

North American Wetlands Conservation Council Meeting Highlights

December 9, 2008

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) met on December 9, 2008, in Arlington, Virginia, to select wetlands conservation projects that will be recommended to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Commission) for funding approval on March 11, 2009.

Using the funding estimate based on FY 2008 enacted funding levels as required under an existing Continuing Resolution effective through March 6, 2009, the total estimated funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 is \$81,818,618. Estimated country allocations for FY 2009 are as follows: United States, \$53,408,569 (including a base allocation of \$2,000,000 for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$25,537,814; and Mexico, \$2,872,235. To date, a total of \$26,091,956 of this FY 2009 funding has been spent on proposals approved by the Commission on September 9, 2008. A balance of \$55,726,662 in available funding remains, to be allocated as follows: United States, \$27,316,613 (including \$2,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$25,537,814; Mexico, \$2,872,235.

Project Proposal Recommendations

The Council will recommend the following 25 U.S. Standard Grant Program proposals, requesting a total of \$24,259,867 in funding, to the Commission. The proposals' partnership contributions amount to \$149,496,386.

Cape May Peninsula Partnership - Phase II
Conservation in the Confluence
Glaciated Valleys of Northwest Montana II
Katahdin Forest Expansion
Louisiana Delta Wetlands Conservation II
North Carolina Onslow Bight Partnership - Phase III
North Dakota Drift Prairie Project - II
North Florida Wetlands Conservation Project, Phase III
North Olympic - Dungeness Wetland Basin Phase I
Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex Phase IV
Platte River Wetlands Partnership II
Prairie Lakes III Wetland Initiative
Rainwater Basin Phase IV
Rayonier - Murff Tract Habitat Conservation Project
San Luis Valley Wetland Project - Phase IV
San Miguel Natural Reserve
South Dakota Threatened Habitats Phase III
Southeastern North Carolina Wetlands Initiative I
Southeastern Prairie Potholes
Southern Tip Ecological Partnership II
Suisun Marsh Managed Wetlands Enhancement Project, Phase II

Texas Chenier Plain Wetlands Improvement Project
Willamette River Delta Restoration, Phase II
Winyah Bay Protection Project: Phase I
Yolo Basin Wetland Habitat Project, Phase IV

The Council will also recommend the following eight Mexican proposals, requesting a total of \$2,066,021 in funding, to the Commission. The proposals' partnership contributions amount to \$4,717,896.

Conservation of the Pacific Brant Wintering Habitat in the Guerrero Negro-Ojo de Liebre Coastal Lagoon

Complex, Baja California South

Habitat Protection for Migratory Birds in the Bahia Magdalena-Almejas Wetland Complex, Baja

California South

Integrated Conservation of Priority Wetlands in the Yucatan Peninsula, Yucatan, Quintana Roo

Making Mexican Wetland Inventory and Classification Information Accessible, National Protection and Restoration in the Rio Bravo Delta, Laguna Madre, Tamaulipas
Strengthening Institutional Capacities for the Development of Conservation Actions in the Central High

Plateau Wetlands, 11 States and Federal District

The Veracruz Model: 2010-2011, Guanajuato, Veracruz

Wetland Restoration in the Celestun Biosphere Reserve: Construction of Culverts on the El Remate-Isla

Arena Highway, Phase II, Campeche

As stated, these recommendations are subject to available funding for FY 2009.

The balance of estimated FY 2009 funds will be allocated as follows: U.S., \$1,056,746; Canada, \$25,537,814; Mexico, \$806,214.

Scheduling

The next Council meeting will be held in Arlington, Virginia on March 16, 2009.

Meeting Summary

For a complete meeting summary, contact David Buie or Bonnie Gaukler at (703) 358-1784, dbhc@fws.gov.