

U.S. Standard Grants
Approved September 9, 2020

Project Name WILD & SCENIC CAROLINA WETLANDS I

Location (County) SC-BEAUFORT, SC-GEORGETOWN, SC-WILLIAMSBURG

Congressional District SC-BEAUFORT-1,6, SC-GEORGETOWN-7, SC-WILLIAMSBURG-6

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer James Rader

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Project Country US

Partner Name STA-SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK, STA-SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,082,554.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will protect four strategic properties in coastal South Carolina. Altogether, the match and grant conservation projects within this project protect a total of 5,193 acres of critical habitat across a region encompassing South Lowcountry, ACE Basin and Winyah Bay Focus Areas of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture's South Carolina Waterfowl Focus Areas. The main tract in this project is located along the Black River, and adds to two decades of private land conservation by bringing a new conservation partner to the region and establishing the first State Park in Williamsburg County. Another tract to be acquired as part of this project expands the Samworth Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in the Plantersville Historic District. The acquisition of the unique, enormous St. Phillips Island in Beaufort County at the mouth of the Port Royal Sound contributes directly to South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism's priorities for recreation, habitat preservation and consolidation of management interests.

Project Name WESTERN KENTUCKY"S WETLANDS

Location (County) KY-BALLARD, KY-HICKMAN

Congressional District KY-BALLARD-1, KY-HICKMAN-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Dane Cramer

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Project Country US

Partner Name PRO-DAVIS DRUGS, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE RESOURCES, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,429,201.00

Joint Venture CENTRAL HARDWOODS, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 24-Central Hardwoods, BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley

Ecoregion

Project Description Conservation work is focused on bottomland hardwood floodplain forest habitats including permanent water features, such as swamps, sloughs, lakes, river frontage, submerged aquatic vegetation, semi-permanent forested, scrub-shrub, emergent vegetation, seasonally flooded moist soil plants, and upland hardwood ridge and rise habitats. Wetland components of bottomland hardwood floodplain forest were shaped by these rivers, creating an abundance of niche space for fish and wildlife. During spring and fall migration, shorebirds prod heavily along these bands to fuel their long journeys. During summer, other species such as herons, egrets, snakes, and turtles move through these habitats. While the deeper depressions of permanent and semi-permanent water are always focal points, the floodplain forests that surround them are the stalwarts of the bottomland hardwood community. Landbirds, including warblers, vireos, blackbirds, and thrushes, whether passing through during migration or staying long enough to nest and fledge young, find haven in these forests. When flood waters spill over the rivers' banks, they carry nutrients that allow the forest to thrive and waterfowl flock to exploit the resources.

Project Name VIRGINIA TIDAL RIVERS & BAYS V

Location (County) VA-FRANKLIN CITY, VA-KING AND QUEEN, VA-NEW KENT, VA-SOUTHAMPTON, VA-SURRY

Congressional District VA-FRANKLIN CITY-3, VA-KING AND QUEEN-1, VA-NEW KENT-1, VA-SOUTHAMPTON-4, VA-SURRY-4

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer James Rader

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-ENVIVA FOREST CONSERVATION FUND, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), PRO-SRF-FRANKLIN, LLC, STA-VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,316,972.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

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

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will permanently conserve five tracts consisting of 1,056 acres of wetlands and 776 acres of associated uplands in the Virginia coastal plain. The project sites lie within the focus areas the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV) Implementation Plans for the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative (SAMBI) and the New England and Mid Atlantic Coast. This project focuses on conserving palustrine forested wetlands, which make up the majority of habitat protected (881 acres) through this project. One acquisition establishes a public park in the City of Franklin and permanently conserve 211 acres for public access. Additionally, this project features extensive riparian corridor protection from conservation easements on four tracts, which will preserve over fifteen linear miles of river and stream frontage on the York, Pamunkey, James, and state-scenic Nottoway Rivers, four of the most important and scenic waterways in Coastal Virginia. Perpetual protection contributes to the landscape-scale work of partners to protect, enhance and manage a series of critical wintering grounds in the Atlantic Flyway.

Project Name TEXAS RICE PRAIRIES II

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-22,14, TX-BROOKS-15, TX-CALHOUN-27, TX-CAMERON-34, TX-CHAMBERS-14,36, 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-14,36, 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

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Project Country US

Partner Name PRO-CONOCO PHILLIPS, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT, CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$997,822.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,000,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 36-Tamaulipan Brushlands, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will enhance or restore 2,643 acres of wetland habitat including, decreasing wetland types and other critical wetlands within the Texas portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture (GCJV). This project will use grant and match funding to enhance 2,151 acres of privately-owned wetlands and will continue a 28-year partnership of landowners, state and federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations committed to the long-term support of wetlands conservation on the Texas Gulf Coast through the Texas Prairie Wetlands Project. Project sites will be located within the agricultural landscape of the Texas Coast and will include palustrine wetland habitats with shallow flooded conditions, such as managed moist-soil, emergent wetlands and rice fields. A second tract, located in Wharton County, will include the

enhancement of 84 acres of palustrine emergent wetland habitat within abandoned rice fields. A third tract, located in Refugio County, will include the enhancement of 408 acres of estuarine wetlands and upland habitat

Project Name TEXAS CHENIER PLAIN V

Location (County) TX-CHAMBERS, TX-GALVESTON, TX-JEFFERSON

Congressional District TX-CHAMBERS-36, TX-GALVESTON-14, TX-JEFFERSON-14

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Todd Merendino

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF), STA-TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE, CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,500,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,150,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will enhance 5,940 acres of fresh, intermediate and brackish wetlands at Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Chambers County through the construction of miles of rock breakwater, the repair of 5.2 miles of levee, and the replacement of 3 water control structures. The activities will remediate shoreline erosion and damage to water management infrastructure on the refuge caused by Hurricane Harvey and other previous hurricanes. Grant funds and matching contributions from Ducks Unlimited will support project development and construction of a rock breakwater for J.D. Murphree Wildlife Management Area's Upper Salt Bayou Marsh II project in Jefferson County. The first phase of breakwater construction was accomplished using funds included in a previously funded grant in 2010, Texas Chenier Plain III. This last phase of construction will complete efforts to reduce erosion along a 0.5-mile section of the south Gulf Intracoastal Waterway shoreline and will enhance 185 acres of additional estuarine marsh habitat within the Salt Bayou Unit. activities for the Brushy Bend

Bayou Marsh project at Anahuac NWR in Galveston County will enhance and prevent degradation to 1,802 acres of intertidal estuarine marsh.

