Land Acquisition

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l-4 through 11), including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, [$86,340,000]*$106,340,000*, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended, of which, notwithstanding 16 U.S.C. 460l-9, not more than [$4,000,000]*$5,000,000* shall be for land conservation partnerships authorized by the Highlands Conservation Act of 2004, including not to exceed [$120,000]*$160,000* for administrative expenses: Provided, That none of the funds appropriated for specific land acquisition projects may be used to pay for any administrative overhead, planning or other management costs. *(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.)*

Authorizing Statutes

The Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a). Authorizes acquisition of additions to the National Wildlife Refuge System for the development, management, advancement, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources by purchase or exchange of land and water or interests therein.

Refuge Recreation Act of 1962, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460). Authorizes acquisition of areas that are adjacent to or within, existing fish and wildlife Conservation Areas administered by the Department of the Interior, and suitable for (1) incidental fish and wildlife-oriented recreation development, (2) the protection of natural resources, (3) the conservation of listed, threatened or endangered species, or (4) carrying out two or more of the above.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l). Authorizes appropriations to the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for National Wildlife refuges as otherwise authorized by law. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2015.

National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966, (16 U.S.C. 668dd). Established overall policy guidance, placed restrictions on the transfer, exchange, or other disposal of refuge lands, and authorized the Secretary to accept donations for land acquisition.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1534). Authorizes the acquisition of land, waters or interest therein for the conservation of fish, wildlife and plants, including those that are listed as endangered or threatened species, with Land and Water Conservation Fund Act appropriations.

Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986, (16 U.S.C. 3901). Authorizes the purchases of wetlands, or interests in wetlands, consistent with the wetlands priority conservation plan established under the Act.

Highlands Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 3901). Authorizes the Secretary of Interior to work in partnership with the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance to the Highlands states (Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania) to preserve and protect high priority conservation land in the Highlands region.

Justification of Fixed Costs and Related Changes

	2010 Budget	2010 Revised	2011 Fixed Costs and Related Changes
Additional Operational Costs from 2010 and 2011 January Pay Raises			
1. 2010 Pay Raise, 3 Quarters in 2010 Budget	+$104	+$104	NA
Amount of pay raise absorbed	*[$0]*	*[$0]*	NA
2. 2010 Pay Raise, 1 Quarter (Enacted 2.0%)	NA	NA	NA
Amount of pay raise absorbed			*[$36]*
3. 2011 Pay Raise (Assumed 1.4%)	NA	NA	NA
Amount of pay raise absorbed			*[$76]*

These adjustments are for an additional amount needed to fund estimated pay raises for Federal employees.

Line 1 2010 Revised column is an update of the 2010 budget estimates based upon the 2010 Enacted amount of 2.0%.

Line 2 is the amount needed in 2011 to fund the enacted 2.0% January 2010 pay raise from October through December 2010.

Line 3 is the amount needed in 2011 to fund the estimated 2.0% January 2010 pay raise from January through September 2011.

The estimated cost increase will be absorbed through increased efficiencies such as delayering organizations, re-examining position grades, management streamlining, and business process improvement.

	2010 Budget	2010 Revised	2011 Fixed Costs and Related Changes
Other Fixed Cost Changes			
One Less Paid Day	NA	NA	NA
The number of paid days is constant from 2010 to 2011.			
Non-Foreign Area COLA – Locality Pay Adjustment			NA
Amount of Non-Foreign Area COLA – Locality Pay Adjustment absorbed		*[$4]*	*[$11]*
This adjustment is for changes to pay and benefits for Federal employees stationed in U.S. States, territories, and possessions outside the continental United States. Specifically, the Nonforeign Area Retirement Equity Assurance Act, as contained in subtitle B (sections 1911-1919) or title XIX of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2010 (P.L. 111-84) transitions the nonforeign area cost-of-living allowance (COLA) authorized under 5 U.S.C. 5941(a) (1) to locality pay authorized under 5 U.S.C. 5304 in the nonforeign areas as listed in 5 CFR 591.205. The act also extends locality pay to American Samoa and other nonforeign territories and possessions of the United States where no COLA rate applies. The estimated cost increase will be absorbed.			
Employer Share of Federal Health Benefit Plans	+$29	+$29	NA
Amount of health benefits absorbed	*[$0]*	*[$0]*	*[$33]*
The 2010 adjustment is for changes in Federal Government's share of the cost of health insurance coverage for Federal employees. For 2011, the increase is estimated at 7.0%. The estimated cost will be absorbed.			
Rental Payments	$0	$0	NA
Amount of rental payments absorbed	*[$0]*	*[$0]*	*[$6]*
The adjustment is for changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration and others resulting from changes in rates for office and non-office space as estimated by GSA, as well as the rental costs of other currently occupied space. These costs include building security; in the case of GSA space, these are paid to DHS. Costs of mandatory office relocations, i.e. relocations in cases due to external events there is no alternative but to vacate the currently occupied space, are also included. The estimated cost increase will be absorbed.			

Appropriation: Land Acquisition

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011 DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	2011 Program Changes (+/-)	2011 Budget Request	Change From 2010 (+/-)
Land Acquisition Management	($000)	8,140	10,555	0	+2,000	12,555	+2,000
User Pay Cost Share	($000)	1,500	2,000	0	0	2,000	0
Exchanges	($000)	1,500	2,000	0	0	2,000	0
Inholdings	($000)	1,500	2,500	0	0	2,500	0
Emergencies and Hardships	($000)	1,500	2,500	0	0	2,500	0
Federal Refuges/Projects	($000)	28,315	66,785	0	+18,000	84,785	18,000
Sub-Total, Refuge Land	**($000)**	**42,455**	**86,340**	**0**	**+20,000**	**106,340**	**+20,000**
Acquisition	**FTE**	**75**	**87**	**0**	**0**	**87**	**0**
Highlands Conservation	($000)	[1,500]	[4,000]	0	[+1,000]	[5,000]	[+1,000]
Total, Land Acquisition	**($000)**	**42,455**	**86,340**	**0**	**+20,000**	**106,340**	**+20,000**
	FTE	**75**	**87**	**0**	**0**	**87**	**0**

Summary of 2011 Program Changes for Land Acquisition

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Land Acquisition Management	+2,000	0
• Federal Refuges Projects	+18,000	0
Total, Program Changes	**+20,000**	**0**

Justification of 2011 Program Changes

The 2011 budget request for Land Acquisition is $106,340,000 and 87 FTEs, a net program change of +$20,000,000 and +0 FTEs from the 2010 Enacted Budget.

Land Acquisition Management (+$2,000,000/+0 FTEs)

For 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) requests an increase for Land Acquisition Management of +$2,000,000 and +0 FTEs to support the increased volume of projects over prior fiscal years and for 2011. For 2010, the Congress appropriated funds for an additional 38 projects, which almost tripled the number of projects funded in 2009 to 57 projects and allowed the Service to add staff. The budget request for FY 2011 includes 45 projects.

The increased funds would provide staff with sufficient funds to meet in person with willing sellers, to negotiate acquisition of land, to allow adequate training of professional Realty staff, to provide sufficient funds for comprehensive recordkeeping activities, and to provide adequate equipment to enable staff to operate efficiently and effectively when acquiring land.

Post-acquisition activities include ownership tracking and reporting along with program auditing. In addition, funds would be used by the program to cover incidental costs including appraisals, titles, relocations of people/business, etc., that are in excess of the specific project appropriation amounts. In conjunction, land acquisition management provides, in part, for cartographic support for Service lands and water interests. The Service is digitizing maps, which will be available on websites for the public to easily obtain information on the location of refuges.

Federal Refuges/Projects (+$18,000,000/+0 FTEs)

For FY 2011, the Service requests an increase of +$18,000,000 and +0 FTEs. Increased funding would enable the Service add a significant number of fee and easement acres of lands and waters that continue

the strategic growth of the Refuge System to accomplish the System's mission, contribute to the conservation of ecosystems, complement conservation efforts of states and other Federal agencies, and to increase support for the System. Increased funding would also enable the Service to provide open space for the public to recreate and connect with the publicly owned conservation estate. The Service requests $84,785,000 to acquire and conserve important wildlife habitat for 45 projects. The project descriptions provide details about the resource values of the lands and waters proposed for addition to the Department's network of conservation lands.

The FY 2011 project list includes several large landscape scale projects. The addition of 2,250 acres of grassland and riparian habitat to the Silvio O. Conte NWR along the Connecticut River and the addition of 6,667 acres of grassland conservation easements to the Dakota Tallgrass Prairie Wildlife Management Area will benefit a multitude of species. One of the larger projects, the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area, adjoins land acquired by other Federal government agencies and conservation partners. The Service would use additional funds to acquire 17,545 conservation easement acres for this Conservation Area.

The Service will make acquisition decisions based on the resource values of lands and waters proposed for acquisition, ecosystem considerations, the potential for landscape-level conservation, and opportunities to advance and support projects involving partnerships with both public and private conservation partners.

Program Overview

The Land and Water Conservation Fund provides monies for Service conservation acquisition projects. The Service acquires important fish, wildlife, and plant habitats specifically authorized by Congress, for the National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish Hatchery System, and for the conservation of listed threatened and endangered species. Leveraging Federal dollars to the maximum extent possible, the Service partners with private landowners, state and local governments, and conservation organizations to acquire lands and waters not only to benefit wildlife, but also for public wildlife-dependent recreation, including six priority uses: hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

Strategic Outcomes and Results

The Service's Land Acquisition Priority System (LAPS) ranks proposed acquisition projects with willing sellers using standardized, objective biological criteria. The LAPS quantifies the biological attributes of fisheries and aquatic resources, endangered species, migratory birds, and larger ecosystems at the refuge level. The Service's land acquisition program achieves its conservation goals by prioritizing proposed acquisitions according to their potential to permanently protect habitats where biological communities will flourish within ecosystems.

DOI Overlay Ranking Process

In FY 2011, the Secretary of the Interior required the Department to develop an updated, Bureau-wide list of criteria and a ranking process related to an integrated effort to prioritize land acquisition among Department bureaus. The process, for FY 2011, began with the Bureaus supplying prioritized lists, according to their own approval processes. An overlay, based on the Secretary's criteria, was applied to those bureau-ranked listings. The Department-wide project types were to target Landscape level conservation, especially river and riparian conservation and restoration, and conservation of wildlife and their habitat, as well as recreational opportunities in urban landscapes, and cultural and historical preservation of significant events, i.e., civil war, civil rights, westward settlement. Additional criteria for these projects include:

- Leveraging – matching funds and donations that non-Federal partners contribute,
- Partnerships – number, diversity, and relevance of partners in advancing/supporting project,
- DOI Integration – degree to which projects involve other DOI bureaus, and
- Urgency – for project completion.

Once the bureaus examined their projects with the above criteria overlaying their prioritized lists, it became apparent that five regional areas, using the Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) boundaries established by the Fish and Wildlife Service, would provide the most capability for integration. These regions provided integration, not only with each other, but also with Federal Lands already protected by the Department, the Forest Service, Tribes, Department of Defense, conservation organizations, States, and others. They are:

- Great Northern,
- California, (including the Bay Delta but not the desert areas),
- Plains and Prairie Potholes,
- Gulf Coast Plain and Ozarks, and
- North Atlantic/Chesapeake.

The bureaus agree that this is a good process that needs to be developed further for the 2012 land acquisition prioritization process. One suggestion is to include other partners, such as the Forest Service, in the discussions.

Means and Strategies

It is the Service's policy to request acquisition funding for those areas within previously established Refuge System boundaries and areas that would enhance existing Department of the Interior lands. In every project for which the Service is requesting funding, the Service has completed the necessary National Environmental Policy Act process and has an approved Land Protection Plan.

Highlands Conservation

The Highlands Conservation Act (HCA) authorizes the Secretary of Interior to work in partnership with the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance to the Highlands states (Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania) to preserve and protect high priority conservation land in the Highlands region. The purpose of the HCA is to: recognize the importance of the water, forest, agricultural, wildlife, recreational, and cultural resources, and the national significance of the Highlands region to the United States; to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to work in partnership with the Secretary of Agriculture to provide funding for financial assistance to the Highland States to preserve and protect high priority conservation land in the Highlands region; and to continue ongoing Forest Service programs in the region. The Federal grant share of the cost of carrying out a land conservation partnership project shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the land conservation partnership project. The Service works with the Highland States and other Federal agencies to determine how best to implement the HCA.

