

## NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT GRANTS APRIL 20, 2016

### U.S. STANDARD GRANTS

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**Project Name** SANSAVILLA PHASE I

**Location (County)** GA-WAYNE

**Congressional District** GA-WAYNE-1

**Grantee Organization** GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**Project Officer** Jason Lee

**Grantee Email** jason.lee@dnr.ga.gov

**Partner Name** STA-GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, OTH-KNOBLOCH FAMILY FOUNDATION, CON-THE CONSERVATION FUND, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, FED-U.S. MARINE CORPS

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$4,022,175.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project will protect 3,012 acres of the Sansavilla tract through fee acquisition to benefit breeding, migrating, and wintering birds within the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV) and South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative (SAMBI) Project Area. The project will protect several wetland types, as well as associated uplands. The project directly provides suitable breeding and wintering habitat for 4 priority species of waterfowl and indirectly benefits an additional 12 waterfowl species. Many priority species of wading birds, shorebirds, and landbirds will benefit as well. Examples of priority species benefiting from this project include: wood duck, little blue heron, wood stork, swallow-tailed kite, Swainson's warbler, prothonotary warbler, rusty blackbird, and Henslow's sparrow.

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**Project Name** SOUTH CAROLINA COASTAL RIVERS CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

**Location (County)** SC-BERKELEY, SC-CHARLESTON, SC-CLARENDON, SC-COLLETON, SC-DORCHESTER

**Congressional District** SC-BERKELEY-1,6, SC-CHARLESTON-1,6, SC-CLARENDON-6, SC-COLLETON-1,6, SC-DORCHESTER-1,6

**Grantee Organization** LOWCOUNTRY OPEN LAND TRUST

**Project Officer** Garrett Budds

**Grantee Email** gbudds@lolt.org

**Partner Name** LOC-CHARLESTON COUNTY GREENBELT PROGRAM, LOC-DORCHESTER COUNTY CONSERVATION COMMISSION, CON-LOWCOUNTRY OPEN LAND TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S),

STA-SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$5,878,500.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The South Carolina Coastal Plain is blessed with an abundance of highly productive and valuable natural wetland resources that are integral to the natural, social and historic fabric of the state and of national significance. This project will expand wildlife corridors and provide parcel connectivity between protected areas in two Priority Focus Areas: ACE Basin and Santee River through 10,996 acres of conservation easements. Project tracts provide an extensive network of wildlife corridors, and enhance water quality across a network of over 45 miles of rivers and streams and increase protection of critically important and productive fisheries, as well as the scenic, natural and rural character of the area. These wetlands are a high conservation priority for American black duck, mallard, wood duck, swallow-tailed kite, Swainson's warbler, prothonotary warbler, wood stork, and other wading bird species and a suite of 40 migratory neotropical species.

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**Project Name** SCHOODIC MTN TO PENINSULA COASTAL MAINE PARTNERSHIP

**Location (County)** ME-HANCOCK

**Congressional District** ME-HANCOCK-2

**Grantee Organization** MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST

**Project Officer** Bob DeForrest

**Grantee Email** bdeforrest@mcht.org

**Partner Name** CON-DOWNEAST AUDUBON, CON-DOWNEAST SALMON FEDERATION, CON-FRENCHMAN BAY CONSERVANCY, CON-FRENCHMAN BAY PARTNERS, CON-MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST, STA-MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE, CON-MAINE NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATORY, CON-PLEASANT RIVER WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-SCHOODIC INSTITUTE, CON-THE CONSERVATION FUND, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$959,900

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,098,500.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project is focused on increasing protection of the Schoodic Peninsula, and represents a unique opportunity to increase the protected acreages of high-quality coastal wetlands and islands and greatly increase the linkage between the coastal habitats and the extensive inland freshwater wetlands and forest to the north. This project also increases the protection of islands within the Acadia Archipelago, a group of near and offshore islands that is one of the largest networks of

conserved lands along the heavily populated Atlantic Coast. The project will strategically connect and buffer existing protected lands; preserve, expand and improve conditions for wildlife populations; and, provide new public recreational opportunities. This proposal will leverage NAWCA funds with matching fund to protect 2,196 acres including 8 fee simple acquisitions, 1 fee simple donation, 2 easement acquisitions and conservation Project tracts host an exceptional diversity of the region's rarest species, including harlequin ducks, Barrow's goldeneye, all three species of scoter, two species of phalarope, least bitterns, and more.

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**Project Name** MID-BARATARIA WETLANDS I

**Location (County)** LA-JEFFERSON

**Congressional District** LA-JEFFERSON-3

**Grantee Organization** THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

**Project Officer** Stacey Shankle

**Grantee Email** stacey.shankle@tpl.org

**Partner Name** STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, PRO-GREEN COAST ENTERPRISES, CON-PARTNERSHIP FOR GULF COAST LAND CONSERVATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,020,750.00

**Joint Venture** GULF COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project will protect in 2,047 acres of coastal wetlands for inclusion into the Barataria Preserve unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve. This acquisition from a willing seller will serve as the first of multiple phases of planned acquisitions and enhancements that will add a total of 3,476 acres to the 23,000 acre Preserve in the heart of the Barataria Basin and the Barataria-Terrebone National Estuary. Protection and restoration of 2,047 wetland acres within the Mid-Barataria Basin will improve the coastal wetland habitat available within a broader network of managed wetlands and natural wetlands in both public and private ownership all managed for wildlife and wetlands conservation in southeast Louisiana. Strategic protection and restoration of coastal wetlands will also contribute to Gulf-wide efforts to manage and mitigate for losses from increasing sea level rise. Proposal activities will provide important habitat for five NAWCA High Priority waterfowl species, five NAWCA Other Priority waterfowl species and seven other species of waterfowl.

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**Project Name** MAV WETLANDS CONSERVATION I

**Location (County)** MS-HOLMES, MS-ISSAQUENA, MS-MADISON, MS-QUITMAN, MS-SHARKEY

**Congressional District** MS-HOLMES-2, MS-ISSAQUENA-2, MS-MADISON-2,3, MS-QUITMAN-2, MS-SHARKEY-2

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Nick Biasini

**Grantee Email** nbiasini@ducks.org

**Partner Name** PRO-CYPRESS BRAKE TREE FARMS, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS, CON-MISSISSIPPI LAND TRUST

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$999,623

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,115,250.00

**Joint Venture** EASTERN GULF COAST, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley, BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain  
**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The MAV Wetlands Conservation I is the first phase of a project focused on protection, restoration and enhancement of priority wetlands in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley (LMAV) on public lands by leveraging strategic conservation easements on private lands in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Wetlands in the LMAV support a rich diversity of wildlife species. Forested, scrub-shrub and emergent wetlands and associated uplands in the region provide migration and wintering habitat for millions of wetland dependent and associated migratory birds. However, the LMAV has lost a substantial amount of its wetlands due to changes in hydrology and conversion to agriculture. The completion of proposed work will build on past NAWCA investments in wetlands conservation in the proposal area and will set a foundation for future efforts to help mitigate some of those degradations and ensure that the LMAV continues to fulfill its historical role as one of the most important landscapes in North America for continental populations of waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds and other wetland-dependent migratory birds. This proposal will protect, restore and enhance 4,137 acres on federal, state and private lands in Mississippi. The project will improve habitat conditions or protect habitat for 6 NAWCA Priority waterfowl species, 5 NAWCA Other Priority waterfowl species, and 12 other species of waterfowl. Increased foraging, nesting or roosting habitat will benefit 20 NAWCA Priority Species of wetland-dependent migratory birds from Bird Conservation Regions 26 and 27.

