

Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4201-4203, 4211-4214, 4221-4225, 4241-4246, and 1538), the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261-4266), the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301-5306), the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301-6305), and the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601-6606), [\$8,000,000]\$4,256,000, to remain available until expended. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008.*)

Authorizing Statutes

African Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4201-4203, 4211-4213, 4221-4225, 4242-4245, 1538). Authorizes funding for approved projects for research, conservation, management and protection of African elephants and their habitats. Authorizes prohibitions against the sale, importation, and exportation of ivory derived from African elephants. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2012.

Asian Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4261-4266, 1583). Authorizes financial assistance for cooperative projects for the conservation and protection of Asian elephants and their habitats. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2012.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 5301-5306, 1583). Authorizes grants to other nations and to the *CITES* Secretariat for programs directly or indirectly assisting in the conservation of rhinoceros and tigers. Prohibits the sale, importation, and exportation of products derived from any species of rhinoceros and tiger. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2012.

Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 6301-6303, 1583). Authorizes grants to foreign governments, the *CITES* secretariat, and non-governmental organizations for the conservation of great apes. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2010.

Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004, (Public Law 108-266; 16 U.S.C. 6601). Authorizes financial assistance in the conservation of marine turtles and the nesting habitats of marine turtles, to conserve the nesting habitats, conserve marine turtles in those habitats and address other threats to the survival of marine turtles. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2009.

Activity: Multinational Species Conservation Fund

	2007 Actual	2008 President's Budget	2009			Change From 2008 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
African Elephant Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,379	1,477	0	-487	990	-487
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,379	1,477	0	-487	990	-487
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,576	1,969	0	-979	990	-979
Great Ape Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,379	1,969	0	-979	990	-979
Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (\$000)	691	983	0	-687	296	-687
Total, Multinational Species Conservation Fund (\$000)	6,404	7,875	0	-3,619	4,256	-3619
	FTE	4	-	-	4	-
Other Major Resources:						
Grant Recipient Matching / In-Kind Resources (\$000)	11,971	14,722	0	-6,765	7,958	-6,765

Summary of 2009 Program Changes for Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• African Elephant Conservation Fund	-487	-
• Asian Elephant Conservation Fund	-487	-
• Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund	-979	-
• Great Ape Conservation Fund	-979	-
• Marine Turtle Conservation Fund	-687	-
TOTAL Program Changes	-3,619	-

Justification of 2009 Program Changes

The 2009 budget request for the Multinational Species Conservation Fund is \$4,256,000 and 4 FTEs, a net program change of -\$3,619,000 and 0 FTE from the 2008 Enacted.

African Elephant Conservation (-\$487,000)

The requested funding at reduced levels is sufficient to address important priorities identified for the conservation of African elephants. The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address all of the Multinational Species Fund conservation efforts. Service staff is familiar with a range of activities involving these efforts and will continue to focus on the highest priorities such as applied research related to species and habitat utilization, increased law enforcement support, and mitigation of human-elephant conflict, within the funding available.

This decrease could impact the Service's ability to meet established performance goals under 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 Critical Success Factors which support this

goal by reducing funds available for projects that sustain priority species and their habitats. Performance targets were set for the program with a focus on the highest priority species and the Service believes that existing targets can be met under this reduction.

Asian Elephant Conservation (-\$487,000)

The requested funding at reduced levels is sufficient to address important priorities identified for the conservation of Asian elephants. The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address all of the Multinational Species Fund conservation efforts. Service staff is familiar with a range of activities involving these efforts and will continue to focus on the highest priorities such as enhancing and promoting infrastructure and management and anti-poaching efforts for elephant ranges and the management of human-elephant conflict in all 13 Asian elephant range states, within funding availability.

This decrease could impact the Service's ability to meet established performance goals under 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 Critical Success Factors which support this goal. Performance targets were set for the program with a focus on the highest priority species and the Service believes that existing targets can be met under this reduction.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation (-\$979,000)

The requested funding at reduced levels is sufficient to address important priorities identified for the conservation of rhinoceros and tigers. The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address all of the Multinational Species Fund conservation efforts. Service staff is familiar with a range of activities involving these efforts and will continue to focus on the highest priority projects that strengthen law enforcement, acquire information needed for management through population surveys and monitoring, develop local support for conservation through environmental education, strengthen habitat and nature reserve management, and promote sustainable development to remove human pressure on these species' habitat, within funding availability.

