U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of International Conservation Wildlife Without Borders-Mexico Summary FY 2011

In 2011, the USFWS awarded 22 new grants from the Wildlife Without Borders-Mexico program totaling \$691,293.42, which was matched by \$1,658,205.80 in leveraged funds.

MX 11-066 U.S. State agencies participation in the 2011 Canada/Mexico/U.S. Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management (Trilateral Committee) in Mexico. In partnership with Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. This grant supported U.S. state agencies (California, New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas) to participate in the Canada/Mexico/U.S. Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management Annual Meeting, which took place in Oaxaca, Mexico from May 16-20, 2011. FWS: \$15,000 Leveraged funds: \$15,000

MX 11-002 Increasing elementary school teachers' knowledge in biodiversity conservation and their participation in the Mexican Program for the Conservation of Bats. In partnership with Bioconciencia, Bioconservacion, Educacion y Ciencia A.C. This grantee has worked over 10 years with the Natural Sciences Academy of the National Teachers College of Mexico City to implement an educational program on biodiversity conservation. This project will train future teachers (currently in college) on various teaching methods and techniques, so they can help advance biodiversity conservation education in their professional careers as schoolteachers. FWS: \$12,300 Leveraged funds: \$35,955

MX 11-005 Training and environmental education of indigenous people as agents of change: monitoring and conservation of pollinating bat habitat in the Priority Conservation Region Urique Batopilas, Sierra Tarahumara, Chihuahua, Mexico. In partnership with Ecologia y Comunidad Sustentable A.C. This grantee in cooperation with local partners is gathering ancestral knowledge from the Raramuris native group to design educational modules about local species. The grantee will work with the community to define areas of protection for bats and ultimately establish a habitat corridor.

FWS: \$45,000 Leveraged funds: \$65,786

MX 11-007 Training on sustainable natural resources management for subsistence farmers in the Region of Chilapa, Guerrero, Mexico. In partnership with Grupo de Estudios Ambientales, A.C. This project will further advance the strategy to train subsistence farmers on sustainable land management, by considering the natural and socio-cultural environments and technical capacity. Particular emphasis will be given to women and youths in the area. The establishment of community reserves is also part of Grupo de Estudios Ambientales' initiative to train peasant farmers.

FWS: \$38,800 Leveraged funds: \$118,000

MX 11-015 Management of two community owned Natural Protected Areas in the Lacandona Jungle and Sierra Costa in Chiapas – Phase IV. In partnership with Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamerica, A.C. This project will provide continuing training for local land

managers on long-term environmental monitoring, land management, zoning, and development, including protected areas management plans. Voluntary Conservation or Community Owned Natural Protected Areas (CNPAs) is a designation the Government of Mexico has created to achieve natural resources conservation at local communities or ejidos.

FWS: \$40,000 Leveraged funds: \$15,938

MX 11-016 Strengthening wildlife management and sustainable practices in Mexico. In partnership with World Wildlife Fund, Inc. This project will increase capacity on wildlife management and sustainable use practices through three training workshops to government officials and key community personnel who are responsible for the management of natural resources in protected areas. Mexican authorities currently lack sufficient capacity to perform their duties to protect the country's natural resources.

FWS: \$40,000 Leveraged funds: \$7,344

MX 11-022 Training on cultivation techniques of camedor palm (Chamaedorea radicalis) as a conservation and sustainable management strategy in El Cielo Biosphere Reserve, Tamaulipas, Mexico. In partnership with Instituto de Ecologia Aplicada de la Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas. This project will train peasant farmers on the best practices and techniques to grow and manage camedor palm in a sustainable fashion. Workshops will teach peasants how to cultivate and grow commercial crops. By the end of this project, participants should be able to educate and pass on their knowledge to other community members.

