

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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

*As of September 30, 2014*



All photos in this report were taken of or from lands acquired in FY 2014.

**On the Cover:**

*“Female monarch nectaring on goldenrod,” taken by Amber Ball.*

**Annual Photo Contest**

The winner of the Division of Realty’s Annual Photo Contest for FY 2014 is Amber Ball, USFWS volunteer and Friends of Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge board member. She took the winning photo, shown on the cover of this Annual Report of Lands, of a monarch butterfly at the newly acquired 207-acre Spitler tract at the Patoka River NWR in Indiana. This is the second year in row that a Patoka River NWR volunteer has won this contest.

Amber notes, “We had lived close to the edge of the Patoka River NWR for several years before realizing the jewel that was right under our noses. We would travel through a part of it every weekend on our way to town, but never really paid attention, I suppose, until one winter, a huge flock of coots caught our notice, and we were hooked.”

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

Information on FY 2015 Photo Contest will be available on the Service’s website: [gov/refuges/realty/contest.html](http://gov/refuges/realty/contest.html)

# Table of Contents

Message from the Secretary .....	4
Message from the Director .....	5
All Fish and Wildlife Service Lands .....	6
Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions in Fiscal Year 2014 .....	7
A Closer Look at Service Land Acquisition .....	8
Land and Water Conservation Fund .....	10
Prairie Potholes and Waterfowl Production Areas .....	12
Working with Partners to Conserve Habitat .....	14
Map of the Refuge System .....	16
Conservation Easements .....	18
Urban Refuges.....	20
Wildlife Conservation.....	22
Marine National Monuments .....	24
Explanation of Statistical Data Tables.....	25
Table 2 (abridged): Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions in FY 2014.....	26



Kristin Raveling/USFWS



# Message from the Secretary



*Sally Jewell,  
Secretary of the Interior*

2014 was an extraordinary year for conservation. The Department of the Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service marked the 50th anniversaries of two visionary pieces of legislation that have transformed conservation and outdoor recreation in our country – the Wilderness Act and the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

I celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey. Great Swamp contains the first designated wilderness area managed by the Department of the Interior. As a result of that designation, today you can hike eight miles of trails across 3,660 acres of wilderness at Great Swamp and experience nature in solitude a mere 26 miles from Manhattan's Times Square.

During 2014 the Service advanced an innovative Urban Wildlife Conservation Program in order to better serve the 80 percent of Americans who now live in urban environments. The Program will take the Service into the communities where people live and work, introduce them to the National Wildlife Refuge System, and engage millions of Americans as partners in wildlife conservation.

This new emphasis in conservation delivery will have profound implications for the health and well-being of millions of people, especially youth. We know that children who spend more time in nature are physically healthier, and more likely to do well in school. Cultivating a new generation of conservationists ensures a brighter future for a nation whose prosperity is tied to the health of its lands and waters.

Marine habitat conservation also received a huge boost last year when President Obama expanded the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument to protect nearly 490,000 square miles around the islands and atolls. Seven national wildlife refuges – Wake, Jarvis, Howland, and Baker Islands; Johnston

and Palmyra Atolls; and Kingman Reef are the core of the Marine National Monument, which is home to one of the largest and most pristine collections of coral reef, seabird, and shorebird-protected areas on the planet.

Land and water conservation involves much more than simply designating a few acres of land or water as “protected.” These precious lands and waters require management with a clear vision and great care in order to preserve our heritage and maintain a way of life for future generations. That is the goal of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It is a job that the National Wildlife Refuge System has done with extraordinary diligence since 1903, and one at which it continues to excel.



# Message from the Director



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

Statistics don't nearly convey the importance of the National Wildlife Refuge System to fish, wildlife, and plants and to the approximately 47 million people who visited Refuge System lands in 2014. But let me start with the numbers.

In fiscal year 2014, the Fish and Wildlife Service established one new national wildlife refuge: Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon. Its name comes from the Native American name for broadleaf arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*), commonly known as the duck potato. The Service is working with conservation partners to learn about the natural cycles of the lakebed, to plan habitat restoration activities to mimic those cycles, and to contribute to the health of the Tualatin River watershed.

This past year the Service conserved more than 113,000 acres for the Refuge System, including more than 74,000 acres in the Prairie Pothole Region, where conservation efforts offer new hope for native prairies as well as grassland birds, which have experienced the most pronounced declines of any group of birds in North America.

As of the end of the fiscal year, September 30, 2014, the Refuge System was comprised of 562 national wildlife refuges, 209 waterfowl production area counties (managed by 38 wetland management district offices), and 50 coordination areas, spanning more than 150 million acres. In addition, the Service co-manages 418 million acres of submerged lands and waters in four marine national monuments.

This year brought the expansion of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument by more than 260 million acres, for a total of almost 314 million acres. This is an area that is so vast, it almost defies comprehension. What is understandable about the Monument is that it is the largest marine-protected area in the world, conserving the most widespread collection of marine life on the planet under the jurisdiction of a

single country and sustaining a diversity of species, including corals, sea and land birds, marine mammals, and vegetation not found anywhere else in the world.

From the West Coast to the East Coast, from Alaska to the Caribbean, the National Wildlife Refuge System offers a haven for fish, wildlife, and plants. It offers many special places, including oases in urban communities, where people can connect with nature, find world-class outdoor recreation, and be awed by the miracle of the land, day after day.

# All Fish and Wildlife Service Lands



Doug Mosser\USFWS

Long Lake WMD, North Dakota

The National Wildlife Refuge System is the world's most extensive network of public lands and waters dedicated to the conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants. The System is comprised of 562 national wildlife refuges, 209 waterfowl production areas, and 50 wildlife coordination areas totaling 150,371,513 acres of lands, waters, and interests in lands and waters administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Waterfowl production areas are small natural wetlands and associated grasslands acquired under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act. Located primarily in the upper Midwest of the United States, the 3,772,289 acres of waterfowl production areas are reported by county and are administered by the Service's 38 wetland management

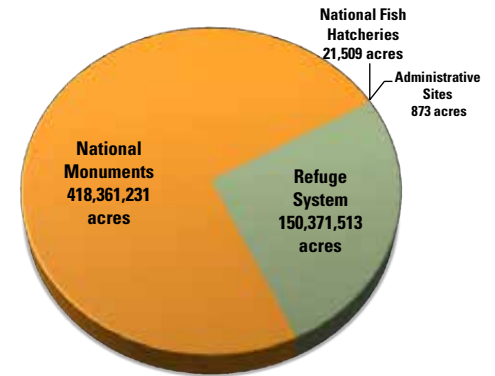
districts.

Coordination areas are federal lands that the States manage as wildlife habitat under cooperative agreements. There are 257,488 acres of coordination areas.