Funding for Highlands projects would enable acquisition of parcels within the following projects that have met the criteria of the Highlands Act. These funds would complement state funds at a greater than 1:1 match, as required by the Act. Although specific parcels and acreages are not available to date for FY 2011, funds would be disbursed based on individual state interest in partnering for Highlands projects. Connecticut anticipates purchasing lands within the 38,300-acre Mad River and Naugatuck River Headwaters Focus Area. The State of New York plans to fund parcels within the 65,000-acre Stirling Forest/Torne Valley project area. New Jersey would continue its efforts in their 63,100-acre Northern Highlands project area and Pennsylvania is planning to acquire parcels within the 73,000-acre Hopewell/Big Woods project area. All projects would meet funding match criteria. For FY 2007 and 2008, each state has identified a parcel and is in the process of meeting grant criteria. The Service is finalizing FY 2009 grant agreements.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

The Fish and Wildlife Service is implementing the pilot system Land Acquisition Needs Database (LAND). The system tracks acquisitions and generates all acquisition related documents and tract-specific maps such as those needed for Migratory Bird Conservation Commission submissions. Based on National Wetland Inventory data, LAND has the capability of calculating and mapping wetland and upland acres for each tract. Records are stored in a central digital file system as a repository that will be viewed by Realty staff. Historical closed cases are included in the digital repository.

LAND uses a relational database structure; its records and data can be queried to provide a variety of different reports. Service surveyors will use LAND to generate and complete annual reports outlining their accomplishments. Appraisal status will be immediately available in real-time enabling Realty staff to intervene when obstacles occur in the land acquisition process. LAND provides managers current information on specific tracts for rapid response to inquiries from congressional staffers and non-governmental partners.

Currently, LAND is being used in the Northeast Region, which developed the program. The program is used to track and facilitate over 400 land acquisition projects as well as to link approximately 400 closed and scanned files. The Southeast Region has begun using LAND. The Service anticipates that other Regions will begin using the multi-use program in FY 2010.

LAND will improve the quality of land acquisition information by eliminating duplication of data. Increased efficiency of the Realty operations, document consistency, and improved digital capabilities will reduce land acquisition costs.

Utilizing contemporary conservation tools, land acquisition projects have provided significant biologically valuable lands for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Recent examples of significant acquisitions are:

Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area — The Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area is a landscape-level project that involves acquisition of perpetual conservation easements from willing sellers covering 170,000 acres along the Rocky Mountain Front (Front) in north-central Montana. As one of the best remaining intact ecosystems left in the lower 48 states, nearly every wildlife species described by Lewis and Clark in 1806, with the exception of free-ranging bison, still exist in relatively stable or increasing numbers. Private lands along the Front provide important riparian corridors, wetlands, prairie grasslands and coniferous forests for grizzly bears, Canada lynx, gray wolves, and over 220 species of migratory birds. Collaborating with willing sellers, private organizations and local, State and Federal government agencies, the Service has acquired conservation easements on over 18,000 acres of private land and anticipates protecting over 8,100 acres in FY 2010. Landowner interest in the program far exceeds available funding with 21 individuals waiting for appraisals and offers on an additional 92,000 acres within the project area.

Red River NWR — The Red River NWR in Louisiana was increased by 340 acres within the approved acquisition boundary using Land and Water Conservation Funds. The acquisition is a portion of a larger tract purchased by The Conservation Fund (TCF) in 2008 and 2009. Primarily retired cropland previously restored to bottomland hardwood forest under Private Lands Programs, an added benefit is the restoration under TCF's “GoZero” Carbon Sequestration Program. The project is located in the Red River Valley in northwest Louisiana and is part of a major mid-continental migration corridor for migratory birds. The Red River NWR provides habitat and sanctuary for over 350 species of birds, including migratory and resident waterfowl, shore birds, and neotropical migratory birds in addition to other species associated with river basin ecosystems. Hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and other outdoor recreational and educational activities are now available for the public to enjoy.

Chickasaw NWR — At Chickasaw NWR, located in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley in Tennessee the Service acquired 30 acres within the approved acquisition boundary, using Land and Water

Conservation Funds. The project area serves as a major migration flyway for North American waterfowl. The acquisition consists of forested wetlands, cropland, and open water in Wardlows Chute in close proximity to the Mississippi River. As the area has lost 80 percent of its historic wetlands, this acquisition provides a positive effect on at least five high-priority waterfowl species including the northern pintail, American black duck, mallard and lesser scaup plus other waterfowl species. Since 1998, mid-winter waterfowl inventories indicate that up to 20,000 ducks and over 18,000 geese use the refuge; the acquisition of this tract ensures future habitat and feeding opportunities for waterfowl.

Update on Land Exchanges for FY 2011

The following pages list refuges, waterfowl production areas, wetland management districts, and Farm Service Agency (FSA) properties that may be part of ongoing projects in the negotiation or acquisition phases of possible land exchanges. Other exchanges may be undertaken throughout FY 2011 as opportunities arise. The Service projects an estimated $2,554,000 in acquisition costs for 71,806.2 acres. Exchanges may involve on-going expenditures over a period of years.

STATE	POTENTIAL EXCHANGES	ACRES TO BE ACQUIRED	MANAGEMENT COSTS
ALASKA	Alaska Peninsula NWR – Oceanside	7,375	$10,000
	Kenai NWR – CIRI	3,000.00	$20,000
	Yukon Delta NWR – Kipnuk	Undetermined	$10,000
	Izembek NWR – King Cove	56.393	$1,000,000
	Selawik – NANA Corp	Undetermined	$5,000
	Yukon Delta NWR – Cherfornak	40,000	$10,000
	Yukon Delta NWR – Toksook Bay	Undetermined	$10,000
CALIFORNIA	Bitter Creek NWR	297	$10,000
	Bitter Creek NWR	0.1	$10,000
	Bitter Creek NWR	3.74	$22,000
	Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR	2.98	$75,000
COLORADO	Arapaho NWR	1,720	$40,000
	Brown's Park NWR	1,302	$20,000
	Rocky Flats NWR	800	$45,000
	Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR	35	$15,000
FLORIDA	Lake Wales Ridge NWR	2.75	$20,000
	Pelican Island NWR	47	$10,000
ILLINOIS	Crab Orchard NWR	71	$10,000
IOWA	Union Slough NWR	5	$10,000
LOUISIANA	Atchafalaya NWR	4,452	$50,000
	Lacassine NWR	6	$20,000
	Red River NWR	508	$40,000
	Tensas NWR	260	$15,000
	Upper Ouachita NWR	40	$25,000
MASSACHUSETTS	Assabet River NWR	350	$50,000
	Great Meadows NWR	5	$15,000
	Nantucket NWR	300	$50,000
	Parker River NWR	77	$20,000
	Silvio O. Conte NFWR	210	$50,000
MINNESOTA	Jackson County WPA	2	$25,000
	Minnesota Valley NWR	279.6	$25,000
	Kandiyohi County WPA	10	$10,000
	Otter Tail County WPA	2	$10,000
	Polk County WPA	4	$10,000
	Pope County WPA	40	$10,000
	Tamarac NWR	10	$10,000
	Upper Mississippi River NW&FR	2	$10,000
	Noxubee NWR	103	$60,000

STATE	POTENTIAL EXCHANGES	ACRES TO BE ACQUIRED	MANAGEMENT COSTS
MISSISSIPPI	St. Catherine Creek NWR	160	$20,000
	T. Roosevelt NWR	550	$15,000
	Tallahatchie NWR	5	$10,000
MONTANA	Pablo NWR	2	$10,000
NEBRASKA	North Platte NWR	5	$5,000
	Rainwater Basin WMD	160	$25,000
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Umbagog NWR	219	$30,000
NEVADA	Sheldon NWR – Ruby Pipeline	20	$30,000
	Stillwater NWR	500	$20,000
NORTH DAKOTA	Various North Dakota WPA's & WMA's	100	$80,000
NEW JERSEY	E. B. Forsythe NWR	500	$100,000
PUERTO RICO	Vieques NWR	96.41	$15,000
SOUTH CAROLINA	Carolina Sandhills NWR	269	$10,000
SOUTH DAKOTA	Various South Dakota WPA's & WMD's	100	$50,000
	South Dakota WMD State Land	4,022	$40,000
TENNESSEE	Lower Hatchie NWR	1.73	$10,000
TEXAS	Aransas NWR	7	$50,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley	176.6	$25,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley - Hildalgo County Irrigation District #3	5	$5,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR FM 800	5.6	$2,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR – Agriculture Investment Associates	3,000	$45,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR – Fred Shuster	80	$20,000
VERMONT	Silvio O. Conte NFWR	100	$25,000
WASHINGTON	Entiat National Fish Hatchery	1.7	$5,000
	McNary NWR	55.24	$15,000
WISCONSIN	Fondu Lac County WPA	113.36	$15,000
	Neceda WMA	40	$10,000
	Upper MS River NWFR	280	$10,000
	Whittelsey Creek NWR	2	$5,000
WYOMING	Cokeville Meadows NWR	70	$25,000
	Totals	**71,806.20**	**2,554,000**

Budget Priority	Project	Region	State	Total Project Request	Estimated Acres
1	St. Marks NWR	4	FL	$1,000,000	750
2	Silvio O. Conte NWR	5	MA/NH/VT/CT	$6,000,000	2,250
3	Cache River NWR	4	AR	$3,000,000	1,250
4	Laguna Atascosa NWR	2	TX	$1,000,000	400
5	Savannah NWR	4	GA	$1,375,000	110
6	Upper Mississippi River NW&FR	3	MN/WI/IA/IL	$2,500,000	625
7	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR	2	TX	$2,500,000	1,401
8	Dakota Tallgrass Prairie WMA	6	ND/SD	$3,000,000	6,667
9	North Dakota WMA	6	ND	$2,500,000	14,286
10	Alaska Refuges (inc. Yukon Delta NWR)	7	AK	$2,000,000	40,660
11	Blackwater NWR	5	MD	$2,500,000	1,515
12	Waccamaw NWR	4	SC	$2,125,000	738
13	San Joaquin River NWR	8	CA	$2,500,000	208
14	Northern Tallgrass Prairie NWR	3	MN/IA	$1,500,000	1,240
15	Big Muddy NF&WR	3	MO	$1,000,000	250
16	Chickasaw NWR	4	TN	$500,000	200
17	Cypress Creek NWR	3	IL	$500,000	200
18	San Bernard-Austin's Woods	2	TX	$4,000,000	1,844
19	Rocky Mountain Front CA	6	MT	$7,895,000	17,545
20	Grasslands WMA	8	CA	$4,000,000	1,648
21	Cahaba River NWR	4	AL	$500,000	163
22	Nisqually NWR	1	WA	$1,500,000	209
23	Trinity River NWR	2	TX	$1,500,000	1,759
24	Red Rock Lakes NWR	6	MT	$3,000,000	670
25	Balcones Canyonlands NWR	2	TX	$2,000,000	750
26	San Diego NWR	8	CA	$1,500,000	80
27	Ozark Plateau NWR	2	OK	$500,000	485
28	Middle Mississippi NWR	3	IL/MN	$500,000	111
29	Willapa NWR	1	WA	$1,500,000	290
30	Driftless Area NWR	3	IL/IA/MN/WI	$500,000	170
31	Upper Ouachita NWR	4	LA	$3,000,000	1,200

Budget Priority	Project	Region	State	Total Project Request	Estimated Acres
32	Red River NWR	4	LA	$1,000,000	755
33	Sacramento River NWR	8	CA	$1,300,000	176
34	Minnesota Valley NWR	3	MN	$750,000	200
35	Panther Swamp NWR	4	MS	$500,000	256
36	Cherry Valley NWR	5	PA	$500,000	90
37	Stone Lakes NWR	8	CA	$750,000	110
38	Lake Umbagog NWR	5	NH/ME	$2,000,000	2,000
39	Rappahannock River Valley NWR	5	VA	$1,000,000	200
40	Cokeville Meadows NWR	6	WY	$500,000	850
41	Turnbull NWR	1	WA	$1,640,000	744
42	Bear River MBR	6	UT	$1,500,000	500
43	Cape Romain NWR	4	SC	$500,000	73
44	Grand Bay NWR	4	MS	$450,000	1,123
45	Highlands Conservation Areas	5	NA	$5,000,000	
	Total			**$84,785,000**	**106,751**

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge
Florida

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 3 of 93

Location: In the Panhandle of the North Florida coast, 24 miles south of Tallahassee

Congressional Districts: 2 **FWS Region: 4**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $5,927,850

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	50	68,886	$	3,943,813	$57
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	2	311	$	1	$0
Planned FY 2010	2	143	$	500,000	$3,497
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**750**	**$**	**1,000,000**	**$1,333**
Remaining	14	6,078	$	34,036,800	$5,600
Totals	**69**	**76,168**	**$**	**39,480,614**	**$518**

Purpose of Acquisition: To acquire slash pine and shrub bog flatwood communities, which are important components of the vast adjoining upland and estuarine systems.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, the Trust for Public Land, and the St. Marks Refuge Association.

