

Activity: General Operations**Subactivity: International Affairs**

		2007 Actual	2008 Enacted	2009			Change From 2008 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
International Wildlife Trade	(\$000)	5,651	6,105	+334	-345	6,094	-11
	FTE	45	45	-	-	45	-
International Conservation	(\$000)	4,339	5,450	+45	-1,255	4,240	-1,210
	FTE	16	16	-	-	16	-
International Affairs, Total	(\$000)	9,990	11,555	+379	-1,600	10,334	-1,221
	FTE	61	61	-	-	61	-

Summary of FY 2009 Program Changes for International Affairs

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• International Wildlife Trade	-331	-
• International Conservation	-1,086	-
• Caddo Lake RAMSAR Center	-148	-
• Travel and Relocation Expense Reduction	-33	-
• Contract Reduction	-2	-
Total, Program Changes	-1,600	-

Program Overview

The Service, through the International Affairs Program, works with private citizens, local communities, state and federal agencies, foreign governments, and U.S. and international non-governmental organizations (NGO's) to promote a coordinated domestic and international strategy to protect, restore, and enhance the world's diverse wildlife and their habitats, with a focus on species of international concern. The program supports the Department's Strategic Plan Mission of Resource Protection through improving the health of watershed, landscapes, and marine resources and sustaining biological communities, and the Serving Communities Mission by fulfilling Indian trust responsibilities.

The Service implements U.S. wildlife laws, as well as international treaties and agreements including:

- The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the only global treaty that ensures international trade is based on sustainable-use management of wild and captive populations;
- The Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere (Western Hemisphere Convention), a broad accord to conserve wildlife and their natural habitats; and,
- The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), the only global habitat-oriented convention for wetlands conservation.

The International Affairs Program is separated into two functions:

International Wildlife Trade implements management and scientific requirements of domestic laws and international treaties enacted or ratified by the Congress for the conservation of species subject to trade.

It helps to conserve species at-risk by using best science and management practices to make decisions on the status of species and policy development to implement laws and treaties effectively, administer an international permitting program, collaborate with States, tribes, and others, and provide training and technical assistance to other countries. This function supports DOI's Resource Protection Goal by ensuring sustainable use of protected wildlife in trade and thereby meeting species-specific international obligations.

International Conservation provides conservation education and technical training to local communities in the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, the Near East, and Asia, pursuant to the Western Hemisphere Convention and bilateral international agreements in concert with the State Department. In addition, it manages the grants programs established under the Multinational Species Conservation Funds for rhinoceroses and tigers, African elephants, Asian elephants, and great apes. International Conservation also works closely with the Division of Bird Habitat Conservation to implement the Neotropical Migratory Bird Program. This function also supports DOI's Resource Protection Goal as stated above, as well as by creating habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

International Affairs achieves mission results via performance-based management in conformance with the Departmental Strategic Plan:

- The **measures** for the program are tied to Strategy 2.2.2.0712 of the DOI Strategic Plan, Manage Populations to Self-Sustaining Levels for Specific Species, through the Service's Operating Plan Goal 10, Influence Sustainable Conservation of Species of International Concern.
- The Service influenced the conservation of 33 species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Among the species benefiting from conservation action are Lemurs, Giant Panda, tigers, Asian elephants, and orchids.
- At the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, the Service, working with other agency partners, gained CITES protections for seven species of sawfishes threatened by unsustainable and illegal trade, and elicited strong decisions from the CITES Parties on trade controls and enforcement efforts related to tigers and four other Asian big cat species.
- For the past five years (2003 through 2007) the Mexico and Latin America/Caribbean Wildlife Without Borders programs have leveraged over \$21.7 million in matching and in-kind support from a wide range of partner organizations from \$6 million in appropriations for ongoing capacity building projects including: 1) a project to train reserve guards from Mexico and Central America enabling them to face challenges affecting wildlife such as logging, illegal wildlife trade, forest fires, and human settlements and changing their image from "ecological police" to "outreach agents; 2) a project to establish partnerships with peasant farmers and their communities in Mexico to successfully manage natural resources at a landscape level by providing training in sustainable natural resource management, implementing habitat restoration projects, producing and implementing an environmental education/outreach campaign for local schools, and producing a peasant training manual on sustainable natural resource techniques; and 3) a project in the Atlantic Forest in Brazil to continue and strengthen conservation activities in the São João Watershed Environmental Protection Area, an important habitat area for the Golden Lion Tamarin, by involving the local school and community leaders in environmental education programs.
- During 2007, the Service received 167 proposals for Wildlife Without Borders funding and awarded 60 grants for a variety of capacity building activities, leveraging \$4.2 million in matching resources from \$1.8 million in appropriations. Projects included support of activities to manage and conserve monarch butterflies and the California condor in Mexico; the lowland tapir and the Brazilian merganser in Latin America and the Caribbean; and the saiga antelope in Russia.
- International Conservation will continue development of a **strategic plan** designed to evaluate all aspects of operations and staffing consistent with Departmental and Service mission goals.