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**Project Name** LOWER MISSISSIPPI DELTA WETLANDS

**Location (County)** MS-ADAMS, MS-HUMPHREYS, MS-ISSAQUENA, MS-WARREN

**Congressional District** MS-ADAMS-3, MS-HUMPHREYS-2, MS-ISSAQUENA-2, MS-WARREN-2

**Grantee Organization** FOUNDATION FOR MISSISSIPPI WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS

**Project Officer** Houston Havens

**Grantee Email** houstonh@mdwfp.state.ms.us

**Partner Name** PRO-BRADSHAW TREE, INC, CON-DELTA WIND BIRDS, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-FOUNDATION FOR MISSISSIPPI WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS, STA-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$999,481

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,003,923.97

**Joint Venture** LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The project is in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley (LMV) and represents a continuing effort to protect, restore, and enhance important wetland habitats. The LMV provides valuable habitat for millions of migratory birds and other wetland-dependent species. However, the LMV has lost a substantial amount of its wetlands due to changes in hydrology and conversion to agriculture, and the successful completion of these projects will help alleviate some of those degradations. This project will protect 1,430 wetland acres and will enhance 810 acres of moist soil wetland habitat and 28 acres of scrub-shrub wetland habitat via grant and match funds on public lands and restore 300 acres of bottomland hardwood wetlands via grant funds. This proposal will provide habitat for wood ducks and hooded mergansers, as well as 11 NAWCA High Priority and Priority waterfowl species. Numerous federal and state-listed endangered/threatened species will also benefit from these projects when they are completed.

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**Project Name** CREOLE MARSH

**Location (County)** LA-CAMERON

**Congressional District** LA-CAMERON-3

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Mike Carloss

**Grantee Email** mcarloss@ducks.org

**Partner Name** LOC-CAMERON PARISH GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 4, STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,200,000.00

**Joint Venture** GULF COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project will benefit 11,212 acres of waterfowl habitat through the replacement and/or refurbishment of half of a large water control structure that provides marsh management and salinity control of a large tract of critical privately owned coastal marsh in SW Louisiana. This structure will also greatly facilitate drainage during extreme high water events, such as storm events, when it is critical to stop the entry, or in the event of coastal flooding, to remove saltwater in a timely fashion. This will be especially important to the marsh vegetation but also the forested habitat. Wetland restoration and enhancement activities included in this proposal will restore natural conditions and enhance the quality of wintering, breeding and migration habitat available to waterfowl and other wetland-dependent migratory birds that utilize the Chenier Plain. These activities will increase foraging opportunities for waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds and landbirds that regularly use coastal wetland habitats in southwest Louisiana.

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**Project Name** UPPER IOWA PRAIRIE POTHOLE IV

**Location (County)** IA-BUENA VISTA, IA-CERRO GORDO, IA-CHEROKEE, IA-CLAY, IA-DICKINSON, IA-EMMET, IA-FRANKLIN, IA-HANCOCK, IA-HUMBOLDT, IA-KOSSUTH, IA-O'BRIEN, IA-OSCEOLA, IA-PALO ALTO, IA-POCAHONTAS, IA-WINNEBAGO, IA-WORTH, IA-WRIGHT

**Congressional District** IA-BUENA VISTA-4, IA-CERRO GORDO-4, IA-CHEROKEE-4, IA-CLAY-4, IA-DICKINSON-4, IA-EMMET-4, IA-FRANKLIN-4, IA-HANCOCK-4, IA-HUMBOLDT-4, IA-KOSSUTH-4, IA-O'BRIEN-4, IA-OSCEOLA-2, IA-PALO ALTO-4, IA-POCAHONTAS-4, IA-WINNEBAGO-4, IA-WORTH-1, IA-WRIGHT-4

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Michael Shannon

**Grantee Email** mshannon@ducks.org

**Partner Name** LOC-CLAY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, LOC-DICKINSON COUNTY CLEAN WATER ALLIANCE, LOC-DICKINSON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, LOC-DICKINSON COUNTY WATER QUALITY COMMISSION, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CON-IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, OTH-MASER FAMILY FOUNDATION, CON-ONEOTA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (CLAY COUNTY), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (POCAHONTAS COUNTY), LOC-POCAHONTAS COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), PRO-PURE FISHING

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,459,170.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE POTHOLE

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This proposal represents the fourth phase of an ongoing partnership aimed at protecting, restoring and enhancing more than 1,370 acres of critical wetland and migratory bird habitat throughout Iowa's northern Prairie Pothole Region (PPR). This area is considered a geographic priority wetlands area and region of continental significance to North American ducks, geese and swans as part of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. This proposal will build on the momentum developed through previous Phases of the project and confront the continued loss of wetland and grassland habitat. Diverse habitat types will be restored, enhanced and protected as a result of this project, including wetlands and native tall grass prairie and oak savannas communities, which will help compensate for the major loss of seasonal, temporary and semi-permanent wetlands. Completed work will provide critical breeding, foraging and migration habitat for 10 "high priority" (northern pintail, mallard, American black duck, lesser and greater scaup) and "other priority" (wood duck, redhead, canvasback, ring-necked duck, American wigeon) waterfowl species and provide direct and indirect benefits to several other NAWCA priority bird species.

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**Project Name** TEXAS GULF COAST XIII

**Location (County)** TX-ARANSAS, TX-AUSTIN, TX-BEE, TX-BRAZORIA, TX-BROOKS, TX-CALHOUN, TX-CAMERON, TX-CHAMBERS, TX-COLORADO, TX-FORT BEND, TX-GALVESTON, TX-GOLIAD, TX-HARRIS, TX-HIDALGO, TX-JACKSON, TX-JEFFERSON, TX-KENEDY, TX-KLEBERG, TX-LAVACA, TX-LIBERTY, TX-MATAGORDA, TX-NUECES, TX-ORANGE, TX-REFUGIO, TX-SAN PATRICIO, TX-STARR, TX-VICTORIA, TX-WALLER, TX-WHARTON, TX-WILLACY

