

**Wildlife Without Borders-Latin America and the Caribbean Program**  
**Summary of Projects from Fiscal Year 2009**

33 Grants      Total FWS: \$1,107,277      Total Leveraged Funds: \$2,332,026

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*Argentina (3 Grants)*

**LAC 09-015:** *Building Capacity for Management of the Payunia-Auca Mahuida Guanaco Corridor in Patagonia.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to strengthen the ability of local communities and government agencies to effectively manage the Payunia and Auca Mahuida reserves. The project will emphasize reducing the negative impacts of extractive industries and unsustainable livestock husbandry on guanacos, rheas, and native carnivores. Capacity building will focus on empowering the Payún Matrú Cooperative to conduct ecologically and economically sustainable live shearing of wild guanacos.

FWS: \$23,715    Leveraged funds: \$24,977

**LAC 09-036:** *International Conservation College-Argentina.* In partnership with the International Conservation Caucus Foundation. The purpose of this project is to support the development and implementation of a 4-6 day course in tropical conservation and policy for a minimum of 4 Members of the U.S. Congress. The course will be held in Argentina. Topics will include challenges and solutions related to biodiversity and habitat loss, deforestation and climate change impacts, overdevelopment and natural resource degradation, and unsustainable production and fishery practices. The course will be developed in close cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Latin America and Caribbean Branch.

FWS: \$24,520    Leveraged funds: \$69,710

**LAC 09-095:** *Movements and Resource Utilization of Ducks in Central-Eastern Argentina.* In partnership with Centro de Zoología Aplicada en la Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina (the Center for Applied Zoology at the National University of Córdoba, Argentina). The purpose of this project is to help reduce the current information gap on migratory patterns and habitat use of three duck species commonly hunted in central-eastern Argentina along the Middle Parana river basin, including Rosy-billed Pochard (*Netta peposaca*), White-faced Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*) and Fulvous Tree-duck (*D. bicolor*). The project will be developed in close cooperation with the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, US Geological Survey.

\*FWS: \$75,500    Leveraged funds: \$0

*Bahamas (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-050:** *Managing Marine Parks in the Bahamas: Bonefish Pond National Park and Central Andros Marine Parks.* In partnership with the Perry Institute for Marine Science. The purpose of this project is to provide technical assistance to the Bahamas National Trust in preparation for the development of management plans for the Bonefish Pond National Park and the Northern and Southern Marine Park areas of the Central Andros National Park system. Project activities include training approximately eight to ten marine resource managers and stakeholders in techniques for assessing key ecological indicators and conducting Rapid Ecological Assessments.

FWS: \$24,477    Leveraged funds: \$27,179

*Belize (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-059:**

*Strengthening Management Capacity for Belize's Bladen Nature Reserve.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to build the capacity of the Ya'axché Conservation Trust to effectively manage and secure sustainable funding for the Bladen Nature Reserve. Project activities include the development of the Ya'axché Conservation Trust priority training for the management of the Bladen Nature Reserve and sharing these lessons with other protected area managers in the region. **G213**  
FWS: \$23,943 Leveraged funds: \$23,232

*Brazil (2 Grants)*

**LAC 09-052:** *Community Management: Traditional and Scientific Knowledge Working Together for Wildlife Conservation in Brazilian Amazonia.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to improve the management of the Piaguacu-Purus Sustainable Development Reserve (PP-SDR) by building local capacity to design and implement a community-based management program. Through this project, 16 ribeirinhos will be trained in wildlife monitoring in six participating communities.  
FWS: \$27,033 Leveraged funds: \$24,611

**LAC 09-052:** *Strengthening Conservation Knowledge while Promoting Productive Dialogue among Government Officials, Community Leaders and Other Key Stakeholders in the Southern Brazilian Amazon.* In partnership with the Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to strengthen the effective management of the Cristalino private reserves and Cristalino State Park by increasing the values key stakeholders have of the standing forest, and by increasing their ability to identify solutions for conservation management issues. The key component of the project is to provide workshops for 5 key stakeholder groups (approximately 100 people) on practical conservation solutions and the design of a partnership between the Cristalino State Park and a Brazilian university.  
FWS: \$31,973 Leveraged funds: \$20,953

