

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), [\$5,000,000]\$4,000,000, to remain available until expended. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.*)

Authorizing Statutes

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2006, (16 U.S.C. 6101). For expenses necessary to carryout the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.) Authorizes competitive grants program for the conservation of neotropical migratory birds in the United States, Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2010. Reauthorization is pending.

Appropriation: Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund

| | 2009 Actual | 2010 Enacted | 2011 | | | Change from 2010 (+/-) |
|--|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| | | | DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-) | Program Changes (+/-) | Budget Request | |
| Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (\$000) | 4,750 | 5,000 | 0 | -1,000 | 4,000 | -1,000 |
| FTE | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Summary of 2011 Program Changes for Neotropical Migratory Bird Fund

| Request Component | (\$000) | FTE |
|--|---------------|-----------|
| • Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund | -1,000 | +0 |
| TOTAL Program Changes | -1,000 | +0 |

Justification of Program Changes for Neotropical Migratory Bird Fund

The 2011 budget request for Neotropical Migratory Bird Fund is \$4,000,000 and 1 FTE, a program decrease of \$1,000,000 and 0 FTE from the 2010 enacted budget.

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (-\$1,000,000/+0 FTE)

The Administration requests a decrease of \$1,000,000 for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA) program in order to support higher priorities. This proposed decrease may reduce the number of grants that can be funded. Every NMBCA grant dollar is matched at least 3:1 by partners.

Performance Change Table - NMBCA

| 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 (PART) | 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) | 0.0 (5.6%) | |
| CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000) | \$31,303 | \$44,221 | \$47,375 | \$53,122 | \$53,122 | \$57,771 | \$4,649 | |
| 6.4.3 # of acres restored/enhanced of habitat in U.S./Mexico/Latin America through NMBCA | 32,105 | 17,327 | 36,999 | 2,597 | 2,597 | 4,793 | 2,196.0 (84.6%) | |
| Comments: | Acres of habitat reported as restored or enhanced are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2007 to 08, 09, 10 and 2011 demonstrates the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year. | | | | | | | |

| 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 |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 6.4.4 # of acres protected/secured of habitat in U.S./Mexico/Latin America through partnerships and networked lands using NMBCA | 409,123 | 79,755 | 497,254 | 12,848 | 12,848 | 72,426 | 59,578.0 (463.7%) | |
| Comments: | Acres of habitat reported as protected or secured are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2007 to 08, 09 and 10 demonstrates the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year. | | | | | | | |

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

Program Overview

The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act program provides matching grants to partners throughout the Western Hemisphere to promote the conservation of neotropical migratory birds in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Nearly 350 species of neotropical migratory birds breed in the United States and Canada and winter in Latin America, including plovers, terns, hawks, cranes, warblers and sparrows. The populations of many of these birds are declining and several species are protected as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Seven birds are targeted by the Service as focal species and 121 are on the Service list of conservation concern. Eleven of the 20 birds on Audubon's "List of the Top 20 Birds in Decline" are long-distance migrants that benefit from grants provided through the NMBCA.

The projects supported by this program respond to the full range of conservation activities needed to protect and promote neotropical migrants, including securing, restoring, and managing wintering, migrating, and breeding habitat; conducting law enforcement, providing community outreach and education; and doing population research and monitoring. By law, at least 75 percent of the money must go to projects in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada, with the remaining 25 percent available for projects in the United States.

Through 2009, conservation partners have received more than \$30 million in grant funds in support of 296 projects in 35 countries and 47 U.S. States across the Western Hemisphere. Partners have contributed approximately \$134 million in matching funds to these projects. All bird groups have benefited, including songbirds, raptors, shorebirds, and waterfowl.

2011 Program Performance

In 2011 the NMBCA grant program is expected to fund approximately 30 new projects with \$4 million in grant funds. These dollars will help protect approximately 99,360 acres of neotropical bird habitat and provide critical support for research and monitoring and community outreach and education across the western hemisphere. All of these activities are critical to the long-term conservation of neotropical birds. Most NMBCA projects support complementary activities, such as habitat protection, monitoring, and education, on the same area. For example, a recently funded project near Chicago will restore and maintain prairie habitat on hayfields and degraded grasslands and then monitor the area to see how bird populations respond to those habitat improvements. Across the hemisphere, partners also use NMBCA

funds to educate communities about the needs of migratory birds and build capacity to support the activities necessary for their conservation. For example, a project in Paraguay implemented a media campaign, developed local conservation leaders and involved the community in conservation projects to support a local area that is internationally recognized as important to shorebirds.