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire fee title to approximately 750 acres of property owned by TNC. This parcel would benefit Federally endangered species such as red-cockaded woodpecker, woodstork, and flatwood salamanders, as well as a variety of resident and migratory species such as American bald eagle, wood duck, swallow-tailed kite, and state-listed Florida black bear. The project has been designated an Important Bird Area, a Land Management Research and Demonstration Site for Longleaf Pine Ecosystems, and is a key segment of the Florida National Scenic Trail.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut

Acquisition Authority: P.L. 102 – 212 The Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge Act

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 4 of 93

Location: Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut

Congressional Districts: Massachusetts 1,2; Connecticut 1,2,3; Vermont At Large; New Hampshire 2 **FWS Region** 5

Total LWCF Appropriations: $22,243,154

FY 2011 Budget Request: $6,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	37	33,023	$ 19,355,924	$586
Planned FY 2010	3	599	$ 2,250,000	$ 3,756
Proposed FY 2011	**22**	**2,250**	**$ 6,000,000**	**$ 2,667**
Remaining	1,946	42,523	$ 30,616,560	$ 720
Totals	**2,008**	**78,395**	**$ 58,222,484**	**$ 743**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: Trust for Public Lands and The Nature Conservancy

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire fee title for tracts in the Fort River division from private land owners, TPL, or the TNC that would contribute to the protection of a large grassland project. Recovery and long-term viability of habitats for the upland sandpiper, dwarf wedge mussel, and many fish species, rely on the longest, unobstructed tributary to the Connecticut River in Massachusetts. Tracts in the Nulhegan Basin Division of the northern boreal forest and associated wetland complex and tracts in the Pondicherry Division would provide wildlife-dependent recreation and education opportunities.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Cache River National Wildlife Refuge
Arkansas

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetland Resources Act of 1986

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 5 of 93

Location: Arkansas

Congressional Districts: 1st **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $7,740,013

FY 2011 Budget Request: $3,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	148	67,452	$	56,623,716	$839
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	0	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$	-	$0
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**1,250**	**$**	**3,000,000**	**$2,400**
Remaining	321	85,195	$	256,211,000	**$3,007**
Totals	**470**	**153,897**	**$**	**315,834,716**	**$2,052**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy, and the Audubon Society.

Project Description: The Service would use funding to acquire fee title to a portion of approximately 1,250 acres, comprised of one ownership. This would be a phased acquisition as funding becomes available. Each tract, however, has its own value to the Refuge and the Refuge System. This tract contains some of the best quality and last remaining old growth hardwood forest in the area. Additionally, this particular acquisition would contribute greatly to the project, which encompasses some of the largest remaining contiguous blocks of bottomland hardwood forest in the Lower Mississippi Valley, and some of the largest remaining expanses of forested wetlands on any tributary within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Many experts consider it the single most important wintering area for mallards in North America, and some of the most important for pintails, teal, Canada geese, and other migratory waterfowl. The wetland and aquatic habitats of the Cache/Lower White Rivers ecosystem support 52 species of mammals, 232 species of birds, 48 species of reptiles and amphibians, and approximately 95 species of freshwater fish.

O&M: The Service would require an estimated annual increase of $30,000 in O&M funding for long-term management of this acquisition, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge
Texas

Acquisition Authority: Migratory Bird Conservation Act, Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956.

FY 2010 LAPS Rank: No. 6 of 93

Location: South Texas

Congressional Districts: 27, and 28 **FWS Region: 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $6,145,125

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost*	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY2009	21	88,838	$13,180,315	$148
Planned for FY 2010	1	60	$270,000**	$4,500
Proposed for FY 2011	**1**	**400**	**$1,000,000**	**$2,500**
Remaining	295	64,016	$320,080,000	$5,000
Totals	318	153,314	$334,530,315	$2,185

* Included incidental acquisition costs and acres acquired with Title V Funds.
** Carryover funding.

Purpose of Acquisition: Protection of natural biodiversity values and endangered species habitat for ocelots, peregrine falcons, northern aplomado falcons, sea turtles, piping plovers and other wildlife and fish species, including protection of migratory waterfowl and neo-tropical birds.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, The Conservation Fund

Project Description: Although the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge was originally established as a migratory waterfowl refuge (20% of the worlds redhead duck population winters in the Lower Laguna Madre), in recent years it has become recognized for its numerous endangered species and biological diversity values. The funding would provide for fee title purchase of an estimated 400 acres of high priority habitat from a single total ownership of 1,765 acres in the approved project boundary. The acquisition of this tract would directly support the recovery of the ocelot an endangered species known to use the dense brush-land on this tract. The tract would also provide much needed resting habitat for neo-tropical birds migrating north in the spring after crossing the Gulf of Mexico. The tract would also provide additional recreational opportunities for photography and bird watching, which are strongly supported by the local community.

Since the establishment of the Refuge, there has been substantial support to add to the existing refuge lands. Many of the Service's partners continue to advocate and support the expansion of the refuge through contacts with congressional representatives as well as fundraising and acquisition activity through private protection programs. These partners include The Nature Conservancy of Texas, The Conservation Fund, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Natural Resources and Conservation Service, The National Audubon Society, and The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department among others.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional O&M costs associated with this acquisition. The Service would accomplish fencing and re-vegetating cropland through use of existing staff.

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge
Georgia, South Carolina

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 7 of 93

Location: South Carolina

Congressional Districts: 2nd **FWS Region** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $3,745,723

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,375,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	27	29,175	$	4,989,356	$171
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	28	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$	-	$0
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**110**	**$**	**1,375,000**	**$12,500**
Remaining	25	16,909	$	211,362,500	$12,500
Totals	**53**	**46,222**	**$**	**217,726,856**	**$4,710**

Purpose of Acquisition: To prevent detrimental impacts caused by development on wetland habitat, and protect virgin bottomland hardwood waterfowl habitat.

Project Cooperators: Trust for Public Land.

Project Description: The addition of this tract would complement the Refuge by adding the highly productive ecotone between the tidal wetlands and upland forests and fields. This area is utilized by migratory birds, such as swallow-tailed kites, Swainson's warblers, and prothonotary warblers. In addition, the property contains several remnant rice fields. The dikes have long since breached; however, these wetlands offer wildlife such as king rails, American alligators, and wood duck prime habitat.

The juxtaposition of this tract to the current Refuge boundary makes this an important acquisition. This acquisition would provide road access to the adjacent 2,000 acre Abercorn Island, which is currently only accessible by boat. Having road access to Abercorn Island would allow the Service to increase public use activities at the Refuge and provide easier access for refuge maintenance.

O&M: The Service estimates annual O&M costs at $1,000 for Service signage, boundary markings, and fencing if applicable, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois

Acquisition Authority: Act of June 7, 1924; Act of March 4, 1925; Act of May 12, 1928; Act of April 10, 1928; Act of June 18, 1934; Act of June 13, 1944; P.L. 87-44; P.L. 105-312; Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 8 of 93

Location: The Refuge extends for 261 miles along the Mississippi River from Wabasha, MN to Rock Island, IL

Congressional Districts: Minnesota: 1
Iowa: 1, 4
Illinois: 16, 17
Wisconsin: 3

FWS Region 3

Total LWCF Appropriations: $3,518,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost†	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	1,186	209,223	$4,236,785	$ 20
Planned FY 2010	6	450	$1,500,000	$3,333
Proposed FY 2011	**7**	**625**	**$2,500,000**	**$4,000**
Reprogrammed FY 2008/9††	0	0	$1,300,000	$ 0
Remaining	341	21,447	$28,738,621	$1,371
Totals	**1,540**	**231,745**	**$38,275,406**	**$ 169***

† Includes incidental acquisition costs and migratory bird funds.
†† Amount reprogrammed from Great River NWR to Upper Mississippi NW & FR.
***** Approximately ½ of land was acquired by the Corp of Engineers, and is managed by the Service, therefore the low $/acre value.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, restore, and manage grassland and wetland habitat for migratory birds, including waterfowl, resident wildlife, and public recreation.

Project Cooperators: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Wisconsin DNR, Iowa DNR, Illinois DNR, Friends of the Upper Mississippi Refuge.

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire fee title of approximately 625 acres in the Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge from private landowners. The Refuge consists of wooded islands, sandbars, deep water, wet meadows and other wetlands. The Refuge extends 260 miles down the Mississippi River.
The Refuge is a critical feeding and resting corridor for waterfowl and other birds in the Mississippi Flyway. Up to 500,000 canvasback ducks and 30,000 tundra swans use portions of the Refuge during migration. A wide variety of other wildlife species are also present, including 306 bird, 119 fish, 42 mussel, and 45 reptile and amphibian. The Refuge is important habitat for the Federally endangered Higgins' Eye pearly mussel. The numerous and extensive wetland complexes in the Refuge perform many functions, such as flood control and nutrient recycling.

O&M Costs: Annual costs would be approximately $7,000 for initial restoration and enhancement work, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Texas

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962.

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 9 of 93

Location: South Texas

Congressional Districts: 15, 27, and 28 **FWS Region: 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $90,409,935

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,500,000

Acquisition Status:

Ownerships		Acres	Cost *	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	235	98,019	$ 73,619,828	$ 751
Planned FY 2010	3	410	$ 1,000,000	$2,440
Proposed FY 2011	**4**	**1,401**	**$ 2,500,000**	**$1,784**
Remaining	873	32,670	$130,680,000	$4,000
Totals	1,115	132,500	$207,799,828	$1,568

* Included incidental acquisition costs and acres acquired.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect existing native, subtropical brush lands and protect, enhance and restore other adjacent lands to protect the diverse biotic communities of the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, National Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, North American Butterfly Association

Project Description: The funding would be used to acquire fee title to four tracts of land, comprising an estimated 1,401 acres, from willing sellers. These tracts of land comprise the best lands for the refuge that are available for acquisition. The project area has 11 distinct biotic communities, which provide habitat for resident and migrating species of birds, butterflies and mammals. Almost 400 species of birds and 300 species of butterflies have been noted in the four county project area. The project also has over 1,100 species of plants. The area not only provides an important migration corridor for neo-tropical migratory bird species, but it also provides sanctuary for a number of endangered species of plants and animals. The latter include the piping plover, northern aplomado falcon, ocelot and jaguarandi.

The tracts would provide recreational opportunities for hunting, fishing, and bird watching.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional O&M costs associated with this acquisition. Fencing and re-vegetating cropland would be accomplished through the use of existing staff positions. The Service would minimally manage the lands, in the same manner as the surrounding refuge lands.

Dakota Tallgrass Prairie Wildlife Management Area
North Dakota, South Dakota

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 10 of 93

Location The Northern Tallgrass Prairie Ecosystem located in northeastern South Dakota and southeastern North Dakota

Congressional District: At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: 7,619,981*

FY 2011 Budget Request: $3,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through 2009	0	0	0	0
Acquired Easements through 2009	189	57,719	$ 7,105,527*	$119
Planned FY 2010	Multi	2,220	$ 1,000,000	$450
Proposed FY 2011	**Multi**	**6,667**	**$ 3,000,000**	**$450**
Remaining	Multi	123,394	$55,373,313	$448
Totals	**Multi**	**190,000**	**$66,478,840**	**$350**

* Includes incidental acquisition cost

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect the northern tallgrass prairie ecosystem and associated wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy and the local community

Project Description: This project makes exclusive use of grassland easements to protect 190,000 acres of tallgrass prairie in the Dakotas. The project would protect a maximum 5,000 acres of remaining native prairie within northeastern Brown County, South Dakota, and an additional 185,000 acres identified in a large project boundary of eastern South Dakota and southeast North Dakota. Protection of the prairie would be accomplished through the acquisition of perpetual grassland easements from willing sellers.

