

Activity: Migratory Birds, Law Enforcement and International Conservation
Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation and Monitoring	(\$000)	29,830	31,010	-424	-400	30,186	-824
	FTE	142	146	0	0	146	0
Permits	(\$000)	2,563	3,645	-37	0	3,608	-37
	FTE	23	31	0	0	31	0
Avian Health and Disease	(\$000)	4,922	4,922	-38	0	4,884	-38
	FTE	36	36	0	0	36	0
Federal Duck Stamp	(\$000)	589	852	-6	0	846	-6
	FTE	4	4	0	0	4	0
North American Waterfowl Management/Joint Ventures	(\$000)	12,942	14,054	-125	-715	13,214	-840
	FTE	48	48	0	-1	47	-1
Total, Migratory Bird Management	(\$000)	50,846	54,483	-630	-1,115	52,738	-1,745
	FTE	253	265	0	-1	264	-1

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;
- Administer migratory bird permit programs and coordinate annual efforts to promulgate migratory bird 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 national and regional-scale biological planning, project implementation, and evaluation to achieve migratory bird program objectives;
- Coordinate efforts to reduce bird mortalities resulting from collisions with communication towers, wind turbines, and transmission lines, as well as fisheries by-catch, pesticides, and other human-related causes;
- Work to engage children and adults in the conservation of migratory birds; especially through collaborative partnerships bringing together private citizens, Federal, State, and municipal agencies and non-government organizations through the Youth and Careers in Nature initiative and Urban Bird Treaties program; 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 international partners to expand and manage shared migratory bird resources for continental-scale programs. The Service will continue to work closely with outside partners to implement the tenets of Strategic Habitat Conservation, which can increase the effectiveness of migratory bird programs on the landscape, improve overall bird conservation, and prioritize management decisions for species conservation.

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;
- Calculation of resource allocations according to performance measures;
- Cross-tabulation of resource allocations by performance measure;
- Tracking performance data and availability of project status reports;
- Accessibility by Regional Offices to both standard and custom reports;
- Redirection of surplus funds by managers using cost information from the database.



American oystercatchers forage at Cedar Key NWR. The Focal Species Campaign has leveraged significant funding to implement priority conservation actions on the ground. Photo by Patrick Leary.

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

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation and Monitoring	(\$000) FTE	29,830 142	31,010 146	-424 0	-400 0	30,186 146	-824 0

Summary of 2011 Program Changes for Migratory Bird Conservation and Monitoring

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Treasured Landscapes Initiative - Chesapeake Bay	+100	0
• Youth and Careers in Nature: Urban Bird Treaties	-500	0
Total, Program Changes	-400	0

Justification of 2011 Program Changes

The 2011 budget request for Conservation and Monitoring is \$30,186,000 and 146 FTE, a net program change of -\$400,000 and 0 FTE from the 2010 Enacted.

Treasured Landscapes Initiative: Chesapeake Bay (+\$100,000/ +0 FTE)

Funding is requested to develop and expand monitoring protocols, evaluation tools, and research to determine bird population status and trends, and monitor results of management actions in the Chesapeake Bay region. The Service would coordinate and support bird monitoring, banding, database management and research to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation actions. The Service would implement a collaborative biological planning and conservation design approach for migratory birds in the Chesapeake Bay region by developing and applying bird population-habitat models for key habitat types that allow for the assessment of current capability to support bird populations; predicting impacts of landscape-level changes, such as those resulting from urban growth, conservation programs, and climate change.

Youth and Careers in Nature: Urban Bird Treaties (-\$500,000/+0 FTE)

The Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds is a collaborative effort between the Service and participating U.S. cities, bringing together private citizens, Federal, State, and municipals, agencies, and non-governmental organizations to promote bird conservation. The 2010 budget requested an increase of \$250,000 for the Urban Bird Treaties program, and Congress provided an additional \$500,000 over the request. The Service’s 2011 budget proposes to eliminate this FY 2010 Congressional add in order to fund higher priorities elsewhere in the budget.