*Bolivia (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-078:** *Building Capacity for Endangered Species in 5 Adjacent Protected Areas and Overlapping Indigenous Territories in Greater Madidi-Tambopata.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to improve the ability of the management agencies of the five protected areas and indigenous territories to manage and conserve these areas by building their capacities to conduct biological and threats monitoring at a landscape scale, and implement sound management decisions for the landscape and the endangered species it contains.  
FWS: \$42,560 Leveraged funds: \$42,468

*Caribbean – Region-wide (2 Grants)*

**LAC 09-046:** *Building Caribbean Capacity for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Birds and Their Habitats: the 17th Regional Meeting of the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB).* In partnership with the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds. The purpose of this project is to strengthen the capacity of natural resource managers, decision makers, educators, community leaders, and other stakeholders to conserve and sustainably manage bird populations and their habitats through training, networking, and the development of partnerships and projects as well as to provide knowledge and awareness to those working in the local tourism sector regarding the potential for sustainable development vis-à-vis birding and other wildlife-based tourism.

FWS: \$25,494 Leveraged funds: \$116,397

**LAC 09-047:** *Increasing Capacity to Conserve Birds and Protected Wetland Areas in the Caribbean: West Indian Whistling-Duck (WIWD) and Wetlands Conservation Project.* In partnership with the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds. The purpose of this project is to strengthen the ability of natural resource managers, educators, and community leaders to raise knowledge, awareness, and appreciation about the importance and value of local wetlands and bird life and effectively conserve and manage them for the benefit of species and people.

FWS: \$54,000 Leveraged funds: \$165,665

*Costa Rica (3 Grants)*

**LAC 08-071:** *A Children's Education Manual on the Impact of Climate Change on Wildlife.* In partnership with the Fundación para el Desarrollo Académico de la Universidad Nacional (Foundation for the Academic Development of the National University, FUNDAUNA). The purpose of this project is to evaluate the knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of 9 and 10 year-old children from Mexico and Costa Rica about the impact of climate change on neo-tropical wildlife and their habitats, including protected areas. The project will include a total of six workshops (3 in Mexico and 3 in Costa Rica) to develop a climate change manual for educators. The manual will be used as a tool to teach students from across Latin America about climate change and its impact on wildlife.

FWS: \$53,777 Leveraged funds: \$19,600

**LAC 09-032:** *Threats to Aquatic Biodiversity and Biological Corridor Function in Talamanca, Costa Rica-a Participatory Approach to Analyzing and Addressing Problems.* In partnership with the Asociación ANAI. The purpose of this project is to empower the residents of the La Amistad International Park and Biosphere Reserve buffer zone in Talamanca, Costa Rica – including the Ngobe and Naso Indigenous communities—to monitor their own resources and to collaborate with natural resource agencies and conservation groups to protect their shared aquatic resources from myriad threats including hydroelectric dam and mining operations, pollution, and habitat alteration. This project will include training local residents in taxonomy techniques so as to provide a solid informational basis for the defense of the integrity of La Amistad Park.

FWS: \$16,983 Leveraged funds: \$29,435

**LAC 09-035:** *International Conservation College Latin America Program-Costa Rica.* In partnership with the International Conservation Caucus Foundation. The purpose of this project is to develop and implement a 5-7 day course in tropical conservation and policy for senior professional staff to U.S. Members of Congress. The course will be held in Costa Rica. Topics will include challenges and solutions related to biodiversity and habitat loss, deforestation and climate change impacts, overdevelopment and natural resource degradation.  
FWS: \$25,480 Leveraged funds: \$25,660

*Ecuador (5 Grants)*

**LAC 09-054:** *Capacity Building for the Conservation of the Long-Wattled Umbrella Bird and its Habitat in the Mache Chindul Corridor.* In partnership with Finding Species. The purpose of this project is to build capacity for park guards bird in the Mache Chindul Reserve in Northwest Ecuador (REMACH) in order to enhance conservation of the long-wattled umbrella bird. This project is located in the Chocó region, an area recognized for its incredible biodiversity and high endemism.  
FWS: \$27,243 Leveraged funds: \$18,444

**LAC 09-061:**  
*Community Engagement and Training of Para-biologists for the Protection of Globally Threatened Species in and Around Southern Sangay National Park, Ecuador.* In partnership with the University of Wisconsin's Carnivore Conservation Lab. The purpose of this project is to train nine members of the local community as para-biologists. In addition, a minimum of three park officials, 9 community members and 50 local landowners will participate in a new payment program for the protection of ecosystem services aimed at conserving high elevation páramo and cloud forests in and around Sangay National Park.  
FWS: \$32,477 Leveraged funds: \$146,826

