

**Activity: Migratory Bird Management**

		2008 Actual	2009 Enacted	2010			Change from 2009 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes* (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation and Monitoring	(\$000)	27,393	29,830	+459	+250	30,539	+709
	FTE	136	137	+4	0	141	+4
Permits	(\$000)	1,576	2,563	+42	+1,040	3,645	+1,082
	FTE	18	18	0	+11	29	+11
Avian Health and Disease	(\$000)	[7,283]	4,922	0	0	4,922	0
	FTE	[32]	32	0	0	32	0
Federal Duck Stamp Program	(\$000)	579	589	+13	+250	852	+263
	FTE	4	4	0	0	4	0
North American Waterfowl Management/Joint Ventures	(\$000)	10,893	12,942	+125	0	13,067	+125
	FTE	44	44	+2	0	46	+2
<b>Total, Migratory Bird Management</b>	<b>(\$000)</b>	<b>40,441</b>	<b>50,846</b>	<b>+639</b>	<b>+1,540</b>	<b>53,025</b>	<b>+2,179</b>
	<b>FTE</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>+17</b>

\*The FTE increases listed in the FY2010 "Fixed Cost & Related Changes" column represent FTE positions that were funded in FY2009, but due to the late enactment of the 2009 Appropriations Act, will not be filled until FY10. The savings realized in FY09 by not having to pay salaries will be used to fund one-time expenses, such as human capital recruitment costs, supplies, and equipment.

**Summary of 2010 Program Changes for Migratory Bird Management**

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
<b>Conservation and Monitoring</b>		
• Conservation and Monitoring	+250	0
• Permits	+1,040	+11
• Federal Duck Stamp Program	+250	0
<b>Total, Program Changes</b>	<b>+1,540</b>	<b>+11</b>
Internal Transfer – NCTC Literature Search Service (Fixed Costs and Related Changes)	-18	0

**Justification of 2010 Program Changes**

The 2010 budget request for the Migratory Bird Management is \$53,025,000 and 252 FTE. This is a net program change of +\$1,540,000 and +11 FTE from the 2009 Enacted Budget.

**Conservation and Monitoring (+\$250,000/+0 FTE)** – An increase of \$250,000 is requested to support the Urban Bird Treaties program, part of the new 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Corps initiative.

**Bald Eagle Permits (+\$1,040,000/+11 FTE)** – An increase of \$1,040,000 and 11 FTE is requested to address the new workload associated with permitting human activities around bald and golden eagle nesting, feeding and roosting sites.

**Federal Duck Stamp Program (+\$250,000/+0 FTE)** – An increase of \$250,000 is requested to support the Junior Duck Stamp program’s contribution to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Corps initiative. For FY 2010, the Service requests to change the title of the subactivity ‘Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza’ to ‘Avian Health and Disease.’ As the threats to human and wildlife health from avian diseases expand beyond the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), and as efforts increase to monitor and address all avian diseases, the updated title will better reflect the evolving program.

**Program Overview**

The Division of Migratory Bird Management, Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, Regional Migratory Bird activities, Joint Ventures, and the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Office comprise the Service’s Migratory Bird Conservation Program. These units work cooperatively to improve the number of migratory bird populations that are at healthy and sustainable levels and to prevent other birds from undergoing population declines and joining those already on the Endangered or Threatened Species Lists. Migratory Bird Program staff routinely:

- conduct population surveys, monitoring, and assessment activities for both game and non-game birds;
- manage migratory bird permits and hunting regulations;
- participate in international treaty negotiations related to migratory birds;
- manage overabundant bird populations and restore habitat where populations are declining;
- manage grants that implement on-the-ground activities to conserve migratory bird habitats;
- support regional-scale biological planning, project implementation, and evaluation to

**Use of Cost and Performance Information**

As a result of a program assessment and a programmatic strategic planning process, specific long-term outcome and annual output performance goals were developed and implemented.

The Migratory Bird Management Program’s Task Database contains operational work-plans as a way to prioritize, budget, and manage the Division’s nationwide workload. This task-based process provides detailed project-level information, including objectives, scope, and estimated costs. Use of the web-based tool facilitates:

- Development of a mechanism for shared program targets;
- Selection of a format for identifying long-term outcome measures;
- tracking of resource allocations at the species level by task;
- ready calculation of resource allocations according to performance measures;
- cross-tabulation of resource allocations by performance measure;
- ensuring that performance data are tracked and project status reports are available;
- accessibility by Regional Offices to both standard and custom reports;
- allowing managers to redirect surplus funds by carefully tracking cost data.

- achieve migratory bird objectives;
- coordinate efforts to reduce bird mortalities resulting from collisions with communication towers and power-lines, fisheries by-catch, pesticides, and other human-related causes;
- work with and engage children and adults to conserve migratory birds; especially through unique collaborative partnerships bringing together private citizens, Federal, State, and municipal agencies and non-government organizations through the Youth and Careers in Nature: Urban Bird Treaties; and
- participate in early detection and response planning programs intended to reduce

the effects of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza and other avian diseases on wild birds, poultry and human health.

The Service will continue to coordinate and consult with science partners in the development and implementation of its focal species strategies, and support foreign partners to expand and manage shared migratory bird resources for continental-scale programs. The Service will also work closely with outside partners to continue to address Strategic Habitat Conservation, which can greatly influence the improvement of migratory bird programs on the landscape, the conservation of species, and the prioritization of management decisions for species conservation.

**Activity: Migratory Bird Management**  
**Subactivity: Conservation and Monitoring**

	2008 Actual	2009 Enacted	2010			Change from 2009 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes* (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation and Monitoring (\$000)	27,393	29,830	+459	+250	30,539	+709
FTE	136	137	+4	0	141	+4

\*The FTE increases listed in the FY2010 "Fixed Cost & Related Changes" column represent FTE positions that were funded in FY2009, but due to the late enactment of the 2009 Appropriations Act, will not be filled until FY10. The savings realized in FY09 by not having to pay salaries will be used to fund one-time expenses, such as human capital recruitment costs, supplies, and equipment.

**Summary of 2010 Program Changes for Conservation and Monitoring**

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Conservation and Monitoring	+250	0
<b>Total, Program Changes</b>	<b>+250</b>	<b>0</b>
Internal Transfer – NCTC Literature Search Service (Fixed Costs and Related Changes)	-13	0

**Justification of 2010 Program Changes**

The 2010 budget request for Conservation and Monitoring is \$30,539,000 and 141 FTE, a program change of +\$250,000 and 0 FTE from the 2009 Enacted Budget.

