

Opportunities for Shorebird Project Funding

U. S. Shorebird Conservation Plan

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BUDWEISER CONSERVATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Focus: The Conservation Scholarship Program is designed to respond to many of the most significant challenges in fish, wildlife and plant conservation in the United States, whether it is the sustainable use of natural resources, including sportfish and game, recovery of an endangered species, or control of invasive exotic species, by providing scholarships to eligible graduate and undergraduate students who are poised to make a significant contribution to the field of conservation.

Amount: ≥\$100,000

Match: none

Deadline: 16 January

Details: <<http://www.nfwf.org/programs/budscholarship.htm>>

COASTAL AND ESTUARINE LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Focus: The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) has been established to help protect coastal and estuarine lands that are important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical or aesthetic value, and can be effectively managed and protected. The program provides funding for states agency and local government projects that ensure conservation of these areas for the benefit of future generations. CELCP was created by the Fiscal Year 2002 Appropriations Act for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State.

Amount: \$37 million

Match: 50%

Deadline: June

Web: <<http://www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/landconservation.html>>

DELAWARE BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM

Focus: Provides grants to organizations working on a local level to protect and improve watersheds in the Delaware River Estuary, while building citizen-based resource stewardship. The purpose of the grants program is to address the living resource and water quality needs of the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware portions of the Delaware Estuary ecosystem.

Amount: \$500,000

Match: variable

Deadline: 1 July

Web: <<http://www.nfwf.org/programs/delaware.htm>>

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LEGACY NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM

Focus: Projects aimed at natural resources on Department of Defense lands. Partnership with DoD personnel on local installations is needed. Areas of emphasis include: Regional Ecosystem Management Initiatives, Monitoring and Predicting Migratory Patterns of Birds, and national and International Initiatives.

Amount: ??

Match: none

Deadline: 1 October

Web: <<http://www.dodlegacy.org/dod/plegacy.nsf>>

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AGENCY CHALLENGE COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

Focus: Projects generally conducted on U.S. Department of the Interior lands (Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service). Projects include education, management, and applied research. These programs are packaged as the Cooperative Conservation Initiative under the Department of the Interior. Contact regional agency offices for details.

Amount: variable

Match: usually \geq 50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: variable

Web: locate regional offices at: <<http://www.blm.gov>, <<http://www.fws.gov>>, <<http://www.nps.gov>>

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Focus: The Grant Program sponsored by EPA's Office of Environmental Education supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. Since 1992, EPA has received has awarded about 2,500 grants.

Amount: \$2 – 3 million

Match: 25% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: February

Web: <<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>>

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM - U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Focus: The objective of Section 1135 and 206 of the Water Resource Development Act of 1986 provides authority to restore degraded ecosystem structure, function, and processes that provide a more natural condition. Restoration activities, where degradation is attributable to water resource projects previously constructed, funded, or operated by the Corps, need to result in significant improvements to the environment that are in the general public interest, District Corps offices will initiate a preliminary investigation upon a written request by a non-federal sponsor.

Amount: ≤\$5 million per project

Match: 25 – 35% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: none

Web: contact district offices at <<http://www.hecsa.usace.army.mil/pubactv.html>>

FIVE-STAR RESTORATION PROGRAM

Focus: The Five-Star Restoration Program provides modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities.

Amount: \$500,000

Match: partnership involvement

Deadline: 3 March

Web: <<http://nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.htm>>

FMC CORPORATION BIRD AND HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND

Focus: Priority will be given to projects that implement recommendations or priorities of conservation plans or programs such as Partners in Flight. Projects that include work on private lands or outreach to private landowners, particularly farmers, to improve habitat conditions for the target species are also highly desirable. FMC funds are intended for habitat conservation projects including acquisition, restoration, and management. Research, monitoring, and education are acceptable as components of projects, but actual on-the-ground habitat work should be the focus. Species emphasis includes: prairie grouse (Greater, Lesser, and Attwater's Prairie-Chickens, Greater and Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse) and related prairie species; and shorebirds and other water birds. Priority states include: AR, CA, CO, ID, IA, IL, IN, TN, TX, UT, and WA. Projects outside of these areas may also be considered.

