

North American Wetlands Conservation Council Meeting Highlights

March 13, 2007

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) met on March 13, 2007, in Washington, DC, to select wetlands conservation projects that will be recommended to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Commission) for funding approval on June 13, 2007.

The total funding of \$74,052,226 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 is allocated as follows: All Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act receipts must be used in U.S. coastal ecosystems, while all other receipts will be allocated 50% to US, 45% to Canadian and 5% to Mexican projects. This results in country allocations of: United States, \$48,084,153 (including \$2,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$23,357,337; and Mexico, \$2,610,736.

A total of \$28,989,380 of this FY 2007 funding has been spent on proposals approved by the Commission on September 13, 2006, including \$2,400,000 derived from fines paid under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and allocated to projects within the Buzzards Bay Watershed Area of Massachusetts. An additional \$22,613,151 is scheduled to be approved by the Commission on March 14, 2007, leaving \$22,449,695 in available funding allocated as follows: United States, \$4,492,358 (including \$2,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$17,957,337; Mexico, \$0.

Project Proposal Recommendations

The Council selected the following 51 U.S. Small Grant Program proposals, reflecting a total of \$3,282,433 in funding. Because the Commission previously authorized \$2,000,000 for the Small Grants program in 2006, the Council will recommend that the Commission authorize an additional \$1,247,433 to fully fund this slate. One proposal, Buzzards Bay Wetlands Project, \$35,000, is funded from fines paid under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The partnership contributions from these 51 proposals amount to \$10,613,178.

Abraham Marsh Wetland Enhancement Project, OH
Allegheny Mountain / Northern Ridge and Valley, MD, VA, WV
Aton Forest Preservation Project, CT
Bear Island Club, Inc., Wetlands Restoration Project, SC
Big Hill and Second Pond Forest Reserve, ME
Big Swan Headwaters Preserve: Boiling Springs Tract Acquisition, TN
Burning Star 5 Wetland Enhancement Project, IL
Buzzards Bay Wetlands Project, MA
Caribou Bog / Katahdin Iron Works, ME
Carlos Avery WMA Wetland Enhancements, MN
Carter Ponds Restoration and Enhancement Project, MT
Central Iowa Protected Water Areas Wetland Conservation Project, IA
Chena Flats Greenbelt Project, Ketzler Property Acquisition, AK

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge Wetlands Project, AZ
Crow Marsh Project / Crow Marsh East, WA
Elmwood Tract Phase I, CA
Gateway to the Jordan River, MI
Geneva Lake Conservation Easements, MN
Goose Pond FWA Moist Soil Enhancement Project, IN
Gulf Coast Joint Venture Mottled Duck Conservation Plan Initiative, TX
Hawk Metals Wetland Acquisition, WI
Huerfano Lake Conservation and Restoration Project, CO
Humboldt Bay Coastal Education Center and Reserve, CA
Invasive Species Eradication and Habitat Revitalization: Orton Plantation, NC
Iowa Prairie Pothole Upland Habitat Development Project II, IA
Kauai Wetland Restoration: Phase I, HI
Lower Minnesota Prairie Coteau, MN
Lower South Platte Wetland Initiative, CO
Lower Yaquina Salt Marsh Conservation Project, OR
Lummi Island Conservation Project, WA
Mad River Slough Coastal Wetland Enhancement and Salt Marsh Restoration, CA
Montrose Wetland Restoration Partnership, MO
Mud Flats Pass Culvert Project, TX
Northeast Penjajawoc Property Acquisition, ME
Northern Corea Heath Acquisition, ME
Restoration and Enhancement at Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge Phase I, OR
Restoration of Lick Creek Wetlands - Joachim Bible Refuge Tracts, TN
Robb Reservoir Landscape Conservation Project, NH
San Dieguito Lepidium latifolium Control Project, CA
Santee National Wildlife Refuge Cuddo Unit Project, SC
Shaffer Playa Oklahoma, OK
St. Clair Lake / Six Mile Lake Natural Area Addition, MI
Sucker Brook Project, ME
The Bitterroot Wetland Conservation Corridor, MT
The Des Plaines River Lowlands Conservation Project, WI
The Miller Ranch Preservation Project, CO
Three Ponds State Nature Preserve Addition #1: Bottomland Hardwood, KY
Upper Great Marsh Tidal Marsh Restoration, MA
Wapack Wilderness Conservation Campaign, NH
Wetland Habitat Restoration at Woodbridge Island, MA
Wigwam Bay State Wildlife Area Coastal Wetland Restoration Project, MI

The Council also recommended that the Commission approve a FY 2008 Small Grant funding level of \$2.5M.

The Council selected 8 Canadian proposals, requesting a total of \$17,957,337 to present to the Commission. The partnerships will add a total of \$34,239,437 to achieve their conservation goals.

Ducks Unlimited Canada Prairie/Western Boreal Region Habitat Program, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, British Columbia, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territory
Ducks Unlimited Canada Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, Labrador
Ducks Unlimited Canada Conservation of Important Wetlands and Associated Habitats in British Columbia, British Columbia
Nature Conservancy of Canada Prairie Canada Wetlands and Uplands, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba
Nature Conservancy of Canada Quebec: Protecting Wetland and Upland Habitat, Quebec
Nature Conservancy of Canada Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture/Pacific Coast Joint Venture
Wetland-Associated Migratory Bird Habitat Conservation, British Columbia
Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation Potholes Plus, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba
Nature Conservancy of Canada Atlantic Coastal Waterfowl Habitat Conservation, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island

The balance of FY 2007 funds will be allocated as follows: U.S., \$1,209,925; Canada, \$0; Mexico, \$0.

Scheduling

The next Council meetings will be held in Bismarck, North Dakota, on July 17 and 18, 2007.

Meeting Summary

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