Congress.
- To encourage more rapid obligation of grant funds the Service has increased communications with program stakeholders regarding the financial status of their award proposals and each State's status of obligating their apportionment within the 2-year deadline. This is being accomplished by data sharing between Regional offices and State wildlife agencies.
- The Service is working to make sure that all individual program grant information is available to the stakeholder in order to increase the program accountability and increase the stakeholders' ability to obligate funds.
- The use of Activity Based Costing will provide the appropriate avenue to report our accomplishments and accurately document our efforts while further aiding our identification, prioritization, and utilization of our recognized expertise.

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Since FY 2002, Congress has appropriated approximately \$287 million of Federal funds for this grant program for distribution to states and tribes. The grant program provides Federal funds for 1) the planning and development of State, Tribal, and territorial programs that address species in greatest conservation need, and 2) the implementation of these programs that benefit wildlife and their habitat. The Federal share for planning and development grants may not exceed 75%; the Federal share may not exceed 50% for implementation grants. To establish eligibility for these funds, each State and territory had to commit to develop a Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy or Plan (CWCS) by October 1, 2005. All 56 States and territories quickly committed to develop a CWCS and they are making excellent progress completing these plans.

The Service is playing a very active role with the States and territories as they develop their Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies and is providing important reviews of these plans. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has initiated a National Acceptance Advisory Team (NAAT) to review and recommend acceptance (to the FWS Director) when the States submit their CWCS plans. The NAAT consists of eight Service administrators (Assistant Director for Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs, seven Assistant Regional Directors for Migratory Birds & State Programs), plus four State wildlife agency administrators and one representative from the Teaming with Wildlife

Committee of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. In addition, the Service has established a system of Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Development Assistance Teams (DATs) to assist the States with the development of their CWCS. The DATs answer questions, transmit relevant information, facilitate regional meetings, and assist with Regional data compilation. National coordination of the DAT point persons is achieved by holding monthly conference calls.

The initial funding provided by the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Program has already allowed many States and territories to begin implementing conservation actions for which they have sought funding for many years. Some examples of these funded projects include:

- The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is restoring 90 acres of tallgrass prairie and 70 acres of wheatgrass playa grassland on existing wildlife management areas which will result in restoring 160 acres of two rare plant community type in the Rainwater Basin of south-central Nebraska. These plant communities will provide important habitat for an array of sensitive prairie species.
- The New Mexico Game and Fish Department is determining the population numbers and trends of flammulated owls, resident in or migrating through the State. Data resulting from this project will help resource managers make informed decisions about land management actions affecting raptors in New Mexico.
- The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is partnering with the City of Chicago to purchase 102 acres at Hegewisch marsh. The new acquisition provides optimum nesting habitat for the State-listed little blue heron, yellow-headed blackbird, pied-billed grebe, and common moorhen.
- The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is gathering wild Atlantic sturgeon from the Delaware River to analyze genetic profiles in an effort to restore this species that is close to extinction.
- Pennsylvania is developing a program that includes dam removal and habitat restoration that address fish passage and migratory fish restoration activities — including species and habitat at risk — throughout the State.

2004 Program Performance Accomplishments

Significant accomplishments were completed in FY 2004. Most notably were the Service's continued pro-active efforts to work closely with State and territory fish and wildlife agencies to assist with their efforts to prepare Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies or Plans.

In addition to the planning efforts, the program also contributed to the enhancement of almost 50,000 acres in Utah in combination with other State and Federal agencies and programs. Other States are using the funds to enhance their planning efforts. For example, Alabama began research into shoal bass, a species that is found only in the Chattahoochee River drainage in Alabama and whose population status remains unclear. Another accomplishment and example of the program is from the State of Hawaii. Hawaii has many native species of wildlife that are threatened due to a variety of reasons. Hawaii is benefiting significantly from the program funds and is using State and Tribal Wildlife Grant Program funds to 1) repair and replace approximately 0.7 miles of perimeter fence around Kanaha Pond Wildlife Sanctuary and increase predator control efforts. To afford greater protection of endangered Hawaiian waterbirds, and 2) contract with Wildlife Services USDA/APHIS to conduct intensive, year-round predator control at the Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve and adjacent State lands that will result in improved nesting success of ground nesting seabirds within the Reserve. Specifically, the latter activity can improve nesting success of two species of concern: Laysan Albatross and Wedge-tailed Shearwaters.

