



# NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT (NAWCA)

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## CYCLE 2025-2 PROJECT SUMMARIES

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*\*All three country projects listed below are in Migratory Bird Conservation Commission ranked order.*

## **FY2025-2 Canada Projects**

Project Name: CANADIAN PRAIRIE POTHOLE & WESTERN BOREAL HABITAT PROGRAM

Location (Providence): AB-ALBERTA, BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA, MB-MANITOBA, NT-NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, NU-NUNAVUT, SK-SASKATCHEWAN, YT-YUKON

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Project Officer: Dave Kustersky

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Grant Award Amount: \$27,040,000.00

Match Amount: \$27,040,000.00

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE HABITAT

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 6-Boreal Taiga Plains

Project Description: This is the second project for an anticipated multi-year grant agreement essential to DUC's conservation efforts. This project builds upon past NAWCA accomplishments by securing 69,421 acres, enhancing 112,535 acres, managing 4,056,089 acres, and stewarding 8,413,547 acres. The results will contribute to a growing network of conserved wetlands and associated habitats in the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture: This project outlines a crucial conservation initiative for North American waterfowl in a location recognized as a top priority by DUC, the United States, and Mexico.

Project Name: EASTERN HABITAT JOINT VENTURE: CONSERVATION PROGRAM

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

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Project Officer: David Kustersky

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Grant Award Amount: \$6,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,000,000.00

Joint Venture: EASTERN HABITAT

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

Project Description::: This project activities will secure 7,246 acres, enhance 697 acres and steward 170 acres of wetland and upland habitat, which will achieve goals outlined in the EHJV Implementation Plan. The project activities also include management of 1,066,685 acres of previously secured NAWCA habitat. DUC's project activities within the EHJV Target Areas will meet the distinct regional needs of waterfowl by addressing key factors benefiting eastern waterfowl populations especially duckling survival. This project will benefit EHJV waterfowl population goals for six priority breeding species: American Black Duck, Mallard, Wood Duck, Common and Barrow's Goldeneye, and Common Eider.

Project Name: ONTARIO, QUEBEC & ATLANTIC: WETLAND & UPLAND HABITAT CONSERVATION, EHJV

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

Grantee Organization: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Project Officer: Courtney Gregg

Partner Name: AMERICAN FRIENDS OF CANADIAN NATURE (AFCN), THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Grant Award Amount: \$2,969,000.00

Match Amount: \$2,969,000.00

Joint Venture: EASTERN HABITAT

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

Project Description::: This project will benefit NAWCA by acquiring 3,200 acres to be secured, managing 82,700 acres, and stewarding a total of 200 acres in EHJV priority areas to prevent wetland loss, restore wetland habitat, conserve associated upland habitat, and ensure the protection of wintering, molting, breeding, and staging areas for hundreds of bird species such as American Wigeon and Blue-winged Teal. Activities will be targeted to EHJV priority areas, particularly where habitat overlaps NCC's priority Natural Areas.

Project Name: PROTECTING WETLANDS & UPLANDS ACROSS THE CANADIAN PRAIRIES

Location (Providence): AB-ALBERTA, MB-MANITOBA, SK-SASKATCHEWAN

Grantee Organization: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Project Officer: Courtney Gregg

Partner Name: AMERICAN FRIENDS OF CANADIAN NATURE (AFCN), THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Grant Award Amount: \$2,918,000.00

Match Amount: \$2,918,000.00

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE HABITAT

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 6-Boreal Taiga Plains

Project Description: Activities in this project will contribute to PHJV goals of healthy and diverse prairie parklands and boreal landscapes that support healthy and sustainable bird populations and provide ecological and economic benefits. The PHJV targets the Prairie Parklands and Western Boreal Forest as these are the two most important breeding areas for waterfowl in North America. NCC will complete perpetual securement of 2,065 acres in the Prairie Parkland and manage and steward NAWCA projects secured across the Prairie Parkland and Western Boreal Forest. Securement activities will protect 275 acres of wetlands and 1,790 acres of associated upland habitat for waterfowl and other wetland-associated migratory birds such as Green-winged Teal, Redhead, and Spotted Sandpiper. Permanent protection of these habitats provides quality feeding, resting, nesting, and brood rearing habitat.

Project Name: BRITISH COLUMBIA PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT & CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN CONSERVATION

Location (Providence): BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Project Officer: Dave Kustersky

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Grant Award Amount: \$2,150,000.00

Match Amount: \$2,150,000.00

Joint Venture: CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN, PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT

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

Project Description: This is the first project of an anticipated multi-year grant agreement to deliver science-based habitat conservation projects. This project will continue to extend its network of NAWCA-funded conservation lands by securing 650 acres, enhancing 120 rangeland acres (20 wetland and 100 upland acres), and enhancing 356 acres via water level restoration. In the PBHJV, this project will enhance 34 acres of coastal estuary habitat, supporting migrating and overwintering waterfowl. Some waterfowl species that will benefit from this project include Barrow's Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, and Ruddy Duck.

Project Name: POTHOLE PLUS

Location (Providence): AB-ALBERTA, MB-MANITOBA, SK-SASKATCHEWAN

Grantee Organization: MANITOBA HABITAT CONSERVANCY

Project Officer: Roald Stander

Partner Name: DELTA WATERFOWL FOUNDATION, MANITOBA HABITAT CONSERVANCY

Grant Award Amount: \$1,575,000.00

Match Amount: \$1,575,000.00

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE HABITAT

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 6-Boreal Taiga Plains

Project Description: This project will accomplish activities through securing, enhancing, and managing a total of 120,827 acres of habitat in the PPR to benefit waterfowl and wetland-associated migratory birds such as Yellow Rail, Marsh Wren, Bufflehead, and Canvasback. Actions will directly contribute to protecting critical waterfowl habitats that attract breeding waterfowl and provide nesting, brood-rearing, and essential staging habitats for migration. The activities will also enhance biodiversity and preserve the essential ecosystem services wetlands provide to the communities who live and work in the area.

Project Name: BRITISH COLUMBIA PBHJV & CIJV WETLAND BIRD HABITAT CONSERVATION

Location (Providence): BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA

Grantee Organization: THE NATURE TRUST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Project Officer: Mary Speer

Partner Name: AMERICAN FRIENDS OF CANADIAN CONSERVATION, THE NATURE TRUST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Grant Award Amount: \$1,458,000.00

Match Amount: \$1,458,000.00

Joint Venture: CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN, PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT

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

Project Description: Project activities are focused within Regionally Significant Wetland Areas of the Lower Fraser Basin and the Columbia River Basin within the Pacific Bird Habitat Joint Venture (PBHJV) and an estuary along the west coast of Vancouver Island within the Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture (CIJV). Overall, this project will secure 230 acres, 22 acres of nearshore shallow marine habitat in the PBHJV, and 1,227 acres in the CIJV. Migrating and wintering waterfowl habitat for priority species including Mallard, American Wigeon, and Barrow's Goldeneye will be protected in perpetuity.



