

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
FY 2012 Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund
Project Descriptions Arranged by State**

Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition Grants by State:

California

City of Carlsbad Habitat Management Plan (HMP) Northwest San Diego County Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan* (San Diego County, CA) \$2,000,000.

This project will purchase approximately 1,351 acres of important biological core habitat areas for the threatened coastal California gnatcatcher. The purchases will also benefit numerous other listed and unlisted species covered by the Carlsbad HMP, including the least Bell's vireo, California least tern, western snowy plover, and several plant species. The proposed land acquisition supports a large, landscape-level conservation initiative that will greatly enhance the conservation goals of the Carlsbad HMP by securing key regional wildlife linkages and preserving core habitat in the three targeted areas. The parcels proposed for acquisition support a mosaic of high quality, native riparian and upland habitats.

East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP)* (Contra Costa County, CA) \$1,000,000.

These funds will purchase approximately 1,800 acres of important habitat and wildlife corridors for many of the 28 covered species covered by the HCP/NCCP, including eight federally listed species, such as the San Joaquin kit fox, California red-legged frog, and vernal pool tadpole shrimp. The acquisition of these properties adds to the approximately 1,800 acres that have been, or are in the process of, being acquired and provide protection for lands that have rich on-site resources and supports a diversity of habitat types.

Western Riverside Multispecies Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)* (Riverside County, CA) \$4,000,000.

This grant will support the acquisition of approximately 900 acres of land in Riverside County. This acquisition will benefit 13 federally listed species, including California gnatcatcher, Arroyo southwestern toad, and Quino checkerspot butterfly. The acquisition will support the assembly of a 500,000-acre preserve that is part of the Western Riverside MSHCP by protecting large blocks of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and grassland habitats.

Oregon

Bald Hill Farm and Mary's River Watershed (Benton County, OR) \$1,259,000.

This project will acquire and permanently protect 602 acres of upland prairie, oak woodland and wetland prairie habitats critical to the stability and recovery of Fender's blue butterfly, Kincaid's lupine, Bradshaw's lomatium, Willamette daisy and Taylor's checkerspot butterfly. The properties targeted for acquisition will link and aggregate properties that have similar, important conservation values across a landscape that has experienced considerable fragmentation and development, yet remains a key area for populations of prairie species. The Greenbelt Land Trust and the Benton County, as subgrantees of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, will acquire and protect the property in perpetuity.

Texas

La Cantera HCP Land Acquisition - Canyon Ranch* (Bexar County, TX) \$1,519,400.

This grant will fund the acquisition and protection of an approximately 461-acre tract of essential habitat in Bexar County. Acquisition of the property will provide recovery benefits for the three species covered by the La Cantera HCP: two ground beetles and Malda's cave meshweaver. The property is located within the newly-designated critical habitat for nine karst invertebrate species. Once acquired, the property will serve as a buffer area to the adjacent Government Canyon State Natural Area and the La Cantera Karst Preserve, bringing the size of the entire protected area to above the threshold for recognition as a high quality karst Fauna Area as described in the Karst Invertebrate Recovery Plan.

Utah

Utah Prairie Dog HCP Land Acquisition (Garfield County, UT) \$1,000,000.

This grant will enable the acquisition of up to 400 acres of habitat for the greater Bryce area Utah prairie dog metapopulation. It will complement habitat conservation efforts for the species by a partnership of three counties and several cities, as well as State and Federal agencies. Acquisition of this habitat will contribute toward the recovery of the species by protecting against imminent development threats and securing critical connectivity between some of the largest Utah prairie dog complexes range-wide.

Washington

Mountain View 4-O Ranch (Asotin County, WA) \$3,700,000.

This project will protect 4,160 acres in southern Asotin County, including four miles of bull trout critical habitat along the Lower Grande Ronde River and three miles of riparian habitat along Cougar Creek. This acquisition is part of a larger, landscape-level conservation effort that will protect over 13,000 acres of important habitat lands and 15 miles of streams. The project encompasses a large, ecologically intact and diverse landscape which contains riparian as well as upland habitats, including cliff and talus habitats, meadows, springs, curl-leaf mahogany shrubland, interior grassland, and Ponderosa pine woodland. Protected habitats support federally listed gray wolf, bull trout, and steelhead as well as the unlisted interior redband trout, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, and golden eagles. The project is bordered on the north by Forest Service lands, and the south and east by Bureau of Land Management lands.