Project Name SOUTHWEST WETLAND INITIATIVE OF MINNESOTA (SWIM) VI

Location (County) MN-BROWN, MN-COTTONWOOD, MN-JACKSON, MN-LINCOLN, MN-LYON, MN-MARTIN, MN-MURRAY, MN-NOBLES, MN-PIPESTONE, MN-WATONWAN

Congressional District MN-BROWN-1, MN-COTTONWOOD-1,7, MN-JACKSON-1, MN-LINCOLN-7, MN-LYON-7, MN-MARTIN-1, MN-MURRAY-7, MN-NOBLES-1, MN-PIPESTONE-7, MN-WATONWAN-1

Grantee Organization PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC.

Project Officer Joe Moore

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Project Country US

Partner Name PRO-BLETHEN BERENS LAW FIRM, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-FOX LAKE CONSERVATION LEAGUE, STA-LESSARD SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$6,017,604.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will protect, restore and enhance wetlands and wetland-associated upland habitat in the project area that includes the Minnesota portion of the Prairie Coteau. This effort focuses on delivering habitat goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) and the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV) Implementation Plan. This is the sixth phase of this effort, with a goal of accelerating permanent protection of prairie and wetland complexes, and restoring every wetland on publicly owned land within the geography. Permanently protecting strategic habitat in Minnesota as Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) and Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) is a top priority for not only for the NAWMP and the PPJV Implementation Plan, but for state conservation plans (e.g. Long-Range Duck Recovery Plan, MN Prairie Conservation Plan, Pheasant Action Plan, etc.). This effort is

also a top priority for the conservation partners in Minnesota and the local volunteer members of Pheasants Forever, which includes 25,000 members and 72 individual chapters in Minnesota.

Project Name SOUTHEASTERN LAKE MICHIGAN COASTAL HABITAT INITIATIVE III

Location (County) MI-ALLEGAN, MI-BARRY, MI-BERRIEN, MI-BRANCH, MI-CALHOUN, MI-CASS, MI-CLINTON, MI-EATON, MI-GRATIOT, MI-HILLSDALE, MI-INGHAM, MI-IONIA, MI-JACKSON, MI-KALAMAZOO, MI-KENT, MI-LAKE, MI-LIVINGSTON, MI-MASON, MI-MECOSTA, MI-MONTCALM, MI-MUSKEGON, MI-NEWAYGO, MI-OCEANA, MI-OSCEOLA, MI-OTTAWA, MI-SHIAWASSEE, MI-ST. JOSEPH, MI-VAN BUREN

Congressional District MI-ALLEGAN-6, MI-BARRY-3, MI-BERRIEN-6, MI-BRANCH-7, MI-CALHOUN-3, MI-CASS-6, MI-CLINTON-4, MI-EATON-7, MI-GRATIOT-4, MI-HILLSDALE-7, MI-INGHAM-8, MI-IONIA-3, MI-JACKSON-7, MI-KALAMAZOO-6, MI-KENT-2,3, MI-LAKE-2, MI-LIVINGSTON-8, MI-MASON-1,2, MI-MECOSTA-4, MI-MONTCALM-3,4, MI-MUSKEGON-2, MI-NEWAYGO-2, MI-OCEANA-2, MI-OSCEOLA-4, MI-OTTAWA-2, MI-SHIAWASSEE-4, MI-ST. JOSEPH-6, MI-VAN BUREN-6

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Kali Rush

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-LAND CONSERVANCY OF WEST MICHIGAN, STA-MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CON-MICHIGAN NATURE ASSOCIATION, LOC-MUSKEGON CONSERVATION DISTRICT, LOC-MUSKEGON COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., CON-SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,443,581.00

Joint Venture UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 12-Boreal Hardwood Transition, BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will contribute to the conservation of 2,491 acres within the southeastern Lake Michigan watershed, including the protection of 1,361 acres of remnant or restorable habitats and restoration or enhancement of 1,066 acres of previously altered habitats. The project area provides important breeding habitat for Mallards, Wood Ducks, and Giant Canada Geese, as well as important migration habitat for Wood Ducks and breeding habitat for Southern James Bay Canada Geese.

Project Name SOUTH ATLANTIC BASINS: LOWER PEE DEE TO OKEFENOKEE III

Location (County) GA-CAMDEN

Congressional District GA-CAMDEN-1

Grantee Organization GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Project Officer Jason Lee

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-BOBOLINK FOUNDATION, STA-GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, FED-KINGS BAY FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION, U.S. NAVY, CON-OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$2,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$4,100,000.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Ecoregion

Project Description This project, the third of four phases, seeks funding for the fee acquisition of one large, strategic property in coastal Georgia, a 7,540-acre portion of the Ceylon property. The property will be acquired by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GADNR) as a Wildlife Management Area (WMA) to protect and enhance management of sensitive coastal habitats and allow public access and recreation. This purchase adds considerably to the preservation and ecological integrity of the Satilla River Watershed and the Cumberland Island National Seashore within the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture's (ACJV) Georgia Coastal Focus Area. The nearby protected areas, including Cabin Bluff, Crooked River State Park, Kings Bay Naval Base, and Cumberland & Little Cumberland Islands, Jekyll Island, and Satilla Marsh Island Natural Area provide habitats and refugia for resident and migratory wildlife utilizing

these rivers and the surrounding saltmarsh. This exceptional conservation project totals 7,540 acres of critical habitat in a region encompassing nine of the ACJV Waterfowl Focus Areas. This project will protect estuarine intertidal wetlands, freshwater forested wetlands, maritime and longleaf pine forests that will benefit a broad array of priority bird species and will directly support the ACJV's Waterfowl Implementation Plan, South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative (SAMBI) and the ACJV's Conserving Coastal Marshes Initiative. The Ceylon Tract is a 16,000-acre property in coastal Georgia, the largest unprotected coastal tract in Georgia, if not along the South Atlantic. This project seeks to acquire a 7,540-acre portion of the property with extensive coastal salt marsh, freshwater forested wetlands, pine flatwoods and maritime forest. Grant funds will be pooled with other federal, state, and private funds by GADNR to purchase the property as a new WMA.

Project Name SAN JOAQUIN WETLANDS CONSERVATION IV

Location (County) CA-MERCED

Congressional District CA-MERCED-16

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Virginia Getz

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Project Country US

Partner Name STA-CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, STA-CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-GRASSLAND FUND, LOC-GRASSLAND WATER DISTRICT, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,566,954.00

Joint Venture CENTRAL VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 32-Coastal California

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will enhance 524 acres of palustrine emergent and 16 acres of palustrine forested wetlands at San Luis National Wildlife Refuge (SLNWR) - East Bear Creek Unit, and 365 acres of wetlands at SLNWR-Blue Goose Unit, while restoring 19 of uplands. The enhancement projects focuses on improving water conveyance within and between wetland units,

providing new water control structures, and constructing new levees. These improvements will permit U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) staff to manage a larger wetland footprint, deliver water to wetlands currently without surface water delivery capabilities, re-use irrigation water, improving water conveyance from private lands through the refuge. This improved water conveyance will facilitate better drainage for adjoining private lands and will facilitate moist-soil management. Newly constructed levees and borrow areas will be reseeded with native grasses to provide additional nesting habitat for wetland dependent migratory bird species.