Project Name: BRITISH COLUMBIA WETLAND-ASSOCIATED MIGRATORY BIRD HABITAT CONSERVATION

Location (Providence): BC-BRITISH COLUMBIA

Grantee Organization: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Project Officer: Courtney Gregg

Partner Name: AMERICAN FRIENDS OF CANADIAN NATURE (AFCN), THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

Grant Award Amount: \$890,000.00

Match Amount: \$890,000.00

Joint Venture: CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN, PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT

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

Project Description::: The project activities will build on on-going efforts to support the goals of both CIJV and PBHJV, including permanent wetland habitat retention through fee acquisition securement of 326.6 acres, and the management of wetland and upland habitat of 59,500 acres through monitoring wetland health, invasive species removal, and managing livestock grazing pressure. Waterfowl species that will benefit from the securement include Mallard, Lesser Scaup, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, and Barrow's Goldeneye.

## **FY2025-2 Mexico Projects**

Project Name: ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY IN LAGUNA DE SANTIAGUILLO WITHIN THE MIDCONTINENT FLYWAY

Location (Providence): DGO-DURANGO

Grantee Organization: PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C.

Project Officer: Salvador Narvaez Torres

Partner Name: MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVO IDEAL, PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C., SRNMA, UNIVERSIDAD JUAREZ DEL ESTADO DE DURANGO (UJED)

Grant Award Amount: \$693,838.00

Match Amount: \$1,162,177.00

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: The Santiaguillo Lagoon is an important stopover for waterfowl, shorebirds, and waterbirds on their migratory journey in the Chihuahuan desert. This project will: (1) legally protect 11,149.58 acres in key sites of the Santiaguillo Lagoon watershed through conservation agreements; (2) improve runoff in the watershed on 238.35 acres through dams and stone borders; (3) implement sustainable livestock management actions on 1,086.80 acres; (4) monitor shorebirds and bioaccumulation of pollutants in the Santiaguillo lagoon; and (5) carry out environmental education on the importance of the migratory birds of the Santiaguillo Lagoon. Bird species that will benefit from this project includes Bufflehead, Northern Shoveler, and Dunlin.

Project Name: WETLAND ENHANCEMENT IN A KARST SYSTEM IN SISAL, YUCATAN

Location (Providence): YUC-YUCATAN

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

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Partner Name: CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION CIENTIFICA DE YUCATAN (CICY), COOPERATIVA RIVERENOS DE SISAL, DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., EJIDO CHUBURNA PUERTO, SECRETARIA DE DESARROLLO SUSTENTABLE DE YUCATAN (SDS), SERVICIOS ECOTURISTICOS YUC-SISAL S.C., UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO (UNAM)

Grant Award Amount: \$501,973.00

Match Amount: \$504,549.00

Project Description: The Los Petenes-Celestún-El Palmar biological corridor in the Yucatán is one of the priority areas of the waterfowl and shorebirds national strategy documents. Some bird species that benefit from this area includes Lesser Scaup, Fulvous Whistling Duck, Marbled Godwit, and Willet. This project will: 1) Enhance resting and foraging sites for migratory birds in 3,211.00 acres of coastal wetlands in the northern part of the state of Yucatán. 2) Monitor habitat quality indicators (salinity, hydroperiod, habitat use, submerged aquatic vegetation coverage, and fisheries). 3) Develop an environmental interpretation program for community ecotourism.

Project Name: ENHANCEMENT OF WETLANDS IN RURAL ENVIRONMENTS AT THE RIO BRAVO DELTA

Location (Providence): TAMPS-TAMAULIPAS

Grantee Organization: HABITATS RESILIENTES AC (HRAC)

Project Officer: Jose Alfredo Alvarez Cerda

Partner Name: COMISION DE PARQUES Y BIODIVERSIDAD DE TAMAULIPAS (CPBT), GEOTEK TECNOLOGIAS GEOGRAFICAS S.C., HABITATS RESILIENTES AC (HRAC), INSTITUTO TECNOLOGICO DE MATAMOROS, JUNTA DE AGUAS DE MATAMOROS (JAD), SECRETARIA DE DESARROLLO ECONOMICO Y TURISMO DE MATAMOROS

Grant Award Amount: \$240,571.00

Match Amount: \$449,765.00

Joint Venture: RIO GRANDE

Project Description: The Rio Grande delta and Laguna Madre in Mexico stand out as one of the largest and with the best habitat conditions for waterfowl along the Central and Gulf Coast Region of Mexico migratory routes. This project will: i) Legally protect 6,891.30 acres of wintering habitat. ii) Enhance a total of (896.61) acres of freshwaters wetlands in three properties: La Lomita (227.24) acres; Caballero (27.17) acres; and La Burrita (642.2) acres. iii) Monitor bird populations along the Rio Grande delta. iv) Analyze how to reconnect and restore freshwater wetlands in 73,191.00 acres. v) Train 40 environmental promoters to foster community development projects and raise awareness among 600 elementary schoolers. Bird species benefiting from the activities in this project include Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, and Snowy Plover.

Project Name: HABITAT RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT FOR WATERFOWL IN SANTIAGUILLO LAGOON III

Location (Providence): DGO-DURANGO

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

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVO IDEAL, MUNICIPALITY OF SANTIAGO PAPASQUIARO, SRNMA

Grant Award Amount: \$879,827.00

Match Amount: \$896,019.00

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: The Santiaguillo Lagoon is recognized internationally as a priority wintering habitat for waterbirds and shorebirds such as American Wigeon, Green-winged Teal, and Solitary Sandpiper. This project will: restore (1,825.33) acres of seasonal wetlands previously protected during phase II; enhance (9,880.00) acres through habitat management practices that promote productivity in previously restored areas in the southern portion of Laguna de Santiaguillo; improve water quality in the lagoon's watershed through the rehabilitation and expansion of drainage networks to prevent wastewater from flowing directly into the lagoon; conserve soil through reforestation on (24.70) acres and eco-technologies that will reduce sedimentation and eutrophication. It will also educate the local community about the importance of the lagoon for wildlife and people.

Project Name: HYDROLOGICAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION IN MARISMAS NACIONALES IV

Location (Providence): NAY-NAYARIT

Grantee Organization: ORGANIZACION VIDA SILVESTRE, A.C.

Project Officer: Cindy Josefina Iribe Reyes

Partner Name: EJIDO FRANCISCO VILLA, EJIDO SAN MIGUEL, ORGANIZACION VIDA SILVESTRE, A.C.

