U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of International Conservation Wildlife Without Borders-Latin America and Caribbean Program FY 2013 Summary of Projects

In 2013, the USFWS awarded 13 new projects from *Wildlife Without Borders*- Latin America and Caribbean program totaling \$849,156 which was matched by \$1,365,690 in additional leveraged funds. Field projects in 10 countries throughout the region (in alphabetical order below) will be supported.

ARGENTINA

Proposal # LAC 13-007 Grant # F13AC00805

Support to the Graduate Program in Wildlife Management. In partnership with Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina, this grant will provide support for the development and implementation of several new components to the curricula that will enhance and strengthen the interdisciplinary and practical coursework of the Master's in Wildlife Management to be implemented in the 2014-2016 academic cycle. Funding will support the development and implementation of a new course entitled Practice in Biodiversity Conservation and Local Development, scholarships for 10 graduate students, visiting professors, a training workshop for current professors on active teaching and student-centered learning, practical field experiences that enhance coursework, and administrative costs.

FWS: \$100,820 Leveraged Funds: \$208,750

COLOMBIA

Proposal # LAC 13-003 Grant # F13AP00194

Production of Short Film to Enhance the Legacy of the Capacity Building for Conservation Conference, Colombia 2013. In partnership with Ecological Research and Training, Ltd., USFWS funding will support the production of a film during the Capacity Building for Conservation conference in Colombia in February 2013. The conference will provide an important forum for an international exchange of relevant experts and practitioners from around the world to share information, strategic solutions, best practices, and new opportunities in the area of capacity building for conservation. The film will highlight the importance of capacity building for conservation and the outcomes of the conference.

FWS: \$14,650 Leveraged Funds: \$4,930

COSTA RICA

Proposal # LAC 13-001

Grant # F13AC00044

Congressional Professional Staff Course: Conservation in Costa Rica. In partnership with the International Conservation Caucus Foundation, this project will implement a 5-7 day executive study tour in Costa Rica to familiarize and educate senior professional staff of U.S. Members of Congress about international conservation in a field-based setting. Participants will conduct site visits to conservation projects and meet with key stakeholders to discuss conservation strategies, challenges, and solutions. Topics will include: biodiversity and habitat loss, tropical forest conservation and policy, marine turtle conservation, and international wildlife trade. Through experiential learning, participants will gain first-hand insights into international conservation and its importance to US efforts to protect international wildlife, alleviate poverty, foster good governance, avert conflict and improve national and regional security.

FWS: \$25,457 Leveraged Funds: \$32,498

Proposal # LAC 13-006 Grant # F13AC00684

Support for Master's Degree Program in Conservation and Wildlife Management. In partnership with the Universidad Nacional Autónoma, Costa Rica. Funding will provide scholarships to six graduate students of the Instituto Internacional de Conservación y Manejo de Vida Silvestre (ICOMVIS) over a 27-month period (January 2014 to April 2016), and will support interdisciplinary, ecosystem-based field courses and other practical field experiences that enhance coursework.

FWS: \$99,814 Leveraged Funds: \$348,730

REGIONAL-CARIBBEAN

Proposal # LAC 13-005 Grant # F13AP00847

Institutional Strengthening of the SCSCB to Support Caribbean Bird Conservation – Taking the Next Steps. In partnership with the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB), USFWS funding will support the institutional strengthening of SCSCB and its long-term sustainability in order to further advance its mission to conserve birds and their habitats in the Caribbean. Specific objectives include: developing and building consensus with membership for a new Strategic Plan for 2014 – 2018, preparing and implementing a fundraising strategy that includes a branding and communication strategy, and enhancing regional capacity building and information sharing by hosting a regional meeting at St. Georges, Grenada, in July 2013.

FWS: \$21,550 Leveraged Funds: \$ 248,810

Amendments to Existing Grants

Proposal # LAC 12-046 Grant # F12AC01099 Support for the Development of the Master's in Conservation Practice. In partnership with the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), the existing grant was amended to include funding for 2-3 representatives from each of the USFWS supported graduate training programs in Latin America to attend the Capacity Building for Conservation conference in Colombia, February 11 - 15, 2013. The representatives shared their expertise and experience on the development and implementation of training programs for future conservation leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean that promote a holistic and inter-disciplinary approach. Representatives from the graduate programs presented their experience developing and implementing their individual graduate training programs and served on a participatory panel to discuss the importance of capacity building that emphasizes a highly multidisciplinary approach.