International Wildlife Trade

		2007 Actual	2008 Enacted	2009			Change From 2008 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
International Wildlife Trade	(\$000)	5,651	6,105	+334	-345	6,094	-11
	FTE	45	45	-	-	45	-

Summary of 2009 Program Changes for International Wildlife Trade

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	-331	-
• Travel and Relocation Expense Reduction	-13	-
• Contract Reduction	-1	-
TOTAL Program Changes	-345	-

Justification of 2009 Program Changes

The 2009 budget request for International Wildlife Trade is \$6,094,000 and 45 FTE, a program change of -\$345,000 and 0 FTE from the 2008 Enacted.

International Wildlife Trade (-\$331,000)

Funding for this program is reduced in order to fund other, higher priorities. The proposed decrease will not affect the ability of International Wildlife Trade program to meet the related overall strategic performance goals and measures for CITES activities. However, it may impact the Service's ability to address and implement the findings of the 2008 workshops to evaluate and assess the impacts of wildlife trade in native species, notably sturgeon and paddlefish, American eel, hellbender salamanders, and ginseng. In addition, the Service will host a workshop to examine the issue of "look alike" U.S. species listed in the CITES Appendices.

Program Overview

As the world's largest importer and exporter of wildlife (animals and plants) and their products, the United States dominates the global wildlife trade, which is valued in billions of dollars annually. An efficient, responsive permits system to regulate this trade is critical to ensure international trade in listed wildlife and plants is legal, and will not adversely affect the biological status of the species in the wild. Strong Service participation in the international meetings and negotiations that make decisions on the listing of species and on policies and procedures for international wildlife trade is essential to meeting U.S. conservation priorities.

The Service has 30 years of history of implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the only international treaty designed specifically to control, monitor, and regulate international trade in certain animal and plant species that are now or may be potentially threatened with extinction through an international permitting system. CITES is one of the most effective forces in the world today for conservation of fauna and flora, both in halting the trade in species that are threatened with extinction and in fostering sustainable use in other vulnerable species. Bigleaf mahogany, sturgeon and paddlefish, orchids, queen conch, and American ginseng represent some of the approximately 35,000 species protected by CITES. The Service is also mandated

by domestic laws, such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), Lacey Act, Wild Bird Conservation Act (WBCA), African Elephant Conservation Act, and Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, to regulate the movement of species of international concern that may be impacted by trade.

Conservation Partnerships

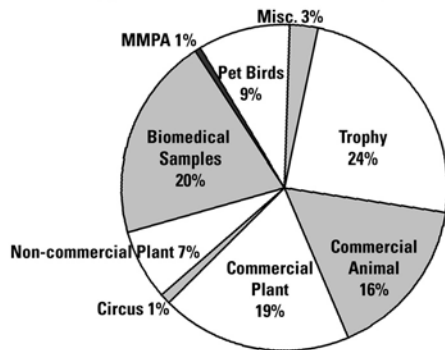
The Service’s International Wildlife Trade Program (IWTP) works with private citizens, local communities, state and federal agencies, foreign governments, and nongovernmental organizations to promote a coordinated domestic and international strategy to protect, restore, and enhance the world’s diverse wildlife and their habitats, with a focus on species of international concern. The CITES treaty continues to grow in membership, activities, and effectiveness. As the U.S. CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority, the IWTP is a global leader in working with the 171 other CITES Party countries to shape the development and implementation of international policy on permitting, science, and other wildlife trade-related issues. These U.S. Authorities work closely with the CITES Secretariat, and



