

## 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),[\$9,481,000]\$9,980,000, to remain available until expended.

### Authorizing Statutes

**African Elephant Conservation Act**, (16 U.S.C. 4201-4203, 4211-4214, 4221-4225, 4241-4246,1538). 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, 1538). 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, 1538). 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. 6301-6305, 1538). 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: Expired September 30, 2010.

**Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004**, (16 U.S.C. 6601-6607). 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: Expired September 30, 2009.

**Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010**, (H.R. 1454).

Requires the United States Postal Service to issue and sell, at a premium, a Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp. Requires proceeds from the sale of such stamp to be transferred to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to help fund the operations supported by the Multinational Species Conservation Funds and divided equally among the African Elephant Conservation Fund, the Asian Elephant Conservation Fund, the Great Ape Conservation Fund, the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund, the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, and other international wildlife conservation funds authorized by Congress after the date of this Act's enactment. Proceeds are prohibited from being taken into account in any decision relating to the level of appropriations or other federal funding to be furnished to the USFWS or such Funds. Requires the stamp to be made available to the public for at least two years; and to depict images of flagship multinational species. Proceeds are prohibited from being used to supplement funds made available for programs outside of the MSCF.

**Appropriation: Multinational Species Conservation Fund**

	2011 Actual	2012 Enacted	2013			Change from 2012 (+/- )
			Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
African Elephant Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,697	1,645	0	+52	1,697	+52
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,697	1,645	0	+52	1,697	+52
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund (\$000)	2,695	2,471	0	+224	2,695	+224
Great Ape Conservation Fund (\$000)	2,194	2,059	0	+135	2,194	+135
Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,697	1,646	0	+51	1,697	+51
<b>Total, Construction (\$000)</b>	<b>9,980</b>	<b>9,466</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+514</b>	<b>9,980</b>	<b>+514</b>
<b>FTE</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

**Summary of 2013 Program Changes for Multinational Species Conservation Fund**

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• African Elephant Conservation Fund	+52	0
• Asian Elephant Conservation Fund	+52	0
• Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund	+224	0
• Great Ape Conservation Fund	+135	0
• Marine Turtle Conservation Fund	+51	0
<b>Total, Program Changes</b>	<b>+514</b>	<b>0</b>

**Justification of 2013 Program Changes**

The 2013 budget request for the Multinational Species Conservation Funds is \$9,980,000 and 4 FTE, a net program change of +\$514,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

**African Elephant Conservation Fund (+\$52,000/+0 FTE)** - The requested increase would allow support of one additional site for conservation of the African Elephant. These funds could provide support for essential anti-poaching supplies (typically uniforms, boots, rain gear, camping equipment and batteries for GPS units and handheld radios) at a national park or could provide allowances and rations for village game scout patrols in a community area.

**Asian Elephant Conservation Fund (+\$52,000/+0 FTE)** - The requested increase would provide support for new approaches to addressing human-elephant conflict which is increasing. One new and potentially comprehensive approach is to begin to address the problem proactively, from the ground-up. The requested funding would be used to support a trial run of such an approach in Aceh, Sumatra. If it is successful, we will teach this transdisciplinary approach to others in Asia through South-South exchanges. Managing human-elephant conflict is essential for the continued survival of wild Asian elephants.

**Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation (+\$224,000/+0 FTE)** - The requested increase will allow support of three more grants more than in 2012. One of these will be for African rhino conservation and two will be for tiger and/or Asian rhino conservation. This will allow support of high conservation value projects addressing needs such as the strengthening of protected area law enforcement, development of the capacity to combat

illegal trade, implementation of conservation education and outreach, and support for efforts to manage conflict between wildlife and people.

**Great Ape Conservation (+\$135,000/+0 FTE)** - In recent years, the Great Ape Conservation Fund has supported the development of strategic action plans; to ensure that increased funding will be targeted at the highest priority ape populations. An increase in funds will support activities outlined in these plans to increase the survivorship of key ape populations in the highest priority areas. Increased funding will enhance protection activities of the critically endangered mountain gorilla (Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda); the critically endangered cross river gorilla (Cameroon, Nigeria); the endangered bonobo (Democratic Republic of Congo); and the orangutan and gibbon populations of Southeast Asia (multiple countries).

**Marine Turtle Conservation (+\$51,000/+0 FTE)** - The requested increase will be used to address important priorities identified for the conservation of Marine Turtles. The additional increase would allow the program to expand the conservation efforts at Cape Verde to stop the killing of nesting loggerheads at the third largest loggerhead nesting population globally. The Marine Turtle Conservation Fund supported projects with three non-government organizations on two of the main nesting islands of Boa Vista and Sal beginning in 2009 and has reduced the slaughter to about five percent from over forty percent prior to this support. Additional funds would enable development of a similar conservation project on the island of Maio where an estimated sixty percent of the nesting females were killed in 2011.