This decrease could impact the Service's ability to meet established performance goals under 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 Critical Success Factors which support this goal. Performance targets were set for the program with a focus on the highest priority species and the Service believes that existing targets can be met under this reduction.

Great Ape Conservation (-\$979,000)

The requested funding at reduced levels is sufficient to address important priorities identified for the conservation of great apes. The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address all of the Multinational Species Fund conservation efforts. Service staff will continue to focus on the highest priority projects to strengthen the range country's ability to carry out surveys and monitoring, conservation education, infrastructure development, nature reserve management, anti-poaching patrols and critically needed applied research for gorillas, bonobos, chimpanzees, orangutans, and gibbons, within funding availability.

This decrease could impact the Service's ability to meet established performance goals under 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 Critical Success Factors which support this goal. Performance targets were set for the program with a focus on the highest priority species and the Service believes that existing targets can be met under this reduction.

Marine Turtle Conservation (-\$687,000/0 FTE)

The requested decrease is sufficient to address important priorities identified for the conservation of Marine Turtles. The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address all of the Multinational Species Fund conservation efforts. Service staff is familiar with a range of activities involving these efforts and will continue to focus on the highest priority projects that strengthen the range country's ability to carry out surveys and monitoring, conservation education, nature reserve management and critically applied research for marine turtles, within funding availability.

This decrease could impact the Service's ability to meet established performance goals under 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 Critical Success Factors which support this goal. Performance targets were set for the program with a focus on the highest priority species and the Service believes that existing targets can be met under this reduction.

Performance targets established for the Multinational Species Conservation Funds will remain steady as these targets were set considering the highest priority species affected by projects that are approved for implementation. This program supports the achievement of performance targets set for 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 Critical Success Factors (as noted in the Performance Target Table below) Service Operating Plan Goal 10, Influence Sustainable Conservation of Species of International Concern.

Program Overview

The Multinational Species Fund provides direct support in the form of technical and cost-sharing grant assistance to range countries for on-the-ground conservation of African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes, marine turtles and their habitats. The Multinational Species Conservation Fund (MSCF) supports Strategic Goal 2.2[41], Improving the Status of International Species of Management Concern in Cooperation with Affected Countries and the Service's Critical Success Factor 13.3 included under Service Operating Plan Goal 10, Influence Sustainable Conservation of Species of International Concern, that support it by facilitating the conservation of these species through federal assistance grants and leveraged funds or in-kind resources. The sustainability of species is influenced by these projects because the activities funded gradually change the perception of local people about the affect that species and their habitats have on their daily lives. Old customs and traditions related to coexistence with species are not altered until the people affected can be convinced that alternative practices will yield positive benefits. These changes are gradual because instant results related to agricultural or economic benefits are not possible.

A number of activities designed to promote collaboration with key range country decision-makers which ultimately furthers sound policy development, international cooperation, and goodwill toward the U.S. among citizens of developing countries are funded through this program. The Fund strengthens law enforcement activities, build support for conservation among people living in the vicinity of the species' habitats, and provide vital infrastructure and field equipment needed to conserve habitats. The program strengthens local capacity by providing essential training, opportunities for newly trained staff to apply skills in implementing field projects, and opportunities for local people to gain project management expertise.

By maintaining species-specific funds, focus can be given to the needs of species or species groups of particular importance to the American public. The range countries of these species are most often underdeveloped nations in Africa and Asia, where local people have few skills or little training in wildlife management. Funds provided are used for on-the-ground projects that provide local people and professional in-country wildlife researchers and managers with the tools and skills to effectively protect

their country's wildlife and habitat resources. Without this assistance, it is likely that people in these nations will otherwise continue activities that result in further degradation of species and their habitats which may ultimately result in extinction.