FWS: \$9,782 Leveraged funds: \$32,980

MX 11-036 A sustainable model for recovery and conservation of the San Juan Micro-watershed in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (MBBR), Part II. In partnership with ALTERNARE, A.C. This project will continue educating and training communities of the MBBR to adopt sustainable productive practices and recover the degrated ecosystems of the area. Restoration of the ecosystems in the San Juan micro-watershed is urgent because its forests shelter the western hemisphere's monarch butterflies during hibernation, have a rich biodiversity, and capture rain water for the Balsas and Lerma Rivers, which are part of two important basins. FWS: \$26,000 Leveraged funds: \$296,670

MX 11-039 *Training to conduct community monitoring for wildlife resources.* In partnership with *Conservacion Biologica y Desarrollo Social, A.C.* This project is located in the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve in the Canada Oaxaqueña region, where community groups conduct field trips to monitor and protect wildlife resources. This project will increase the technical and scientific capacity of these groups to monitor mammals, analyze data and communicate effectively. The grantee will work with communities to analyze monitoring results and to set goals and strategies for the management and protection of local wildlife.

FWS: \$17,519 Leveraged funds: \$55,312.90

MX 11-053 From My Forest Understory to the Canopy: a strategy on environmental education and the recovery of indigenous knowledge on mammals in Lacandon Communities, Chiapas, Mexico. In partnership with Tierra Verde Naturaleza y Cultura, A.C. This grantee will work with native Lacandon ethnic groups to develop a conservation ethic and safeguard indigenous knowledge of land stewardship. Three of the principle Lacandon groups live in nine Natural

Protected Areas in the Lacandon Jungle, where human activities are disturbing the biological integrity of the area and taking a toll on the cultural identity of these ethnic groups.

FWS: \$40,000 Leveraged funds: \$31,485

MX 11-054 Training local groups from the Maya Community of Hidalgo and Cortez as environmental guards for the sustainable management and development of their forest. In partnership with Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan, A.C. This project will increase the capacity of communities of Hidalgo and Cortez (Mayan culture) to develop three economic activities under the Best Management Program for 300 hectares of forest. The National Forest Commission (CONAFOR) gave the communities authorization to sustainably use this area for 30 years. The grantee will promote the sustainable use of the land and economic development, while maintaining the traditions of the Mayan culture.

FWS: \$17,872 Leveraged funds: \$20,172.80

MX 11-056 Creating and increasing the capacity of conservation professionals in Mexico through the Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (RECP). In partnership with Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM). This project addresses the training needs of employees of CONANP and SEMARNAT and other state government agencies of three critical regions in Mexico: (1) North and Sierra Madre Occidental, (2) Northeast and Sierra Madre Oriental, and (3) Gulf of Mexico-Coastal Plain. The grant will support three courses in conservation biology for decision makers and conservation professionals, to familiarize them with the tools and environmental education materials available in the Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners.

FWS: \$36,000 Leveraged funds: \$84,770

MX 11-059 Training for the earlier detection and monitoring of exotic marine invertebrates in Sinaloa, Mexico. In partnership with GEOMARE, A.C. This project will create a contact guide and train aquaculturists, touristic, sport fishing and yacht cleaning service providers, government inspection officials and students on techniques to prevent, detect, and monitor existent and new exotic species of marine invertebrates. The state of Sinaloa, Mexico is very vulnerable to exotic species invasion due to its diversity of coastal ecosystems, aquaculture activities, the presence of two harbors, and the development of new marinas.

FWS: \$20,703 Leveraged funds: \$46,495

MX 11-061 Training landowners of the Sierra Manuel Diaz: management and sustainable use of natural resources in their private protected areas. In partnership with Pronatura Mexico A.C.-Region Veracruz. This grantee works with landowners in the central coast of Veracruz to protect and manage their land. This project will continue education for landowners on the environmental, economic and conservation value of their land, increasing their ability to manage privately owned protected areas. The landowners will enhance benefits from sustainable use of their natural resources and develop new economic opportunities in Sierra Manuel Díaz. FWS: \$29,999.10 Leveraged funds: \$35,596.10

MX 11-051 RED Sustainable Tourism: linking natural resource conservation and sustainable economic alternatives in Northwestern Mexico. In partnership with RED Sustainable Tourism, a project of International Community Foundation. This project will develop a network of small

community owned tourism enterprises in Northwestern Mexico that support conservation through direct financial contributions, and by involving community and tourists in conservation activities. This project addresses the relationship between the well-being of local communities and the health of marine environments by linking enterprises with sustainable livelihood alternatives.