**21st Century Youth Corps: Urban Bird Treaties (+250,000/+0 FTE)**

The requested funds will enable the Service to participate more fully in the Urban Conservation Treaty Program for Migratory Birds. This is a unique, collaborative effort between the Service and participating U.S. cities that brings together private citizens, Federal, State, and municipal agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations. The program combines grant dollars with matching funds, goods, and services from select cities to create partnerships promoting bird conservation. There are currently nine cities in the program: New Orleans, Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, Portland (OR), St. Louis, Nashville, Anchorage, and New York City. Increased funding will support the addition of three new cities, and provide supplemental support to established successful programs. This funding will promote outdoor bird-related experiences, foster environmental education with a focus on birds, build career-development opportunities for youth, enhance a true sense of ownership of the environment and its natural resources, and increase awareness of the value of migratory birds and their habitats for their intrinsic, ecological, recreational and economic significance.

The program focuses on the benefits that migratory birds bring to everyday life, and involves citizens of all ages in hands-on activities to protect migratory birds while building awareness of careers in the field of natural resource management. An emphasis on science education and outreach programs includes a bird-focused teaching curriculum, constructing schoolyard habitat sites, and educating citizens about birds and their conservation in an urban/suburban environment. Key features of this program include reducing hazards to migratory birds; restoring, enhancing, and protecting avian habitats; and providing science education and outreach opportunities to youth in urban and suburban communities. Cities will be evaluated on how successfully they have met the program requirements and will be highlighted nationally as successful demonstrations of how urban environments can become effective sanctuaries for birds and other

wildlife. An outgrowth of their efforts will be an environmentally-aware citizenry dedicated to conserving and enhancing “their” natural resources. By restoring and conserving green-space, urban treaties enhance the livability for residents, while providing a wide array of benefits for the migratory birds that nest or pass through municipal and urban/suburban neighborhoods.

The expected increase in FY 2010 of two additional bird species, (Marbled Godwit and American Woodcock), for a total of 570 species that are at healthy and sustainable levels, is the result of multiple year programmatic accomplishments from prior years, not directly due to annual funding. In addition, the number of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted will increase from 36 in FY 2009 to 40 in FY 2010.

**Program Performance Change**

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 Base Budget (2009 Plan + Fixed Costs)	2010 President's Budget	Program Change Accruing in 2010	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
<b>Sustaining Biological Communities</b>								
CSF 6.1 Percent of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA) (PART)	61.4% ( 561 of 913 )	61.5% ( 561 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.5% ( 570 of 912 )	0.2% ( 0.4% )	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$28,207	\$28,553	\$47,443	\$50,527	\$50,527	\$51,871	\$1,344	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$12,062	\$12,173	\$22,143	\$25,994	\$25,994	\$26,592	\$598	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$50,280	\$50,897	\$83,526	\$88,956	\$88,956	\$91,002	\$2,046	
6.1.1 % of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)(PART)	61.4% ( 561 of 913 )	61.5% ( 561 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.5% ( 570 of 912 )	0.2% ( 0.4% )	
Comments:	The FY 2010 increase is due to prior (multi) year management planning and is not attributable solely to annual funding. The two additional species include the (Marbled Godwit and American Woodcock).							
15.8.12 # of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported	10	28	26	36	36	40	4 ( 10.0% )	
Comments:	The increase in FY 2010 funding will support additional outdoor bird-related educational experiences.							

**Program Overview**

Conservation and monitoring are the two activities that define the key fundamental-operational role the Service plays in bird conservation, and is the national focal point for bird population management. Critical to the Migratory Bird Program’s success are partnerships, which include the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight, the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, and some of the migratory game bird management plans developed by the Flyway Councils. These plans were developed by

coalitions of Federal and State agencies, tribal entities, foreign governments, non-governmental organizations, industry, academia, and private individuals who are interested in the conservation of birds. Survey and assessment information on migratory birds is critical to many conservation management programs. Thousands of managers, researchers and others (both government and non-government) depend upon the Migratory Bird Program's survey activities to provide accurate, comprehensive status and trend information. States rely heavily on the results of the Service's annual bird surveys for management and budgeting activities associated with migratory game and non-game birds within their own boundaries. Survey data is critical to identify and prioritize management actions and research needs, and provide a scientific, informed basis for effective migratory bird conservation on a national and international scale.

### **2010 Program Performance**

In FY 2010, the Service will continue to work effectively with partners in the development and implementation of conservation plans that will contribute to improving the health and sustainability of migratory birds of conservation concern. The emphasis on particular birds was highlighted recently in the 2009 "The State of the Birds" report, which described the sobering decline of many bird species over the last forty years and the need to invest more effort to restore their numbers.

**Conservation through Focal Species Strategy:** Although many entities support or are involved in activities related to bird conservation, the Migratory Bird Program is the only entity, public or private, designed to address the range-wide spectrum of issues, problems, and interests related to migratory bird conservation and management. One of the ways that the Service addresses declining migratory bird populations is through its Focal Species Strategy. In FY 2010, the Service plans to continue the development and implementation of focal species action plans, with Regional staff providing the leadership responsibility for individual species plans based upon geographic distribution of species. The Service will continue to implement species action plans already in place that explicitly lay out, in priority order, those activities needed to ensure that a population is moving toward a desired condition and develop and implement new plans for additional species and populations currently in decline with base funds. Recent findings of the 2009 "The State of the Birds" report highlighted that the outlook for many species of birds, including many already identified as focal species, is not encouraging. This is especially true for native Hawaiian birds, nearly all of which are threatened with extinction.

Over the last four years, the Service has undertaken campaigns on 38 focal species, completing conservation or actions plans on 13 focal species between 2006 and 2008, including American woodcock, Pacific common eider, cerulean warbler, black oystercatcher, king rail and Marbled godwit. These plans identify limiting factors, priority actions, partners, and projected implementation costs. Service efforts for the last four years have also included activity designed to obtain more biological information on these and other specific focal species (e.g. improving monitoring program designs, developing monitoring databases, as well as implementing surveys). As we continue to increase our understanding of climate change impacts and develop strategies that consider these impacts, additional focal species campaigns will be considered. In doing so, we plan to coordinate species-specific planning with appropriate partners inside and outside the Service, and expect to see the creation of action plans for additional species that are identified as birds of management concern, including those not on the shorter focal species list.

Development of an action plan, including identification of threats to a species and subsequent high priority conservation needs, is just one of the initial steps in our focal species strategy. A

critical next step is to turn these plans quickly into actions on the landscape, and the Service has begun implementation as resources are available.