**Congressional District** TX-ARANSAS-27, TX-AUSTIN-10, TX-BEE-34, TX-BRAZORIA-14,22, TX-BROOKS-15, TX-CALHOUN-27, TX-CAMERON-34, TX-CHAMBERS-36, TX-COLORADO-10, TX-FORT BEND-9,22, TX-GALVESTON-14, TX-GOLIAD-34, TX-HARRIS-10,18,22, TX-HARRIS-2,7,8,9, TX-HARRIS-29,36, TX-HIDALGO-15,28,34, TX-JACKSON-27, TX-JEFFERSON-14, TX-KENEDY-34, TX-KLEBERG-34, TX-LAVACA-27, TX-LIBERTY-36, TX-MATAGORDA-27, TX-NUECES-27, TX-ORANGE-36, TX-REFUGIO-27, TX-SAN PATRICIO-27,34, TX-STARR-28, TX-VICTORIA-27, TX-WALLER-10, TX-WHARTON-27, TX-WILLACY-34

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Todd Merendino

**Grantee Email** tmerendino@ducks.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF), PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$999,846

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,000,000.00

**Joint Venture** GULF COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This proposal continues a 24-year partnership of private landowners, a private foundation, state and federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations, committed to the long-term support of wetlands conservation on the Texas Gulf Coast, and will include projects across each of the three initiative areas within the Texas portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture (Chenier Plain Initiative Area, Texas Mid-Coast Initiative Area, and Laguna Madre Initiative Area). This proposal will restore, and enhance an additional 2,519 acres of wetland habitat on private lands that will provide important migration, wintering, and breeding habitat for numerous species of waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, and neo-tropical migrant songbirds. This proposal will provide breeding habitat for mottled ducks, black-bellied and fulvous whistling ducks, as well as wintering/migration habitat for 6 high priority (mottled duck, northern pintail, mallard, lesser scaup, greater scaup, and Cackling Canada Goose) and 5 other priority waterfowl species (redhead, canvasback, American wigeon, wood duck, and ring-necked duck), and over 30 NAWCA priority waterbird and landbird species.

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**Project Name** SOUTH CAROLINA WETLANDS LANDSCAPE IV

**Location (County)** SC-BEAUFORT, SC-CHARLESTON, SC-COLLETON, SC-GEORGETOWN

**Congressional District** SC-BEAUFORT-1,6, SC-CHARLESTON-1,6, SC-COLLETON-1,6, SC-GEORGETOWN-7

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** James Rader

**Grantee Email** jrader@ducks.org

**Partner Name** PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,018,985.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project will protect and enhance 1,458 acres of wetlands, tidal and non-tidal freshwater and intermediate marsh, open water and associated uplands in the South Carolina Lowcountry by completing wetland protection and enhancement projects across 1,458 acres. Upon completion, this project will protect important habitat for 6 NAWCA High Priority waterfowl species, 5 NAWCA Other Priority waterfowl species and 7 other species of waterfowl.

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**Project Name** CAROLINA WETLANDS INITIATIVE II

**Location (County)** NC-BEAUFORT, NC-CARTERET, NC-CRAVEN, NC-JONES, SC-WILLIAMSBURG

**Congressional District** NC-BEAUFORT-1,3, NC-CARTERET-3, NC-CRAVEN-1,3, NC-JONES-3, SC-WILLIAMSBURG-6

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** James Rader

**Grantee Email** jrader@ducks.org

**Partner Name** LOC-CITY OF HAVELOCK, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST, STA-NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,010,000.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The Carolina Wetlands Initiative II (CWI II) proposal is the second in a series of projects focused on protection, restoration and enhancement of tidal river and estuary wetland complexes within the coastal plain of North and South Carolina. This proposal advances that work done in previous projects by permanently protecting priority tracts within the coastal South Carolina Waterfowl Focus Areas consisting of forested wetlands, tidal freshwater marsh, salt marsh, riverine habitat and associated uplands. The proposal significantly contributes to the goals of national and regional bird conservation plans. The project includes five acquisition tracts, encompassing 395 new acres of wetlands and uplands. The project also includes enhancement of 820 acres of freshwater impoundments to allow moist soil. Upon completion, this project will provide increased habitat for 6

NAWCA High Priority waterfowl species, 5 NAWCA Other Priority waterfowl species and seven other species of waterfowl. Additionally, 10 NAWCA Priority Species of wetland-dependent migratory birds from BCR 27 will benefit.

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**Project Name** VIRGINIA TIDAL RIVERS & BAYS I

**Location (County)** VA-ACCOMACK, VA-KING AND QUEEN, VA-KING WILLIAM, VA-POWHATAN, VA-SOUTHAMPTON, VA-SURRY

**Congressional District** VA-ACCOMACK-2, VA-KING AND QUEEN-1, VA-KING WILLIAM-1, VA-POWHATAN-4, VA-SOUTHAMPTON-4, VA-SURRY-3

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** James Rader

**Grantee Email** jrader@ducks.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, OTH-MARY MORTON PARSON'S FOUNDATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME & INLAND FISHERIES, STA-VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,000,000.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain, BCR 30-New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast Ecoregion

**Project Description** The Virginia Tidal Rivers and Bays I proposal (VTRB) is the first in a series of projects to enhance, restore and protect key wetlands along tributaries in coastal Virginia, including the Chesapeake Bay and Back Bay. The 64,000 square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed is North America's largest and most biologically diverse estuary. This proposal will support the Chesapeake Bay Program's key goal of protecting and restoring vital habitats in the watershed and will assist in maintaining or improving existing water quality. Under this proposal, seven partners are collaborating to improve and protect 2,587 wetland and associated upland acres in the Virginia coastal plain within four focus areas. All proposal sites are within identified geographic priority areas for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight Mid-Atlantic Coastal Plain Bird Conservation Plan, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, and the United States Shorebird Conservation Plan and BCR 30 Plan. Upon completion, this project will provide increased foraging capacity and important for six NAWCA High Priority waterfowl species, five NAWCA Other Priority waterfowl species and seven other species of waterfowl. Ten NAWCA Priority Species of wetland-dependent migratory birds from BCRs 27 and 30 will benefit from increased foraging, nesting or roosting habitat. Several other wetland-dependent or wetland associated species will also benefit directly, including seven federally-listed, threatened or candidate species, two federal species of concern, and three state-listed endangered and six species of greatest conservation need.

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**Project Name** SOUTH CAROLINA LOWCOUNTRY WETLANDS VII

**Location (County)** SC-BEAUFORT, SC-COLLETON

**Congressional District** SC-BEAUFORT-1,6, SC-COLLETON-1,6

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** James Rader

**Grantee Email** jrader@ducks.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,000,000.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** Intense pressures from residential and commercial development continue to threaten fragile coastal habitat with wetlands loss, degradation and fragmentation. This proposal will enhance strategic tracts consisting of wetlands, tidal freshwater and saltwater marsh and associated uplands in the Lowcountry of South Carolina (SC). The projects are located in the ACE Basin Waterfowl Focus Areas and significantly contribute to the goals of national and regional bird conservation plans. The completed project will provide important habitat for six NAWCA High Priority waterfowl species, five NAWCA Other Priority waterfowl species and seven other species of waterfowl. Additionally, 20 NAWCA Priority Species of wetland-dependent migratory birds will benefit from increased foraging, nesting or roosting habitat.

