

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT
MEXICO GRANTS SUMMARIES, 2024-2 CYCLE

Project Name: WATERFOWL HABITAT CONSERVATION & ENHANCEMENT IN LAGUNA MADRE

Location: TAMAULIPAS

Grantee Organization: PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C.

Project Officer: Jesus Alejandro Salazar Ortiz

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C., TERRA ASESORIA AMBIENTAL S.C.

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$577,920.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$604,240.00

Joint Venture: RIO GRANDE

Project Description: The small freshwater wetlands surrounding the Laguna Madre are essential resting and feeding sites for migratory birds, and adjacent agricultural fields also provide food, water, and shelter to many migratory birds. The nationally protected area is one of the most important sites in the Gulf of Mexico for migratory waterfowl, where 15% of all migratory birds that arrive in Mexico from the United States and Canada spend the winter, including Wilson's Plover and Piping Plover. This project will carry out multiple specific objectives, for example, enhancement of (489.06) acres in La Blanca Lagoon wetland in Los Compadres by clearing a drainage channel and removing wetland sediments; enhancement of (271.7) acres in Laguna Verde ranch through removal of sediments on wetlands; enhancement of 9,176.05 acres of the Barril Lagoon system through the recovery of the hydrological flow in the intersection of the "Principal" and "Las Vacas" drainage channels through rehabilitation of culverts; and environmental education campaigns to raise awareness of invasive catfish in communities in the northern zone of the national protected area.

Project Name: MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRATED INITIATIVE FOR THE CONS & MGMT OF LAKE CUITZEO VI

Location: GUANAJUATO, MICHOACAN

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C.

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: COMISION ESTATAL DEL AGUA Y GESTION DE CUENCAS MICHOACAN, COMISION NACIONAL DEL AGUA (CONAGUA), DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., MUNICIPIO DE ACAMBARO, MUNICIPIO DE COPANDARO, MUNICIPIO DE ZINAPECUARO, UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA, UNIVERSIDAD MICHOACANA DE SAN NICOLAS DE HIDALGO

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$931,566.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$4,431,021.00

Project Description: Cuitzeo Lake is the second largest natural freshwater lake in the country and is one of the most important wetlands for wintering waterfowl in the central highland region. It is home to 1.5% of the world population of Black-necked Stilt. Other species recorded in high numbers at the lake include American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope and Snowy Plover. This project will enhance (3,050.45) acres through the installation of systems to decrease contaminants and enhance the water quality in Cuitzeo Lake, and will monitor for lake habitat quality, aquatic vegetation, waterfowl, and shorebirds. This project will also train 200 teachers in environmental education and 125 farmers in alternative, environmentally friendly techniques.

Project Name: MARISMAS NACIONALES WETLANDS MGMT WITH INNOVATIVE POLICIES & BEST PRACTICES II

Location: NAYARIT, SINALOA

Grantee Organization: VOCES POR LA NATURALEZA, A.C.

Project Officer: Ernesto Bolado Martinez

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: CENTRO NAYARITA DE INNOVACION Y TRANSFERENCIA DE TECNOLOGIA, GONZALO RIO ARRONTE FOUNDATION, MUNICIPALITY OF ESCUINAPA, SECRETARIA DE DESARROLLO SUSTENTABLE DE NAYARIT (SDS), UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE CHAPINGO, VOCES POR LA NATURALEZA, A.C.

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$380,630.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$636,357.00

Project Description: Marismas Nacionales is the biggest and most productive mangrove wetland in Pacific North America. Its 494,200 acres of brackish lagoons support the reproduction, nesting, feeding, and breeding of 70,000 migratory waterfowl and over 200,000 shorebirds. This project will carry out three activities within this area. 1) Restore 247 acres of abandoned shrimp farms in an intertidal estuarine area of the federal maritime terrestrial zone of Escuinapa that will be registered as a "Federal Premises for Conservation and Agreement for Sustainable Use" agreement. 2) Manage 1,185.6 acres of agricultural land and (7,496.45) acres of fishing lagoons as Environmental Managements Units, to reduce the runoff of agrochemicals and siltation on wetlands in the municipalities of Escuinapa, Tecuala, and Rosamorada. 3) Build capacity in the municipalities of Escuinapa, Tecuala, and Rosamorada to comply with Land Use Plans as well as with their policies for the protection, sustainable use, restoration, and conservation.

Project Name: HYDROLOGICAL RESTORATION OF ESTUARINE WETLANDS AT RIA LAGARTOS BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Location: YUCATAN

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C.