Project Name ROCKY MOUNTAIN FRONT PROTECTION IV

Location (County) MT-GLACIER, MT-LEWIS & CLARK, MT-PONDERA, MT-TETON

Congressional District MT-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Project Officer David Allen

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Project Country US

Partner Name STA-MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE CONSERVATION FUND, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,005,420.00

Joint Venture INTERMOUNTAIN WEST, PRAIRIE POTHOLES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 10-Northern Rockies, BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Ecoregion

Project Description This project encompasses the Blackfoot Indian Reservation, the only place in the United States where aspen parkland coincides with glacial wetlands. The Project Area lies astride the boundary between designated Bird Conservation Regions 10 (Northern Rockies) and 11 (Prairie Potholes), and includes six National Wildlife Refuge System properties, a Forest Service Research Natural Area, and four State of Montana Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). All 7,563 acres will be permanently protected, benefitting over 200 species of birds as well as other wildlife.

Project Name RAINWATER BASIN IX

Location (County) NE-ADAMS, NE-BUTLER, NE-CLAY, NE-DAWSON, NE-FILLMORE, NE-FRANKLIN, NE-FRONTIER, NE-GOSPER, NE-HALL, NE-HAMILTON, NE-HARLAN, NE-JEFFERSON, NE-KEARNEY, NE-NUCKOLLS, NE-PHELPS, NE-POLK, NE-SEWARD, NE-SHERIDAN, NE-THAYER, NE-WEBSTER, NE-YORK

Congressional District NE-ADAMS-3, NE-BUTLER-1, NE-CLAY-3, NE-DAWSON-3, NE-FILLMORE-3, NE-FRANKLIN-3, NE-FRONTIER-3, NE-GOSPER-3, NE-HALL-3, NE-HAMILTON-3, NE-HARLAN-3, NE-JEFFERSON-3, NE-KEARNEY-3, NE-NUCKOLLS-3, NE-PHELPS-3, NE-POLK-1, NE-SALINE-3, NE-SEWARD-1, NE-THAYER-3, NE-WEBSTER-3, NE-YORK-3

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer John Denton

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST, STA-NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION, CON-RAINWATER BASIN JOINT VENTURE

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,001,198.00

Joint Venture RAINWATER BASIN

Bird Conservation Region BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will complete protection, restoration, and enhancement in the continentally important spring migration habitat of the Rainwater Basin. Less than twenty percent of the historic playa wetland footprints remain on this relatively small, 4,200 square mile, landscape area in south central Nebraska that serves as spring staging habitat for millions of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds in addition to songbirds and other mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

Project Name PRAIRIE LAKES XII WETLAND INITIATIVE

Location (County) IA-BUTLER, IA-CERRO GORDO, IA-DICKINSON, IA-EMMET, IA-HANCOCK, IA-KOSSUTH, IA-PALO ALTO, IA-POCAHONTAS, IA-POLK, IA-WINNEBAGO, IA-WRIGHT

Congressional District IA-BUTLER-4, IA-CERRO GORDO-4, IA-DICKINSON-4, IA-EMMET-4, IA-HANCOCK-4, IA-KOSSUTH-4, IA-PALO ALTO-4, IA-POCAHONTAS-4, IA-POLK-3, IA-WINNEBAGO-4, IA-WRIGHT-4

Grantee Organization IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Project Officer Kelly Smith

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Project Country US

Partner Name LOC-BUTLER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, LOC-KOSSUTH COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (IOWA STATE COUNCIL), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (KOSSUTH COUNTY), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (PALO ALTO COUNTY), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (WRIGHT COUNTY CHAPTER), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, (CERRO GORDO) PIONEER II CHAPTER, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, BLACK HAWK COUNTY CHAPTER, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, BREMER COUNTY, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, BUTLER COUNTY CHAPTER, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, FLOYD COUNTY CHAPTER, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, MITCHELL COUNTY PIONEER CHAPTER, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, NORTH BUTLER CHAPTER, LOC-POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-SIERRA CLUB, CENTRAL IOWA, CON-WHITETAILS UNLIMITED, WRIGHT COUNTY CHAPTER, LOC-WRIGHT COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,547,538.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project focuses on protecting, restoring and enhancing more than 2,273 acres of critical wetland and migratory bird habitat throughout Iowa's Prairie Pothole Region. This area is considered a "geographic priority wetland area" and regions of "continental significance to North American ducks, geese, and swans" as part of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. Significant conservation planning and coordination efforts have been invested by a diverse group of private, county, state, federal and non-government

conservation organizations to leverage our collective resources and achieve mutual habitat conservation goals. By integrating diverse partner resources, expertise and science-based planning efforts, we have been able maximize our collective investments and achieve long-term migratory bird habitat conservation goals.

Project Name PLATTE RIVER WETLANDS PARTNERSHIP V

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

Congressional District CO-JEFFERSON-7, CO-LARIMER-2, CO-LOGAN-4, CO-MORGAN-4, CO-SEDGWICK-4, CO-WELD-4

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Matt Reddy

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-BIRD CONSERVANCY OF THE ROCKIES, STA-COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,781,152.00

Joint Venture PLAYA LAKES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This is the fifth 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. Our project contains fourteen projects aimed at improving the quantity, quality and availability of preferred habitats for ducks, geese and other waterbirds that rely upon the Platte River as a stopover point on their migration to and from breeding grounds to the north. This project focuses on protecting and improving habitats on publicly accessible tracts found along the Platte River that are on or adjacent to already conserved properties. Water in Colorado is a resource that migratory bird managers must carefully safeguard and creatively procure. The work in this project presents an opportunity to easily share with the public the value of wetlands and how conservation activities promoted by NAWCA impart the joy of witnessing the spectacle of waterfowl migration.