State Wildlife Grants Program Apportionments CFDA No. 15.634			
State	Fiscal Year 2002	Fiscal Year 2003	Fiscal Year 2004
Alabama	\$1,205,716	\$896,094	\$950,854
Alaska	\$3,880,000	\$2,883,633	\$3,060,095
American Samoa	\$194,000	\$144,181	\$153,004
Arizona	\$1,837,803	\$1,365,867	\$1,449,489
Arkansas	\$906,455	\$673,685	\$714,925
California	\$3,880,000	\$2,883,633	\$3,060,095
Colorado	\$1,610,797	\$1,197,155	\$1,270,452
Connecticut	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Delaware	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
District of Columbia	\$388,000	\$288,363	\$306,009
Florida	\$3,286,987	\$2,442,897	\$2,592,298
Georgia	\$1,921,295	\$1,427,913	\$1,515,288
Guam	\$194,000	\$144,181	\$153,004
Hawaii	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Idaho	\$914,231	\$679,467	\$721,085
Illinois	\$2,642,919	\$1,964,224	\$2,084,443
Indiana	\$1,364,676	\$1,014,232	\$1,076,313
Iowa	\$976,284	\$725,581	\$769,994
Kansas	\$1,148,347	\$853,460	\$905,720
Kentucky	\$1,041,613	\$774,131	\$821,523
Louisiana	\$1,176,676	\$874,511	\$928,044
Maine	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Maryland	\$1,015,531	\$754,745	\$800,932
Massachusetts	\$1,182,241	\$878,643	\$932,424
Michigan	\$2,225,353	\$1,653,890	\$1,754,509
Minnesota	\$1,557,304	\$1,157,397	\$1,228,258
Mississippi	\$891,399	\$662,495	\$703,052
Missouri	\$1,555,137	\$1,155,785	\$1,226,536
Montana	\$1,367,332	\$1,016,216	\$1,078,493
N. Mariana Islands	\$194,000	\$144,181	\$153,004
Nebraska	\$936,373	\$695,921	\$738,529
Nevada	\$1,259,774	\$936,275	\$993,612
New Hampshire	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
New Jersey	\$1,540,827	\$1,145,144	\$1,215,376
New Mexico	\$1,319,017	\$980,305	\$1,040,333
New York	\$3,734,378	\$2,775,397	\$2,945,190
North Carolina	\$1,845,774	\$1,371,785	\$1,455,766
North Dakota	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Ohio	\$2,332,358	\$1,733,414	\$1,839,503
Oklahoma	\$1,180,347	\$877,241	\$930,946
Oregon	\$1,398,427	\$1,039,321	\$1,102,960
Pennsylvania	\$2,527,945	\$1,878,775	\$1,993,755
Puerto Rico	\$388,000	\$288,363	\$306,009
Rhode Island	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
South Carolina	\$959,976	\$713,459	\$757,142
South Dakota	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Tennessee	\$1,345,020	\$999,624	\$1,060,816
Texas	\$3,880,000	\$2,883,633	\$3,060,095
Utah	\$1,090,005	\$810,101	\$859,703
Vermont	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Virgin Islands	\$194,000	\$144,181	\$153,004
Virginia	\$1,576,121	\$1,171,378	\$1,243,105
Washington	\$1,594,582	\$1,185,101	\$1,257,489
West Virginia	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Wisconsin	\$1,402,979	\$1,042,700	\$1,106,520
Wyoming	\$776,000	\$576,727	\$612,020
Total	\$77,600,000	\$57,672,675	\$61,201,916*

* Note: \$64,642 of reverted funds added to appropriation.

