

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Annual Report of Lands Under Control of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

*As of September 30, 2013*



**On the Cover:**

*“Bobcat on Rail,” taken by Steve Gifford, a volunteer at the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge in Indiana.*

**Annual Photo Contest**

The winner of the Annual Photo Contest for FY 2013 is Steve Gifford, USFWS Volunteer. He took the winning photo, shown on the cover of this Annual Report of Lands, of a bobcat walking across newly acquired lands at the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge in Indiana.

Several other noteworthy photo submissions can be seen throughout the pages of this Annual Report.

Information on the Annual Photo Contest for FY 2014 will be available on the Service's website:

[www.fws.gov/refuges/realty/contest.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/realty/contest.html).



# Table of Contents

Message from the Secretary .....	4
Message from the Director .....	5
All Lands Under Control of the Fish and Wildlife Service.....	6
Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions in Fiscal Year 2013 .....	7
A Closer Look at Service Land Acquisition.....	8
Urban Refuges.....	10
Prairie Potholes and Waterfowl Production Areas .....	12
Working with Partners to Conserve Habitat .....	14
Map of the Refuge System .....	16
Conservation Easements and Working Landscapes.....	18
Protecting Habitat for Migratory Birds and Waterfowl.....	20
Protecting Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species .....	22
Crown of the Continent.....	24
Statistical Data Tables .....	25



Ottawa NWR, Ohio

Jason Lewis/USFWS



# Message from the Secretary



*Sally Jewell,  
Secretary of the Interior*

On accepting the position of Secretary of the Interior in 2013, I recognized that there is no higher calling than public service. That is especially true when such public service brings the opportunity to enhance the conservation legacy of this great nation. We have the opportunity to make a difference on some of the defining issues of our time: addressing climate change, moving our country toward energy independence, honoring our nation's proud conservation legacy, and fulfilling our sacred obligations to tribes. Promoting the value of our public lands is part of all these issues. Public lands represent our shared American heritage, and a commitment to future generations of Americans.

The American character has been molded by its connections with the land. Our wildlife refuges and our public lands are uniquely ours, uniquely American. They are the places we go with our families to recreate, to seek beauty, or to find solitude. They are our watersheds, our wildlife habitat, and our economic engines. They are our sources of pride and history; they're where our diverse stories are celebrated. That spirit is embodied in the National Wildlife Refuge System, which today encompasses more than 150 million acres, protecting our public lands and waters, a priceless gift, the heritage of a wild America.

Last year, President Obama invoked Aldo Leopold as he reminded us that conservation is “not just about doing nothing; it's about doing something affirmative to make sure that we are passing on this incredible blessing that we have.”

During my time at Interior, we will always take the long view, and we will always, always keep in mind that public lands are a trust, one that we manage for generations to come. That's why I issued my first Secretarial Order to ensure that whenever our public lands or resources are impacted by development, that we also consider how to mitigate those impacts at a landscape level through

strategic habitat conservation and restoration.

When it comes to conservation, I can't stress enough how important it is to engage the hearts and minds of the next generation in understanding and being stewards of our public lands. With nearly 80 percent of our population living in cities – places where open spaces are few and far between – expanding our urban parks and partnerships is critical. From enhancing partnerships to creating opportunities for outdoor recreation for young people, to public lands providing unique outdoor educational opportunities to the nation's students, and finally to developing the next generation of stewards of our public lands, Interior and other federal land management agencies must provide work and training opportunities to young people.

We continue to move ahead in fulfilling our mission at the Department of the Interior. As stewards of our public lands, waters, and wildlife, in partnership with tribal nations, states, and stakeholders, we will meet the needs of the present generation without sacrificing the rich legacy we pass on to our children and grandchildren. This is our commitment to all Americans and my personal commitment to you.



# Message from the Director



*Dan Ashe,  
Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

The establishment of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge in Illinois epitomizes the strength of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of public lands and waters that not only protects the very foundation of our Nation, but also moves people to act on behalf of conservation. Citizens across the communities surrounding Hackmatack worked for years to make this wildlife refuge a reality. Those citizens well understood the tangible and intangible benefits of a wildlife refuge, and I am proud of my role as Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service in making those dreams come true.

We did more than establish one new wildlife refuge in fiscal year 2013; we also added more than 245,000 acres to 80 wildlife refuges and more than 73,000 acres to 26 wetland management districts in 41 states.

In 2013, the crisis in the Prairie Pothole Region—America’s “duck factory”—escalated as rising agricultural commodity prices led to increased conversion of wildlife habitat to cropland. The Service did not merely stand idly by while the region that produces more than half the continent’s waterfowl faced the threat of falling under the plow. Instead, we increased land acquisition funding to the Region, and protected more than 97,000 acres.

The National Wildlife Refuge System—with a presence in every state and U.S. territory—is so much more than lands and waters conserved on behalf of wildlife. It also contributes an average \$4.87 in total economic output for every \$1 appropriated. It offers some of the world’s best hunting, fishing, and other wildlife recreation, and it brings a chance for individuals and families to experience the solitude and beauty of the natural world.

As we look to the future, the Service will work to conserve landscapes of self-sustaining fish, wildlife, and plant populations as we enhance the legacy of those who founded the National Wildlife

Refuge System in 1903. Those founders represented an emerging consciousness about the value of things wild and free. Today, we are equally committed to conserving wildlife habitat on public lands that we hold in trust for all Americans.



# All Lands Under Control of the Fish and Wildlife Service



Copyrighted by Trinchera Ranch

*Sangre de Cristo Conservation Area, Colorado*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages over 307 million acres of lands and waters. In addition to managing the 150,264,225-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, the Service co-manages 156,987,800 acres of submerged lands and waters, mostly as part of marine national monuments.

The National Wildlife Refuge System is the world's most extensive network of public lands and waters dedicated to the conservation of wildlife. As of September 30th, 2013, it was comprised of 561 national wildlife refuges, 209 waterfowl production area counties, and 50 coordination areas.

National wildlife refuges include wildlife refuges, wildlife ranges, wildlife management areas, game preserves, and conservation areas, and account for

146,294,114 acres of lands, waters, and interests in land administered by the Service.

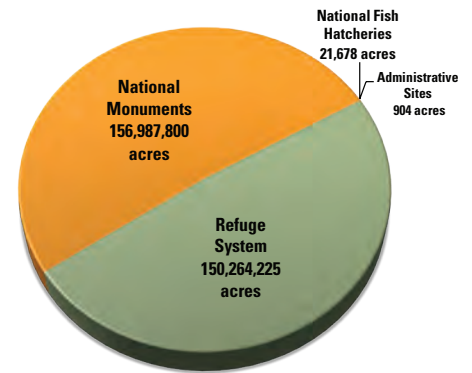
Waterfowl production areas are small, natural wetlands and associated grasslands acquired primarily under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act. The 3,712,623 acres of waterfowl production areas are reported by county and are usually administered by one of the Service's 38 wetland management districts.

Coordination areas account for 257,488 acres of federal land that States manage as wildlife habitat under cooperative agreements.

The marine national monuments include Marianas Trench, Pacific Remote Islands,

Papahānaumokuākea, and Rose Atoll. These monuments together encompass more than 211 million acres, of which the Service manages approximately 8,000 surface acres and 54 million submerged acres as part of the Refuge System. The Service co-manages the remaining 157 million acres with the Department of Commerce and/or the State of Hawaii.

**Summary of All Service Lands**



## Summary of All Service Lands

Category and Unit Counts	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS								EASEMENTS			AGREEMENT OR LEASE	TOTAL ACRES		
	Reserved from Public Domain		Designated as Marine National Monuments	Acquired by Other Federal Agency		Purchased by FWS		Donated	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS					
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction		Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost(\$)			Acres	Cost(\$)				
National Wildlife Refuges	561	81,368,679.96	597,891.12	52,819,352.00	3,537,680.22	928,254.15	4,476,682.05	\$2,245,325,461.74	797,598.66	86,775.01	546,715.32	\$206,695,055.52	390,980.22	743,505.71	146,294,114.42
Waterfowl Production Areas	209	15,897.64	0.00	0.00	27,974.05	0.00	711,294.37	\$257,992,882.49	22,022.83	76,377.83	2,584,820.42	\$315,218,996.92	272,675.35	1,560.03	3,712,622.52
Coordination Areas	50	56,586.61	0.00	0.00	139,252.89	55,739.14	5,711.29	\$751,677.00	25.00	173.50	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	257,488.43
<b>Total within Refuge System</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>81,441,164.21</b>	<b>597,891.12</b>	<b>52,819,352.00</b>	<b>3,704,907.16</b>	<b>983,993.29</b>	<b>5,193,687.71</b>	<b>\$2,504,070,021.23</b>	<b>819,646.49</b>	<b>163,326.34</b>	<b>3,131,535.74</b>	<b>\$521,914,052.44</b>	<b>663,655.57</b>	<b>745,065.74</b>	<b>150,264,225.37</b>
Administrative Sites	42	53.00	0.00	0.00	8.57	0.00	734.25	\$13,167,374.05	32.90	6.22	0.50	\$1,030,000.00	4.89	63.97	904.30
National Fish Hatcheries	70	3,607.09	987.09	0.00	2,421.26	3,662.06	5,438.66	\$3,667,689.59	1,359.64	176.04	509.23	\$246,836.06	3,184.51	332.71	21,678.29
National Monuments	6	0.00	0.00	156,954,835.00	0.00	32,965.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	156,987,800.00
<b>Total outside Refuge System</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>3,660.09</b>	<b>987.09</b>	<b>156,954,835.00</b>	<b>2,429.83</b>	<b>36,627.06</b>	<b>6,172.91</b>	<b>\$16,835,063.64</b>	<b>1,392.54</b>	<b>182.26</b>	<b>509.73</b>	<b>\$1,276,836.06</b>	<b>3,189.40</b>	<b>396.68</b>	<b>157,010,382.59</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>81,444,824.30</b>	<b>598,878.21</b>	<b>209,774,187.00</b>	<b>3,707,336.99</b>	<b>1,020,620.35</b>	<b>5,199,860.62</b>	<b>\$2,520,905,084.87</b>	<b>821,039.03</b>	<b>163,508.60</b>	<b>3,132,045.47</b>	<b>\$523,190,888.50</b>	<b>666,844.97</b>	<b>745,462.42</b>	<b>307,274,607.96</b>



# Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions in Fiscal Year 2013



Amber Ball/USFWS Volunteer

*Patoka River NWR, Indiana*

In FY 2013, the Service added 245,334 acres to the National Wildlife Refuge System, including 52,825 fee acres and 192,359 easement acres. These acres were added to 80 national wildlife refuges and 76 waterfowl production area counties in 26 wetland management districts, spanning 41 states.

Of these conserved lands, the Service purchased 52,488 fee acres and 85,606 easement acres. The Service received donations of 3,528 fee acres and 106,753 easement acres from partners and citizens interested in conserving wildlife habitat and providing public sources of wildlife-dependent outdoor recreation.

For a full list of FY 2013 acquisitions, please see the Table on page 26 and Table 2 in the Appendix of Statistical Data Tables for Lands Under Control of the Fish and Wildlife Service, which is available on the Service's web site: [www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html).

### Newly Established Refuge

In FY 2013, the Service established **Hackmatack NWR** in southeastern Wisconsin and northeastern Illinois. The first acquisition was the donation of a 13.55-acre conservation easement to the Service by Openlands, with the help of the Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge and the McHenry County Conservation Fund.

Hackmatack NWR will help connect the disparate dots of conserved land in southeast Wisconsin and northeast Illinois into a cohesive picture of landscape-level conservation. The new refuge forms the nucleus of a regional conservation identity. Conservation organizations across the Greater Chicago metropolitan area have worked to identify key lands for conservation, open space, and greenways, that will provide a way to connect urban and suburban residents with nature. Establishing this refuge provides an anchor for this important conservation and environmental education initiative.

## Summary of Service Acquisitions in FY 2013

Category	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS					EASEMENTS			AGREEMENT OR LEASE	TOTAL ACRES
	Reserved from Public Domain	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS		Donated	Purchased by FWS		Donated		
			Acres	Cost (\$)		Acres	Cost (\$)			
National Wildlife Refuges	0.00	-3,175.88	51,910.24	\$36,055,903.95	1,755.66	30,440.54	\$19,365,202.00	90,802.18	150.29	171,883.03
Waterfowl Production Areas	0.00	0.00	562.51	\$2,862,975.00	1,772.03	55,165.23	\$39,147,178.00	15,950.97	0.00	73,450.74
<b>Total of Refuge System</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-3,175.88</b>	<b>52,472.75</b>	<b>\$38,918,878.95</b>	<b>3,527.69</b>	<b>85,605.77</b>	<b>\$58,512,380.00</b>	<b>106,753.15</b>	<b>150.29</b>	<b>245,333.77</b>
Administrative Sites	0.00	0.00	2.00	\$115,000.00	31.29	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	33.29
National Fish Hatcheries	0.00	0.00	13.60	\$130,000.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	13.60
<b>Total outside Refuge System</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>15.60</b>	<b>\$245,000.00</b>	<b>31.29</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>46.89</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-3,175.88</b>	<b>52,488.35</b>	<b>\$39,163,878.95</b>	<b>3,558.98</b>	<b>85,605.77</b>	<b>\$58,512,380.00</b>	<b>106,753.15</b>	<b>150.29</b>	<b>245,380.66</b>

*These averages include partial land value donations, where landowners chose to sell their lands to the Service below appraised value.*



# A Closer Look at Service Land Acquisition



*Montezuma NWR, New York*

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 provides clear direction to the Service to “plan and direct the continued growth of the System in a manner that is best designed to accomplish the mission of the System, to contribute to the conservation of the ecosystems of the United States, to complement efforts of States and other Federal agencies to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats, and to increase support for the System and participation from conservation partners and the public.”

The Service strategically grows the Refuge System through land and easement acquisition when other means of achieving its conservation mission, such as zoning or regulation, are not appropriate, available, or effective. The Service acquires the minimum interest in land necessary to meet management objectives, which include conserving or protecting migratory birds, endangered species, nationally significant wildlife habitat, nationally significant wetlands, nationally significant fisheries resources, and biodiversity, and providing education, interpretation, and wildlife-oriented public recreation on urban refuges.

The Service acquires new wildlife habitat from willing sellers under the authorities of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act, the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, and the Refuge Recreation Act.

## **Funding for Habitat Protection**

Habitat protection for the Refuge System is primarily funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund. In FY 2013, these two funds accounted for more 93% of all expenditures to protect new habitat for the Refuge System.

Congress created the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** in 1965 to provide money for outdoor recreation projects and land acquisition by federal agencies. Today, it is the largest source of federal money for parks, wildlife refuges, and open space land acquisition. The Fund is authorized to receive up to \$900 million annually, primarily from receipts for oil and gas drilling leases on the Outer Continental Shelf. Each year, the Administration requests a portion of

these funds to protect habitat in national wildlife refuges.

The Service has used LWCF funds to establish more than 90 wildlife refuges, including one-third of all national wildlife refuges established since 1967. Since 1967, the Service has spent \$1.5 billion in LWCF to protect more than 1.5 million acres of wildlife habitat in 306 wildlife refuges spanning all 50 states and the territories of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Minor Outlying Islands. Since its inception, LWCF has accounted for 63% of all funds used to protect lands in refuges.

Congress created the **Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF)** in 1934 to protect waterfowl habitat in major migratory bird conservation areas. Under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, the Service also uses the MBCF to protect small natural wetlands, known as waterfowl production areas, in the Prairie Pothole Region. The MBCF receives proceeds from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps and from import duties collected on foreign-manufactured arms and ammunition, as provided for under





Copyright Douglas Racine

the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986. As a receipt account, the MBCF does not require an annual Congressional appropriation. However, MBCF purchases for national wildlife refuges must be approved in advance by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, which consists of four Congressional members and the heads of three federal agencies.

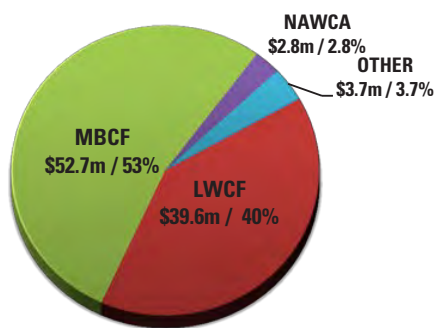
Since 1934, the Service has used MBCF dollars, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, to establish more than 120 of its existing national wildlife refuges. In all, the Service has spent more than \$1.2 billion in MBCF to permanently protect more than 5.5 million acres of important waterfowl habitat in 246 national wildlife refuges and 206 waterfowl production area counties across 45 states. In the Prairie Pothole Region alone, the Service has protected nearly 3.2 million acres of waterfowl habitat.

**North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA)** funding has accounted for about \$2.8 million, or about 2.8%, of Service expenditures to conserve habitat for the Refuge System

in FY 2013. NAWCA grants are funded by general appropriations (federal tax revenue), interest earned on various federal accounts, federal excise taxes on small gasoline engines, and Migratory Bird Treaty Act fines.

Historically, other sources of funding for new wildlife habitat included the **Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA)** and the **Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA)**. FLTFA provided funding for acquisition of new wildlife habitat using revenues generated from sales of federal lands that were authorized for disposal under the Federal Land Policy Management Act. SNPLMA allows the U.S. Government to sell federal land around Las Vegas, Nevada, with a portion of the proceeds going toward land acquisition for refuges and parks, as well as conservation initiatives and restoration projects. Other sources of funds include the **Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund** and funds contributed by non-governmental organizations and private citizens to protect wildlife habitat.

**Sources of Funding Land and Easement Purchases in FY 2013**





# Urban Refuges



Manisa Rodriguez-McGill/USFWS

*Valle de Oro NWR, New Mexico*

Over 70 national wildlife refuges are located within five miles of an urban population center. Each of these urban refuges supports the Service's important urban wildlife refuge initiative to "Connect People with Nature." Urban refuges offer unique environmental education and recreation opportunities in highly populated areas, while promoting the mission of the Refuge System to protect wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. In an effort to enable the Service to fulfill the goals of working with community partners to establish a 21st century conservation ethic, and reconnecting people—especially young people—to the natural world, the Service acquired land at the following urban refuges during FY 2013:

## **Tualatin River NWR, Oregon**

The Service acquired 23 acres in the Wapato Lake Unit of the Tualatin River NWR, located outside of Portland, Oregon. This acquisition secured one of the last remaining private tracts within the lakebed of Wapato Lake. The unit is already an important migration and wintering area within the Pacific Flyway and has historically supported a large percentage of Oregon's wintering

population of tundra swans and breeding habitat for neotropical migratory birds. The Refuge is home to nearly 200 avian species, over 50 species of mammals, 25 species of reptiles and amphibians, and a wide variety of insects, fish, and plants. For the last 70 years, these lands have been extensively farmed and irrigated using an aging system of ditches and levees.