The small amount of assistance provided yields significant leveraged or in-kind support from partners and collaborators. More than \$127 million in matching or in-kind support has been obtained since the first grant was awarded under the *African Elephant Conservation Act* in 1990, nearly tripling the effect of the MSCFs' \$49 million in appropriations. More than 500 partners have worked with the Service in 44 countries to protect and conserve these species, which demonstrates broad interest in their long-term conservation. In addition, coordination with other Federal agencies involved in overseas activities, such as U. S. Agency for International Development, can link species preservation and habitat management under the MSCF with economic development and other conservation efforts by other Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Administration

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to use up to \$100,000 for general program administration for each of the African and Asian Elephant Conservation Funds, the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, and the Great Apes Conservation Fund. For the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund the limitation is \$80,000. Administration costs represent salary and related support costs for the administration of these grant programs.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

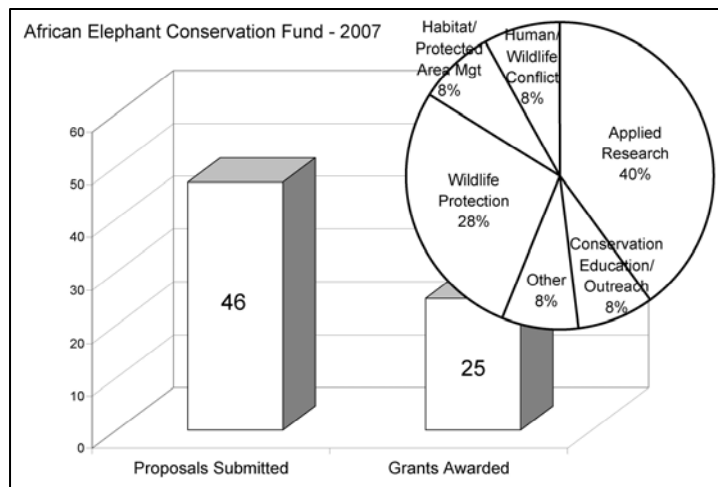
The Multinational Species Conservation Funds achieve mission results via performance-based management on several fronts, in conformance with the Departmental Strategic Plan:

- Leveraged funding or matching resources from cooperators are gauges of the cost and benefit of international federal assistance for these species focused projects. For example, in 2007, the Service provided \$19,652 for a project designed to promote orangutan conservation awareness through school presentations, awareness campaigns, festivals, a mobile awareness and library unit, a scholarship program, conservation camps, work study opportunities, outreach materials, and replanting projects in degraded areas of Indonesia. Our partners in this venture, Sumatran Orangutan Society, provided an additional \$39,337 in matching resources, which is double the funding provided through appropriations. This match demonstrates the commitment of non-governmental organizations to wildlife conservation and management activities that hope to sustain these species in the future.
- Since their inception (1990 through 2007), the multinational species conservation funds have leveraged over \$127 million in matching and in-kind support from \$49 million in appropriations, a testament to the importance placed on conservation of these species around the world.
- During 2007, the Service received a total of 298 proposals and awarded 165 grants from available multinational funds and funds provided from foreign assistance appropriations to support species focused projects for African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tiger, great apes, and marine turtles.
- A protocol and criteria to evaluate grants, targets funding for the species and habitats designated for conservation assistance by the Multinational Species Acts and **supports the accomplishment of program performance goals** to manage populations to self-sustaining levels through international cooperation with species' range country government and non-government individuals and organizations.
- Standardized financial assistance processes for these grant programs comply with government-wide financial assistance standards resulting from Public Law 106-107 implementation; provide improved customer service; eliminate duplication of effort; ensure efficiency and consistency among grant programs,; and reduce the amount of time spent for both grantees and project managers overseeing the process. Ultimately, as undeveloped countries become more technologically advanced, electronic processes will become standard, mitigating manual and paper processes and thereby further reducing costs.

2009 Program Performance

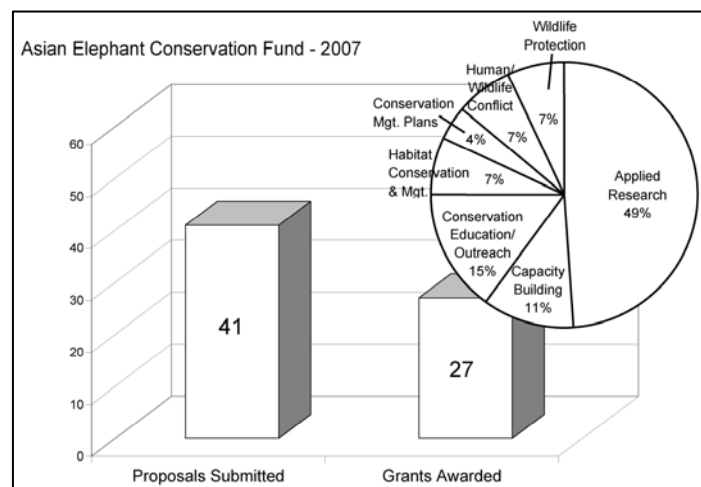
Through MSCF the Service will select the highest priority projects impacting the greatest number of species. These projects provide direct support to range countries through broad-based partnerships with national governments, non-governmental organizations, and other private entities for on-the-ground activities to conserve these species and their habitats. Species targets remain steady, demonstrating the Service’s concentration on only the highest priority projects that focus on select species.