Wisconsin

Karner Blue Butterfly and Kirtland's Warbler HCP Land Acquisition – Central Sands* (Adams County, WI) \$497,600.

This grant will be used to acquire a permanent conservation easement on 3,326 acres within a 9,048-acre easement area from Plum Creek Timberlands. Acquisition of this conservation easement will assist in the recovery of the Karner blue butterfly in Wisconsin by permanently protecting and managing habitat necessary to a Karner blue butterfly metapopulation within the Glacial Lake Wisconsin Recovery Unit. The easement area also supports a viable breeding population of Kirtland's warbler and this area's permanent protection and management is expected to maintain and expand the Kirtland's warbler population in the future. The easement will also benefit associated barrens species.

* indicates partial funding

Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants by State:

California

Bakersfield Regional Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) (Kern County, CA) \$945,000.

In response to escalating growth pressures, the City of Bakersfield and Kern County are striking a balance for the need for prime agricultural land preservation and habitat conservation.

Therefore, a multi-species HCP and NCCP is being developed in order to conserve sensitive species and their habitats within the Metropolitan Bakersfield study area while allowing for the orderly and necessary progression of urban growth and development. This plan addresses 38 species of concern, including 15 state and federally listed threatened, endangered, or fully protected species, such as the San Joaquin kit fox, giant kangaroo rat, and blunt-nosed leopard lizard. An existing Metropolitan Bakersfield HCP is currently set to expire in 2014.

Bay Delta Conservation Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) (Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta, CA) \$640,575.

This project supports the development of an HCP/NCCP for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta (Delta) Region. The Delta is the largest estuary on the West Coast and supports over 750 plant and animal species, 126 of which are threatened, endangered or sensitive. The Delta is also critical to California's economy as it serves as the "hub" of the State's water infrastructure, supplying drinking water for two-thirds of Californians and irrigation water to over 7 million acres of highly-productive agricultural lands. The Bay Delta HCP/NCCP is being developed as a long-term comprehensive plan that will conserve and manage covered species and natural communities in perpetuity, while providing reliable water supplies for the State's myriad of beneficial uses. Some of the many listed species that will benefit from this planning effort include the San Joaquin kit fox, least Bell's vireo, California red-legged frog, and Lange's meadowlark butterfly.

Butte Regional Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) (Butte County, CA) \$999,999.

In Butte County, to reconcile increasing growth pressures with the need for agricultural preservation and habitat conservation, the Butte County Association of Governments is pursuing the development of an HCP/NCCP on behalf of the County of Butte, the cities of Biggs, Chico, Gridley and Oroville, the California Department of Transportation District 3, and four water and irrigation districts. This HCP/NCCP will provide for the protection and conservation of the region's biodiversity while allowing appropriate development and growth to occur. The plan, encompassing 567,225 acres, will permanently protect habitat, establish preserves, and establish management guidelines for the conservation and recovery of at least 41 sensitive species, such as the Central Valley steelhead, greater sandhill crane, Swainson's hawk, and Western burrowing owl.

City of Colton Habitat Conservation Plan (San Bernardino County, CA) \$70,875.

In 1993, the Delhi sands flower-loving fly (DSF) was listed under the Endangered Species Act. The fly is only known to occur in association with Delhi sand deposits and occupied the once-extensive Colton Dunes ecosystem of the upper Santa Ana River Valley, including portions of

what is now the City of Colton in San Bernardino County. More than 95 percent of fly's habitat has been eliminated by development, agriculture and other land management practices. With the objective of ensuring the long-term survival of the fly while meeting economic development goals, the City of Colton initiated an HCP. The purpose of the City of Colton HCP is to protect the highly- endangered DSF and the associated Colton Dune ecosystem throughout the northern portion of the City of Colton, a key portion of the species' range. This plan will build upon the existing conservation framework described in the DSF recovery plan and will provide species protection while enabling streamlined permitting for compatible development.

Northeastern San Luis Obispo County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) (San Luis Obispo County, CA) \$275,000.

The northeastern portion of San Luis Obispo County, including the City of El Paso de Robles, is under increasing development pressure that includes residential and commercial expansion, increasingly intensive agricultural uses, and renewable energy development. These development projects are likely to affect the federally endangered and state threatened San Joaquin kit fox. Thus, the city, county, and their partners are pursuing the development of a regional HCP/NCCP covering the San Joaquin kit fox and other species associated with grassland habitat in the north-east portion of the county, approximately covering the kit fox's distribution. The regional HCP/NCCP will provide a conservation strategy for covered species to address recovery needs while expediting the permit process and providing cost and mitigation assurances to the city and county.