In addition to the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Fish and Wildlife Service manages 418,361,231 acres of submerged lands and waters outside refuge boundaries, mostly in four marine national monuments, Marianas Trench, Pacific Remote Islands, Papahānaumokuākea, and Rose Atoll. The four marine monuments together encompass more than 473 million acres, of which the Service manages approximately 8,300 surface acres and nearly 55 million submerged acres within the boundaries of 15 national wildlife refuges. The Service cooperatively manages the remaining 418 million

submerged 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		Donated			
	Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction		Primary Jurisdiction	Secondary Jurisdiction	Acres	Cost(\$)			Acres	Cost(\$)				
National Wildlife Refuges	562	81,372,278.75	596,344.22	52,811,899.50	3,548,416.60	917,450.15	4,493,993.49	\$2,283,151,339.62	803,394.90	86,959.89	576,123.41	\$223,473,513.06	391,396.39	743,477.97	146,341,735.27
Waterfowl Production Areas	209	15,897.64	0.00	0.00	27,974.05	0.00	712,472.19	\$262,243,882.49	24,318.39	76,377.83	2,629,940.57	\$356,124,771.07	283,748.10	1,560.03	3,772,288.80
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
Administrative Sites	42	53.00	0.00	0.00	8.57	0.00	734.25	\$13,167,374.05	1.61	6.22	0.50	\$1,030,000.00	4.89	63.97	873.01
National Fish Hatcheries	70	3,607.09	827.81	0.00	2,421.26	3,475.66	5,438.66	\$3,667,689.59	1,359.64	362.44	504.03	\$246,836.06	3,184.51	328.34	21,509.44
National Monuments	6	0.00	0.00	418,328,265.94	0.00	32,965.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	418,361,230.94
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>81,448,423.09</b>	<b>597,172.03</b>	<b>471,140,165.44</b>	<b>3,718,073.37</b>	<b>1,009,629.95</b>	<b>5,218,349.88</b>	<b>\$2,562,981,962.75</b>	<b>829,099.54</b>	<b>163,879.88</b>	<b>3,206,568.51</b>	<b>\$580,875,120.19</b>	<b>678,333.89</b>	<b>745,430.31</b>	<b>568,755,125.89</b>



# Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions in Fiscal Year 2014



USFWS

## Wapato Lake NWR, Oregon

In FY 2014, the Service added 113,403 acres to the National Wildlife Refuge System, including 28,549 fee acres and 85,165 easement acres. These acres were added to 78 national wildlife refuges and 83 waterfowl production area counties, spanning 40 states.

Of these conserved lands, the Service purchased 18,508 fee acres and 74,122 easement acres at a cost of \$97,458,947. The Service received donations of 8,056 fee acres and 11,043 easement acres from partners and landowners interested in conserving wildlife habitat and providing public sources of wildlife-dependent outdoor recreation.

With the expansion of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument by Presidential Proclamation 9173, signed September 24, 2014, the Service received management responsibility for an

additional 260 million acres of submerged lands and waters.

For a full list of FY 2014 acquisitions, please refer to the Table on page 26, or Table 2 of our online Appendix of Statistical Data Tables at [www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html).

### Wapato Lake, Oregon, the 552nd National Wildlife Refuge

In FY 2014, the Service established Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuge, less than 35 miles from downtown Portland in Oregon's Willamette Valley. The refuge was carved out of the Tualatin River NWR and now comprises its own entity.

Formerly a haven for tundra swans, the lake was known to host a yearly migration of 10,000 swans, but those numbers have dropped to 900 in recent

years, a 90 percent drop. This decline in tundra swan numbers is one of the reasons for the establishment of Wapato Lake NWR. Wapato Lake is considered an important wintering ground for waterfowl along the Pacific Flyway.

The refuge protects and conserves imperiled habitats that support waterfowl, shorebirds and marshbirds, federally listed anadromous fish, raptors, and breeding species of neo-tropical migratory birds. The restoration of Wapato Lake will restore vital and rare habitats such as wet meadow prairies and riparian bottomland forests.

Together with local land and water protection groups, the refuge plays an important role protecting the headwaters of the Tualatin River and contributes to the landscape scale conservation of the Tualatin River Basin.

## Summary of Service Acquisitions in FY 2014

Category	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	Purchased by FWS		Donated		
				Acres	Cost (\$)		Acres	Cost (\$)			
National Wildlife Refuges	2,051.89	0.00	-67.62	17,399.80	\$37,995,877.88	5,760.39	28,429.48	\$14,447,869.54	415.67	-310.97	53,678.64
Waterfowl Production Areas	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,108.61	\$4,099,200.00	2,295.56	45,692.59	\$40,915,999.15	10,627.45	0.00	59,724.21
<b>Total of Refuge System</b>	<b>2,051.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-67.62</b>	<b>18,508.41</b>	<b>\$42,095,077.88</b>	<b>8,055.95</b>	<b>74,122.07</b>	<b>\$55,363,868.69</b>	<b>11,043.12</b>	<b>-310.97</b>	<b>113,402.85</b>
National Monuments	0.00	260,740,433.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	260,740,433.00
<b>Total outside Refuge System</b>	<b>2,051.89</b>	<b>260,740,433.00</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>260,740,433.00</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>2,051.89</b>	<b>260,740,433.00</b>	<b>-67.62</b>	<b>18,508.41</b>	<b>\$42,095,077.88</b>	<b>8,055.95</b>	<b>74,122.07</b>	<b>\$55,363,868.69</b>	<b>11,043.12</b>	<b>-310.97</b>	<b>260,853,835.85</b>



# A Closer Look at Service Land Acquisition



Kristin Raveling\USFWS

*Minnesota Valley WMD, Minnesota*

The mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and, where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 directs 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 the acquisition of fee title lands and easements when other means of achieving its conservation mission are not appropriate, available, or effective. The Service acquires the minimum interest necessary to meet management objectives, which include conserving migratory birds, endangered

species, fish, wildlife and plant habitat, wetlands, fisheries, and biodiversity, and providing public environmental education, interpretation, and wildlife-dependent recreation.

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

## **Funding to Protect Wildlife Habitat**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund are the primary sources of funding for land acquisition for the National Wildlife Refuge System. In FY 2014, these two funds accounted for 91 percent of all expenditures to acquire fee lands or easements for the Refuge System.

Congress created the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** in 1965 to provide funding for outdoor recreation projects and land acquisition by federal agencies. Today, it is the largest source

of federal money for parks, wildlife, and open space land acquisition. The LWCF is authorized to receive up to \$900 million annually, primarily from receipts for oil and gas drilling leases on the Outer Continental Shelf (submerged offshore lands under U.S. government jurisdiction and control). Each year, the Administration requests a portion of these funds to protect new lands in national wildlife refuges, and Congress appropriates funds.

Since 1967, the Service has spent approximately \$1.6 billion in LWCF monies to protect nearly 1.7 million acres of wildlife habitat in 306 national 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, the LWCF has been the source of 63 percent of all funds used to acquire lands and easements for national wildlife refuges.

Congress created the **Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF)** in 1929 to protect waterfowl habitat in major migratory bird conservation areas. Under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp



Vickie Harman\USFWS

Arctic NWR, Alaska

Act, the Service also uses the MBCF to protect small natural wetlands, known as waterfowl production areas, in the Prairie Pothole Region of the United States. The MBCF receives proceeds from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps and from import duties collected on arms and ammunition, as provided for under the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986.

Since 1934, the Service has used MBCF dollars, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, to establish more than 120 national wildlife refuges. In all, the Service has spent nearly \$1.3 billion in MBCF monies to permanently protect more than 5.6 million acres of important waterfowl habitat in 240 national wildlife refuges and 206 waterfowl production area counties in 45 states. In the Prairie Pothole Region alone, the Service has spent \$533 million in MBCF to protect nearly 3.2 million acres of important waterfowl habitat.