**LAC 09-055:** *Conservation of High-Altitude Andean Wetlands in Four Watershed Protection Areas for the City of Quito, Ecuador.* In partnership with Finding Species. The purpose of this project is to improve the protection and health of wetlands inside the Ecological Reserves of Cayambe-Coca, Antisana, Los Illinizas, and Cotopaxi National Parks. This project will promote best practices of water use with at least one third of the population of Quito through a massive education and outreach campaign that will use images of several high wetland avian species as the main face of the campaign.  
FWS: \$24,711 Leveraged funds: \$ 34,118

**LAC 09-048:** *Improving the Conservation Status of the Andean Tapir (Tapirus pinchaque) on the Eastern slopes of the Central Andes of Ecuador.* In partnership with Finding Species. The purpose of this project is to establish and monitor the Andean Tapir's conservation status within Ecuador's Llanganates and Sangay National Parks. This project will ensure these two parks make the transition from being threatened habitats to those that provide an effective stronghold for this endangered species to recover.  
FWS: \$32,471 Leveraged funds: \$48,517

**LAC 09-075:** *Strengthening the Park Guard Control and Monitoring System in the Yasuni National Park, Ecuador.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of

this project is to strengthen the capacity of park staff to better manage the Yasuni National Park and to facilitate the involvement of local communities (including the Kichwa) in the management of their natural resources.

FWS: \$24,138 Leveraged funds: \$20,840

*Guatemala (3 Grants)*

**LAC 09-040:** *Community Based Forest Stewardship in Guatemala's Western Highlands.* In partnership with EcoLogic Development Fund. The purpose of this project is to improve the environmental conditions of threatened natural resources by training an additional 80 forest guards from local communities to serve as stewards for community-designated conservation areas.

FWS: \$25,000 Leveraged funds: \$158,886

**LAC 09-006:** *Strengthening the Technical Capacity of Private Nature Reserves for the Management and Conservation of Pine-Oak forests in Guatemala.* In partnership with Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza (Foundation Defenders of Nature). The purpose of this project is to strengthen the technical capacity of 13 reserve managers by facilitating the development of a training program that focuses on the sound management of central Guatemala's pine-oak forests, which are home to many threatened migratory bird species including the Golden-cheeked Warbler. Through a series of six workshops, this project will systematize the training program process and replicate it in other private nature reserves across Guatemala.

FWS: \$22,356 Leveraged funds: \$21,923

**LAC 09-030:** *Participative Bilingual Environmental Education Program for sustainable subsistence hunting and forest use by indigenous Maya-Q'eqchi' communities, Guatemala: Phase II.* In partnership with Organización Nacional para la Conservación y el Ambiente (the National Organization for Conservation and the Environment or ONCA). The purpose of this project is to encourage active participation from Maya-Q'eqchi' indigenous communities in the implementation of a subsistence hunting management system to promote viable conservation approaches needed to efficiently protect Laguna Lachuá National Park's biodiversity and local peoples' livelihoods.

FWS: \$24,950 Leveraged funds: \$84,776

*Jamaica (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-074:** *Towards the Protection and Conservation of the Jamaican Boa in its Stronghold of Cockpit County, Jamaica.* In partnership with the Windsor Research Centre. The purpose of this project is to enhance the conservation of the Jamaican Boa through an integrated program of field research, capacity building of natural resource managers, and community outreach and sensitization.

FWS: \$28,772 Leveraged funds: \$48,027

*Mexico (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-017:** *RESERVA Training Course in Conservation and Management of Natural Resources, 29th Edition.* In partnership with Ducks Unlimited de Mexico, A.C. The purpose of this project is to provide partial support for the twenty seventh session of RESERVA, a 62-day course that will train sixteen professionals in issues of natural resource conservation. The target audience includes natural resources professionals currently working at leading conservation organizations throughout the Latin American and the Caribbean region. The course takes place at the Ria Celestun Biosphere Reserve, in Yucatan, Mexico. **G615**  
FWS: \$30,000 Leveraged funds: \$48,200