**Conservation and Monitoring:** Monitoring is a basic component of the Service's trust responsibility for North America's migratory bird resource, and the Service is a world-renowned leader. Monitoring and assessment activities are key components of any iterative, science-based approach to bird conservation, and have special relevance to any evaluation of the Service's ongoing efforts to improve the status of birds of management concern, including focal species. Recent monitoring efforts have concentrated on explaining causes of population changes, assessing the effectiveness of ongoing management practices, and answering questions about the population dynamics, life history, and limiting factors that will affect the future management of this shared, international trust resource. These questions are particularly important with regard to the impact of changing environments due to climate change on abundance and distribution of migratory birds on the continental landscape. The Service's ability to monitor and understand these changes will be a direct measure of how well we respond to the public.

Monitoring and other data collection efforts have been implemented by the Service and our partners for a number of focal species, including Laysan and black-footed albatross, painted bunting, and reddish egret. In 2010, efforts will continue to be undertaken addressing the limiting factors and priority conservation needs of additional focal species, including golden-winged warbler, long-billed curlew, and rusty blackbird, all of which have experienced significant population declines.

The expected increase of two additional bird species, for a total of 570 species that are at healthy and sustainable levels, is the result of multiple year programmatic accomplishments from prior years not directly due to annual funding. The Migratory Bird Program will continue ongoing efforts with its outside partners to improve the number of migratory bird populations that are at healthy and sustainable levels. Additionally, the Migratory Bird Program will continue to do as much as possible to detect the possible consequences of altered habitats and shifting distributions of birds because of rising temperatures.

Program Performance Overview

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 President's Budget	Change from 2009 Plan to 2010	Long-term Target 2013
<b>Sustaining Biological Communities</b>									
CSF 6.1 Percent of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA) (PART)	61.4% ( 561 of 913 )	61.4% ( 561 of 913 )	61.5% ( 561 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.5% ( 570 of 912 )	0.2% ( 0.4% )	62.5% ( 570 of 912 )
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$28,207	\$28,553	unk	\$47,443	\$50,527	\$51,871	\$1,344	\$55,532
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$12,062	\$12,173	unk	\$22,143	\$25,994	\$26,592	\$598	\$28,469
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$50,280	\$50,897	unk	\$83,526	\$88,956	\$91,002	\$2,046	\$97,424
6.1.1 % of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)(PART)	61.4% ( 561 of 913 )	61.4% ( 561 of 913 )	61.5% ( 561 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.3% ( 568 of 912 )	62.5% ( 570 of 912 )	0.2% ( 0.4% )	62.5% ( 570 of 912 )
Comments:	The FY 2010 increase is due to prior (multi) year management planning and is not attributable solely to annual funding. The two anticipated additional species include the (Marbled Godwit and American Woodcock).								
6.1.2 # of management actions implemented to address needs of non-BMC in an effort to ensure populations remain healthy	unk	24	43	74	72	---	---	---	---
Comments:	This measure ended in FY 2008. Actions directed at BMC species also impact non-BMC species. An increase in the number of management plans developed and implemented will have a corresponding increase in actions on the landscape that benefit non-BMC species.								
6.1.3 % of management actions taken annually that address focal species for which conservation plans exist or are under development.	unk	unk	unk	unk	unk	100% (93/93)	100% (93/93)	0.0%	100% (93/93)
Comments:	This is a new measure starting in FY 2009.								
6.1.4 # BMC for which comprehensive management plans have been developed (Current)	unk	19	24	31	31	26	27	1 ( 3.7% )	27
Comments:	This is a cumulative count of specific management actions on the landscape that benefit migratory birds.								
6.1.5 # of management actions taken to reduce the incidental take of Migratory Birds	unk	unk	unk	unk	unk	40	40	0	40
Comments:	This is a new measure starting in FY 2009.								

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 President's Budget	Change from 2009 Plan to 2010	Long-term Target 2013
6.1.6 # of management actions taken that annually address Birds of Management Concern, excluding focal species actions	unk	unk	unk	unk	unk	192	192	0	192
Comments:	New measure starting in FY2009 - to address management actions that have direct benefits to other birds on the BMC.								
6.1.7 % of bird species of management concern with improved status	unk	unk	unk	unk	unk	52% (214/411)	52% (214/412)	0.1% ( 0.2% )	52% (214/412)
Comments:	This is a new measure starting in FY 2009.								
CSF 6.2 Percent of Birds of Management Concern (BMC) population management needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable populations (PART)	unk	92% ( 110 of 119 )	98% ( 88 of 90 )	99% ( 66 of 67 )	96% ( 64 of 67 )	---	---	---	---
6.2.1 % of Birds of Management Concern (BMC) population management needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable populations (PART)	unk	92% ( 110 of 119 )	98% ( 88 of 90 )	99% ( 66 of 67 )	96% ( 64 of 67 )	---	---	---	---
Comments:	This measure ended in FY 2008.								
6.2.2 # of BMC for which comprehensive management plans have been developed	unk	19	24	31	30	---	---	---	---
Comments:	This measure ended in FY 2008.								
6.2.3 # of management actions implemented to address needs of BMC	unk	51	67	90	89	---	---	---	---
Comments:	This measure ended in FY 2008.								
6.2.4 % of bird species of management concern with improved status	52.8% ( 214 of 405 )	52.8% ( 214 of 405 )	52.8% ( 214 of 405 )	52.1% ( 214 of 411 )	52.1% ( 214 of 411 )	---	---	---	---
Comments:	This measure ended in FY 2008.								
<b>Improve recreation opportunities for America</b>									

