

**City of Carson City
Agenda Report**

Date Submitted: June 12, 2012

Agenda Date Requested: June 21, 2012

Time Requested: Consent

To: Mayor and Supervisors

From: Parks and Recreation Department - Open Space Division

Subject Title: For possible action to authorize staff to execute documents to support a grant by Ducks Unlimited in order to improve wetlands and irrigation infrastructure at Buzzy's Ranch. (Juan F. Guzman)

Staff Summary: Ducks Unlimited proposed to apply for a North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant for multiple areas on the Carson River. Within Carson City they propose to improve irrigation and the enhancement of wetlands located within Buzzy's Ranch.

Type of Action Requested: (check one)

- Resolution Ordinance
 Formal Action/Motion Other (Specify)

Does This Action Require A Business Impact Statement: Yes No

Recommended Board Action: I move to authorize staff to execute documents to support a grant by Ducks Unlimited in order to improve wetlands and irrigation infrastructure at Buzzy's Ranch.

Explanation for Recommended Board Action: This is a great opportunity to improve and enhance irrigation infrastructure and the wetlands within Buzzy's Ranch. Staff has consulted with Mickey Andersen and the Jarrard family's attorney, Chris McKenzie, in order to ascertain compliance with the prior agreements/conditions of sale.

Applicable Statue, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation: North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant regulations.

Fiscal Impact: Minimal, consisting of staff time and utilization of prior expenditures as a match. No cash is needed for this grant.

Explanation of Impact: Non-federal monies, utilized for the acquisition of the former Serpa and Bently properties, may be used to match the NAWCA grant. The prior expenditures are capable of leveraging approximately \$260,000 of grant monies toward improvements at Buzzy's Ranch.

Funding Source: Open Space Program accounts

Alternatives: No to approve

Supporting Material:

- Map of project area
- Draft partner contribution statement
- Grant and program overview

Prepared By: Juan F. Guzman Date: 6/11/12
Juan F. Guzman, Open Space Manager

Reviewed By: Roger Moellendorf Date: 6/12/12
Roger Moellendorf, Parks & Recreation Director

