

## North American Wetlands Conservation Council Meeting Highlights

March 17, 2010

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) met on March 17, 2010, in Vinton, LA, to select wetlands conservation projects that will be recommended to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Commission) for funding approval on June 9, 2010.

The total estimated funding of \$92,301,478 (from all funding sources) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 is allocated as follows: All Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act receipts, Justice Department directed fines and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funds must be used within the United States, while all other receipts will be allocated 50% to United States, 45% to Canadian, and 5% to Mexican projects. These requirements result in estimated country allocations of: United States, \$64,003,691 (including \$3,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$25,395,465; and Mexico, \$2,902,322. Portions of the United States funds are dedicated to specific geographic areas:

\$4,839,343 is derived from fines paid under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act: \$4,455,343 of this total must be spent within the District of Massachusetts, with preference to projects along the Mystic River; \$384,000 of this total must be spent in \$76,800 allotments in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Wyoming; \$2,330,097 is based on the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding and must be spent within the Great Lakes Basin; \$1,055,686 is reserved for ongoing/pending standard grants.

Totals of \$33,391,383 and \$22,425,975 of this FY 2010 funding has been spent on proposals approved by the Commission on September 9, 2009 and March 10, 2010, respectively, leaving \$36,484,120 in available funding allocated as follows: United States, \$11,075,284 (including \$3,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program and the reserved standard grant funds); Canada, \$25,395,465; Mexico, \$13,371.

### *Project Proposal Recommendations*

In 2009, the Commission authorized a base allocation of \$3,000,000 with funding authorized up to \$5,000,000 for the Small Grants program. The Council approved the following 43 U.S. Small Grant Program proposals, requesting a total of \$3,041,464 in funding. The partnership match contributions from these 43 proposals total \$7,643,469:

Amherst Community Forest Project, ME  
Atchafalaya Wetlands Enhancement, LA  
Beaver Brook / Broad Brook Watersheds Habitat Protection, Northampton, MA  
Big Kandi WPA Land Acquisitions Project, MN  
Big Oxbow Island Wetland Acquisition - Phase I, ND  
Chichaqua Bottoms Enhancement Project, IA  
Chincoteague Flats Wetland Restoration- Chincoteague NWR, VA  
Crandall Swamp, RI  
Deer Lagoon Wetlands, WA

DeKalb County Potholes, IL  
Dennys River Corridor Conservation Project - Wheaton Property, ME  
Emergent Wetland Restoration at Burrage Pond Wildlife Management Area, MA  
Field B Habitat Project, IN  
Freeman Tract Acquisition - Shelton Ferry Wetlands, TN  
Grants Meadow III, ME  
Grasslands Wetland Enhancement Project, Phase II, CA  
Great Cypress Swamp - Phase II Restoration, DE  
Grissom - Wetland Habitat Improvement Project, CA  
Headwater Wetlands of the Paw Paw River, Michigan, MI  
Heyborne Conservation Easement, CO  
Kirby Addition to Chub Lake WMA Complex, MN  
Leopold / Pine Island Important Bird Area, WI  
Lower Chippewa River Land Acquisition, WI  
Mason Bay Coastal Wetlands and Waterbird Conservation Project- Phase II, ME  
Minnesota Prairie Pothole Restoration Partnership, MN  
Northeastern California Wetland Enhancement, Phase II, CA  
Old Dominion Plantation Wetlands Restoration Project, SC  
Otter Lake, IL  
Padanarum Preserve, NY  
Palco Marsh Enhancement, CA  
Pilster Reservoir / Wetlands Restoration and Enhancement, MT  
Prairie Storm WPA Addition, MN  
Restoration and Enhancement of Waterbird Nesting Habitat on Maine Coast Islands,  
ME  
Samish River Riparian and Wetland Protection, Phase II, WA  
Save the Bay Tidal Marsh Transition Zone: Ravenswood Salt Pond, CA  
Schoodac Brook - Trumbull Pond Land Protection Project, NH  
Scuppernong River Habitat Area Phase III, WI  
South Yamhill River - Turner Bottoms Wetland Restoration and Enhancement, OR  
Southern Minnesota Marshes, MN  
Steele Playas, KS  
Teller Wetland-Riparian Restoration Project, MT  
Watkins Crooked River Easement Acquisition, ME  
West Loxahatchee Slough Restoration, FL

The Council also recommended that the Commission grant to the Council the standing authority to allocate up to \$5,000,000 for Small Grants in any one year.

The Council selected one U.S. Standard Grant to be funded with \$1,000,000 from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative fund, to present to the Commission. The partnership will add \$2,000,654 in matching funds to achieve their conservation goals:

Glacial Habitat Restoration Area – Phase V

The Council selected five Canadian proposals, requesting a total of \$25,394,910, to present to the Commission. The partnerships will add a total of \$48,437,993 to achieve their conservation goals:

Ducks Unlimited Canada Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Wetlands Conservation,  
Ontario, Quebec, New  
Brunswick, Newfoundland/Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island  
Ducks Unlimited Canada Pacific Coast and Canadian Intermountain Joint Ventures,  
British Columbia  
Ducks Unlimited Canada Prairie/Parkland and Western Boreal Habitat Program,  
Alberta, Saskatchewan,  
Manitoba, British Columbia, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territory  
Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation Potholes Plus Project, Manitoba  
Nature Conservancy of Canada Quebec: Protecting Wetland and Upland Habitat,  
Quebec

The balance of FY 2010 funds will be allocated as follows: U.S., \$5,978,134; Canada, \$555; Mexico, \$13,371.

### *Scheduling*

The next Council meeting will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, on July 7 - 8, 2010.

### *Meeting Summary*

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