*Nicaragua (2 Grants)*

**LAC 09-058:** *Building Protected Area Management Capacities through the Implementation of Conservation Finance Mechanisms on the Island of Ometepe, Nicaragua.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to support the design and implementation of a conservation finance generating mechanism for the Maderas Volcano Natural Reserve and the island of Ometepe as a whole.  
FWS: \$24,997 Leveraged funds: \$29,659

**LAC 09-094:** *Preparing the Highly Effective Conservation Professionals for the Future: a workshop.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to provide support in the design and delivery of a successful workshop for up to 80 conservation leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshop will take place in Nicaragua from November 10-12, 2009. The goal of the workshop is to develop a Latin American and Caribbean based initiative that will address the real-world training needs of future conservation professionals in the region.  
FWS: \$150,102 Leveraged funds: \$29,748

*Panama (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-038:** *Panama Bay Shorebird Conservation Partnership Initiative.* In partnership with the National Audubon Society. The purpose of this project is to build the institutional capacity of the Panama Audubon Society with a focus on long-term conservation of the Panama Bay, a recognized Ramsar site and Important Bird Area.  
FWS: \$21,045 Leveraged funds: \$55,220.00

*Paraguay (1 Grant)*

**LAC 09-024:** *Conservation Status, Mortality, and Livestock Depredation of Jaguars in the Gran Chaco of Western Paraguay: Implications for a Potential Stronghold Population.* In partnership with Lifescope International. The purpose of this project is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Chaco Biosphere Reserve and proposed Gran Chaco Corridor in protecting endangered jaguar populations. This project will also assess the underlying causes of livestock depredation and human-jaguar conflict as they relate directly to jaguar biology, ecological requirements, and habitat alteration.  
FWS: \$18,000 Leveraged funds: \$40,900

*Peru (2 Grants)*

**LAC 09-070:** *Alto Purús Protection Initiative, Southeastern Peru.* In partnership with Round River Conservation Studies. The purpose of this project is to enhance the technical capacity of Peruvian Park Service staff of Alto Purús National Park and strengthen the capacity of local communities to participate in and benefit from conservation efforts aimed at the park. This project will train 8 park guards and 60 voluntary park guards from local communities with a focus on ensuring that guards are fully capable of monitoring for illegal activities, using GPS and other equipment, and submitting patrol reports.  
FWS: \$18,152 Leveraged funds: \$242,317

**LAC 09-077:** *Strengthening Local Capacity to Ensure Wildlife Conservation in the Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Community Regional Reserve, in Northern Peru.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to ensure long-term biodiversity conservation and natural resource management in the Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Community Regional Reserve (TTCRR) by building local capacity for community-driven management.  
FWS: \$26,556 Leveraged funds: \$23,629

*Region-wide (2 Grants)*

**LAC 09-034:** *Support for the Masters Program in Wildlife Conservation and Management for Latin America at the International Institute for Wildlife Management and Conservation, National University of Costa Rica.* In partnership with the Fundación para el Desarrollo Académico de la Universidad Nacional (the Foundation for the Academic Development of the National University, FUNDEP). This grant will support the International Institute for Wildlife Management and Conservation at the National Autonomous University of Costa Rica. The program offers a masters degree for natural resource management professionals in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean. Students will work together with other actors in the natural resource sector promoting thus better decisions on issues related to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.  
FWS: \$39,249 Leveraged: \$569,820

**LAC 09-020:** *Integrated Training Courses 2009 for Graduate-Level Wildlife Management Students and Protected-Areas Decision Makers.* In partnership with the NatureServe. The purpose of this project is to train students, faculty and decision makers to analyze the distribution of high priority species within and near Latin American protected areas, and apply the results from a Central American case study in development of sound environmental policies for biodiversity conservation in a sustainable development framework.  
FWS: \$37,803 Leveraged funds: \$17,610

**LAC 09-086:** *Support to the Postgraduate Program in Wildlife Management, Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina.* In partnership with Centro de Zoología Aplicada (the Center for Applied Zoology). This grant will support scholarships, thesis work, and travel expenses for thesis directors, secretarial services for the program, and general program support. Thesis topics are of strict applied nature, and respond to concrete problems identified by local researchers or governmental agencies. Past graduates include students from throughout the Latin American region, including the following countries: Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, and Peru.  
USFWS: \$49,800 Leveraged funds: \$102,680

\*Note: Funds for this project were provided entirely by a private donation.

\*\* Total amount awarded includes \$4,227.00 in modifications to previous year grants.