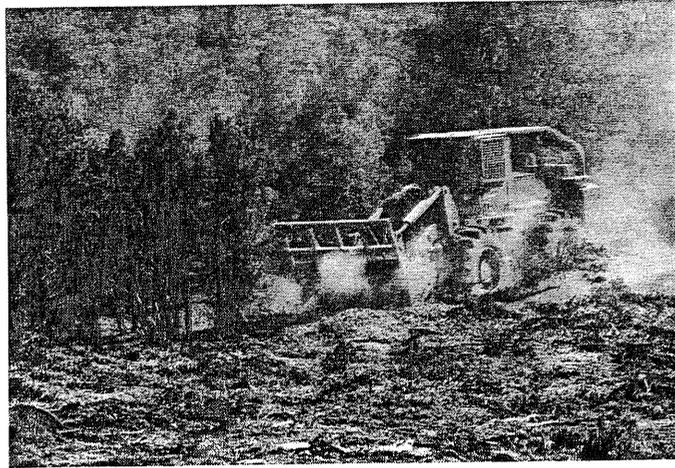
accomplishments reported in FY 2005 will provide a sound basis to develop effective baseline performance measures.

2005 Planned Program Performance

The most notable planned accomplishment for 2005 will be the completion of Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy or Plans for all 56 states and territories. States and territories are continuing their efforts with their Plans which began in earnest for most agencies in FY 2004. Most states and territories will not complete their plans until late in FY 2005.

Many States and territories will continue with the implementation of their planned conservation activities. Some of the planned accomplishments include research on paddlefish in the Tennessee-Tom River system, a river planning initiative in Texas, assessing the use of Conservation Reserve Program lands by mountain plovers in Colorado, and conducting reptile research in South Carolina.

In addition, the Service also plans to finalize baseline measures during FY 2005 to allow the performance of this program to be monitored for future years. The Service has attempted to establish measures for this program in previous years. However, these efforts have been delayed because of the lag between the initial apportionments and the ability of States to acquire budget appropriations through their funding processes. In addition, project periods are usually 1 year or longer and final project accomplishment reports are usually submitted 3 to 6 months after completion of the project. With this timeline in mind, the Service believes that the program's



A tractor prepares the seedbed in Utah as part of a State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Program project to restore approximately 50,000 acres of land.

Justification of 2006 Program Change

Subactivity		2006 Budget Request	Program Change (+/-)
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants	\$(000)	74,000	+4,972
	FTE	7	0

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants (+\$4,972,474)

The proposed increase will provide for additional grants to States, allocated based on apportionment formula, giving the States a commensurate increase in their ability to improve the health of each State's wildlife. This budget proposal includes \$6,343,000 for Tribal grants, an increase of \$426,355 from FY 2005. Grants funded with the additional money will include projects such as gathering information on nesting conditions of rare birds, reintroducing birds of prey into an ecosystem, restoring degraded streams, improving habitat for threatened and endangered stream species, developing and implementing plans for managing invasive species, and restoring populations and health of endangered wildlife and other species of need. The States have committed to developing individual Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans by October 2005 that will serve as building blocks of regional and national wildlife recovery actions, with the intent of preventing the decline of species. As a result of this budget request, the Fish and Wildlife Service will be able to continue its nationwide natural resource conservation efforts that focus on species of concern and their habitats.

State fish and wildlife agencies are completing their Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans in FY 2005 and will begin implementing them in FY 2005 and FY 2006. Once submitted and accepted by the Service, the States will be expected to implement the conservation actions described in their Plans. With these roadmaps in place identifying the kinds of work to be done, the Service anticipates the States will, as a group, begin to request more funding for implementation, or on-the-ground projects. The level of funding proposed for FY 2006 will help fill this anticipated need for support of State Wildlife Grant implementation projects and these funds will be available to them through FY 2007. FY 2006 apportioned funds not obligated by the end of 2007 will be reapportioned to all the States the next year.

The proposed program change will allow the Service to provide more grant money to States for their efforts to stabilize, restore, enhance, and protect species and their habitats that are of conservation

concern. The increased funds will improve the likelihood of State programs being successful with maintaining or increasing the populations of species of concern. The enhanced funding will increase the ability of State agencies to work with landowners and government agencies to finalize and implement conservation agreements and actions. Because this program is focused on biological cycles of species as those species benefit from habitat conservation, the long-term benefits to populations will occur over several years. Using State performance reports from grants awarded in FY 2002 and FY 2003, the Service is now establishing a baseline of habitat acres restored or improved. This baseline will be used to refine our measurable performance goals and to develop future performance estimates.