Amount: \$800,000

Match: 66%, match can be federal, state, or other private funds.

Deadline: 1 June, 15 October (pre-proposals)

Web: <www.nfwf.org/programs/fmc_corpbird.htm>

FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT (FARM BILL)

Focus: The conservation provisions in the Farm Bill will assist farmers and ranchers in meeting environmental challenges on their land. The legislation simplifies existing programs and creates new programs to address high priority environmental and production goals. The Natural Resources Conservation Service administers the many of the programs that could benefit shorebirds. State- and Conservation District-level contacts can be located at <<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>> and <http://www.nacdnet.org/resources/cdsonweb.html>. General information can be found at <http://fb-net.org> and <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Offers annual payments and cost sharing to establish long-term, resource-conserving cover on environmentally sensitive land. The acreage cap is increased from 36.4 million acres to 39.2 million acres. Funding is through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates increased spending of \$1.5 billion over 10 years.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). Provides cost sharing and/or long-term or permanent easements for restoration of wetland on agricultural land. The acreage cap is increased from 1.075 million acres to 2.275 million acres. The Secretary of Agriculture is required (to the greatest extent practicable) to enroll 250,000 acres per year. Funding is through the CCC. CBO estimates increased spending of \$1.5 billion over 10 years.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Provides technical assistance, cost sharing, and incentive payments to assist livestock and crop producers with conservation and environmental improvements. EQIP is slated to receive \$5.8 billion in CCC funding for fiscal years (FY) 2002-07 and a total of \$9 billion over 10 years. Funding is phased up to \$1.3 billion annually by FY 2007, compared with annual funding of roughly \$200 million per year under the 1996 Farm Act. Additional CCC funding of \$250 million over FY 2002-07 is provided for ground and surface water conservation. An additional \$50 million (to be made available as soon as practical) is allocated to water conservation activities in the Klamath Basin.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). Provides cost sharing to landowners and producers to develop and improve wildlife habitat. Total CCC funding of \$360 million is mandated over FY 2002-07, ranging from \$15 million in FY 2002 to \$85 million in FY 2005-07, and a total of \$700 million over 10 years.

Farmland Protection Program (FPP). Provides funds to State, tribal, or local governments and private organizations to help purchase development rights and keep productive farmland in agricultural use. Total CCC funding of \$597 million is mandated over FY 2002-07, ranging from \$50 million in FY 2002 to \$125 million in FY 2004-05, and totaling \$985 million over 10 years.

Conservation Security Program (CSP). Will provide payments to producers for maintaining or adopting a wide range of structural and/or land management practices that address a variety of local and/or national resource concerns. CSP will be funded through the CCC. CBO estimates spending of \$369 million for FY 2003-07 and \$2 billion over 10 years.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP). Will protect up to 2 million acres of grassland. CCC funding of up to \$254 million is available.

GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Focus: The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (the Council) fosters cooperative actions and strives to maintain and enhance environmental quality and sustainable resources in the Gulf of Maine through restoration, education, prevention, and protection.

Amount: \$900,000

Match: 50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 29 September

Web: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/gulfofmaine.html>

GULF OF MEXICO FOUNDATION

Focus: Community-based restoration of marine resources at Gulf of Mexico Ecological Management Sites in the U.S.

Amount: \$350,000

Match: 50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 31 July

Web: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/gulfofmexico.html>

LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Focus: Grants are available for conservation efforts to be carried out on private lands, to provide technical or financial assistance to private landowners for the purpose of benefitting federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species on private lands. Assistance must be to protect, restore, or manage habitat on private lands. Application is limited to States, federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and American Samoa agencies with lead management responsibility for fish and wildlife resources. Although direct participation is limited to State fish and wildlife agencies, private landowners will directly benefit and the general public will ultimately benefit from these wildlife conservation measures.

Amount: \$40 million

Match: 50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: June

Web: <<http://www.cfda.gov/public/viewprog.asp?progid=1585>>

NATIONAL COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION GRANTS

Focus: To provide funds to coastal States for coastal wetlands conservation projects. Funds are used for acquisition of interests in coastal lands or waters, and for restoration, enhancement or management of coastal wetlands ecosystems on a competitive basis with all coastal States. Proposed projects must provide for long term conservation of such lands or waters and the hydrology, water quality, and fish and wildlife dependent thereon.

