

## Private Stewardship Grants

### Appropriation Language

~~For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 through 11), including administrative expenses, and for private conservation efforts to be carried out on private lands, \$9,400,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to remain available until expended: Provided, That the amount provided herein is for the Private Stewardship Grants Program established by the Secretary to provide grants and other assistance to individuals and groups engaged in private conservation efforts that benefit federally listed, proposed, candidate, or other at risk species.~~

### Justification of Language Change

- 1) **Deletion** “For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 through 11), including administrative expenses, and for private conservation efforts to be carried out on private lands, \$9,400,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to remain available until expended: Provided, That the amount provided herein is for the Private Stewardship Grants Program established by the Secretary to provide grants and other assistance to individuals and groups engaged in private conservation efforts that benefit federally listed, proposed, candidate, or other at-risk species”

The Service is proposing to terminate this program and allocate resources to higher priority activities.

### 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; 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. 661-666(e)). 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.

***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	
Grants (\$000)		7,277	9,400		-9,400	0	-9,400
Impact of the CR (\$000)			-2,400		+2,400		+2,400
Administration (\$000)		[364]	[350]		[-400]	0	[-400]
<b>Total, Private Stewardship Grants (\$000)</b>		<b>7,277</b>	<b>7,000</b>		<b>-7,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-7,000</b>
<i>FTE</i>		<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>		<i>-1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>-1</i>

**Summary of 2008 Program Changes for Private Stewardship Grants**

Request Component	Amount	FTE
• Private Stewardship Program	-9,400	-3
• Impact of the CR	+2,400	
<b>Total, Program Changes</b>	<b>-7,000</b>	<b>-3</b>

**Justification of 2008 Program Changes**

The 2008 budget request for Private Stewardship Grants is \$0 and 3 FTEs, a net program change of -\$7,000,000 and -1 FTE from the 2007 Continuing Resolution.

**Private Stewardship Grants (-\$9,400,000):** The President’s Budget proposes to eliminate the Private Stewardship Grant Program in FY 2008. While cooperative conservation remains a significant part of the Department’s and the Service’s efforts, recent evaluations have indicated that the program is duplicative of other programs and does not obligate funds in a timely fashion. Species at-risk will still benefit by shifting resources from this program to others that can demonstrate results such as the National Wildlife refuge System, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act programs.

**Impact of the CR (+\$2,400,000):** This funding adjustment reinstates the difference between the expected decrease in the program due to the expected year-long continuing resolution for FY 2007 and the FY 2008 base program. There is no actual funding or performance impact as a result of the program being eliminated in FY 2008.

Use of Cost and Performance Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private Stewardship grants are awarded through competition. The established eligibility and ranking criteria for the program, and the regional competitions conducted to select grants, allow the Service to focus the program on its overall goals and ensure that program performance goals are achieved.</li> <li>• Continue to analyze results from previous years of the program in order to further refine program elements to better meet our performance goals.</li> <li>• Awarded 80 projects in 35 states in FY 2006.</li> </ul>

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### Program Overview

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The Private Stewardship Grants Program implements conservation actions for imperiled species on private lands. The Program is available to individuals and groups to implement private land conservation actions to benefit federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species. The participation of private landowners is essential for successful imperiled species conservation efforts because most listed species depend on habitat found on private lands in large part as a result of long-standing good land stewardship.

In FY 2007, the Service will transfer the national oversight of the PSG Program from the Endangered Species program to the Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program. This yearlong transfer process will insure that the Partner's staff become intimately familiar with the program, the existing grants, the procedures and therefore maintain the effective and efficient management of the program. This management action is in support of the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act of 2006 and follows an organizational trend already occurring at the regional and field levels. This action will strategically consolidate the Service's private lands programs to increase the level of collaboration and the efficiency in their implementation. Through this strategy, the Service will create increased efficiencies in meeting long-term goals of sustaining fish, wildlife and plant populations.

