

North American Wetlands Conservation Council Meeting Highlights

July 8, 2009

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) met on July 8, 2009, at the National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV, to select wetlands conservation projects that will be recommended to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Commission) for funding approval on September 9, 2009.

The total estimated funding of \$90,921,257 (from all funding sources) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 is allocated as follows: All Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act receipts must be used in United States coastal ecosystems, while all other receipts will be allocated 50% to United States, 45% to Canadian, and 5% to Mexican projects. This results in estimated country allocations of: United States, \$62,801,663 (including \$2,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$25,274,160; and Mexico, \$2,845,434. A portion of the United States funds, \$4,455,343, is derived from fines paid under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and must be spent within the District of Massachusetts, with preference to projects along the Mystic River. The FY 2010 financial estimate will be updated when the annual appropriations process is completed.

Project Proposal Recommendations

The Council selected the following 35 United States Standard Grant Program proposals, requesting a total of \$34,391,383 in funding, to the Commission. The proposals' match contributions amount to \$96,145,423. Total partner contributions amount to \$124,395,835.

Big Hole Restoration and Protection II, MT
Border Prairie Wetlands - II, MN
Butte and Colusa Basins Wetlands II Project, CA
Chase Lake Area Wetland Project - IX, ND
Coastal Prairie Wetlands Restoration / Acquisition III, TX
Des Moines River Valley Wetlands, IA
Flying J Ranch Conservation Project, LA
Heads of the Estuaries Partnership, Maine: Habitat Protection, Phase I, ME
Lake Champlain Wetlands III, NY, VT
Lake County Closed Basin Project - Phase 3, OR
Living Floodplains of NW Oregon and SW Washington, OR, WA
Louisiana Coastal Wetlands V, LA
Lower Columbia Ecoregion, Phase V, OR, WA
Lower Platte River Wetlands Conservation, NE
Lower Rappahannock River, Phase IV, VA
Middle Snake River Conservation, ID
Mingo Basin Partnership Phase I, MO
Missouri Coteau Habitat Conservation Project - VIII, ND
North Dakota Great Plains Project - VI, ND

North Florida Wetlands Conservation Project - Phase IV, FL
North Sacramento Valley Wetland Habitat Project, Phase IV, CA
Piscataquis River / Alder Stream Wetlands, ME
Pointe-Aux-Chenes - Grand Bayou I, LA
Prairies Without Borders (Phase I), MN, ND, SD
San Luis Valley Rio Grande Initiative II, CO
San Pablo Bay Tidal Wetlands Habitat Restoration Project III, CA
Sonoran Wetlands Restoration II, AZ, CA
South Carolina Low Country Wetlands Initiative I, SC
Southeastern Lake Michigan Coastal Habitat Project, MI
Southern Tip Ecological Partnership III (Step 3), VA
Teton Basin V, ID, WY
Theodore Roosevelt NWR Complex Wetlands Rest and Enh II, MS
Upper Iowa Prairie Pothole Partnership - Phase I, IA
West Grand Lake Community Forest Phase I, ME
Winyah Bay Protection Project Phase II, SC

New Matching Contribution Plans were also approved for the following nine proposals:

Big Hole Restoration and Protection II, MT
Louisiana Coastal Wetlands V, LA
Middle Snake River Conservation, ID
North Sacramento Valley Wetlands Habitat Project, Phase IV, CA
Piscataquis River/Alder Stream Wetlands, ME
San Luis Valley Rio Grande Initiative II, CO
South Carolina Low Country Wetlands Initiative I, SC
Southern Tip Ecological Partnership III (Step 3), VA
Upper Iowa Prairie Pothole Partnership, Phase I, IA.

These recommendations are subject to available funding for FY 2010.

The balance of estimated FY 2010 funds will be allocated as follows: U.S., \$28,410,280; Canada, \$25,274,160; Mexico, \$2,845,434.

Scheduling

The next Council meeting will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, on December 8-9, 2009.

Meeting Summary

For a complete meeting summary, contact David Buie at (301) 497-5870 or Bonnie Gaukler at (703) 358-1784, dbhc@fws.gov.