Located along an urban transportation corridor, this unit not only provides significant restoration opportunities, but also educational opportunities, as visitors and partners can easily access the property. Made possible by the local community's vision and support, a wildlife refuge now thrives in the backyard of a growing metropolis.

## **Valle de Oro NWR, New Mexico**

Valle de Oro NWR, the Southwest's first urban refuge, will serve as an urban oasis—for both wildlife and people—on a former dairy farm just a few miles south of Albuquerque, New Mexico's largest metropolitan area. Through the EPA's Urban Waters program, Valle de Oro was recognized as part of key conservation and restoration projects along the Rio Grande. The refuge will serve to enhance

the river corridor and bring the Rio Grande into the daily lives of the citizens of Albuquerque.

In FY 2013, with assistance from The Trust for Public Land, the Service purchased an important 41-acre tract at Valle de Oro NWR, and acquired associated water rights. The Service is working with the State of New Mexico, The Trust for Public Land, Friends of Valle de Oro NWR, and other partners to acquire the final 139 acres within the approved acquisition boundary.

## **Great Meadows NWR, Massachusetts**

The Service acquired 1.2 acres of high priority habitat along the Sudbury River in Great Meadows NWR, just outside of Boston. This refuge was established to provide nesting, resting, and feeding habitat for migratory birds. Roughly 85% of the refuge's 3,600 acres is comprised of valuable freshwater wetlands. More than 220 species of birds have been recorded at the refuge. Several species of waterfowl, including mallards, black ducks, wood ducks, and blue-winged teal, nest here. White-tailed deer, muskrats, red fox, raccoons, cottontail rabbits, weasels, beaver, squirrels, and a variety of small mammals are common, while fisher and otter are found in the refuge's



rivers, wetlands, fields, and woods. During the warmer months, many species of amphibians and reptiles can be seen on the refuge.

### **Rocky Flats NWR, Colorado**

In a complex land exchange involving the Colorado State Land Board and the Jefferson Parkway Highway Authority, the Service added the surface estate of 617 acres to Rocky Flats NWR, located on the northwest edge of the Denver metropolitan area. In exchange, the Service conveyed a 300-foot strip of land previously designated for future transportation improvements. The transaction permanently protects rare xeric tallgrass prairie, upland shrubland, wetlands, high-quality riparian habitat, and critical habitat for the threatened Preble's meadow jumping mouse. This acquisition also connects the refuge with existing public open space to the west, providing a nearly continuous corridor for continued seasonal animal migration.

This transaction was made possible through the collaborative efforts of private parties and local government entities, including Jefferson County, Boulder County, the City of Boulder, the City of Arvada, Colorado Natural Resource Trustees, the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

### **San Diego NWR, California**

The Service acquired over 375 acres at San Diego NWR, including a generous 359-acre donation. Located near a densely developed area, this refuge is the cornerstone of conservation efforts by partners and cooperators with the State of California Natural Communities Conservation Planning Program and the regional Multiple Species Conservation Plan. The refuge provides key habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, Quino checkerspot butterfly, and Otay tarplant, among other listed or sensitive species. The area has also been designated a Globally Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy.



*Rocky Flats NWR, Colorado*

Meg VanNess\USFWS



*San Diego NWR, California*

Jill Terp\USFWS



# Prairie Potholes and Waterfowl Production Areas

## *Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota*

The **Prairie Pothole Region** of North America was once the largest expanse of grasslands and small wetlands on earth. This Region once extended from central Iowa through Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Montana, and into Canada. The area was covered with small wetlands, called prairie potholes, that were created when glaciers advanced and retreated over the area.

These small wetlands and grasslands, aquatic plants, and the invertebrates associated with them, provide the elements for an ideal nursery for waterfowl. For this reason, the Prairie Pothole Region has long been called the “duck factory” of North America.

Although more than half the potholes have been drained and converted to agricultural use, the Region still produces 50% of the breeding duck populations in the United States.

Recent increases in commodity prices have led a growing number of landowners to convert their grasslands and wetlands into cropland. Such large-scale land use changes are expanding rapidly into formerly secure grassland-wetland complexes and threatening this vital ecosystem. Mallard, gadwall, blue-winged teal, northern shoveler, northern pintail, redhead, and canvasback ducks and other waterfowl in North America’s Central Flyway depend on these grasslands and wetlands for breeding habitat.

The Service is undertaking a landscape-scale, strategic habitat conservation effort to preserve this unique, highly diverse, and endangered ecosystem.

One effective technique to conserve the remaining wetlands and grasslands of the Prairie Pothole Region is to work with private landowners to conserve critical resources while still allowing them to earn a living on their property. The Service’s **Small Wetlands Acquisition Program (SWAP)** acquires from landowners minimally restrictive conservation easements that maintain

a working agricultural landscape while protecting resources. Through the SWAP, the Service purchases grassland and/or wetland easements from willing sellers in **waterfowl production areas** using proceeds from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps and import duties collected on arms and ammunition. Waterfowl production areas acquired through the SWAP are managed by staff in the Service’s 38 wetland management districts.

Grassland easements restrict landowners from converting grassland to cropland, and delay haying until after July 15. These easements do not restrict grazing. Wetland easements restrict landowners from draining, filling, leveling, or burning a wetland basin, while farming, grazing, and haying are allowed.

These wetland and grassland easements permanently protect habitat, but the landowner retains ownership and most property rights, including the right of access.

These easements not only preserve ranching and livestock operations, but also they conserve the ecological integrity of the wetlands and grasslands by maintaining and enhancing the historical native plants, migratory birds, and other wildlife species.

In FY 2013, the Service conserved nearly 97,042 acres in the Prairie Pothole Region, including 4,880 fee and 92,162 easement acres, at a total cost of \$52 million. These acres include nearly 2,107 fee acres and nearly 71,000 easement acres in waterfowl production areas acquired through the SWAP, as well as over 2,700 fee acres and 21,400 easement acres in national wildlife refuges. Some of these FY 2013 acquisitions included:

### **Dakota Grassland Conservation Area, North Dakota**

The Dakota Grassland CA is part of a landscape-level, strategic habitat conservation effort to conserve populations of migratory birds by protecting the unique, highly diverse,

and important Prairie Pothole Region through easement acquisitions. The objectives are to conserve 240,000 acres of wetlands and 1.7 million acres of grasslands in a 29.6 million-acre area.

Dakota Grassland CA provides critical wetland and grassland habitat for bird and other vertebrate species, including 22 species of shorebirds, 10 species of waterbirds, and 20 species of grassland birds that have been identified as priority species.

In FY 2013, the Service conserved 6,154 acres of habitat in Dakota Grassland CA through the purchase of perpetual grassland easements from willing sellers, adding to the 3,865 acres of grassland and wetland habitat already protected since formal establishment of the conservation area in FY 2011.

### **Sand Lake Wetland Management District, South Dakota**

Sand Lake WMD lies in the James River basin in northeastern South Dakota. This area is in the heart of the Prairie Pothole Region and provides crucial habitat for migratory birds. The area has been designated as a Globally Important Bird Area and a Wetland of International Importance. Species that frequent the area include thousands of waterfowl, white pelicans, Franklin’s gulls, shorebirds, and other colonial nesting birds. Sand Lake WMD also provides excellent habitat for other resident South Dakota species such as ring-necked pheasants and white-tailed deer.

In FY 2013, the Service acquired easements on nearly 13,000 acres of privately owned land within Sand Lake WMD at a total cost of nearly \$6.8 million. Over 307 additional acres were donated to the Service by our conservation partners. This is the largest wetland management district in all of the National Wildlife Refuge System and includes over 596,000 acres protected by conservation easements on private land and over 41,000 additional acres of Service-owned and -managed land.