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 President's Budget	Change from 2009 Plan to 2010	Long-term Target 2013
CSF 15.7 Percent of migratory bird species that may be harvested for sport hunting or falconry (according to the migratory bird treaties) for which harvest is authorized by regulation	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	58.6% ( 160 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	79.8% ( 182 of 228 )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )	-46.7% ( -58.5% )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$4,200	\$5,381	unk	\$5,917	\$6,427	\$2,095	(\$4,332)	\$2,243
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$2,995	\$4,263	unk	\$5,056	\$5,782	\$5,915	\$133	\$6,332
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$26,085	\$33,629	unk	\$36,751	\$35,315	\$36,127	\$812	\$38,677
15.7.1 % of migratory bird species that may be harvested for sport hunting or falconry (according to the migratory bird treaties) for which harvest is authorized by regulation (PART)	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	58.6% ( 160 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	79.8% ( 182 of 228 )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )	-46.7% ( -140.8% )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )
Comments:	The FY 2010 target reduction reflects a correction from the FY 2009 target, and is a more accurate reflection of game species categories.								
15.7.2 % of management actions necessary to support sport hunting or falconry for those species and/or populations formally approved by international treaties and authorized by regulations	unk	80% ( 182 of 228 )	100% ( 288 of 289 )	100% ( 211 of 211 )	97% ( 205 of 211 )	100% ( 185 of 185 )	100% ( 185 of 185 )	0.0%	100% ( 185 of 185 )
CSF 15.8 % of adult Americans participating in wildlife-associated recreation	unk	unk	unk	38%	38%	38%	38%	0.0%	38%
15.8.11 % of adult Americans who participate in bird-related recreation (PART)	0.0%	0.0%	29.0%	29.0%	29.0%	29.0%	29.0%	0.0%	29.0%
15.8.12 # of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported	0	10	28	26	27	36	40	4 ( 10.0% )	40
Comments:	The increase in FY 2010 funding will support additional outdoor bird-related educational experiences.								

**Activity: Migratory Bird Management**  
**Subactivity: Permits**

		2008 Actual	2009 Enacted	2010			Change from 2009 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Permits	(\$000)	1,576	2,563	+42	+1,040	3,645	+1,082
	FTE	18	18	0	+11	29	+11

**Summary of 2010 Program Changes for Permits**

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Bald Eagle Permits	+1,040	+11
<b>Total, Program Changes</b>	<b>+1,040</b>	<b>+11</b>

**Justification of 2010 Program Changes**

The 2010 budget request for the Permits program is \$3,645,000 and 29 FTE, a program change of +\$1,040,000 and +11 FTE from the 2009 Enacted Budget.

**Bald Eagle Permits (+\$1,040,000/+11 FTE)** – This initiative will enable the Service to begin to address a new workload associated with permitting human activities around bald and golden eagle nesting, feeding and roosting sites. The combined request will provide \$3,645,000 for the Migratory Bird Management Program and \$1,000,000 to the Conservation Planning Assistance Program in Ecological Services.

With federal delisting of the bald eagle pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, conservation and management responsibilities shifted to the Migratory Bird Program. Disturbance of bald and golden eagles is prohibited under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and the Service has developed National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines as a tool to help landowners avoid bald eagle disturbance. In those situations where a landowner is unable to adhere to these guidelines, the Service will provide an application and permit process to authorize disturbance take for bald eagles. The Division of Migratory Bird Management is finalizing new regulations to govern these permits, and the workload associated in issuing the permits may be substantial.

The delisting of the bald eagle has already generated an increase in the number of requests for technical assistance and general information, and a permit program under BGEPA requires greatly expanded permitting capacity beyond that addressed by permits for the bald eagle when it was a listed species. Ecological Services field offices have already experienced a substantial increase in the requests to provide timely technical consultation, assistance to landowners, and conservation recommendations to potential applicants and the concerned public. As a result, the number of permits processed within 30 days of receipt of a completed application will increase from 7,850 in FY 2009 to 12,800 in FY 2010. With the funding increase, the Migratory Bird program will still process approximately 69% of all permits applications received, which is essentially unchanged from the FY 2009 level. Even without the additional eagle permitting workload, the existing permitting demand has increased significantly in recent years requiring existing staff to be more efficient. For example, a recently completed workload analysis in 2009 identified a 50% increase in migratory bird permit workload since 2002. The new permitting program for bald and golden eagles will add to this permit workload, and this funding would be

used to staff those offices and allow timely processing of permits applications in response to this increased need.

The percent of migratory bird species that may be harvested for sport hunting or falconry (according to migratory bird treaties) for which harvest is authorized by regulation is decreasing from 79.8 % (182/228) in FY 2009 to 33.1% (58/175) in FY 2010. The reason for this decrease is a result of a correction from the FY 2009 target and is a more accurate reflection of game species categories.

**Program Performance Change**

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 Base Budget (2009 Plan + Fixed Costs)	2010 President's Budget	Program Change Accruing in 2010	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
<b>Sustaining Biological Communities</b>								
CSF 6.3 Percent of migratory bird permits processed within 30 days of receipt of a completed application	62.4% ( 8,143 of 13,046 )	74.4% ( 7,474 of 10,051 )	58.6% ( 5,855 of 9,988 )	69.2% ( 7,850 of 11,338 )	69.2% ( 7,850 of 11,338 )	69.0% ( 12,800 of 18,541 )	-0.2% ( - 0.3% )	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$3,280	\$3,193	\$2,759	\$3,305	\$3,305	\$5,514	\$2,208	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$2,255	\$2,149	\$2,101	\$2,725	\$2,725	\$2,787	\$63	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Permits (whole dollars)	\$403	\$427	\$328	\$421	\$421	\$431	\$10	
Comments:	The increase for FY 2010 is due to an anticipated workload associated with the new permitting program for bald and golden eagles.							
<b>Improve recreation opportunities for America.</b>								
CSF 15.7 Percent of migratory bird species that may be harvested for sport hunting or falconry (according to the migratory bird treaties) for which harvest is authorized by regulation	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	58.6% ( 160 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	79.8% ( 182 of 228 )	79.8% ( 182 of 228 )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )	-46.7% ( - 58.5% )	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$4,200	\$5,381	\$5,917	\$6,427	\$6,427	\$2,095	(\$4,332)	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$2,995	\$4,263	\$5,056	\$5,782	\$5,782	\$5,915	\$133	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$26,085	\$33,629	\$36,751	\$35,315	\$35,315	\$36,127	\$812	
Comments:	The FY 2010 target reduction reflects a correction from the FY 2009 target, which was not completely accurate.							

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 Base Budget (2009 Plan + Fixed Costs)	2010 President's Budget	Program Change Accruing in 2010	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
15.8.12 # of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported	10	28	26	36	36	40	4 ( 10.0% )	
Comments: The increase in FY 2010 funding will support additional outdoor bird-related educational experiences.								

**Program Overview**

Under the authorities of the *Migratory Birds Treaty Act* (16 U.S.C. 703-712) (MBTA) and the *Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 668) (BGEPA), the Service is responsible for regulation activities associated with migratory birds. The BGEPA provides additional protections to the nation’s eagles. The MBTA and the BGEPA are the primary legislation in the United States established to conserve migratory birds and prohibit the taking, killing, or possessing of migratory birds unless permitted by suitable regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior.

