



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240

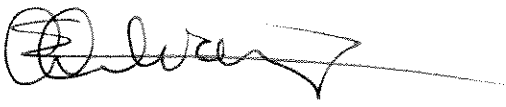


In Reply Refer To:
FWS/ANRS-RE/037836

AUG 11 2008

Memorandum

To: Assistant Director – National Wildlife Refuge System

From: Chief, Division of Realty 

Subject: Land and Water Conservation Fund Fiscal Year 2010 Land Acquisition Priority List

Attached is the Land Acquisition Priority System (LAPS) list for FY 2010. It includes the component scores and cumulative scores for each project. The Service will use these rankings for all purposes associated with the FY 2010 land acquisition budget development process.

The LAPS is a numerical ranking “tool” based on Service trust resources objectives and priorities. We use the list to establish priorities for land acquisition. Numerical scales are assigned to four components (fisheries and aquatic resources, endangered species, migratory birds, and ecosystem conservation) and a project summary. The description of each of the elements is listed below.

The Fishery Programs Populations database was used for the core of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources component. The database provides greater biological resolution associated with the geographic areas which correspond with the U.S. Geological Survey’s four digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC). Each HUC has a list of aquatic species that was validated by the Service’s Fishery Program. Other factors include the status and trends of aquatic populations; species diversity for trust resources, such as anadromous fish; critical habitats, including free flowing rivers; wetland types and trend status; and wetland losses by percent of a state’s historic wetland base.

The Endangered and Threatened Species component focuses on the recovery of species so they can be removed from the Endangered and Threatened Species list. Consideration is given to habitat and biological community integrity as well as species occurrences and the nature of use by the species within the project acquisition boundary.

Avian experts from within the Service and throughout the scientific community developed Bird Conservation Region (BCR) lists. Over 50 BCR lists have been developed for each geographic area. We incorporated these lists into the Bird Conservation component. Emphasis is also placed on the 135 non-game species of



management concern and priority waterfowl species identified in the North American Conservation Act.

The Ecosystem Conservation component incorporates a list of critically endangered, endangered and threatened ecosystems. This component considers biodiversity through distribution and abundance of rare communities; ecosystem decline and protection of native diversity of threatened ecosystems; landscape conservation by preserving large, intact habitats through conservation partnerships; and contributions to national plans and priority designations. Finally, the Project Summary awards points according to the current degree of project completion and is intended to give an additional advantage to nearly completed projects.

Points are awarded in each component to yield a cumulative score for each project and produce a biological profile for each project. Only projects that have completed Decision Documents are ranked in this list.

If you have any questions, please contact Eric Alvarez, Chief, Division of Realty at (703) 358-1713.

Attachment

FY 2010 Land and Water Conservation Fund Project List

Draft Rank	Final 6/13/2008			Component					Total Score
	Project	Region	State	Project Form	Fisheries	End. Species	Bird Cons.	Ecosystem Cons.	
1	Alaska Maritime	7	AK	50	125	182	195	190	742
2	National Key Deer	4	FL	0	147	200	179	200	726
3	St. Marks	4	FL	25	166	200	129	200	720
4	Silvio O. Conte NWR&FR	5	CT	0	169	200	162	160	691
5	Cache River	4	AR	0	165	200	124	190	679
6	Lower Suwannee	4	FL	0	171	200	132	165	668
7	Laguna Atascosa	2	TX	0	134	180	196	155	665
8	Lower Rio Grande Valley	2	TX	0	125	182	195	150	652
9	Dakota Tallgrass Prairie WMA	6	SD	0	103	161	188	195	647
10	Upper Mississippi River NW&FR	3	IA	10	170	83	198	185	646
11	North Dakota WMA	6	ND	0	137	114	193	200	644
12	Yukon Delta	7	AK	50	158	82	192	155	637
13	Savannah	4	GA	0	154	200	149	130	633
14	Blackwater NWR	5	MD	0	173	200	97	160	630
15	Northern Tallgrass Prairie NWR	3	IA	0	163	176	68	200	607
16	San Joaquin River NWR	8	CA	0	170	182	154	100	606
17	Togiak	7	AK	50	144	78	177	155	604
18	Culebra NWR	4	PR	0	148	200	163	85	596
19	Big Muddy NF&WR	3	MO	0	172	157	87	175	591
20	Cypress Creek NWR	3	IL	0	170	153	100	165	588
21	Charles M Russell NWR	6	MT	50	89	94	149	200	582
22	Chickasaw	4	TN	0	136	190	96	155	577
23	Boyer Chute NWR	3	IA	0	92	180	200	100	572
24	Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin	4	SC	0	160	200	87	125	572
25	Rocky Mountain Front CA	6	MT	0	81	106	185	195	567
26	San Bernard-Austin's Woods	2	TX	0	159	60	191	150	560
27	Edwin B. Forsythe NWR	5	NJ	0	119	104	181	145	549
28	Lower Hatchie	4	TN	0	146	191	96	110	543
29	Ottawa NWR	3	OH	0	161	167	129	85	542
30	Nestucca Bay NWR	1	OR	0	179	91	159	110	539
31	Grasslands WMA	8	CA	0	66	180	167	125	538
32	Nisqually NWR	1	WA	0	164	194	76	100	534
33	Cahaba River	4	AL	50	122	200	74	80	526