Program Performance Change

Performance Goal	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Program Change Accruing in Out- years
Sustaining Biological Communities								
CSF 6.1 Percent of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)	61.5% (561 of 912)	62.3%	62.3%	62.5%	62.5%	70.2% (706 of 1,006)	7.3% (12.3% increase over 2010)	

Performance Goal	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
6.1.1.1 # of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)	561	568	568	570	570	706	136 (23.9%)	
6.1.1.2 # of all migratory bird species (GPRA)	912	912	912	912	912	1,006	94 (10.3%)	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	\$28,553	\$47,443	\$52,137	\$53,523	\$53,523	\$67,819	\$14,295	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	\$12,173	\$22,143	\$25,193	\$25,773	\$25,773	\$26,366	\$593	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$50,897	\$83,526	\$91,790	\$93,901	\$93,901	\$96,061	\$2,160	
Comments:	During FY2010, the List of Migratory Birds published in the Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR § 10.13) was updated. The change reflects an update of best scientific understanding and taxonomic organization of bird species and is used to determine how many species are defined as "migratory birds" for this measure.							
6.1.3.1 # of management actions taken that address focal species	n/a	n/a	94	148	148	143	(5) (-3.4%)	
Comments:	We changed how the program "counted" management actions taken that address focal species, to include all actions supporting focal species, regardless of whether an action plan has been formally completed for that focal species.							
6.1.4 # BMC for which comprehensive management plans have been developed (Current)	n/a	n/a	24	12	12	10	(2) (-16.7%)	
6.1.5 Number of Management Actions Completed to Reduce Incidental Take of Migratory Birds	n/a	n/a	39	66	66	64	(2) (-3.0%)	
6.1.6 # of management actions taken that annually address Birds of Management Concern, excluding focal species actions	n/a	n/a	198	267	267	260	-7 (-2.6%)	
6.1.7 % of bird species of management concern with improved status	n/a	n/a	52% (214 of 411)	52% (215 of 412)	52% (215 of 412)	60% (216 of 358)	8% (15.6% increase over 2010)	
Comments:	The total number of birds species of management concern was also changed due to the update of 50 CFR § 10.13.							
CSF 15.8 Percent of adult Americans participating in wildlife-associated recreation	n/a	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%	0	

Performance Goal	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	n/a	\$71,172	\$64,685	\$66,173	\$66,173	\$67,695	\$1,522	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	n/a	\$755	\$733	\$750	\$750	\$767	\$17	
52.1.17.15 # of conservation projects that actively involve the use of knowledge and skills of people in the area, and local resources in priority setting, planning, and implementation processes (GPRA)	n/a	28	40	293	293	285	(8) (-2.7%)	
52.1.17.16 # of conservation projects (GPRA)	n/a	31	40	336	336	330	(6) (-1.8%)	
Comments:	Previously, only the Washington DC area provided data for these measures. During 2010, all Migratory Bird programs in the Regions participated in providing input, which greatly increased the number of projects.							

Note: 2011 Base Budget is equal to 2010 Plan (enacted level) plus fixed cost (absorbed).

Program Overview

Conservation and monitoring are the two integral activities that define the key role the Service plays in migrating bird conservation. This role was underscored recently in the 2009 “State of the Birds” report, which concluded that many species of birds were experiencing marked population declines in key habitats on the North American continent.

In FY 2011, 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. 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.

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 parts of any iterative, science-based approach to bird conservation, and have special relevance to the evaluation of the Service’s ongoing efforts to improve the status of Birds of Management Concern, including focal species. Recent monitoring



The State of the Birds report calls attention to bird conservation success stories as well as conservation challenges. Photo by James Livaldais.

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. Additionally, climate change is expected to influence the Service's basic ability to manage migratory bird populations. Monitoring can be used and adapted to help deal with these influences, thus maintaining the Service's ability to make informed decisions for this valuable trust resource.

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, Waterbird Conservation for the Americas, and 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 committed to 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 are 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.

Program Performance Change

During FY2010, the List of Migratory Birds published in the Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR § 10.13) was updated. The change reflects an update of best scientific understanding and taxonomic organization of bird species and is used to determine how many species are defined as "migratory birds" for this measure. The total number of bird species of management concern (6.1.7.1 & 6.1.7.2) was also changed due to the update of the 10.13 list. In 2012, the Birds of Conservation Concern list will be completed and the results of the measure will be able to be calculated. We also changed how the program "counted" management actions taken that address focal species (6.1.3.1 & 6.1.3.2) to include all actions supporting focal species, regardless of whether an action plan has been formally completed for that focal species. This decision results in an increase in tasks numbers which are unrelated to funding levels, but which represent a more accurate indication of management actions actually taken. Other Performance Measures affected by this action include: 6.1.4, 6.1.5, 6.1.6.