Grant Award Amount: \$233,860.00

Match Amount: \$348,690.00

Project Description: The Ramsar site Marismas Nacionales is a mosaic of river meanders, river deltas, marshes, freshwater lagoons, estuaries, coastal lagoons, intertidal wetlands, and coastal dunes. It is home to the largest area of mangroves on the Mexican Pacific coast and very important for migratory birds in the Mexican Pacific flyway, providing high-quality feeding and resting sites for 15 migratory species. This project will expand and consolidate actions and activities developed during phases I, II and III. This phase will: protect 35,975.55 acres and (494.00) previously affected acres of wetlands through legal protection mechanisms in Ejido Francisco Villa and Ejido San Miguel. It will also enhance the hydrology of (1,605.50) acres and monitor birds and water quality at two sites. Bird species that will benefit from this project includes Wood Duck, Short-billed Dowitcher, and Black Skimmer.

Project Name: RESTORING SHRIMP & CATTLE FARMS TO CREATE CRITICAL SANCTUARIES FOR MIG BIRDS II

Location (Providence): VER-VERACRUZ

Grantee Organization: RED DE VIVEROS DE BIODIVERSIDAD A.C.

Project Officer: Anibal Farabundo Ramirez Soto

Partner Name: EJIDO COLONIA LA REFORMA, EJIDO TRES GARANTIAS, EJIDO VILLAHERMOSA, INSTITUTO DE ECOLOGIA, A.C. (INECOL), MUNICIPIO DE IXMATLAHUACAN, PRACTICA VERACRUZANA SAPI DE CV, RED DE VIVEROS DE BIODIVERSIDAD A.C., UNIVERSIDAD VERACRUZANA

Grant Award Amount: \$427,089.00

Match Amount: \$491,953.00

Project Description: The Tamiahua Lagoon System and the Alvarado Lagoon System are the largest wetlands in the State of Veracruz, both within one of the main bird migratory routes in the Gulf Coast Region of Mexico. Bird species that use this area includes Northern Pintail, Gull-billed Tern, Wood Stork, and Snowy Plover. This project will: 1) Legally protect 8,034.91 acres in Tamiahua Lagoon System, 25,594.14 acres in Alvarado Lagoon System, and formalize the legal protection of (17,603.69) acres in Alvarado Lagoon System under a private or governmental mechanism. 2) Restore (3,211.00 acres) through the clearing and desilting of (4.96) miles of canals. Enhance (4,885.66) acres of habitat through clearing, desilting, and reforestation of pond edges in Tamiahua Lagoon system.

Project Name: FRESHWATER WETLANDS ENHANCEMENT TO COMPENSATE HABITAT LOSS AT SANTA MARIA BAY

Location (Providence): SIN-SINALOA

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

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente

Partner Name: CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C., LOC-EJIDO SANTA MARIA DEL PLAYON

Grant Award Amount: \$408,916.00

Match Amount: \$425,418.00

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: Santa Maria Bay in Sinaloa is considered a priority wetland for waterfowl and shorebirds according to the Mexican National Strategies for waterfowl and shorebirds. This project will complete a conservation agreement for the protection of 5,379.66 acres at El Playón Peninsula for 10 years and will enhance (1,136.2) acres of freshwater wetlands at this site. It will also monitor aquatic productivity and evaluate bird habitat use, and train 45 people from adjacent communities in low-impact environmental farming techniques. Bird species that will benefit from the activities outlined in this project include Cinnamon Teal, Pacific Black Brant, and American Avocet.



Project Name: CONSERVATION OF COASTAL WETLANDS FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS IN TAMAULIPAS

Location (Providence): TAMPS-TAMAULIPAS

Grantee Organization: PRONATURA NORESTE, A.C.

Project Officer: Jesus Alejandro Salazar Ortiz

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

Grant Award Amount: \$502,178.00

Match Amount: \$503,976.00

Joint Venture: RIO GRANDE

Project Description: The "Laguna Madre and Delta del Rio Grande River Delta Flora and Fauna Protection Area" (APFFLMDRB) was established because it is one of the most important areas for the conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems in the Gulf Region of Mexico. This project will conduct many activities in the area, and a few include updating the APFFLMDRB Management Program, developing a Work Plan to protect 2,050.10 acres of "Marismas de Altamira" in Tamaulipas, and controlling erosion in (617.50) acres through soil stabilization by maintaining mangrove forests in priority areas of Laguna Morales, Soto La Marina, Laguna Balsora, San Fernando, and "Marismas de Altamira". Bird species that will benefit from this project includes Lesser Scaup, Blue-winged Teal, Canvasback, and Least Tern.

Project Name: PROTECTION OF CRITICAL HABITAT FOR WATERFOWL & SHOREBIRDS, SANTA MARIA BAY IV

Location (Providence): SIN-SINALOA

Grantee Organization: PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C.

Project Officer: Valeria Towns

Partner Name: HUMEDALES SUSTENTABLES A.C., PRONATURA NOROESTE, A.C., SOCIEDAD EN ACCION DE SINALOA

Grant Award Amount: \$354,156.00

Match Amount: \$431,844.00

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: Bahia Santa Maria in Sinaloa is one of two Mexican Wetlands of Hemispheric Importance, and a particularly important wintering ground for Northern Shoveler, Blue-winged Teal, Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Northern Pintail and Western Sandpiper. This project will carry out several activities on previously protected tracts and on one new tract. 1) Habitat enhancement through mangrove reforestation of (29.64) acres located within a tract that was acquired during Phase I. 2.1) Installation of habitat management signs. 2.2) Mechanical weed control (24.70) acres located within a tract that was acquired during Phase II. 2.3) Monitoring of environmental conditions in Bahía Santa María Ecological Reserve and La Reforma Environmental Management Unit. 2.4) Installation of 1 km of linear fence. 3.1) Environmental education that promotes the conservation and sustainable use of Bahía Santa María Ecological Reserve amongst local communities. 4) Conservation of 36,128.69 acres through the establishment of an Environmental Management Unit.

Project Name: DIGITAL LAND CHANGE DETECTION ANALYSIS FOR WETLAND CONS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

Location (Providence): CAM-CAMPECHE, TAB-TABASCO, TAMPS-TAMAULIPAS, VER-VERACRUZ, YUC-YUCATAN

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

Project Officer: Gabriela de la Fuente de Leon

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED DE MEXICO, A.C.

Grant Award Amount: \$239,985.00

Match Amount: \$241,792.00

Project Description: This project will generate baseline information on land-use change in the Gulf Coast Region of Mexico. Digital Land Use Change Detection Analysis will be carried out at the sub-watershed level, coinciding with priority wetlands for waterfowl and shorebirds. This information will inform public policy and guide wetland conservation initiatives and integrated watershed management.

Project Name: MANGROVE RESTORATION & SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT IN NORTHERN YUCATAN IV

Location (Providence): YUC-YUCATAN

Grantee Organization: PRONATURA PENINSULA DE YUCATAN

Project Officer: Ernesto Gomez

Partner Name: FONDO MEXICANO PARA LA CONSERVACION DE LA NATURALEZA, A.C.,  
PRONATURA PENINSULA DE YUCATAN

Grant Award Amount: \$266,857.00

Match Amount: \$266,857.00

Project Description: The northern coast of the State of Yucatán is used as a winter and stopover site by at least 150 migratory birds such as Redhead, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Whimbrel, and American Flamingo. This project will: 1. Enhance (1,143.43) acres of mangrove habitat. 2. Implement a Management Plan for the "Reserva Estatal Ciénagas y Manglares de la Costa Norte de Yucatán". 3. Manage the lands acquired in a previous phase, "Parcela 18" and "Parcela 34" (a total of (343.70) acres). 4. Monitor bird population monitoring and build capacity for mangrove restoration in the region.

