



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Grants

*(Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act)*

Because more than half of all species currently listed as endangered or threatened spend at least part of their life cycle on privately owned lands, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) recognizes that success in conserving species will ultimately depend on working cooperatively with landowners, communities, and Tribes to foster voluntary stewardship efforts on private lands. States play a key role in catalyzing these efforts.

A variety of tools are available under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to help States and landowners plan and implement projects to conserve species. One of the tools, the Cooperative *Endangered Species Conservation Fund* (section 6 of the ESA), provides grants to States and Territories to participate in a wide array of voluntary conservation projects for candidate, proposed, and listed species.

The program provides funding to States and Territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-Federal lands. States and Territories must contribute a minimum non-Federal match of 25% of the estimated program costs of approved projects, or 10% when two or more States or Territories implement a joint project. A State or Territory must currently have, or enter into, a cooperative agreement with the Secretary of the Interior to receive grants. Most States and Territories have entered into these agreements for both plant and animal species.

The FWS awarded approximately \$45.4 million in Federal funding in FY 2014 under four grant programs that are available through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund.



*An FY 2014 grant will allow the State of Wisconsin to complete a 3,192-acre conservation easement project in the Glacial Lake Wisconsin Recovery Unit for the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly. Photo credit: Melanie Cota*

**Conservation Grants (\$10.5 M)** provide financial assistance to States and Territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and at-risk species. Funded activities include habitat restoration, species status surveys, public education and outreach, captive propagation and reintroduction, nesting surveys, genetic studies, and development of management plans.

**Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants (\$7.4 M)** provide funds to States and Territories to support the development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) through support of baseline surveys and inventories, document preparation, outreach, and similar planning activities.

**HCP Land Acquisition Grants (\$18 M)** provide funding to States and Territories to acquire land associated with approved HCPs. Grants do not fund the mitigation required of an HCP permittee; instead, they support land acquisition by the State or local governments that complement mitigation.

**Recovery Land Acquisition Grants (\$9.5 M)** provide funds to States and Territories for the acquisition of habitat for endangered and threatened species in support of draft and approved recovery plans. Acquisition of habitat to secure long-term protection is often an essential element of a comprehensive recovery effort for a listed species.



An FY 2014 grant will enable the acquisition and permanent protection of up to 1,761 acres of longleaf pine habitat in the Sandhills region of North Carolina used by the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. Photo credit: Eric Spadgenske

## Contact Us

For more information on how to apply for Federal grants to assist States, Territories, and landowners in conserving species on non-Federal lands, please contact the FWS Regional office from the list below with responsibility for the State or Territory in which the proposed project would occur.

Additional information is also available at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html>. You may also access [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and search the site using the program title Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund or by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.615. This information is posted in accordance with OMB Control Number 1018-0109.

**U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services  
Branch of Recovery and State Grants  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
703-358-2171**

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>  
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## Regional Office Boundaries

### Region One — Pacific

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Eastside Federal Complex  
911 N.E. 11th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232-4181  
Program Contact: David Leonard,  
503/231-2372 OR  
Colleen Henson, 503/231-6283

### Region Two — Southwest

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
500 Gold Avenue SW., Room 6078  
Albuquerque, NM 87102  
Program Contact: Vanessa Martinez,  
505/248-6665

### Region Three — Great Lakes – Big Rivers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services  
5600 American Blvd. West  
Suite 990  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458  
Program Contact: Tom Magnuson,  
612/713-5292

### Region Four — Southeast

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30345  
Program Contact: Kelly Bibb,  
404/679-7132 OR  
David Dell, 404/679-7313

### Region Five — Northeast

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
300 Westgate Center Drive  
Hadley, MA 01035-9589  
Program Contact: Alison Whitlock,  
413/253-8536

### Region Six — Mountain-Prairie

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
134 Union Blvd., Suite 645  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
Program Contact: Amelia Orton-Palmer,  
303/236-4211

### Region Seven — Alaska

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1011 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199  
907/786-3559

### Region Eight — Pacific Southwest

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Federal Building  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846  
Program Contact: Karen (Kitti) Jensen  
916/414-6557, OR Dan Cox,  
916/414-6539