GPRA Performance Measures 52.1.17.15 and 52.1.17.15 also reflect an increase in performance numbers. Previously, only the Washington DC area provided data. During FY2010, all Migratory Bird programs in the Regions participated in providing input, which greatly increased the number of projects.

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Long-term Target 2012
Sustaining Biological Communities										
CSF 6.1 Percent of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)	61.4% (561 of 913)	61.5%	62.3%	62.3%	62.3%	62.5%	62.5%	70.2% (706 of 1,006)	7.3% (12.3% increase over 2010)	70.2% (706 of 1,006)
6.1.1.1 # of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)	561	561	568	568	568	570	570	706	136 (23.9%)	706
6.1.1.2 # of all migratory bird species (GPRA)	913	912	912	912	912	912	912	1,006	94 (10.3%)	1,006
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	\$28,207	\$28,553	\$47,443	n/a	\$52,137	\$53,523	\$53,523	\$67,819	\$14,295	\$69,379
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	\$12,062	\$12,173	\$22,143	n/a	\$25,193	\$25,773	\$25,773	\$26,366	\$593	\$26,972
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$50,280	\$50,897	\$83,526	n/a	\$91,790	\$93,901	\$93,901	\$96,061	\$2,160	\$98,270
Comments:	During FY 2010, the List of Migratory Birds published in the Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR § 10.13) was updated. The change reflects an update of best scientific understanding and taxonomic organization of bird species and is used to determine how many species are defined as "migratory birds" for this measure.									
6.1.3.1 # of management actions taken that address focal species	n/a	n/a	n/a	93	94	148	148	143	(5) (-3.4%)	143
Comments:	This estimate includes all management actions supporting focal species, regardless of whether an action plan has been formally completed for that focal species.									

Note: 2011 Base Budget is equal to 2010 Plan (enacted level) plus fixed cost (absorbed).

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program: Permits

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Permits	(\$000)	2,563	3,645	-37	0	3,608	-37
	FTE	23	31	0	0	31	0

Justification of 2011 Program Changes

The 2011 budget request for the Permits Program is \$3,608,000 and 31 FTE, with no net program change from the 2010 Enacted.

Program Overview

Under the authorities of the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (16 U.S.C. 703-712, MBTA), the Service is responsible for regulating activities associated with migratory birds. The *Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 668, BGEPA) provides additional protections to Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles. The MBTA and the BGEPA are the primary legislation in the United States enacted for conserving migratory birds and prohibiting the taking, killing, possessing or sale of migratory birds unless permitted by regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior. The take of migratory birds for purposes other than hunting is administered through a permitting system (50 CFR parts, 21, 22).

The regulation of take is a primary and traditional Service activity that integrates data-gathering activities that 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 a series of rules governing annual sport and subsistence harvest.

The mission of the Migratory Bird Permits 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. Regulations authorizing take and possession of migratory birds focus on a limited number of allowable activities: scientific study, depredation control, falconry, raptor propagation, rehabilitation, education, taxidermy, waterfowl sale, religious use of eagles, and other purposes. The permits are administered by the eight Regional Migratory Bird Permit Offices, which process over 11,000 applications annually. Most permits are valid for 1 to 5 years, and approximately 40,000 permits are active (valid) at any time.

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 measures are now tracked and reported through use of the Service's Permit Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS database). SPITS was designed in cooperation with the Service's other permit programs to track permit and species information and to facilitate species and trade monitoring.
- 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.
- E-permitting capability is being developed to enable the public to submit permit applications and reports electronically.

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 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.



Golden Eagle

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program: Avian Health and Disease

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Avian Health and Disease	(\$000)	4,922	4,922	-38	0	4,884	-38
	FTE	36	36	0	0	36	0

Justification of 2011 Program Changes

The 2011 budget request for the Avian Health and Disease Program is \$4,884,000 and 36 FTE, with no net program change from the 2010 President's Budget.

Program Overview

The Migratory Bird Program is building 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), to develop 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 emerging disease risks that involve avian reservoirs and possible transfer of disease to humans. 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.



A Wood Duck is examined at a monitoring station.