The **North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA)** provided \$3.3 million, or about 3.4%, of Service expenditures to conserve habitat for the Refuge System in FY 2014. 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 funding include mitigation funding and other specific appropriations.

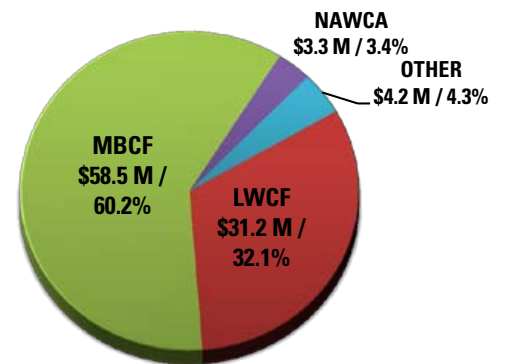
**Donations**

In FY 2014, private landowners and non-governmental organization conservation partners donated over 19,000 acres—8,056 fee and 11,043 easement—to the National Wildlife Refuge System. To date, over 1.2 million acres—829,100 fee and 678,834 easement—have been donated.

The value of these donated lands is immeasurable, not only to fish, wildlife,

and plants, but also as a reflection of the generosity of spirit that inspired the donors to provide a lasting legacy for the benefit of future generations of Americans.

**Sources of Funding  
Land and Easement Purchases  
in FY 2014**





# Land and Water Conservation Fund

## 50 Years of Success



Bob Erikson\USFWS

### *Wallkill NWR, New Jersey*

Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund in 1965. The LWCF is a versatile funding source used for the protection of small tracts of land in urban national wildlife refuges as well as large conservation easements in more rural areas. The Service can utilize Congressionally-appropriated LWCF monies to acquire any interests in land within approved acquisition boundaries, for inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

With a total of \$1.6 billion from the LWCF, the Service has acquired more than 1.2 million fee acres and 287 thousand easement acres to date. In FY 2014 alone, the Service spent \$31.3 million from the LWCF to acquire 4,849 fee acres and 27,872 easement acres.

Below are a few examples of FY 2014 acquisitions funded through LWCF.

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

The James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge was established to provide protected managed 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).

The Service acquired 113 fee acres, located on the north shore of Oahu, Hawaii, as the fourth and final phase of an 850-acre expansion that began in 2008. This recent acquisition is composed of mixed shrub/scrub habitat as well as wetland habitat, and, with restoration, has the potential to conserve all four endangered waterbirds as well as other indigenous shorebirds, seabirds, and other migratory birds.

The property contains coastal strand and dunes that provide resting habitat for the endangered 'ilio holo i ka uaua (Hawaiian monk seal) and nesting habitat for the threatened honu (green sea turtle) and endangered honu ea (hawksbill turtle), and adds a half mile of undeveloped shore land to the refuge. The Service plans to work with conservation partners to restore the ecosystems to their natural condition through removal of invasive plants and planting native plants.

#### **Wallkill River NWR, New Jersey**

Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge was established to conserve and enhance populations of wildlife and their habitats, to protect and enhance water quality, and to provide opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation and research.

The Service acquired a 169-acre farm in Sussex County, New Jersey, at the Wallkill River NWR this past year, 110 acres of which were donated and the remaining 59 acres funded by LWCF. With these acquisitions, the refuge will be able to offer additional special hunting opportunities for the disabled, as well as youth and women.

The refuge recently partnered with the National Wild Turkey Federation to provide its first-ever outdoor hunting opportunity for Wounded Warriors and other permanently disabled sportsmen and sportswomen. The participants had the opportunity to practice at a shooting range and spend a day in the woods, with assistance for game recovery and free deer processing by the Newton High School Future Farmers of America Club.

Volunteers from the Kittatinny Gobblers, Highlands, and Spruce Run Chapters of the National Wild Turkey Federation worked in partnership with refuge staff to ensure a safe and unique hunting experience. The New Jersey State Chapter of the NWTFF donated four large portable deer blinds, chairs, and propane heaters to facilitate the event.



The refuge now maintains two areas reserved for special hunts such as these.

### **Patoka River NWR, Indiana**

Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge was established to provide resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for migratory birds, to maintain and increase biodiversity, to restore, protect, and manage the river corridor of bottomland hardwood wetlands, to improve the water quality of Patoka River, to develop citizen understanding and support for natural resources, and to provide wildlife-related education and recreation opportunities.

The Service acquired 291 acres at Patoka River NWR in FY 2014. Newly conserved lands offer a myriad of habitats ranging from mixed upland forests and streams to grasslands and ephemeral wetlands, and are considered one of the most diverse areas of the refuge. These habitats support species typically considered rare in Indiana, including barn owls, bobcats, and Louisiana waterthrush. The tract secured an anchor point along Beadens Creek, providing a protected habitat corridor connecting thousands of refuge acres to state-owned wildlife habitat to the north.

These additions also protect a diverse mixture of bottomland hardwood forests, Patoka River oxbows, and scrub-shrub swamps. One tract provides an excellent opportunity for restoration of 37 acres of farmland to hardwood trees and ephemeral wetlands, filling in gaps of an otherwise unfragmented forest. This tract links together an additional 2,000 acres of refuge lands and bolsters the forested buffer along the Patoka River, providing a valuable wildlife travel corridor and habitat for wood ducks, bobcats, river otters, and copperbelly watersnakes.

As seen on the front cover of this publication, monarch butterflies also frequent the refuge on their long migration to and from their wintering grounds in Mexico.

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

Cache River National Wildlife Refuge was established to protect significant wetland habitats and provide feeding and resting areas for migrating waterfowl. The refuge encompasses some of the largest remaining contiguous blocks of bottomland hardwood forest in the Lower Mississippi Valley, and is located within the Big Woods of Arkansas.

This area is internationally renowned and was designated as a Ramsar Wetland



*Patoka River NWR, Indiana*

of International Importance. With at least 24 species of waterfowl utilizing the Lower Mississippi Valley during winter migration, this area is considered to be the single most important wintering area for mallards in North America.

During FY 2014, the Service acquired four tracts of land totaling 329 acres at Cache River NWR. The addition of these properties complements adjacent refuge holdings and State lands, providing large blocks of bottomland

hardwood forest managed for migratory birds and resident wildlife species. Biological diversity will be enhanced, and opportunities for public access and wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and photography, will be substantially increased.

These acquisitions will enable refuge staff to create better public access, with significantly reduced costs for maintenance operations.



# Prairie Potholes and Waterfowl Production Areas

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

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

Prairie potholes, and the grasslands, aquatic plants, and invertebrates associated with them, provide the components for an ideal nursery for waterfowl. For this reason, the Prairie Pothole Region has long been called the “duck factory” of North America. Mallard, gadwall, blue-winged teal, northern shoveler, northern pintail, redhead, canvasback ducks, and other waterfowl in the Central Flyway depend on grasslands and wetlands for breeding habitat.

