

Activity: Ecological Services
Subactivity: Habitat Conservation

		2007 Actual	2008 Enacted	2009			Change From 2008 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	(\$000) FTE	45,838 250	50,135 257	+533	-2,646 -1	48,022 256	-2,113 -1
Conservation Planning Assistance (Project Planning)	(\$000) FTE	30,850 241	31,462 241	+586	-892 0	31,156 241	-306 0
Coastal Program	(\$000) FTE	13,477 62	14,054 62	+182	-1,026 0	13,210 62	-844 0
National Wetlands Inventory	(\$000) FTE	4,700 20	5,255 20	+73	-517 0	4,811 20	-444 0
Total, Habitat Conservation	(\$000) FTE	94,865 573	100,906 580	+1,374	-5,081 -1	97,199 579	-3,707 -1

Summary of 2009 Program Changes for Habitat Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Partners for Fish and Wildlife	-2,646	-1
• Conservation Planning Assistance	-892	0
• Coastal	-1,026	0
• National Wetlands Inventory	-517	0
TOTAL Program Changes	-5,081	-1

Program Overview

The Habitat Conservation program provides technical assistance regarding fish and wildlife management and habitat restoration to other federal agencies, states, industry, and the public. Through this cooperative program, the Service promotes the conservation of fish and wildlife habitats as Americans develop and use the Nation’s land and water resources. By working with and providing technical assistance to its partners, the Service safeguards public and environmental health by protecting and restoring the Nation’s natural resources.

The Service’s primary habitat conservation tools consist of:

- Forming partnerships for habitat restoration, protection, and conservation;
- Providing habitat conservation planning assistance for natural resource use and extraction;
- Coordinating Service responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act;
- Protecting, restoring, and inventorying coastal habitats; and
- Inventory, mapping and assessment of the Nation’s wetlands.

Service regional and field office personnel provide project sponsors with on-the-ground assessments of the potential impacts to fish and wildlife habitats resulting from proposed development, and offer technical assistance to avoid or minimize these impacts. They also work hand-in-hand with private landowners and communities to protect and conserve pristine habitat, and to restore degraded habitats

such as wetlands, streams, grasslands and woodlands. Finally, the Service provides the public with high quality and easily accessible information about wetlands via the Internet through its National Wetlands Inventory program. In sum, the collective contributions of the Service's Habitat Conservation Program are to sustain and restore federal trust species and their habitats for the benefit of the American people.