FWS: \$225,485 Leveraged Funds: \$346,880

Proposal # LAC 12-045 Grant # F12ACO1089

Master's Degree in Wildlife Conservation in Latin America. In partnership with Universidad Nacional Autónoma (UNA), the existing grant was amended to provide additional funds to support the participation of a UNA professor in the new graduate program curriculum planning and development workshop at the Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA) in conjunction with Wildlife Conservation Society (May 1 - 3, 2013).

FWS: \$3,000 Leveraged Funds: \$0

Proposal # LAC 10-135 Grant # F12AC00665

My Island - My Community. In partnership with PCI-Media Impact, Inc, the existing grant was amended to include continued implementation of the My Island My Community Climate Change Awareness and Adaption program. This will support key Caribbean personnel and provide for regional travel to support the implementation of community action campaigns. The remaining funds will be used to develop and deliver a training module on effective communications and entertainment education via webinar to the Caribbean Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders program.

FWS: \$74,000 Leveraged Funds: \$82,000

Proposal # LAC 11-001 Grant # F11AP00362

Using Caribbean BirdSleuth to Develop a Conservation Constituency. In partnership with the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB). The existing grant was amended to provide salary support for the Executive Director of SCSCB. The Executive Director will focus on project implementation for the West Indian Whistling-Duck and Wetlands Conservation Project, Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival, International Migratory Bird Day, and Caribbean BirdSleuth education program.

FWS: \$62,120 Leveraged Funds: \$0

Proposal # LAC 11-015 Grant # F11AP00361

Support to the Graduate Program in Wildlife Management. In partnership with the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, the existing grant was amended to cover travel costs to Costa Rica to visit the Master's in Conservation Practice program at CATIE and Master's Program at Universidad Nacional Autónoma. The amendment also covers administrative support and a facilitator to conduct a post-visit workshop to develop and implement a certificate program with an emphasis on the human dimensions of conservation into the current Master's program at Universidad Nacional de Cordoba.

FWS: \$19,374 Leveraged Funds: \$0

Proposal # LAC 11-004 Grant # F11AP00363

Strengthening and Expanding the Outreach Program and Integrating Environmental Education into the Cultural School Program in Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. In partnership with the Organización para la Conservación de la Naturaleza y Desarrollo Comunitario, the existing grant was amended to strengthen and solidify the Cynegetic Region II outreach program, the Environmental-Cultural Education School Program (PEACE), and the Ecological Monitoring program for Laguna Lachuá National Park. Specific objectives include: 1) expanding the socialization program to three new regions that are critical ecological corridors for the wildlife of the Lachuá eco-region, 2) securing the reaccreditation and recertification for the PEACE program from the Ministry of Education for a minimum of three years, 3) consulting teachers and educational institutions in the study area on the thematic and pedagogical content of the PEACE manuals before printing and distribution, and 4) continuing the ecological monitoring of key hunted and threatened species.

FWS: \$49,875 Leveraged Funds: \$75, 172

Proposal # LAC 12-026 Grant # F12AC01120

Consolidating the Interdisciplinary Master's Program and Professional Certificate in Biodiversity Conservation at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society, the existing grant was amended to consolidate the development of the interdisciplinary Master's Program and Professional Certificate Program in Biodiversity at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina by providing: (1) salary support for one administrative staff for the two programs; (2) highly specialized training on active teaching and student-centered learning methods to the program instructors; (3) a scholarship fund for up to 18 students; and (4) support for a stakeholder meeting at the end of 2014.

FWS: \$135,747 Leveraged Funds: \$0

Proposal # LAC 11-012 Grant # F11AP00367

Efforts to Expand the Sustainable Development Program to Foster Cotton-top Tamarin Conservation. In partnership with Proyecto Tití. The existing grant was amended to allow Proyecto Titi to expand Titi Ventures, a series of income generating programs, to three new communities that live in close proximity to key forested areas for cotton-top tamarins. Specifically, Proyecto Titi will extend the program to the communities of Colorado, Hobo and Loma de Arena in order to engage at least 20 families in income generating activities.

FWS: \$17,263 Leveraged Funds: \$17,920