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

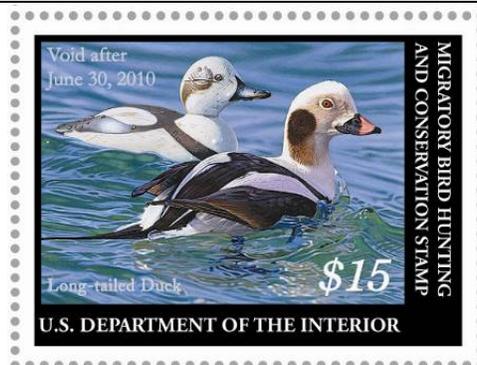
		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Federal Duck Stamp Program	(\$000)	589	852	-6	0	846	-6
	FTE	4	4	0	0	4	0

Justification of Program Changes for Federal Duck Stamp Program

The 2011 budget request for Federal Duck Stamp Program is \$846,000 and 4 FTE, with no net program change from the 2010 Enacted.

Program Overview

The Federal Duck Stamp program, an internationally recognized and emulated program, supports the conservation of important migratory bird habitat through the selection, design and sale of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (commonly known as the Duck Stamp). Since 1934, the sales of Federal Duck Stamps have raised in excess of \$750 million for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) enabling the protection 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 \$25 million, approximately 50 percent of the total annual revenue of the MBCF that year. The budget proposes to increase the price of the Duck Stamp in 2011 from \$15 to \$25 to help offset increased costs to acquire land and easements as habitat. On March 16, 2009, the Duck Stamp Act marked its 75th anniversary. The 2009-2010 Duck Stamp (pictured) 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. Maryland artist Robert Bealle took first place honors at the 2009 Federal Duck Stamp Contest and his design of an American Wigeon will grace the 2010-2011 Federal Duck Stamp. The 2010-2011 Duck Stamp will go on sale at the end of June, 2010.



Since 1989, the mission of the Junior Duck Stamp Program has been to provide 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 connect with the outdoor environment, there are fewer occasions for them to interact with nature, to learn about environmental stewardship, or careers in wildlife conservation. The Junior Duck Stamp program provides educators with the tools and resources designed to assist them in teaching about nature and promoting conservation. In FY 2010 the Service began an update of Junior Duck Stamp curriculum designed to make the program more relevant to today’s teachers and students. This new curriculum will include using state of the art technology, updated scientific information (for example climate change and its impact on wetland habitat), 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 2010 the National Junior Duck Stamp Contest will take place on April 23, at the Minneapolis Science Museum. Ohio native Lily Spang's painting of a single wood duck drake took top honors at the 2009 National Junior Duck Stamp Contest held at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, DC.

2011 Program Performance

The Duck Stamp program directly supports the goal of "Improving the Health of Watersheds, Landscapes, and Marine Resources that are DOI Managed or Influenced." The Duck Stamp program also contributes to the long-term outcome measures developed for Migratory Birds as a result of the 2004 and 2008 program assessments. Those being: 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. In 2011 the Service will continue to support these efforts through its focus on 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.

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

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
North American Waterfowl Management/Joint Ventures	(\$000)	12,942	14,054	-125	-715	13,214	-840
	FTE	48	48	0	-1	47	-1

Summary of 2011 Program Changes for North American Waterfowl Management Plan/JVs

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Joint Ventures	-1,000	-3
• Treasured Landscapes Initiative - Chesapeake Bay	+285	+2
TOTAL Program Changes	-715	-1

Justification of Program Changes for North American Waterfowl Management Plan/JVs

The 2011 budget request for North American Waterfowl Management Plan/Joint Ventures is \$13,214,000 and 47 FTE, a net program decrease of -\$715,000 and -1 FTE from the 2010 Enacted.

Joint Ventures (-\$1,000,000/ -3 FTE)

The 2011 budget request eliminates \$1.0 million of unrequested funding added in 2010 by Congress for joint ventures. The funds provided by Congress in 2010 and were used to provide initial operations support for four new joint ventures (Rio Grande, Appalachian Mountains, Oaks and Prairies, and East Gulf Coastal Plain).

Treasured Landscapes: Chesapeake Bay (+\$285,000/ +2 FTE)

Funding is requested to expand the capacity of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture partnership and Migratory Bird Program to collaboratively protect, restore and enhance critical migratory bird habitats throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Funding would provide additional support to Service programs and partners for waterbird and shorebird conservation in the Chesapeake Bay and Mid Atlantic Region. Funding would also provide information and decision support tools to Service Programs and partners in the format and scale needed to guide habitat conservation actions for migratory birds. Funding would support habitat conservation partnerships including partner coordination support, decision support tools, enhanced success with grant and foundation funding, seed funding for projects and spatial project tracking.

