

Partnerships With States

Tools for Helping Communities and Landowners Conserve Species Habitat

Because more than half of all species currently listed as endangered or threatened spend at least part of their life cycle on privately owned lands, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognizes that success in conserving species will ultimately depend on working cooperatively with landowners, communities, and tribes to foster voluntary stewardship efforts on private lands. States play a key role in catalyzing these efforts.

A variety of tools are available under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to help States and landowners plan and implement projects to conserve species. The *Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund* (section 6 of the ESA) provides grants to States and Territories to participate in a wide array of voluntary conservation projects for candidate, proposed and listed species.

There are six different types of Section 6 grants, which make Federal funds available to States and Territories and, through them, to communities and individuals. Two of these types of grants (Conservation Grants and HCP Land Acquisition Grants) have been available for several years. Four others (Recovery Land Acquisition Grants, HCP Grants, Safe Harbor Grants, and Candidate Conservation Agreement Grants) were first funded by Congress in FY 2001 to respond to the burgeoning interest shown by States and landowners in managing their lands in ways that benefit species and their habitats.

The Service will award a total of \$104.43 million in Federal grant funding under these six types of grants in FY 2001, broken down as follows:

Conservation Grants (\$7.5 million) provide financial assistance to States and Territories to implement



The Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition program is helping to acquire habitat for endangered species such as the golden-cheeked warbler while development proceeds in the rapidly-growing area of Austin, Texas. USFWS photo

conservation projects for listed and nonlisted species. Funded activities include habitat restoration, species status surveys, public education and outreach, captive propagation and reintroduction, nesting surveys, genetic studies, and development of management plans.

HCP Land Acquisition Grants (\$68.93 million) provide funding to States to acquire land associated with approved HCPs. Grants do not fund the mitigation required of an HCP permittee; instead, they

support conservation actions by the State or local governments that complement mitigation.

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants (\$11 million) provide funds to States for acquisition of habitat for endangered and threatened species in support of approved recovery plans. Acquisition of habitat to secure long term protection is often an essential element of a comprehensive recovery effort for a listed species.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Grants (\$7 million)

provide funds to States to support the development of HCPs, through support of baseline surveys and inventories, document preparation, outreach, and similar planning activities. Grants may also support the implementation of conservation actions that complement the mitigation actions called for in approved HCPs.

Safe Harbor Grants (\$5 million)

provide funding to States for planning, development, and implementation of Safe Harbor Agreements for listed species on state, private, and other non-Federal lands, with emphasis on statewide and range-wide Safe Harbor Agreements and associated private landowner agreements. Safe Harbor Agreements have proven extremely effective in encouraging non-federal landowners to enhance or improve habitat for threatened and endangered species on their property.

Candidate Conservation Agreement Grants (\$5 million)

provide funding to States for planning, development, and implementation of Candidate Conservation Agreements to conserve candidate and proposed species, and species likely to become candidates, on State, private, and other non-Federal lands. By addressing the needs of species early, potential conflicts associated with listing may be avoided. Emphasis is placed on statewide and range-wide agreements and local and private landowner agreements associated with these statewide or range-wide efforts.

For more information on how to apply for Federal grants to assist States, Territories, and landowners in conserving species on non-Federal lands, please contact the Assistant Regional Director at your Regional Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or contact:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Consultation, Habitat
Conservation Planning, Recovery and
State Grants
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 420
Arlington, VA 22203
703-358-2106



Section 6 funding has helped protect fragile cave ecosystems and the creatures that live there, such as the threatened Ozark cavefish. USFWS photo

Regional Contact Information

Region One — Pacific

Eastside Federal Complex
911 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland OR 97232-4181
503/231 6118

<http://pacific.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and the Pacific Trust Territories

Region Two — Southwest

PO. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87102
505/248 6282

<http://southwest.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

Region Three — Great Lakes, Big Rivers

Bishop Henry Federal Building
One Federal Drive
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4056
612/713 5301

<http://midwest.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin

Region Four — Southeast

1875 Century Boulevard
Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30345
404/679 7086

<http://southeast.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands

Region Five — Northeast

300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
413/253 8200

<http://northeast.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia

Region Six — Mountain Prairie

134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, CO 80228
303/236 7920

<http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming

Region Seven — Alaska

1011 E. Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
907/786 3542

<http://alaska.fws.gov>

Jurisdiction: Alaska