### **Program Overview**

The Multinational Species Conservation Funds (MSCF) save some of the world's fastest disappearing and most treasured animals in their natural habitats. These funds provide direct support in the form of technical and cost-sharing grant assistance to range countries for on-the-ground protection and conservation of African and Asian elephants, rhinoceroses, tigers, chimpanzees, gorillas, bonobos, gibbons, orangutans, and marine turtles—a total of 30 charismatic species important to the American people, as recognized by five Congressional Acts and 175 million annual public visitors to zoos and aquariums.

A number of activities funded through this program are designed to promote collaboration with key range country decision-makers, furthering the development of sound policy, international cooperation and goodwill toward the United States among citizens of developing countries. The funds strengthen 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.

The range countries of these species are often underdeveloped nations in Africa and Asia, where local people have limited skills or little training in wildlife management. Funds are used for on-the-ground projects that provide local lay people and professionals with the skills to effectively protect their country's wildlife and habitat resources. The sustainability of species in these regions has the potential to be achieved through modern human-wildlife management techniques, training and collaborative efforts. Without this financial assistance, it is likely that degradation of species and their habitats will continue, which may ultimately result in extinction.

The Multinational Species Conservation Funds, which are implemented through International Conservation's Wildlife without Borders Species Programs, provide technical assistance and grant funding to range countries through broad-based partnerships with national governments, local

communities, non-governmental organizations, and other private entities for on-the-ground conservation projects. Funding is targeted to the highest-priority projects impacting the greatest number of species, and support is provided for a range of activities including anti-poaching, conservation education, research, monitoring, habitat restoration, community outreach, law enforcement, training, and capacity building.

In many cases, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the sole or leading funder of projects that affect the survival of these endangered wildlife populations. The Multinational Species Conservation Funds are an important tool to garner trust and respect for the United States internationally, and have engaged nearly 600 domestic and foreign partners working in over 54 foreign countries. From 2007 to 2011, the Multinational Species Conservation Funds provided \$56 million in grant funding for on-the-ground conservation, leveraging nearly \$87 million in additional matching funds. 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 activities for these grant programs.

In 2011, funds for African elephants improved protection of elephants and key habitats in and around the Udzungwa Mountains of southern Tanzania by identifying and monitoring corridors between protected areas used by elephants and initiating programs to protect connectivity and dispersal areas for these increasingly isolated elephant populations. Another project conducted aerial surveillance of Gabon's national parks to detect and respond to signs of poaching targeting forest elephants to prevent future illegal incursions, and conducted systematic surveys of the savannah and swamp areas of Bateke, Lope, Loango, and Wonga Woungue parks.



In 2011, Asian elephant funds were used to train and build the capacity of the Malaysian Department of Wildlife and National Parks staff on non-invasive, genetic sampling techniques for population estimates. Funds were also used to study the social organization of elephants, to describe the genetic structure of elephant population, and to identify individual crop-raiding elephants. Another project monitored management and development activities in Sri Lanka to assess their impact on elephants, suggested alternatives to minimize human-elephant conflict, developed successful conservation strategies for elephants, and, by radio-tracking elephants, studied their behavior and assessed their body condition.



In 2011, funds for rhinoceros and tigers were used to intensify rhino monitoring activities in Kruger National Park, home to Africa's largest rhino population. This builds upon past Service support of projects that verify the total number of rhinos in the park, determine how many animals have been lost to poaching, identify areas of vulnerability and detect the earliest signs of population decline in order to respond proactively. Another project



focused on the poaching problem of Sumatran tiger and prey species in and around Indonesia's Kerinci Seblat National Park through operating anti-poaching patrols, supporting law enforcement important to tiger conservation, working to mitigate and prevent human-tiger conflict, training rangers in patrolling and wildlife crime investigation, and providing technical advice and mentoring to local NGO partners. The International Forum for Tiger Conservation was hosted by the Government of the Russian Federation in St. Petersburg from November 21-24, 2010. This forum brought together leaders of the 13 Tiger Range Countries and a coalition of international organizations and advocates for tiger conservation to launch a multilateral Global Tiger Recovery Program that envisions doubling the number of wild tigers worldwide in time for the next Year of the Tiger, 2022. The Program spells out the necessary policy and financial commitments and systems for implementation and monitoring needed to bring this about. The Summit represented an important opportunity to bring new energy into international efforts to protect and recover the tiger as well as the vast diversity of species that share its habitats. The role of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund in support of range country tiger conservation programs was in evidence throughout the presentations made by the range countries. In FY 2013, the resulting Summit outcomes will help inform our decisions regarding grants proposals.