2011 Program Performance Change

Percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds (percent of habitat needs met in CBW)--.01% increase.

Number of Birds of Management Concern with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales (in CBW portion of Mid Atlantic and Piedmont Bird Conservation Regions)--2 additional Birds of Management Concern.

Performance Goal	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
Sustaining Biological Communities								
CSF 6.4 Percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative	51.5% (229,656,269 of 445,882,181)	51.5% (230,334,330 of 447,161,217)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	49.4% (256,381,939 of 519,506,615)	49.4% (256,381,939 of 519,506,615)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)	+3.7% 5.6% increase over 2010	
6.4.1.1 cumulative # of acres of habitat need met	229,656,269	230,334,330	233,903,136	256,381,939	256,381,939	272,550,579	16,168,640 6.3%	
6.4.1.2 total # habitat acres identified	445,882,181	447,161,217	447,209,213	519,506,615	519,506,615	522,937,335	3,430,720 0.7%	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$31,303	\$44,221	\$47,375	\$53,122	\$53,122	\$57,771	\$4,649	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$29,224	\$41,316	\$43,888	\$44,898	\$44,898	\$45,930	\$1,033	
6.4.5 # of BMC with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales	191	323	390	415	415	433	18 4.3%	
Comments:	Birds of Management Concern (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, there could be an additional 10-20 BMCs with habitat needs identified.							

Note: 2011 Base Budget is equal to 2010 Plan (enacted level) plus fixed cost (absorbed).

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 21 joint ventures. 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.

2011 Program Performance

In 2011 existing joint ventures will continue to develop models linking bird population objectives to habitat objectives as part of their biological planning. They will continue to use this biological planning information to inform their conservation design process which in turn provides the strategic guidance necessary for joint venture partners to efficiently and effectively target their conservation programs to achieve healthy bird populations. Established joint ventures will remain actively involved in conservation delivery and continuing existing research and monitoring efforts to evaluate management actions and improve on their biological plans. Newer joint ventures will rely on partner funding to develop their biological plans and conservation designs for priority bird species.

Two performance measures are in place to assess joint venture results. The measures are the 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.

Joint venture program performance is enhanced, in part, by monitoring results of ongoing program assessments. The Service will administratively allocate funding to 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.

Since there is a decrease in funding to the existing 17 joint ventures, performance may decline program wide. The number of acres of bird habitat needs identified will likely remain static. Migratory Bird Program focal species, a subset of the Birds of Management Concern, will be given priority for existing joint venture planning. The habitat needs of those species will be given priority in joint venture habitat objectives and conservation strategies, which will result in a more narrow focus on the acres of habitat identified for those priority species. Improvements in habitat performance measures will occur in out-years as the impacts to habitat conditions develop over time.

Program Performance Overview

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Long-term Target 2012
Sustain Biological Communities										
CSF 6.4 Percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative	45.9% (31,038,128 of 67,673,168)	51.5% (229,656,269 of 445,882,181)	51.5% (230,334,330 of 447,161,217)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	49.4% (256,381,939 of 519,506,615)	49.4% (256,381,939 of 519,506,615)	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)	+3.7% 5.6% increase over 2010	52.1% (272,550,579 of 522,937,335)
6.4.1.1 cumulative # of acres of habitat need met	31,038,128	229,656,269	230,334,330	233,903,136	233,903,136	256,381,939	256,381,939	272,550,579	16,168,640 6.3%	272,550,579
6.4.1.2 total # habitat acres identified	67,673,168	445,882,181	447,161,217	447,209,213	447,209,213	519,506,615	519,506,615	522,937,335	3,430,720 0.7%	522,937,335
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	\$7,963	\$31,303	\$44,221	n/a	\$47,375	\$53,122	\$53,122	\$57,771	\$4,649	\$59,100
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures (\$000)	\$5,338	\$29,224	\$41,316	n/a	\$43,888	\$44,898	\$44,898	\$45,930	\$1,033	\$46,987
6.4.5 # of BMC with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales	201	191	323	322	390	415	415	433	18 4.3%	433
Comments:	Birds of Management Concern (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, there could be an additional 10-20 BMCs with habitat needs identified.									

Note: 2011 Base Budget is equal to 2010 Plan (enacted level) plus fixed cost (absorbed).