The Program contributes directly to the Service's Resource Protection mission goal and associated long-term goals consistent with the Department's Unified Strategic Plan. The Department's relevant end outcome performance measures are the percent of threatened or endangered species listed a decade or more that are stable or improved, and the number of candidate species where listing is unnecessary as a result of conservation actions or agreements. The Endangered Species Program's long-term performance goals for the Private Stewardship Grants Program are (1) to increase the number of listed species benefiting from Private Stewardship grants, and (2) to increase the number of candidate species benefiting from Private Stewardship grants.

### 2008 Program Performance

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In FY 2008, the program is being terminated because of duplication with other programs and slow obligations of funds. The Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) program will manage the PSG Program until all projects have been completed and all obligations liquidated. Program performance measures will be incorporated and reported by the PFW Program. This is to consolidate and increase efficiency in delivering the Service's private lands programs. The Service will transferred Private Stewardship Grants Program (PSG) program management responsibility from the Assistant Director for Endangered Species to the Assistant Director for Fisheries and Habitat Conservation during 2007. The PSG Program is similar to the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, and supports on-the-ground conservation actions as opposed to planning or research activities.

In FY 2008, the PFW program will be responsible for tracking the PSG Program performance. The program's annual (short-term) output performance will be expressed in terms of acres and miles of habitat restored or enhanced for endangered, threatened, and candidate species. These outputs will be translated into long-term outcomes identified by existing conservation plans (e.g., recovery plans, State Comprehensive Wildlife Strategies) that identify habitat restoration or enhancement needs to sustain these species' populations.

**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 Private Stewardship Grant Project Awards. (BUR) (*) (a)	N/A	NA	20	19	18	-1	0	-18
Number of listed species benefiting from Private Stewardship Grant Project Awards. (BUR) (*) (a)	N/A	120	127	172	165	-13	0	-165

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.

(a) New performance measures will be developed and reported by the PFW Program.

Standard Form 300

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
PRIVATE STEWARDSHIP GRANTS PROGRAM**

<b>Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)</b>			
<b>Identification code 14-5495-0</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>	<b>2007 Estimate</b>	<b>2008 Estimate</b>
<b><u>Obligations by program activity:</u></b>			
05.01 Private Stewardship Grants	10	9	2
10.00 Total new obligations	10	9	2
<b><u>Budgetary resources available for obligation:</u></b>			
21.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	7	4	2
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	7	7	0
22.10 Resources available from recoveries of prior year obligations	2		
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	14	11	2
23.95 Total new obligations (-)	-10	-9	-2
24.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, end of year	4	2	0
<b><u>New budget authority (gross) detail:</u></b>			
<b><u>Discretionary:</u></b>			
40.20 Appropriation (special fund - LWCF) [14-5005-0-302-N-0512-01]	7	7	0
43.00 Appropriation (total discretionary)	7	7	0
<b><u>Change in obligated balances:</u></b>			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	8	13	15
73.10 Total new obligations	10	9	2
73.20 Total outlays, gross (-)	-5	-7	-5
73.45 Recoveries of prior year obligations		0	0
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	13	15	12
<b><u>Outlays, (gross) detail:</u></b>			
86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority	1	2	0
86.93 Outlays from discretionary balances	4	5	5
87.00 Total, outlays (gross)	5	7	5
<b><u>Net budget authority and outlays:</u></b>			
89.00 Budget authority	7	7	0
90.00 Outlays	5	7	5
95.02 Unpaid obligation, end of year	14	15	12

**Object classification (in thousands of dollars)**

Identification code 14-5495-0	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
<b>Direct obligations:</b>			
<b>Personnel compensation:</b>			
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	9	8	1
99.95 Below Threshold	1	1	1
99.9 Subtotal, direct obligations	10	9	2

**Personnel Summary**

Identification code 14-5495-0	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Total compensable workyears:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	4	4	4

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