

**Recipients of 2013 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants awarded through the
Joint Venture Habitat Restoration and Protection program**

Collaborative Conservation to Support Priority Birds (The Stewardship Network): This project will enhance a total of 98 acres of wetland and upland habitat on three different properties in the River Raisin watershed of Michigan. The focus of the project is on invasive species removal, including Phragmites, glossy buckthorn, and a host of other known invasive plants via manual and chemical treatment. Areas which have invasive species removed will subsequently be planted with native species where appropriate. **Grant amount: \$50,173**

Kirtland's Warbler Habitat and Stewardship (Huron Pines RC+D): This project will enhance 1,600 acres of upland jack pine forest on public and private lands via tree plantings targeted at creating nesting habitat for the federally endangered Kirtland's Warbler across 13 counties in northern Michigan. Grant funds would also support the development of a conservation planning tool, outreach materials, technical assistance site visits, and would provide funds for community roundtable events held to identify economic opportunities for habitat enhancement of Kirtland's Warbler habitat. **Grant amount: \$171,000.**

Manistee Marsh Wetland Enhancement (Ducks Unlimited): This project will replace an existing, ineffective pump and will also install three water control structures on a 162 acre "drowned mouth" wetland on the Manistee Marsh State Game Area in Manistee County, Michigan. These improvements will allow managers to better mimic the natural seasonal fluctuations of a functioning wetland, which will facilitate the control of invasive species such as Phragmites, and provide conditions that are favorable for the re-establishment of wild rice and other beneficial wetland plants. **Grant amount: \$196,000.**

Continued Protection of Bird Conservation Region 13 within Pennsylvania's Lake Erie Watershed (Western Pennsylvania Conservancy): The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC), in partnership with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Audubon Pennsylvania and the Lake Erie Region Conservancy, will permanently protect through acquisition of fee title or conservation easements approximately 130 acres of habitat within Bird Conservation Region (BCR) 13 and the Lake Erie watershed of northwest Pennsylvania. This project will permanently protect and prevent fragmentation of important breeding, roosting and migration stopover habitat for coastal-dependent and migratory birds in Erie County. **Grant amount: \$289,275**

For more information please contact:

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