communicate regularly with foreign CITES Authorities. The United States, as one of the first members of CITES, takes a very active role at meetings of the Conference of the Parties and the Standing and Technical Committees. The IWTP participates in cooperative efforts, such as training workshops and working groups of the Convention, to build the international effectiveness of CITES and to empower other countries to better manage their own wildlife resources and to implement CITES. This constructive involvement is key to highlighting and addressing the concerns of U.S. constituencies.

In response to ever-increasing pressures of wildlife trade and habitat loss affecting species worldwide, the IWTP makes critical decisions on the status of species, on wildlife trade policy, on individual imports and exports, and on individual permit issuance. These activities support the achievement of outcome measures related to influencing the conservation of species of international concern through wildlife trade permitting activities and through bi-national and multinational initiatives under CITES, the ESA, the MMPA, and the WBCA.

The Service’s IWTP receives requests for the issuance of over 6,000 permits annually from customers seeking to engage in a wide variety of wildlife trade activities. The Service uses best available biological information to make findings on whether trade in listed species is based on sustainable use, whether import or export of CITES-listed species may be detrimental to their survival, or whether the trade will enhance the survival of ESA-listed species. These decisions may involve country-wide review of management programs or, in the case of native CITES Appendix-II species, the review of state and tribal management programs. Permit approval is based on findings on whether the specimens are legally acquired, whether trade in CITES Appendix-I species (species threatened with extinction) is not for primarily commercial purposes, whether trade is not detrimental to a species, and whether transport will be humane. Decisions on whether to issue permits frequently must be made in close consultation with foreign CITES Authorities, the States, other federal agencies, the CITES Secretariat, and applicants.

Permit Applications from the Public by Trade Category

The Service is also responsible for consideration of new species listings and whether changes in a species' listing status are warranted under CITES (any species) or the ESA (foreign species only). As for native species, listings of foreign species or changes in their listing status under the ESA may be undertaken in response to a petition from a member of the public, or such listing actions may be initiated in response to new information becoming available in the context of a 5-year review of species' listings or

through other means, such as information that becomes available as a result of evaluating a permit application for the species involved. CITES listing actions may be initiated by recommendations and information received from the public during our regular consultations leading up to one of the biennial meetings of the CITES Parties; as part of the regular review of the CITES Appendices by the CITES Animals and Plants Committees, who may ask the United States to prepare a proposal; as a result of consultations with the States and tribes on native species subject to international trade; in response to a request from a foreign country, which may ask the United States to assist in the preparation of a proposal to protect one of their species; or as a consequence of information that becomes available to indicate that a species should be considered for listing, delisting, or transfer from one Appendix to another. Any proposed listing, whether under CITES or the ESA, is subject to public notification and comment, as well as peer review in the case of ESA listings, to ensure that the Service has the best available information on which to base listing decisions.

The Service collaborates with States and tribes to support their implementation of management programs for native species listed under CITES that are commercially traded in high numbers, including American ginseng, American alligator, bobcat, Alaska lynx, and river otter, to appropriately control and monitor the export of these species and support improved conservation efforts for species of international concern. The IWTP oversees and monitors approved export programs for 45 States and 9 tribes, which are designed to apply an appropriate level of control while streamlining procedures so as not to impede trade that is both legal and not detrimental to the species involved.

The Program's performance is reflected in its accomplishments and cost data. On the performance side, the IWTP is focusing its efforts in FY 2009 on the DOI Strategic Plan Goal: Resource Protection, Strategy: Manage Populations to Self-Sustaining Levels. The Service is involved in ongoing activities in support of the President's Management Agenda for e-government. Activities to upgrade the Service-wide Permits Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS) to provide additional on-line access to species and permitting information, and to allow on-line permit applications, in concert with continued improvement and upgrades of the permits website, will continue in FY 2009.