FWS: \$30,000.32 Leveraged funds: \$201,947

MX 11-052 An environmental educators' network. In partnership with Centro de Investigacion en Alimentacion y Desarrollo, A.C. This project aims to strengthen an existing network of citizens committed to conservation from the coastal wetlands of Matzatlan, state of Sinaloa, Mexico. The grantee will form a network of young environmental advocates to advance the conservation of wetlands. The project will analyze the socio-economic situation and conditions of the local environment, and raise awareness about human-nature interactions.

FWS: \$13,762 Leveraged funds: \$93,430

MX 11-050 Monitoring biodiversity in community conservation areas in Oaxaca, Mexico through training of community promoters. In partnership with Centro de Estudios Andayú, S.C. This grant will continue support for community promoters to begin an inventory of the biological resources in their conservation areas over a six month period. Training on collection techniques, methods to assess the spatial dynamic of populations and technical tools to systematize data will precede the inventory part of the project. At the end of the project period, participants will be able to train other members of the communities on the subjects learned.

FWS: \$33,976 Leveraged funds: \$35,247

MX 11-006 Creating awareness through education concerning climate change and deforestation in the Sierra Tarahumara. In partnership with Sierra Madre Alliance, Inc. This project will develop awareness about the importance of conserving the Tarahumara forests, which are home to pine-oaks known for sheltering a great amount of the biodiversity in Mexico. The grantee will educate local residents on climate change and deforestation, and provide lessons for good practices in forest management based on traditional knowledge.

FWS: \$37,000 Leveraged funds: \$68,321

MX 11-020 Replication of successful conservation strategies of the Sierra Gorda Ecological Group in Natural Protected Areas. In partnership with Grupo Ecologico Sierra Gorda, A.C. This project will establish educational and participatory networks that link together stakeholders in order to strengthen the National System of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) in Mexico. On-site workshops and a virtual campus will introduce the networks, based on the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve's successful model of comanagement between the civil society and the federal government of Mexico.

FWS: \$50,000 Leveraged funds: \$79,544

MX 11-003 School for rural environmental and development advocates. In partnership with Centro Campesino para el Desarrollo Sustentable, A.C. This project will focus on strengthening the capacities and outreach techniques of 20 rural environmental education and sustainable development promoters from Tlaxcala, Mexico. The training courses will focus on developing

skills in outreach, leadership skills, activity planning, and teaching of sustainable agriculture alternatives under climate change.

FWS: \$25,000 Leveraged funds: \$49,808

MX 11-031 Course in environmental management of natural protected areas in the southeast of Mexico. In partnership with Ducks Unlimited de Mexico, A.C. This project will provide training to build the capacity of protected areas managers from Mexico and Latin America to properly manage natural resources. The course is certified by the Autonomous University of Yucatan (UADY), with 540 hours (2 months) of training.

FWS: \$22,500 Leveraged funds: \$95,704

MX 11-065 Legislators and the environment. In partnership with Fondo para la Comunicacion y la Educacion Ambiental, A.C. This project will increase the effectiveness of the laws protecting biodiversity and natural resources in Mexico by promoting the creation of a multipartisan, permanent, well informed, Environmental Caucus in the Mexican Congress. The grantee will identify key members of the Mexican Congress relevant to biodiversity and natural resource management, producing a public directory of the different relevant legislative committees and a public handbook on the legislative pathways to get environmental legislation enacted. The grantee will also implement a 6-day field site inspection for 12-15 key Mexican legislators to expose these individuals to successful environmental projects in Mexico, and create an interactive website specifically designed to provide relevant and timely information to Mexican legislators.

FWS: \$90,080 Leveraged funds: \$172,700