Project Name: RESTORATION OF A DEGRADED MANGROVE IN MARISMAS NACIONALES

Location (Providence): NAY-NAYARIT

Grantee Organization: BLUEMX MANGROVE, A.C.

Project Officer: Jose Luis Garcia Falmer

Partner Name: BLUEMX MANGROVE, A.C.

Grant Award Amount: \$924,201.00

Match Amount: \$924,201.00

Project Description: The mangrove area in the Teacapán - Agua Brava - Marismas Nacionales system is the largest on the Pacific coast of the American continent. This project will carry out several activities in the Ejido Santa Cruz y Anexas, located in the municipality of Santiago Ixcuintla, Nayarit and within the Marismas Nacionales Nayarit Biosphere Reserve. 1) Restore 1,252.29 acres of mangrove forest through the hydrological rehabilitation of 20,613 cubic meters of natural channels and the establishment of natural regeneration through elevated dispersion cores. 2) Improve the connectivity of the hydrological flow of a mangrove ecosystem of 9,615.71 acres through the clearing of natural tidal channels. 3) Train 15 local community forestry technicians in conservation, silviculture, and mangrove restoration techniques. Bird species that will benefit from the activities in this project includes Masked Duck, Northern Pintail, Canvasback, and Red Knot.

Project Name: ENHANCING HABITAT QUALITY & ASSESSING MB SPECIES, SAN QUINTIN LAGOON COMPLEX

Location (Providence): BCN-BAJA CALIFORNIA NORTE

Grantee Organization: TERRA PENINSULAR, A.C.

Project Officer: Fernando Ramon Gavito Perez

Partner Name: MARISLA FOUNDATION, OYSTER FARMS OF BAJA CALIFORNIA, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), TERRA PENINSULAR, A.C.

Grant Award Amount: \$210,664.00

Match Amount: \$294,930.00

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: This project focuses on improving the habitat for Pacific Brant and other migratory birds like Bufflehead and Mallard in the San Quintín Bay area. The initiative involves removing plastic on 155.61(69.16) acres of the bay, thereby enhancing the seagrass habitat availability crucial for these birds. A water quality assessment will establish a baseline for habitat improvement efforts, emphasizing preserving this ecosystem for filter feeders like oysters. The plan prioritizes upgrading existing farming gear and removing unused structures to maintain habitat health. The last objective of this project is to engage local communities in bird surveillance and biological monitoring through training courses and environmental education initiatives. Trained environmental promoters will conduct monitoring activities and educational outreach in schools, fostering environmental stewardship among youth and community members. These activities will be carried out inside Laguna Figueroa and Monte Ceniza Natural Reserve.

Project Name: SHARED MANAGEMENT OF WATERFOWL & SHOREBIRD HABITAT IN MARISMAS NACIONALES

Location (Providence): SINALOA

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

Project Officer: Ernesto Bolado Martinez

Partner Name: VOCES POR LA NATURALEZA, A.C., COOPERATIVA PESQUERA EL TRIUNFO DE PALMILLAS, CENTRO NAYARITA DE INNOVACION Y TRANSFERENCIA DE TECNOLOGIA

Grant Award Amount: \$265,932

Match Amount: \$391,065

Joint Venture: SONORAN

Project Description: This project will benefit the habitat of 15 waterfowl, 34 shorebird and 37 waterbird species. Restoration of 63.47 acres of coastal floodplain and dead mangrove will occur by opening 2,296 feet of new canals. Enhancement of 93.61 acres will take place by maintaining 2.97 miles of existing canals which will improve hydrological flow and increase the productivity in the habitat. Management of 541.91(157.09) acres of coastal lagoons within the Triunfo Pesquero de Palmillas Fisheries Production Cooperative Society's concession will occur through seasonal removal of two shrimp weirs and complete removal of two others. This will ultimately improve the hydrological flow of channels and estuaries of Agua Grande Lagoon. Infrastructure development of wetlands and coastal lagoons will occur through a water quality monitoring program and terrestrial bird monitoring in habitats of importance.

## **FY2025-2 US Standard Projects**

Project Name: ST. BERNARD PARISH COASTAL WETLANDS RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT

Location (County): LA-ST. BERNARD

Congressional District: LA—1

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Cassidy Lejeune

Partner Name: PRO-CHANDELEUR ISLAND BREWING COMPANY, STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, LOC-ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$50,605,000.00

Joint Venture: GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description: This project will restore and enhance 5,160 acres of coastal wetlands to help offset Louisiana's dramatic coastal wetland loss within these basins and provide quality habitat for numerous bird species and other wetland-dependent wildlife. The enhancement of a barrier island will enhance 5,000 acres of beach, dune and back barrier marsh habitat, in addition to the sea grass beds behind the island. This will provide nesting island habitat for birds, sea turtles, and protect the most diverse habitat of sea grass beds found in the northern Gulf of America. The enhancement activities will improve marsh productivity that could result in increased recreational fishing yields, bird abundance for wildlife observers within the Breton National Wildlife Refuge in St. Bernard Parish, as well as increase waterfowl abundance to benefit hunters in the Breton and Pontchartrain Basins.



Project Name: MAINE WETLANDS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE (MWCI) V

Location (County): ME-CUMBERLAND, ME-HANCOCK, ME-LINCOLN, ME-WASHINGTON

Congressional District: ME--1,2

Grantee Organization: MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST

Project Officer: Bob DeForrest

Partner Name: COASTAL RIVERS CONSERVATION TRUST, ELLIOTSVILLE FOUNDATION, INC, HARPSWELL HERITAGE LAND TRUST, LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE, MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST, NORTHEAST WILDERNESS TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), SCARBOROUGH LAND TRUST, TOWN OF SCARBOROUGH

Grant Award Amount: \$2,263,500.00

Match Amount: \$3,395,500.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest, BCR 30-New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast

Project Description: This project will permanently protect in fee 3,130.2 acres of high-quality habitats in the Gulf of Maine. The coast of Maine contains the highest-quality habitat and the highest densities or populations in the continental U.S., for Common Eider, Black Duck, eastern Harlequin Duck, and Purple Sandpiper during part of their annual cycle. This project will permanently protect 653.1 acres of relatively undisturbed wetlands as well as protect 2,477.1 acres of almost entirely forested upland buffer habitat and 9.5 miles of wooded, intact riparian areas. Three of the eleven acquisitions will add 2,733.6 acres to an existing 18,300-acre block of state and non-profit conserved coastal land, which is the largest contiguous conserved area on the Maine coast aside from Acadia National Park. All 3,130.2 acquired acres will be open to some sort of low impact public uses, such as water access, birdwatching, fishing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, paddling, hiking and hunting.