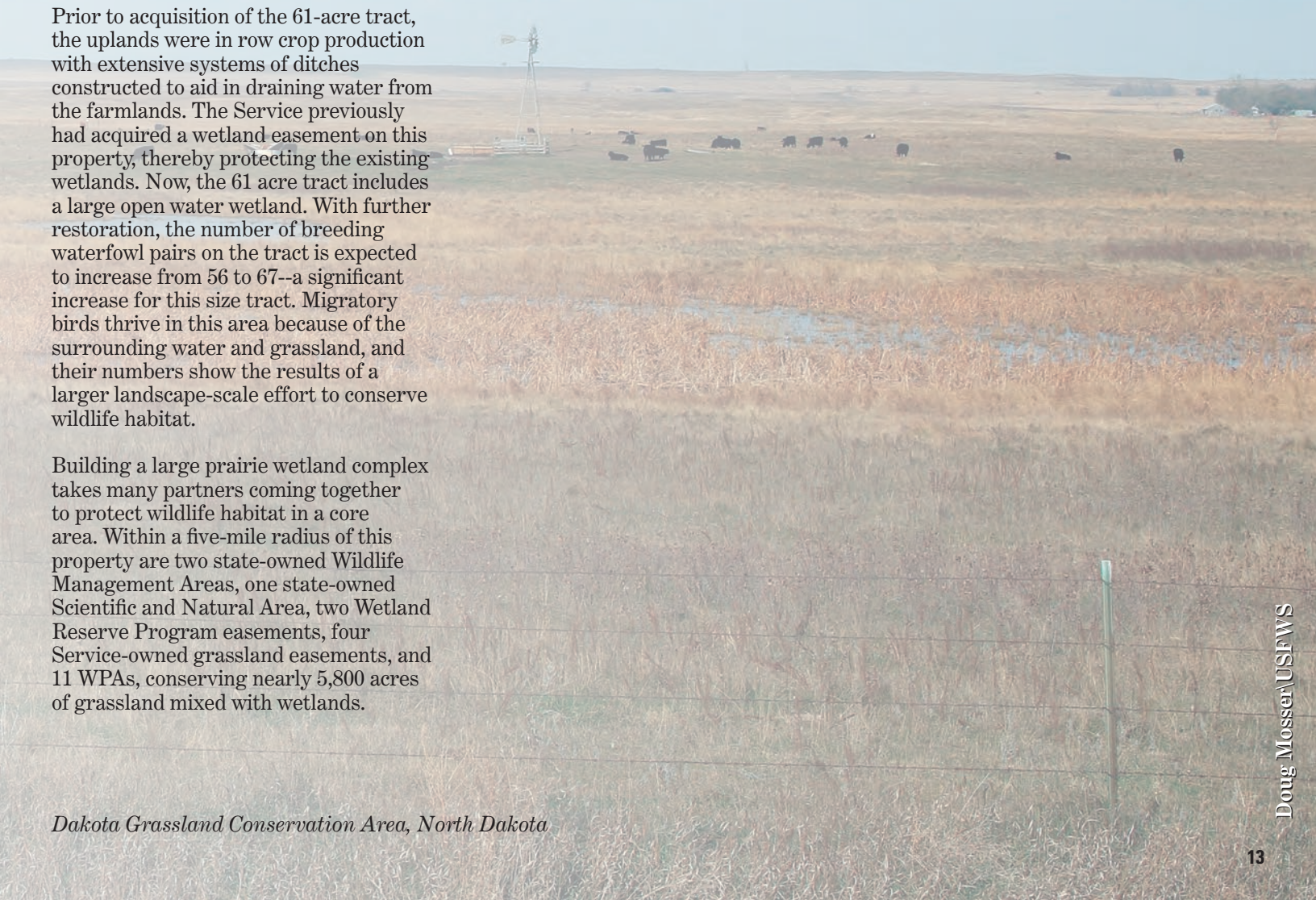
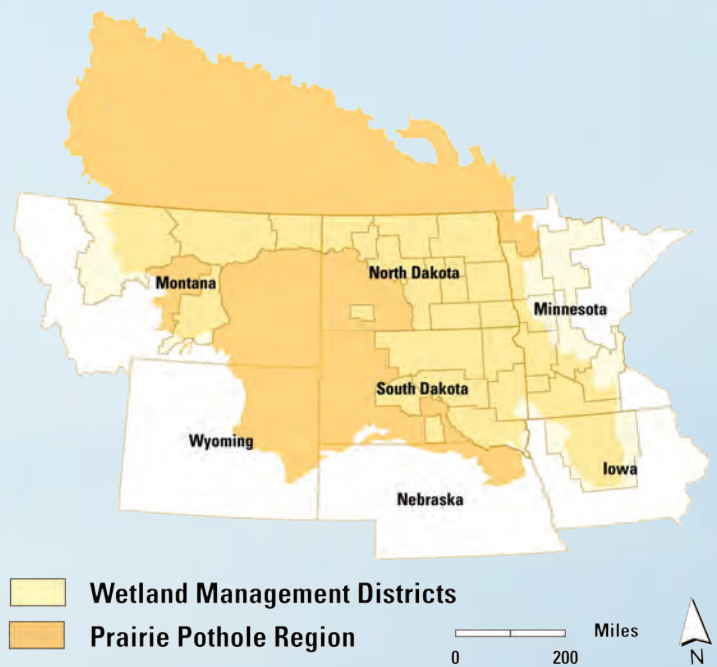
## Whiskey Lake Waterfowl Production Area, Minnesota

In FY 2013, the Service acquired 61 acres of fee title lands through the SWAP in Clay County, Minnesota. The eastern third of the County is a complex upland area consisting of short, uneven slopes with many depressions and natural draws. Slopes in the area can be very steep, with the major drainage systems of the County emptying into the Red River. Historic vegetation in the area was largely tall prairie grasses, wetland reeds and sedges, and stands of trees.

Currently there are many ecological threats to this landscape from row crop farming and gravel mining. However, many small native prairie remnants and oak savannas that were never farmed due to the thin soils still remain. As agricultural commodity prices have risen and the demand for gravel has expanded due to population growth in nearby Fargo, ND, the pressure to disturb these native areas has significantly increased. Protecting any grassland in this landscape, whether native or restored, is of the greatest importance for fulfilling the life cycle needs of the wide array of animals that call this region home.

Prior to acquisition of the 61-acre tract, the uplands were in row crop production with extensive systems of ditches constructed to aid in draining water from the farmlands. The Service previously had acquired a wetland easement on this property, thereby protecting the existing wetlands. Now, the 61 acre tract includes a large open water wetland. With further restoration, the number of breeding waterfowl pairs on the tract is expected to increase from 56 to 67--a significant increase for this size tract. Migratory birds thrive in this area because of the surrounding water and grassland, and their numbers show the results of a larger landscape-scale effort to conserve wildlife habitat.

Building a large prairie wetland complex takes many partners coming together to protect wildlife habitat in a core area. Within a five-mile radius of this property are two state-owned Wildlife Management Areas, one state-owned Scientific and Natural Area, two Wetland Reserve Program easements, four Service-owned grassland easements, and 11 WPAs, conserving nearly 5,800 acres of grassland mixed with wetlands.





# Working with Partners to Conserve Habitat



Roy Lowe\USFWS

## *Nestucca Bay NWR, Oregon*

Without our invaluable partners, the Service would not be able to achieve its conservation mission. The following examples provide a small sampling of the Fiscal Year 2013 acquisition success stories that were made possible by collaboration with our partners.

### **Nestucca Bay NWR, Oregon**

After five years of negotiations, the Service acquired a 102-acre, forested peninsula—located at the confluence of the Nestucca and Little Nestucca Rivers—that was formerly used as a retreat. This acquisition, combined with an earlier acquisition of the 90-acre adjoining property, conserves the entire Two Rivers Peninsula Unit of the refuge. Both acquisitions were accomplished through a tremendous partnership with The Nature Conservancy, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Oregon Department of Transportation, with support from the Oregon Congressional delegation.

The refuge provides wintering habitat for 18% of the world's dusky Canada goose population and supports the entire population of Semidi Islands Aleutian

cackling geese. Neotropical migrants such as western tanager, Wilson's warbler, and black-headed grosbeak make extensive use of the forested habitats on the newly acquired property. Peregrine falcons and bald eagles can be seen year round hunting waterfowl, shorebirds, and nearby nesting seabirds. Mammals that can be seen on the refuge include black-tailed deer, bobcat, mountain lion, and black bear. The Two Rivers Peninsula Unit not only protects valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, but also will greatly expand outdoor recreation opportunities for wildlife enthusiasts and conserve the spectacular viewshed of the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway.

### **Cache River NWR, Arkansas**

At the Cache River NWR in Arkansas, the Service acquired a 719-acre property, made possible largely by steadfast assistance from the National Wildlife Refuge Association. Reforestation efforts on this property will enlarge blocks of existing refuge forest adjoining this tract, and provide important nesting habitat for various neotropical migratory bird species. Several impounded areas

on the tract provide winter and spring-flooded habitat benefiting waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, and a host of amphibian species.

### **Upper Ouachita NWR, Louisiana**

The Upper Ouachita NWR is bisected north to south by the Ouachita River. Northeast of the River lie approximately 7,400 acres within the refuge that were never converted to agriculture and have remained in private ownership. This property has been a high priority for acquisition since the refuge was established in 1978. After working with The Trust for Public Land over the past several years, the Service acquired the first two parcels of this property totaling 1,781 acres, and the rest of the property is under contract for acquisition by the Service. This valued partnership will continue as we work toward acquisition of the remainder of the property.

Management of the property will focus on protecting habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl and providing opportunities for compatible environmental education, interpretation,





Ken Clough/USFWS

*Upper Ouachita NWR, Louisiana*



Amber Ball/USFWS Volunteer

*Patoka River NWR, Indiana*

and wildlife-oriented recreation, including quality hunting and fishing.

**Cherry Valley NWR, Pennsylvania**

The Service added a 90-acre property to the Cherry Valley NWR. Nestled at the foot of the north slope of the Kittatinny Ridge, the property includes a diverse mosaic of habitats, including: hemlock and rhododendron forest; oak-hickory hardwood forested slopes; black cherry and red cedar scrublands; red maple swamp; emergent wetlands; and the riparian corridor of a native trout stream. This variety of habitats in turn supports a wide array of wildlife, including migratory birds along a nationally significant migration route, as well as the threatened bog turtle.