In 2011, the Great Ape Conservation Fund helped conserve Malaysia's orangutans living along Sabah's Kinabatangan River by supporting trained, experienced community based wildlife wardens in their work to strengthen law enforcement, engage local communities in orangutan conservation, and carry out wildlife management activities including animal rescue and wildlife human conflict operations. Another project created the Fallen Rangers Fund in the Democratic Republic of Congo to help support the widows and children of Virunga rangers who have lost their lives in the line of duty to protect mountain gorillas. Over the last twenty years, 150 rangers have been killed protecting the park. The Fallen Rangers Fund provides a small but critical financial safety net for the widows and children of deceased rangers and demonstrated international recognition of the rangers' dedication and sacrifice to boost the morale of the current ranger force. It also provides an incentive for new recruits to undertake the life-threatening task of protecting the mountain gorilla, a heritage species valued the world over.



In 2011, funds for marine turtle conservation implemented a well-coordinated and strategic approach to monitor and protect the West Africa leatherback nesting population, which is one of the two largest remaining nesting populations for this species. The project included conducting aerial surveys of leatherback nesting sites in Gabon and ground field projects to survey and protect marine turtle nests and nesting females on important nesting beaches. The project also worked with artisanal fisherman to reduce sea turtle by catch mortality in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo and Angola. Another project supported conservation of the Caribbean hawksbill population, which account for about one-fourth of the population of these turtles across the globe. The project restored the Chiriqui Beach hawksbill nesting



population, once the largest hawksbill nesting colony in the wider Caribbean, and worked directly with the Ngobe Indians to conduct community based conservation projects.

The Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010 provides an opportunity for the public to support the Service's mission to save imperiled species globally. On September 22, 2011, the U.S. Postal Service introduced the "Save Vanishing Species" semipostal stamp.



This semipostal stamp will be available for no less than two years and will provide additional funding for these species. For further information on the Multinational Species Conservation Program, see [www.fws.gov/international/DIC/species/species.html](http://www.fws.gov/international/DIC/species/species.html).

Standard Form 300

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

Program and financing (in millions of dollars)	2011 Actual	2012 Enacted	2013 Estimate
<b>Identification code 14-1652-0-1-302</b>			
<b><u>Obligations by program activity:</u></b>			
0001 African Elephant Conservation projects	2	2	2
0002 Asian Elephant Conservation Projects	2	2	2
0003 Rhinoceros/Tiger Conservation Projects	2	2	2
0004 Great Ape Conservation Fund	2	2	2
0005 Marine Turtle	2	2	2
0799 Total direct obligations	10	10	10
0801 Multinational Species Semi Postal Stamp Act		1	1
0900 Total new obligations	10	11	11
<b><u>Budgetary resources:</u></b>			
Budget Authority			
Appropriations, discretionary:			
1100 Appropriation	10	10	10
1160 Appropriation Discretionary (Total)	10	10	10
1800 Collected		1	1
1850 Spending auth from offsetting collections, mand (total) Multinational Species Semi Postal Stamp Act		1	1
1900 Budget Authority (total)	10	11	11
1930 Total budgetary resources available	10	11	11
<b><u>Change in obligated balance:</u></b>			
Obligated balance, start of year (net):			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1 (gross)	12	7	9
3030 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	10	11	11
3040 Outlays (gross)	-15	-9	-11
3090 Unpaid obligations, end of year (gross)	7	9	9
3100 Obligated balance, end of year (net)	7	9	9
<b><u>Budget authority and outlays, net</u></b>			
Discretionary			
4000 Budget authority, gross	10	10	10
Outlays, gross			
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	6	3	3
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	9	5	7
4020 Outlays, gross (total)	15	8	10
4070 Budget authority, net (discretionary)	10	10	10
4080 Outlays, net (discretionary)	15	8	10
4090 Budget Authority, gross Outlays, gross		1	1
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority		1	1
4123 Non- Federal sources		-1	-1
4180 Budget Authority, net (total)	10	10	10
4190 Outlays, net (total)	15	8	10
<b><u>Object Classification</u></b>			
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	10	10	10
24.0 Reimbursable Obligations: Grants, subsidies, and contributions		1	1
99.9 Total Obligations	10	11	11
<b><u>Employment Summary</u></b>			
1001 Direct Civilian full-time equivalent summary	5	4	4

Obligated balance, end of year (net)

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