Project Name NORTHERN LOWER MICHIGAN GREAT LAKES WATERSHED

Location (County) MI-CHARLEVOIX, MI-CHEBOYGAN, MI-EMMET

Congressional District MI-CHARLEVOIX-1, MI-CHEBOYGAN-1, MI-EMMET-1

Grantee Organization LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY

Project Officer Anne Fleming

Grantee Email anne@landtrust.org

Project Country US

Partner Name OTH-BURT LAKE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION, OTH-CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, OTH-J.A. WOOLLAM FOUNDATION, INC., CON-LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), OTH-SIX MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION, CON-THE CONSERVATION FUND

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,368,765.00

Joint Venture UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 12-Boreal Hardwood Transition

Ecoregion

Project Description This project is the first phase of land and conservation easement acquisition and protection efforts focused on high priority intact lands within the Lake Huron and Lake Michigan watersheds. This project includes the acquisition of several targeted properties within the core watershed and headwaters of the West Branch of the Maple River, which ultimately drains to Lake Huron. Three tracts is located within the Cheboygan River Watershed. In 1996, the Cheboygan River Watershed was identified as a key aquatic biodiversity site in the Great Lakes Ecoregion. The Maple River is the uppermost tributary into the Cheboygan River Watershed and is a high-quality, predominantly cold water stream that flows roughly 35 miles draining a watershed area of approximately 148,000 acres before flowing into Burt Lake, and ultimately the Cheboygan River. The West Branch of the Maple River is sixteen miles long and drains 93 square miles of land, arising out of Pleasantview Swamp, the location of the primary and grant-funded tract included in this project. This coniferous swamp is surrounded by hardwood ridges which direct the flow to the north, then east, and then south. Two tracts are located on the shore of Lake Michigan and in very close proximity to each other. Two tracts lie within the Lake Charlevoix and Lake Michigan watersheds. These acquisitions provide rare and

much desired shoreline protection that is needed for resident and migratory birds and related species.

Project Name NORTH PLATTE RIVER WETLANDS III

Location (County) NE-GARDEN, NE-KEITH, NE-LINCOLN, NE-MORRILL, NE-SCOTTS BLUFF, WY-GOSHEN

Congressional District NE-GARDEN-3, NE-KEITH-3, NE-LINCOLN-3, NE-MORRILL-3, NE-SCOTTS BLUFF-3, WY-GOSHEN-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Tom Peterson

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-PLATTE RIVER BASIN ENVIRONMENTS, INC., PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,079,484.00

Joint Venture INTERMOUNTAIN WEST, PLAYA LAKES, RAINWATER BASIN

Bird Conservation Region BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project represents the next phase in an on-going effort to restore and perpetually protect vital wetland resources in this continentally important landscape. The North Platte River is a priority area under all four major bird plans. The vast majority of habitat along the North Platte in this region is privately owned. The ability of the North Platte River to support abundant waterfowl continues to be compromised by increased demand on water resources and fragmentation. One of the main goals of on-going conservation activities in this region is to protect remaining high-priority tracts along the river through fee-title acquisition or securing conservation easements. Additionally, Ducks Unlimited (DU) and its partners use proven restoration techniques to improve wetland habitats in this landscape that include restoration of river channel via sediment removal, embankment construction and rehab, installing water control structures and rock checks, Russian olive removal, and improving grazing infrastructure. DU has assembled a diverse and proven seven-member partnership that will cooperate to deliver projects

on six tracts. This project will help meet the objectives of migratory bird conservation plans by permanently protecting 1,200 acres and restoring 1,430 acres of habitat.

Project Name MINNESOTA RIVER PRAIRIES IV

Location (County) MN-BIG STONE, MN-BLUE EARTH, MN-BROWN, MN-CHIPPEWA, MN-COTTONWOOD, MN-DOUGLAS, MN-FARIBAULT, MN-FREEBORN, MN-GRANT, MN-JACKSON, MN-KANDIYOHI, MN-LAC QUI PARLE, MN-LE SUEUR, MN-LINCOLN, MN-LYON, MN-MARTIN, MN-MCLEOD, MN-MURRAY, MN-NICOLLET, MN-NOBLES, MN-PIPESTONE, MN-POPE, MN-REDWOOD, MN-RENVILLE, MN-SIBLEY, MN-STEELE, MN-STEVENS, MN-SWIFT, MN-WASECA, MN-WATONWAN, MN-YELLOW MEDICINE

Congressional District MN-BIG STONE-7, MN-BLUE EARTH-1, MN-BROWN-1, MN-CHIPPEWA-7, MN-COTTONWOOD-1,7, MN-DOUGLAS-7, MN-FARIBAULT-1, MN-FREEBORN-1, MN-GRANT-7, MN-JACKSON-1, MN-KANDIYOHI-7, MN-LAC QUI PARLE-7, MN-LE SUEUR-1, MN-LINCOLN-7, MN-LYON-7, MN-MARTIN-1, MN-MCLEOD-7, MN-MURRAY-7, MN-NICOLLET-1, MN-NOBLES-1, MN-PIPESTONE-7, MN-POPE-7, MN-REDWOOD-7, MN-RENVILLE-7, MN-SIBLEY-7, MN-STEELE-1, MN-STEVENS-7, MN-SWIFT-7, MN-WASECA-1, MN-WATONWAN-1, MN-YELLOW MEDICINE-7

Grantee Organization PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC.

Project Officer Joe Moore

Grantee Email jmoore@pheasantsforever.org

Project Country US

Partner Name STA-LESSARD SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., LOC-SHELL ROCK RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,183,774.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie, BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will permanently protect and open to access 960 acres, restore 60 acres and enhance 535 acres of breeding habitat crucial to waterfowl and other wildlife species. Fee-title acquisitions of Waterfowl Production Areas and Wildlife Management Areas completed in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and focus upon strategic investments in habitat that build upon existing wetland complexes. Restoration of wetlands and enhancements of nesting cover all occur on public lands. Enhancements are focused on improving the quality of nesting habitat provided to breeding waterfowl by creating suitable cover via the removal of invasive, undesirable trees from uplands associated with wetlands.

Project Name LOWCOUNTRY PROTECTION V

Location (County) SC-BERKELEY, SC-GEORGETOWN

Congressional District SC-BERKELEY-6, SC-GEORGETOWN-7

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer James Rader

Grantee Email jrader@ducks.org

Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-LORD BERKELEY CONSERVATION TRUST, CON-LOWCOUNTRY LAND TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,002,437.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will implement conservation projects totaling 2,184 acres of wetland and upland habitat critical for waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds and other wetland-dependent species. Funding is requested to protect a 1,912-acre tract located along the Santee River in Berkeley County through a conservation easement and the enhancement of wetland habitat on another important property already under conservation easement. Grant funding is also being requested through this project for the enhancement of 272 acres of palustrine emergent wetland habitat on a privately-owned property at the mouth of the Santee River in Georgetown County. Ducks Unlimited will work with the private landowner to enhance water management

capabilities in the historic rice-fields to provide critical habitat to benefit breeding, migrating and wintering birds following the conservation recommendation and goals of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV) and the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative (SAMBI). Conservation efforts on both tracts will add 2,184 acres of important wetland and upland habitat toward meeting the ACJV Waterfowl Implementation Plan's objective of conserving 36,500 acres of habitat in the Santee River Focus Area.

