



NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT (NAWCA)

CYCLE 2026-1 US STANDARD PROJECT SUMMARIES

***All US Standard projects listed below are in Migratory Bird Conservation Commission ranked order.**

Project Name: SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA WETLANDS ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION

Location (Counties) PLAQUEMINES, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, ST. TAMMANY, LA-TERREBONNE,
LOUISIANA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Cassidy Lejeune

Partner Name: COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, DUCKS
UNLIMITED, ST. TAMMANY PARISH

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,600,000.00

Joint Venture: GULF COAST

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

Project Description: This project targets wetland restoration in the Terrebonne, Barataria, Mississippi Delta, and Pontchartrain Basins which are areas with significant wetland loss in Louisiana. By restoring and enhancing 2,000 acres of coastal wetlands, it supports essential habitat for birds and wildlife and advances the Gulf Coast Joint Venture's conservation goals. Key actions include building earthen terraces, restoring a nesting island, using sediment delivery from river crevasses, and improving swamp hydrology. These efforts stabilize shorelines, restore water flow, and diversify habitats to benefit priority species like the American Black Duck and Mallard, strengthening Louisiana's coastal ecosystem resilience.

Project Name: SOUTH LOUISIANA WATERFOWL HABITAT CONSERVATION V

Location (Counties):: LA-ACADIA, ALLEN, ASCENSION, ASSUMPTION, AVOYELLES, BEAUREGARD, CALCASIEU, CAMERON, CATAHOULA, CONCORDIA, E. BATON ROUGE, EAST FELICIANA, EVANGELINE, GRANT, IBERIA, IBERVILLE, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JEFFERSON DAVIS, LA SALLE, LAFAYETTE, LAFOURCHE, LIVINGSTON, NATCHITOCHES, ORLEANS, PLAQUEMINES, POINTE COUPEE, RAPIDES, ST. BERNARD, ST. CHARLES, ST. HELENA, ST. JAMES, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, ST. LANDRY, ST. MARTIN, ST. MARY, ST. TAMMANY, TANGIPAHOA, TERREBONNE, VERMILION, VERNON, WASHINGTON, WEST BATON ROUGE, WEST FELICIANA, LOUISIANA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Cassidy Lejeune

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, VERMILION PARISH POLICE JURY

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,150,000.00

Joint Venture: EASTERN GULF COAST, GULF COAST, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 25-West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas, BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley, BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description: This project aims to protect and restore 9,855 (3,773) acres across five priority areas, including the Chenier Plain and Mississippi River Coastal Wetlands, by improving marshes and seasonally flooded timber. These efforts support millions of migratory birds, address conservation priorities, and benefit federally listed and state-designated species such as the Eastern Black Rail and Red Knot. Infrastructure improvements in multiple locations help ensure long-term resilience for Louisiana's coast and its diverse wildlife.

Project Name: SOUTH ATLANTIC WETLANDS AND WILDLANDS IV

Location (Counties): BRUNSWICK, CHOWAN, CURRITUCK, HYDE, HORRY, NORTH CAROLINA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Ed Farley

Partner Name: NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST, NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION, OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK

Grant Award Amount: \$2,857,186.00

Match Amount: \$4,879,200.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description: This project aims to protect the wild landscapes of the Carolinas through fee acquisitions and conservation easements, focusing on priority wetlands identified by the ACJV Waterfowl Focus Area. As urbanization grows, it preserves habitats for migratory birds and maintains vital ecosystem services. Covering five strategic tracts across various river basins, it dedicates 5,539 acres to habitat enhancement, prioritizing quality alongside quantity. The project secures 2,735 acres and enhances 2,804 acres, advancing the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and safeguarding the South Atlantic's wetlands.

Project Name: PROTECTING MAINE'S COASTAL WATERSHEDS

Location (Counties): CUMBERLAND, HANCOCK, LINCOLN, WASHINGTON, MAINE

Grantee Organization FRENCHMAN BAY CONSERVANCY

Project Officer Aaron Dority

Partner Name: ANAHATA FOUNDATION, COASTAL RIVERS CONSERVATION TRUST, ELLIOTSVILLE FOUNDATION, INC, FRENCHMAN BAY CONSERVANCY, LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE, MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST, PARKS POND CAMPGROUND, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, SCARBOROUGH LAND TRUST

Grant Award Amount: \$2,769,000.00

Match Amount: \$5,542,380.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

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

Project Description: This project aims to permanently conserve 6,491.2 acres in the Gulf of Maine, targeting eight tracts within Waterfowl Focus Areas for climate-resilient coastal and inland connections. These habitats support dense populations of waterfowl and many Species of Greatest Conservation Need from Maine's Wildlife Action Plan. The project safeguards 563.5 acres of declining wetlands, over 19 miles of undeveloped water frontage, and a 5,815.3-acre forested buffer. It provides refuge for 9 federally listed species and 20 NAWCA priority waterfowl, as well as priority shorebirds and landbirds. This effort protects Maine's vulnerable biodiversity through strategic conservation.