Town of Apple Valley Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) (San Bernardino County, CA) \$813,750.

Until just recently, the Town of Apple Valley and surrounding region was identified as one of the fastest growing areas in the country. Although development has slowed due to an economic downturn, development pressure persists due to renewable energy projects, high-speed rail, military base expansion, transmission line expansion, new highway construction, and other infrastructure projects. With the return of the economy, it is expected that new residential and commercial development will further exacerbate the conflict between the area's natural resources and economic development. Recognizing that there is a limited window of opportunity, the town is developing a comprehensive HCP/NCCP to protect its regionally-significant natural resources from rampant growth. The proposed conservation plan will provide a conservation biology-based approach to conserve ecosystem functions. The planning area encompasses approximately 227,000 acres and proposes to protect, manage, and monitor approximately 132,000 acres of conservation lands for threatened and endangered species, such as Agassizi's desert tortoise, golden eagle, Mohave ground squirrel, and Southwestern willow flycatcher.

Valley Floor (Kern) Habitat Conservation Plan (Kern County, CA) \$428,019.

Kern County is in the final stages of developing a significant multiple-species habitat conservation plan for an approximately two-million-acre area of California's southern San Joaquin Valley. Kern County's Valley Floor Habitat Conservation Plan is one of the largest and most diverse endangered species conservation plans under development in the nation. For several of the species and habitats involved, the plan encompasses either all or a large amount of their distribution. The plan is a collaborative effort by several local, state and federal agencies with land use and natural resource regulatory authority, plus major private sector and non-

governmental interests. The plan encompasses several natural vegetation types that provide habitat for many threatened, endangered and sensitive plant and animal species. While saltbush scrub, valley sink scrub and grassland habitat types will be the focus of conservation, the plan also provides for the long-term conservation of 25 species of concern, such as endangered California jewelflower, Kern mallow, and Bakersfield cactus.

Florida

Statewide Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for Florida Beaches (35 Coastal Counties Statewide, FL) \$766,014.

This grant will assist in the sixth year of this HCP planning effort. Stakeholders plan to assimilate acquired data into a detailed draft of the HCP and activities in the coastal area and their threats to listed species will be analyzed. The goal of the HCP is to allow for ongoing beach structure protection measures while limiting and mitigating adverse effects to the nesting of the federally-listed loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, leatherback, green, and hawksbill sea turtles, five beach mouse subspecies, and shorebirds, including wintering piping plover. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is leading this effort in conjunction with builders groups, municipalities, and other stakeholders.

Highlands County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (Highlands County, FL) \$300,250.

This grant will assist in initiating the planning effort for a county-wide HCP for scrub habitats, the Florida scrub-jay, eastern indigo snake, sand skink, blue-tailed mole skink, and other dry scrub species. Implementation of an HCP in Highlands County marks a significant step forward for scrub conservation in the heart of Florida's central ridge and will enhance similar conservation efforts in neighboring counties.

East Collier County Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan* (Collier County, FL) \$149,949.

This grant will assist in concluding the planning efforts for the first area-wide HCP to cover the Florida panther. Expected results include the production of a draft HCP and an environmental impact statement. Implementation of this HCP will provide the first such conservation plan in the panther's primary recovery zone. The plan represents the collaborative effort among many private stakeholders with ranching, development, and conservation interests.

Georgia

Lower Flint River Basin Habitat Conservation Plan (15 Southwest Georgia Counties) \$199,878.

This grant will assist in initiating the planning effort for a basin-wide HCP for aquatic habitats used by federally-listed mussels, including shinyrayed pocketbook, oval pigtoe, Gulf moccasinshell, purple bankclimber, and fat threeridge. Other aquatic species to benefit include fifteen fish, mussel, reptile, and amphibian species of state management concern. Increasing demands for water resources in this vital agricultural area combined with recent droughts have highlighted the need for proactive conservation planning in this region.

Multi-State

Interior Least Tern and Piping Plover: Inclusion in the Great Plains Wind Energy Habitat

Conservation Plan (MT, ND, SD, NE, KS, CO, OK, TX, NM) \$999,989.