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**Project Name** RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PHASE I

**Location (County)** VA-ACCOMACK, VA-ARLINGTON, VA-CAROLINE, VA-CHARLES CITY, VA-CHESTERFIELD, VA-ESSEX, VA-FAIRFAX, VA-GLOUCESTER, VA-HANOVER, VA-HENRICO, VA-ISLE OF WIGHT, VA-JAMES CITY, VA-KING AND QUEEN, VA-KING GEORGE, VA-KING WILLIAM, VA-LANCASTER, VA-MATHEWS, VA-MIDDLESEX, VA-NEW KENT, VA-NORTHAMPTON, VA-NORTHUMBERLAND, VA-PRINCE GEORGE, VA-PRINCE WILLIAM, VA-RICHMOND, VA-SPOTSYLVANIA, VA-STAFFORD, VA-SURRY, VA-WESTMORELAND, VA-YORK

**Congressional District** VA-ACCOMACK-2, VA-ARLINGTON-8, VA-CAROLINE-1, VA-CHARLES CITY-3, VA-CHESTERFIELD-4,7, VA-ESSEX-1, VA-FAIRFAX-8,10,11, VA-GLOUCESTER-1, VA-HANOVER-7, VA-HENRICO-3,7, VA-ISLE OF WIGHT-4, VA-JAMES CITY-1, VA-KING AND QUEEN-1, VA-KING GEORGE-1, VA-KING WILLIAM-1, VA-LANCASTER-1, VA-MATHEWS-1, VA-MIDDLESEX-1, VA-NEW KENT-7, VA-NORTHAMPTON-2, VA-NORTHUMBERLAND-1, VA-PRINCE GEORGE-3,4, VA-PRINCE WILLIAM-1,10,11, VA-RICHMOND-1, VA-SPOTSYLVANIA-1,7, VA-STAFFORD-1, VA-SURRY-3, VA-WESTMORELAND-1, VA-YORK-1

**Grantee Organization** VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

**Project Officer** Estie Thomas

**Grantee Email** ethomas@vofonline.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-RAPPAHANNOCK WILDLIFE REFUGE FRIENDS GROUP, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, CON-THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND, FED-U.S. ARMY FORT A.P. HILL, STA-VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$750,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$3,813,500.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain, BCR 30-New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast  
**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This proposal represents the first of several project phases to permanently protect strategic coastal properties, consisting of diverse wetland and upland habitats in the Virginia coastal zone. Specifically, this proposal seeks to secure 3,888 acres of perpetual conservation easements on strategic properties situated along the Rappahannock River, within the Rappahannock River National Wildlife Refuge expansion. A significant stretch of the Rappahannock River is recognized for its bald eagle concentrations, which are some of the highest densities on the East Coast. The creeks, bluffs, marshes, and meanders of the Rappahannock River combine to make one of the most attractive locations for breeding eagles in the Chesapeake region. Many other migratory bird species use the wetlands including: Louisiana waterthrush, ovenbird, prothonotary warbler, Kentucky warbler, worm-eating warbler, yellow-throated vireo, wood thrush, scarlet tanager, chuck-will's widow, and whip-poor-will, all of which are confirmed breeders on the refuge.

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**Project Name** KANSAS PRAIRIE WETLANDS II

**Location (County)** KS-BARTON, KS-CHEROKEE, KS-ELLSWORTH, KS-GREELEY, KS-HARVEY, KS-JEFFERSON, KS-KINGMAN, KS-LINCOLN, KS-MCPHERSON, KS-RENO, KS-STAFFORD

**Congressional District** KS-BARTON-1, KS-CHEROKEE-2, KS-ELLSWORTH-1, KS-GREELEY-1, KS-HARVEY-4, KS-JEFFERSON-2, KS-KINGMAN-4, KS-LINCOLN-1, KS-MCPHERSON-1, KS-RENO-1, KS-STAFFORD-4

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Matthew Hough

**Grantee Email** mhough@ducks.org

**Partner Name** PRO-ARENSDORF CONSTRUCTION, LLC, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-GEORGE STUMPS WILDLIFE TRUST, STA-KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, STA-KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS & TOURISM, CON-KANSAS WILDLIFE FEDERATION, CON-KANSAS WILDSCAPE FOUNDATION, PRO-KANZA BANK, PRO-KINGMAN LUMBER, OTH-NATURAL RESOURCES DAMAGE ASSESSMENT TRUSTEE COUNCIL (NRDATC), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., CON-PLAYA LAKES JOINT VENTURE, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,011,117.00

**Joint Venture** PLAYA LAKES, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project will benefit critical habitat by acquiring, restoring and enhancing 5,091 acres Quivira wetland complex. The wetlands in this project provide important migration stopover habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and other migratory birds, being utilized by an estimated 45% of the shorebirds in the Western Hemisphere during spring migration. This includes 90% of the white-rumped, Baird's, and stilt sandpipers; long-billed dowitchers and Wilson's phalaropes. These projects will both restore wetlands and provide a unique opportunity to convert poor quality cropland into wetland and upland habitat that can be enjoyed by the public. Other species benefitted include least terns, piping plovers, mallards, northern pintails, wood ducks, king rails, and American bitterns.

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**Project Name** EASTERN NEBRASKA WETLANDS

**Location (County)** NE-DIXON, NE-DODGE, NE-KNOX, NE-SAUNDERS, NE-STANTON, NE-WASHINGTON

**Congressional District** NE-DIXON-3, NE-DODGE-1, NE-KNOX-3, NE-SAUNDERS-1, NE-STANTON-1, NE-WASHINGTON-1

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** John Denton

**Grantee Email** jdenton@ducks.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$932,706

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,886,545.00

**Joint Venture** RAINWATER BASIN, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The Eastern Nebraska Wetlands project will protect, restore, enhance 2,214 acres of wetland habitats that are critical to migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and other wetland-dependent wildlife along the Missouri River, Niobrara River, Elkhorn River, and other eastern Nebraska wetland complexes. The proposal area serves as a gateway for the Central Flyway between the Rainwater Basin and Prairie Pothole Region, which ensures birds will return to the breeding grounds in optimal body condition each spring. Additionally, the Missouri River is a corridor connecting the Mississippi Flyway to the PPR. This proposal contains 2 habitat protection projects, 5 wetland restoration projects, and 3 wetland enhancement projects. A large number of high priority waterfowl, shorebird, waterbird, passerine, and raptor species are noted on each of the project areas. The proposal has the potential to benefit threatened or endangered species such as whooping cranes, least terns and piping plovers.

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**Project Name** CHASE LAKE AREA WETLAND PROJECT XII

**Location (County)** ND-BURLEIGH, ND-DICKEY, ND-FOSTER, ND-KIDDER, ND-LA MOURE, ND-LOGAN, ND-MCINTOSH, ND-MCLEAN, ND-SHERIDAN, ND-STUTSMAN, ND-WELLS

**Congressional District** ND-AT LARGE-1

**Grantee Organization** U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

**Project Officer** Scott McLeod

**Grantee Email** Scott\_McLeod@fws.gov

**Partner Name** CON-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR WILDLIFE, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NORTH DAKOTA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT, CON-NORTH DAKOTA NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$2,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,001,216.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE POTHOLE

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This proposal is phase 12 of an ongoing project designed to protect, restore, and enhance wetland/grassland communities and uses a landscape level planning approach. Although many of these wetlands have been protected, much of the surrounding prairie uplands have been converted to agricultural use. The project will protect 33,039 acres through fee title, lease and easement acquisition, as well as restoration and enhancement activities. The Prairie Pothole Region annually produces 60-70% of the continent's grassland nesting (mallard, northern pintail, gadwall, blue-winged teal, northern shoveler, American wigeon, green-winged teal) and over-water nesting (redhead, canvasback, ruddy duck) species of waterfowl, which will benefit from this project.