Project Name: WACCAMAW NECK CONSERVATION: NORTH INLET TO WINYAH BAY

Location (County): SC-GEORGETOWN

Congressional District: SC—7

Grantee Organization: OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE

Project Officer: Maria Whitehead

Partner Name: BELLE W. BARUCH FOUNDATION, PEE DEE LAND TRUST, SOUTH CAROLINA  
CONSERVATION BANK

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,005,000.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description: This project will secure 15,295 acres in a conservation easement that adds a layer of wetlands, marsh and pineland habitats and open space preservation value of extraordinary benefit to coastal resources and the public. The vast coastal property is made up of large contiguous forests and marshes, providing migratory bird resting habitat, as well as habitat for native wildlife species that require large parcels of unbroken forest. Bird species that will benefit from the protection include Mottled Duck, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Red-headed Woodpecker, and King Rail. The project significantly enhances the long-term conservation value and public benefit of a site that supports research and education, public recreation, and the preservation of historic and rare coastal resources.

Project Name: MISSOURI COTEAU WORKING WETLANDS PROJECT IV

Location (County): ND-BURKE, ND-BURLEIGH, ND-DICKEY, ND-DIVIDE, ND-EMMONS, ND-FOSTER, ND-KIDDER, ND-LA MOURE, ND-LOGAN, ND-MC HENRY, ND-MCINTOSH, ND-MCLEAN, ND-MOUNTRAIL, ND-SHERIDAN, ND-STUTSMAN, ND-WARD, ND-WELLS, ND-WILLIAMS

Congressional District: ND-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Randy Renner

Partner Name: BASS PRO SHOPS & CABELA'S OUTDOOR FUND, DUCKS UNLIMITED, NORTH DAKOTA NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$4,425,586.00

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description: This project consists of the critically important Missouri Coteau of the Prairie Pothole Region where nearly two million duck pairs settle to breed in any given year. This project will acquire critical grassland and wetland easements in perpetuity while offering short-term grassland retention and enhancement programs to conserve 18,841 acres of prairie pothole habitat for migratory birds and the rural farming communities of North Dakota. Protection of native prairie surrounding these critically important prairie wetland habitats, as provided for in this project, will provide essential nesting habitat for waterfowl and other species such as Lesser Scaup, Mid-continent Lesser Snow Goose, and Marbled Godwit. This project takes a landscape level approach to retain some of North America's best breeding bird habitat to sustain healthy native bird populations and benefit local communities.

Project Name: EASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA WETLANDS IX

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

Congressional District: SD-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Bruce Toay

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH & PARKS

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$3,059,242.00

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description: This project is part of a series of NAWCA projects designed to integrate innovative measures and practices to conserve wetland and grassland habitats on agricultural lands in eastern South Dakota. These projects have been successful, building partnerships with conservation groups, private philanthropic donors, and state and federal partners to leverage dollars and delivery. NAWCA has been a critical partner in this process for decades, and this proposal continues that effort. The activities in this project directly benefit the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture: The easements included in this project will provide perpetual protection for over 4,800 acres of these critical habitats, benefiting breeding waterfowl (Mallard, Northern Pintail, Blue-winged Teal), shorebirds (Marbled Godwit, Willet, Wilson's Phalarope), waterbirds (American Bittern, Sora), and grassland birds (Bobolink, Dickcissel, Swainson's Hawk).

Project Name: PATHFINDER WETLANDS PARTNERSHIP III

Location (County): NE-ADAMS, NE-ANTELOPE, NE-ARTHUR, NE-BANNER, NE-BLAINE, NE-BOONE, NE-BOX BUTTE, NE-BOYD, NE-BROWN, NE-BUFFALO, NE-BURT, NE-BUTLER, NE-CASS, NE-CEDAR, NE-CHASE, NE-CHERRY, NE-CHEYENNE, NE-CLAY, NE-COLFAX, NE-CUMING, NE-CUSTER, NE-DAKOTA, NE-DAWES, NE-DAWSON, NE-DEUEL, NE-DIXON, NE-DODGE, NE-DOUGLAS, NE-DUNDY, NE-FILLMORE, NE-FRANKLIN, NE-FRONTIER, NE-FURNAS, NE-GAGE, NE-GARDEN, NE-GARFIELD, NE-GOSPER, NE-GRANT, NE-GREELEY, NE-HALL, NE-HAMILTON, NE-HARLAN, NE-HAYES, NE-HITCHCOCK, NE-HOLT, NE-HOOKER, NE-HOWARD, NE-JEFFERSON, NE-JOHNSON, NE-KEARNEY, NE-KEITH, NE-KEYA PAHA, NE-KIMBALL, NE-KNOX, NE-LANCASTER, NE-LINCOLN, NE-LOGAN, NE-LOUP, NE-MADISON, NE-MCPHERSON, NE-MERRICK, NE-MORRILL, NE-NANCE, NE-NEMAHA, NE-NUCKOLLS, NE-OTOE, NE-PAWNEE, NE-PERKINS, NE-PHELPS, NE-PIERCE, NE-PLATTE, NE-POLK, NE-RED WILLOW, NE-RICHARDSON, NE-ROCK, NE-SALINE, NE-SARPY, NE-SAUNDERS, NE-SCOTTS BLUFF, NE-SEWARD, NE-SHERIDAN, NE-SHERMAN, NE-SIOUX, NE-STANTON, NE-THAYER, NE-THOMAS, NE-THURSTON, NE-VALLEY, NE-WASHINGTON, NE-WAYNE, NE-WEBSTER, NE-WHEELER, NE-YORK, WY-ALBANY, WY-BIG HORN, WY-CAMPBELL, WY-CARBON, WY-CONVERSE, WY-CROOK, WY-FREMONT, WY-GOSHEN, WY-HOT SPRINGS, WY-JOHNSON, WY-LARAMIE, WY-LINCOLN, WY-NATRONA, WY-NIOBRARA, WY-PARK, WY-PLATTE, WY-SHERIDAN, WY-SUBLETTE, WY-SWEETWATER, WY-TETON, WY-UINTA, WY-WASHAKIE, WY-WESTON

Congressional District: NE--1,2,3, WY-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Tom Peterson

Partner Name: CITY OF LARAMIE, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, HOT SPRINGS COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT, PLATTE RIVER WHOOPING CRANE MAINTENANCE TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), RAINWATER BASIN JOINT VENTURE, WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, WYOMING WILDLIFE & NATURAL RESOURCE TRUST FUND

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$4,505,406.00

Joint Venture: INTERMOUNTAIN WEST, PLAYA LAKES, RAINWATER BASIN, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 10-Northern Rockies, BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 16-Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau, BCR 17-Badlands and Prairies, BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Project Description: This project includes eight tracts aimed at protecting and improving the

quantity, quality, and availability of preferred habitats for waterbirds and other wildlife. The main factors that highlight the importance of this project include 1) over 5,765 unique wetland acres will be protected, restored, and/or enhanced, 2) 60 acres of priority habitat acquired and opened for public access and 3) engagement of nine partners. This multistate approach to conservation improves conditions throughout the Central Flyway migration corridor as over fifty percent of North American migratory waterfowl utilize this route. Bird species that will benefit from this project are Sandhill Crane, Long-billed Curlew, Northern Pintail, and Canada Goose.