Trade Monitoring, Training, and Technical Assistance

In addition to processing permits and furthering U.S. international wildlife trade policy, the IWTP compiles and maintains trade records for U.S. imports and exports for the purpose of monitoring trends in trade over time. These records show a steady significant increase in wildlife trade over the past decade with 139,000 data records on CITES-listed animals and plants in 2004 (a 15% increase over 2003), 150,000 data records on CITES-listed animals and plants in 2005 (a 7.5% increase over 2004), and 170,769 data records on CITES-listed animals and plants in 2006 (a 13% increase over 2005). The

records form the basis of the U.S. CITES annual report required by the Convention. In conjunction with data from other CITES Parties, they are used to determine trends in trade and to help ensure that significant trade in plants and animals is sustainable. The Service also provides technical assistance and training to encourage effective implementation and enforcement of CITES in collaboration with other CITES Parties. This supports DOI's priority of increasing the number of species that benefit from improved conservation efforts. The Service works with range countries and permit holders to generate funding for conservation of high-visibility species in the wild, such as giant pandas in China and argali sheep in Asia. Funds to assist polar bear research in Alaska and Russia are generated through issuance of permits under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

2009 Program Performance

Essentially level funding in this program will allow performance targets to remain steady through Fiscal Year 2009. The International Wildlife Trade Program will be able to achieve goals as a result of restructuring some elements of its program to gain management efficiencies and maximizing contributions from other countries and partners.

- In FY 2009, we will begin preparations for the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, which we anticipate will be held in mid-2010. Approximately 15-18 months prior to the meeting we will begin our process for developing listing proposals and other documents for submission to the meeting through the publication of a *Federal Register* notice to solicit recommendations from the public. Before the end of FY 2009, we anticipate having reviewed those recommendations and determined which listing proposals and other documents to develop and move forward.
- The Service will continue to take an active role in advancing CITES policy initiatives internationally and actively work on issues in the CITES North American Region, the CITES Animals and Plants Committees, and Standing Committee. In FY 2009, meetings of the CITES Animals, Plants Committees, and the Standing Committee will be held. The Service will be responsible for the preparation and submission of documents for consideration at these meetings and the evaluation of other countries submissions to develop the U.S. position and negotiating strategy. In FY 2008 and 2009, the Service will implement the decisions made at the 14th Conference of the Parties to CITES, coordinating with the States and by reaching out to affected constituents. In addition, we will begin the process of updating the Part 23 Regulations to incorporate the decisions of CoP14.
- The International Affairs Program has 1.5 FTE allocated in International Wildlife Trade's budget to address foreign species listing activities. Presently, there are 51 "warranted but precluded" foreign species. In FY 2009, the Service will continue listing actions on petitions under the ESA for foreign species, including 10 species of penguins, Morelet's crocodile, Northern snakehead fish, wood bison and the broad-snouted caiman.
- In FY 2009, the Service will publish proposed rules on listing actions for 29 foreign species where listing was found "to be warranted but precluded" and final rules on listing actions for 12 foreign bird species. These actions will address current litigation.
- The Service will continue to improve the technological capabilities of the Service Permits Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS). In FY 2006-2007 we began to develop our SPITS website to offer services to customers in an electronic environment. The on-line applications enable the public to complete and submit a permit application, pay a processing fee, check the status of a pending application and view existing permits through a secure web-based system. Work in 2008 and 2009 will continue to further develop and refine this system with a goal of ultimately accepting all types of permit applications electronically.

