

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) has been available for several years to provide grants to States and Territories to participate in a wide array of voluntary conservation projects for candidate, proposed and listed species. An additional grant program, the *Private Stewardship Program*, is being funded in FY 2002 through the Land and Water Conservation Fund 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 approximately \$106 Million in Federal funding in FY 2002 under the following five types of grants:

Private Stewardship Program (\$10.0 M) 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. A diverse panel of representatives from State and Federal government, conservation organizations, agriculture and development interests,



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

and the science community will assess applications and make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior, who will award the grants.

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (\$96.2 M) provides funding to States and Territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-Federal lands. States and Territories must contribute 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 enter into a cooperative agreement with the Service to receive grants. Most States and Territories have entered into these agreements for both plant and animal species.

Four grant programs are available through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act):

Conservation Grants (\$7.5 M) provide financial assistance to States and Territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and species at

risk. 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 (\$6.6 M)

provide funds to States 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 (\$61.3 M) 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 (\$17.8 M)

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.

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

P.O. 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