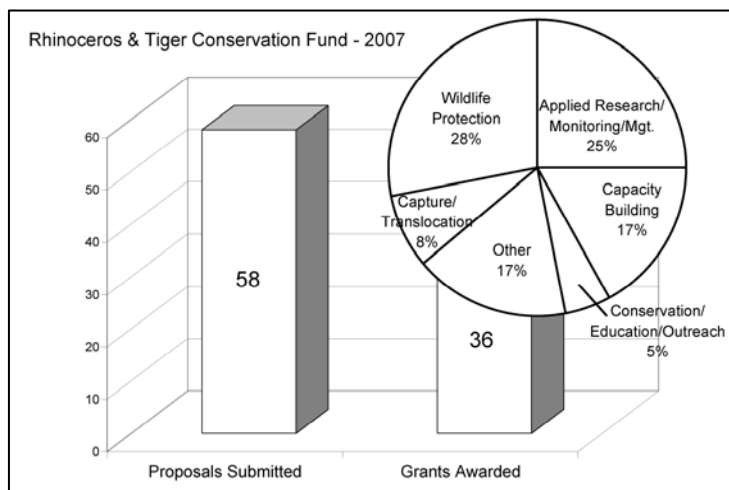
Activities funded in 2007 that demonstrate our involvement in improving species’ status included: 1) a project in Indonesia to conduct human-wildlife conflict patrols and wildlife crimes investigations, provide legal aid in wildlife crimes cases, and conduct educational events to raise awareness about tiger conservation; 2) a project to provide veterinary training on ultrasound equipment use to perfect techniques of determining pregnancy status of rhinos, thereby avoiding translocation of at-risk pregnant female rhinos in Namibia; and 3) a project to assess the effects of artificial water points on local vegetation in Botswana to help assess the overall effectiveness of provisioning water as a management and conservation tool in elephant areas. These and the other projects funded in 2007 provide critical support to species of greatest concern for their intrinsic and charismatic value to the American people and citizenry elsewhere across the globe. The following charts detail fund activities for 2007.



In 2007, funds for African elephants supported for example in Cameroon, surveillance and monitoring of forest elephants, training of research assistants and park guides, collaboration in anti-poaching efforts, development of outreach materials, and analysis of elephant vocalizations.

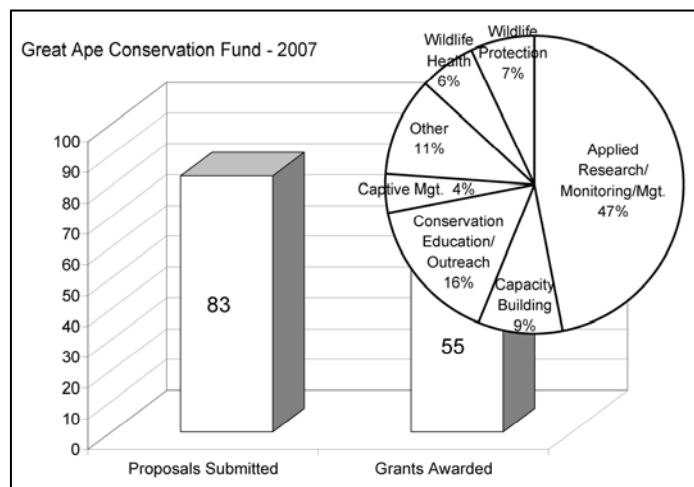
In 2007, funds for Asian elephants supported for example, projects to prevent and mitigate conflict between humans and pachyderms in India (West Bengal), Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, through education, by minimizing deaths of humans and elephants, and by training educators in techniques that bring attitudinal and behavioral changes toward avoidance of conflict.