The conservation impact of NMBCA funds is increased by the partner dollars that are leveraged by the program. Every grant dollar is matched by at least three non-Federal partner dollars. NMBCA funds are directed to priority bird conservation concerns and areas. Among other factors, the NMBCA program's grant selection criteria considers whether a proposed project addresses neotropical migrants identified as a conservation priority, including the Service's focal species priority list; whether a proposed project addresses conservation priorities of other international bird conservation plans such as Partners in Flight; and whether the proposal represents coordination among public and private organizations, such as through a Joint Venture. These criteria have been in use by reviewers since 2009 and will continue to apply to grant proposal review and development for 2011.

Projects funded through NMBCA further two Fish and Wildlife Service measurable outcomes that sustain biological communities and contribute to the percent of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds. These measures are the number of acres restored/enhanced of habitat in U.S./Mexico/Latin America through NMBCA, and the number of acres of habitat protected/secured in U.S./Mexico/Latin America through partnerships and networked lands using NMBCA. Additionally, the program's actions contribute to the success of the Department and Service's goal that tracks the number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries.

The projected performance for the NMBCA program in 2011 is approximately 4,793 acres of restored or enhanced habitat, and 72,426 acres of protected or secured habitat in the U.S., Canada, Caribbean, and Latin America. These acres will be reported in projects that are completed in 2011, although they were funded in previous years. The 2011 performance changes are not impacted by 2011 program funding, but accomplishments of out-years may be affected. Acres accomplished in any fiscal year are difficult to predict because multi-year grants may be extended beyond their scheduled end dates and partner-proposed acreage objectives are extremely variable. NMBCA-funded habitat acres directly address the threats to migratory birds from tropical deforestation and wintering habitat conversion. NMBCA-funded projects also benefit migratory birds through other important project activities, such as research and monitoring of bird populations, law enforcement, and outreach and education.

Performance Overview Table - NMBCA

| 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 6.4 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) | 16,168,640 of 3,430,720 | 52.1% (272,550,579 of 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 |
| 6.4.3 # of acres restored/enhanced of habitat in U.S./Mexico/Latin America through NMBCA | 16,516 | 32,105 | 17,327 | 2,406 | 36,999 | 2,597 | 2,597 | 4,793 | 2,196 | 4,793 |
| 6.4.4 # of acres protected/secured of habitat in U.S./Mexico/Latin America through partnerships and networked lands using NMBCA | 66,964 | 409,123 | 79,755 | 513,054 | 497,254 | 12,848 | 12,848 | 72,426 | 59,578 | 72,426 |
| Comments: | Acres of habitat reported as protected or secured are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2007 to 08, 09 and 10 demonstrates the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year. | | | | | | | | | |

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

| Standard Form 300 | | | |
|---|-------------|----------|----------|
| DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND | | | |
| Program and financing (in millions of dollars) | | 2010 | 2011 |
| Identification code 14-1696-0-0-302 | 2009 Actual | Estimate | Estimate |
| Obligations by program activity: | | | |
| 00.01 Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 10.00 Total obligations | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| Budgetary resources available for obligation: | | | |
| 21.40 Unobligated balance available, start of year | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 22.00 New budget authority (gross) | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| 23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 23.95 Total new obligations | -6 | -5 | -4 |
| 24.40 Unobligated balance available, end of year | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New budget authority (gross), detail: | | | |
| 40.00 Appropriation (special fund, definite) | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| 43.00 Appropriation Total | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Change in unpaid obligations: | | | |
| 72.40 Obligated balance, start of year | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 73.10 Total new obligations | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 73.20 Total outlays (gross) (-) | -4 | -6 | -6 |
| 74.40 Obligated balance, end of year | 8 | 7 | 5 |
| Outlays (gross), detail: | | | |
| 86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 86.93 Outlays from current authority | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 87.00 Total outlays (gross) | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| Net budget authority and outlays: | | | |
| 89.00 Budget authority | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| 90.00 Outlays | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| 95.02 Unpaid Obligation, end of year | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| Object classification | | | |
| 41.0 Grants, subsidies and contributions | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 99.9 Total obligations | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| Personnel Summary | | | |
| Total compensable workyears: | | | |
| Full-time equivalent employment | 1 | 1 | 1 |