Project Name: CAROLINA WETLANDS & WATERSHEDS II

Location (County): SC-CHARLESTON, SC-FLORENCE, SC-GEORGETOWN

Congressional District: SC--1,7

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Ed Farley

Partner Name: STA-SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, STA-SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF RESILIENCE, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Grant Award Amount: \$2,824,038.00

Match Amount: \$5,648,076.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description: This project is the second iteration of a series of projects aimed at conserving unique and biodiverse wetlands located across priority watersheds in coastal South Carolina, incorporating public and private lands, and a diverse suite of conservation partners throughout the landscape. This project will include permanent protection of 4,969 acres. This project will support a plethora of different wildlife populations, with the focus of providing quality wetlands for waterfowl and other migratory birds. Some bird species that will benefit from this project include American Black Duck, Mallard, Mottled Duck, Northern Pintail, and Lesser Scaup. Current nature areas such as Snow's Island and Samworth WMA will benefit from the success of this project and will provide the public with valuable outdoor-focused recreation opportunities including hiking, wildlife viewing, fishing, and hunting.

Project Name: COASTAL TEXAS V

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

Congressional District: TX--10,14,15, TX--18,22,27, TX--2,7,8,9, TX--28,29,34, TX--36,38

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Kevin Hartke

Partner Name: APEX CLEAN ENERGY, PRO-CONOCO PHILLIPS, DUCKS UNLIMITED, DUCKS UNLIMITED LANDS, LLC, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), EXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Grant Award Amount: \$2,281,500.00

Match Amount: \$4,563,000.00

Joint Venture: GULF COAST

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

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to continue conservation efforts along the Texas Gulf Coast within the Gulf Coast Joint Venture: (GCJV) boundary. This project will enhance 3,029 acres and protect 271.5 acres of decreasing wetland types and other critical wetlands and coastal habitats. This project includes matching funds provided by Corporate, Non-Governmental Organizations and Private Individuals to support the vital efforts of protecting the Texas Gulf Coast. This project will address priorities within three GCJV initiative areas Chenier Plain, Texas Mid-Coast and Laguna Madre. The six tracts within this project will total 3,300.5 acres and will provide enhancement and perpetual protection of several habitat including on two National Wildlife Refuges, Laguna Atascosa and Anahuac. Bird species that will benefit from these acquisition and enhancement activities include Redhead and Black Rail.



Project Name: MAGALLOWAY PARTNERSHIP WETLANDS

Location (County): ME-OXFORD

Congressional District: ME—2

Grantee Organization: FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE

Project Officer: Janice Melmed

Partner Name: FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE, HALFWAY ROCK FOUNDATION, NORTHEAST WILDERNESS TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), RANGELEY LAKES HERITAGE TRUST, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, THE RANGELEY HIDEAWAY

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$9,000,000.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 14-Atlantic Northern Forest

Project Description: This project represents the first of two project phases, and will permanently conserve 33,715.7 acres, with >1,000 acres of productive wetlands, more than 68 miles of freshwater streams, and over 28 miles of wooded lake and pond shorelines in western Maine. This project will fill a large conservation gap, connecting two largely protected landscapes into one contiguous protected area of 348,000 acres straddling the Maine/New Hampshire line. Specifically, this project will permanently protect 1,031.8 acres of relatively undisturbed wetlands. This project will also protect 32,683.9 acres of almost entirely forested upland buffer habitat; 68.5 miles of wooded, intact riparian habitat along freshwater streams; and 28.4 miles of undeveloped shorelines on small ponds and 2 major lakes totaling >8,700 acres. This project will protect habitats that will specifically support American Black Duck, Lesser Scaup, Northern Pintail, and Bay-breasted Warbler.

Project Name: SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM WETLANDS VII

Location (County): FL-PALM BEACH

Congressional District: FL—20

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Elizabeth Guthrie

Partner Name: FLORIDA FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION, WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Grant Award Amount: \$2,999,670.00

Match Amount: \$5,999,340.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 31-Peninsular Florida

Project Description: This project will enhance 10,848 acres of wetlands and entails enhancement of freshwater wetland habitats on an iconic public property of critical importance to the South Florida Ecosystem for the benefit of many wetland- dependent species. Specifically, this project is designed to benefit species that utilize Everglades wetland habitats such as Mottled Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Everglades Snail Kite, King Rail, Black Rail, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Florida Sandhill Crane. The project involves habitat and hydrologic improvements to 10,848 acres of a 29,700-acre public land within the Everglades Ecosystem, an area in South Florida which has received considerable attention for holistic watershed restoration, managed specifically for water and habitat, including for compatible public use. Public benefits therefore include improved water quality and quantity to promote native habitat resiliency and associated flora and fauna.

Project Name: TEXAS COASTAL PLAIN I

Location (County): TX-ARANSAS, TX-AUSTIN, TX-BEE, TX-BRAZORIA, TX-BROOKS, TX-CALHOUN, TX-CAMERON, TX-CHAMBERS, TX-COLORADO, TX-DE WITT, TX-DUVAL, TX-FORT BEND, TX-GALVESTON, TX-GOLIAD, TX-HARDIN, TX-HARRIS, TX-HIDALGO, TX-JACKSON, TX-JEFFERSON, TX-JIM HOGG, TX-JIM WELLS, TX-KENEDY, TX-KLEBERG, TX-LAVACA, TX-LIBERTY, TX-LIVE OAK, TX-MATAGORDA, TX-MONTGOMERY, TX-NUECES, TX-POLK, TX-REFUGIO, TX-SAN JACINTO, TX-SAN PATRICIO, TX-STARR, TX-TYLER, TX-VICTORIA, TX-WALLER, TX-WASHINGTON, TX-WILLACY

Congressional District: TX--10,14,15, TX--18,22,27, TX--2,7,8,9, TX--28,29,34, TX--36,38

Grantee Organization: FARWIDE CONSERVATION TRUST

Project Officer: Steve Donovan

Partner Name: COASTAL BEND AUDUBON SOCIETY, FARWIDE CONSERVATION TRUST, FRIENDS OF THE LAGUNA ATASCOSA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, FRIENDS OF THE WILDLIFE CORRIDOR, HALFF ENGINEERING, INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION, LAS HUELLAS, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), TEXAS AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST, TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT, TEXAS R.I.C.E., VASQUEZ TRUCKING

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,279,106.00

Joint Venture: GULF COAST, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, OAKS AND PRAIRIES, RIO GRANDE

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 21-Oaks and Prairies, BCR 25-West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas, BCR 36-Tamaulipan Brushlands, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description: This project will be delivered on a combination of public and private lands, including three National Wildlife Refuges and three state Wildlife Management Areas. These projects will help meet the important habitat goals of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture: and many other regional and national conservation plans. A total of 7,763(100) acres of wildlife habitat will be impacted through this project, including 4,536(100) acres of wetlands. Several species including Mottled Duck, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Green Heron, and Roseate Spoonbill will benefit from this project.