Lawrence A. Werner Date: 6/12/12
Lawrence A. Werner, City Manager

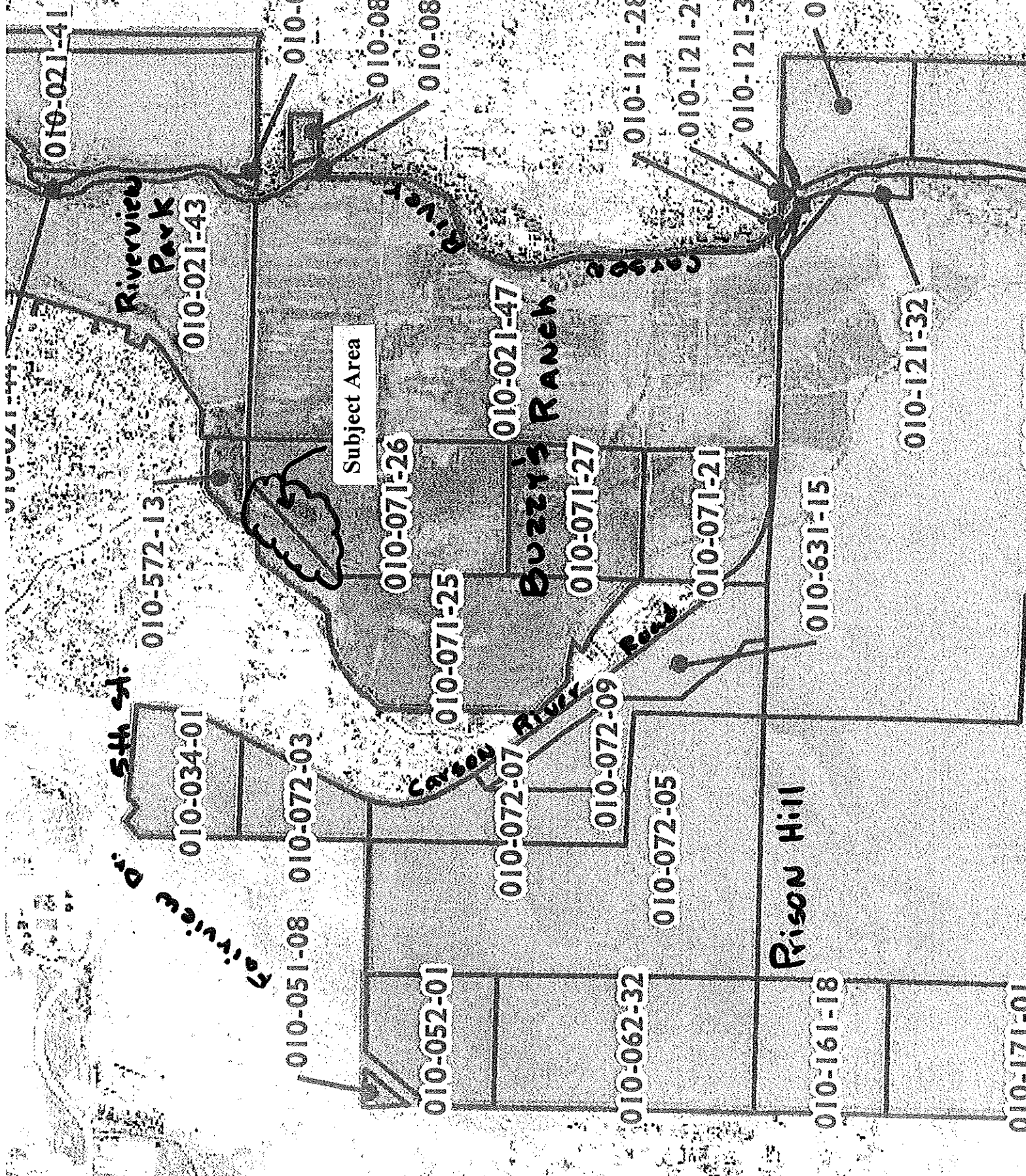
District Attorney's Office Date: 6/12/12
District Attorney's Office

Nancy Paulson Date: 6/12/12
Finance Department

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____ 1: _____ Aye/Nay
2: _____

(Vote Recorded By)



010-021-41

Riverview Park

010-021-43

010-021-45

010-081-03

010-088-05

Subject Area

010-572-13

010-071-26

010-021-47

Buzzzy's Ranch

010-071-27

010-121-28

010-121-29

010-121-30

010-121-31

010-121-32

5th St.

010-034-01

010-072-03

010-071-25

010-072-07

010-072-09

010-072-05

010-631-15

Riverview Drive

010-051-08

010-052-01

010-062-32

Prison Hill

010-161-18

010-171-01

Carson River Road

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT PROPOSAL PARTNER CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

What is the title of the proposal that you are contributing to?

Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada Wetlands – Phase I Project

What is the name of your organization (private landowners indicate “Private”)?

Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation

When will you make the contribution?

Our contribution (\$2,952,273) was made during 2011 and 2012.

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value?

The total value of the Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation’s contribution to the proposed project is \$2,952,273 and consists of cash that was expended on the purchase of two parcels of land along the Carson River corridor at the eastern edge of Carson City.

Does the contribution have a non-federal origin?

Yes. These funds are non-federal in origin, have not been used to match any other federal funding program, and are eligible to be used as match for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant funds for the project. Our contribution is derived from the Carson City’s Question 18 Quality of Life Initiative Grants Program, with program funds administered by the Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation.

If this is based on a fund-raising event or other future action, if that future action fails, will you still provide the contribution amount?

Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation has already made this contribution. Therefore, the contribution is not dependent on other future actions.

What long-term migratory bird and wetlands conservation work will the contribution cover?

Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation’s contribution will be applied as follows:

- \$2,078,604 in cash from Carson City Question 18 revenue that was expended in 2011, and pooled with Nevada Division of State Lands funds provided through a grant to Nevada Land Conservancy, to purchase the 419-acre Serpa Property – Deer Run tract; and
- \$873,669 in cash from Carson City Question 18 revenue that was expended in 2012, and pooled with funds from Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V & T Railway, Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, and Bently Family Limited Partnership, to purchase the 497-acre Bently Carson River Canyon tract.