The regulation of take is primary and traditional Service activity has involved integrating data-gathering activities designed to evaluate the status of migratory bird populations. For example, various regulatory options for game-bird species are considered each year during the well-defined cycle of procedures and events that result in the body of rules governing annual sport and subsistence harvest. The take of migratory birds for purposes other than hunting is administered through a permitting system (50 CFR parts, 21, 22).

The mission of the Migratory Bird Permit Program is to promote the long-term conservation of migratory bird populations while providing opportunities for the public to study, use, and enjoy migratory birds consistent with the provisions of the MBTA and the BGEPA. Existing regulations authorizing take and possession of migratory birds focus on a limited number of allowable activities. Permits are available for scientific study, depredation control falconry, raptor propagation, rehabilitation, education, taxidermy, waterfowl sale, religious use (eagles), and other purposes. The permits are administered by the eight Regional Migratory Bird Permit Offices. The Regional Permit Offices process over 13,000 applications annually. Since most permits are valid for a period of 1 to 5 years, approximately 40,000 permits are active (valid) at any given time.

Policy and regulations are developed by the Division of Migratory Bird Management in the Washington Office. Sound science is a fundamental component of migratory bird permit policies and permit decisions. Computer technologies, such as the Service’s Permits Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS), provide a tool for issuing permits and help monitor cumulative impacts to migratory bird populations. Policy and regulation development focuses on clarifying and streamlining regulatory requirements.

**Use of Cost and Performance Information**

- As a result of a program assessment and a programmatic strategic planning process, specific long-term outcome or annual output performance goals were developed.
- Performance measure are now tracked and reported through use of the Service's Permit Issuance and Tracking systems (SPITS-database). SPITS was designed in cooperation with the Service's other permit programs to ensure consistency for both policy development and operation compatibility.
- Workload-based staffing models have been developed for each of the eight permit offices; staffing levels and associated costs can be predicted using historical workload trends. Unit costs can be determined using the workload models for various permit types.
- Fees are charged for permit processing to help offset operational costs.
- Implementing and E-reporting capability are available to enable the public to submit permit reports electronically.

**2010 Program Performance**

The Service will continue to work on the implementation of activities that have the greatest potential to influence future operation performance. Completion of such activities is essential to the Service's ability to manage a permit process that has reached about 13,000 applications received annually, and up to 40,000 active permits at any given time. The number of future applications for bald eagle and golden eagle permits can only be estimated at this time. However, there are strong indications that about 1,200 new applications for eagle permits may be submitted per year. Initially, the number of new applications could be much higher. The Program will work with other Divisions in the Service to respond to the expected increase in permit applications.

**Program Performance Overview**

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 President's Budget	Change from 2009 Plan to 2010	Long-term Target 2013
<b>Sustaining Biological Communities</b>									
CSF 6.3 Percent of migratory bird permits processed within 30 days of receipt of a completed application	50.0% ( 7,500 of 15,000 )	62.4% ( 8,143 of 13,046 )	74.4% ( 7,474 of 10,051 )	58.6% ( 5,855 of 9,988 )	76.4% ( 8,407 of 11,005 )	69.2% ( 7,850 of 11,338 )	69.0% ( 12,800 of 18,541 )	-0.2% ( - 0.3% )	69.0% ( 12,800 of 18,541 )
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$3,280	\$3,193	unk	\$2,759	\$3,305	\$5,514	\$2,208	\$5,903
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$2,255	\$2,149	unk	\$2,101	\$2,725	\$2,787	\$63	\$2,984
Actual/Projected Cost Per Permits (whole dollars)	unk	\$403	\$427	unk	\$328	\$421	\$431	\$10	\$461
6.3.1 % of migratory bird permits processed with 30 days if receipt of a completed application	50.0% ( 7,500 of 15,000 )	62.4% ( 8,143 of 13,046 )	74.4% ( 7,474 of 10,051 )	58.6% ( 5,855 of 9,988 )	76.4% ( 8,407 of 11,005 )	69.2% ( 7,850 of 11,338 )	69.0% ( 12,800 of 18,541 )	-0.2% ( - 0.3% )	69.0% ( 12,800 of 18,541 )

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 President's Budget	Change from 2009 Plan to 2010	Long-term Target 2013
Comments:	The increase for FY 2010 is due to an anticipated workload associated with the new permitting program for bald and golden eagles.								
<b>Improve recreation opportunities for America</b>									
CSF 15.7 Percent of migratory bird species that may be harvested for sport hunting or falconry (according to the migratory bird treaties) for which harvest is authorized by regulation	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	58.6% ( 160 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	79.8% ( 182 of 228 )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )	-46.7% ( - 58.5% )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$4,200	\$5,381	unk	\$5,917	\$6,427	\$2,095	(\$4,332)	\$2,243
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$2,995	\$4,263	unk	\$5,056	\$5,782	\$5,915	\$133	\$6,332
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$26,085	\$33,629	unk	\$36,751	\$35,315	\$36,127	\$812	\$38,677
15.7.1 % of migratory bird species that may be harvested for sport hunting or falconry (according to the migratory bird treaties) for which harvest is authorized by regulation (PART)	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	58.6% ( 160 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	59.0% ( 161 of 273 )	79.8% ( 182 of 228 )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )	-46.7% ( - 140.8% )	33.1% ( 58 of 175 )

**Activity: Migratory Bird Management**  
**Subactivity: Avian Health and Disease (formerly Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza)**

		2008 Actual	2009 Enacted	2010			Change from 2009 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Avian Health and Disease	(\$000)	[7,283]	4,922	0	0	4,922	0
	FTE	[32]	32	0	0	32	0

**Justification of 2010 Program Changes**

The 2010 budget request for the Permits program is \$4,922,000 and 32 FTE, a program change of \$0 and 0 FTE from the 2009 Enacted Budget.

For FY 2010, the Service requests to change the title of the subactivity ‘Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza’ to ‘Avian Health and Disease.’ As the threats to human and wildlife health from avian diseases expand beyond HPAI, and as efforts increase to monitor and address all avian diseases, the updated title will better reflect the evolving program.