Project Name: SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN CONSERVATION CORRIDORS II

Location (County): IL-WINNEBAGO, WI-ADAMS, WI-COLUMBIA, WI-CRAWFORD, WI-DANE, WI-GRANT, WI-GREEN, WI-IOWA, WI-JEFFERSON, WI-LAFAYETTE, WI-RICHLAND, WI-ROCK, WI-SAUK

Congressional District: IL--16, WI--1,2,3,5, WI—6

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Sara Comstock

Partner Name: DANE COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, DRIFTLESS AREA LAND CONSERVANCY, DUCKS UNLIMITED, MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONSERVANCY, NATURAL LAND INSTITUTE, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,882,725.00

Joint Venture: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to protect, restore and enhance priority wetland and associated upland habitat in the major river corridors of Southwestern Wisconsin, primarily focusing on the Lower Wisconsin, Sugar and Yahara River watersheds to benefit waterfowl and other wetland-dependent species. This initiative will permanently protect 1,250 acres, restore 491(22) acres, and enhance 465(150) acres totaling 2,206(172) acres of habitat conservation. These activities will provide valuable habitat directly benefiting wetland and grassland species, including breeding habitat for several waterfowl species such as Mallards, Blue-winged Teal, and Wood Ducks and migratory stop-over habitat for several species of shorebirds and other waterbirds, such as Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper and Lesser Yellowlegs.

Project Name: PEAKS TO PRAIRIE WETLANDS II

Location (County): CO-ADAMS, CO-ARAPAHOE, CO-BOULDER, CO-BROOMFIELD, CO-CHAFFEE, CO-CLEAR CREEK, CO-DENVER, CO-DOUGLAS, CO-EL PASO, CO-ELBERT, CO-GILPIN, CO-GRAND, CO-JACKSON, CO-JEFFERSON, CO-LARIMER, CO-LINCOLN, CO-LOGAN, CO-MORGAN, CO-PARK, CO-SEDGWICK, CO-SUMMIT, CO-TELLER, CO-WASHINGTON, CO-WELD, NE-ARTHUR, NE-BANNER, NE-CHEYENNE, NE-DEUEL, NE-GARDEN, NE-KEITH, NE-KIMBALL, NE-LINCOLN, NE-MCPHERSON, NE-MORRILL, NE-PERKINS, NE-SCOTTS BLUFF, NE-SIOUX, WY-ALBANY, WY-CARBON, WY-CONVERSE, WY-FREMONT, WY-GOSHEN, WY-LARAMIE, WY-NATRONA, WY-NIOBRARA, WY-PLATTE

Congressional District: CO--1,2,4,5, CO--6,7,8, NE--3, WY-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: John Denton

Partner Name: BIJOU IRRIGATION COMPANY, BOULDER & WHITE ROCK DITCH & RESERVOIR COMPANY, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE, DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION, PLATTE RIVER BASIN ENVIRONMENTS, INC., PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), SOUTH PLATTE WATER RELATED ACTIVITIES PROGRAM, THE CONSERVATION FUND

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,018,965.00

Joint Venture: INTERMOUNTAIN WEST, PLAYA LAKES, RAINWATER BASIN

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 10-Northern Rockies, BCR 16-Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau, BCR 17-Badlands and Prairies, BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie

Project Description: This project blends together traditional Ducks Unlimited wetland conservation work on public and private lands with work in urban landscapes along the mountainous Front Range of Colorado and into the Prairies of eastern Colorado, southeast Wyoming, and western Nebraska in the Central Flyway. Tract 1 is focused on conserving wetlands that occur on public lands. A major area of focus will be along the historic migratory waterfowl hotspot of northeastern Colorado, the South Platte River. Project sites will include Banner Lakes State Wildlife Area and The Bureau of Reclamation's Lantz tract, among others. Public land work will also occur on one of the newest editions to the National Wildlife Refuge, The Wyoming Toad Conservation Area. Tract 2 focuses on private land wetland restorations. Ducks Unlimited will work with private landowners on restoration work to restore wetlands for

wetland-dependent species, such as the endangered amphibian, Wyoming Toad, to the millions of ducks and geese that migrate and winter in this landscape. Tract 3 will protect 500 acres via conservation easements as part of the ongoing efforts to protect wetlands near the South and North Platte Rivers.

Project Name: KANSAS PRAIRIE WETLANDS XIV

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

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

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Matthew Hough

Partner Name: BAKER UNIVERSITY, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, EVERGY, STA-KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), THE CONSERVATION FUND, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$3,755,807.00

Joint Venture: PLAYA LAKES, UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

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

Project Description: This project includes nine tracts that will protect, restore, and enhance 15,979(2,197) acres of wetlands and associated grassland habitats, many of which will have perpetual benefits and five tracts that will provide enhanced public access opportunities on over 2,905 acres. The importance of this proposal is highlighted by 1,432 acres of permanent protection, 2,534 acres of wetlands that will be conserved, and the engagement of twenty

partners that have pledged their support to habitat conservation in Kansas. Protection of wetland and grassland acres across the state near important wetland complexes is critical to sustain migratory bird habitat throughout the region; providing critical breeding, migration, and wintering habitat, and building habitat connectivity that is crucial to increase the resiliency of the wildlife that depend on these resources.



Project Name: SOUTH ATLANTIC WETLANDS & WILDLANDS III

Location (County): GA-WAYNE, SC-GEORGETOWN, SC-HORRY, SC-WILLIAMSBURG

Congressional District: GA--1, SC--6,7

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Ed Farley

Partner Name: OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE, PEE DEE LAND TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK, SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF RESILIENCE

Grant Award Amount: \$2,991,363.00

Match Amount: \$5,982,726.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description: This project is the third iteration of the South Atlantic Wetlands and Wildlands NAWCA series planned by Ducks Unlimited in partnership with county, state and federal agencies, NGOs, and conservation-minded private landowners to acquire, protect, and enhance priority wetlands on both private and public land amongst the vast network of rivers and floodplains across Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. A total of 1,517 acres of acquisitions will aim to connected and protected lands across the coastal Southeast. Enhancement will aim to protect the invaluable managed habitats of priority waterfowl, migratory neotropical birds, and other wetland-dependent species, who face quickly diminishing resources as freshwater wetlands and food supply become scarce across the landscape. State agencies and conservation-minded private landowners serve as the only hope to support these populations in a region where migrating waterfowl and other avian species rely on managed habitats to sustain their migratory journeys. Bird species that will benefit include Northern Pintail, American Black Duck, American Woodcock, and Ruddy Turnstone.