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**Project Name** NORTH DAKOTA DRIFT PRAIRIE PROJECT V

**Location (County)** ND-BARNES, ND-BENSON, ND-CASS, ND-CAVALIER, ND-DICKEY, ND-EDDY, ND-FOSTER, ND-GRAND FORKS, ND-GRIGGS, ND-LA MOURE, ND-NELSON, ND-PEMBINA, ND-RAMSEY, ND-RANSOM, ND-RICHLAND, ND-SARGENT, ND-STEELE, ND-STUTSMAN, ND-TOWNER, ND-TRAILL, ND-WALSH, ND-WELLS

**Congressional District** ND-AT LARGE-1

**Grantee Organization** U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

**Project Officer** Scott McLeod

**Grantee Email** Scott\_McLeod@fws.gov

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NORTH DAKOTA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,300,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,373,115.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE POTHOLE

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The North Dakota Drift Prairie Project- V (NDDPP) is the 5th phase of a project designed to protect, restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats. Wetland and native grassland habitats in the NDDPP area continue to be at risk of being drained or converted for production agriculture. Fee title acquisition and the purchase of conservation easements will perpetually protect this valuable grassland and wetland habitat. This landscape contains some of the most numerous, productive and diverse wetland communities in the world with wetland densities often exceeding 100 basins per square mile. This proposal will help protect, restore and enhance an ecological functioning prairie wetland complex through perpetual conservation grassland and wetland easements, wetland restoration, grass plantings, and managed grazing systems on 20,886 acres.

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**Project Name** JAMES RIVER LOWLANDS / MISSOURI COTEAU PROJECT VIII

**Location (County)** SD-AURORA, SD-BEADLE, SD-BON HOMME, SD-BROWN, SD-BRULE, SD-BUFFALO, SD-CAMPBELL, SD-CHARLES MIX, SD-DAVISON, SD-DOUGLAS, SD-EDMUNDS, SD-FAULK, SD-HAND, SD-HANSON, SD-HUGHES, SD-HUTCHINSON, SD-HYDE, SD-JERARD, SD-MCCOOK, SD-MCPHERSON, SD-MINER, SD-POTTER, SD-SANBORN, SD-SPINK, SD-SULLY, SD-WALWORTH, SD-YANKTON

**Congressional District** SD-AT LARGE-1

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Randy W. Renner

**Grantee Email** rrenner@ducks.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, OTH-GROHNE FAMILY FOUNDATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,010,781.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE POTHOLE

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This is phase eight of a project designed to protect wetland and grassland communities using a landscape level approach to planning to protect critical habitat for migratory birds. The grantee will acquire grassland and wetland easements in the Missouri Coteau and James River Lowlands Regions of South Dakota to protect 2,152 acres of grassland and wetland habitat for migratory birds. The easements will become part of the National Wildlife Refuge System under the Small Wetlands Acquisition Program. Waterfowl, particularly northern pintails, will benefit greatly from this project but numerous species of shorebirds, wading birds, marsh birds and other wetland-dependent wildlife species, grassland songbirds and other grassland-dependent wildlife species will also benefit.

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**Project Name** SANTEE DELTA-WINYAH BAY WETLANDS III

**Location (County)** SC-BERKELEY, SC-CHARLESTON, SC-CHESTERFIELD, SC-CLARENDON, SC-DARLINGTON, SC-DILLON, SC-FLORENCE, SC-GEORGETOWN, SC-HORRY, SC-LEE, SC-MARION, SC-MARLBORO, SC-SUMTER, SC-WILLIAMSBURG

**Congressional District** SC-BERKELEY-1,6, SC-CHARLESTON-1,6, SC-CHESTERFIELD-7, SC-CLARENDON-6, SC-DARLINGTON-7, SC-DILLON-7, SC-FLORENCE-6,7, SC-GEORGETOWN-7, SC-HORRY-7, SC-LEE-5, SC-MARION-7, SC-MARLBORO-7, SC-SUMTER-5,6, SC-WILLIAMSBURG-6

**Grantee Organization** THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

**Project Officer** Maria Whitehead

**Grantee Email** mwhitehead@tnc.org

**Partner Name** CON-BUTLER CONSERVATION FUND, PRO-DUKE ENERGY, CON-LORD BERKELEY CONSERVATION TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,024,000.00

**Joint Venture** ATLANTIC COAST

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** Supporting some of the most extensive, intact wetlands in the southeastern United States, the Santee Delta and Winyah Bay wetland complex play an important role for many species of migrating birds including waterfowl, waterbirds, shorebirds, wading birds, and landbirds. The project area supports unique upland and wetland habitats including longleaf pine forest, eastern maritime forest, estuarine wetlands, tidal emergent freshwater wetlands, tidal forested freshwater wetlands, and Carolina bays. Phase III complements the objectives of Phases I and II and will protect tracts totaling 2778 acres, including 1727 wetland acres and 1051 acres of associated uplands to benefit breeding, migrating, and wintering birds through acquisition and conservation easements: Wedge Plantation Ricefields, to be incorporated into SCDNR's Santee Delta WMA; a forested wetland tract within the Santee River Basin; and a forested tract along the Black River and Mingo Creek. These areas benefit eleven priority species including: American black duck, mottled duck, mallard, American wigeon, northern pintail, lesser scaup, ring-necked duck, canvasback, redhead, and wood duck. The project will also support neotropical migratory birds associated with mature forested wetlands during the breeding and migration seasons, such as prothonotary warbler, black-throated green warbler and wood thrush and specifically, will protect a confirmed nesting area for swallow-tailed kites along Mingo Creek.

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**Project Name** SUISUN WETLANDS CONSERVATION II

**Location (County)** CA-SOLANO

**Congressional District** CA-SOLANO-7,10

**Grantee Organization** CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION

**Project Officer** Robert Eddings

**Grantee Email** reddings@calwaterfowl.org

**Partner Name** STA-CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE, CON-CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION, STA-CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), LOC-RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1607

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,819,975.00

**Joint Venture** CENTRAL VALLEY

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 32-Coastal California

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project encompasses the entire Suisun Marsh, which is located in the Central Valley of California. It is estimated that 60% of the Pacific Flyway's waterfowl population (excluding sea ducks), representing about 20% of the entire continental waterfowl population, either winters or migrates through the Central Valley of California. Natural wetlands in California have declined by over 90%. The proposed projects will benefit six high priority waterfowl species, six priority waterfowl species and 18 other species of waterfowl by enhancing 3,630 acres of existing wetlands on both public and private lands.