Project Name LAKE ERIE COASTAL WETLANDS III

Location (County) OH-ASHTABULA, OH-CUYAHOGA, OH-ERIE, OH-GEAUGA, OH-LAKE, OH-LORAIN, OH-MEDINA, OH-PORTAGE, OH-SUMMIT, OH-TRUMBULL

Congressional District OH-ASHTABULA-14, OH-CUYAHOGA-16, OH-CUYAHOGA-9,11,14, OH-ERIE-4,9, OH-GEAUGA-14, OH-LAKE-14, OH-LORAIN-4,7,9, OH-MEDINA-7,16, OH-PORTAGE-13,14,16, OH-SUMMIT-11,13,14, OH-SUMMIT-16, OH-TRUMBULL-13,14

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Russ Terry

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Project Country US

Partner Name LOC-ASHTABULA COUNTY METROPARKS, CON-ASHTABULA COUNTY WILDLIFE CONSERVATION LEAGUE, LOC-CLEVELAND METROPARKS, OTH-CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION, CON-NATURAL AREAS LAND CONSERVANCY, STA-OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, LOC-PORTAGE PARK DISTRICT, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-WESTERN RESERVE LAND CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$7,033,500.00

Joint Venture UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 13-Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Plain, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will permanently protect 1,895 of these acres through fee-title acquisition of seventeen tracts and by purchasing a conservation easement on another tract. This project will also restore 100 acres of wetlands and 25 acres of associated uplands, and enhance 70 acres of wetlands.

Project Name KANSAS PRAIRIE WETLANDS VI

Location (County) KS-ALLEN, KS-ANDERSON, KS-ATCHISON, KS-BARBER, KS-BARTON, KS-BOURBON, KS-BROWN, KS-BUTLER, KS-CHASE, KS-CHAUTAUQUA, KS-CHEROKEE, KS-CHEYENNE, KS-CLARK, KS-CLAY, KS-CLOUD, KS-COFFEY, KS-COMANCHE, KS-COWLEY, KS-CRAWFORD, KS-DECATUR, KS-DICKINSON, KS-DONIPHAN, KS-DOUGLAS, KS-EDWARDS, KS-ELK, KS-ELLIS, KS-ELLSWORTH, KS-FINNEY, KS-FORD, KS-FRANKLIN, KS-GEARY, KS-GOVE, KS-GRAHAM, KS-GRANT, KS-GRAY, KS-GREELEY, KS-GREENWOOD, KS-HAMILTON, KS-HARPER, KS-HARVEY, KS-HASKELL, KS-HODGEMAN, KS-JACKSON, KS-JEFFERSON, KS-JEWELL, KS-JOHNSON, KS-KEARNY, KS-KINGMAN, KS-KIOWA, KS-LABETTE, KS-LANE, KS-LEAVENWORTH, KS-LINCOLN, KS-LINN, KS-LOGAN, KS-LYON, KS-MARION, KS-MARSHALL, KS-MCPHERSON, KS-MEADE, KS-MIAMI, KS-MITCHELL, KS-MONTGOMERY, KS-MORRIS, KS-MORTON, KS-NEMAHA, KS-NEOSHO, KS-NESS, KS-NORTON, KS-OSAGE, KS-OSBORNE, KS-OTTAWA, KS-PAWNEE, KS-PHILLIPS, KS-POTTAWATOMIE, KS-PRATT, KS-RAWLINS, KS-RENO, KS-REPUBLIC, KS-RICE, KS-RILEY, KS-ROOKS, KS-RUSH, KS-RUSSELL, KS-SALINE, KS-SCOTT, KS-SEDGWICK, KS-SEWARD, KS-SHAWNEE, KS-SHERIDAN, KS-SHERMAN, KS-SMITH, KS-STAFFORD, KS-STANTON, KS-STEVENS, KS-SUMNER, KS-THOMAS, KS-TREGO, KS-WABAUNSEE, KS-WALLACE, KS-WASHINGTON, KS-WICHITA, KS-WILSON, KS-WOODSON, KS-WYANDOTTE

Congressional District KS--1,2,3,4

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Matthew Hough

Grantee Email mhough@ducks.org

Project Country US

Partner Name LOC-CITY OF LEOTI, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRO-EVERGY, LOC-GREELEY COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, LOC-GREELEY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT, CON-KANSAS ALLIANCE FOR WETLANDS & STREAMS, CON-KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, STA-KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS & TOURISM, STA-KANSAS WATER OFFICE, CON-PLAYA LAKES JOINT VENTURE, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-RANCLAND TRUST OF KANSAS, LOC-UNIFIED GREELEY COUNTY - CITY OF

TRIBUNE, LOC-WICHITA COUNTY COMMISSION, LOC-WICHITA COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,000,390.00

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 builds upon a tremendously successful wetland conservation effort by Ducks Unlimited (DU) and their partners in Kansas. Phase VI continues the highly effective Kansas Playa Initiative in western Kansas but now builds upon the Playa Lakes Joint Venture's "Municipal Water" campaign designed to draw in new types of partners while providing additional water to communities seeing huge declines in the Ogallala Aquifer. Playas are the primary source of recharge to the Ogallala and when functioning properly, provide much more recharge than when compromised. In addition to playas, wetland conservation will also occur on several important wetland complexes that are identified as areas of significance to waterfowl and other birds. Based on a landscape- level approach, these projects will provide critical links between the breeding areas and wintering habitats. Located at approximately the same latitude in the Central Flyway, the tracts in this project will provide critical migration stopover habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, and other migratory birds. This project includes the restoration, enhancement, and protection of wetlands and grasslands on public and private lands

Project Name JEFFERSON COUNTY WETLAND IMPROVEMENTS III

Location (County) TX-JEFFERSON

Congressional District TX-JEFFERSON-14

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Todd Merendino

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE, CON-
TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,000,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will enhance 602 acres of fresh, intermediate and brackish wetlands and other critical habitats at McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Jefferson County through the construction of approximately four miles of rock breakwater along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW). The activities will remediate shoreline erosion and protect critical habitats on the refuge. Project activities will also enhance 986 acres of managed wetlands on the Wildlife Management Area through the removal of accumulated sediments and organic matter within water conveyance ditches for four wetland compartments. This work will improve water level management capabilities for the benefit of critical wetland habitats on the WMA.