Project Name: WHITE RIVER NWR WETLAND ENHANCEMENT

Location (County): AR-ARKANSAS, AR-CRITTENDEN, AR-DESHA, MS-ISSAQUENA

Congressional District: AR--1, MS—2

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer: Jake Spears

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, FIRST HORIZON FOUNDATION, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S),  
WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Grant Award Amount: \$2,099,943.00

Match Amount: \$4,200,000.00

Joint Venture: LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley

Project Description: This project is the continuation of a multi-phase effort within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley (MAV) aimed at the protection, restoration and enhancement a total of 2,105(300) acres of critical wetland habitats on public lands in the MAV by leveraging private land conservation values perpetually protected in Arkansas. Primary conservation needs within the MAV aim to maintain and restore the landscape at some functional level that benefits both wildlife and people with specific emphasis on increasing non-breeding period survival and subsequent breeding success of migratory birds that utilize this landscape as wintering and migration habitat. This project will improve habitat conditions for multiple bird species such as Mallard, Lesser Scaup, King Rail, and Hooded Warbler. By protecting and/or enhancing 2,036(300) acres of bottomland hardwoods and emergent wetlands to be more water efficient, this project will help compensate for the region's loss of seasonally flooded forested wetlands and will enhance other wetland values and functions by improving water quality in adjacent waterways, providing natural flood storage capacity and enhancing soil conservation by reducing sediments and nutrients in precipitation runoff.

Project Name: SAN LUIS VALLEY WATER 5.0

Location (County): CO-ALAMOSA, CO-RIO GRANDE, CO-SAGUACHE

Congressional District: CO—3

Grantee Organization: RIO GRANDE HEADWATERS LAND TRUST (RIGHT)

Project Officer: Joe Sims

Partner Name: COLORADO CATTLEMENS AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST, COLORADO RIO GRANDE RESTORATION FOUNDATION (CRGRF), DUCKS UNLIMITED, GATES FAMILY FOUNDATION, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), RIO GRANDE HEADWATERS LAND TRUST (RIGHT), WETLAND DYNAMICS LLC

Grant Award Amount: \$2,252,384.00

Match Amount: \$4,533,000.00

Joint Venture: INTERMOUNTAIN WEST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 16-Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau

Project Description: The easements and enhancement within this project will benefit on the connectivity of past projects while conserving and enhancing additional areas of the San Luis Valley (SLV). Conservation easements will focus on protecting grassland and wet meadow habitat while enhancement projects will benefit 3,944 acres of wet meadow and include work to address concerns surrounding aquatic habitat resources, water right usage, erosion and sediment issues, declining water tables and riparian habitat, and the inability to adequately provide surface water to seasonal wetlands in the SLV. This project will focus on the protection and enhancement of two major habitat types: seasonally flooded wet meadows, which provide important wildlife habitat and hay for local ranching operations, and streams, riparian areas, and wetlands with a focus on returning historic flood patterns to playa wetlands by improving water delivery infrastructure. This project includes permanent protection of 1,517 acres of wet meadow habitat and 1,359 acres of uplands. As a secondary goal, it will protect and restore imperiled cottonwood and willow riparian areas, benefitting the federally endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and federally threatened Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

Project Name: HEART OF THE KATY PRAIRIE, SENSITIVE RIVERINE & WETLANDS HABITAT INITIATIVE

Location: TX-AUSTIN, TX-BRAZORIA, TX-CALHOUN, TX-CHAMBERS, TX-COLORADO, TX-FORT BEND, TX-GALVESTON, TX-HARRIS, TX-JACKSON, TX-JEFFERSON, TX-LAVACA, TX-LIBERTY, TX-MATAGORDA, TX-VICTORIA, TX-WALLER, TX-WHARTON

Congressional District: TX--10,14,18, TX--2,7,8,9, TX--22,27,29, TX--36,38

Grantee Organization: COASTAL PRAIRIE CONSERVANCY

Project Officer: Mary Anne Piacentini

Partner Name: COASTAL PRAIRIE CONSERVANCY, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, TEXAS R.I.C.E., THREE OAKS FARM COMPANY, INC

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$11,800,554.00

Joint Venture: GULF COAST, OAKS AND PRAIRIES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 21-Oaks and Prairies, BCR 25-West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description: This project will conserve 2,498(17) acres on the Texas Coastal Prairie and establish wetlands on 325 acres. The project involves the purchase of a conservation easement on Tract 1, the 204(17)-acre Three Oaks Farm is in the heart of the Katy Prairie Preserve which encompasses over 18,800 acres of contiguous protected habitat on the western edge of Houston, Texas. Also, 1,679-acres for Tract 2 and 615-acre for Tract 3 are being protected through donated conservation easements by private landowners. Finally, Coastal Prairie Conservancy (CPC) and Texas Rice Industry Coalition for the Environment (Texas R.I.C.E.) will work to undertake 325 acres of wetlands establishment on Tract 4 in primarily coastal counties. The work will be concentrated on historic uplands that were converted to rice farmland in locations near and adjacent to large stands of grasslands. Birds that will benefit from this project includes Mottled Ducks, Northern Pintail, Mallard, Blue and Green -winged Teal. Public opportunities provided by this project will include hunting, birdwatching, and nature viewing.

Project Name: MISSOURI RIVER VALLEY WETLANDS II

Location: IA-FREMONT, IA-MILLS, IA-PLYMOUTH, IA-WOODBURY

Congressional District: IA—4

Grantee Organization: DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Mike Shannon

Partner Name: BAY KENNELS, BROTIQUE CUSTOMS, DELTA WATERFOWL, SOUTHWEST IOWA CHAPTER, DUCKS UNLIMITED, HITCHES, TRAILERS & MORE, IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, LOESS HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY, MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), WOODBURY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Grant Award Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount: \$2,060,908.00

Joint Venture: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Project Description: This project focuses on the conservation of major wetland and grassland complexes within the Missouri River Alluvial Plain and associated tributaries in western Iowa. Project sites connect the Prairie Pothole Region with major wintering areas in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Project activities protect migration habitat for a wide variety of wetland, riparian and grassland dependent birds. The goal is to create connectivity of dependable, high-quality habitat for migrating birds during this critical point in their annual cycle. The Project will acquire, restore, and enhance 2,476 acres of wetlands and associated uplands. Of the total project acres, 1,834 acres is wetland habitat, with 1,299 acres in declining palustrine wetland types. Additionally, protecting and restoring 642 acres of uplands expands existing large wetland and grassland complexes and functional landscapes. All tracts identified in this project will be open to the public for recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, and birding. Iowa currently ranks 47th out of 50 for public land in the state. Iowa's Wildlife Action Plan has set a goal to increase the amount of public land, and this proposal helps achieve this goal.