Recent increases in commodity prices and advances in agricultural technology have led a growing number of landowners to convert their grasslands and wetlands into cropland. Although more than half of the prairie potholes have been drained and converted to agricultural use, the Prairie Pothole Region still produces 50% of the breeding duck populations in the United States. However, grassland conversion continues to expand westward, and large-scale land use changes have created a crisis in the prairies, threatening the vital ecosystem that supports waterfowl breeding habitat.

The Service is addressing this crisis by undertaking an unprecedented landscape-scale strategic habitat conservation effort to preserve this unique, highly diverse, and endangered ecosystem. Through its **Small Wetlands Acquisition Program**, the Service acquires minimally restrictive wetland and grassland conservation easements from willing sellers; these easements protect wetland and grassland habitat but allow landowners to maintain their ranching and livestock operations on their lands.

Wetland conservation easements prohibit landowners from draining, filling, leveling, or burning wetland basins, but permit farming, grazing, and haying.

Grassland conservation easements prohibit landowners from converting grassland to cropland, but permit grazing and haying, so long as haying is delayed until after July 15 (after the nesting season).

Since FY 2011, the Service has conserved more than 359,000 acres in the Prairie Pothole Region. In FY 2014, the Service conserved 74,393 acres, including 3,641 fee acres and 70,752 easement acres, at a total cost of \$52.4 million. Of this acreage, 1,108 fee acres and almost 42,837 easement acres were in waterfowl production areas, and 14,304 acres easement acres were in national wildlife refuges. More than 13,000 of these acres were donated by landowners and other nongovernmental conservation partners.

FY 2014 acquisitions included:

### **Dakota Grassland CA, North Dakota and South Dakota**

The Dakota Grassland Conservation Area in North Dakota and South Dakota provides critical wetland and grassland habitat for priority bird species, including eight species of waterfowl, 22 species of shorebirds, 10 species of other waterbirds, and 20 species of grassland birds. The objectives for the Conservation Area are to protect 240,000 acres of wetlands and 1.7 million acres of critical grassland habitats, within an overall boundary area of 29.6 million acres.

Using LWCF funding, in FY 2014 the Service acquired 14,248 acres of perpetual grassland easements from willing sellers, adding to the nearly 11,000 acres of wildlife habitat already protected since the Conservation Area was established in 2011.

### **Minnesota Valley WMD, Minnesota**

The purpose of the Minnesota Valley WMD is to restore, enhance, and

maintain a complex of wetlands, grasslands, and a limited amount of forests that provide quality habitat for waterfowl, grassland nesting birds, and other wildlife species.

Minnesota’s 2008 Constitutional Amendment, the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, increased the sales and use tax rate in order to provide monies to “restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife.” The monies go to four funds, one of which is the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Created by the Minnesota legislature, the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council is responsible for providing annual recommendations on how to spend Outdoor Heritage Fund monies.

As a recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund monies, Pheasants Forever has acquired properties that it subsequently donated to the Service. For the past five years, the Service has been able to double fee title land additions to Minnesota WMDs through acquisitions donated by Pheasants Forever.

In 2014, Pheasants Forever donated more than 2,000 fee acres to the Service, to be managed by the Minnesota Valley WMDs. Lands acquired in fee with Outdoor Heritage Fund monies must be “open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.”

### **Morris WMD, Minnesota**

The Morris Wetland Management District includes 245 waterfowl production areas in western Minnesota. The Service is striving to preserve and maintain biodiversity and increase the abundance of waterfowl and other key wildlife species in the northern tallgrass prairie ecosystem. The Service is also working to restore wetlands and prairie as habitat for migratory waterfowl and grassland birds.

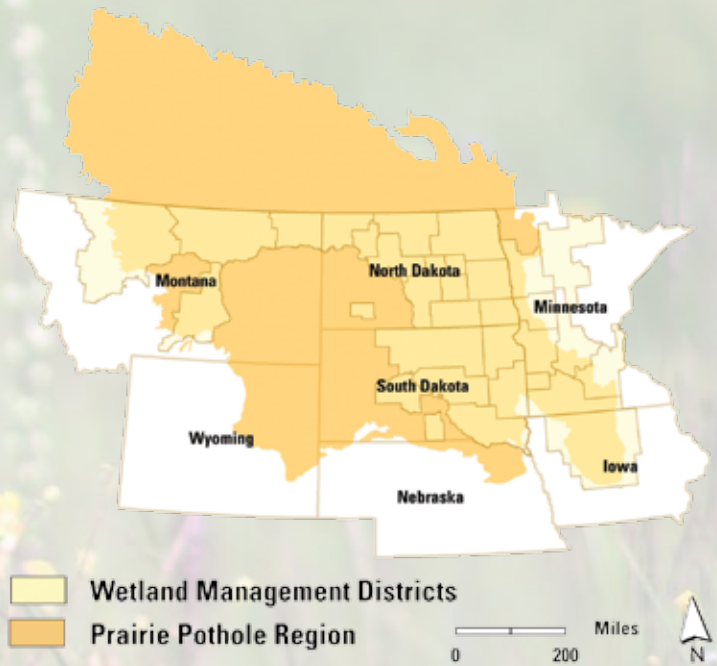
In FY 2014, the Service purchased 209 easement acres and acquired 109 acres by donation.



### **Bowdoin WMD, Montana**

Bowdoin Wetland Management District was established in 1973 in north central Montana. The Bowdoin WMD consists of nine waterfowl production areas and a variety of wetland and grassland easements across four counties. In addition to securing vital summer breeding habitat for migratory waterfowl, the easements protect habitat for grassland-dependent bird species such as Sprague's pipit and for mammals such as pronghorn, prairie dog, and mule deer.

In FY 2014 the Service purchased 3,862 easement acres and acquired 37 easement acres by donation.





# Working with Partners to Conserve Habitat



Jonathan Bloomfield/USFWS

## *Hart Mountain NWR, Nevada*

We simply could not accomplish our mission without our conservation partners. Below are a few examples of successes made possible by our partners in FY 2014.

### **Hart Mountain NAR, Oregon, and Sheldon NWR, Nevada**

Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge and Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge in southeast Oregon and northwest Nevada contain some of the best remaining areas of sagebrush-steppe ecosystem, home to more than 300 species of wildlife, including greater sage-grouse, pronghorn antelope, pygmy rabbit, and California bighorn sheep. Preservation of the functioning sagebrush-steppe ecosystem is especially important for the greater sage-grouse. Habitat loss and habitat conversion are considered among the greatest threats to sage-grouse, and protecting intact sagebrush habitat within large conservation areas is critical to the continuity of the species.

Assisted by the Greater Hart-Sheldon Conservation Fund and the Nevada Land Trust, the Service identified potential willing sellers and negotiated land

purchases, with our partners holding properties until acquisition funds became available to the Service.

The Service acquired 280 acres in fee at Hart Mountain NAR and 90 acres in fee at Sheldon NWR. The tracts acquired are within known sage-grouse breeding and nesting areas, and two of the tracts are within proposed wilderness areas.

### **Anahuac NWR, Texas**

Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge added nearly 2,500 acres this past fiscal year, of which 1,350 acres were donated by The Conservation Fund. The property contains a diverse mix of habitats in a relatively small area; the diversity of coastal habitats put it high on the priority list for protection. With elevation changes, the soil types and habitat changes from beach to ridge, to salt prairie, to freshwater wetlands, and intermediate marsh to brackish marsh, each having different vegetation and importance to different species. Other conservation partners that helped make this acquisition possible were Houston Audubon, the Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation, and The Trull Foundation.