Amount: \$12 million

Match: ≤50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: June

Web: <<http://www.fws.gov/cep/cwgcover.html>>

NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS

Focus: The Graduate Research Fellowship program offers students an opportunity to conduct their master's or doctoral research in a reserve. Students also gain hands on experience by contributing to the research and monitoring program at their host reserve. Research proposals should address one of the following topics at one or multiple reserves: eutrophication, effects of non-point source pollution and/or nutrient dynamics; habitat conservation and/or restoration; biodiversity and/or the effects of invasive species; mechanisms for sustaining resources within estuarine ecosystems; or economic, sociological, and/or anthropological research applicable to estuarine ecosystem management.

Amount: \$20,000 per fellowship per year

Match: none

Deadline: November 1

Web: <<http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov/fellowship>>

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION'S SPECIES RECOVERY FUND

The National Wildlife Federation's Species Recovery Fund seeks to encourage habitat restorations, species reintroductions, private land conservation activities, and other creative endeavors that directly improve conditions for species listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. During the past four years, National Wildlife Federation has awarded over forty grants to support innovative species conservation efforts. The Species Recovery Fund invites applications from any organization, agency, tribe, university, or individual working to improve on-the-ground conditions for imperiled species. Preference will be given to local grassroots organizations.

Amount: \$3,000 – 7,000

Match: none

Deadline: February 16

Web: <<http://ww.nwf.org/keepthewildalive/speciesrecoveryfund.cfm>>

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE - PRIVATE LANDS CONSERVATION

Focus: The goal of the partnership is to support high quality projects that engage private landowners, primarily farmers and ranchers, in the conservation and enhancement of fish and wildlife and natural resources on their lands. The NRCS has a long and established history of providing voluntary assistance to landowners for natural resource management.

Amount: \$3 million

Match: ≥50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 15 April, 15 July, 2 December

Web: <<http://www.nfwf.org/programs/nrcsnacd.htm>>

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACT

Focus: Passed by the U.S. Congress in 2000, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (Act) establishes a matching grants program to fund projects that promote the conservation of these birds in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean. The Act's purposes are to: perpetuate healthy populations of neotropical migratory birds; assist in the conservation of these birds by supporting conservation initiatives in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean; and provide financial resources and foster international cooperation for those initiatives.

Amount: \$3 million; 75% in Latin America and Caribbean

Match: 75% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 1 January?

Web: <http://northamerican.fws.gov/NMBCA/eng_neo.htm>

NOAA COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION

Focus: Financial and technical federal assistance program that promotes strong partnerships at the national, regional and local level to fund grass-roots, community-based activities that restore living marine resources and their habitats and promote stewardship and a conservation ethic for NOAA trust resources in the U.S.

Amount: ≥\$3 million

Match: 50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 12 September; 5 December

Web: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/funding_opportunities/funding.html>

NORTH AMERICA WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT

Focus: The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (Act) of 1989 provides matching grants to private or public organizations or to individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. 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 needed by waterfowl and other migratory birds in North America. U.S. Standard grants for partners focus on protecting, restoring, and/or enhancing critical habitat, and Mexican partners may develop training and management programs and conduct studies on sustainable use as well.

Amount: >\$40 million in a Standard Grants Program (\$50,000 - \$1 million) and in a Small Grants Program (<\$50,000)

Match: ≥50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 7 March, 25 July, 28 November

Web: <<http://northamerican.fws.gov/NAWCA/grants.htm>>

PRIVATE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Focus: The Private Stewardship Program provides grants and other assistance on a competitive basis to individuals and groups engaged in local, private, and voluntary conservation efforts that benefit federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species.

Amount: \$9 million

Match: 10% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 15 January

Web: <http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship.html?>

SOUTHERN COMPANY POWER OF FLIGHT BIRD CONSERVATION FUND

Focus: The Power of Flight Bird Conservation Fund is a partnership between the Southern Company and its seven operating companies and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The purpose of this partnership is to provide seed grants for bird conservation projects within the Southern Company service area of Georgia, Alabama, northwestern Florida, and southeastern Mississippi.

