



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Grants

(Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act)

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 (FWS) 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. One of the tools, 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. The program provides funding to States and Territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-Federal lands. States and Territories must contribute a minimum non-Federal match of 25% of the estimated program costs of approved projects, or 10% when two or more States or Territories implement a joint project. A State or Territory must currently have, or enter into, a cooperative agreement with the Secretary of the Interior to receive grants. Most States and Territories have entered into these agreements for both plant and animal species.

The FWS awarded approximately \$67 million in Federal funding in FY 2009 under four grant programs that are available through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund:



Section 6 funding has helped fragile ecosystems and the species that depend on them, such as the endangered hairy rattlesnake. Photo credit Georgia DNR

Conservation Grants (\$10 M)

provide financial assistance to States and Territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and at-risk 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.

Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants (\$ 7.6 M)

provide funds to States and Territories to support the development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) through support of baseline surveys and inventories, document preparation, outreach, and similar planning activities.

HCP Land Acquisition Grants (\$36 M)

provide funding to States and Territories 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 (\$14.1 M)

provide funds to States and Territories for acquisition of habitat for endangered and threatened species in support of draft and 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.

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,
503/231-2372

Region Two — Southwest

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
500 Gold Avenue SW., Room 4012
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Program Contact: Vanessa Sanchez,
505/248-5420

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
1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30345
Program Contact: Kelly Bibb,
404/679-7132 OR
David Dell, 404/679-7313

Region Five — Northeast

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
Program Contact: Alison Whitlock,
413/253-8536

Region Six — Mountain-Prairie

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
134 Union Blvd., Suite 645
Lakewood, CO 80228
Program Contact: Amelia Orton-Palmer,
303/236-4211

Region Seven — Alaska

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
Program Contact: Judy Jacobs
907/786-3472

Region Eight — California and Nevada

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Program Contact: Diane Elam,
916/414-6464



Section 6 funding has helped States provide unfragmented habitats for imperiled species including the grizzly bear. The purchased habitat will help meet the recovery goals for this species by providing critical connectivity of landscapes and long-term protection. Photo Credit - Dr. Christopher Servheen, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Contact Us

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 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/endangered/grants/section6/index.html> You may also access www.grants.gov and search the site using the program title Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund or by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.615.

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