This program contributes to the Department's End Outcome Goal—*"Sustain Biological Communities on DOI Managed and Influenced Lands and Waters in a Manner Consistent with Obligations Regarding the Allocation and Use of Water."* This grant program employs Strategy 1—Create habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish—in supporting the Department's strategic mission of Resource Protection. Through the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program, the Service and States help achieve this strategic goal by restoring or improving habitat conditions that protect and support species of conservation concern. In FY 2005, the Service is establishing a performance baseline of acres of habitat restored or enhanced. The additional performance to be achieved through the proposed budget increase will be measured in the number of acres conserved through this program.

As habitat conditions on the acres measured are improved, this program will contribute directly or indirectly to several of the DOI End Outcome Performance Measures associated with this End Outcome Goal, including:

- Percent of species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels, in cooperation with affected States and others, as defined in approved management documents
- Percent of threatened or endangered species listed a decade or more that are stabilized or improved.
- Percent of candidate species where listing is unnecessary as a result of conservation actions or agreements.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
STATE and TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS FUND

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars)			
Identification code 14-1694-0	2004 Actual	2005 Estimate	2006 Estimate
Obligations by program activity:			
00.01 State Wildlife Grants *	59,000	66,000	72,000
00.02 Administration *	2,000	2,000	2,000
00.03 Tribal Wildlife Grants	8,000	9,000	10,000
10.00 Total obligations	69,000	77,000	84,000
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
21.40 Unobligated balance available, start of year	62,009	63,302	55,330
Recoveries	1,155		
22.00 New Budget authority (gross)	69,138	69,028	74,000
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	132,302	132,330	129,330
23.95 New obligations (-)	-69,000	-77,000	-84,000
24.40 Unobligated balance available, end of year	63,302	55,330	45,330
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
Discretionary			
40.20 Appropriation (Special Fund) LWCF	70,000	70,000	74,000
40.36 Rescission of Authority [P.L. 107-63]	-452		
40.36 Rescission of Authority [P.L. 108-108]	-410		
40.36 Rescission of Authority [P.L. 108-447]		-972	
40.76 Reduction pursuant to P.L. 107-206	0	0	
43.00 Appropriation (total discretionary)	69,138	69,028	74,000
Change in unpaid obligations:			
Unpaid obligations, start of year:			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	93,125	124,125	140,125
73.10 New obligations	69,000	77,000	84,000
73.20 Total outlays, gross (-)	-38,000	-61,000	-68,000
Unpaid obligations, end of year:			
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	124,125	140,125	156,125
Outlays, (gross) detail:			
86.97 Outlays from new discretionary authority	21,000	21,000	22,000
86.98 Outlays from discretionary balances	17,000	40,000	46,000
87.00 Total outlays (gross)	38,000	61,000	68,000
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00 Budget authority	69,138	69,028	74,000
90.00 Outlays	38,000	61,000	68,000

Object classification (in thousands of dollars)			
Direct obligations:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	992	1,032	1,074
11.3 Other than full time permanent	5	5	5
11.5 Other personnel compensation	41	43	44
11.9 Total personnel compensation	1,038	1,080	1,123
12.1 Civilian Benefits	276	287	299
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	175	179	182
22.0 Transportation of Things	16		
23.2 Rental Payments to Others	48	49	50
23.3 Communications, Utilities and Misc. Charges	13		
24.0 Printing and reproduction	1	1	1
25.2 Other services	63	64	66
25.3 Purchases of goods and services from Government Accts.	36	37	37
25.7 Operations and maintenance of Equipment	5	5	5
26.0 Supplies	25	26	26
31.0 Equipment	100	102	104
41.0 Grants, subsidies and contributions	67,263	75,170	82,107
99.9 Total obligations	69,059	77,000	84,000
Personnel Summary			
Direct:			
Total compensable work years:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	12	8	8

* This is different from the MAX schedules by +/-1 million. This is because the non-personnel compensation obligations identified in the Object Class Schedule above were rolled into the Grants category in MAX. They have been adjusted here to reflect the higher rate of obligations for Administration and a lower rate of obligations for Grants.

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