Project Name IOWA - MINNESOTA PRAIRIE POTHOLE III

Location (County) IA-BUTLER, IA-CALHOUN, IA-CERRO GORDO, IA-CLAY, IA-DICKINSON, IA-EMMET, IA-FRANKLIN, IA-HANCOCK, IA-KOSSUTH, IA-MITCHELL, IA-PALO ALTO, IA-POCAHONTAS, IA-WINNEBAGO, IA-WORTH, IA-WRIGHT, MN-FARIBAULT, MN-FREEBORN, MN-HUBBARD, MN-MARTIN, MN-WASECA

Congressional District IA-BUTLER-4, IA-CALHOUN-4, IA-CERRO GORDO-4, IA-CLAY-4, IA-DICKINSON-4, IA-EMMET-4, IA-FRANKLIN-4, IA-HANCOCK-4, IA-KOSSUTH-4, IA-MITCHELL-1, IA-PALO ALTO-4, IA-POCAHONTAS-4, IA-WINNEBAGO-4, IA-WORTH-1, IA-WRIGHT-4, MN-BLUE EARTH-1, MN-BROWN-1, MN-FARIBAULT-1, MN-FREEBORN-1, MN-MARTIN-1, MN-WASECA-1

Grantee Organization PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC.

Project Officer Joe Moore

Grantee Email jmoore@pheasantsforever.org

Project Country US

Partner Name LOC-CERRO GORDO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-FOX LAKE CONSERVATION LEAGUE, STA-IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, STA-LESSARD SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,308,049.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will accelerate wetland and upland conservation by acquiring 780 acres in fee title, restore 20 acres of wetlands and enhance 105-acres of wetlands and 250.23 acres of uplands. Lands acquired from willing sellers will be prioritized using criteria used by USFWS, MN DNR, and Iowa DNR which include location on the landscape, breeding waterfowl density, restoration potential, native community protection, proximity to other investments in perpetually protected habitats. All fee-title acquisition will follow accepted procedures that are consistent with federal requirements. Wetlands will be restored and enhanced by constructing water control structures or other professionally engineered solutions to water quantity/quality management, rough fish management or other relevant considerations. Grant activities include land acquisition and wetland restoration and wetland enhancement.

Project Name HURRICANE LAKE WMA GLAISE CREEK ENHANCEMENT

Location (County) AR-JEFFERSON, AR-WHITE, MS-BOLIVAR

Congressional District AR-JEFFERSON-1, AR-WHITE-2, MS-BOLIVAR-2

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Nick Biasini

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Project Country US

Partner Name STA-ARKANSAS GAME & FISH COMMISSION, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$999,991.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,010,000.00

Joint Venture LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley

Ecoregion

Project Description This project is the initial endeavor of a multi-phase effort aimed at the protection, restoration and enhancement of critical wetland habitats on public lands in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley (MAV) by leveraging private land conservation values perpetually protected in Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas. Primary conservation programs within the MAV aim to maintain and restore the landscape at some functional level that benefits both wildlife and people, with specific emphasis on increasing non-breeding period survival and subsequent breeding success of migratory birds that utilize this landscape as wintering and migration habitat. Conservation efforts in the MAV are therefore designed to restore, enhance and protect wetland function by decreasing habitat fragmentation, enhance the quantity and quality of water and habitat for wildlife, and provide society with the many ecological goods and services derived from these activities, such as clean water, flood abatement and the provision of natural experiences.

Project Name GALVESTON BAY COASTAL HABITAT

Location (County) TX-BRAZORIA, TX-CHAMBERS, TX-GALVESTON

Congressional District TX-BRAZORIA-14,22, TX-CHAMBERS-14,36, TX-GALVESTON-14

Grantee Organization GALVESTON BAY FOUNDATION

Project Officer Matt Singer

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF), PRO-PRECISION DIRT WORKS, CON-TEXAS R.I.C.E., PRO-THE LYME TIMBER COMPANY

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,001,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description The Galveston Bay Foundation will acquire and permanently protect a large tract of land adjacent to West Galveston Bay and its tributaries in Galveston and Brazoria

counties. Approximately 4,600 acres of estuarine emergent marsh, coastal prairie grasslands, and palustrine wetlands will be purchased with the objective to preserve, restore, and enhance native habitats for wildlife and water quality. The subject property is located adjacent to Chocolate Bay, Halls Bayou, and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway along the northern shoreline of West Bay in the Galveston Bay estuary system. The importance of conservation in this geographical region is demonstrated by the establishment and implementation of the West Bay Conservation Initiative, intended to promote acquisition of specific wetland and upland habitats with high ecological values for the region. Perpetual conservation of this property will be the flagship accomplishment of the West Bay Conservation Initiative and will serve as a catalyst for future, large-scale wetland habitat acquisition projects within the initiative focus area.

Project Name FORTY ARPENT CANAL WETLANDS ENHANCEMENT

Location (County) LA-PLAQUEMINES, LA-ST. BERNARD

Congressional District LA-PLAQUEMINES-1, LA-ST. BERNARD-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Cassidy Lejeune

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Project Country US

Partner Name STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, PRO-DELACROIX CORPORATION, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), LOC-ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,215,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description In total, 3,396 acres of coastal wetlands in Louisiana will be enhanced or restored with benefits to priority migratory birds within National Priority Wetlands Areas of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, and North American Waterbird Conservation Plan. The earthen terraces and dredging in St. Bernard Parish (Tracts 1 and 2) will enhance 1,766 acres of coastal marsh and benefit many waterfowl, waterbirds, secretive marsh birds, and other migratory birds that regularly use coastal

habitats. The project will convert open water into a variety of habitat types including shallow water ponds, SAVs, emergent marsh, mudflats, and algal beds. This variety of topography provides quality foraging, loafing, and nesting habitat for many bird species. The marsh and ridge restoration of Tract 3 will result in the construction of 1,500 acres at marsh level and 130 acres at ridge elevations. This diversity in elevation will be of great benefit to shorebirds, colonial seabirds, wading birds, and passerines. Post construction ridge habitat will provide ideal nesting habitat for colonial seabirds.