**Program Overview**

The current level of funding will allow the Migratory Birds Program to build upon the existing nationwide avian influenza surveillance responsibilities under the Interagency Strategic Plan “*An Early Detection System for H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Wild Migratory Birds---U.S. Interagency Strategic Plan*” and “*Early Detection and Response Plan for Occurrence of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Wild Birds*” (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,, 2007) by developing a broader avian health and disease program that supports the avian conservation, surveillance, and management goals of the Service. Infectious diseases are increasingly placing pressure on wild bird populations. Habitat fragmentation and changes in land-use patterns have increased zoonotic and emerging disease risks that involve avian reservoirs. Avian populations will also need to respond to changing weather patterns; this will introduce new opportunities for transmission of avian diseases and place pressure on populations already stressed by anthropogenic factors. The work will focus on monitoring of infectious and non-infectious diseases within avian populations, especially those that may be influenced by a changing climate. As we are likely to face even greater emerging disease threats in avian populations in the future, it is vitally important that the Service includes avian health and disease surveillance, response, and management in its conservation efforts.

**2010 Program Performance**

As the work to monitor and address avian diseases increases in the future and to reflect this greater understanding, the program title has been updated to Avian Health and Disease. In FY 2010, the Service will continue to participate in early detection and response planning programs intended to reduce the effects of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza and other avian diseases on wild birds, poultry and human health. Specifically, the Service would be involved with helping implement the Interagency Strategic Plan “*An Early Detection System for H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Wild Migratory Birds---U.S. Interagency Strategic Plan*”, dated March 14, 2006. The Strategic Plan targets bird species in North America that have the highest risk of being exposed to or infected with highly pathogenic H5N1 because of their

migratory movement patterns. The requested FY 2010 funding level will allow the Service to carry out these high priority monitoring activities.

Collectively, the live bird, hunter-killed bird, and morbidity/mortality surveillance planned for the 2010 surveillance year is expected to provide a level of early detection surveillance commensurate with that in 2009. In FY 2010, the Service will:

- Use experimental infection results and international field observations from areas experiencing HPAI H5N1 outbreaks to improve surveillance protocols;
- Continue to collect and sample live and hunter killed birds in Alaska and in the Pacific Flyway, as this is an important pathway of wild migratory birds from Asia to North America. The large Federal land base and field capability make the Service and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) the most appropriate agencies to conduct this type of surveillance there;
- Continue in all flyways to conduct and assist in the collection and sampling of live bird populations that have been identified as target species for avian influenza surveillance;
- Improve capacity for carrying out morbidity and mortality surveillance, an important method in detecting the HPAI H5N1 virus in wild birds. All States will proactively survey targeted localities for sick and dead birds, and respond to reports of sick and dead birds. This surveillance effort would compliment APHIS/Wildlife Services' continued live-bird and hunter-killed bird collection and sampling in the lower 48 States and fully satisfy our commitment to wild bird surveillance under Action Item 7.2.1.1 of the President's *Pandemic Influenza Implementation Strategy*.
- Work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), State agencies, and others to establish and exercise avian influenza response plans; thus carrying out our responsibilities under Action Item 7.1.1.1 of the President's *Pandemic Influenza Implementation Strategy*, and otherwise establish and maintain capability to respond to an outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in wild birds.

**Activity: Migratory Bird Management**  
**Subactivity: Federal Duck Stamp Program**

	2008 Actual	2009 Enacted	2010			Change from 2009 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Federal Duck Stamp Program (\$000)	579	589	+13	+250	852	+263
FTE	4	4	0	0	4	0

**Summary of 2010 Program Changes for Federal Duck Stamp Program**

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Junior Duck Stamp Program	+250	0
<b>Total, Program Changes</b>	<b>+250</b>	<b>0</b>

**Justification of 2010 Program Changes**

The 2010 budget request for the Federal Duck Stamp program is \$852,000 and 4 FTE, a program change of +\$250,000 and 0 FTE from the 2009 Enacted Budget.

**General Program Activities (+\$250,000/+0 FTE)** – The Junior Duck Stamp Program has been in existence for seventeen years and was reauthorized by Congress in 2006. It provides an art and science based environmental education curriculum to help teach wildlife conservation to American schoolchildren. As ever-increasing urbanization and development limit opportunities for millions of children to interact with the outdoor environment, there are fewer opportunities for them to learn about or consider future careers in nature. Environmental education curricula such as that offered to teachers nationwide by the Service’s Junior Duck Stamp Program are effective ways to promote wildlife stewardship, and can easily incorporate additional components to promote careers in nature.

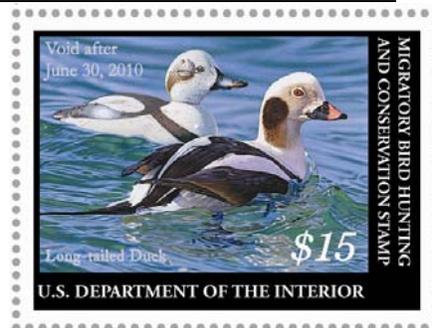
In FY2009, the Junior Duck Stamp Program will start modernizing its long-standing curriculum to make the program more relevant to today’s teachers and students. The new curriculum for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will include using the internet as a conservation tool, and the availability of new scientific information (for example, climate change and its impact on wetland habitat). It will be multi-culturally relevant, available to all American students, and will incorporate a new section specifically providing students information about careers in nature. In addition, for the first time, we will offer conservation education tools designed for use by those in charge of community after school programs and various other youth activities.

Currently there are no appropriated funds directed specifically to the Junior Duck Stamp Program. This has limited the program’s ability to expand into areas that would increase participation and environmental education opportunities for students. The requested \$250,000 increase would allow the Junior Duck Stamp program to work with and support its regional partners by providing a strong environmental education curriculum; providing outreach tools such as program brochures and mats to the regions; and implementing a new wildlife careers component. In addition, as human population growth continues to put pressure on wildlife and wildlife habitat, it is critical that the US Fish and Wildlife Service foster positive attitudes in youth towards wildlife conservation, management, and recreation. Today’s children are the

future stewards of these activities. Through the Junior Duck Stamp educational curriculum's wildlife career component, we can begin to cultivate future wildlife professionals.

### **Program Overview**

The Federal Duck Stamp program, an internationally recognized and emulated program, supports the conservation of important migratory bird habitat through the design and sale of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp). On March 16, 2009, the Duck Stamp Act marked its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The 2009-2010 Duck Stamp features South Dakota artist Joshua Spies' painting of a Long-tailed duck with decoy. His winning design topped 269 other entries and retains the pictorial heritage of the first Duck Stamp created in 1934 by political cartoonist and conservationist J.N. "Ding" Darling. The 2009 First Day of Sale ceremony is to take place on June 26 in Nashville, TN in partnership with Bass Pro Shops, Inc.