Program Performance Overview

Performance Goal / Measure	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Plan	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2009 President's Budget	Change from 2008 Plan to 2009	Long-term 2012 Target
Resource Protection - Sustaining Biological Communities								
10.2.1 Influence the conservation of X species of international concern through the wildlife trade permitting program	163	179	179	179	179	179	0	179
10.2.2 Influence the conservation of X species, through wildlife trade permitting activities required for species listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.	30	33	33	33	33	33	0	33
10.2.3 Influence the conservation of X species, through wildlife trade permitting activities required for species listed on App. II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.	100	110	110	110	110	110	0	110
10.2.4 Influence the conservation of X species, through wildlife trade permitting activities required for species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act.	30	33	33	33	33	33	0	33
10.2.5 Influence the conservation of X species, through wildlife trade permitting activities required under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	3

International Conservation

		2007 Actual	2008 Enacted	2009			Change From 2008 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
International Conservation	(\$000)	4,339	5,302	+45	-1,107	4,240	-1,062
Caddo Lake RAMSAR Center	(\$000)	0	148	0	-148	0	-148
Total, International Conservation	(\$000)	4,339	5,450	+45	-1,255	4,240	-1,210
	FTE	16	16	-	-	16	-

Summary of 2009 Program Changes for International Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	-1,086	-
• Caddo Lake Ramsar Center	-148	-
• Travel and Relocation Expense Reduction	-20	-
• Contract Reduction	-1	-
TOTAL Program Changes	-1,255	-

Justification of 2009 Program Changes

The 2009 budget request for International Conservation is \$4,240,000 and 16 FTE, a net program change of -\$1,255,000 and 0 FTE from 2008 Enacted.

General Program Activities (-\$1,086,000)

Funding for this program is reduced in order to fund other, higher priorities. The requested funding is sufficient to address the most important priorities identified within the programs to support capacity building projects for the long-term conservation of mission-critical endangered and migratory species occurring abroad and provide technical assistance as complementary activities for the multinational species conservation funds. The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address the most critical conservation issues that impact endangered species and their habitats in other countries, including involvement in multinational conventions and range country meetings to discuss approaches for managing and sustaining wildlife and wildlife habitat and the increase in human-animal conflict. The reduction will be made within the Wildlife Without Borders - Russia/East Asia, Mexico and Latin America and the Caribbean programs.

Caddo Lake Ramsar Center (-\$148,000)

This reduction eliminates an unrequested Congressional earmark for the Caddo Lake Ramsar Wetlands Science Center facility. The Center implements a 1996 joint U.S. Government and Caddo Lake Institute Ramsar Convention pledge to establish a regional Ramsar Center and academy for wetland education in the United States.

Although the Service has a performance goal related to Ramsar initiatives, the proposed elimination of the appropriation for the Caddo Lake Ramsar Center is not directly related to the International Conservation subactivity's performance goals under the DOI Strategic Plan. This funding was provided via the earmark process in Congress and does not affect the ability of the International Conservation's subactivity to meet the program's overall strategic goals, outcome measures and outputs related to Ramsar activities which are global rather than regional.

Program Performance Change

Performance Goal	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2009 Base Budget (2008 Plan + Fixed Costs)	2009 Plan	Program Change Accruing in 2009	Program Change Accruing in Outyears
Resource Protection: Sustaining Biological Communities								
CSF 10.1 Number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries (GPRA)	55	60	60	60	60	87	27 (45.0%)	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$6,907	\$5,327	\$5,455	\$5,455	\$8,100	\$2,645	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$3,772	\$4,024	\$4,121	\$4,121	\$4,219	\$99	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$115,123	\$88,787	\$90,918	\$90,918	\$93,100	\$2,182	
Comments:	An Increase in listing activities will result in an increase in the number of species influenced.							
10.1.1 Number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries (GPRA)	55	60	60	60	60	87	27 (45.0%)	
Comments:	An Increase in listing activities will result in an increase in the number of species influenced.							
10.1.6 Influence the conservation of X species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. (GPRA)	20	22	22	22	22	49	27 (122.7%)	
Comments:	An Increase in listing activities will result in an increase in the number of species influenced.							