O & M: A minimal amount of resources would be needed for annual compliance over-flights, estimated at less than $1,000, which would be funded out of Refuge System base funding.

North Dakota Wildlife Management Area
North Dakota

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 11 of 93

Location: The Missouri Coteau north and east of the Missouri River

Congressional District: At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: 2,300,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through 2009	0	0	0	0
Acquired Easements through 2009	130	41,660	$ 2,300,000	$55
Planned FY 2010	20	5,714	$ 1,000,000	$175
Proposed FY 2011	**Multi**	**14,286**	**$ 2,500,000**	**$175**
Remaining	Multi	244,055	$48,096,600	$197
Totals	**Multi**	**300,000**	**$53,896,600**	**$179**

Purpose of Acquisition: Purchase perpetual easements to protect native grassland and associated wetlands ecosystem located in the crucial wildlife habitat area of the Prairie Pothole Region (PPR).

Project Cooperators: North Dakota Game & Fish Department, North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, Ducks Unlimited, and TheNature Conservancy. Landowner interest remains strong.

Project Description: The requested funds would allow the Service to acquire 14,286 acres in fee title from multiple owners for perpetual easements and allow the land to remain in native grassland to keep the ecosystem intact. There is a backlog of over 100 willing sellers to keep land in native grassland habitat. The Prairie Pothole Region (PPR) ecosystem contains native mixed-grass prairie intermingled with high densities of temporary, semi-permanent and permanent wetlands and supports some of the highest breeding waterfowl and shorebird populations in North America, including the endangered piping plover. The grassland easement prevents the conversion of grassland and primarily focuses on large blocks of native grassland habitat. This landscape level ecosystem protection maintains the natural habitat, provides long-term viability, and improves its health for the benefit of wildlife and people; while at the same time allows private ownership with restricted uses.

Habitat fragmentation remains the greatest threat to PPR habitat. Conversion of grassland to cropland for bio-fuels production and loss of Conservation Reserve Program acres diminishes the natural function of the PPR ecosystem and its productivity for wildlife. Grassland loss rates in some areas have reached two percent a year. With the protection afforded by perpetual grassland easements, this highly productive yet fragile ecosystem would remain intact, preserving habitat where biological communities can flourish.

O & M: The Service anticipates spending a minimal amount for annual compliance over-flights, estimated at less than $2,000 per year, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

ALASKA REFUGES
Alaska

Acquisition Authority: Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (P.L. 96-487)
Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 12 of 96

Location: Northern and Western Alaska

Congressional Districts: Alaska at Large **FWS Region 7**

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost†	$/Acre
Proposed FY 2011 Alaska Refuges*	18	40,660	$2,000,000	$49

† Includes incidental acquisition costs

* Proposed FY 2011 includes 33,000 acres of a phased acquisition of conservation easement lands estimated at $600,000 ($18/acre) per year, which brings the per-acre down considerably. Remaining Acres and Cost consider fee acquisitions only; amounts do not consider acquisition of the 66,000 acres of conservation easement interest.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect critically important habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl, including the threatened spectacled eider.

Project Cooperators: Alaska Native Corporations, State of Alaska, The Conservation Fund, Southwestern Alaska Conservation Coalition

Project Description: Region 7 is negotiating the purchase of two conservation easements and 16 parcels in fee title, most of which are within the Western Alaska Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC). These acquisitions would contribute to landscape-level conservation within several different Alaska ecosystems. The conservation easements would protect sensitive coastal wetlands that produce half of Alaska's waterfowl. Within the Yukon Delta Refuge is the most important nesting area worldwide for threatened spectacled eiders, tundra swans, Pacific brant, emperor geese, and cackling Canada geese. In addition, many shorebird species that nest in this area have very limited breeding ranges, increasing the urgency for protecting these critical nesting and staging areas.

Three parcels are located on clear-water whitefish streams or within the Andreafsky Wilderness, one of only two known nesting locations of the bristle-thighed curlew. Additional parcels are riparian habitats on major salmon streams and qualify for matching funds provided by a local land trust, the Southwestern Alaska Conservation Coalition. Two of the parcels are high priority seabird islands within existing DOI lands. One parcel is located at the Ugashik Narrows, between Upper and Lower Ugashik lakes. Fishing is a major attraction in this area for both the spectacular wilderness setting and the quality fishing. The Alaska record Arctic grayling was caught here. The last four parcels contain highly productive waterfowl habitats, yet more than 50% of the total waterfowl production is on private land. Acquiring high priority parcels ensures long-term conservation of important wetland and riparian habitats, and provides opportunities for recreational and subsistence uses. The acquisition of these parcels will enhance and extend existing Department of the Interior lands.

O & M: The Service estimates maintenance costs at $40,000 for enforcement of a motorized vehicle restriction and other easement terms.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge
Maryland

Acquisition Authority: Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2010 LAPS Rank: No. 13 of 93

Location: 65 miles southeast of Baltimore, in the south central portion of Dorchester County on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Congressional Districts: Maryland 1 **Region** 5

Total LWCF Appropriations: $14,104,345

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	41	26,273	15,486,027	589
Planned FY 2010	1	823	2,000,000	2,430
Proposed FY 2011	**3**	**1,515**	**2,500,000**	**1,650**
Remaining	52	31,264	37,100,250	1,186
Totals	**97**	**59,875**	**57,086,277**	**953**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect high quality habitat for the threatened American bald eagle, Delmarva fox squirrel and other endangered species, along with nesting and wintering habitat for migratory waterfowl, colonial waterbirds, shorebirds, and forest interior dwelling bird species.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund

Project Description: The requested funds of $2,500,000 for FY 2011 would provide the refuge with fee title to the remainder of the funding needed for a 1,065-acre tract in the area of the Refuge referred to as Russell Swamp and two parcels on the northern border of the Refuge boundary totaling 450 acres. These tracts consist mainly of forested wetlands interspersed with tidal waters, ponds and marsh. Both these areas provide excellent habitat for migratory birds, such as Osprey, Black and Wood Ducks, Canada Geese, marsh and water birds, the Bald Eagle, as well as foraging opportunities for the Peregrine Falcon. It is also excellent habitat for the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel.

The areas are important to Federal and state endangered and threatened species and many migratory bird species. Acquisition of these areas would also expand opportunities for wildlife-dependent forms of public recreation.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge
South Carolina

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 14 of 93

Location: Coastal southeast South Carolina

Congressional Districts: 1st **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $15,119,892

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,125,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	110	18,303	$	13,793,609	$754
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	1	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	2	257	$	600,000	$2,335
Proposed FY 2011	**202**	**738**	**$**	**2,125,000**	**$2,879**
Remaining	96	35,223	$	91,063,600	$2,585
Totals	**410**	**54,522**	**$**	**107,582,209**	**$1,973**

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve and protect bottomland hardwood forest providing habitat for colonial nesting birds, Neotropical birds, wintering waterfowl, and old growth pine communities supporting populations of red-cockaded woodpeckers.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Waccamaw Audubon Society, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Town and Country Garden Club, SEEWEE Association, Historic Ricefields, SC Department of Transportation and South Carolina Coastal Conservation League.

Project Description: Funding would allow the Refuge to complete the multiple year fee title acquisition, of the Long Tract. This tract would allow the Refuge to protect the upper watershed of a unique black water seep that runs into the Refuge and is important to several rare salamander species found in only a few isolated locations in Horry County, South Carolina. This property also offers a diverse wetland and open lake complex that, if managed, can provide important foraging habitat for the Federally endangered wood storks, which have a rookery less than a mile from the tract, as well as for other wintering waterfowl. In addition, this funding would allow the refuge to continue acquisition of approximately 200 lots in the Paradise Point subdivision on Sandy Island, which are individually owned by willing sellers. The lots would then be allowed to revert to tidal freshwater wetland and forested habitats for the protection of water quality and erosion on the south side of Sandy Island.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge
California

Acquisition Authority: Endangered Species Act 1973

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 15 of 93

Location: Approximately 10 miles west of Modesto, California to the north and south of Highway 132

Congressional District: 18 **FWS Region:** 8

Total LWCF Appropriations: $13,850,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost ($)	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	8	7,148	$25,725,448	$ 3,599
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	3	3,088	$13,965,479	$ 4,523
Planned FY 2010	1	211	$ 2,000,000	$ 9,479
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**208**	**$ 2,500,000**	**$12,019**
Remaining	3	3,258	$25,809,073	$ 7,922
Totals	**17**	**13,913**	**$70,000,000**	**$ 5,031**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect native grasslands and wetlands essential for the long-term survival of the Aleutian Canada goose. It would also protect a large piece of riparian habitat valuable to a variety of wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: State of California CALFED Bay Delta Grant Program

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire a conservation easement on two tracts consisting of approximately 208 acres, from private landowners. These properties are predominantly native, irrigated pasture and would be protected by means of a perpetual conservation easement. The biggest threat to this habitat is residential development and the conversion from grasslands and wetlands habitat to croplands, orchards, or dairy operations that would provide little or no benefit to wildlife. The acquisition of these properties would provide long-term viability to the grassland and wetland ecosystem as well as provide a safe haven for migratory birds and other wildlife species.

O & M Costs: The interest that the Service would acquire in the 208 acres is a perpetual conservation easement. For this reason there would be little to no long-term management costs associated with this acquisition.

Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge
Minnesota and Iowa

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 17 of 93

Location: Eighty-five counties in western Minnesota and northwestern Iowa.

Congressional District: Minnesota: 1, 2, 7 **FWS Region 3**
Iowa: 2, 3, 4, 5

Total LWCF Appropriations: $5,806,657

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	46	4,731	$ 4,822,971	$1,019
Planned FY 2010	1	500	$ 500,000	$1,000
Proposed FY 2011	**14**	**1,240**	**$ 1,500,000**	**$1,210**
Remaining	789	70,529	$18,177,029	$ 258
Totals	**850**	**77,000**	**$25,000,000**	**$ 325**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, restore, and enhance the remaining northern tallgrass prairie habitats and associated wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, The Nature Conservancy, Minnesota Waterfowl Association, several county conservation boards, and several local Chambers of Commerce.

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire 1,240 acres, through a combination of fee title and easement purchases, throughout western Minnesota and northwestern Iowa. The project would include prairie preservation and restoration, which would not only protect the prairie ecosystem, but would also benefit grassland birds such as dickcissell, bobolink, grasshopper sparrow, and sedge wren.

Rather than acquiring a contiguous boundary with the aim of eventual ownership of all lands, the goal of acquiring 77,000 acres of land has been set, and spreads land acquisition across all or portions of 85 counties. The Refuge would acquire fee and easement lands to reach this goal, and work with private landowners to develop stewardship agreements, and to provide incentives and management assistance in the interest of preserving the prairie landscape regardless of ownership.

O&M: Annual costs would be approximately $21,000 for initial restoration and enhancement work (spraying, mowing, burning, and signage).

Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Missouri

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 18 of 93

Location: Various sites along the lower Missouri River between Kansas City and St. Louis

Congressional Districts: 1,2,3,4,5,6,9 **FWS Region 3**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $6,010,400

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	50	11,198	$7,396,903	$661
Planned FY 2010	4	389	$1,512,600	$3,888
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**250**	**$1,000,000**	**$4,000**
Remaining	145	48,163	$192,6 52,000	$4,000
Totals	**201**	**60,000**	**$202,561,503**	**$3,376**

Purpose of Acquisition: To restore natural floodplain form and function to the extent possible for the benefit of dependent fish and wildlife species, including listed and candidate endangered species, declining native fish and other native aquatic species, migratory birds, and other native wildlife for the benefit of the American public.

Project Cooperators: Partnerships through Ducks Unlimited, The Wild Turkey Federation, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Project Description: The funds would acquire two tracts in fee title from private landowners comprised of bottomland hardwood or cropland that the Service would manage for native aquatic species and migratory birds. The addition is to preserve and restore natural river flood plain, manage fish and wildlife habitats, and provide for compatible public recreational use. The project supports and compliments the Missouri Department of Conservation's 10-year fisheries strategic plan for the Missouri River.

O & M: Annual O&M costs are estimated to be $40,000 for initial restoration and enhancement work (spraying, mowing, burning, fencing supplies and signage).

Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge
Tennessee

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetland Resources Act of 1986

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 19 of 93

Location: Tennessee

Congressional Districts: Tennessee 1st **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $4,461,636

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	37	25,958	$	23,252,783	$896
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	0	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	2	239	$	500,000	$2,092
Proposed FY 2011	**3**	**200**	**$**	**500,000**	**$2,500**
Remaining	275	47,523	$	94,946,000	$1,998
Totals	**317**	**73,920**	**$**	**119,198,783**	**$1,613**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, enhance, and manage a valuable bottomland hardwood wetland ecosystem for the benefit of migratory and resident waterfowl, wading birds, and other wildlife.

Project Cooperator: Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire fee title to three tracts totaling 200 acres. Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge has been identified as a key migratory bird conservation area in Tennessee with long-range potential for providing significant habitat conservation benefits for high priority migratory wintering waterfowl, shorebirds, neotropical migrants and endangered species such as least terns, all of which would directly benefit from the acquisition of these tracts. Both tracts are primarily agricultural land, which would be restored to bottomland hardwood forest habitat, facilitating carbon sequestration. There has been a twenty-million acre loss of this habitat component associated with the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. The acquisition of these tracts would enable the refuge to meet these specific management objectives as well as support the collaborative efforts of the migratory bird mission with the West Tennessee Conservation Plan.

O&M: The Service estimates spending approximately $15,000 for posting the acquisition, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge
Illinois

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 20 of 93

Location: Near the southern boundary of Illinois at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Carbondale, Illinois is 30 miles north; Cape Girardeau, Missouri, is 25 miles to the west; and Paducah, Kentucky, is 30 miles southeast**.**

Congressional Districts: 12,19 **FWS Region 3**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $14,903,300

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	149	16,078	$12,049,942	$749
Planned FY 2010	2	220	$528,000	$2,400
Proposed FY 2011	**4**	**200**	**$500,000**	**$2,500**
Remaining	90	18,493	$55,440,000	$2,998
Totals	**245**	**34,991**	**$68,517,942**	**$1,958**

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve, restore, and manage wetlands and bottomland forest habitat in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Project Cooperators: The Cache River Wetlands is a joint venture project, which includes five partners – The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Service – together planning to acquire 60,000 acres. The Service plans to acquire 34,991 acres in total for the project. Illinois Department of Natural Resources recently constructed a four million dollar Cache River Wetlands Center, a high-quality attraction that educates individuals about this internationally significant resource. Conservation, education and stewardship efforts on the refuge and throughout the watershed have been supported with time and funding by local, state, and national organizations (Friends of the Cache River Watershed, Shawnee Audubon Society, Southern Illinois Audubon Society, Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club, Illinois Audubon Society, Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, American Land Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., and The Nature Conservancy.

Project Description: The requested funds of $500,000 would support the acquisition in fee title of four tracts consisting of approximately 200 acres. The Cache River-Cypress Creek Wetlands are recognized under the Ramsar Convention as wetlands of international importance and important to many aquatic migratory birds.

O & M: Annual O&M costs are estimated to be $20,000 for initial restoration and enhancement work (spraying, mowing, burning, fencing supplies and signage).

San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
Texas

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, The Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962 and the Emergency Wetland Resource Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 21 of 92

Location: Texas

Congressional Districts: 14 **FWS Region: 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $0

FY 2011 Budget Request: $4,000,000

Acquisition Status for the Austin's Woods Units:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost†	$/Acre
Acquired through FY 2009	60	**45,084	$24,160,304	$536
Planned FY 2010	1	500	$1,250,000	$2,500
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**1,844**	**$4,000,000**	**$2,170**
Remaining	20	14,172	$35,430,000	$2,500
Totals	82	61,600	$64,840,304	$1,053

† Includes private funds, land donations, grants, and MBCC funds.

** This 45,084 acres acquired includes 4 acquired conservation easements (3 of which were donated) totaling 486 acres.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect important remnant bottomland hardwood and associated habitats for migrating, wintering and breeding waterfowl.

Project Cooperators: The Trust for Public Land, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, various foundations, and corporations

Project Description: The funding would provide for acquisition of 1,844 acres of prime land from within a larger parcel of 4,471 acres of wetland area, known as Eagle Nest Lake. The acquisition of fee simple title of this tract directly supports a productive and valuable wetland complex providing wintering, wading birds, Neotropical migratory birds and other wetland dependent wildlife species. Thousands of waterfowl winter in the area, including mottled ducks, mallards, pintails, gadwalls, widgeons, Northern shovelers, blue and green-winged teal, black bellied whistling ducks, and ruddy ducks. The proposed acquisition is within the Mid-Coast initiative of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

O&M: The Service estimates O & M costs at $10,000 per year, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding. The bottomland habitat listed for acquisition does not require extensive management. Costs would be mainly for boundary posting and maintenance.

Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area
Montana

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 22 of 93

Location: 65 miles northwest of Great Falls, MT

Congressional District: Montana At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $3,980,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $7,895,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through 2009	0	0	0	0
Acquired Easements through 2009	5	18,263	$ 3,980,000	$217
Planned FY 2010	3	8,157	$ 3,750,000	$460
Proposed FY 2011	**5**	**17,545**	**$ 7,895,000**	**$450**
Remaining	45	126,035	$44,706,400	$363
Totals	58	170,000	$60,331,400	$355

Purpose of Acquisition: To provide for long-term viability of fish and wildlife habitat on a large landscape basis in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. These conservation easements would preserve habitat where existing biological communities are functioning well and maintain the traditional rural economies for present and future generations.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Teton County Commission, Pondera County Commission and Lewis & Clark County Commission, Montana Wilderness Association, and Montana Audubon Society.

Project Description: The Service would use the requested funds to acquire conservation easements on five tracts totaling 17,545 acres. Each of these properties border existing protected lands (either Service or TNC easements or other Federal lands) and include important habitat for grizzly bears and other grassland dependent species including migratory birds.

The Rocky Mountain Front is considered by experts to be one of the best remaining intact, ecosystems left in the lower 48 states. Nearly every wildlife species described by Lewis and Clark in 1806, with the exception of free ranging bison, still exist on the Front in relatively stable or increasing numbers. There is increasing pressure to subdivide and develop this landscape. Protecting these tracts with conservation easements would prevent fragmentation and preserve the environmental and economic health of trust species habitat along the Rocky Mountain Front.

O & M: Within the base funding for the Refuge System, the Service would use approximately $2,000 for annual maintenance of the new acquisitions, mainly for easement enforcement.

Grasslands Wildlife Management Area
California

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resource Act of 1986
Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 26 of 93

Location: Located in the Pacific Flyway between the Cities of Los Banos and Gustine, California

Congressional District: 18 **Region:** 8

Total LWCF Appropriations: $9,907,332

FY 2011 Budget Request: $4,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	9	14,970	$18,066,228	$1,207
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	162	75,642	$38,299,459	$506
Planned FY 2010	1	472	$1,000,000	$2,119
Proposed FY 2011	**5**	**1,648**	**$4,000,000**	**$2,427**
Remaining	239	40,568	$184,503,500	$4,548
Totals	416	133,300	$245,869,187	$1,844

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect important wintering area for the Pacific Flyway waterfowl populations.

Project Cooperators: State of California

Project Description: The Service would use funds to acquire fee title for five tracts consisting of approximately 1,648 acres. These properties are predominantly low lying, with a portion of, irrigated pasture and the Service would protect them by means of a perpetual conservation easement. The biggest threat is residential development and the conversion from grasslands, wetlands, and riparian habitat to croplands, orchards, or dairy operations that would provide little or no benefit to wildlife. The acquisition of these properties would provide long-term viability to the grassland ecosystem as well as provide a safe haven for migratory birds and other wildlife species.

O & M Costs: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge
Alabama

Acquisition Authority: Cahaba River Act (Public Law 106-331)

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 27 of 93

Location: Alabama

Congressional Districts: Alabama 6th **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $6,396,717

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	1	3,582	$	5,963,818	$1,665
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	0	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$	-	
Proposed FY 2011	**3**	**163**	**$**	**500,000**	**$3,067**
Remaining	4	85	$	204,850	$2,410
Totals	**8**	**3,830**	**$**	**6,668,668**	**$1,741**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect more of the river corridor, would provide additional hunting and recreational values, and would protect the unique natural resources of the Cahaba River.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy.

Project Description: Funding would provide for the acquisition of fee title for three tracts, which contain approximately 163 acres of high priority habitat. The acquisition of these tracts would directly support the recovery of numerous endangered species of rare and imperiled fish, mollusks and plants, such as the Cahaba shiner, goldline darter, round rocksnail, cylindrical lioplax, and aster georgianus. In addition, these tracts would support and provide habitat for several species of neotropical migratory songbirds, eagles, ospreys and local resident game populations. Acquisition of these tracts would also provide recreational opportunities for hunting, fishing, and bird watching.

Poor commercial forestry practices and coal methane mining contribute to erosion, siltation, degradation, and contamination of water quality of the Cahaba River watershed. Left unprotected by Service acquisition these practices would adversely affect the watershed habitat and the variety of species in residence on the refuge.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Complex, including the Black River Unit
Washington

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Migratory Bird Conservation Act

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 28 of 93

Location: Washington

Congressional Districts: 3 & 9 **FWS Region:** 1

Total LWCF Appropriations: $8,801,010

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	36	4,327	$10,002,839	$2,312
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**4**	**209**	**$1,500,000**	**$7,177**
Remaining	73	3,260	$19,948,161	$6,119
Totals	**113**	**7,796**	**$31,184,000**	**$4,000**

Purpose of Acquisition: Preservation of coastal migration and wintering habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds by maintaining and enhancing the biodiversity of the Nisqually River Delta and to preserve freshwater wetland and associated habitat along the Black River.

Project Cooperators: Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Friends of The Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Washington Department of Natural Resources

Project Description: The requested $1,500,000 would fund the fee acquisition of four important ownerships in the Black River Unit of the Complex. All four units are contiguous or adjacent to Black River or Black Lake and all would consolidate refuge ownership along this vital habitat corridor. These properties are wetlands and forested wetlands contiguous to the Black River – Black Lake drainage. In concert with already acquired adjacent tracts, the acquisition of these tracts would further strengthen the habitat and management of existing refuge lands in support of riverine fresh water fish and associated species, wetlands and forested wetland species and habitats, including the state-listed Oregon frog.

O&M: The Service would use $10,000 initially for fencing and posting of refuge or tract boundaries, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge
Texas

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 29 of 93

Location: Texas

Congressional Districts: 8 **FWS Region: 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $7,056,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres*	Cost	$/ Acre
Acquired through FY 2009	32	23,849	$ 16,685,653	$ 700
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**1,759**	**1,500,000**	**852**
Remaining	88	53,992	37,794,400	700
Total	**122**	**79,600**	**$55,980,053**	**$703**

*Includes lands acquired with Migratory Bird Conservation Act funds, mitigation donations and other funding.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect important remnant bottomland hardwood and associated habitats for migrating, wintering and breeding waterfowl.

Project Cooperators: Trust for Public Land, Conservation Capital, Friends of the Trinity River; project has very strong support in the local community.

Project Description: The funds would provide for fee acquisition of two tracts with 1,759 acres in two ownerships of high priority habitat on the Trinity River NWR. The acquisition of these tracts would provide protection of bottomland hardwoods and associated habitats for migratory birds within the Lower Trinity River Floodplain Habitat Stewardship Program. The Service would enhance recreational opportunities for hunting, fishing, and bird watching through this acquisition.

The proposed tracts would provide essential foraging and roosting habitat for wood duck, mallard, gadwall, widgeon, green and blue-winged teal, lesser scaup, as well as some habitat for the mottled duck. Mature cavity trees provide nesting habitat for wood duck and black-bellied whistling ducks. Acquisition of these tracts would allow the Refuge to maintain and enhance prime waterfowl wintering, feeding, and roosting areas. Priority uses for these tracts would be for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education, and interpretation for visitors.