Since 1934, the sales of Federal Duck Stamps have raised over \$747.1 million for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) enabling the conservation of more than 5.3 million acres of prime waterfowl habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System. In fiscal year 2008, sales of Duck Stamps totaled nearly \$22.1 million, approximately 50 percent of the total annual revenue of the MBCF.

Since 1989, the mission of the Junior Duck Stamp Program has been to connect American schoolchildren with nature. The program continues to provide tools and resources to educators to help them teach conservation through the arts. As urbanization and development make it more and more difficult for millions of American children to interact with nature, environmental education such as that supported through the Junior Duck Stamp Program, becomes increasingly important. Preparing the next generation to become the future stewards of America's irreplaceable wild places and treasured outdoor heritage is critical. Thanks to an historic partnership with the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, the Service will conduct the 2009 National Junior Duck Stamp Contest at the museum on April 22, 2009. The world-famous San Diego Zoo hosted the 2008 National Junior Duck Stamp Contest, won by Seokkyun Hong, an eighteen-year-old from Dallas, Texas. His beautiful depiction of a pair of Nene, the only species of waterfowl native to Hawaii, is featured on the 2008-2009 Junior Duck Stamp.



The Duck Stamp program contributes to the long-term outcome measures developed for Migratory Birds as a result of a program assessment and a programmatic strategic planning; the percent of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels, and the percent of adult Americans who participate in bird-related recreation.

### **2010 Program Performance**

In 2010, the Duck Stamp program will continue to focus on its two long-term objectives: increasing the amount of revenue available for migratory bird habitat conservation through the sale of Federal Duck Stamps, and promoting conservation education as well as careers in

conservation by increasing the number of students participating in the Junior Duck Stamp Program.

Since 2007, the Fish and Wildlife Service has continued to expand its efforts to highlight the importance of the Duck Stamp to the conservation community. The 2007 annual First Day of Sale ceremony took place at the Bass Pro Shops headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, as well as forty additional Bass Pro retail outlets throughout the United States. The concurrent First Day of Sale ceremonies afforded more conservationists, hunters, and Duck Stamp collectors the opportunity to participate locally, rather than having to incur travel expenses to Washington, D.C., and resulted in tremendously increased attendance. In addition, regional Service personnel forged new partnerships with local U.S. Postal Service representatives, community leaders, conservation groups, hunters, stamp collectors and birders, marking one of the Duck Stamp program's most innovative and successful outreach events. As part of the plan to grow its constituency by continuing to make the program more widely accessible throughout the country, the 2008 Federal Duck Stamp Contest was held in Bloomington, MN and an audience of nearly five-hundred watched as judges selected the winning design.

The Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-266) directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a three-year pilot program under which up to fifteen States may issue electronic Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps as part of their State hunting and fishing licensing program. The Fish and Wildlife Service signed partnership agreements with 9 States to participate in the program beginning on September 1, 2007. To date, some 350,000 E-Stamps have been sold.

Incorporating scientific and wildlife management principles into a visual arts curriculum, the Junior Duck Stamp program provides fact sheets, a website, and other educational resources teachers can use to educate students about the importance of wetlands conservation. Through this conservation education program, schoolchildren come to understand the value that healthy wetlands provide to wildlife as well as to people. Also, teachers can access information designed to help students learn about the negative impact invasive species and contaminants have on wetland habitats, waterfowl, other migratory birds, and numerous additional wetland-dependant species. Each year the program culminates in the national Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest, during which students compete to have their art selected to grace the next year's stamp. Nearly 30,000 entries were received for the 2008 contest, with awards given to the best artwork at the State and national level. Additionally, thousands of students participated in the wetlands conservation curriculum but chose not to enter the contest.

In 2007-2008, sales of the \$5 Junior Duck Stamp generated more than \$100,000, all of which was returned to the program to provide educational materials for the program, fund awards for students, and support and promote the program's growth.

**Activity: Migratory Bird Management**  
**Subactivity: North American Waterfowl Management Plan**  
**(NAWMP)/Joint Ventures**

	2008 Actual	2009 Enacted	2010			Change from 2009 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes* (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
North American Waterfowl Management Plan/Joint Ventures (\$000)	10,893	12,942	+125	0	13,067	+125
FTE	44	44	+2	0	46	+2

\*The FTE increases listed in the FY2010 "Fixed Cost & Related Changes" column represent FTE positions that were funded in FY2009, but due to the late enactment of the 2009 Appropriations Act, will not be filled until FY10. The savings realized in FY09 by not having to pay salaries will be used to fund one-time expenses, such as human capital recruitment costs, supplies, and equipment.

**Summary of 2010 Program Changes for NAWMP/Joint Ventures**

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
Internal Transfer – NCTC Literature Search Service (Fixed Costs and Related Changes)	-5	0

**Justification of 2010 Program Changes**

The 2010 budget request for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan/Joint Ventures program is \$13,067,000 and 46 FTE, a program change of \$0 and 0 FTE from the 2009 Enacted Budget.

**Program Performance Change**

The number of acres (cumulative) of habitat needs met is increased from 233,903,136 acres in FY 2009 to 272,550,579 in FY 2010, a 17% increase. However, the percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable level of migratory birds remains relatively constant at 52%. In addition, the number of Birds of Management Concern (BMC) with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales increased from 322 in FY 2009 to 433 in FY 2010, a 35% increase. The reason for this increase is attributable to the funding received for new joint ventures in FY 2009. It is important to note that new BMCs does not necessarily mean more habitat will be identified by current joint ventures.

**Program Performance Change**

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 Base Budget (2009 Plan + Fixed Costs)	2010 President's Budget	Program Change Accruing in 2010	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
<b>Sustaining Biological Communities</b>								
CSF 6.4 Percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative (PART)	45.9% (31,038, 128 of 67,673,168)	51.5% (229,656,269 of 445,882,181)	52.1% (233,127,859 of 447,161,217)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)	-0.2% (-0.4%)	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$7,963	\$31,303	\$44,221	\$62,359	\$62,359	\$74,333	\$11,975	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$5,338	\$29,224	\$41,316	\$59,876	\$59,876	\$61,253	\$1,377	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Acres (whole dollars)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
6.4.1 % of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative (PART)	45.9% (31,038, 128 of 67,673,168)	51.5% (229,656,269 of 445,882,181)	52.1% (233,127,859 of 447,161,217)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)	-0.2% (-0.4%)	
Comments:	The level funding requested in 2010 will result in only a modest increase in habitat needs met because of habitat delivery work from established joint ventures that are working hard to keep up with habitat losses.							
6.4.5 # of BMC with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales	201	191	222	322	322	433	111 (25.6%)	
Comments:	BMCs with management needs identified will increase because of funding received for new joint ventures in the previous year. It is important to note that new BMCs does not necessarily mean more habitat acres will be identified by current joint ventures. Although it is difficult to estimate the increase in out years could be an additional 30-40 BMCs with habitat needs identified.							