The Texas General Land Office Coastal Impact Assistance Program and the North American Wetlands Council also provided funds.

The Service purchased 1,114 acres of important prairie habitats from The Conservation Fund. These Texas coastal acres provide foraging habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl and nesting habitat for resident mottled ducks (a resident species of special concern) and grassland songbirds. The property was a key acquisition also because it borders both sides of the main access road into the refuge.

### **St. Vincent NWR, Florida**

St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge is comprised mainly of an undeveloped barrier island just offshore from the mouth of the Apalachicola River in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Service acquired 3.93 acres at the refuge, including a 0.73-acre marina, from The Trust for Public Land. TPL has been a long-term conservation partner, and purchased this parcel on behalf of the Service for a much-needed permanent



Tim Cooper/USFWS

Anahuac NWR, Texas



Ken Clough/USFWS

Upper Ouachita NWR, Louisiana

deep-water boat and barge access to St. Vincent Island. The island supports ten different habitat types and various endangered and threatened species, including federal trust species such as indigo snakes, gopher tortoises, wood storks, and piping plovers. Acquisition of the marina and surrounding property ensures that the refuge will be able to continue its support of public visitation to the Island, including an annual hunt program, as well as its biological program, which includes management of federally-endangered red wolf captive breeding program.

**Petit Manan NWR, Maine**

Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge was established to support the national migratory bird management program. The refuge’s primary focus is restoration and management of colonial seabirds such as roseate terns (federal and state endangered) arctic terns (state threatened), and common tern (state special concern), as well as common eiders, guillemots, razorbills, Atlantic puffins, Leach’s storm petrels, and black-backed, herring, and laughing gulls.

The Service purchased a colonial seabird nesting island with a combination of LWCF and NAWCA funds from a long-time conservation partner; the Maine Coast Heritage Trust. The 6.9-acre island exists in a natural state and has an extensive intertidal area, making it ideal feeding and nesting habitat for migratory birds.

**Upper Ouachita NWR, Louisiana**

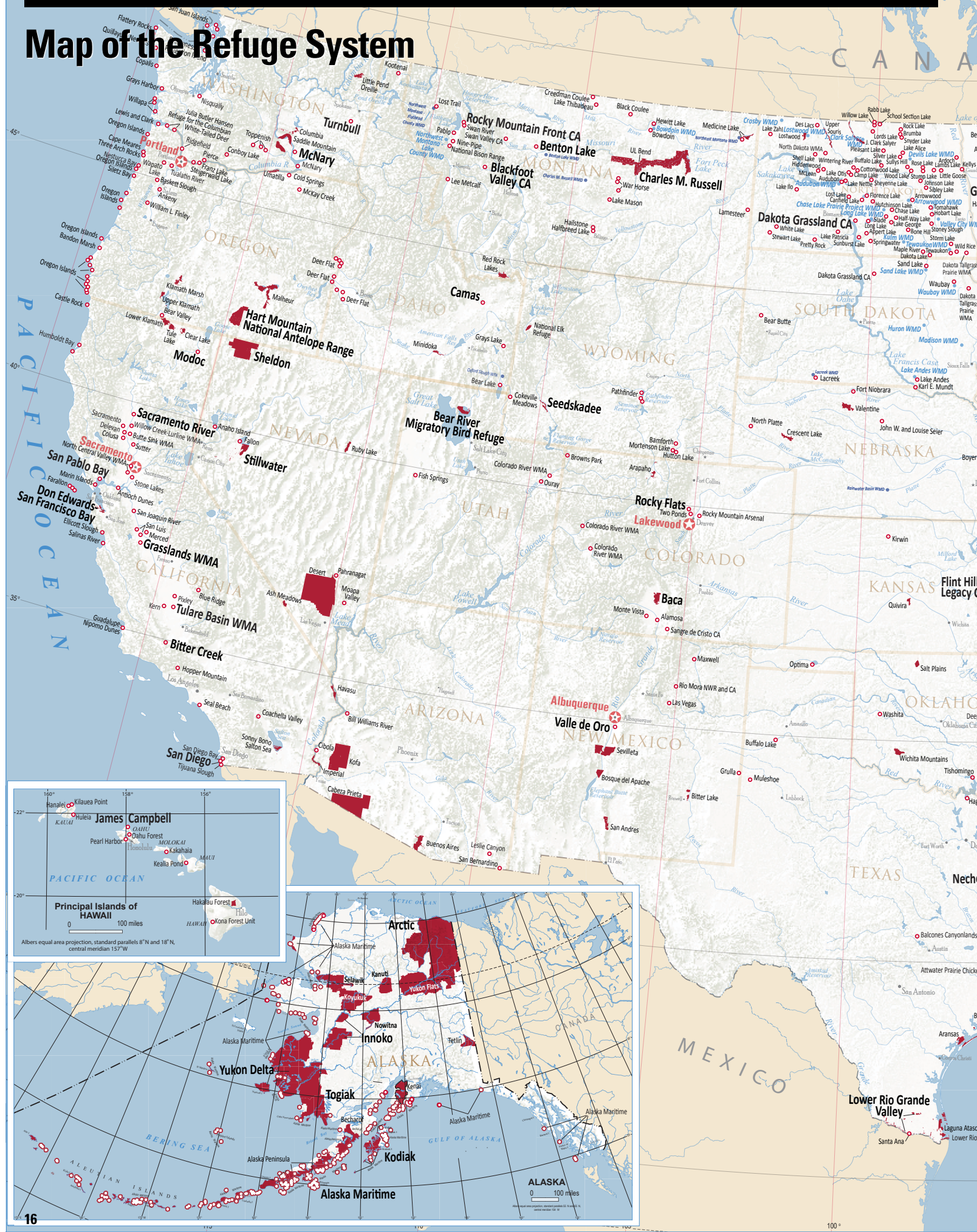
The Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge is located in northeast Louisiana at the Arkansas state line. The Ouachita River runs through the refuge, dividing it into two very distinct habitat types. On the west side of the river, pine forest and mixed pine-hardwood forest dominate, providing habitat for the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. On the east side of the river, bottomland hardwood forest dominates, covering an approximately 25,000-acre floodplain. In recent years, the Service, in partnership with The Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund, and The Nature Conservancy, has focused restoration and protection efforts on the expansive floodplain forest. The overall project is considered to be one of the largest

floodplain restoration projects in the country.

The Service partnered with TPL to begin acquiring the last large privately-owned property on the east side of the river; a 7,400-acre parcel in a single ownership. Entering 2014, the Service had acquired 1,780 acres of the property, and in 2014, the Service acquired an additional 4,233 acres. Once the acquisition is completed, nearly the entire floodplain will be in refuge ownership.



