

North American Wetlands Conservation Act

The Mexico Program

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and partnerships to carry out wetland conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

North American Wetlands Conservation Council



Accomplishments

Since 1991, more than 1,180 partners have been involved in 333 North American Wetlands Conservation Act projects in Mexico. Partners have matched grant funds more than two-to-one, tripling the impact on the ground. Grant and matching funds support a wide range of conservation activities in Mexico, including projects that:

- protect, restore, or enhance wetlands and other migratory bird habitats throughout the country;
- create or strengthen conservation-stewardship attitudes within many local communities through environmental education programs;



Marbled Godwit. Credit: Roger Baker/USFWS Volunteer



Redhead. Credit: Neil Mishler/USFWS

- enhance Mexican conservation professionals' capabilities in natural resource management through various technical or capacity-building training programs; and
- advance the conservation community's understanding of bird populations and habitats through monitoring and sustainable use initiatives.

The Process

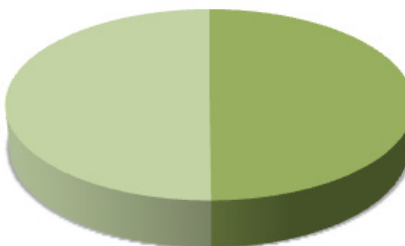
Once a year, applicants submit project proposals both to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Bird

Habitat Conservation and Mexico's Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of Wildlife (SEMARNAT-DGVS), the Service's counterpart in Mexico. Based on their longstanding partnership, the offices collaborate on the evaluation of each proposal. Eligible proposals are presented to the North American Wetlands Conservation Council, which reviews, ranks, and recommends projects to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission for final funding approval. The Division of Bird Habitat Conservation awards grants and administers the approved projects.

2020 Grants

Partner Match:
\$3,856,198

Grant Funds:
\$3,137,013



Number of Projects: 13

Program Totals since 1991

Grant Funding: \$64,650,740

Matching Funds: \$126,683,348

Projects: 333

Mexican States: 11

Project Highlights

In 2020, approved projects will invest more than \$3.1 million in U.S. federal funds in 11 Mexican states, including:

- Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan – \$200,084 for the ecological restoration of mangroves in northern Yucatán.
- Pronatura Noreste, AC. – \$132,142 for the protection, ecological enhancement and management of Laguna Madre.
- Ducks Unlimited de México, C. – \$428,052 for the enhancement of wintering grounds for waterfowl in Yavaros Bay.
- Organización Vida Silvestre, A.C. – \$228,965 for the protection and hydrological restoration of wetlands in Marismas Nacionales.

North American Wetlands Conservation Council

Terry Steinwand (Chair), North Dakota Game and Fish Department
Aurelia Skipwith, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
John Carlson, Jr, California Waterfowl Association
Daneil Eichinger, Michigan Department of Natural Resources
David Nomsen, Pheasants Forever
Jeff Trandahl, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Tony Wasley, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Nick Wiley, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Mark Elsbree (Alternate), The Conservation Fund
Daniel Wolfish, (Ex Officio) Canadian Wildlife Service
Wendy Jackson, (Ex Officio) Land Trust Alliance
María de los Ángeles Palma Irizarry, (Ex Officio) SEMARNAT
Glenn Olson, (Ex Officio) National Audubon Society
Kari Duncan (Council Coordinator) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Conservation Commission

Honorable David Bernhardt (Chair), Secretary of the Interior
Honorable John Boozman, Senator from Arkansas
Honorable Martin Heinrich, Senator from New Mexico
Honorable Mike Thompson, Representative from California
Honorable Robert Wittman, Representative from Virginia
Honorable Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture
Honorable Andrew Wheeler, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
A. Eric Alvarez (Secretary), Chief, Division of Realty, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

History

Over the past 25 years, the Act has provided funds to protect and restore more than 30 million acres in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The Act was originally passed to support activities under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, a trinational agreement that provides a strategy for the long-term protection of wetland and associated upland habitats needed by waterfowl and other migratory birds. Since then, the Act has expanded its scope to include the conservation of wetland associated migratory birds listed in the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan and the Partners In Flight Conservation Plans.



The Laguna Madre, critical habitat for many wintering waterfowl. Credit: P Thorpe/USFWS

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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