Project Name EXPANDING MAINE'S CONSERVED LANDSCAPES

Location (County) ME-FRANKLIN, ME-HANCOCK, ME-SOMERSET, ME-WALDO, ME-WASHINGTON

Congressional District ME-FRANKLIN-2, ME-HANCOCK-2, ME-SOMERSET-2, ME-WALDO-2, ME-WASHINGTON-2

Grantee Organization FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE

Project Officer Kristin Peet

Grantee Email kpeet@fsmaine.org

Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-ELLIOTSVILLE PLANTATION, INC, CON-FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE, CON-MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST, STA-MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,000,000.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest

Ecoregion

Project Description This project includes acquisitions across the state, from the far western border with Quebec to the nation's easternmost county, that protect extensive high quality coastal and freshwater wetlands habitat for a wide range of wetland-dependent species. All NAWCA grant funds will be used to acquire tracts that will expand existing conservation holdings, including: 1) Sebasticook River Wetlands: adding 489.4 acres to the State's Plymouth Bog Wildlife Management Area; 2) Pond Cove Island: adding an 89-acre island to adjacent Roque

Bluffs State Park, and; 3) Coburn Gore North & Coburn Gore South: expanding a 103,000-acre landscape-scale block of conserved land in western Maine by adding 8,177 contiguous acres. In addition, this project includes two fee title donations that expand protection within high quality wildlife concentration areas: 1) State-owned Verona Island, an American Black Duck banding site that supports a consistent population and serves as a particularly important wintering area; and 2) Old Point, in the Mt. Desert Narrows Important Bird Area, which hosts concentrations of coastal birds including over 2,000 Common Eiders, wintering scaup and groups of ducks numbering in the hundreds during all seasons.

Project Name EASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA WETLANDS IV

Location (County) SD-AURORA, SD-BEADLE, SD-BON HOMME, SD-BROOKINGS, SD-BROWN, SD-BRULE, SD-BUFFALO, SD-CAMPBELL, SD-CHARLES MIX, SD-CLARK, SD-CLAY, SD-CODINGTON, SD-DAVISON, SD-DAY, SD-DEUEL, SD-DOUGLAS, SD-EDMUNDS, SD-FAULK, SD-GRANT, SD-HAMLIN, SD-HAND, SD-HANSON, SD-HUGHES, SD-HUTCHINSON, SD-HYDE, SD-JEREAULD, SD-KINGSBURY, SD-LAKE, SD-LINCOLN, SD-MARSHALL, SD-MCCOOK, SD-MCPHERSON, SD-MINER, SD-MINNEHAHA, SD-MOODY, SD-POTTER, SD-ROBERTS, SD-SANBORN, SD-SPINK, SD-SULLY, SD-TURNER, SD-UNION, SD-WALWORTH, SD-YANKTON

Congressional District SD-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Bruce Toay

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Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH & PARKS

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,097,904.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will restore 50 acres of wetlands and 500 acres of grasslands on private lands and enhance 4,320 acres of grasslands and wetlands while promoting long-term

stewardship of grass-based forage production. In addition, this project will fund perpetual conservation easements on 1,906 acres of working lands within the project area. These conservation easements are management-friendly and provide a great opportunity to protect grassland and wetland landscapes in perpetuity, while maintaining viable utilization and profit through production agriculture. All of the projects will occur on private lands. Grass restorations will include seeding diverse mixes of native grasses and forbs intended to provide forage within broader grazing systems. Wetland restorations will be completed by filling previously existing drainage ditches with compacted fill or installing earthen berms to restore natural hydrology to palustrine wetland basins. Grazing systems will be improved by installing infrastructure, such as fencing and various water developments necessary for pastures to be grazed in a rest and rotate system throughout the season. Long-term rest and rotate management plans maximize the vegetative diversity, providing benefits to wildlife, while increasing grazing potential and soil health.

Project Name EAST TEXAS WETLANDS

Location (County) TX-ANDERSON, TX-ANGELINA, TX-CASS, TX-CHEROKEE, TX-FREESTONE, TX-LEON, TX-MARION, TX-NACOGDOCHES, TX-NAVARRO, TX-SMITH

Congressional District TX-ANDERSON-5, TX-ANGELINA-1, TX-CASS-4, TX-CHEROKEE-5, TX-FREESTONE-17, TX-LEON-17, TX-MARION-4, TX-NACOGDOCHES-1, TX-NAVARRO-6, TX-SMITH-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Todd Merendino

Grantee Email tmerendino@ducks.org

Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT, CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,002,069.00

Joint Venture LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, OAKS AND PRAIRIES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 21-Oaks and Prairies, BCR 25-West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas

Ecoregion

Project Description Activities will use grant and match funding to acquire in fee-title approximately 400 acres of floodplain habitats (e.g.; bottomland hardwoods, scrub- shrub wetlands, emergent wetlands) and associated uplands, and enhance 862(398) acres of wetlands, green-tree reservoirs, and associated habitats. The 400-acre acquisition will become part of an existing Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in East Texas and will be owned and managed by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). There are four enhancement projects within this project that will take place on three TPWD owned and managed WMAs (Richland Creek WMA, Gus Engeling WMA, and White Oak Creek WMA) and one on the Neches River National Wildlife Refuge. These enhancements include the construction of designed wetland management infrastructure (levees and water control structures) with the purpose to increase water-level management capabilities, the removal of invasive woody vegetation, and the rehabilitation of pre-existing levees.

Project Name CONSERVING MAINE'S COAST & HEADWATERS II

Location (County) ME-HANCOCK, ME-PISCATAQUIS, ME-SAGADAHOC, ME-WASHINGTON

Congressional District ME-HANCOCK-2, ME-PISCATAQUIS-2, ME-SAGADAHOC-1, ME-WASHINGTON-2

Grantee Organization APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

Project Officer Margaret McNamara

Grantee Email mmcnamara@outdoors.org

Project Country US

Partner Name CON-APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, CON-ELLIOTSVILLE FOUNDATION, INC, CON-HELEN CLAY FRICK FOUNDATION, CON-KENNEBEC ESTUARY LAND TRUST, CON-MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST, STA-MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE, CON-NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), OTH-RICHARD KING MELLON FOUNDATION, CON-THE CONSERVATION FUND

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,290,000.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest

Ecoregion

Project Description Project activities consist of five fee title acquisitions that will result in permanent habitat protection and careful management by well- established conservation organizations. Acquisitions are within highly productive, biologically rich areas, including: 1) Kennebec Estuary and Merrymeeting Bay - an enclosed inland delta formed by six different rivers, containing greater than twenty percent of Maine's tidal marshes and one of the premier waterfowl staging grounds on the Atlantic Flyway, historically supporting more than 40,000 ducks each fall; 2) Old Pond in the Skillings River system, considered by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be one of the most highly productive Black Duck wintering habitats in the region; 3) Downeast Maine, which is considered to be one of the continent's most critical areas of wintering habitat for American Black Duck; 4) Upper Penobscot River watershed, where project acquisitions will expand one of the Northeast's largest protected areas, a contiguous block of more than two million acres of conservation easements, public reserve lands, a wilderness waterway, state parks, federal lands and conservation forestry lands in the central interior of the state.