# Map of the Refuge System







**Refuge Units with FY2014 Acquisitions** ● Baca

**Refuge Units with no FY2014 Acquisitions** ○ Washita

**Wetland Management Districts with FY2014 Acquisitions** ● Crosby WMD

**Waterfowl Production Areas with no FY2014 Acquisitions** ● Corbin Pond WPA

**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)**

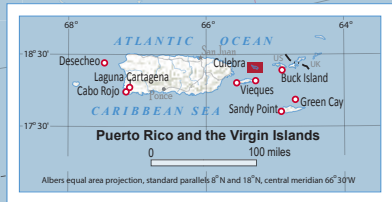
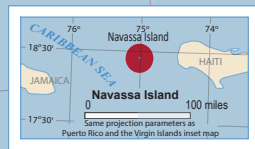
SCALE 1:7,500,000

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  
 11-25-2014





# Conservation Easements

## *Protecting Habitat and Working Lands*



Matt Lloyd/USFWS

*Grasslands WMA, California*

Service policy is to acquire land only when other means of achieving program goals and objectives are not appropriate, available, or effective. When the Service purchases land, it acquires the minimum interest necessary to reach management objectives. A conservation easement is a primary example of a versatile, minimally-restrictive land protection tool that is also cost-effective.

Conservation easements are voluntary legal agreements that protect wildlife habitat by limiting development on a property, but allow landowners to continue living and working on their land. Conservation easements reflect partnerships between the Service and landowners to support working lands while conserving large, biologically diverse landscapes. The Service's maintenance costs on conservation easements are minimal because the landowner retains responsibility for management of the land. Also, properties with Service-owned easements remain on the local tax rolls.

The Service acquires several types of conservation easements from willing sellers, including wetland, grassland,

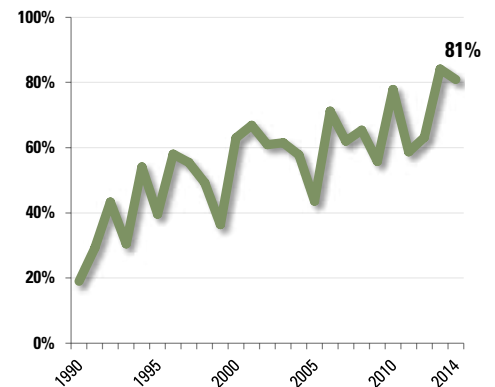
and habitat easements. When the Service enters into a wetland easement agreement, it pays the landowner not to drain, fill, level, or burn wetlands. For a grassland easement, the Service pays the landowner to keep their land in grass; grazing is allowed, but landowners agree not to mow, hay, or harvest grass seed until after July 15 of each year so that grassland birds are protected during the breeding season. Habitat easements may incorporate the terms of both wetland and grassland easements into a single agreement.

Of the 113,403 acres protected by the Service in FY 2014, 85,750 acres were protected using conservation easements, including the following acquisitions:

### **"Crown of the Continent," Montana**

The 18 million-acre Crown of the Continent landscape is one of North America's most biologically diverse and intact ecosystems. Spanning the United States and Canada, it includes a remarkable assemblage of high peaks, aspen glades, dense conifer forests, clear and cold rivers, native grasslands, and numerous small communities that are heavily invested in the land and its

**Easements as a Percentage of Acres Purchased, 1990-2014**



health. This landscape includes three of the Service's national wildlife refuges: Rocky Mountain Front, Blackfoot Valley, and Swan Valley Conservation Areas.

The Crown's biological values are, to a large degree, supported and maintained by stewardship of large working ranches and private forestlands. However, the unique wildlife resources and unmatched scenic values, combined with an uncertain economic future, are making these working lands vulnerable to residential and commercial development.





Gary Sullivan/USFWS

*Blackfoot Valley NWR, Montana*

The Service is purchasing conservation easements on private land in this landscape to prevent fragmentation of fish and wildlife habitat. During FY 2014 the Service acquired 9,517 acres of conservation easements within the approved acquisition boundary of Blackfoot Valley Conservation Area. These easements will protect some of the best remaining grizzly bear and bull trout habitat in the southern end of the Crown of the Continent landscape.

#### **Grasslands WMA, California**

Grasslands Wildlife Management Area lies within the San Joaquin River basin and supports the largest remaining block of wetlands in the Central Valley of California. This area is extremely important to Pacific Flyway populations of 19 duck species and six goose species, and supports large concentrations of migratory waterfowl, wading birds, and shorebirds.

In FY 2014, the Service acquired two conservation easements totaling 211 acres, which will protect the best wildlife habitats on the west side of the Grasslands WMA, buffering them from

urban development. The WMA now protects a full corridor of wetlands—critically important for the north-south migratory bird flight patterns—from urban and agricultural development.

#### **Flint Hills Legacy CA, Kansas**

The Flint Hills Legacy Conservation Area is the product of efforts by the Service, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, private landowners, and other conservation partners to protect some of the last remaining tallgrass prairie wildlife habitat in the nation as well as water quality and the rich agricultural heritage of the Flint Hills tallgrass region in eastern Kansas. This habitat supports Flint Hills grassland birds, which are the fastest declining group of avians in North America.

In FY 2014, the Service acquired 3,764 acres of contiguous tallgrass prairie in Chase County using LWCF funding. The property is dominated by big and little bluestem grass as well as Indian grass.

#### **Tulare Basin WMA, California**

Tulare Basin Wildlife Management Area was established in 2010 to protect private wetlands that are important to migratory waterfowl and shorebirds of the Pacific Flyway. The WMA is managed as a part of the Kern National Wildlife Refuge in the southern San Joaquin Valley.

In FY 2014, the Service acquired 345 acres of conservation easements, bringing the total conserved acreage to nearly 4,000 acres of key habitat for wetland-dependent species.

# Urban Refuges



Bill Rager/USFWS

## *Valle de Oro NWR, New Mexico*

Connecting People with Nature is more than just a motto. Over 70 national wildlife refuges are located within five miles of an urban population center, and the Service continues to invest limited conservation dollars to expand natural and recreational opportunities at those refuges. Urban refuges offer unique environmental education and natural world experiences in fast-growing population centers, while protecting wildlife habitat for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

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 in FY 2014:

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

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge is the first urban refuge in the Southwest. Located along the east bank of the Rio Grande in Albuquerque, this urban jewel not only supports wildlife species and their habitats, but also enhances the lives of local citizens. The refuge is the largest outdoor classroom in New Mexico, where

many will learn that conservation not only benefits wildlife but also preserves the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Wildlife species observed on the refuge include sandhill cranes, Canada geese, snow geese, Ross's geese, and other waterfowl. Shorebirds such as killdeer, long-billed curlew, and black-necked stilt, have also been observed.

In partnership with The Trust for Public Land and with LWCF funding, the Service acquired the last 139 acres of the 570-acre refuge. Since the refuge's establishment in 2012, nearly 150 conservation partners have worked closely with the Service to reconnect people with the natural world. Within the next few years, restoration of the Rio Grande bosque on the refuge will create additional opportunities for public outdoor recreation, including wildlife viewing, nature trails, environmental education and interpretation programs, wildlife photography, and special events.

### **Savannah NWR, Georgia and South Carolina**

Straddling the Savannah River in both Georgia and South Carolina, the

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge holds freshwater marshes, tidal rivers and creeks, and bottomland hardwoods, primarily cypress, gum, and maple, and supports many migratory waterfowl as well as alligators and other reptiles. Until very recently, much of the visitor access was by boat.