O & M: The Service would fund a minimal amount for boundary posting and signage, estimated at less than $15,000 per year, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Red Rocks Lakes NWR/Centennial Valley
Montana

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 31 of 93

Location: 28 miles east of Monida, MT

Congressional District: Montana at Large **FWS Region** 6

Total LWCF Appropriations: $7,100,000 (Includes Emergency/Hardship funds)

FY 2011 Budget Request: $3,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through 2009	47	49,586	$ 9,441,708	$190
Acquired Easements through 2009	10	25,088	$ 4,224,567	$168
Planned FY 2010	1	220	$ 1,000,000	$4,450
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**670**	**$ 3,000,000**	**$4,477**
Remaining	5	26,298	$13,583,725	$516
Totals	**64**	**101,862**	**$31,250,000**	**$307**

Purpose of Acquisition: To provide for long-term viability of fish and wildlife habitat on a large landscape basis in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. In addition, the project would protect, restore and enhance native wet meadows, wetlands, uplands and mountain foothills for migratory birds, including waterfowl, and other wildlife. Additional lands would be available for wildlife-dependent public uses (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation) for present and future generations of Americans. Protection of this landscape would also preserve the key wilderness values of the refuge and surrounding view shed of the Centennial Valley.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Beaverhead County Commissioners, Bureau of Land Management, and Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Council.

Project Description: The Service would use the requested funds to purchase 670 acres that would be for the initial phase of a multi-year acquisition effort to acquire one of the most important tracts remaining within Red Rock Lakes NWR. The Elizabeth Grazing Association tract includes nearly 1 mile on both sides of Red Rock Creek that supplies most of the water for the Red Rock Lakes NWR wetland complex. Acquisition of this property would enable the Service to restore this portion of Red Rock Creek (from overgrazing) and improve water quality in Upper Red Rock Lake on the refuge. The Centennial Valley, like much of western Montana, is threatened by subdivision and demand for second home development that is creeping west from Yellowstone Park and the Henry's Lake portion of northern Idaho (this tract could easily be developed into recreational home sites). The subject property includes a large riparian wetland complex that provides habitat for 21 species of waterfowl and 35 species of other wetland-dependent birds. Acquisition of this tract would expand opportunities for wildlife-dependent forms of public recreation on the east end of the refuge.

O & M: The Service would spend a minimal amount for easement monitoring and inspections, estimated at less than $10,000 per year, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Balcones National Wildlife Refuge
Texas

Acquisition Authority: (Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956)

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 32 of 93

Location: Texas

Congressional Districts: 21 **FWS Region: 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $30,781,620

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	49	23,084	$29,540,862	$1,280
Planned FY 2010	1	340	$ 1,000,000	$2,942
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**750**	**$ 2,000,000**	**$2,666**
Remaining	249	55,826	$139,565,000	$2,500
Totals	**300**	**80,000**	**$172,105,862**	**$2,152**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect essential habitat for 2 endangered neotropical migratory bird species, endangered cave dwelling invertebrates and important riparian habitat in one of the Nation's unique and biologically diverse areas. The project area is one of the fastest growing and developing areas in the country and these remnant habitats are eminently threatened by development.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land

Project Description: Purchase fee title of this 750-acre tract would protect essential habitat for preservation of endangered species, particularly the Golden-cheeked warbler. This is an area of very high development and is one of the last large remaining ranches that could be obtained to protect the endangered species and their habitat. The Edwards Plateau is internationally recognized for its unique flora, fauna, and karst systems. It has the highest level of plant endemism of any ecoregion in Texas and ranks third in number of rare plants, with 100 of the 400 Texas endemic plants occurring in that region two endangered species, the Golden-cheeked warbler and the Black-capped Vireo nest in Central Texas in this area. This is an opportunity for purchase of great importance.

O & M: The estimated annual operation and maintenance cost associated with this acquisition is $1,000, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding. Minimal costs might include fencing, posting and staking.

San Diego National Wildlife Refuge
California

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 36 of 93

Location: Approximately 10 miles west of Modesto, California to the north and south of Highway 132

Congressional District: 50, 51 and 52 **Region:** 8

Total LWCF Appropriations: $33,392,904

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost ($)	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	28	8,579	$30,903,920	$3,602
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	0	0	0
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**4**	**80**	**$ 1,500,000**	**$18,750**
Remaining	481	29,234	$57,596,080	$1,970
Totals	**513**	**37,893**	**$90,000,000**	**$ 2,375**

Purpose of Acquisition: To resume the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) participation in an extremely successful federal, state and local land conservation partnership.

Project Cooperators: State of California and Trust for Public Lands

Project Description: The San Diego National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established to protect and manage key habitat for several endangered, threatened, and rare species, and to provide a Federal contribution to the regional Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP). The funding would provide for the acquisition of fee title for four tracts consisting of approximately 80 acres. The acquisition of these lands would continue the Service's efforts to cooperate with more than a dozen local jurisdictions, the California Department of Fish and Game, and many private landowners to permanently protect 172,000 acres of natural habitat within a 582,000-acre planning area. This partnership would assist in the recovery efforts of listed species by restoring habitat on acquired lands and provide wildlife experiences and environmental education opportunities for nearly 3 million people that live in the area. Refuge land acquisitions not only help meet Federal, State and local natural resource goals, but may also reduce the need for additional listings under the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts.

O & M Costs: The Service estimates that the annual costs and any associated restoration costs would be $197,500, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Ozark Plateau National Wildlife Refuge
Oklahoma

Acquisition Authority: Endangered Species Act of 1973 and the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 38 of 93

Location: Oklahoma

Congressional Districts: 01 **FWS Region:** 2

Total LWCF Appropriations: $401,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	Cost Per Acre
Acquired through FY 2009	19	*3,860	$787,165	$204
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**3**	**485**	**$500,000**	**$1,031**
Remaining	22	10,655	$15,985,500	$1,500
Total	**44**	**15,000**	**$17,272,665**	**$1,153**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect Federally listed endangered Ozark big-eared bat and gray bat cave and provide outstanding habitat for neotropical songbirds.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Cherokee Nation, Land Legacy, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC), National Speleological Society (the Tulsa Regional Oklahoma Grotto).

Project Description: The funding would provide for fee-title purchase of a 335-acre tract that contains a very important gray bat maternity site cave used by approximately 20,000 bats. In addition, other caves are used by gray bats and Ozark big-eared bats. A second tract to be acquired is approximately 80 acres and contains several caves, possible gray bat use, Ozark streams and a continuous stand of Ozark forest. The third tract to be acquired is approximately 70 acres and contains 2 major caves utilized by Ozark big-eared bats.

O&M: The Service anticipates spending $12,000-$15,000/year for controlled burns, minimal law enforcement, trash cleanup, and fire control, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Middle Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge
Missouri, Illinois

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 39 of 93

Location: 60 miles south of St. Louis, Missouri

Congressional Districts: Missouri: 1, 2, 3 **FWS Region 3**
Illinois: 12

Total LWCF Appropriations: $3,500,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	27	7,783	$ 3,039,900	$ 391
Planned FY 2010	2	119	$ 517,168	$ 4,346
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**111**	**$ 500,000**	**$ 4,500**
Remaining	35	2,791	$ 10,044,394	$ 3,599
Totals	**65**	**10,804**	**$ 14,101,462**	**$ 1,305**

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve, restore, and manage wetlands and bottomland forest habitat in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Project Cooperators: The States of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, the American Land Conservancy, and American Rivers and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Project Description: The funding would provide for fee title acquisition of 111 acres located on Kaskaskia Island owned by one individual. The Refuge provides important habitat for nesting and migrating birds, as well as spawning and feeding habitat for big river fish species. The management of these lands contributes to increased floodplain function, floodwater storage, and nutrient cycling to increase river quality.

O&M Costs: Annual operation and maintenance costs would be approximately $40,000 for initial restoration and enhancement work (spraying, moving, burning, fencing supplies and signage), which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Willapa Bay National Wildlife Refuge
Washington

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended, and the Migratory Bird Conservation Act

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 40 of 93

Location: 25 miles southwest of South Bend, Washington

Congressional Districts: Washington: District 3 **FWS Region:** 1

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres*	Cost*	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	34	16,436	$ 14,354,769	$ 873
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	3	3,123	$ 0	$ 0
Planned FY 2010	3	170	$ 750,000	$4,411
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	290	**$ 1,500,000**	$5,172
Remaining	5	438	$ 825,563	$1,885
Totals	5	17,333	$ 20,430,332	$1,179

* Includes 8,616 acres ($5,122,011) acquired with MBCF funds and incidental acquisition costs

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, restore, and manage areas of forest, streams, and wetlands. To provide refuge for breeding and migrating waterfowl, shorebirds. To contribute to the conservation and recovery of threatened and endangered species; and provide increased opportunities for wildlife/wildland-dependent recreation, education and research.

Project Description: The requested funds would provide for two fee acquisitions from a private landowner totaling 110 acres within the approved boundary. It would also complete the fee acquisition of a 210-acre parcel. This ensures protection of the last bay front property on South Willapa Bay from imminent, threatened development. In addition, the funds would complete the acquisition of a 60-acre Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) easement. These tracts are surrounded by Service land and contain a large beaver marsh wetland, several streams that contain cutthroat trout, Federally threatened Coho, chum salmon, and upland forest. Acquiring these parcels would allow the Refuge to proceed with landscape restoration plans that tie habitat conditions in the Bay with streams and forested uplands. This acquisition would yield a significant benefit for threatened and endangered species (marbled Murrelet), migratory birds (shorebird, waterfowl), anadromous fish (Coho, chum, and sea run cutthroat trout), and area biodiversity goals (Western Pearlshell Mussels, Western brook Lamprey).

The areas are important to Federal and State endangered and threatened species and most migratory bird species using the Pacific Flyway.

O & M: The Service estimates annual costs at $1,000 for Service signage, boundary markings, and fencing if applicable, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Driftless Area National Wildlife Refuge
Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956; Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 41 of 93

Location: Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois

Congressional Districts: Illinois: 16, 17
Iowa: 1, 4
Minnesota: 1
Wisconsin: 3

FWS Region: 3

Total LWCF Appropriations: $2,329,390

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	19	922	$818,475	$888
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	1	1	$1,250	$1,250
Planned FY 2010	3	110	$266,000	$2,418
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**170**	**$500,000**	**$2,941**
Remaining	172	5,754	7,414,275	1,289
Totals	**197**	**6,957**	**$9,000,000**	**$1,294**

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and aid in the recovery of endangered species and their habitat.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy

Project Description: The funding would provide for two fee title acquisitions on 170 acres of high priority habitat on Driftless Area National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). The Nelson Estate tract (140 acres) and the Mountain Maple Hollow tract (30 acres) are located in Allamakee County, Iowa. Both parcels provide habitats supporting the federally endangered Iowa Pleistocene snail and threatened Northern Monkshood plant.

The "driftless area" of the Upper Midwest derives its name from the fact that it was unglaciated during the most recent glacial event about 12,000 years ago. Glaciers surrounded but did not pass over this land. The Refuge was established in 1989 to protect the federally endangered Iowa Pleistocene snail and threatened Northern Monkshood plant. Habitats that support these species are also home to other glacial-relict snail and plant species that require specific cool moist conditions to live. These species occur only on algific talus slopes or moist sandstone cliffs. In these fragile places, constant cold air exiting from a cliff or talus slope creates a unique microclimate, one that may be considerably different from areas only meters away. The Refuge is currently 922 acres, consisting of nine units in four counties in northeastern Iowa. The ultimate goal is recovery and removal of both species from the Federal list of endangered and threatened species.

O&M: Annual operation and maintenance costs would be approximately $2,000 for fencing, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge
Louisiana

Acquisition Authority: Migratory Bird Conservation Act

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 48 of 93

Location: Louisiana

Congressional Districts: 5th **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $126,173

FY 2011 Budget Request: $3,000,000

Acquisition Status:

Acquired Through FY 2009	85	46,059	$	21,529,992	$467
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	6	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	1	400	$	1,000,000	$2,500
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**1,200**	**$**	**3,000,000**	**$2,500**
Remaining	34	13,073	$	32,682,500	$2,500
Totals	**121**	**60,738**	**$**	**58,212,492**	**$958**

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve wintering habitat for mallards, pintails and wood ducks, and to contribute to the goals of the Lower Mississippi River Valley Ecosystem, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the Red-cockaded Woodpecker Recovery Plan.

Project Cooperators: None at this time.

