



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 \$71 million in Federal funding in FY 2011 under four grant programs that are available through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund:



A grant in Florida will enable the acquisition of approximately eight acres along the Atlantic Ocean in St. Johns County. This land purchase protects Anastasia Island beach mouse habitat and beaches used by nesting loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, leatherback, green, and hawksbill sea turtles. Baby loggerhead heading towards ocean, photo by Steve Hillebrand/USFWS; Anastasia Island Beach Mouse, photo by J.B. Miller/USFWS; and Kemp's Ridley hatchling sea turtle, photo by USFWS

Conservation Grants (\$18 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 (\$10.7 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 (\$28.6 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 land acquisition by the State or local governments that complement mitigation.

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants (\$14 M) provide funds to States and Territories for the 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.



A grant in Hawaii will ensure the permanent protection of over 3,550 acres on the Island of Maui that provides habitat for 13 rare or endangered birds and is also critical habitat for Geranium multiflorum and eight other federally listed plant species. Photo by Forest and Kim Starr

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/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.

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Endangered Species Program
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 Arlington, VA 22203
 703-358-2171
<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>
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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 6078
 Albuquerque, NM 87102
 Program Contact: Marty Tuegel,
 505/248-6651

Region Three — Great Lakes – Big Rivers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Ecological Services
 5600 American Blvd. West
 Suite 990
 Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458
 Program Contact: Lisa Mandell,
 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: Marilyn Myers
 907/786-3559

Region Eight — Pacific Southwest

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Federal Building
 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
 Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
 Program Contact: John Robles,
 916/414-6731 OR
 Larry Rabin, 916/414-6481