Refuge staff had long ago identified an extremely valuable privately-owned tract of land in South Carolina as ideal for acquisition, not only for its valuable wildlife habitat, but also because it could provide over a mile of much-needed public walk-in access to the upper portion of the refuge. In 2014, the Service acquired this critical 102-acre tract with LWCF funding.

The refuge promptly made the newly acquired tract available for the spring turkey hunting season, including the first-ever Savannah NWR youth turkey hunt, which was conducted with the assistance of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

### **San Pablo Bay NWR, California**

Established in 1974, San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge protects



migratory birds and endangered species such as the salt marsh harvest mouse and California clapper rail, and the state-listed California black rail. Located on the north shore of San Pablo Bay in Sonoma, Solano, and Napa Counties in northern California, the refuge contains open bay/tidal marsh, mudflats, and seasonal and managed wetland habitats.

In 2014, the Service acquired 2,220 acres at San Pablo Bay NWR, including a donation of 651 acres by the Sonoma Land Trust. The donated property has historic buildings and barns from a 1940's-era dairy farm that will now be used as the refuge headquarters. The property is highly visible to the public; more than 38,000 vehicles pass by daily along Highway 37.

The Service also acquired 477 acres from the State of California Coastal Conservancy; the property includes bayside marshlands, which are locally referred to as Sonoma Baylands. The property has uplands, marshes, and a prime location within the Pacific Flyway.

Finally, the Service acquired by donation a 1,092-acre parcel that was a former oat farm. Acquisition of this farm will enable the Service to restore it and an adjacent 2,000 acres to fully functioning marshland.

Our conservation partners, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the State of California Coastal Conservancy, the Sonoma Land Trust, and a private donor devoted five years of effort to make these acquisitions happen.

### **Bear River MBR, Utah**

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is located at the mouth of the Bear River and is part of the wetland complex surrounding the Great Salt Lake, 60 miles from Salt Lake City. The Bear River delta is the largest freshwater component of the Great Salt Lake ecosystem.

The refuge hosts more than 250 bird species using both the Central and Pacific Flyways as they stop to rest and feed on their seasonal migrations. Species that utilize the refuge include tundra and trumpeter swans, American avocets, white-faced ibis, sandhill cranes, grebes, herons, willits, cinnamon teal, Canada geese, and gadwalls. Seventy-two species of birds are known to nest and raise their young at the refuge.

In 2014 the Service acquired 403 acres adjacent to existing refuge lands; the



*San Pablo Bay NWR, California*



*Bear River MBR, Utah*

grasslands and riparian areas will benefit migratory birds and shore birds and will enhance the long-term viability and health of wildlife habitats. The property will also provide opportunities to expand wildlife-dependent public recreation.

Development pressure from Salt Lake City north along the Wasatch Front and a limited supply of developable land on account of mountains to the east and the Great Salt Lake to the west made the acquisition of this property particularly important.

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

San Diego National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1996 and is the Service's contribution to the Multiple Species Conservation Program, a landscape-wide

plan to conserve a network of wildlife habitat and open space and protect biodiversity. The refuge features open grasslands and rivers, and refuge staff actively restore habitats degraded by prior agricultural uses and wildfires.

Located less than 20 miles from downtown San Diego, the refuge provides important educational and recreational opportunities for residents of southern California.

In 2014 the Service acquired a 40-acre tract, a key inholding with native habitats of coastal sage and chaparral that has been designated as critical habitat for three federally-listed species, the endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly, the threatened California gnatcatcher, and the threatened Otay tarplant.



# Wildlife Conservation



*Camas NWR, Idaho*

*Charles M. Russell NWR, Montana*



The mission of the Fish and Wildlife Service is to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

National wildlife refuges provide habitat for more than 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 species of fish. More than 380 federally-listed threatened or endangered plants and animals are protected on national wildlife refuges. Each year, millions of migrating birds use refuges as summering, wintering, and resting places during their seasonal migrations.

The following acquisitions highlight our 2014 conservation efforts:

#### **Arctic NWR, Alaska**

Arctic National Wildlife Range in Alaska was established in 1960 to preserve unique wildlife, wilderness, and recreational values. In 1980, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) designated the range as part of the Arctic NWR, and described four purposes of the refuge: conserve animals and plants in their natural diversity; ensure a place for hunting and gathering; protect water quality and quantity; and fulfill international wildlife treaty obligations.

In FY 2014, The Conservation Fund donated three parcels totaling 120 acres near the Village of Kaktovik on the North Slope. The first tract is located on the Beaufort Sea, four miles northwest of the Canadian border; the second is located on Old Man Creek, near the Hulahula River, 48 miles southwest of Kaktovik; and the third is located on Jago Lagoon, approximately four miles southeast of Kaktovik.

These parcels provide important habitat for migratory waterbirds, including sea ducks, geese, swans, and shorebirds; fish, including Dolly Varden and Arctic cisco; and mammals, including caribou and polar bears. They also consolidate land ownership, which will enhance effective management of refuge lands; the Service works very closely with local residents on acquisition and management of refuge lands.

#### **Trinity River NWR, Texas**

Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge in Texas was established in 1994 to protect a remnant of the bottomland hardwood forest found along the Trinity River.

The refuge is managed for waterfowl wintering, feeding, and roosting; the waterfowl that most benefit are wood duck, mallard, gadwall, and hooded merganser.

In 2014, the Service acquired 277 acres at the refuge, including a 231-acre tract that contains old bottomland hardwoods and associated habitats for migrating, wintering, and breeding waterfowl.

#### **Driftless Area NWR, Iowa**

Driftless Area National Wildlife Refuge in Iowa was established in 1989 to conserve threatened and endangered species. It is part of the “Driftless Area,” which escaped the slowly gliding ice of the Glacial Period 500,000 years ago. The steep slopes and cliffs remain cool and moist all year, and support an unusual community of animals and plants that live in the algific (cold air) talus (loose rock) slopes. Relic species include Canada yew, Iowa golden saxifrage, northern wild monkshood (threatened), and the Iowa Pleistocene snail (endangered, found only on algific talus slopes).

In 2014 the Service acquired 66 fee acres, including three algific talus slopes.

#### **Camas NWR, Idaho**

Camas National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Idaho provides habitat for a variety of migratory and non-migratory birds as well as large and small mammals. Approximately half of the refuge consists of lakes, ponds, and marshlands, and the remainder is grass sagebrush uplands, meadows, and farm fields. During migration, up to 50,000 ducks and 3,000 geese may be present on the refuge, and tundra and trumpeter swans number in the hundreds.

In FY 2014 the Service acquired 80 acres of grassland and sagebrush habitat. Long-term conservation partner Pheasants Forever assisted with this acquisition, which was part of a broader collaboration with the State of Idaho and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service to protect habitat along an important migration corridor.

#### **Charles M. Russell NWR, Montana**

Established in 1936, Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge in Montana was originally called the Fort Peck Game Range. The name was later changed to honor the colorful western artist who often painted the landscape. Elk, mule deer, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, sage and sharp-tailed grouse, and bald eagles live at the refuge, which consists of native

prairie, forested coulees, river bottoms, and badlands often portrayed in Charles M. Russell’s paintings.