This multi-state and multi-regional planning assistance grant will support the inclusion of the least tern and piping plover into the development of the Great Plains Wind Energy HCP and ensure the adequate conservation of these species through measures to minimize and offset impacts from wind energy development. These efforts will enhance the ongoing development of a comprehensive strategy to protect listed and candidate species, including the whooping crane and lesser prairie-chicken, while supporting responsible renewable energy development in the Great Plains. This HCP represents a ground-breaking effort involving a large partnership between 19 wind companies, nine states, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Oregon

Deschutes Basin Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson, Klamath, Wasco, and Sherman Counties, OR) \$407,000.

This funding will continue the work of seven primary irrigation districts in the Deschutes Basin and the City of Prineville in the development of an HCP that will benefit aquatic and riparian-dependent species in the upper Deschutes Basin, including bull trout and steelhead, while meeting current and future irrigation and municipal water needs in a balanced, economically viable, and sustainable manner. Once completed, the HCP will provide ecosystem benefits to large areas of the upper Deschutes River basin, including the Metolius, Crooked, and Deschutes River Basins.

Oregon Department of Transportation Right-of-Way Habitat Conservation Plan (All Counties, Oregon) \$127,067.

Funding for this project will complete a state-wide HCP covering roughly 75,000 acres of state-managed highway right-of-ways. The HCP will allow the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon Department of Transportation to focus on protection and mitigation measures in ways that enhance existing habitat and the ecological function of listed species in right-of-way areas. Species that will benefit from this HCP include two listed butterflies, Fender's blue butterfly and Oregon silverspot, and 14 listed plant species, including Willamette daisy and Bradshaw's lomatium. A variety of at-risk habitat types will benefit from the implementation of this HCP, including grasslands, wetlands, coastal dunes, and sagebrush.

Yamhill County Private Lands Habitat Conservation Plan for Upland Prairie Species, Phase II (Yamhill County, OR) \$292,611.

This grant will allow the Yamhill County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to complete the development of an HCP for remnant prairie sites on private lands. The HCP will benefit the Fender's blue and Taylor's checkerspot butterflies. The locally-led Yamhill SWCD is committed to protecting, preserving, and restoring habitat for rare and endangered species while increasing public awareness about prairie conservation. By working collaboratively with landowners, stakeholders, wildlife agencies and other local organizations, the Yamhill SWCD HCP will provide an ecosystem approach to conservation and a process that works for both landowners and rare species.

Pennsylvania

Habitat Conservation Plan for Indiana Bats Associated with Forest Management Activities on Pennsylvania State Game Lands and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and

**Natural Resources State Forests and State Parks Lands (All Counties, Pennsylvania)
\$600,000.**

The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), will use this funding to prepare a draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and a National Environmental Policy Act document. The proposed HCP will cover the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) on the 1.4 million acres PGC State Game Lands, the 2.2 million acres of DCNR State Forests, and the 295,000 acres of DCNR State Parks. The 3.8 million acres of largely forested land provides potential foraging, roosting, maternity colony, and fall swarming habitat for all bat species that occur in Pennsylvania. The HCP will clarify the activities associated with forest management practices that may cause incidental take of the Indiana bat and will analyze the likely result from such takings. This information will be used to develop an adaptive management strategy by identifying the measures the state will take to minimize and mitigate direct and indirect impacts to Indiana bats. The process for developing the HCP will also evaluate whether to include other species in the ITP application, such as the little brown bat, eastern small-footed bat, northern long-eared bat, and the tri-colored bat, which may become federally listed in the future due to rapid population declines caused by White Nose Syndrome.

Tennessee

City of Crossville and Cumberland County Habitat Conservation Plan (Cumberland County, TN) \$719,024.

This grant will assist in the ongoing development of the Cumberland region-wide HCP to protect aquatic resources. Several mammals, mussels, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and aquatic invertebrates will benefit from this pre-emptive attempt to develop protective measures in an ecologically diverse region experiencing increased development pressures and resource extraction issues. The HCP will provide management prescriptions and regulatory guidelines to minimize and mitigate development effects on the target species and habitats. With the plan in operation, regulatory processes for the covered municipalities will be streamlined. Listed species that will benefit from this plan include the Indiana bat, gray bat, spotfin chub, purple bean, Cumberland rosemary, and Virginia spiraea.

Washington

South Puget Sound Prairie Habitat Conservation Plan (Thurston County, WA) \$750,000.

This project will initiate the development of an HCP for the best remaining prairie habitats and restoration sites in South Puget Sound. It will identify the set of tools necessary to supplement more traditional conservation strategies to achieve the long-term preservation of a network of habitats needed for the survival of up to 18 species, such as the threatened golden paintbrush and water howellia, as well as the mardon skipper, Mazama pocket gopher, and other Species of Concern.