Amount: \$500,000

Match: 50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: 1 June, 15 October (pre-proposal)

Web: <<http://www.nfwf.org/programs/socopof.htm>>

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S SMITH FELLOWSHIP

Focus: Smith Postdoctoral Fellows are selected for their ability to contribute to *Conservation by Design*. *Conservation by Design* describes The Nature Conservancy's primary strategy for carrying out its mission of protecting the lands and waters needed to ensure survival of the plants, animals and natural communities representing the diversity of life. *Conservation by Design* aims to develop and implement the most effective conservation tools that will achieve tangible, lasting results at scales great enough to impact the viability of species, communities, and ecosystems. Regardless of research theme, fellowship applications that show the greatest promise for identifying or developing conservation practices that can be leveraged over broad areas, and over long time scales, will be at a competitive advantage during the selection process. Leverage is defined here as broad applicability over multiple TNC sites as well as an increased likelihood of interest from, and adoption by, partner organizations working with The Nature Conservancy.

Amount: \$200,000 (in 5 grants)

Match: advisor support

Deadline: 30 January

Web: <<http://www.smithfellows.org>>

STATE WILDLIFE GRANTS

Focus: To develop and implement programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished. Approved activities include those which develop and implement programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished. Participation is limited to fish and wildlife agencies of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Islands.

Amount: ≥\$60 million

Match: ≤50%non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: none

Web: <<http://www.cfda.gov/public/viewprog.asp?progid=1586>>

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COASTAL PROGRAM

Focus: The Coastal Program focuses the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's efforts in bays, estuaries and watersheds around the U.S. coastline to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats to support healthy coastal ecosystems in 15 high-priority coastal ecosystems: Albemarle/Pamlico Sounds, North Carolina; Chesapeake Bay, Maryland/Virginia/Pennsylvania; Cook Inlet, Alaska; Delaware Bay; Florida Gulf Coast; Florida Panhandle/Tampa; Galveston Bay/Texas Coast; Great Lakes; Gulf of Maine; Pacific Islands; Puget Sound, Washington; San Francisco Bay, California; South Carolina Coast; South Florida/Everglades; Southern California/San Diego Bay; Southern New England/New York Bight.

Amount: \$9 million

Match: ≤50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: varies by region

Web: <<http://www.fws.gov/cep/cepcode.html>>

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE

Focus: The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, formerly named the Partners for Wildlife program, helps accomplish this mission by offering technical and financial assistance to private (non-federal) landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitats on their land. The program emphasizes the reestablishment of native vegetation and ecological communities for the benefit of fish and wildlife in concert with the needs and desires of private landowners. The Service gives special consideration to projects that: 1) are on permanently protected lands; 2) are identified as high priority by Service ecosystem teams or State fish and wildlife agencies and other partners; 3) reduce habitat fragmentation; 4) conserve or restore natural communities which the State Natural Heritage Programs or Heritage Data Base have designated as globally or nationally imperiled or 5) result in self-sustaining systems that are not dependent on artificial structures.

Amount: \$25 million. Varies among states in different Service regions.

Match: ≤50% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: varies in regions, contact state coordinators

Web: <<http://www.partners.fws.gov>>

WETLANDS PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Focus: The Wetland Program Development Grants (WPDGs), initiated in FY90, provide eligible applicants an opportunity to conduct projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. While WPDGs can continue to be used by recipients to build and refine any element of a comprehensive wetland program, priority will be given to funding projects that address the three priority areas identified by EPA for FY03: Developing a comprehensive monitoring and assessment program; improving the effectiveness of compensatory mitigation; and refining the protection of vulnerable wetlands and aquatic resources. States, Tribes, local governments (S/T/LGs), interstate associations, intertribal consortia, and national non-profit, non-governmental organizations are eligible to apply.

Amount: \$15 million

Match: ≥25% non-federal cash or in-kind

Deadline: varies by region

Web: <<http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/grantguidelines/>>