Program Overview

Conservation of wildlife is a global priority. The survival of wildlife species largely depends on the health of habitats extending beyond political boundaries, and the need for international collaboration has never been greater. The Service is mandated through a number of statutes and international treaties to provide support for the conservation of species of international concern. For more than 20 years the Service's International Conservation program, through a series of *Wildlife Without Borders* initiatives, has developed projects for training wildlife managers and conserving species of international concern. These initiatives support DOI's Resource Protection Mission, aimed at sustaining biological communities, by fulfilling DOI's international obligations to manage populations to self-sustaining levels for specific species and create habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish. These goals are achieved through projects that provide for habitat management training, education, information and technology exchange, and networks and partnerships. The International Conservation Program administers the

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) and supports the *Multinational Species Conservation Acts* (African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes, and marine turtles). Additionally it supports other international agreements and conventions, which contain provisions related to other species and habitats.

The International Conservation Program, which is complementary to the Multinational Species Conservation Funds, provides technical assistance and training related to projects funded for those specific species. The *Wildlife Without Borders* initiatives bridge the gap between projects that are funded, and long-term viability, which is dependent upon the knowledge and skills of local conservation managers and the advice and ongoing support of Service project managers. More information can be found in the Multinational Species Funds section.

Wildlife Without Borders- Latin America & The Caribbean

This initiative was established in 1983 to implement the *Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere* (Western Hemisphere Convention). It assists in the development of locally adapted wildlife management and conservation programs through grants that provide academic and technical training, conservation education, information exchange and technology transfer, networks and partnerships, and informed citizen participation in natural resource issues. From 2003 through 2007, \$3.2 million in appropriations has leveraged over \$13.9 million in matching and in-kind support from a wide range of partner organizations. Trainees from these programs now manage some of the most important protected areas all over Latin America which consequently help protect numerous endangered and migratory species of priority to the United States.

Wildlife Without Borders- Mexico

In 1994 the Service and the Mexican Secretariat for the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries created this initiative to assist in capacity building for natural resource management in Mexico, ecosystem management via sustainable resource use, and information exchange to promote better management and understanding of conservation issues. *Wildlife Without Borders- Mexico* grants promote sustainable conservation practices through academic and technical training, conservation education, information exchange and technology transfer, networks and partnerships, and informed citizen participation in natural resource issues. Since 1995 (through 2007) this program has leveraged over \$19.7 million in matching and in-kind support, almost tripling the Service's investment of \$6.8 million.

Wildlife Without Borders- Russia & East Asia

The Service cooperates with Russia to conserve shared species and populations of wildlife, such as sea otters, walrus, polar bears, sturgeon, emperor geese, and eider ducks under the 1972 U.S. - Russia Environmental Agreement and the 1976 U.S. - Russia Migratory Bird Convention. A grants program instituted in 1995 has provided a total of more than \$1.2 million (through 2007) to enhance law enforcement, education activities and infrastructure at federal nature reserves.

With its unique wildlife, plant species and landscapes, some of which are found nowhere else, China's biodiversity has long been of interest to the American people. The Protocol on Cooperation and Exchanges in the Field of Conservation of Nature was signed in 1986 by the U.S. Department of the Interior and China's Ministry of Forestry. Since then nearly 80 short term exchanges of biologists have taken place, and the Service has encouraged China to better safeguard its wildlife resources through conservation education, improved management of wildlife trade and enforcement, and protection of rivers and wetland habitat.

The Service's relationship with its Japanese counterparts is a result of a 1972 bilateral Migratory Bird Convention. The two countries meet periodically to review efforts to conserve the 189 species of birds common to both countries, including the endangered short-tailed albatross.

Wildlife Without Borders- Africa

In 2007, the Service successfully began the Africa program on this key continent to replicate wildlife successes in the New World. The Service provided \$500,000 to implement a mentoring program, designed to assist countries in this region of the world with development of wildlife management capacity. Support in the form of seed money influences the involvement of other organizations to begin significant conservation activities and facilitate development of innovative wildlife conservation solutions. The focus of this initiative is on bushmeat, an increasing scourge affecting wildlife in all quarters of the continent. By establishing a unique international team of fellows guided by a cadre of world-class mentors, new solutions will be sought to this plague on wildlife. The Service's leadership in efforts to reduce this threat will increase the capacity of local people to manage and conserve species in their natural range habitats.

Wildlife Without Borders- Near East and South Asia

Since inception of this program, which previously included Africa, more than 300 wildlife conservation projects have been supported. Projects include technical training and outreach activities, networks and partnerships, and similar capacity building activities.