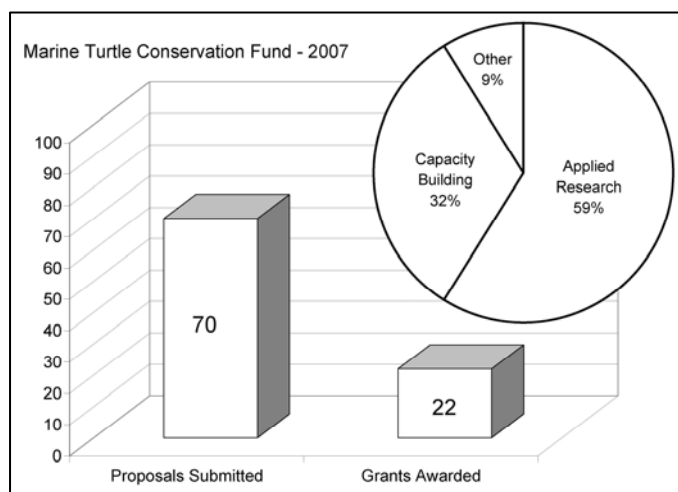


In 2007, funds for rhinoceros and tigers supported, as examples, a project to translocate and monitor (post-release) 34 black rhinos to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, from private reserves in Kenya. This will improve the immediate demographic and genetic health of rhinos in the donor populations and improve the viability of the recipient population. An example of a tiger project is the expansion of a science-based protection system already in use at Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary to another sanctuary in Thailand to protect tigers and their prey.

In 2007, funds for great apes were used in projects such as one to bring effective conservation of gibbon populations to an area in Cambodia through research and improved protection by determining the distribution and abundance of yellow-cheeked crested gibbon within the deciduous forest mosaic of Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary. These type research projects assist scientists with determining the best course of action and therefore priority for sustainment of great apes.



In 2007, funds for marine turtles were used in projects such as conducting nest survey and protection activities in partnership with the local Nogbe Indian communities to restore the Chiriqui Beach nesting population of hawksbill turtles in Panama. Through local participation in projects funded, ultimate conservation self-sustainment can be achieved.



Activities for 2008 will continue to foster development and continuation of partnerships with non-government organizations and individuals, without whom conservation initiatives could not be successful. With the collaboration and support of partners and local people, these important species can survive in the range countries where they exist. Federal assistance awards will focus on the highest priority field work, consistent with wildlife and wildlife habitat conservation goals and sustainment of those species with the greatest threat to their survival.

In 2008, we estimate that all appropriations will be expended for the five funds. Matching and in-kind resources will be maximized as much as possible.

Standard Form 300

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS**

Program and financing (in millions of dollars)			
Identification code 14-1652-0-1-302	2007 Actual	2008 Estimate	2009 Estimate
Obligations by program activity:			
00.01 African Elephant Conservation projects	1	2	1
00.02 Asian Elephant Conservation Projects	1	1	1
00.03 Rhinoceros/Tiger Conservation Projects	2	2	1
00.04 Great Ape Conservation Fund	1	2	1
00.05 Marine Sea Turtle	1	1	0
10.00 Total obligations	6	8	4
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
21.40 Unobligated balance available, start of year	0	0	0
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	6	8	4
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	6	8	4
23.95 Total new obligations	-6	-8	-4
24.40 Unobligated balance available, end of year	0	0	0
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
40.00 Appropriation (special fund, definite)	6	8	4
43.00 Appropriation Total	6	8	4
68.00 Spending Authority from Offsetting collections (Interest on Great Ape)	0	0	0
Change in unpaid obligations:			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	5	5	6
73.10 Total new obligations	6	8	4
73.20 Total outlays (gross) (-)	-6	-7	-7
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	5	6	3
Outlays (gross), detail:			
86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority	2	2	1
86.93 Outlays from current authority	4	5	6
87.00 Total outlays (gross)	6	7	7
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00 Budget authority	6	8	4
90.00 Outlays	6	7	7
92.01 Total Investments SOY, Federal Securities: Par Value	0	0	1
92.02 Total Investments EOY, Federal Securities: Par Value	0	1	1
95.02 Unpaid Obligation, end of year	6	-	-

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS

Program and financing (in millions of dollars)			
Identification code 14-1652-0-1-302	2007 Actual	2008 Estimate	2009 Estimate
Personnel compensation:			
11.9 Total personnel compensation	0	0	0
41.0 Grants, subsidies and contributions	6	8	4
99.9 Total obligations	6	8	4
Personnel Summary			
Total compensable workyears:			
Full-time equivalent employment	4	4	4