Project Description: Funding would provide for the fee title acquisition of approximately 1,200 acres of land, a portion of a 3,875-acre tract that the Service has leased since 1997. Currently the property is cropland in rice production. Acquisition and management of this property would contribute to the goals of the refuge through the management of habitat for migratory waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds and other wildlife. This property is contiguous to approximately 13,000 acres of refuge lands, which lie east of the Ouachita River. Acquisition of this tract would provide additional habitat for large numbers of wintering waterfowl, which visit this refuge annually.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Red River National Wildlife Refuge
Louisiana

Acquisition Authority: Red River Act (P.L. 106-300)

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 54 of 93

Location: Louisiana

Congressional Districts: 4th **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriation: $5,682,059

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	11	10,291	$	8,791,826	$854
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	0	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	1	333	$	500,000	$1,502
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**755**	**$**	**1,000,000**	**$1,325**
Remaining	212	38,621	$	58,064,500	$1,503
Totals	225	50,000	$	68,356,326	$1,367

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and restore wetland habitats to support migratory and non-migratory birds and other wildlife species associated with river basin ecosystem.

Project Cooperators: Friends of Red River (FORR), The Natures Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, Caddo and Bossier Parish School Boards, Red River Waterway Commission and carbon sequestration partners.

Project Description: Funding would provide for the fee title acquisition of approximately 755 acres of land within the approved acquisition boundary of the Lower Cane River Unit of the Red River National Wildlife Refuge. This property is a portion of a larger tract that was purchased by The Conservation Fund in October 2008, in anticipation of conveyance to the Service, when funds become available. The acreage, to be acquired, is retired cropland, primarily rice, restored to bottomland hardwood forest under the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the "GoZero" Carbon Sequestration Program. This property is adjacent to the Cane River and provides habitat for migratory and non-migratory wildlife.

O&M: The Service would spend approximately $5,000 for posting of this new acquisition, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge
California

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 56 of 93

Location: 100-mile stretch of the Sacramento River between Colusa and Red Bluff, California

Congressional District: 2 **FWS Region:** 8

Total LWCF Appropriations: $0

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,300,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost ($)	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	30	10,279	$ 28,638,362	$2,786
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	2	1,306	$ 773,230	$ 592
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**4**	176	**$ 1,300,000**	$7,386
Remaining	81	6,239	$ 40,288,408	$6,458
Totals	**117**	**18,000**	**$ 71,000,000**	**$3,944**

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve riparian habitat for four federally listed endangered or threatened species and six candidate species.

Project Cooperators: State of California and The Nature Conservancy

Project Description: The funding would provide for the fee title acquisition of four tracts consisting of approximately 176 acres. The acquisition of these lands would continue the effort to protect extremely rare riparian forest habitat consisting of beneficial woodlands and wetlands adjacent to and dependent upon, the water of streams, sloughs, rivers and lakes. This riparian wetland community is considered one of the most important wildlife habitats in California and North America. The continued acquisition of lands within this project boundary would secure 60 sites along 100 miles of the riparian Sacramento River corridor. These lands would further preserve habitat for threatened and endangered species, waterfowl and other migratory birds, other wildlife, anadromous fish, and plants, as well as to restore and enhance suitable habitat for these species.

O & M Costs: The estimated associated restoration costs would be $780,000 for the proposed four tracts to be acquired.

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Minnesota

Acquisition Authority: Special Legislation: Public Law 94-466 of 10/8/76, as amended by P.L. 98-327 (98 Stat. 270). Authorized $29,500,000 until expended.

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 58 of 93

Location: Various sites along 40 miles of the Minnesota River from Minneapolis, Minnesota, upstream to the town of Jordan, Minnesota.

Congressional Districts: 1,2,3 **FWS Region 3**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $26,024,723

FY 2011 Budget Request: $750,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	169	10,925	$20,193,553	$1,848
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$0	$0
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**200**	**$750,000**	**$3,750**
Remaining	209	13,612	$8,556,447	$629
Totals	380	24,737	$29,500,000	$1,193

Purpose of Acquisition: To improve boundary administration, add land to the Refuge's habitat base, and provide for wildlife dependent recreational opportunities.

Project Cooperators: Friends of the Minnesota Valley, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Audubon Society, Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Project Description: The Service would use the funds to acquire fee title of 200 acres located along the Minnesota River located near the town of Jordan, Minnesota. The project would include preservation and restoration of tallgrass prairie, deciduous upland forests, floodplain forests, oak savannas, and wetlands.

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge is an urban wildlife oasis located along 40 miles of the Minnesota River. The Minnesota River is a vast greenbelt for more than 250 species of birds that use the area during migration, and 100-150 of these species nest in the Minnesota Valley. Every year, 30,000-40,000 waterfowl congregate in the Valley prior to fall migration. This avian diversity is complemented by approximately 50 species of mammals and 30 species of reptiles and amphibians.

O & M: Operation and maintenance costs associated with the above tracts would be minimal since these properties are located within a unit that is currently owned and administered by the Refuge. Upon acquisition, the Service would spend less than $1,500 per year to maintain the habitats and public use facilities associated with these lands.

Panther Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
Mississippi

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 61 of 93

Location: Mississippi

Congressional Districts: Mississippi 2nd **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $0

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	33	37,161	$	18,210,723	$490
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	2	5	$	25,000	$5,000
Planned FY 2010	1	256	$	500,000	$1,953
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**256**	**$**	**500,000**	**$1,953**
Remaining	20	1,676	$	2,282,712	$1,362
Totals	57	39,354	$	21,518,435	$547

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and restore bottomland hardwood habitat for migratory and non-migratory songbird, waterfowl and other wildlife.

Project Cooperators: Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy, and Carbon Sequestration Partners.

Project Description: Funding would provide for the fee title acquisition of approximately 256 acres. This property is a portion of a 4,612-acre tract, in a single ownership that is currently being used for private recreational hunting and is listed for sale. The acreage is comprised of 220 acres restored by the Conservation Reserve Program (Natural Resources Conservation Service) located outside the levee, 15 acres of bottomland hardwood forest located inside the levee and 21 acres of open land. As this tract is contiguous to the current refuge property, acquisition of this portion of the larger tract would provide increased habitat for migratory and non-migratory songbirds and waterfowl.

O&M: The Service estimates annual costs to be $5,000, which would cover law enforcement, posting boundaries, signage and boundary upkeep and fire lane maintenance. The Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Pennsylvania

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 63 of 93

Location: Within the municipalities of Chestnuthill, Delaware Water Gap, Hamilton, Ross, Smithfield, and Stroud in Monroe County, Pennsylvania

Congressional Districts: Pennsylvania 11 **FWS Region** 5

Total LWCG Appropriations: $0

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	0	0	0	0
Planned FY 2010	1	170	500,000	4,412
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**90**	**500,000**	**5,556**
Remaining	148	20,186	80,744,000	4,000
Totals	150	20,446	81,994,000	4,010

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy

Project Description: To preserve the environmental and economic health of habitats such as grassland, forest, and wetland ecosystems; for migratory birds, including waterfowl; for threatened and endangered species and other resident wildlife; and for wildlife dependent recreation and environmental education for present and future generations of Americans. Funding would provide for a conservation easement of high priority habitat on the north slope of the Kittatinny Ridge, providing critical protection for migrating raptors and other neo-tropical migrants. Future funding would be used to purchase additional tracts that would directly support the recovery of two endangered species. The tracts in question are identified in the Final Land Protection Plan dated December 2008. In addition, the tracts would support a large number of species of migratory birds and would provide recreational opportunities for hunting, fishing, and bird watching. One tract encompasses lands required by the conservation plan for Hartman Cave, hibernacula for four species of bats and an historic site for the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*). A second tract abuts lands expected to be added to the refuge in 2010, leaving only one ownership between refuge lands and the Appalachian Trail. Other tracts available contain habitat suitable for the threatened Bog turtle and would help support our efforts for recovery.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
California

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resource Act of 1986, and the Fish and Wildlife Service Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 65 of 93

Location: Approximately 10 miles south of Sacramento California at the edge of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Congressional District: 3, 5 and 10 **FWS Region:** 8

Total LWCF Appropriations: $0

FY 2011 Budget Request: $750,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost ($)	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	8	1,747	$ 6,235,621	$3,570
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	*4	4,451	$ 365,800	$82
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**110**	**$ 750,000**	**$6,818**
Remaining	46	11,333	$ 90,414,000	$7,978
Totals	59	17,641	$ 97,765,421	$5,542

* Includes a non-perpetual 1,567 acre lease and a 1,350 acre Operating Agreement.

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve and enhance habitat for resident wildlife and migratory birds, with special emphasis on plants and animals that are either listed or proposed for listing as Federal and State threatened or endangered species.

Project Cooperators: State of California, Trust for Public Lands, and Stone Lakes Refuge Association.

Project Description: The Service would use the requested funds to acquire fee title to one tract consisting of approximately 110 acres. This property is comprised of irrigated pasture, grassland, permanent wetland and riparian habitats. This property is a priority for the Service to acquire for the protection of Central Valley grasslands and wetland habitats that support migratory birds. An arm of South Stone Lake divides the property, providing a permanent water source and drainage. With additional management actions, the property's habitat types could provide high-value resources for endangered and special status species such as giant garter snake and greater sandhill cranes as well as other migratory birds.

O & M Costs: The Service estimates that the annual O&M costs would be $3,000 for boundary signage, fence repair and invasive weed control, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge
New Hampshire, Maine

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 70 of 93

Location: On the New Hampshire/Maine border, 75 miles northwest of Portland, Maine and 30 miles north of Berlin, New Hampshire.

Congressional Districts: New Hampshire 2; Maine 2 **FWS Region** 5

Total LWCF Appropriations: $20,973,295

FY 2011 Budget Request: $2,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	58	25,409	$20,476,880	$806
Planned FY 2010	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**2,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$1,000**
Remaining	211	47,303	$52,523,120	$1,110
Totals	270	74,712	$75,000,000	$1,004

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: Trust for Public Lands

Project Description: The proposed addition of 2,000 acres of fee title purchased from private landowners includes forested, shrub, and bog-like wetlands dominated by spruce, fir, and alder, several beaver ponds with associated marsh and wet meadow, and adjacent cut-over forestland in various stages of regrowth. The Lake Umbagog NWR project area focuses on one of the largest freshwater wetland complexes in New England. The lake and tributaries are bordered by extensive palustrine, lacustrine, and riverine wetlands recognized as some of the finest wildlife habitat in New Hampshire and Maine, and designated a priority North American Waterfowl Management Plan site. Wildlife values include waterfowl production and migration habitat, with a large amount of forested wetland important for black ducks and cavity nesters such as wood ducks, common goldeneye, and common and hooded mergansers. Ring-necked ducks, blue- and green-winged teal, and mallards also nest here, and the refuge functions as a staging area during migration for scaup, scoters, Canada geese, and others. The first bald eagle nest in New Hampshire since 1949 is located here, and the area is noted for its high density of nesting ospreys.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Virginia

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resource Act, Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929.

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 73 of 93

Location: From Skinkers Neck to Belle Isle State Park on the Rappahannock River.

Congressional Districts: Virginia, District 1 **FWS Region** 5

Total LWCF Appropriations: $10,166,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2009	19	6,344	$10,147,742	$1,600
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	9	1,845	$4,030,127	$2,184
Planned FY 2010	1	30	$500,000	$16,667
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**200**	**$1,000,000**	**$5,000**
Remaining	22	11,581	$34,743,000	$3,000
Totals	52	20,000	$50,420,869	$2,521

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect forested bluffs above the river shore that support high densities of eagles. To provide nesting and roosting habitat for bald eagles, waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund, Trust for Public Land, Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Project Description: The requested funds of $1,000,000 for FY 2011 would allow the fee acquisition of a portion of a parcel in the Fones Cliff area of the Rappahannock River. Fones Cliff area is listed among the highest priorities for conservation in the Land Protection Plan. These forested bluffs reach heights of nearly 100 feet above the river shore and support high concentrations of bald eagles throughout the year. Surveys conducted by boat during winter months show the highest densities of eagles, ranging from 141 to 395 eagles along a 30-mile stretch, with Fones Cliff consistently supporting dozens of birds.

Many other migratory bird species use the forests, swamps, and steep ravines found on the property, several of which are listed as species of conservation concern by the Service or the Commonwealth of Virginia. They include 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.