2009 Program Performance

The Service's *Wildlife Without Borders* initiative will continue to strengthen the capacity of people in regions throughout the globe to manage and sustain native wildlife populations and their habitats. These activities provide training and fund outreach activities to people in undeveloped nations about alternative approaches for self support and sustainment activities, which currently include information about wildlife habitat destruction and the consumption of bushmeat. These activities are significant threats to species conservation and sustainment and are destined to further reduce and possibly destroy the few remaining populations of species such as rhinoceros and elephant affected by them. The Service's focus is on conservation priorities with species sustainment outcomes. Proposals submitted to the Service for funding of projects with this focus are reviewed and funded on a competitive basis under federal assistance guidelines.

The priority needs for conservation in undeveloped countries continue to grow. Species conservation is at a critical juncture. The people in these poorest of nations rely upon subsistence involving the consumption of bushmeat and destruction of habitat. Without knowledge of the results of these activities or alternative survival methods that allow coexistence with other species, wildlife disease will continue to spread and habitats will be destroyed, effectively reducing or eliminating species.

Capacity building provides local people with the ability to change activities, which are threats to species. Work related to capacity building can be directly attributed to implementation of binational and multinational agreements, which contain provisions directed to wildlife management and conservation but do not target specific species as do the Multinational Species Conservation Funds. Performance results from these activities reflect the ancillary impact of our capacity building work as well as our direct influence on species tied to our binational and multinational agreements.

International conservation efforts maximize matching funds and in-kind resources from partners and collaborators, using appropriated funds as leverage. Although partner and collaborator matching funds or in-kind resources are also influenced by economic, financial, social, and environmental (i.e., weather) conditions in range countries, the Service has a solid record of obtaining collaborator support even under less than ideal conditions.

Efficiency measures have been implemented to the maximum extent possible using existing electronic systems. The pending implementation of the Department of the Interior's FBMS financial system will provide some additional efficiencies but administrative work that can be automated domestically is not likely to be completely automated in international operations because of limited or nonexistent capabilities of foreign entities and financial institutions. The implementation of ABC cost analysis has also provided an additional tool for discovery of cost inefficiencies that can be reduced or eliminated.

The Service cannot influence every species through its efforts given political and cultural boundaries and conditions and thus, focuses on those species which are deemed especially important to the American public and the range countries where these species have their habitats. The species goals for binational and multinational initiatives reflect recognition by the Service that the effort needed to impact these species requires long-term commitment and, thus, must be focused on those species with the greatest probability for successful conservation sustainment.

Sample projects funded by the Service in 2007 included the following: 1) a project to protect remaining jaguar habitat in Mexico through research, training and "scientific tourism" for master's students, local leaders and the production of educational, outreach, and training materials; 2) a project to develop workshops, seminars and activities to continue increasing community awareness and capacity building related to mangrove conservation and sustainable management in Peru with target audiences of local conservation groups, schools, religious groups, fishing and seafood collectors associations, and local and regional government authorities; 3) a project to support training of tourist guides in protected areas of the province of Mendoza, Argentina, that will provide the necessary skills to promote nature conservation among visitors and to reduce the impacts caused by recreational activities; and 4) a project to improve Zambian capacity to monitor and manage hunted lion populations in game management areas through instruction to village scouts about data collection protocols.

Wildlife Without Borders projects will continue to create viable long-term solutions to conservation efforts in undeveloped countries by building the capacity of local indigenous people to understand the purpose of conservation and species management and take action as a result. The Service will continue to fulfill the conservation commitments of the United States outlined in international treaties and statutorily mandated by Section 8 of the Endangered Species Act.