The acquisitions of these two contiguous parcels, immediately east of Carson City, permanently protect over 5.5 miles of river frontage along the Carson River corridor along with its associated

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cottonwood gallery riparian forest and adjacent Great Basin habitats within the river canyon. The fee-title acquisitions permanently protect the properties, allowing them to continue to provide habitat for neotropical migratory songbirds including species such as ash-throated flycatcher, Bullock's oriole, Lazuli bunting, and song sparrow which nest there along with species that utilize the riparian habitat during migration such as willow flycatcher, yellow-billed cuckoo, and yellow warbler; waterfowl including mallard, wood duck, and common merganser; shorebirds including spotted sandpiper and killdeer; and many other wildlife species. Our \$2,952,273 contribution provides much needed match that will be leveraged to accomplish restoration and enhancement efforts in the Lahontan Valley and western Nevada region that will result in improved habitat quality for migratory and breeding birds and other wildlife.

Does the proposal correctly describe your contribution, especially the amount?

Yes

If applicable to the proposal, is your organization competent to hold title to, and manage, land acquired with grant funds and are you willing to apply a Notice of Grant Agreement or other recordable document to the property?

Yes

Do you have any additional comments?

The Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada region is very important for a variety of wildlife including waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and neotropical migratory songbirds. High-quality wetland and riparian habitats are extremely limited in this arid region however, and habitat continues to be lost. The Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada Wetlands – Phase I Project brings together a diverse partnership to protect, restore, and enhance substantial habitat on both public and private lands in the region. Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation is proud to partner with Ducks Unlimited in this important regional conservation effort, and is pleased to be a 10% partner in a project that will aid in meeting the objectives of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan (Intermountain West Regional Shorebird Plan), North American Waterbird Conservation Plan (Intermountain West Waterbird Conservation Plan – U.S. Portion), Partners in Flight's North American Landbird Conservation Plan, and other wetland conservation strategies. Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation puts this contribution forward to complement other federal, as well as non-federal, grant dollars to meet the objectives of NAWCA. This letter is less than 1 year old and has been signed at the most appropriate fiscal level in our agency.

Signature:

**Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation**

Date Signed:

**NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT PROPOSAL
PARTNER CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT**

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What is the title of the proposal that you are contributing to?

Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada Wetlands – Phase I Project

What is the name of your organization (private landowners indicate “Private”)?

Bently Family Limited Partnership

When will you make the contribution?

Our contribution was made during 2012.

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-federal origin? If this is based on a fund-raising event or other future action, if that future action fails, will you still provide the contribution amount?

The total value of our contribution to the proposed project is \$200,000 by way of bargain sale and thus is of non-federal origin. We partnered with the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V & T Railway, Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation, and Bureau of Land Management through its Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act land acquisition program on the fee title acquisition of our 497-acre Bently Carson River Canyon tract located in Carson City, Nevada. An appraisal of our property determined the value to be \$1.8 million dollars. The funding partners were able to provide \$1.6 million towards purchase of the property. Although below appraised value, we accepted that price to complete the deal. Thus our contribution to the proposed project does not represent an actual cash transaction but donation of \$200,000 of unrealized cash value. Because our contribution has already been made, it is not dependent on other future actions.

What long-term migratory bird and wetlands conservation work will the contribution cover?

This acquisition, immediately east of Carson City, includes 2.5 miles of river frontage along the Carson River corridor along with its associated cottonwood gallery riparian forest and adjacent Great Basin habitats within the river canyon. The fee-title acquisition permanently protects the property, allowing it to continue to provide habitat for neotropical migratory songbirds including species such as ash-throated flycatcher, Bullock’s oriole, Lazuli bunting, and song sparrow which nest there along with species that utilize the riparian habitat during migration such as willow flycatcher, yellow-billed cuckoo, and yellow warbler; waterfowl including mallard, wood duck, and common merganser; shorebirds including spotted sandpiper and killdeer; and many other wildlife species. Our \$200,000 contribution provides much needed match that will be leveraged to accomplish restoration and enhancement efforts in the Lahontan Valley and western Nevada region that will result in improved habitat quality for migratory and breeding birds and other wildlife.