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**Project Name** PLATTE RIVER WETLANDS PARTNERSHIP IV

**Location (County)** CO-LARIMER, CO-LOGAN, CO-MORGAN, CO-SEDGWICK, CO-WELD

**Congressional District** CO-LARIMER-2, CO-LOGAN-4, CO-MORGAN-4, CO-SEDGWICK-4, CO-WELD-4

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Matt Reddy

**Grantee Email** mreddy@ducks.org

**Partner Name** CON-COLORADO OPEN LANDS, STA-COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-SOUTH PLATTE WATER RELATED ACTIVITIES PROGRAM, FED-USFWS COLORADO PARTNERS FOR FISH & WILDLIFE

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$3,797,749.00

**Joint Venture** PLAYA LAKES

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This is the fourth phase of the Platte River Wetlands Partnership, which conserves wetlands and other habitats important to nonbreeding migratory bird populations in the South Platte River Basin of northeastern Colorado. Activities will permanently protect 1,800 acres, restore and manage an additional 1,129 acres and enhance 374.7 acres to improve the functional quality of wetlands on private lands in the basin. The project pays special attention to improving habitats on tracts accessible to the public found along the river. The Platte River ecosystem - including shallow water wetlands, warm water sloughs and sandy, braided river channels in proximity to productive agricultural land - provides critical roosting and foraging sites for millions of ducks, geese and other waterbirds on

their seasonal migrations mallards, northern pintails, a waterfowl species of concern. Many other waterbirds benefit from these conservation activities. Management activities performed to benefit waterfowl also benefit sandhill cranes, many types of shorebirds and other wildlife species.

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**Project Name** MUKWONAGO - FOX RIVER FOCUS AREA II

**Location (County)** WI-KENOSHA, WI-MILWAUKEE, WI-RACINE, WI-WALWORTH, WI-WAUKESHA

**Congressional District** WI-KENOSHA-1, WI-MILWAUKEE-1, WI-RACINE-1, WI-WALWORTH-1, WI-WAUKESHA-1,5

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED

**Project Officer** Brian Glenzinski

**Grantee Email** bglenzinski@ducks.org

**Partner Name** LOC-BIG MUSKEGO LAKE/BASS BAY PROTECTION & REHAB DISTRICT, LOC-CITY OF MUSKEGO, WISCONSIN, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, CON-WAUKESHA COUNTY LAND CONSERVANCY, STA-WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,686,722.00

**Joint Venture** UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** Proposal objectives are to protect, restore, and enhance 2,435 acres of critical wetland and riparian habitat and adjacent uplands within the Mukwonago and Fox River watersheds to ensure long-term conservation of these ecosystems. Conservation efforts will target crucial breeding and migration habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, colonial waterbirds, and migratory songbirds. The project goal is to protect 1,898 acres including 1,581 acres of wetlands, 317 acres of associated uplands, river frontage. The project will restore 86 acres and enhance another 451 acres of wetlands and associated uplands. Protection, restoration, and enhancement of these lands will directly benefit wetland and grassland species to include: breeding habitat for waterfowl species such as mallard, American black duck, northern pintail, wood duck, and ring-necked duck; foraging, nesting, and migratory stop-over habitat for many species of shorebirds, waterfowl, and waterbirds such as American bittern, northern harrier, marsh wren, cerulean warbler, redhead, and northern pintail; The project also will provide potential breeding and migration habitat for whooping cranes.

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**Project Name** BORDER PRAIRIE WETLANDS IV

**Location (County)** MN-BECKER, MN-KANDIYOHI, MN-MAHNOMEN, MN-MEEKER, MN-OTTER TAIL, MN-POPE, MN-STEARNS, MN-TODD

**Congressional District** MN-BECKER-7, MN-KANDIYOHI-7, MN-MAHNOMEN-7, MN-MEEKER-7, MN-OTTER TAIL-7, MN-POPE-7, MN-STEARNS-6,7, MN-TODD-7

**Grantee Organization** PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC.

**Project Officer** Tim Zemke

**Grantee Email** tzemke@pheasantsforever.org

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-LESSARD SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL, STA-MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$3,664,903.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE POTHOLE

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** Long-standing and new partners have come together to purchase title and easements as well as enhance crucial habitat in the prairie pothole region of Minnesota. While an estimated 70-90% of this habitat has disappeared, partners continue to work on putting pieces of habitat back together in a functional way, so that the habitat complexes that do exist have abundant wildlife populations and serve the life cycles of as many species as possible. The project is expected to benefit several species of waterfowl, including mallard, teal, gadwalls, northern pintail, American wigeon, northern shoveler, canvasback, redhead, and ruddy duck.

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**Project Name** WHITE & CACHE RIVERS WETLANDS II

**Location (County)** AR-PRAIRIE

**Congressional District** AR-PRAIRIE-1

**Grantee Organization** CENTRAL ARKANSAS REFUGE COMPLEX

**Project Officer** Richard L. Crossett II

**Grantee Email** richard\_crossett@fws.gov

**Partner Name** STA-ARKANSAS GAME & FISH COMMISSION, OTH-OPERATION WOUNDED WARRIOR SUPPORT, PRO-RIVEROAK, INC, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,000,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,031,475.00

**Joint Venture** LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The primary objectives of this project are to acquire, protect, enhance, restore, and to actively manage 2,177 acres of wetlands/floodplain habitats critical and unique to waterfowl, shorebirds, marsh birds, wading birds, forest birds, endangered species, and other wetland dependent wildlife in the Lower White and Cache Rivers Basin (LWCRB) of the Lower Mississippi Valley (LMV). This diverse tract of land consists of mature bottomland hardwood trees, moist-soil wetlands, an oxbow lake, and a field that will be reforested by the grantee. Additionally within the area a perpetual conservation-

easement will be donated to the NWR. Habitat acquired, protected, restored, or enhanced through this project will benefit five high priority waterfowl species (mallards, northern pintails, lesser and greater scaup, American black duck), five other priority waterfowl species (wood duck, ring-necked duck, American widgeon, redhead, and canvasback), and over 21 different waterfowl species in total.

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## **MEXICO STANDARD GRANTS**

**Project Name** HYDROLOGICAL RESTORATION OF KEY WETLAND HABITATS FOR AQUATIC MIGRATORY BIRDS

**Location (County)** CAM-CAMPECHE, VER-VERACRUZ

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** PRONATURA MEXICO, A.C. - VERACRUZ

**Project Officer** Aníbal F. Ramírez Soto.

**Grantee Email** aramirez@pronaturaveracruz.org

**Partner Name** CON-ASESORIA TECNICA Y ESTUDIOS COSTEROS (ATEC) SCP, CON-COMUNIDAD DE RESTURADORES DEL MANGLAR EN ISLA AGUADA, CON-PRONATURA MEXICO, A.C., FED-SECRETARIA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE DEL ESTADO DE VERACRUZ (SEDEMA), FED-SEMARNAT, SCH-UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DEL CARMEN

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$454,530

**Proposed Match Amount** \$810,339.00

**Joint Venture**

**Bird Conservation Region**

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The Veracruz coast is one of the most important waterfowl and shorebird continental migration routes, providing habitat to at least 346 bird species. However, extensive cattle grazing and forest fires threaten this wetland complex, especially its mangroves. This project will: protect 1,730 acres of wetlands through acquisition and certification as private conservation areas in the Alvarado wetlands; and restore 3791 acres at the two sites. Benefitted species include northern pintail, lesser scaup, blue-winged teal, cinnamon teal canvasback, redhead, green-winged teal, ring-necked duck, sora, purple gallinule, American golden plover, Wilson's plover, and solitary sandpiper.

