



Private Stewardship Grants Program

Endangered and threatened species, as well as many other imperiled species, depend upon privately owned lands for their survival.

Therefore, the help of private landowners is essential for the conservation of these species. Fortunately, many landowners want to help and are implementing voluntary conservation actions on their lands. These activities range from habitat protection and restoration to the implementation of land management practices that directly benefit imperiled species.

However, the costs associated with implementing conservation actions for imperiled species may be greater than a private landowner can undertake without assistance. Through the Private Stewardship Grants Program (PSGP), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) provides financial assistance to individuals and groups to support voluntary conservation efforts on private lands for the benefit of imperiled species.

In 2006, the FWS awarded more than \$6.9 million under this program to landowners and their partners to protect and restore imperiled species and their habitats.

Excluding education and outreach, research, planning, and land acquisition, the PSGP is open to a wide variety of on-the-ground projects. Here are a few examples of previously selected projects:

- Stream restoration to increase overhanging vegetative cover and in-stream woody debris, restoring cool waters and improving habitat structure for trout species.

Stewardship: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.



Private Stewardship Grant Program volunteers fan out at Revis Hill Prairie looking for seed to be used to enlarge and re-establish hill prairies in Illinois for the benefit of imperiled species such as the Hill's thistle. (Photo Chris Young - State Journal Register, IL)

- Restoration of native plant communities through eradication of nonnative invasive plants.
- Habitat protection and restoration through modified grazing and timber management practices.
- Installation of exclosure fencing around sensitive habitats for imperiled species to prevent predation, trampling, and competition from nonnative species.
- Removal of fish migration barriers to enhance survival and reproduction of imperiled fish species.
- Implementation of effective management practices on existing suitable habitat for imperiled species.
- Restoration of wetland hydrology and vegetation to benefit imperiled water fowl.
- Fire management activities to support rangeland/grassland habitat.

How the PSGP Works

Each year, the FWS announces a request for project proposals to be considered for that year's funding.

To apply for a grant, an individual or group prepares a proposal that describes their project and how it will benefit the target species. Proposals then compete at a regional level for funding.

Summary of Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for funding, individuals or groups must submit project proposals that include:

- voluntary conservation efforts on private lands;
- benefits to species listed, proposed, or candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act, or other at-risk species native to the U.S.;

- cost-share of at least 10 % of total project cost (may be met by in-kind contributions, including time, equipment, materials, operations, or maintenance costs);
- landowner participation information;
- budget information; and
- measures to evaluate the project.

For a detailed description of the eligibility and other program requirements, see the Request for Proposals, posted at www.grants.gov, or visit our Web site at http://www.fws.gov/angered/grants/private_stewardship/index.html.

Assistance in Planning and Implementing Projects

Through multiple programs, the FWS offers expertise to assist landowners in planning and implementing projects on private lands. Among others, the FWS Endangered Species program and the Fish and Wildlife

Management and Habitat Restoration program have worked hand-in-hand with a variety of partners on private lands.

Our ability to assist landowners will depend upon the type of project proposed and upon our existing workloads and priorities. For additional information on how we may be able to assist you, call or write the program contact from the list of Regional offices below. Information is also available from the FWS Web site at <http://www.fws.gov>.

Related Programs

The PSGP builds upon other FWS efforts to encourage the conservation of imperiled species on private lands.

The *Safe Harbor Policy* encourages voluntary management for listed species to promote recovery on non-Federal lands by giving assurances to the landowners that no additional future regulatory restrictions will be imposed.

The *Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances Policy* provides incentives for non-Federal property owners to conserve candidate species, thus potentially making listing unnecessary.

Contact Us

For more information on the PSGP, please contact the FWS Regional office from the list below with responsibility for the State or Territory in which the proposed project would occur.

Additional information is also available at http://www.fws.gov/angered/grants/private_stewardship/index.html, or send an e-mail to Privatestewardship@fws.gov.

You may also access www.grants.gov and search using the program title Private Stewardship Grant Program or by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.632.



Regional Office Boundaries

Region One — Pacific

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Eastside Federal Complex
911 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-4181
Program Contact: Heather Hollis,
503/231-6241

Region Two — Southwest

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
711 Stadium Drive, Suite 252
Arlington, TX 76011
Program Contact: Mike McCullum,
817/277-1100

Program Contact: Ms. Mike Gantt,
919/856-4627

Region Five — Northeast

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
Program Contact: Diane Lynch,
413/253-8628

Region Six — Mountain-Prairie

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
134 Union Blvd., Suite 645
Lakewood, CO 80228
Program Contact: Patricia Mehlhop,
303/236-4215

Region Three — Great Lakes – Big Rivers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bishop Henry Whipple
Federal Building
One Federal Drive
Fort Snelling, MN
55111-4056
Program Contact: Peter
Fasbender; 612/713-5343

Region Four — Southeast

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Attention: Acquanetta
Reese
1875 Century
Boulevard, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30345

Region Seven — Alaska

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199

Program Contact: Michael Roy,
907/786-3925

California/Nevada Operations

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Building
#2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

Program Contact: Deb Schlafmann,
916/414-6464

**U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered Species Program
Branch of State Grants, Don Morgan
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 420
Arlington, VA 22203
703/358 2061
<http://www.fws.gov/angered/>**

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