Significant planned accomplishments in 2008 and 2009 include:

- Continuing support of the Mexican campesino community which maintains the world's only winter habitat reserve of the Monarch butterfly, by integrating local people into conservation efforts and reconciling their local land use practices with butterfly survival in indigenous forests;
- Continuing facilitation of international cooperation related to the U.S./Canada/Mexico Trilateral Committee; international wetlands activities; the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere; the Commission for Environmental Cooperation the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance; the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative; and other bi-national and multi-lateral initiatives.
- Continuing support of academic and technical programs related to protected areas management training in the Western Hemisphere
- Continuing support for training initiatives aimed at building capacity of African wildlife managers to address threats from extractive industries, climate change, human/wildlife conflict, wildlife disease, and the illegal bushmeat trade.

Established performance measures may be adjusted with changes in funding because the number of competitive grant awards is directly impacted by these adjustments, thereby affecting the Service's ability to reach target measures. The Service believes that because these targets were set focusing on only the highest priority species, performance goals can be achieved. These target measures establish a framework under which the Service can monitor its international obligations to further the broader Department of the Interior Strategic Goal 2.2[41], Improving the Status of International Species of Management Concern in Cooperation with Affected Countries and Service Operating Plan Goal 10, Influence Sustainable Conservation of Species of International Concern, and the four Critical Success Factors related to bi-national and multinational initiatives and federal assistance awards.

International agreements implemented are tied to species sustainment by project work that supports training and education of local people in developing countries. Each individual trained or working in a conservation field is a reflection of the success of capacity building for the countries where the individuals reside. Their knowledge and work in wildlife management and conservation will translate into local conservation efforts with greater impact than that which could be provided by stand-alone U.S. involvement. Through capacity building, DOI and Service goals related to sustainment of biological communities is an achievable goal, by active participation of local people who positively influence species in their natural domains.

Program Performance Overview

Performance Goal / Measure	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Plan	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2009 President's Budget	Change from 2008 Plan to 2009	Long-term 2012 Target
Resource Protection - Sustaining Biological Communities								
CSF 10.1 Number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries (GPRA)	55	60	60	60	60	87	+27 (45.0%)	87
CSF Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$6,907	unk	\$5,327	\$5,455	\$8,100	\$2,645	\$8,100
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Cost (\$000)	unk	\$3,772	unk	\$4,024	\$4,121	\$4,219	\$99	\$4,219
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$115,123	unk	\$88,787	\$90,918	\$93,100	\$2,182	\$93,100
10.1.1 Number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries (GPRA)	55	60	60	60	60	87	+27 (45.0%)	87
Comments:	An Increase in listing activities will result in an increase in the number of species influenced.							
10.1.2 Influence the conservation of X species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere. (GPRA)	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2

Performance Goal / Measure	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Plan	2007 Actual	2008 Plan	2009 President's Budget	Change from 2008 Plan to 2009	Long-term 2012 Target
10.1.3 Influence the conservation of X species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar). (GPRA)	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2
10.1.4 Influence the conservation of X species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the U.S. - Russia Agreement in the Field of Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources. (GPRA)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
10.1.5 Influence the conservation of X species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. (GPRA)	30	33	33	33	33	33	0	33
10.1.6 Influence the conservation of X species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. (GPRA)	20	22	22	22	22	49	+27 (122.7%)	49
Comments:	An Increase in listing activities will result in an increase in the number of species influenced.							
CSF 10.2 Influence the conservation of X species of international concern through the wildlife trade permitting program	163	179	179	179	179	179	0	179
CSF Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$2,863	unk	\$1,678	\$1,719	\$1,760	\$41	\$1,760
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$2,033	unk	\$1,650	\$1,689	\$1,730	\$41	\$1,730
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$15,996	unk	\$9,377	\$9,602	\$9,832	\$230	\$9,832
CSF 10.3 Facilitate the conservation of X species through federal assistance awards and leveraged funds or in-kind resources	31	32	32	32	32	32	0	32
CSF Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$1,997	unk	\$10,767	\$11,026	\$11,290	\$265	\$11,290
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Cost(\$000)	unk	\$1,424	unk	\$10,636	\$10,891	\$11,152	\$261	\$11,152
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	unk	\$62,407	unk	\$336,473	\$344,548	\$352,818	\$8,269	\$352,818
10.3.1 Facilitate the conservation of X species through federal assistance awards and leveraged funds or in-kind resources.	31	32	32	32	32	32	0	32