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**Project Name** PROTECTION & RESTORATION OF WINTERING HABITAT FOR THE BLACK BRANT

**Location (County)** BCN-BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** TERRA PENINSULAR, A.C.

**Project Officer** César Guerrero Ávila

**Grantee Email** cesarguerrero@terrapeninsular.org

**Partner Name** CON-Fondo Mexicano, CON-Mar Isla, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-Terra Peninsular

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$63,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$86,646.00

**Joint Venture**

**Bird Conservation Region**

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** Bahía San Quintín (BSQ) is located on the Pacific coast of northwestern Baja California, about 187 miles south of the Mexico/USA border. BSQ is one of the most important wetlands along the Pacific Flyway. Vast eel grass beds in the channels of BSQ attract 20-30,000 Brant each winter, which is almost one-third of the total winter population in Mexico. BSQ also includes imperiled priority shorebird species such as the Mountain Plover and Long-billed Curlew. BSQ is the largest "Mediterranean" coastal wetland in México and includes the most pristine major habitat tracts of coastal salt marsh in western North America. Over 187 bird species have been documented at this site, of which 38 are classified as sensitive species. The project will benefit these species by managing removal of invasive species in a protected area and restoring coastal dunes in areas affected by wind erosion

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**Project Name** LONG-TERM PROTECTION OF EL ARCO WETLAND AS WINTERING HABITAT FOR BLACK BRANT

**Location (County)** BCN-BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** TERRA PENINSULAR, A.C.

**Project Officer** César Guerrero Ávila

**Grantee Email** cesarguerrero@terrapeninsular.org

**Partner Name** CON-RESOURCES LEGACY FUND FOUNDATION, CON-TERRA PENINSULAR, A.C.

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$76,220

**Proposed Match Amount** \$79,665.00

**Joint Venture**

**Bird Conservation Region**

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** Bahía San Quintín (BSQ) is located on the Pacific coast of northwestern Baja California, about 187 miles south of the Mexico/USA border. BSQ is one of the most important wetlands along the Pacific Flyway. Vast eel grass beds in the channels of BSQ attract 20-30,000 Brant each winter, which is almost one-third of the total winter population in Mexico. BSQ also includes imperiled priority shorebird species such as the Mountain Plover and Long-billed Curlew. BSQ is the largest "Mediterranean" coastal wetland in México and includes the most pristine major habitat tracts of coastal salt marsh in western North America. Over 187 bird species have been documented at this site,

of which 38 are classified as sensitive species. The project will benefit these species by acquiring and managing 39 wetland acres and the associated 32 upland acres.

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**Project Name** HABITAT MANAGEMENT & MONITORING OF SHOREBIRDS IN NORTHWEST MEXICO

**Location (County)** BCN-BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE, BCS-BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, NAY-NAYARIT, SIN-SINALOA, SON-SONORA

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C.

**Project Officer** Miguel Angel Cruz Nieto

**Grantee Email** mcruz@pronatura-noroeste.org

**Partner Name** FED-COMISION NACIONAL DE AREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS (CONANP), CON-INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C., SCH-UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$340,237

**Proposed Match Amount** \$761,740.00

**Joint Venture**

**Bird Conservation Region**

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This project will take place at 14 priority wetlands for shorebirds in the states of Sonora, Sinaloa, Nayarit, Baja California Sur and Baja California, in northwest Mexico. The area shelters over one million shorebirds from 31 species every winter, including over half the population of Pacific red knot, American oystercatcher, green-winged teal, northern shoveler, and marbled godwit. The project will: manage 358,626 acres of land already protected in the five northwestern states of Mexico; enhance 519 acres; restore 1284 acres; conduct shorebird monitoring at 14 sites in northwest Mexico; and implement an environmental education program targeting 100 teachers and 2000 students in the region.

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**Project Name** RESTORING HABITAT FOR MIG WATERBIRDS IN THE COLORADO RIVER DELTA PHASE II

**Location (County)** BCN-BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE, SON-SONORA

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C.

**Project Officer** Osvel Hinojosa Huerta

**Grantee Email** ohinojosa@pronatura-noroeste.org

**Partner Name** CON-PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C., CON-SONORAN INSTITUTE

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$564,886

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,131,000.00

**Joint Venture**

**Bird Conservation Region****Ecoregion**

**Project Description** This proposal presents the continuation of a joint, long-term effort to restore the Colorado River Delta, supported by a bi-national partnership of organizations with the goal of restoring and protecting 100,000 acres. This area features 380 species, over 350,000 wintering water birds and over 60,000 ducks and geese. However, there has been a great reduction in water flow, which endangers the existing habitat for water birds. The project will: purchase the rights to 3.75 million acre feet per year of water, to restore 988 wetland acres; continue local outreach efforts; and implement a monitoring program to assess the impact of the increased water. Species that will benefit include northern pintail, mallard, cinnamon teal, redhead American wigeon, long-billed curlew, snowy plover, least tern, black skimmer, black rail and least bittern.

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**Project Name** CONSERVATION STRATEGY FOR MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS AT LAGUNA MADRE PHASE I

**Location (County)** TAMPS-TAMAULIPAS

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C.

**Project Officer** Jose Alfredo Alvarez Cerda

**Grantee Email** aalvarez@pronaturane.org

**Partner Name** FED-AREA DE PROTECCION DE FLORA Y FAUNA LAGUNA MADRE Y RIO BRAVO, SCH-INSTITUTO DE ECOLOGIA APLICADA DE LA UAT, SCH-INSTITUTO TECNOLOGICO DE CD. VICTORIA (ITCV), CON-PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C., STA-TAMAULIPAS STATE PORT AUTHORITY

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$408,321

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,078,562.00

**Joint Venture****Bird Conservation Region****Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The Laguna Madre is one of the most important sites on the Gulf of Mexico for wintering migratory birds; approximately 134 bird species have been documented there, including over 100,000 shorebirds. This wetland complex contains a large area of lakes with hyper-saline water along with small inland freshwater ponds that host waterfowl species like redheads and northern pintails that depend on drinking freshwater to dilute the salts consumed when feeding on area sea grasses. The project will protect 3639 acres through conservation agreements; restore 321 acres of freshwater wetlands; restore 86.5 acres of dunes/beach on barrier islands; control erosion along 3.11 miles of islands in the northern section of Laguna Madre; conduct studies on soil loss, hydrology, and mangrove status; monitor waterfowl; implement environmental education and awareness program that will impact 200 students, develop a Laguna Madre bird booklet and train 15 teachers from primary schools; and develop two management plans and register the areas as an environmental management unit. Species that will benefit include redhead, Wilson's plover, Kentish plover, American oystercatcher and sanderling.