Does the proposal correctly describe your contribution, especially the amount?

Yes

If applicable to the proposal, is your organization competent to hold title to, and manage, land acquired with grant funds and are you willing to apply a Notice of Grant Agreement or other recordable document to the property?

Not Applicable

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Do you have any additional comments?

The Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada region is very important for a variety of wildlife including waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and neotropical migratory songbirds. High-quality wetland and riparian habitats are extremely limited in this arid region however, and habitat continues to be lost. The Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada Wetlands – Phase I Project brings together a diverse partnership to protect, restore, and enhance substantial habitat on both public and private lands in the region. Bently Family Limited Partnership is proud to partner with Ducks Unlimited in this important regional conservation effort, and is pleased to be a 10% partner in a project that will aid in meeting the objectives of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan (Intermountain West Regional Shorebird Plan), North American Waterbird Conservation Plan (Intermountain West Waterbird Conservation Plan – U.S. Portion), Partners in Flight’s North American Landbird Conservation Plan, and other wetland conservation strategies. Bently Family Limited Partnership puts this contribution forward to complement other federal and state grant funds as well as private dollars to meet the objectives of NAWCA.

Signature:

**Donald Bently
Bently Family Limited Partnership
Date Signed:**

**NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT PROPOSAL
PARTNER CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT**

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What is the title of the proposal that you are contributing to?

Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada Wetlands – Phase I Project

What is the name of your organization (private landowners indicate “Private”)?

Nevada Land Conservancy

When will you make the contribution?

Our contribution was made during 2011.

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value?

The total value of the Nevada Land Conservancy contribution to the proposed project is \$1,070,000 cash. Our contribution was combined with \$2,078,604 of funding from Carson City Department of Parks and Recreation to purchase the 419-acre Serpa Property – Deer Run tract.

Does the contribution have a non-federal origin?

Yes. These funds are non-federal in origin, have not been used to match any other federal funding program, and are eligible to be used as match for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant funds for the project. Our contribution is derived from the Nevada Division of State Lands Conservation and Resource Protection Grant Program (also known as “Question 1”), with program funds administered by the Nevada Division of State Lands.

If this is based on a fund-raising event or other future action, if that future action fails, will you still provide the contribution amount?

Nevada Land Conservancy has already made this contribution. Therefore, the contribution is not dependent on other future actions.

What long-term migratory bird and wetlands conservation work will the contribution cover?

This acquisition, immediately east of Carson City, includes 3.5 miles of river frontage along the Carson River corridor along with its associated cottonwood gallery riparian forest and adjacent Great Basin habitats within the river canyon. The fee-title acquisition permanently protects the property, allowing it to continue to provide habitat for neotropical migratory songbirds including species such as ash-throated flycatcher, Bullock’s oriole, Lazuli bunting, and song sparrow which nest there along with species that utilize the riparian habitat during migration such as willow flycatcher, yellow-billed cuckoo, and yellow warbler; waterfowl including mallard, wood duck, and common merganser; shorebirds including spotted sandpiper and killdeer; and many other wildlife species. Our \$1,070,000 contribution provides much needed match that will be leveraged to accomplish restoration and enhancement efforts in the Lahontan Valley and western Nevada region that will result in improved habitat quality for migratory and breeding birds and other wildlife.

Does the proposal correctly describe your contribution, especially the amount?

Yes

If applicable to the proposal, is your organization competent to hold title to, and manage, land acquired with grant funds and are you willing to apply a Notice of Grant Agreement or other recordable document to the property?

Not Applicable

Do you have any additional comments?

The Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada region is very important for a variety of wildlife including waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and neotropical migratory songbirds. High-quality wetland and riparian habitats are extremely limited in this arid region area however, and habitat continues to be lost. The Lahontan Valley – Western Nevada Wetlands – Phase I Project brings together a diverse partnership to protect, restore, and enhance substantial habitat on both public and private lands in the region. Nevada Land Conservancy is proud to partner with Ducks Unlimited in this important regional conservation effort, and is pleased to be a 10% partner in a project that will aid in meeting the objectives of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan (Intermountain West Regional Shorebird Plan), North American Waterbird Conservation Plan (Intermountain West Waterbird Conservation Plan – U.S. Portion), Partners in Flight's North American Landbird Conservation Plan, and other wetland conservation strategies. Nevada Land Conservancy puts this contribution forward to complement other federal, as well as non-federal, grant dollars to meet the objectives of NAWCA.

Signature:

**Charles P. Pope, Chief Executive Officer
Nevada Land Conservancy**

Date Signed:



Division of Bird Habitat Conservation

FWS >> birdhabitat >> Grants >> NAWCA >> North American Wetlands Conservation Act

Canadian Grants Approved, U.S. Small Grants Announced

On June 7, 2012, the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission approved more than \$22.3 million for North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) in Canada. The commission also heard a presentation summarizing 44 projects previously approved for funding under the NAWCA U.S. Small Grants Program.

U.S. Canadian and Mexican Standard Grants

Deadlines

U.S. Small Grants

U.S. Standard Grants Deadlines: March 2, 2012 and July 27, 2012.

Canadian Standard Grants Deadline: January 6, 2012.

Mexican Standard Grants Deadline: June 1, 2012.

U.S. Small Grants Deadlines: October 25, 2012.

Council

Purpose and Scope

NAWCA Legislation

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (Act, or NAWCA) of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife.

Programatic

There is a Standard and a Small Grants Program. Both are competitive grants programs and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute towards a project, but are not eligible as match.

The Standard Grants Program supports projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. In Mexico, partners may also conduct projects involving technical training, environmental education and outreach, organizational infrastructure development, and sustainable-use studies.

The Small Grants Program operates only in the United States; it supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$75,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program.

History

The Act was passed, in part, to support activities under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, an international agreement that provides a strategy for the long-term protection of wetlands and associated uplands habitats needed by waterfowl and other migratory birds in North America. In December 2002, Congress reauthorized the Act and expanded its scope to include the conservation of all habitats and birds associated with wetlands ecosystems. In 2006, Congress reauthorized the Act to extend its appropriation authorization of up to \$75 million per year to 2012.

Current Funding

The Congressional appropriation to fund the Act's Grants Program in FY 2010 is \$47,647,000. Additional program funding comes from fines, penalties, and forfeitures collected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; from Federal fuel excise taxes on small gasoline engines, as directed by amendments to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950, to benefit coastal ecosystem projects; and from interest accrued on the fund established under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937. In FY2010 these other sources provided almost \$42 million in additional grant funds.

The Process

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Bird Habitat Conservation (Division) is responsible for facilitating the Act's Grants Program.

Standard Grants Program: The process for receiving and preliminarily reviewing project proposals is handled slightly differently for each country and enjoys the active participation of each federal government.

Once a slate of eligible proposals has been determined per each country-program's process, the proposals are further reviewed and ranked by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council, a nine-member council established by the Act. The Council then recommends projects to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, a seven-member commission authorized by the Act to give final funding approval to projects. The Division administers the grants for all approved Standard Grants Program projects.

Small Grants Program: The process follows that of the U.S. Standard Grants Program, except for the timing of the final funding approval. Each year, the Commission pre-approves the total amount of funding to be distributed to projects in the next fiscal year. Final project-selection authority is delegated to the Council, which then reports its selections back to the Commission. The Division administers the grants for all approved Small Grants Program projects.

Accomplishments

From September 1990 through March 2011, some 4,500 partners in 2,067 projects have received more than \$1.1 billion in grants. They have contributed another \$2.32 billion in matching funds to affect 26.5 million acres of habitat and \$1.21 billion in nonmatching funds to affect 234,820 acres of habitat.

Contacts

For general information about the Act's Grants Program, contact: Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, (703) 358-1784, dbhc@fws.gov.

Last updated: June 7, 2012