



News Release

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More Than \$7 Million Awarded to Native American Tribes for a Wide Range of Conservation Work

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced more than \$7 million in Tribal Wildlife Grants that will go to 37 Native American Tribes in 16 states to fund a wide range of conservation projects.

“Tribal lands provide important habitat for hundreds of species across the nation, and Tribal Wildlife Grants are a critical tool to help conserve them,” said Service Acting Director Rowan Gould. “These projects reflect our commitment to collaboration with Native American tribes and to our collective efforts to conserve fish, wildlife and plants for present and future generations.”

More than \$54 million has gone to Native American tribes through the Tribal Wildlife Grants program since 2003, providing support for 335 conservation projects administered by participating Federally-recognized tribes. The grants provide technical and financial assistance for the development and implementation of projects that benefit fish and wildlife resources and their habitat, including non-game species.

The grants have enabled tribes to develop increased management capacity, improve and enhance relationships with partners (including state agencies), address cultural and environmental priorities and heighten tribal students’ interest in fisheries, wildlife and related fields of study. Some grants have been awarded to support recovery efforts for threatened and endangered species.

“The Tribal Wildlife Grants program has helped our Region build upon the trust relations we have with our tribal partners, while providing the tribes with funding to manage their natural resources as part of their sovereign rights. We value the professional conservation relationships we have established, and continue to create,” said Benjamin Tuggle, PhD., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southwest Regional Director.

“These grants also provide funding to manage and conserve both culturally significant species, and species of mutual concern. In particular, funding from this grant cycle allows Southwest tribes to manage a variety of species ranging from eagles, cougars, elk, mice, freshwater mussels, and their habitats,” said the Southwest Region’s Native American Liaison (NAL), Joseph Early.

For more information on application guidelines, contact Joseph Early at (505) 248-6602, or by email at joe_early@fws.gov

You may also visit the National NAL website at: www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html

During the current grant cycle tribes submitted a total of 149 proposals, for a total funding request of over \$25 million that were scored by panels in each Service Region using uniform ranking criteria. A national scoring panel recommended 37 proposals for funding, with approximately \$7 million available during this Fiscal Year. Specifically for the Southwest Region, 25 proposals were received and scored, with 6 of the proposals being funded for a total of \$1,181,603.

NOTE: Requests for Proposals for FY 2012 are being accepted from May 2-September 2, 2011.

2011 Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2, Tribal Wildlife Grant award recipients:

ARIZONA

Hopi Tribe (\$200,000)

Third Year of Golden Eagle Occupancy, Reproduction, And Prey Population Assessment on Hopi Lands

Navajo Nation (\$200,000)

Golden Eagle Occupancy, Reproduction, And Prey Population Assessment on Navajo Lands

San Carlos Apache Tribe (\$184,565)

Mountain Lion Populations, Predation, and the Development of Management Techniques on the San Carlos Nation

NEW MEXICO

Ohkay Owingeh (\$199,807)

Targeted Survey and Habitat Restoration for the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse at Ohkay Owingeh

Pueblo of Tesuque (\$199,524)

Elk Management and Habitat Enhancement Program Development

OKLAHOMA

Peoria Tribe of Oklahoma (\$197,708)

Propagation and Genetics the Neosho Madtom and Propagation of Four Freshwater Mussels

* Tribes may submit more than one proposal as long as their cumulative cost is less than \$200,000.

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