Project Name CHENIER PLAIN MARSH ENHANCEMENT

Location (County) LA-CAMERON, LA-VERMILION

Congressional District LA-CAMERON-3, LA-VERMILION-3

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Cassidy Lejeune

Grantee Email clejeune@ducks.org

Project Country US

Partner Name LOC-CAMERON PARISH POLICE JURY, STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,240,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will enhance 3,950 acres of coastal wetlands that directly address the conservation needs within the Louisiana portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture's (GCJV) Chenier Plain Initiative Area (CPIA). One tract will enhance 3,235 acres of brackish marsh near Oak Grove, Louisiana in Cameron Parish. This marsh unit has experienced degradation in habitat quality due to prolonged high-water levels and salinity impacts. Two water control structures that were installed more than 30 years ago had historically been used to manage this marsh unit, however those structures are no longer functional. The Cameron Parish Police Jury has recently completed approximately 30,000 linear feet of levee repairs on this tract to enable the unit to be managed. Grant and match funds will help cover expenses for the installation of two new water control structures to restore water and salinity management capabilities. The new water control structures will have flap gates and weir boxes. One structure will consist of three 60" culverts and the other structure will have one 60" culvert. The new water control structures will not only restore management capabilities but also increase drainage capacity during high water and heavy rainfall events. The project will enable periodic drawdowns and salinity level control which will provide shallow water habitat, increase plant diversity, reduce interior marsh degradation, promote growth of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), and allow for flooding and draining of the marsh when applicable. Improved management capabilities will enhance overall marsh quality and benefit a wide variety of resident, migratory, and wintering species of shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, and other wetland-dependent species. A second tract will enhance 565 acres of coastal marsh near Grand Chenier, Louisiana in Cameron Parish. Historically, the project area was healthy marsh but has deteriorated to mostly open water as a result of subsidence, saltwater intrusion, wave-induced erosion, and altered hydrology. A third tract will enhance and protect 150 acres of intermediate marsh and shoreline along the northern rim of the Vermilion Bay in Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. The project will include approximately 9,500 linear feet of shoreline protection on the east and west sides of the Boston Canal. The project was developed to preserve vulnerable wetlands that are being lost due to wave-induced erosion. The objective of the shoreline protection project is to cease shoreline erosion, enhance and protect shallow water and marsh habitats, enhance hydrology, and provide greater resiliency during storm events. The project will provide enhancement and protection of foraging, resting, and nesting habitat for a variety of resident and migratory bird species and provide submerged hard structure for marine organisms and fish.

Project Name CAROLINA WETLANDS INITIATIVE X

Location (County) NC-BEAUFORT, NC-BRUNSWICK, NC-COLUMBUS, NC-CRAVEN, NC-HARNETT, NC-HYDE, NC-PAMLICO

Congressional District NC-BEAUFORT-3, NC-BRUNSWICK-7, NC-COLUMBUS-7, NC-CRAVEN-3, NC-HARNETT-2, NC-HYDE-3, NC-PAMLICO-3

Grantee Organization NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST

Project Officer Janice Allen

Grantee Email janice@coastallandtrust.org

Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST, STA-NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,102,411.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will permanently conserve three target tracts in coastal North Carolina through fee title acquisition, a 168-acre tract in Craven County, NC, an 8.5-acre tract on Ocracoke Island in Hyde County, NC, and a 93-acre tract in Columbus County, NC. Two additional tracts, 1,093 acres and 120 acres respectively, will be conserved in perpetuity by conservation easements. Finally, this project also includes one wetland enhancement project on 171 acres, located on the Spring Creek Unit of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's (NCWRC) Goose Creek Game Lands.

Project Name BORDER PRAIRIE WETLANDS VII

Location (County) MN-BECKER, MN-DOUGLAS, MN-GRANT, MN-KANDIYOHI, MN-MAHNOMEN, MN-MEEKER, MN-OTTER TAIL, MN-POPE, MN-STEARNES, MN-TODD

Congressional District MN-BECKER-7, MN-DOUGLAS-7, MN-GRANT-7, MN-KANDIYOHI-7, MN-MAHNOMEN-7, MN-MEEKER-7, MN-OTTER TAIL-7, MN-POPE-7, MN-STEARNES-6,7, MN-TODD-7

Grantee Organization PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC.

Project Officer Joe Moore

Grantee Email jmoore@pheasantsforever.org

Project Country US

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-LESSARD SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL, STA-MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,663,143.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 12-Boreal Hardwood Transition, BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Ecoregion

Project Description This project will protect, restore and enhance 1,744 acres of habitat crucial to waterfowl and a whole suite of additional species. Fee-title acquisitions of Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) and Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) focus on strategic investments in habitat that build upon existing wetland complexes. The Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources Re-Invest in Minnesota (RIM) easements target drained wetlands to produce water quality and wildlife benefits for the citizens of the state. Wetland restorations are focused on improving the quality of habitat provided to breeding and migratory waterfowl by installing long-term mechanisms to manipulate water levels for the benefit of aquatic vegetation and waterfowl. This creates the ability to manage for rough fish as well as mimic the natural drawdowns that these basins have historically experienced. This project will accelerate wetland and upland conservation by acquiring 1,126 acres in fee title and 342 acres under perpetual conservation easement. Lands acquired from willing sellers will be prioritized with criteria used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), which include location on the landscape, breeding waterfowl density, restoration potential, native community protection, proximity to other investments in perpetually protected habitats, and others. Easements will be enrolled into the Re-Invest in Minnesota (RIM) program administered by the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources. The RIM Program has more than 6,000 easements encompassing 250,000-acres across the state, including significant wetland and grassland resources largely within the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture. Further, this project will provide for the enhancement and restoration of palustrine emergent wetlands, as well as the enhancement and restoration associated upland prairie.

Project Name BAYOU TECHE NWR RESTORATION

Location (County) LA-ST. MARY

Congressional District LA-ST. MARY-3

Grantee Organization THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Project Officer Stacey Shankle

Grantee Email stacey.shankle@tpl.org

Project Country US

Partner Name PRO-APACHE CORPORATION, NAT-CHITIMACHA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA, STA-LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES, SCH-LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), PRO-RICHFIELD CORPORATION, CON-THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Date approved 09/09/2020

Grant Award Amount \$850,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,706,815.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie
Ecoregion

Project Description Eight partners are collaborating under this project to protect 700 acres of bottomland hardwoods and restore 1,700 acres of wetlands that will be incorporated into the Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge (BTNWR), east of Franklin in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana. BTNWR is one of nine southeast Louisiana refuges that make up a rich ecological system of marshes, pine and bottomland hardwoods, lakes, swamps and bayous. This refuge complex ranges from the mouth of the Mississippi River delta to the Atchafalaya Basin. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) helped establish BTNWR in 2001, and so far, over 9,000 acres have been acquired for this young refuge in order to protect and restore a forested wetland corridor for conservation of migratory bird habitat and wetland-dependent species.