Project Name: OKLAHOMA WETLANDS PHASE I

Location (Counties): ADAIR, ALFALFA, ATOKA, BEAVER, BECKHAM, BLAINE, BRYAN, CADDO, CANADIAN, CARTER, CHEROKEE, CHOCTAW, CIMARRON, CLEVELAND, COAL, COMANCHE, COTTON, CRAIG, CREEK, CUSTER, DELAWARE, DEWEY, ELLIS, GARFIELD, GARVIN, GRADY, GRANT, GREER, HARMON, HARPER, HASKELL, HUGHES, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JOHNSTON, KAY, KINGFISHER, KIOWA, LATIMER, LE FLORE, LINCOLN, LOGAN, LOVE, MAJOR, MARSHALL, MAYES, MC CLAIN, MC CURTAIN, MC INTOSH, MURRAY, MUSKOGEE, NOBLE, NOWATA, OKFUSKEE, OKLAHOMA, OKMULGEE, OSAGE, OTTAWA, PAWNEE, PAYNE, PITTSBURG, PONTOTOC, POTTAWATOMIE, PUSHMATAHA, ROGER MILLS, ROGERS, SEMINOLE, SEQUOYAH, STEPHENS, TEXAS, TILLMAN, TULSA, WAGONER, WASHINGTON, WASHITA, WOODS, WOODWARD, OKLAHOMA

Grantee Organization OKLAHOMA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Project Officer Dan Dvoretz

Partner Name: LOC-CITY OF TULSA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, CULTURE & RECREATION, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-FARWIDE CONSERVATION TRUST, CON-INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION, CON-MARY K. OXLEY NATURE CENTER ASSOCIATION, STA-OKLAHOMA CONSERVATION COMMISSION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,129,047.90

Joint Venture: CENTRAL HARDWOODS, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, OAKS AND PRAIRIES, PLAYA LAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie, BCR 21-Oaks and Prairies, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie, BCR 24-Central Hardwoods, BCR 25-West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas

Project Description: The project spans 10 tracts totaling 8,687.3 acres, including new perpetual easements and a large fee-donated tract for permanent protection. It provides key habitat for migratory birds along the Central and Mississippi Flyways, with all interior Whooping Cranes passing through and about 27% stopping at Salt Plains NWR.

Project Name: NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WETLAND HABITAT PROJECT, PHASE I

Location (Counties): LASSEN, MODOC, SHASTA, SISKIYOU, TEHAMA, CALIFORNIA

Grantee Organization CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION

Project Officer Chadd Santerre

Partner Name: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE, CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS

Grant Award Amount: \$2,829,177.66

Match Amount: \$4,957,586.61

Joint Venture: INTERMOUNTAIN WEST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 32-Coastal California, BCR 5-Northern Pacific Rainforest, BCR 9-Great Basin

Project Description: This project supports the Intermountain West Joint Venture's priority area in the Southern Oregon and Northeastern California (SONEC) regions, a key migratory route for over 6 million birds each year. It will restore and enhance 4,341 acres which consists of 889 wetland, 13 upland restored; 3,218 wetland, 65 upland enhanced, to balance public fall habitats and private irrigated lands, which provide most spring staging areas. By improving water security and habitat conditions on ranches, refuges, and wildlife areas, the initiative advances breeding success and aligns with state and federal conservation goals. The project expands resources for foraging, breeding, and staging, benefiting Pacific Flyway waterfowl like the Greater White Fronted Goose, Northern Pintail, Willet, and Snowy Plover.