* indicates partial funding

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants by State:

Alabama

**Acquisition of the Hancock South Tract along the Little Cahaba River (Bibb County, AL)
\$1,000,000.**

This grant will enable the acquisition of 812 acres of important riparian and upland habitat along one mile of the Little Cahaba River and one mile of Six Mile Creek to directly benefit multiple endangered and threatened species. Protecting this tract will help in the recovery efforts for listed species, such as the goldlined darter, plicate rocksnail, flat pebblesnail, orange nacre mucket, and fine lined pocketbook. The area around the Little Cahaba is largely undeveloped and has tremendous potential to help in the recovery efforts of these and other aquatic species. This acquisition will also benefit endangered species, such as the gray bat. Acquisition of this parcel will help consolidate an area of adjacent conservation areas, including the Bibb County Glades TNC Preserve and Cahaba National Wildlife Refuge.

California

Arrastre Canyon, Los Angeles* (Los Angeles County, CA) \$350,000.

This acquisition project lies at the northern end of the San Gabriel Mountains near their junction with the Angeles National Forest. Acquisition will conserve contiguous parcels of primarily undeveloped land in Arrastre Canyon, a tributary to the Santa Clara River near the community of Acton in Los Angeles County. The project will provide recovery benefits to the federally endangered unarmored three-spine stickleback, arroyo toad, and the Southwestern willow flycatcher, as well as the federally threatened California red-legged frog.

Kelsey Ranch Conservation Easement Acquisition* (Merced County, CA) \$750,000.

This acquisition is located north of the Merced River in an area characterized by dissected and hilly terrain and a high diversity of geologic surfaces. The acquisition of a conservation easement on vernal wetlands on the Kelsey Ranch property will protect, in perpetuity, habitat important to the recovery of the federally threatened vernal pool fairy shrimp, succulent owl's clover, and California tiger salamander, as well as the federally-listed endangered Hartweg's golden sunburst. In addition, acquisition of a conservation easement on this site will complement the efforts to protect the nearby Dry Creek Ranch and Jones-Jensen Ranch conservation easements and the JCR Ranch conservation bank.

Peninsular Bighorn Sheep* (Riverside County, CA) \$88,177.

This acquisition will acquire and permanently protect highly-developable habitat for the recovery of the Peninsular bighorn sheep, triple-ribbed milk-vetch, desert tortoise, and potential habitat for the desert slender salamander. The land will be acquired in two separate areas within the Santa Rosa Mountains. The first is a partially in-holding within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument boundary, administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The second area is along State Highway 74, adjacent to the California Department of Fish and Game's Carrizo Canyon Ecological Reserve. Acquisition of the parcels will help eliminate pending development threats and will ensure that this important area for bighorn sheep and the other three species remains intact.

Shay Meadows Conservation Area Expansion* (San Bernardino County, CA) \$300,000.

The parcels proposed for acquisition are located near Big Bear City and will complement approximately eight acres of conservation land that was acquired in 2008 through a previous Recovery Land Acquisition grant. This new acquisition will protect the Shay Creek unarmored threespine stickleback population and six other listed or protected species that may be present.

This acquisition will expand the boundaries of conserved meadow habitat and will offer increased connectivity between the previously-acquired land and adjacent wet-meadows habitat.

Hawaii

Kahuku Coastline Protection and Management: Helping Habitat for Hawaiian Hawksbill Turtles (Hawaii County, HI) \$1,214,000.

This grant funds the acquisition of 3,128 acres of coastal lands, including over a mile of coastline, on the southern coast of the island of Hawaii. These beaches are important habitat for the federally-listed hawksbill turtle, green turtle, and Hawaiian monk seal. The property also includes an anchialine pool complex containing important habitat for native marine invertebrates, fish, and unique native crustaceans, including three candidate species of endemic anchialine pool shrimp. The property is adjacent to the largest natural area reserve in the entire state and will provide landscape-level protection of the area's unique ecosystems and habitats. The property will be added to the County of Hawaii's Open Space lands where it will be protected and managed for species management in perpetuity.

Kukaiua Acquisition and Palila Habitat Restoration (Hawaii County, HI) \$1,217,114.

