

# News Release



Pacific Regional Office  
911 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181  
<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/>

May 20, 2010

10-76

Contact: Joan Jewett, (503) 231-6121  
Joan\_Jewett@fws.gov

## **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Awards More Than \$500,000 for a Pacific Northwest Project to Help Imperiled Species**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today a multi-state wildlife grant to Washington, Idaho, Montana and Oregon for development of a data base to improve multi-state conservation efforts and track their effectiveness.

The grant is among nearly \$5 million in grants being provided to six state wildlife agencies throughout the United States to help conserve and recover Species of Greatest Conservation Need through the State Wildlife Grants Competitive Program. This federal funding will be matched by more than \$2 million in non-federal funds provided by states and their partners for projects helping Species of Greatest Conservation Need and their habitats.

The Pacific Northwest project will allow for the continued development of a new State Wildlife Grant database and decision support tool for the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. When completed, the data base will provide a platform that can be used nationally to track and report State Wildlife Grant program effectiveness and outcomes. It will also help coordinate multi-state conservation efforts for species with broad distribution or that migrate over long distances, and better enable the states to tackle broad and complex challenges such as the effect of a changing climate on fish and wildlife resources.

The State of Washington is being awarded \$514,059 to administer the effort on behalf of the four states, which are providing a non-federal match of \$171,353.

The State Wildlife Grants Competitive Program, part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's State Wildlife Grants Program, awards grants to projects that implement strategies and actions to conserve Species of Greatest Conservation Need identified in approved State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans (also known as State Wildlife Action Plans). Funding for the grants comes from Fiscal Year 2010 appropriations for the State Wildlife Grant Competitive Program.

All 56 states and territorial wildlife agencies have approved State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans that collectively provide a nationwide blueprint for actions to conserve Species of Greatest Conservation Need. The plans were created through a collaborative effort among state and federal agencies, biologists, conservationists, landowners, sportsmen and the general public. Each plan was then reviewed and approved by a national team that included members from the Fish and Wildlife Service as well as directors from state wildlife agencies.

For more information on the program and the grants awarded this year go to <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/SWG/SWG.htm>

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).*

**-FWS-**