Project Name: NORTH DAKOTA POTHOLE PROJECT PHASE IV

Location (Counties): BARNES, BENSON, BOTTINEAU, BURKE, BURLEIGH, CASS, CAVALIER, DICKEY, DIVIDE, EDDY, EMMONS, FOSTER, GRAND FORKS, GRIGGS, KIDDER, LA MOURE, LOGAN, MC HENRY, MCINTOSH, MCLEAN, MOUNTRAIL, NELSON, PEMBINA, PIERCE, RAMSEY, RANSOM, RENVILLE, RICHLAND, ROLETTE, SARGENT, SHERIDAN, STEELE, STUTSMAN, TOWNER, TRAILL, WALSH, WARD, WELLS, WILLIAMS, NORTH DAKOTA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Tanner Gue

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, GROHNE FAMILY FOUNDATION, NORTH DAKOTA NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$4,721,055.18

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description: The North Dakota Pothole NAWCA projects conserve vital grasslands and wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region, a key breeding ground for waterfowl and shorebirds. Mostly private land threatened by agriculture, the project improves ecological function with 10-year habitat management agreements that also support landowners. Permanent conservation easements further conserve habitats, with 15,718.12 acres targeted for conservation, enhancement, and restoration. The initiative preserves nesting cover, filters runoff, and ensures sustainable breeding habitats for native and migratory birds across North America.

Project Name: MID-ATLANTIC BLACKWATERS AND BAYS IV

Location (Counties): BEAUFORT, BLADEN, BUNSWICK, DARE, GATES, NORTH CAROLINA;
VIRGINIA BEACH CITY, VIRGINIA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Ed Farley

Partner Name: SCH-BEAUFORT COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST, STA-NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION, STA-NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Grant Award Amount: \$2,970,432.00

Match Amount: \$5,992,885.00

Joint Venture: ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description: This project is dedicated to conserving 1,350 acres permanently while enhancing 1,118 acres of wetlands and uplands across coastal areas of Virginia and North Carolina. Among its key initiatives are the addition of 502 acres to North Carolina's public game lands and the purchase of an 848-acre plot to help protect water quality and wetlands in the Town Creek watershed. Habitat improvements spanning 1,118 acres will take place at Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, False Cape State Park, and Goose Creek State Park which are vital sites for wintering waterfowl, breeding songbirds, and anadromous fish. The effort advances important habitat protections and restoration consistent with regional conservation plans like the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative and the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture.

Project Name: MAGALLOWAY PARTNERSHIP WETLANDS II

Location (County) OXFORD, MAINE

Grantee Organization FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE

Project Officer Janice Melmed

Partner Name: BETTERMENT FOUNDATION, FIREBIRD FOUNDATION, FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE, NORTHEAST WILDERNESS TRUST, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, RANGELEY LAKES HERITAGE TRUST, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, THE RANGELEY INN & TAVERN

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: Following by a previous NAWCA grant, this project continues additional protection and aims to permanently protect 31,236 acres through fee acquisitions and a conservation easement, enhancing connectivity and resilience in western Maine. Highlights include conserving 982.2 acres of wetlands (with 828.3 acres of declining types), maintaining 30,254 acres of forested uplands, nearly 60 miles of riparian habitat, the Magalloway-Aziscohos-Lincoln Pond Easement, safeguarding a Great Blue Heron rookery on 16 islands, and creating the Little Magalloway Corridor Reserve for salmonid habitats. These actions preserve 38 miles of undeveloped shoreline and support long-term ecological health for the region.

Project Name: LAKE ERIE COASTAL WETLANDS PHASE V

Location (Counties): ASHTABULA, CUYAHOGA, ERIE, GEAUGA, LAKE, LORAIN, MEDINA, PORTAGE, SUMMIT, TRUMBULL, OHIO

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Corey VanStratt

Partner Name: CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS, CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, DUCKS UNLIMITED, MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT, NATURAL AREAS LAND CONSERVANCY, OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, SUMMIT METRO PARKS, WEST CREEK CONSERVANCY, WESTERN RESERVE LAND CONSERVANCY

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$7,138,731.00

Joint Venture: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 13-Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Plain, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie, BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Project Description: Building on 96 tracts previously secured through NAWCA grants, the plan aims to protect and restore 19 additional tracts (1,595 acres of wetlands and 886 acres of uplands). Targeted habitats include emergent, forested, scrub-shrub, lacustrine, and riverine wetlands, supporting diverse wildlife such as Mallards, American Black Ducks, King Rails, and federally listed bats like the Indiana and Northern Long-eared bat.