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34	Trinity River	2	TX	0	156	112	96	155	519
35	Waccamaw	4	SC	0	153	154	62	140	509
36	Prime Hook NWR	5	DE	25	162	72	184	65	508
37	Bon Secour	4	AL	0	132	200	96	75	503
38	Balcones Canyonlands	2	TX	0	87	200	75	140	502
39	Cape May NWR	5	NJ	0	131	82	169	120	502
40	Yukon Flats	7	AK	50	122	2	164	155	493
41	Rachel Carson NWR	5	ME	0	159	95	154	85	493
42	Red Rock Lakes	6	MT	0	104	75	113	200	492
43	San Diego NWR	8	CA	0	30	190	99	170	489
44	Port Louisa NWR	3	IA	0	180	99	94	105	478
45	Meredosia	3	IL	0	182	66	83	140	471
46	Ozark Plateau	2	OK	0	95	200	43	130	468
47	Willapa NWR	1	WA	25	121	100	159	60	465
48	Middle Mississippi River NWR	3	MO	0	188	93	69	115	465
49	Ohio River Islands NWR	5	PA	0	133	105	136	90	464
50	Crystal River	4	FL	0	151	174	72	65	462
51	Driftless Area NWR	3	IA	0	143	200	43	75	461
52	Emiquon NWR	3	IL	0	182	66	85	125	458
53	Buenos Aires	2	AZ	25	13	200	114	105	457
54	Okefenokee NWR Okefenokee NW	4	GA	0	63	118	69	190	440
55	Upper Ouachita	4	LA	0	157	57	90	135	439
56	Cat Island	4	LA	0	129	129	68	110	436
57	Alligator River NWR	4	NC	0	124	86	80	145	435
58	Blackfoot Valley WMA	6	MT	0	96	102	71	165	434
59	Clarks River	4	KY	0	131	133	89	80	433
60	Little River	2	OK	25	109	111	56	125	426
61	Great River NWR	3	IL	0	155	92	72	100	419
62	Lake Wales Ridge	4	FL	0	21	191	51	155	418
63	Back Bay NWR	5	VA	0	136	83	91	105	415
64	Eastern Shore of VA NWR	5	VA	0	110	54	185	65	414
65	Colorado River WMA	6	CO	0	107	116	123	65	411
66	Red River	4	LA	0	146	67	96	100	409

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67	Sacramento River NWR	8	CA	0	173	118	36	75	402
68	Minnesota Valley NWR	3	MN	0	152	18	75	155	400
69	Tensas River	4	LA	0	149	38	65	140	392
70	Panther Swamp NWR	4	MS	10	67	115	98	100	390
71	Bombay Hook NWR	5	DE	0	167	5	184	30	386
72	Attwater Prairie Chicken	2	TX	0	20	200	75	90	385
73	Bitter Lake	2	NM	0	23	200	75	80	378
74	Stewart B. McKinney NWR	5	CT	0	142	69	87	80	378
75	Patoka River NWR	3	IN	0	135	70	71	100	376
76	Stone Lakes NWR	8	CA	0	86	127	48	110	371
77	James Campbell NWR	1	HI	50	123	154	30	10	367
78	Sevilleta	2	NM	50	90	65	49	110	364
79	Petit Manan NWR	5	ME	0	149	44	124	45	362
80	Tualatin River NWR	1	OR	0	137	50	95	75	357
81	Detroit River IWR	3	MI	0	142	29	84	95	350
82	Black Bayou Lake	4	LA	0	108	58	89	90	345
83	Kilauea Point NWR	1	HI	0	147	159	31	5	342
84	Rappahannock NWR	5	VA	0	137	51	57	95	340
85	Canaan Valley NWR	5	WV	0	55	66	52	165	338
86	Rainwater Basin WMD	6	NE	25	26	57	149	70	327
87	Neches River NWR	2	TX	0	127	35	64	100	326
88	Ridgefield NWR	1	WA	10	66	69	130	50	325
89	Bosque del Apache	2	NM	25	90	49	69	90	323
90	Cabo Rojo NWR	4	PR	0	28	185	63	35	311
91	San Bernardino	2	AZ	0	15	116	67	90	288
92	Lake Umbagog NWR	5	ME	0	85	17	65	120	287
93	Hart Mountain National Antelope Refu	1	OR	50	39	10	45	140	284
94	Sheldon NWR	1	OR	50	39	20	33	140	282
95	John H. Chafee NWR	5	RI	0	142	48	58	30	278
96	Ninigret NWR	5	RI	0	113	54	65	40	272
97	James River NWR	5	VA	25	134	17	51	45	272
98	Moosehorn NWR	5	ME	10	120	31	44	65	270
99	Trustom Pond NWR	5	RI	0	118	54	63	35	270

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100	Glacial Ridge NWR	3	MN	0	74	29	69	95	267
101	Great Swamp NWR	5	NJ	10	74	53	64	60	261
102	Walkkill River NWR	5	NY	0	46	34	70	110	260
103	Montezuma NWR	5	NY	0	57	6	131	50	244
104	Deep Fork	2	OK	0	98	43	76	25	242
105	Turnbull NWR	1	WA	0	52	39	38	105	234
106	Cokeville Meadows NWR	6	WY	0	39	30	64	100	233
107	Bear River MBR	6	UT	0	20	0	103	100	223
108	Arapaho NWR	6	CO	10	19	22	59	110	220
109	Conboy Lake NWR	1	WA	0	49	5	35	20	109