O & M: The Service estimates annual O&M costs at $1,000 for Service signage, boundary markings, and fencing if applicable, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

COKEVILLE MEADOWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
Wyoming

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 82 of 93

Location: 50 miles north of Evanston, Wyoming

Congressional District: At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total Appropriations: $987,400

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost*	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through 2009	7	6,466	$ 3,105,417	$ 480
Acquired Easements through 2009	2	2,473	$ 106,650	$ 43
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$ -	$ -
Proposed FY 2011	**1**	**850**	**$ 500,000**	**$ 588**
Remaining	21	18,426	$ 18,859,933	$ 1,024
Totals	31	28,215	$ 22,572,000	$ 800

*Includes lands acquired with Migratory Bird Conservation Fund

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve and protect wetland habitat along the Bear River in southwestern Wyoming for the benefit of migratory waterfowl and other migratory bird values; for resident big game, small game, fur bearers, and upland game birds; for public education and interpretive values, and for public recreational values. This conservation easement would allow the Service to preserve habitat where existing biological communities are functioning well while also maintaining the traditional rural economies for present and future generations.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy. Audubon Wyoming, Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Project Description: The Service would use the requested funds to acquire a conservation easement on one tract totaling 850 acres. This would be the first phase of a multi-phased acquisition to protect over 1,800 acres of land along the Bear River. The stretch of the Bear River that forms the nucleus of the Refuge is considered to have the best red head duck production in Wyoming and is situated on one of the main migration corridors for the species in their movement to the Texas Gulf Coast. It also supports populations of over 70 additional water bird species, including sandhill cranes, white faced ibis, trumpeter swan and Canada goose. In addition, moose, mule deer, and elk are present on the Refuge and would benefit from this acquisition.

O & M: The Service estimates annual costs at $1,000 for Service signage, boundary markings, and fencing which would be fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge
Washington

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Migratory Bird Conservation Act

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 91 of 93

Location: Approximately 20 miles southwest of Spokane, Washington on the eastern edge of the Columbia Basin in the Channeled Scablands region of Spokane County in eastern Washington

Congressional Districts: 5 **FWS Region:** 1

Total LWCF Appropriations: $1,500,000

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,640,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	67	18,218**	$1,286,880**	$71
Acquired Easements Through FY 2009	1	45*	0	0
Planned FY 2010	2	567	$1,500,000	2,646
Proposed FY 2011	**3**	**744**	**$1,640,000**	**$2,204**
Remaining	33	15,550	$46,986,000	$3,012
Totals	106	35,124	$51,412,880	$1,464

* Included in total acres. ** Includes 15,409 acres acquired with $942,853 MBCF funds.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect water quality and quantity for wildlife and habitat, particularly migratory birds, to protect a critically endangered ecosystem (Palouse steppe); to provide protection for threatened and proposed species and other species in decline over widespread areas of the Interior Columbia Basin; to provide protection for the core of the Refuge against rapid development pressures**.**

Project Cooperators: Includes National Resource Conservation Service, State of Washington, Spokane County, The Nature Conservancy of Washington, Inland Northwest Land Trust and Ducks Unlimited

Project Description: The $1,640,000 requested would acquire fee title to three properties from private landowners. The first parcel (160 acres) is rocky uplands and low-lying wetlands, seeps and ponds within the original approved boundary. The second parcel (297 acres) is mixed open and timbered uplands and wet depressions and would be the first acquisition within the 44,388-acre Stewardship Area. The third parcel (287 acres) is lakefront in scabland habitat at the edge of the Palouse prairie. The Land Protection Plan authorizes the acquisition of up to 12,000 acres within the Stewardship Area outside the originally approved refuge boundary. Acquisition of these properties would protect water quality and quantity, intact wetlands, ponderosa pine and aspen; provide further protection for species in decline in the Interior Columbia Basin Eco-region; and assist in the recovery of federally listed species including Howellia aquatilis and Silene spaldingii. Other threats include encroaching urban/suburban/exurban development from nearby Cheney and Spokane, excessive groundwater withdrawals, timber harvesting and certain ranching practices.

O&M: The Service would use $20,000 initially for fencing, removing old fencing, installing gates and posting of refuge or tract boundaries, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
Utah

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: No. 92 of 93

Location: Box Elder County, Utah (west of Brigham City, at the north end of the Great Salt Lake)

Congressional District: 1 **FWS Region 6**

Total Appropriations: $1,876,500 from Inholding and Emergency/Hardship Funds

FY 2011 Budget Request: $1,500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through 2009	9	46	$ 500	$11
Acquired Easements through 2009	25	73,950	$ 4,729,959	$64
Planned FY 2010	1	433	$ 1,300,000	$3,000
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**500**	**$ 1,500,000**	**$3,000**
Remaining	Multi	30,641	$91,800,436	$2,996
Totals	Multi	105,570	$99,320,503	$941

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect migratory waterfowl habitat and delta wetlands. Migratory birds, waterfowl, shorebirds, as well as resident wildlife, depend on the refuge for feeding, breeding, and as a staging area. The refuge serves a vital role in the Bear River delta ecosystem by protecting, developing and managing over 41,000 acres of wetlands.

Project Cooperators: Trust for Public Lands, Western Rivers Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge.

Project Description: The requested funds would partially fund acquisition of fee title of 500 acres from a 700-acre tract owned by a private landowner with an appraised value of $2,100,000. The property features large wetlands, marshland, grasslands, riparian areas and grain fields that would benefit migratory birds and shore birds. Water rights are included in the acquisition. The property is an important part of the Refuge's marshland ecosystem and would allow for more efficient use of water resources on adjacent Refuge lands, as well as long-term viability and health of wildlife habitat. The area is important to migratory bird species using both the Central and Pacific flyways, conserving habitat where biological communities would flourish.

O & M: The Service would spend a minimal amount for boundary posting and signage, estimated at less than $10,000 per year, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge
South Carolina

Acquisition Authority: Migratory Bird Conservation Act; Refuge Recreation Act; Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: Not Ranked

Location: Coastal southeast South Carolina

Congressional Districts: South Carolina 1st **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $799,688

FY 2011 Budget Request: $500,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	12	66,107	$	848,916	$13
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	180	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$	-	$0
Proposed FY 2011	**3**	**73**	**$**	**500,000**	**$6,849**
Remaining	6	408	$	765,000	$1,875
Totals	21	66,768	$	2,113,916	$32

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, the Seewee to Santee Community Development Corporation, Ducks Unlimited, and The Nature Conservancy.

Project Description: Funding would provide for the purchase of fee title for approximately 73 acres of high priority habitat on Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge from private landowners. The funding would be used to purchase up to three tracts at a total cost of $500,000. The acquisition of these tracts would directly support the recovery of wood storks and other endangered species and support over 200 species of migratory birds. Acquisition of these tracts would provide recreational opportunities for hunting, fishing, and bird watching.

The forested areas of the islands consist of maritime forests dominated by southern red cedar and loblolly pine. This habitat type is rapidly disappearing due to coastal development and is threatened in many other areas due to accelerated coastal erosion and sea level rise. Of the 66,287 acres managed by the refuge, there are 31,976 terrestrial acres of which, only 3,124 acres are maritime forest. These maritime forest areas are important foraging and resting sites for migratory songbirds and provide key nesting habitats for resident species including declining species such as painted buntings. The shores of these islands provide excellent habitat for migratory shorebirds and provide untouched feeding grounds for the American oyster catcher. A significant long-term rookery of endangered wood storks utilize the area for foraging and loafing is located adjacent to these tracts in the Santee Coastal Reserve.

Development along the coast of South Carolina continues to increase at a rapid pace. The City of Mount Pleasant is expanding north and encroaching upon the refuge. Therefore, acquiring these properties would eliminate the last private inholding between the northwest boundary of the refuge and the Intracoastal

Waterway (ICW). This would allow the ICW to become a buffer against further development for the entire western boundary of the refuge.

The Service LAPS ranks only active land acquisition projects with willing sellers. This project was not ranked for the 2011 LAPS as the list was completed in May 2009, and we were not aware that an opportunity existed to acquire land at this site.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge
Alabama and Mississippi

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986, Endangered Species Act of 1973, Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2011 LAPS Rank: Not Ranked

Location: Mobile County, Alabama and Jackson County, Mississippi

Congressional Districts: Alabama 1st ,Missisippi 4th **FWS Region:** 4

Total LWCF Appropriations: $5,017,366

FY 2011 Budget Request: $450,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres		Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Through FY 2009	78	10,289	$	3,895,906	$379
Acquired Easements through FY 2009	0	0	$	-	$0
Planned FY 2010	0	0	$	-	$0
Proposed FY 2011	**2**	**1,123**	**$**	**450,000**	**$401**
Remaining	13	4,053	$	5,682,060	$1,402
Totals	**93**	**15,465**	**$**	**10,027,966**	**$648**

Purpose of Acquisition: to develop, protect, enhance, conserve, manage fish and wildlife resources for the benefit of the Service, and conserve fish, wildlife, and plants that are listed as endangered or threatened species. To conserve wetlands in order to maintain the public benefits they provide and to help fulfill international obligations contained in various migratory bird treaties and conventions.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund, Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR)

Project Description: The funds would be used to purchase fee title to two tracts in FY 2011 from private landowners. The first tract would be fee title purchase of a 478-acre tract in Jackson County, Mississippi. This tract is in the northern portion of the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge and borders the Alabama state line to the east. The acquisition of this property would improve the habitat for migratory birds such as mallards, pintails, teal, and Canada geese. This acquisition represents some of the best wintering habitat in the region.

The second tract would be fee title purchase of a 645-acre tract in Mobile County, Alabama. This acquisition would also benefit migratory birds and protect vital wetland habitat.

Acquisition of these lands would support the annual population objective of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, by contributing 20 percent (3,600 ducks) of a midwinter population of approximately 18,000 ducks in the Coastal Mississippi Wetlands Initiative Area. For all other migratory birds, the refuge would provide habitats sufficient to meet the population goals of regional and national bird conservation plans. The acquisition would complement and enhance favorable conditions for gopher tortoises (200 acres) and for the possible reintroduction of 12-15 Mississippi sandhill cranes (5-7 nesting pairs) and the gopher frog (creating two ponds). In partnership with Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR), the refuge would greatly expand research opportunities. This acquisition would allow for greater utilization of prescribed fire to manage habitat and reduce hazardous fuels by

consolidating noncontiguous lands within the approved acquisition boundary of Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Finally, this acquisition, would complement the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) goal of 100% acquisition of lands within the approved acquisition boundary within 10 years of CCP implementation.

The Service LAPS ranks only active land acquisition projects with willing sellers. This project was not ranked for the 2011 LAPS as the list was completed in May 2009, and we were not aware that an opportunity existed to acquire land at this site.

O&M: The Service would use approximately $15,000 for posting these acquisitions, which the Service would fund out of Refuge System base funding.

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
LAND ACQUISITION

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)	2009	2010	2011
Identification code 14-5020-0-302	Actual	Estimate	Estimate
Obligations by program activity:			
Direct program:			
00.01 Acquisition management	9	10	13
00.02 Emergencies and hardships	2	2	2
00.03 Exchanges	2	2	2
00.04 Inholdings	3	3	3
00.05 CAM	0	2	2
00.06 Federal refuges (refuge land payments)	34	67	84
01.00 Total, direct program	50	86	106
09.00 Reimbursable program	0	0	0
10.00 Total new obligations	50	86	106
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
21.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	27	20	20
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	42	86	106
22.10 Resources available from recoveries of prior year obligations	1	0	0
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	70	106	126
23.95 Total new obligations (-)	-50	-86	-106
24.40 Unobligated balance carried forward, end of year	20	20	20
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
Discretionary:			
40.20 Appropriation (special fund) [14-5005-0-302-N-0503-01]	42	86	106
Change in obligated balances:			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	13	29	63
73.10 Total new obligations	50	86	106
73.20 Total outlays, gross (-)	-33	-52	-98
73.45 Recoveries of prior year obligations	-1	0	0
74.4 Obligated Balance, end of year	29	63	71
Outlays, (gross) detail:			
86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority	26	35	64
86.93 Outlays from discretionary balances	7	17	34
87.00 Total outlays (gross)	33	52	98
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00 Budget authority	42	86	106
90.00 Outlays (net)	33	52	98

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)	2009	2010	2011
Identification code 14-5020-0-302	Actual	Estimate	Estimate
Direct obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	6	8	8
11.9 Total personnel compensation	6	8	8
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	2	2	2
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	1	1	1
25.2 Other services	2	2	5
25.3 Purchases of goods and services from Government accounts	1	1	1
32.0 Land and structures	37	72	89
99.95 Below reporting threshold	1		
99.0 Subtotal, direct obligations	50	86	106
Personnel Summary:			
Direct:			
Total compensable workyears:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	75	87	87