The acquisition of this keystone parcel as part of a landscape-scale effort to preserve bog turtle habitat, habitat continuity, and water quality in the Aquashicola Creek watershed is also noteworthy. The effort is supported by a diverse partnership, including The Nature Conservancy, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the

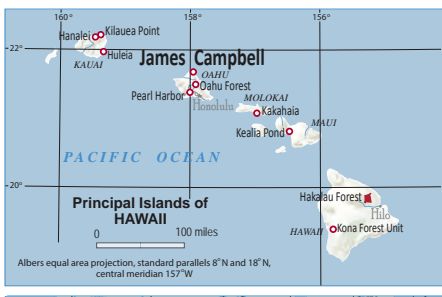
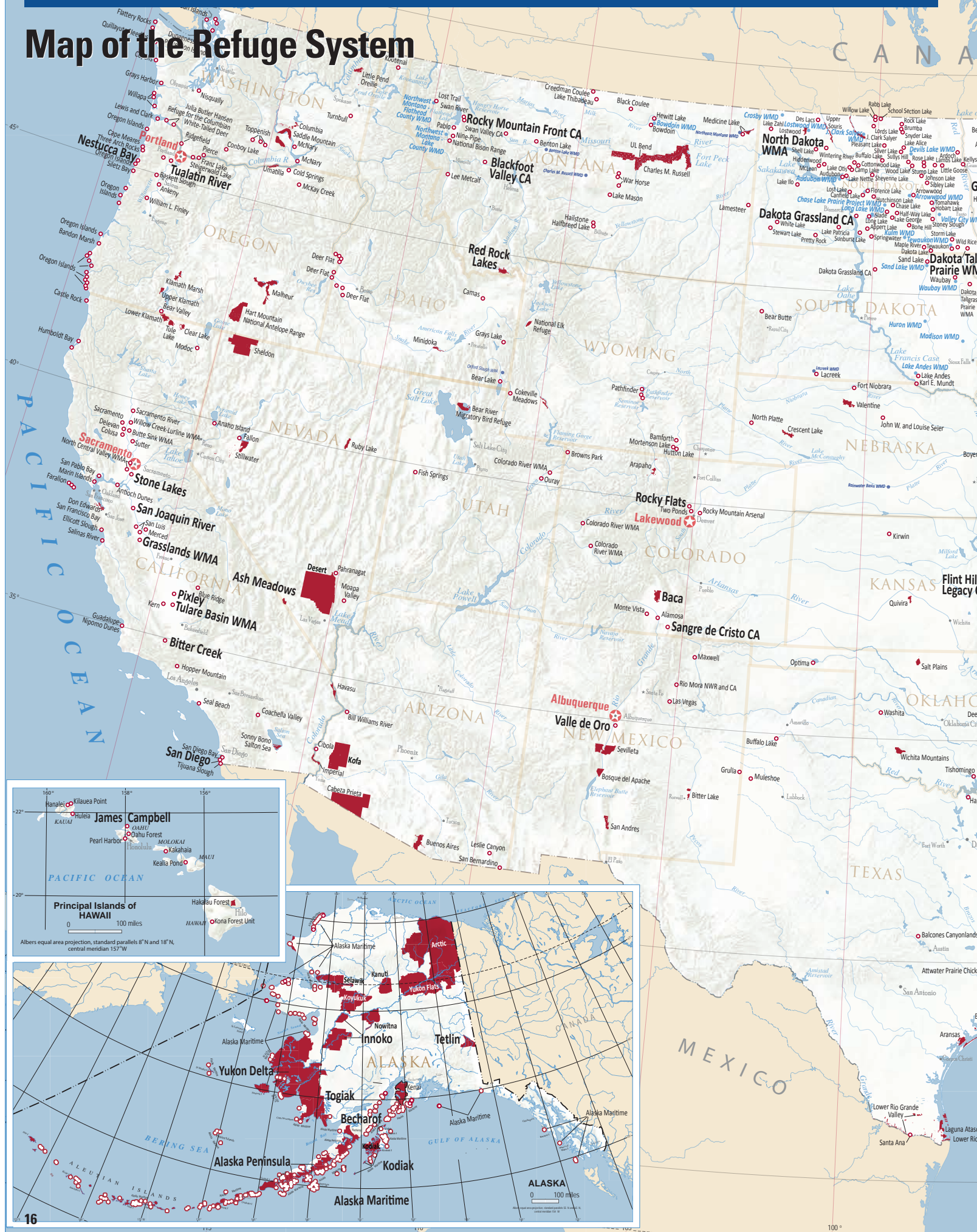
USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Monroe County, private landowners, and others. This year alone, nearly 20 acres of bog turtle habitat were restored on this refuge property, with partner efforts resulting in an additional 50 acres of restored bog turtle habitat on adjacent private lands.

**Patoka River NWR, Indiana**

Patoka River NWR was approved in 1994 as a river bottom refuge in southwest Indiana. Its primary purpose is to protect, restore, and manage wetland habitats to maintain biodiversity and meet the needs of migratory birds and endangered species. The Service added 147 acres to the refuge, including a generous 40-acre donation. The refuge now consists of 8,643 acres.



# Map of the Refuge System







**Refuge Units with FY2013 Acquisitions** ● Baca

**Refuge Units with no FY2013 Acquisitions** ● Washita

**Wetland Management Districts with FY2013 Acquisitions** ● Crosby WMD

**Waterfowl Production Areas with no FY2013 Acquisitions** ● Carlton Pond WMA

**Regional Offices** ★ Portland

*Refuges as shown may contain inholdings.*

**Abbreviations**

CA: Conservation Area  
 MNM: Marine National Monument  
 NFWR: National Fish and Wildlife Refuge  
 PRI & MNM: Pacific Remote Islands and Marine National Monument  
 NWR: National Wildlife and Fish Refuge  
 NWR: National Wildlife Refuge  
 WMA: Wildlife Management Area  
 WMD: Wetland Management District Office  
 WPA: Waterfowl Production Area

**For an interactive map visit: [www.fws.gov/refuges](http://www.fws.gov/refuges)**

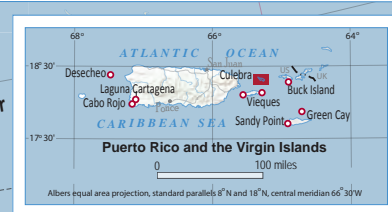
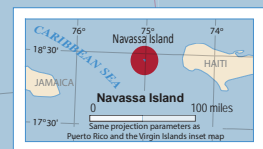
SCALE 1:7,500,000

0 100 200 300 400 MILES

0 100 200 300 400 500 600 KILOMETERS

Albers equal area projection, standard parallels 29°30'N and 45°30'N, central meridian 96°W

Produced in the Division of Realty, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 Base Map Source: U.S. Geological Survey  
 12-17-2013





# Conservation Easements and Working Landscapes

## *Protecting Habitat and Working Lands*



Jack Bohannon\USFWS

### *Flint Hills Legacy Conservation Area, Kansas*

Conservation easements are voluntary legal agreements that typically limit subdivision and development activities, but allow for continued residential and agricultural uses on a property. Unlike with fee title acquisition, landowners retain possession and most property rights when they enter into an easement agreement. The Service's operations and maintenance costs for easements are minimal because the landowner retains responsibility for management of the land. Further, properties with easements remain on local tax rolls. Easements are particularly useful when there are multiple, refuge-compatible uses for a property.

The Service's conservation easements include wetland, grassland, and habitat easements. Wetland easements are permanent agreements in which a landowner receives payment in exchange for agreeing not to drain, fill, level, or burn wetlands. Grassland easements are permanent agreements in which a landowner receives payment in exchange for agreeing to keep their land in grass. Grassland easements allow grazing, but landowners agree not to mow, hay, or harvest grass seed until after July 15

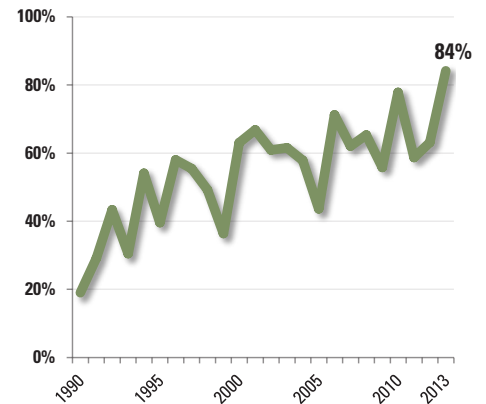
each year. Habitat easements incorporate the terms of both wetland and grassland easements into a single agreement.

Easement acquisition exemplifies our partnership with private landowners to support working lands while conserving large, biologically diverse landscapes.

#### **Increased Use of Conservation Easements**

The Service's acquisition of easements, as a percentage of new lands protected, has increased steadily over the past 20 years. Between 1990 and 1999, easements accounted for 25 percent of total acres protected and 43 percent of acres protected through purchase. Between 2000 and 2009, easements accounted for 29 percent of acres protected and 60 percent of acres protected through purchase. Since 2010, easements have accounted for 67 percent of acres protected and nearly 71 percent of acres protected through purchase. The Service now manages 129 refuges with conservation easements, including 70 refuges on which easements are the exclusive or primary method of protecting new habitat.