Project Name: KLAMATH BASIN WETLANDS, CALIFORNIA AND OREGON - PHASE IV

Location (County) SISKIYOU, CALIFORNIA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Craig Garner

Partner Name: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE, CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION BOARD, DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS

Grant Award Amount: \$1,356,504.00

Match Amount: \$3,484,124.00

Joint Venture: INTERMOUNTAIN WEST

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

Project Description: This fourth long-term project will conserve 6,435 acres of wetlands and uplands in the Klamath Basin-a key Pacific Flyway region for millions of migrating birds. Despite losing over 75% of its historic wetlands, the Basin remains highly productive: the Lower Klamath NWR produces up to 60,000 ducks annually and supports half of the Central Valley's molting Mallards. The project will improve public and private lands to protect habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, and Greater Sandhill cranes.

Project Name: KASEGALUK LAGOON AND NW ARCTIC WETLANDS PRESERVATION PROJECT

Location (County) NORTH SLOPE, ALASKA

Grantee Organization THE CONSERVATION FUND

Project Officer John Wros

Partner Name: GORDON & BETTY MOORE FOUNDATION, WYSS FOUNDATION

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,000,000.00

Joint Venture: PACIFIC BIRDS HABITAT

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 3-Arctic Plains and Mountains

Project Description: This project seeks to establish a conservation easement over 49,423.52 acres in northwest Arctic Alaska, protecting 47,358.45 acres of coastal wetlands, 20 miles of Kasegaluk Lagoon, and the mouths of three major rivers. Located near the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska and developed with local Tribes, non-profits, and the Pacific Bird Habitat Joint Venture, the initiative preserves critical migratory bird and marine mammal habitats and maintains subsistence access for Alaska Native communities. The Interior Alaska Land Trust will oversee the easement permanently. The Kasegaluk Lagoon system, one of the longest in the world, supports large populations of Pacific Black Brant, Spectacled Eiders, Pacific Loons, shorebirds, beluga whales, spotted seals, and serves as a haul-out site for roughly 200,000 Pacific walrus. Mainland habitats also support Lapland Longspurs, Short-eared Owls, Rock Ptarmigan, and some of North America's highest concentrations of nesting Gyrfalcons, Peregrine Falcons, and Golden Eagles.

Project Name: GREAT LAKES MALLARDS II

Location (Counties): CHAMPAIGN, COOK, DU PAGE, FORD, GRUNDY, IROQUOIS, KANE, KANKAKEE, LAKE, LIVINGSTON, MCHENRY, VERMILION, WILL, ALLEN, CASS, DE KALB, ELKHART, FULTON, JASPER, KOSCIUSKO, LA PORTE, LAGRANGE, LAKE, MARSHALL, NEWTON, NOBLE, PORTER, PULASKI, ST. JOSEPH, STARKE, STEUBEN, WABASH, WHITE, WHITLEY, ALLEGAN, BARRY, BERRIEN, BRANCH, CALHOUN, CASS, CLARE, CLINTON, EATON, GENESEE, GLADWIN, GRATIOT, HILLSDALE, INGHAM, IONIA, ISABELLA, JACKSON, KALAMAZOO, KENT, LAPEER, LENAWEE, LIVINGSTON, MASON, MECOSTA, MONTCALM, NEWAYGO, OAKLAND, OCEANA, OSCEOLA, OTTAWA, SHIAWASSEE, ST. JOSEPH, TUSCOLA, VAN BUREN, WASHTENAW, DEFIANCE, WILLIAMS, ADAMS, BARRON, BROWN, BURNETT, CALUMET, CHIPPEWA, CLARK, COLUMBIA, DANE, DODGE, DOOR, EAU CLAIRE, FOND DU LAC, GREEN, GREEN LAKE, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JUNEAU, KENOSHA, KEWAUNEE, LANGLADE, LINCOLN, MANITOWOC, MARATHON, MARQUETTE, MILWAUKEE, MONROE, OUTAGAMIE, OZAUKEE, PIERCE, POLK, PORTAGE, RACINE, ROCK, SAUK, SHAWANO, SHEBOYGAN, ST. CROIX, TAYLOR, TREMPLEAU, WALWORTH, WASHBURN, WASHINGTON, WAUKESHA, WAUPACA, WAUSHARA, WINNEBAGO, WOOD, MICHIGAN

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Hunter Mentges

Partner Name: ACRES LAND TRUST, AGRIDRAIN, DUCKS UNLIMITED, HIXSON SAND & GRAVEL, INC. , ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, KNEPP SAND & STONE INC, LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT, MICHIGAN NATURE ASSOCIATION, NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION, OLIVE B. COLE FOUNDATION, PHEASANTS FOREVER, EEL RIVER CHAPTER, PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY, STANTEC INC, THE LAND CONSERVANCY OF MCHENRY COUNTY, THE PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS, TIPPECANOE AUDUBON SOCIETY, WAWASEE AREA CONSERVANCY FOUNDATION, WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,592,776.00

Joint Venture: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 12-Boreal Hardwood Transition, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie, BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Project Description: This project addresses the issue by conserving, restoring, and enhancing 3,689 acres to support Mallard breeding in the Upper Mississippi / Great Lakes Joint Venture.