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION CIENTIFICA DE YUCATAN (CICY), CENTRO PARA LA GESTION DE LA SUSTENTABILIDAD (CEGES), DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., MECO TOURS S.C. DE R.L., SERVICIOS ECOTURISTICOS YALMAKAN S.C. DE R.L., UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA, UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO (UNAM), UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO - UNAM-MERIDA

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$499,719.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$557,491.00

Project Description: Ría Lagartos Biosphere Reserve used to be a highly productive habitat that supported 50,000 waterfowl, 80,000 shorebirds, 150,000 wading birds and a flamingo colony of 15,000 individuals. There are records of waterfowl species of high continental concern such as the Lesser Scaup and Northern Pintail. The area is important for 35 species listed in the U.S. Endangered Species Act or the USFWS list of birds of conservation concern, including 17 shorebirds species and 8 species of land birds, such as the White-crowned Pigeon, Mangrove Cuckoo and Black-billed Cuckoo. This project will conduct several activities, including: 1) hydrological restoration of 4,179.24 acres of coastal wetlands; 2) development of baseline information to guide wetland restoration strategies in the Ría Lagartos federal protected area; 3) implementation and evaluation of a participatory territorial planning program; 4) training of 100 schoolteachers in El Cuyo; and 5) habitat quality assessments that evaluate salinity, hydroperiod, ground and aerial habitat use by birds, and productivity changes.

Project Name: HYDROLOGICAL RESTORATION OF ESTUARINE WETLANDS AT PETENES BIOSPHERE RESERVE I

Location: CAMPECHE

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C.

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION CIENTIFICA DE YUCATAN (CICY), COOPERATIVA CENTRO RECREATIVO LOS CACHITOS, DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., MANGROVE KING FISHING LODGE, SERVICIOS ECOTURISTICOS CAREY, S.C., UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA, UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO (UNAM), UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO - UNAM-MERIDA

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$276,792.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$291,911.00

Project Description: The Petenes Biosphere Reserve serves as a biological corridor for migratory and resident birds, including American Flamingo, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Pintail, American Wigeon and Lesser Scaup. This project will restore hydrology to 2,630.55 acres of wetlands, enhance 271.7 acres of wetlands modified by the construction of abandoned shrimp farm infrastructure, monitor habitat quality (salinity, hydroperiod, aerial and terrestrial habitat use, productivity, and fisheries), train local educators in surrounding communities, and develop a pilot project for ecotourism activities that will benefit of 25 families in local communities.

Project Name: HYDROLOGICAL RESTORATION IN MARISMAS NACIONALES BIOSPHERE RESERVE, NAYARIT II

Location: NAYARIT

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C.

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: COMISION NACIONAL DEL AGUA (CONAGUA), DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$798,710.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$2,021,098.00

Project Description: The Marismas Nacionales is a federal natural protected area that is one of the largest coastal wetlands in Mexico. It hosts several species considered to be of high continental priority in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. This project will restore the hydrology of 6,807.32 acres of coastal wetlands, including 2,964 acres of dead mangrove in Marismas Nacionales. It will also evaluate habitat quality, including hydroperiod, productivity, aquatic vegetation, and habitat use by waterfowl, shorebirds, and other waterbirds.

Project Name: CONSERVATION OF WATERFOWL & SHOREBIRDS IN PRIORITY WETLANDS OF NW MEXICO
Location: (County) BCN-BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE, BCS-BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, COL-COLIMA, SIN-SINALOA

Grantee Organization: PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C.

Project Officer: Gustavo Danemann

Project Country: MX

Partner Name: FONDO MEXICANO PARA LA CONSERVACION DE LA NATURALEZA, A.C., PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C., UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

Date approved: 05/08/2024

Grant Award Amount: \$533,192.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$6,757,995.00

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: The Colorado River Delta in Baja California is one of the most important sites for migratory waterbirds in Mexico, supporting over 350,000 wintering shorebirds and 60,000 ducks and geese. Bahía Magdalena in Baja California Sur includes 33% of the total population of Black Oystercatcher. Laguna Cuyutlán in Colima is the fourth largest coastal wetland in the country. Bahía Santa María in Sinaloa is one of the two most important sites in Mexico according to the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network and is especially important for Lesser Scaup and Redhead. Bahía de Ceuta in Sinaloa encompasses mangroves and estuaries and is particularly important for Snowy Plover. Bahía Ohuira in Sinaloa hosts an astounding abundance of migratory birds. This project will carry out many activities, including: the acquisition of 7,590.31 acres of critical habitats in Bahía Magdalena and 74.1 acres in Bahía Santa María; legal designation of an Area Voluntarily Destined to Conservation on those two properties; integration of the Technical Justification Study to support the designation of two state parks covering 7,410 acres in Laguna Cuyutlán and 57,224.96 acres in the Colorado River; update of the Ramsar site technical document for Laguna Cuyutlán; development of the business and management plans for properties acquired in Bahía Magdalena and Bahía Santa María; installation of habitat management signs in Laguna Cuyutlán and Bahía Ohuira; resource management planning for properties owned by the grantee in Santa María Bay and Bahía Magdalena; designation of the advisory council of the Playa Ceuta Sanctuary; deployment of one MOTUS station in Bahía Magdalena; biennial monitoring of habitat condition and shorebird and waterfowl populations in the priority wetlands considered in this project; design of new courses for our shorebird and waterfowl conservation education program; and holding a bird tourism workshop in Bahía Ohuira.