#### **Easements as a Percentage of Acres Purchased, 1990-2013**



Conservation easements are now the Service's primary tool to prevent the fragmentation of landscapes. During FY 2013, the Service protected over 192,358 acres of habitat through conservation easements, including acquisitions at the following conservation areas and national wildlife refuges:

#### **Flint Hills Legacy Conservation Area, Kansas**

The Flint Hills Legacy CA was established in September 2011. The Service, in conjunction with the Kansas



Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, various private landowners, and other important partners, created the conservation area for the purpose of protecting some of the last remaining tallgrass prairie in the nation. Less than 4% of the country's tallgrass prairie is still intact, and over 80% lies within the Flint Hills of eastern Kansas and northeastern Oklahoma. The grassland birds who call the Flint Hills home are the fastest declining group of avians in North America.

FY 2013 marked the land acquisition program's first purchase of a conservation easement: 2,158 acres of contiguous tallgrass prairie in Chase County, Kansas. The landowner, who had exhibited tremendous stewardship in his efforts to reduce woody vegetation on this land, generously donated the remaining 286.8 acres to the Service. The property is dominated by big bluestem, little bluestem, and Indian grass.

The Service is working with partners to protect this vital habitat. The Service understands that maintaining traditional cultural values, such as ranching lifestyles and economies, is essential to the success of the Flint Hills Legacy Conservation Area. The ranching practices in the conservation area have helped preserve the tallgrass ecoregion, so the Service seeks to sustain these working ranches as part of the landscape. The Service aims to acquire 1.1 million acres of conservation easements from willing sellers within the 3.3 million-acre project area.

### **Sangre de Cristo Conservation Area, Colorado**

In FY 2013, the Service accepted the remarkable donation of a conservation easement on approximately 90,000 acres of the Blanca Ranch in southern Colorado from noted conservationist Louis Bacon. This easement complements the donation of a conservation easement that the Service previously accepted on the adjoining Trinchera Ranch.

This area features a highly diverse ecosystem that, due to the more than 6,000 feet of elevation gradient that exists on the property, constitutes an ecological staircase rising from riparian bottomlands to harsh alpine tundra. The property encompasses eight major vegetation types; currently provides wildlife habitat supporting over 170 species of vertebrates; and provides essential wildlife movement corridors, including riparian areas, diverse forests, and open rangelands.



*Sangre de Cristo Conservation Area, Colorado and New Mexico*

Copyrighted by Trinchera Ranch



*San Joaquin River NWR, California*

Matt Lloyd/USFWS

This important acquisition promotes the adaptive capacity and resilience of the ecosystem by ensuring connectivity between existing large public and privately protected properties to the north and south along the spine of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

### **San Joaquin River NWR, California**

The San Joaquin River NWR, the newest unit of the San Luis NWR Complex, was established in 1987. This area is predominately owned by the Lyons family, which has continually worked closely with the Service over the years to enhance their property for the benefit

of wildlife. Since the establishment of the refuge and due in large part to the efforts of the Lyons family, the population of the Aleutian cackling goose has significantly increased, resulting in its delisting and becoming a game species for sportsmen. In FY 2013, the Service acquired conservation easements on 501 acres of predominantly native, irrigated pasture for the refuge. This acquisition supports recovery efforts for cackling geese and also the riparian brush rabbit, perhaps the most endangered mammal in California.



# Protecting Habitat for Migratory Birds and Waterfowl



*Ottawa NWR, Ohio*

The Service is the lead federal agency for managing and conserving migratory birds in the United States. More than 200 national wildlife refuges have been established specifically to provide breeding or wintering habitat for migratory birds. More than one million acres of wetlands on 356 refuges and more than 3,000 waterfowl production areas are actively managed for the benefit of waterfowl and other birds.

## **Ottawa NWR, Ohio**

Established in 1961 as an inviolate sanctuary for migratory birds, the Ottawa NWR protects critical migratory bird habitats within the Western Basin of Lake Erie. The area is a unique mosaic of Lake Erie coast marshes, shrublands, grasslands, and other associated habitats. As a major migration corridor through the Great Lakes, the refuge is essential to migratory birds, including waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, and songbirds, that need resting and feeding habitats during their migration. The refuge complex, once part of the vast Great Black Swamp, protects remnant plant communities vital to the Great Lakes ecosystem.

In FY 2013, the Service acquired a 72-acre tract in Ottawa NWR. The property was restored to wetlands and native grasslands prior to the acquisition. This area will provide critical habitat for migratory birds, including dunlin and over 30 species of warbler, and other wildlife within the Portage River watershed. In addition, the newly acquired area will provide quality wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities—primarily hunting and wildlife observation—to refuge visitors.

## **San Bernard NWR, Texas**

At San Bernard NWR, the Service acquired five tracts totaling over 1,700 acres. These tracts are primarily bottomland hardwood forest habitat, including unique old-growth stands of pecan, green ash, and oak. This habitat is important for waterfowl and a great diversity of migrating songbirds.

The Columbia Bottomlands is a southern floodplain forest formation on the upper Texas coast, which historically covered over 1,000 square miles, but has since been reduced to 25% of its former extent. Millions of songbirds cross the Gulf of Mexico on their northern migration every

spring and make landfall to rest and feed there.

The importance of this regional ecosystem as critical stopover and staging habitat for nearctic-neotropical migratory landbirds gave rise to the Columbia Bottomlands Conservation Plan, an active land acquisition and conservation program administered by the Service and its governmental and non-governmental partners. The Plan seeks to establish an integrated network of protected tracts as representative examples of the regional landscape, and thus conserve ecosystem integrity, function, heterogeneity, and biological diversity. The remaining stands not yet conserved are highly fragmented and are threatened by residential and commercial development, agricultural conversion, timber removal, and infestation by invasive plants.



### Montezuma NWR, New York

The Service, with the generous support of Ducks Unlimited, acquired 620 acres in Montezuma NWR in a designated Important Bird Area. Approximately 500 of these acres include the flat floor of a basin, and are composed of deep, rich, muck soils, which are restorable to form large, shallow pools for use by waterfowl. Restoration of the property would increase the refuge's capacity to support up to 9,000 more migratory waterfowl in the spring and more than 18,000 in the fall.

Not only has the Service conserved valuable habitat for migratory birds by acquiring this land, but also it is now possible to coordinate water management, control invasive species, and manage water levels and flows crucial for waterfowl production via a well-maintained infrastructure of roads, ditches, and dikes. Further, collaborative water management will protect water supply and quality as well as control flowage impacts to surrounding habitat.

### Petit Manan NWR, Maine

In FY 2013, the Service purchased an important 5.42-acre inholding within Petit Manan NWR. The tract consists of an unimproved island with an extensive intertidal area, which historically housed nationally significant nesting sites for seabirds, including common eider, black-backed gulls, herring gulls, and guillemots.

The refuge was established in 1974 to support the national migratory bird management program. The Service's primary focus at the refuge is restoration and management of colonial seabirds, including those already mentioned, along with common, Arctic, and endangered roseate terns, Atlantic puffins, razorbills, Leach's storm-petrels, and laughing gulls.

### Alaska Peninsula NWR and Alaska Marine NWR, Alaska

The Service completed a major exchange of lands located within both the Alaska Peninsula NWR and Alaska Maritime NWR for lands owned by two Alaska Native Corporations containing better quality habitat. The Service acquired 5,775 acres of high quality habitat for seabird colonies, including murre, black-legged kittiwake, and tufted puffin, and also for mammals, such as the northern sea otter and Steller sea lion.

The land exchange has significantly improved management of Jacob, Paul, and Chiachi Islands by eliminating



*Alaska Peninsula NWR, Alaska*



*Grasslands Wildlife Management Area, California*

mixed ownership and consolidating land management. The acquisition will help the Service reduce the introduction of invasive species in the area. In addition, the exchange will enhance protection of outstanding natural values of the area and will further the purposes for which the refuges were established.

### Grasslands Wildlife Management Area, California

Located within the San Joaquin River Basin, the Grasslands WMA supports the largest remaining block of contiguous wetlands in California's Central Valley. These remaining wetlands are extremely important to Pacific Flyway

waterfowl populations. The Service acquired conservation easements on four properties totaling 949 acres, further protecting the narrow corridor of wetlands that are critically important for north-south waterfowl flight patterns, and providing long-term viability to the grassland and wetland ecosystem.



# Protecting Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species



*James Campbell NWR, Hawaii*

Charlie Parrott/USFWS



National wildlife refuges are home to more than 380 of the nation's 1,311 listed endangered or threatened species. So far, 11 of those species have been removed from the list due to their recovery, and 17 others have improved in status from endangered to threatened. The populations of more than 500 listed species are now stable or improving. Fifty-nine national wildlife refuges have been created specifically to help imperiled species. During FY 2013, the Service was able to acquire valuable habitat for threatened or endangered species, including the following acquisitions:

#### **James Campbell NWR, Hawaii**

James Campbell NWR was established to provide habitat for four of Hawaii's endangered waterbirds, which include the ae'o (Hawaiian stilt), 'alae ke'oke'o (Hawaiian coot), 'alae 'ula (Hawaiian moorhen), and koloa maoli (Hawaiian duck). In FY 2013, the Service completed an important 28-acre acquisition comprised of mixed shrub/scrub and wetland habitats. With restoration, this parcel will aid in the conservation of all four endangered waterbirds as well as other indigenous wildlife and plants. Restoration activities on the acquired lands will include the removal of invasive species and possible outplantings of native species, such as the endangered 'ewa hinahina and 'akoko.