This grant funds the acquisition of two adjacent parcels totaling 4,469 acres on the northern flank of Maun Kea on the island of Hawaii. These properties lie within critical habitat for the federally-listed palila and will be incorporated into a fenced area to restore the mamane forest upon which the palila depends. Acquisition of this property will provide for endangered species recovery and native species habitat restoration in perpetuity. Additional species benefiting from this project include the endangered Hawaiian hawk, Hawaiian goose, and anunu.

Nebraska

Paradise Valley Tract Acquisition for the Salt Creek Tiger Beetle (Lancaster County, NE) \$270,000.

Acquisition of this parcel will protect habitat supporting most of one of the three remaining populations of the endangered Salt Creek tiger beetle. Protection of this parcel will also provide connectivity between other conservation lands acquired to benefit the beetle and will enhance the consolidation of these lands. By acquiring the Paradise Valley tract, the state and its public and private partners, through the Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership, will be able to provide the protection, restoration, and enhancement of a habitat that is vital to the survival and recovery of the Salt Creek tiger beetle.

Rowe Sanctuary Land Acquisition*(Buffalo County, NE) \$200,000.

This project will protect and enhance riverine and wet meadow habitats that serve as stopover migration habitat for the highly-endangered whooping crane, as well as potential nesting and foraging habitat for the endangered piping plover and threatened interior least tern. The protection of this parcel will reduce the threat of development in an area that has been identified as critically important for these three species. The acquisition of this land also would help address habitat fragmentation by connecting to protected parcels of the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center Rowe Sanctuary.

Oregon

Upper Sevenmile Creek Flow Restoration Easement* (Klamath County, OR) \$650,000.

This funding will help acquire a conservation easement on the JaCox Ranch that will permanently transfer water rights to instream flow in order to restore year-round hydrologic connectivity to Sevenmile Creek. The existing water rights allow for the diversion of the entire summer flow of Sevenmile Creek, dewatering two miles of important habitat and disconnecting upstream and downstream pristine habitat. The acquisition will restore hydrologic connectivity and fish passage in an important area for endangered bull trout, increase lake levels and improve access to cold-water springs and wetland refugial habitats during the late summer period for the protection of endangered Lost River and shortnose sucker, and will provide benefits to multiple other species in the middle and lower reaches of the Klamath River basin, including lamprey, Chinook and the federally listed coho salmon.

Texas

Barker Tract Recovery Land Acquisition* (Hays County, TX) \$1,242,209.

This funding will be used to acquire a 289-acre tract located in Hays County to benefit the golden-cheeked warbler and black-capped vireo and will also provide benefits to seven listed Edwards Aquifer species. The acquisition will provide additional protected habitat for these species that lie adjacent to the existing 463-acre Purgatory Creek Natural Area. Acquisition of the Barker Tract will protect an area of documented golden-cheeked warbler habitat and provide suitable nesting areas for the black-capped vireo, both of which are spotlight species for the region. Acquisition of the Barker tract will also protect water quality and recharge features of the Edwards Aquifer.

Utah

June Sucker Spawning and Stream Restoration in East Hobbler Creek (Utah County, UT) \$157,500.

Acquisition of this parcel on Hobbler Creek will protect habitat for the endangered June sucker from commercial development and complement a very successful restoration project that has resulted in the creation of a second spawning run. The additional spawning run is expected to double the number of spawning June suckers and help meet delisting criteria identified in the recovery plan for this species.

West Virginia

Acquisition of Land in Cheat River Gorge, West Virginia to Benefit the Flat-spined Three-toothed Land Snail and Indiana Bat*(Preston County, WV). \$700,000.

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) will use this funding to acquire habitat for the federally listed flat-spined three-toothed land snail and Indiana bat. WVDNR has partnered with The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, and other non-governmental organizations for this acquisition. This acquisition will expand an existing protected block of forest matrix along the Cheat River Gorge. This property includes talus slopes that provide approximately 33 percent of the global range of the federally endangered snail and includes hibernacula for the federally endangered Indiana bat.

Wisconsin

Hine's Emerald Dragonfly Land Acquisition at Ridges Sanctuary – Parent Tract (Door County, WI) \$345,000.

This funding will be used to acquire a 68-acre inholding within The Ridges Sanctuary in Door County. The tract provides foraging habitat for the endangered Hine's Emerald dragonfly and is part of a high recharge potential area contributing groundwater to dragonfly larval habitat and will greatly benefit the species recovery. The property may also support populations of other rare species, including dwarf lake iris.

* indicates partial funding