**Program Overview**

The North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) is considered one of the most successful conservation initiatives in the world. The purpose of the NAWMP is to sustain abundant waterfowl populations by conserving landscapes, through partnerships, guided by sound science. Joint ventures are the partnerships that were originally formed to implement the NAWMP. They are regional, self-directed organizations involving Federal, State, and local governments, corporations, and a wide range of non-governmental conservation groups, and have proven to be a successful means of developing cooperative conservation efforts to protect waterfowl and other bird habitats. The Service currently provides base operations support for 19 joint ventures, and anticipates the approval of two more joint ventures by the end of FY 2009. Joint ventures address multiple local, regional, and continental goals for sustaining migratory bird populations by developing scientifically based landscape conservation plans and habitat projects that benefit migratory birds and other wildlife populations.

The Service uses a science-based, adaptive framework for setting and achieving cross-program habitat conservation objectives at multiple scales that is particularly well suited to strategically address the problems migratory birds face on their breeding, migration (stopover), and non-breeding grounds. This framework, called Strategic Habitat Conservation, is based on the principles of Adaptive Management and uses population and habitat data, ecological models, and focused monitoring and assessment efforts to develop and implement habitat conservation strategies that result in measurable bird population outcomes. This process uses the best available scientific information to predict how bird populations respond to habitat conservation and other management activities. Joint ventures use the products of biological planning, which are often maps or models, to create landscape conservation designs that can direct individual habitat management expenditures to where they have greatest effect and lowest relative cost. Joint ventures then use these conservation designs to enable and encourage partners to focus their conservation programs and resources on the highest priority areas in the amounts needed to sustain healthy populations of migratory bird species. As the joint venture partnerships implement Strategic Habitat Conservation, they create the biological science and the conservation partnership base which will allow States and other partners to pool resources for regional projects in critical habitats, such as stopover locations, for priority bird species.

#### **NAWMP/JV - Integrating Performance and Cost Information**

Cost-effective fish and wildlife conservation is attained by achieving the desired population impacts at the lowest relative cost to management and society. Joint Ventures have increasingly invested in biological planning as part of a Strategic Habitat Conservation framework to identify priority actions for specific conservation landscapes. This planning uses the best available scientific information to predict how bird populations respond to habitat conservation and other management activities. The products of biological planning, often maps or models, are used by joint venture partners to direct their individual habitat management expenditures where they have greatest effect and lowest relative cost. In 2004, the Migratory Bird Program was assessed, which resulted in new long-term and annual performance measures. These measures are designed to gauge joint venture planning and implementation activities directly with healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds, which is the long term outcome goal for the Migratory Bird Program. Use of these new measures over time will help managers improve program performance, link performance to budget decisions, and provide a basis for making recommendations to improve results.

### **2010 Program Performance**

Two performance measures are in place to assess joint venture results. The measures are: number of birds of management concern with habitat needs identified at eco-regional scales and percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds. These measures record performance results at the endpoint of a planning, development, and implementation cycle that is often several years in length. Hence, funding in a particular fiscal year will not fully yield results attributable to that funding for at least 2-3 years. This is especially true for new joint ventures, which are just beginning the cycle described above.

The Service bases future funding increases for joint ventures on the results of ongoing program assessments. Accordingly, the Service will administratively allocate future funding for individual joint ventures based on their attainment of existing performance targets and their ability to contribute to the long term outcome goals of the Migratory Bird Program. The 2007 NAWMP Assessment Report provides information on joint venture performance and the future needs of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The current joint ventures are responding to the recommendations provided to them through this assessment. In 2008, a significant advancement in the joint venture community was the development of a matrix of desired characteristics of joint

venture partnerships that individual joint ventures use as a common benchmark to self assess their achievements and evaluate and prioritize future needs. This evaluation provides useful information to assist the Service in funding allocations.

Although there will be no significant increase to performance resulting from the 2010 budget request, new and more recently developed joint ventures that received increased funding in 2009 will develop their biological planning to address approximately 91 additional Birds of Management Concern with habitat needs identified at an eco-regional scale. This planning and development will encourage partners to focus their conservation resources on the priority landscapes and habitat conditions most vital for sustaining healthy migratory bird populations. Migratory Bird Program focal species, a subset of the Birds of Management Concern, will be given priority for inclusion in joint venture planning. The habitat needs of those additional species will be integrated with joint venture habitat objectives and conservation strategies, which will result in an increase in the total acres of habitat identified to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds. Improvements in habitat performance measures will occur in out-years as resulting impacts to habitat conditions develop over time.

**Program Performance Overview**

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2010 President's Budget	Change from 2009 Plan to 2010	Long-term Target 2013
<b>Sustaining Biological Communities</b>									
CSF 6.4 Percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative (PART)	40.5% (25,700,000 of 63,500,000)	45.9% (31,038,128 of 67,673,168)	51.5% (229,656,269 of 445,882,181)	52.1% (233,127,859 of 447,161,217)	51.5% (230,334,330 of 447,161,217)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)	-0.2% (-0.4%)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$7,963	\$31,303	unk	\$44,221	\$62,359	\$74,333	\$11,975	\$79,580
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	unk	\$5,338	\$29,224	unk	\$41,316	\$59,876	\$61,253	\$1,377	\$65,576
6.4.1 % of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative (PART)	40.5% (25,700,000 of 63,500,000)	45.9% (31,038,128 of 67,673,168)	51.5% (229,656,269 of 445,882,181)	52.1% (233,127,859 of 447,161,217)	51.5% (230,334,330 of 447,161,217)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)	-0.2% (-0.4%)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)
Comments:	The level of funding requested in 2010 will result in only a modest increase in habitat needs met because of habitat delivery work from established joint ventures that are working hard to keep up with habitat losses.								
6.4.5 # of BMC with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales	0	201	191	222	323	322	433	111 (25.6%)	433
Comments:	BMCs with management needs identified will increase because of funding received for new joint ventures in the previous year. It is important to note that new BMCs do not necessarily mean more habitat acres will be identified by current joint ventures. Although it is difficult to estimate the increase in out years could be an additional 30-40 BMCs with habitat needs identified.								