While public access to the refuge is currently limited to appointments and scheduled tours, a portion of this property is envisioned as the future site of the Oahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex Visitor Center, which would provide additional public visitation and educational opportunities as well as administrative and maintenance facilities.

#### **Cypress Creek NWR, Illinois**

The Service acquired over 179 acres in Cypress Creek NWR during FY 2013. These newly acquired lands, some acquired by purchase and some by donation, include steep to very steep ravines and mesic oak-hickory forest, with some American beech, sugar maple, and yellow poplar stands. The endangered dusky salamander inhabits several of the small spring-fed headwater streams that are on or near the newly acquired lands. Acquisition will help to conserve habitat for the dusky salamander, contribute to the refuge and Cache River Wetlands Joint Venture Partnership watershed acquisition and restoration goals, and provide clear public access to other parts of the refuge.

Cypress Creek NWR was established in 1990 for conservation of wetlands and to help fulfill international obligations contained in various migratory bird treaties and conventions. Most of the refuge is a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance.

#### **Alligator River NWR, North Carolina**

At Alligator River NWR, the Service acquired three tracts totaling over 129 acres. Historically, this area was logged. Now the land can support reforestation with bottomland hardwood species, and will provide very high quality wildlife habitat for local black bear populations. It will also make a significant contribution of natural habitat for the endangered red wolf. In the face of sea level rise, these newly acquired lands tracts may become even more valuable as surrounding areas become less favorable habitat to these and other species.

#### **St. Marks NWR, Florida**

At St. Marks NWR, the Service acquired over 558 acres of land from the Sam Shine Foundation, Inc., the third of several planned purchases from the Foundation. This land is a prime candidate for longleaf pine restoration, and it supports a variety of State and Federal trust species. Adjacent to critical habitat for the endangered frosted flatwoods salamander, the land contains nesting habitat for swallow-tailed kites, provides important habitat and travel corridors for Florida black bear, and, with restoration, will support red-cockaded woodpeckers.

#### **Pixley NWR, California**

Some of the last significant acres of southern San Joaquin Valley grassland habitat lie within Pixley NWR, a unit of the Kern National Wildlife Refuge Complex. The habitat provides nesting, foraging, and cover for a variety of species, including the threatened Tipton kangaroo rat, the blunt-nosed leopard lizard, and the endangered San Joaquin kit fox. Further, during the winter months, the refuge is the best place in the southern San Joaquin Valley to view sandhill cranes.

During FY 2013, the Service acquired 126 acres at Pixley NWR using grant funding from the Bureau of Reclamation's Central Valley Project Conservation Program and Central Valley Project Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program. The overall objective of these two Central Valley programs is to improve conditions for federally-listed species and other species whose habitats and populations have been impacted by the construction and operation of the Central Valley Project.



*St. Marks NWR, Florida*



# Crown of the Continent

## *Landscape-Scale Conservation*



Gary Sullivan | USFWS

*Swan Valley Conservation Area, Montana*

The 18 million-acre Northern Rockies Crown of the Continent (“Crown”) landscape is one of North America’s most biologically diverse and intact ecosystems. Spanning the United States and Canada, the Crown includes a remarkable assemblage of high peaks, aspen glades, dense conifer forests, clear and cold rivers, native grasslands, and numerous small communities heavily invested in the land and its health. Successful landscape-scale conservation requires collaborative and coordinated efforts between government jurisdictions and local communities to build resiliency in ecological systems and communities, so that, as climate conditions change, this collaborative conservation area will continue to support a full range of native biodiversity.

The Crown’s biological values are largely supported and maintained by the stewardship of large working ranches and private forestlands. The unique wildlife resources and unmatched scenic values, combined with an uncertain economic future, make these working lands vulnerable to development. Across the landscape, the Service is purchasing

perpetual conservation easements on working lands to prevent fragmentation of fish and wildlife habitat. These easement purchases provide landowners with funds to pay down debt, reinvest in capital improvements, or buy other lands to expand their operations. The Crown includes three of the Service’s authorized project areas, including the Rocky Mountain Front, Blackfoot Valley, and Swan Valley Conservation Areas.

In FY 2013, the Service acquired conservation easements on 18,999 acres across the Crown, including three easements within the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area and one easement within the Blackfoot Valley Conservation Area. These acquired easements now protect some of the most important remaining grizzly bear habitat in the lower 48 states, while safeguarding significant habitat for grassland-dependent birds.



# Statistical Data Tables

The Fish and Wildlife Service and its predecessors have published statistical data tables every year since 1946. These tables paint a comprehensive picture of the lands and waters under control of the Service.

The hard copy version of the Annual Report contains only a sampling of these data tables, including:

**Table 1:** Summary of All Service Lands (Page 6)

Summary of **Table 2:** Service Acquisitions in FY 2013 (Page 7)

**Table 2** (Abridged version): Fiscal Year 2013 Acquisitions and Disposals – Acres by State and Unit (Pages 26-31)

The online appendix, which includes the full versions of ten tables, is available on the Service's web site: [www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html).

## Online Appendix

Table 1: Summary of All Service Lands

Table 1A: All Service Lands - Acres by State or Territory

Table 2: Fiscal Year 2013 Acquisitions and Disposals - Acres by State and Unit

Table 3: National Wildlife Refuges - Acres by State and Unit

Table 4: Waterfowl Production Areas - Acres by State, WMD (if applicable), and Unit

Table 5: Coordination Areas - Acres by State and Unit

Table 6: Administrative Sites - Acres by State and Unit

Table 7: National Fish Hatcheries - Acres by State and Unit

Table 8: Wilderness Areas in National Wildlife Refuges

Table 9: Migratory Waterfowl Refuges on Federal Water Resource Projects

Table 10: National Monuments and Associated National Wildlife Refuges



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2013**

**10/1/2012 - 9/30/2013**

State and Unit	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS										EASEMENTS				TOTAL ACRES			
	Reserved from Public Domain			Acquired by Other Federal Agency			Purchased by FWS				Donated	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS			AGREEMENT OR LEASE		
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost (\$)	Acres	Cost (\$)			Acres	Cost (\$)				
																	Donated	
<b>Alaska</b>																		
Alaska Maritime	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$662,672.00	23,835.67	\$662,672.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,835.67
Alaska Peninsula	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$996,090.00	8,441.44	\$996,090.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,441.44
Becharof	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$200,000.00	159.98	\$200,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159.98
Innoko	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$96,000.00	159.95	\$96,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159.95
Kenai	ADMIN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	31.29	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.29
Kodiak	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$429,600.00	257.48	\$429,600.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	257.48
Tetlin	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$96,000.00	19.99	\$96,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.99
Togiak	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$338,500.00	439.92	\$338,500.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	439.92
Tok	ADMIN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$115,000.00	2.00	\$115,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
Yukon Delta	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$233,826.95	4,362.95	\$233,826.95	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,362.95
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$3,167,688.95</b>	<b>37,679.38</b>	<b>\$3,167,688.95</b>	<b>31.29</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>37,710.67</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>																		
Cache River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$3,019,000.00	1,799.89	\$3,019,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,799.89
Pond Creek	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	2.00	\$0.00	-2.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$3,019,000.00</b>	<b>1,801.89</b>	<b>\$3,019,000.00</b>	<b>-2.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,799.89</b>
<b>California</b>																		
Bitter Creek	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	-2.88	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2.88
Grasslands	WMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$1,822,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	952.00
Pixley	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$245,000.00	126.25	\$245,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	126.25
San Diego	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$270,000.00	16.20	\$270,000.00	358.78	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	375.10
San Joaquin River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$4,591,395.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	501.28
Stone Lakes	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	129.50	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	129.50
Tulare Basin	WMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$235,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	122.90
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$515,000.00</b>	<b>139.57</b>	<b>\$515,000.00</b>	<b>488.28</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$6,648,795.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,204.15</b>
<b>Colorado</b>																		
Baca	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$131,000.00	438.99	\$131,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	438.99
Rocky Flats	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-99.11	\$300,000.00	207.90	\$300,000.00	409.10	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	517.89
Sangre De Cristo	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90,500.00
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-99.11</b>	<b>\$431,000.00</b>	<b>646.89</b>	<b>\$431,000.00</b>	<b>409.10</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>91,456.88</b>
<b>Connecticut</b>																		
Silvio O. Conte	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$2,969,500.00	77.30	\$2,969,500.00	41.00	\$1.00	0.00	\$1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	118.30
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$2,969,500.00</b>	<b>77.30</b>	<b>\$2,969,500.00</b>	<b>41.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>118.30</b>
<b>Delaware</b>																		
Prime Hook	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$63,000.00	9.73	\$63,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.73
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$63,000.00</b>	<b>9.73</b>	<b>\$63,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9.73</b>
<b>Florida</b>																		
Lake Wales Ridge	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$18,000.00	0.75	\$18,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75
Lower Suwannee	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$344,400.00	267.09	\$344,400.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	267.09
National Key Deer	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	23.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.00