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**Project Name** INTEGRATED CONS & MGMT OF LAGUNA SANTIAGUILLO & NW CHIHUAHUA WETLAND COMPLEX

**Location (County)** CHIH-CHIHUAHUA, DGO-DURANGO

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C.

**Project Officer** Lissete Sepulveda Hernandez

**Grantee Email**

**Partner Name** FED-COMISION NACIONAL DE AREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS (CONANP), LOC-EJIDO ARNULFO R. GOMEZ, LOC-EJIDO LIBERTADORES DEL LLANO, LOC-EJIDO SAN JOSE MORILLITOS, CON-PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C., FED-SECRETARIA DE RECURSOS NATURALES Y MEDIO AMBIENTE (SRNYMA)

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$266,170

**Proposed Match Amount** \$343,229.00

**Joint Venture**

**Bird Conservation Region**

**Ecoregion**

**Project Description** The project is located at two sites: in northwest Chihuahua and in central Durango. 35 waterfowl species have been recorded at Laguna de Santiaguillo. The project will protect 17,290 acres of wintering habitat in Durango and Chihuahua; 2) develop a management and restoration plan for 59,345 acres at Santiaguillo Lagoon; manage, enhance or restore 2470 acres in Durango; restore and enhance 12 acres at the project sites in Chihuahua; and conduct biological monitoring. Species that will benefit include northern pintail, northern shoveler, green-winged teal, bufflehead, white-fronted goose, black-necked stilt, and American golden plover.

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## CANADA STANDARD GRANTS

**Project Name** NCC PRAIRIES: PROTECTING WETLANDS & UPLANDS PHJV 2016-2

**Location (County)** AB-ALBERTA, MB-MANITOBA, SK-SASKATCHEWAN

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

**Project Officer** Kathryn Folkl

**Grantee Email** kathryn.folkl@natureconservancy.ca

**Partner Name** CON-FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$900,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$900,000.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE HABITAT

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** NCC ONTARIO, QUEBEC & ATLANTIC: PROTECTING WETLAND & UPLAND HABITAT EHJV 2016-2

**Location (County)** NB-NEW BRUNSWICK, NF-NEWFOUNDLAND, NS-NOVA SCOTIA, ON-ONTARIO, PE-PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, QC-QUEBEC

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

**Project Officer** Kathryn Folkl

**Grantee Email** kathryn.folkl@natureconservancy.ca

**Partner Name** CON-FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,100,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,100,000.00

**Joint Venture** EASTERN HABITAT

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 12-Boreal Hardwood Transition, BCR 13-Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Plain, BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest, BCR 8-Boreal Softwood Shield

**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** NCC BC: CIJV & PBHJV WETLAND-ASSOCIATED MIG BIRD HABITAT CONSERVATION 2016-2

**Location (County)** BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

**Project Officer** Kathryn Folkl

**Grantee Email** kathryn.folkl@natureconservancy.ca

**Partner Name** CON-FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$200,000

**Proposed Match Amount** \$200,000.00

**Joint Venture** CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN, PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 10-Northern Rockies, BCR 5-Northern Pacific Rainforest, BCR 9-Great Basin

**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** POTHOLE PLUS PROJECT 2016-2

**Location (County)** MB-MANITOBA, SK-SASKATCHEWAN

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION

**Project Officer** Stephen Carlyle  
**Grantee Email** scarlyle@mhhc.mb.ca  
**Partner Name** CON-DELTA WATERFOWL FOUNDATION, CON-MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION  
**Date approved** 04/20/2016  
**Grant Award Amount** \$250,000  
**Proposed Match Amount** \$250,000.00  
**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE HABITAT  
**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes  
**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** PARKLAND BIRD PRODUCTION PROJECT  
**Location (County)** MB-MANITOBA  
**Congressional District**  
**Grantee Organization** MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION  
**Project Officer** Stephen Carlyle  
**Grantee Email** scarlyle@mhhc.mb.ca  
**Partner Name** CON-DELTA WATERFOWL FOUNDATION, FED-ENVIRONMENT CANADA  
**Date approved** 04/20/2016  
**Grant Award Amount** \$300,000  
**Proposed Match Amount** \$300,000.00  
**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE HABITAT  
**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 6-Boreal Taiga Plains  
**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** DUC - PRAIRIE POTHOLE REGION LANDSCAPES  
**Location (County)** AB-ALBERTA, MB-MANITOBA, SK-SASKATCHEWAN  
**Congressional District**  
**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA  
**Project Officer** Karla Guyn  
**Grantee Email** k\_guyn@ducks.ca  
**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA, CON-FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA  
**Date approved** 04/20/2016  
**Grant Award Amount** \$5,000,000  
**Proposed Match Amount** \$5,000,000.00  
**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE HABITAT  
**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes  
**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** DUC / EASTERN HABITAT JOINT VENTURE HABITAT PROGRAM 2016-2  
**Location (County)** NB-NEW BRUNSWICK, NF-NEWFOUNDLAND, NS-NOVA SCOTIA, ON-ONTARIO, PE-PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, QC-QUEBEC

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

**Project Officer** Karla Guyn

**Grantee Email** k\_guyn@ducks.ca

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$2,476,688

**Proposed Match Amount** \$2,476,688.00

**Joint Venture** EASTERN HABITAT

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 12-Boreal Hardwood Transition, BCR 13-Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Plain, BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest, BCR 7-Taiga Shield and Hudson Plains, BCR 8-Boreal Softwood Shield

**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** BRITISH COLUMBIA PACIFIC COASTAL & CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN CONS PROGRAM 2016-2

**Location (County)** BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

**Project Officer** Karla Guyn

**Grantee Email** k\_guyn@ducks.ca

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$1,038,273

**Proposed Match Amount** \$1,038,273.00

**Joint Venture** CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN, PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 10-Northern Rockies, BCR 5-Northern Pacific Rainforest, BCR 9-Great Basin

**Ecoregion**

**Project Name** CANADIAN PRAIRIE POTHOLE & WESTERN BOREAL HABITAT PROGRAM 2016-2

**Location (County)** AB-ALBERTA, BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA, MB-MANITOBA, NT-NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, SK-SASKATCHEWAN, YT-YUKON

**Congressional District**

**Grantee Organization** DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

**Project Officer** Karla Guyn

**Grantee Email** k\_guyn@ducks.ca

**Partner Name** CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

**Date approved** 04/20/2016

**Grant Award Amount** \$9,488,638

**Proposed Match Amount** \$9,488,638.00

**Joint Venture** PRAIRIE HABITAT

**Bird Conservation Region** BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 4-Northwestern Interior Forest, BCR 6-Boreal Taiga Plains, BCR 7-Taiga Shield and Hudson Plains, BCR 8-Boreal Softwood Shield  
**Ecoregion**