Project Name: EASTERN WISCONSIN GREAT LAKES FOCUS AREA II

Location (Counties): CALUMET, DODGE, FOND DU LAC, KEWAUNEE, MANITOWOC, OZAUKEE, SHEBOYGAN, WASHINGTON, WISCONSIN

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Sara Comstock

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, GLACIAL LAKES CONSERVANCY, GLACIERLAND RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT INC, MILWAUKEE METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT, OZAUKEE COUNTY PLANNING & PARKS DEPARTMENT, RESTORING LANDS, RIVEREDGE NATURE CENTER, SHEBOYGAN COUNTY, WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$6,015,071.00

Joint Venture: UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Project Description: This project will conserve, restore, and enhance 8,593 (1,396) acres of wetland and upland habitats across the Eastern Wisconsin Great Lakes Focus Area, supporting goals for the Upper Mississippi Great Lakes Region Joint Venture. These efforts directly benefit breeding and stop-over habitats for waterfowl like Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck, and migratory shorebirds such as Dunlin and Lesser Yellowlegs. The wetlands provide crucial habitat, sustaining over 19.5 million duck-use days and supplying essential food for migration, nesting, and brood rearing.

Project Name: EASTERN SD WETLANDS PHASE X

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

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Bruce Toay

Partner Name: DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH & PARKS

Grant Award Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Match Amount: \$3,148,894.00

Joint Venture: PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description: This project aims to conserve easements on privately owned land in eastern South Dakota. Since more than 90% of the area covered by this proposal is privately owned and used for agriculture, it's essential to offer services that appeal to farmers and ranchers who collaborate with us. This will directly support the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture. Through this project, over 4,755 acres of crucial habitats will be permanently protected, benefiting breeding waterfowl such as Mallards, Northern Pintails, Blue-winged Teal.

Project Name: CENTRAL FLYWAY MIGRATION CORRIDOR VII

Location (Counties): ADAMS, ANTELOPE, ARTHUR, BANNER, BLAINE, BOONE, BOX BUTTE, BOYD, BROWN, BUFFALO, BURT, BUTLER, CASS, CEDAR, CHASE, CHERRY, CHEYENNE, CLAY, COLFAX, CUMING, CUSTER, DAKOTA, DAWES, DAWSON, DEUEL, DIXON, DODGE, DOUGLAS, DUNDY, FILLMORE, FRANKLIN, FRONTIER, FURNAS, GAGE, GARDEN, GARFIELD, GOSPER, GRANT, GREELEY, HALL, HAMILTON, HARLAN, HAYES, HITCHCOCK, HOLT, HOOKER, HOWARD, JEFFERSON, JOHNSON, KEARNEY, KEITH, KEYA PAHA, KIMBALL, KNOX, LANCASTER, LINCOLN, LOGAN, LOUP, MADISON, MCPHERSON, MERRICK, MORRILL, NANCE, NEMAHA, NUCKOLLS, OTOE, PAWNEE, PERKINS, PHELPS, PIERCE, PLATTE, POLK, RED WILLOW, RICHARDSON, ROCK, SALINE, SARPY, SAUNDERS, SCOTTS BLUFF, SEWARD, SHERIDAN, SHERMAN, SIOUX, STANTON, THAYER, THOMAS, THURSTON, VALLEY, WASHINGTON, WAYNE, WEBSTER, WHEELER, YORK, NEBRASKA

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Ele Nugent

Partner Name: CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER & IRRIGATION DISTRICT, DUCKS UNLIMITED, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION, PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC., PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS, RAINWATER BASIN JOINT VENTURE, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Grant Award Amount: \$2,008,830.00

Match Amount: \$2,632,614.00

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

Bird Conservation Region: BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 17-Badlands and Prairies, BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Project Description: This project covers five tracts in Nebraska aimed at protecting, restoring, and enhancing 3,259 acres of wetlands and grasslands. By improving habitats across the Central Flyway migration corridor, it benefits approximately half of North America's migratory waterfowl. The project targets ecosystems like the Platte and Loup River systems, Rainwater Basin, southwestern playa regions, and the Sandhills-each with distinct challenges but contributing to the health and diversity of the migration route.