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2013**

**10/1/2012 - 9/30/2013**

State and Unit	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS										EASEMENTS				AGREEMENT OR LEASE	TOTAL ACRES
	Reserved from Public Domain		Acquired by Other Federal Agency		Purchased by FWS		Donated	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS		Donated					
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost (\$)			Acres	Cost (\$)						
<b>Florida (Continued)</b>																
St. Marks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	558.79	\$1,730,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	558.79
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>826.63</b>	<b>\$2,092,400.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>849.63</b>
<b>Georgia</b>																
Bond Swamp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.96	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.96
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9.96</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9.96</b>
<b>Hawaii</b>																
James Campbell	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.78	\$973,278.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.04
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>28.78</b>	<b>\$973,278.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>36.04</b>
<b>Illinois</b>																
Cypress Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	174.22	\$318,752.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	179.22
Hackmatack	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.55
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>174.22</b>	<b>\$318,752.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>192.77</b>
<b>Indiana</b>																
Patoka River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	107.04	\$181,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	147.04
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>107.04</b>	<b>\$181,100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>147.04</b>
<b>Iowa</b>																
Driftless Area	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.00	\$644,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.00
Iowa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	229.69	\$1,642,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	229.69
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>400.69</b>	<b>\$2,286,200.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>400.69</b>
<b>Kansas</b>																
Flint Hills Legacy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,445.50
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,445.50</b>
<b>Louisiana</b>																
Big Branch Marsh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.99	\$155,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.99
Bogue Chitto	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	281.67	\$253,300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	281.67
Grand Cote	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-199.81	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-199.81
Lacassine	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-5.87	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-5.87
Upper Ouachita	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,781.33	\$2,082,712.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,781.33
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,866.31</b>	<b>\$2,491,012.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,866.31</b>
<b>Maine</b>																
Pett Manan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	\$78,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Rachel Carson	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>\$78,000.00</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5.94</b>
<b>Maryland</b>																
Blackwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	111.45	\$505,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	111.45
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>111.45</b>	<b>\$505,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>111.45</b>
<b>Massachusetts</b>																
Great Meadows	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	\$20,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2013**

**10/1/2012 - 9/30/2013**

State and Unit	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS										EASEMENTS				AGREEMENT OR LEASE	TOTAL ACRES
	Reserved from Public Domain			Acquired by Other Federal Agency		Purchased by FWS			Donated	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS		Donated			
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost (\$)	Cost (\$)			Acres	Cost (\$)				
														Acres		
<b>Massachusetts (Continued)</b>																
Sivio D. Conte	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	137.14	\$260,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	137.14	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>138.14</b>	<b>\$280,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>138.14</b>	
<b>Michigan</b>																
Detroit River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.65	\$104,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.65	
Shiawassee	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	179.91	\$481,300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	179.91	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>205.56</b>	<b>\$585,300.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>205.56</b>	
<b>Minnesota</b>																
Detroit Lakes	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.44	\$185,500.00	459.88	0.00	0.00	\$137,000.00	161.97	\$137,000.00	0.00	770.29	
Fergus Falls	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	\$0.00	602.75	0.00	0.00	\$430,750.00	379.19	\$430,750.00	0.57	982.82	
Glacial Ridge	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,692.14	\$1,175,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	2,692.14	
Litchfield	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-23.84	\$104,500.00	80.00	0.00	0.00	\$852,250.00	354.48	\$852,250.00	0.00	410.64	
Minnesota Valley	NWR	0.00	0.00	-128.41	0.00	130.33	\$269,400.00	12.21	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	14.13	
Morris	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.30	\$72,300.00	96.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,666,700.00	1,341.84	\$1,666,700.00	160.00	1,618.14	
No. Tallgrass Prairie	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	80.01	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	80.01	
Rice Lake	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2,045.36	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	-2,045.36	
Tamarac	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.08	\$5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$160,500.00	304.00	\$160,500.00	0.00	305.08	
Upper Mississippi River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	133.83	\$234,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	133.83	
Windom	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.67	\$279,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	-15.00	\$0.00	0.00	56.67	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-2,173.77</b>	<b>3,174.26</b>	<b>\$2,325,400.00</b>	<b>1,330.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$3,247,200.00</b>	<b>2,526.48</b>	<b>\$3,247,200.00</b>	<b>160.57</b>	<b>5,018.39</b>	
<b>Mississippi</b>																
FSA Interest MS	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	-360.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	-360.00	
Holt Collier	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	575.50	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	755.79	
Tallahatchie	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.67	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	4.67	
Theodore Roosevelt	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	-543.00	550.00	\$61,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	7.00	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-903.00</b>	<b>554.67</b>	<b>\$61,500.00</b>	<b>575.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>407.46</b>	
<b>Missouri</b>																
Big Muddy	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.90	\$152,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	75.90	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>75.90</b>	<b>\$152,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>75.90</b>	
<b>Montana</b>																
Blackfoot Valley	CA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,975,000.00	3,957.63	\$1,975,000.00	0.00	3,957.63	
Bowdoin	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,334,000.00	5,899.17	\$1,334,000.00	0.00	5,899.17	
Lost Trail	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	-30.00	-30.00	
NW Montana - Flathead	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	188.59	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	188.59	
Red Rock Lakes	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	696.00	\$3,483,919.00	114.00	0.00	0.00	\$490,000.00	1,283.94	\$490,000.00	0.00	2,093.94	
Rocky Mountain Front	CA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$6,448,260.00	14,987.40	\$6,448,260.00	0.00	14,987.40	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>696.00</b>	<b>\$3,483,919.00</b>	<b>302.59</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$10,247,260.00</b>	<b>26,128.14</b>	<b>\$10,247,260.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>27,096.73</b>	
<b>Nevada</b>																
Ash Meadows	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.95	\$220,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	8.95	



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2013**

**10/1/2012 - 9/30/2013**

State and Unit	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS										EASEMENTS				AGREEMENT OR LEASE	TOTAL ACRES
	Reserved from Public Domain			Acquired by Other Federal Agency		Purchased by FWS		Donated	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS		Donated				
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost (\$)			Acres	Cost (\$)					
													Acres	Cost (\$)		
<b>Nevada (Continued)</b>																
Stillwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-305.90	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-305.90	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-296.95</b>	<b>\$220,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-296.95</b>	
<b>New Hampshire</b>																
Silvio O. Conte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	142.80	\$207,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	142.80	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>142.80</b>	<b>\$207,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>142.80</b>	
<b>New Jersey</b>																
Cape May	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.35	\$280,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.35	
Wallkill River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.67	\$435,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.67	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>85.02</b>	<b>\$715,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>85.02</b>	
<b>New Mexico</b>																
Valle De Oro	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.15	\$1,470,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.15	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>41.15</b>	<b>\$1,470,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>41.15</b>	
<b>New York</b>																
Montezuma	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	625.39	\$2,377,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	1.83	0.00	0.00	627.22	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>625.39</b>	<b>\$2,377,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>627.22</b>	
<b>North Carolina</b>																
Alligator River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	92.50	\$135,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	92.50	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>92.50</b>	<b>\$135,500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>92.50</b>	
<b>North Dakota</b>																
Audubon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	120.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	2,214.90	0.00	0.00	4,838.19	
Chase Lake Prairie Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$2,675,300.00	836.84	0.00	0.00	3,242.29	
Crosby	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,375.00	340.00	0.00	0.00	346.60	
Dakota Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$2,618,975.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,159.44	
Dakota Tallgrass Prairie	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$199,525.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	299.29	
Devils Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$713,350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,631.50	
J. Clark Salyer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$359,425.00	473.08	0.00	0.00	1,284.93	
Kulm	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$5,085.23	3,272.88	0.00	0.00	8,358.11	
Long Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$726,125.00	4,673.49	0.00	0.00	6,548.12	
Lostwood	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$51,675.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.00	
North Dakota	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$9,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	
Tewaukon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,496,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	998.36	
Valley City	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,904,995.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1,311.00	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>120.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$18,975,320.00</b>	<b>11,814.19</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>35,150.83</b>	
<b>Ohio</b>																
Ottawa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.24	\$289,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.24	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>72.24</b>	<b>\$289,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>72.24</b>	
<b>Oregon</b>																
Nestucca Bay	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	192.63	\$1,652,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	192.63	







Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2013

State and Unit	PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS										EASEMENTS				TOTAL ACRES
	Reserved from Public Domain		Acquired by Other Federal Agency		Purchased by FWS		Donated	Acquired by Other Federal Agency	Purchased by FWS		Donated	AGREEMENT OR LEASE			
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost (\$)			Acres	Cost (\$)					
Wisconsin															
Fox River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	\$47,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	
St. Croix	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	\$299,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	
Upper Mississippi River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	118.81	\$384,300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	118.81	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>208.81</b>	<b>\$730,800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>208.81</b>	
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-3,175.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>52,486.35</b>	<b>\$39,163,878.95</b>	<b>3,558.98</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>85,605.77</b>	<b>\$58,512,380.00</b>	<b>106,753.15</b>	<b>150.29</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>245,380.66</b>	

To conserve space, this table summarizes FY WPA acquisitions by wetland management district. For the full list of FY WPA acquisitions by county, download the online appendix from the Service's Land Reports page <[www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html)>.

**Table Footnotes**

- ADMIN Administrative Site
- CA Conservation Area
- COORD Coordination Area
- NFH National Fish Hatchery
- NWR National Wildlife Refuge
- WMA Wildlife Management Area
- WMD Wetland Management District (manages waterfowl production areas within one or more counties)



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>

May 2014