In 2014 the Service acquired two properties totaling 1,029 acres. The first, a 388-acre tract just north of Ft. Peck Reservoir, contains intact northern mixed grass prairie, sage-steppe, and timbered coulees that provide habitat for bighorn sheep, mule deer, and sharp-tailed grouse. The second property, which includes 640 fee acres and 1,920 acres of assigned state leases, is located on the southwest side of Haxby Point; it contains year-round springs that attract migrating songbirds as well as vast stretches of northern mixed grass prairie and sage-steppe. Both properties were acquired with funds from the sale of nearby cabin sites managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the authority of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge Enhancement Act of 2000, which requires that proceeds from the sale of federal cabin sites be used to acquire habitat at the refuge.



*Trinity River NWR, Texas*



# Marine National Monuments

## *The World's Largest Protected Area*



Kydd Pollock/USFWS

### *Palmyra Atoll NWR, Hawaii*

On September 25, 2014, the President issued Proclamation 9173—Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument Expansion, adding approximately 307,000 nautical miles to the existing Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument and increasing its size by six times, making it the largest marine reserve in the world. The expanded monument now contains approximately 370,000 square nautical miles.

Proclamation 9173 describes the area as a “highly pristine deep sea and open ocean ecosystem with unique biodiversity” holding “a large number of undersea mountains (“seamounts”) that may provide habitat for colonies of deepwater corals many thousands of years old.” Further, it states that the “pelagic environment provides habitat and forage for tunas, turtles, manta rays, sharks, cetaceans [marine mammals such as whales, dolphins, and porpoises], and seabirds that have evolved with a foraging technique that depends on large marine predators.”

The original Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument was established by Presidential Proclamation 8336 in 2009, to preserve and protect the marine environments around the seven national wildlife refuges in the monument: Wake, Jarvis, Howland, and Baker Islands, Johnston and Palmyra Atolls, and Kingman Reef. The monument included lands, waters, and submerged and emergent lands within 50 nautical miles of the mean low water lines of the seven Pacific Remote Islands, and now has been expanded to the extent of the seaward limit of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, up to 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea of the islands is measured.

In Presidential Proclamation 8336 the President delegated management authority to the Department of the Interior; in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce. By Secretarial Order 3284, the Secretary of the Interior delegated management responsibility for the monument to the Fish and Wildlife Service. The expansion Proclamation does not change the management of the

expanded Monument. The Secretaries of Interior and Commerce will develop management plans and implement regulations.



# Explanation of 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 Service lands and waters.

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 2014 (Page 7)

**Table 2** (Abridged version): FY 2014 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 2014

10/1/2013 - 9/30/2014

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 (\$)	Acres		Cost (\$)			
														Primary Jurisdiction		
<b>Alaska</b>																
Alaska Maritime	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	249.98	\$156,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	249.98	
Arctic	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	119.99	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	119.99	
Innoko	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79.98	\$60,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79.98	
Kodiak	NWR	2,211.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	\$21,000.00	150.16	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,372.05	
Togiak	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159.98	\$144,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159.98	
Yukon Delta	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,536.05	\$30,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,536.05	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>2,211.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,035.99</b>	<b>\$411,000.00</b>	<b>270.15</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>4,518.03</b>	
<b>Arkansas</b>																
Cache River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	329.46	\$1,107,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	329.46	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>329.46</b>	<b>\$1,107,200.00</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>329.46</b>	
<b>California</b>																
Bitter Creek	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-16.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-16.00	
Don Edwards San Fran. Bay	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	-114.06	-64.06	
Grasslands	WMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	211.40	\$404,393.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	211.40	
Modoc	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	
Sacramento River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	128.96	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	128.96	
San Diego	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	\$220,000.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	
San Pablo Bay	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	259.40	\$365,000.00	1,483.70	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,743.10	
Tulare Basin	WMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	344.80	\$856,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	344.80	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>283.40</b>	<b>\$585,000.00</b>	<b>1,692.66</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>556.20</b>	<b>\$1,260,393.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-114.06</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,418.20</b>	
<b>Colorado</b>																
Baca	NWR	-160.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	160.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky Flats	NWR	0.00	0.00	756.31	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	756.31	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>-160.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>756.31</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>160.00</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>756.31</b>	
<b>Connecticut</b>																
Silvio O. Conte	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.77	\$1,303,188.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.77	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>60.77</b>	<b>\$1,303,188.00</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>60.77</b>	
<b>Florida</b>																
Lake Wales Ridge	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	\$18,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	
St. Marks	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	519.79	\$1,460,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	519.79	
St. Vincent	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.93	\$1,200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.93	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>524.47</b>	<b>\$2,678,000.00</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>524.47</b>	
<b>Hawaii</b>																
James Campbell	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	113.62	\$3,994,244.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	113.62	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>113.62</b>	<b>\$3,994,244.00</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>113.62</b>	
<b>Idaho</b>																
Camas	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.31	\$200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.31	
<b>State Total:</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>80.31</b>	<b>\$200,000.00</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>80.31</b>	



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2014**

**10/1/2013 - 9/30/2014**

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>Illinois</b>																
Emiquon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.76	\$19,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.76	
Meredosia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	-2.34	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2.34	
<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>3.76</b>	<b>\$19,750.00</b>	<b>-2.34</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>1.42</b>	
<b>Indiana</b>																
Patoka River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	291.31	\$328,840.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	291.31	
<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>291.31</b>	<b>\$328,840.00</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>291.31</b>	
<b>Iowa</b>																
Driftless Area	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46.45	\$23,450.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.45	
Iowa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	314.82	\$2,307,400.00	13.59	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.36	0.00	0.00	328.77	
<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>361.27</b>	<b>\$2,330,850.00</b>	<b>33.59</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>395.22</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	\$1,191,450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,764.00	
<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>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$1,191,450.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,764.00</b>	
<b>Kentucky</b>																
Clarks River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	108.12	\$215,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	108.12	
<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>108.12</b>	<b>\$215,000.00</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>108.12</b>	
<b>Louisiana</b>																
Big Branch Marsh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	4.79	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.79	
Red River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	7.72	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	2.80	0.00	0.00	10.52	
Upper Ouachita	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,233.77	\$4,950,071.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,233.77	
<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>4,233.77</b>	<b>\$4,950,071.00</b>	<b>12.51</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,249.08</b>	
<b>Maine</b>																
Pett Manan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.91	\$600,000.00	4.76	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.67	
Rachel Carson	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	
Umbagog	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.59	\$57,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.59	
<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>52.50</b>	<b>\$657,500.00</b>	<b>4.92</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>57.42</b>	
<b>Maryland</b>																
Blackwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	201.34	\$1,005,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	201.34	
<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>201.34</b>	<b>\$1,005,000.00</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>201.34</b>	
<b>Massachusetts</b>																
Oxbow	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.66	\$0.00	13.34	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.51	0.00	20.51	
Silvio O. Conte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.00	
<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>6.66</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>32.34</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>39.51</b>	
<b>Michigan</b>																
Detroit River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.69	\$106,900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.69	
Green Bay	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	
Shiawassee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	135.93	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	135.93	
<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>29.69</b>	<b>\$106,900.00</b>	<b>145.93</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>175.62</b>	



## Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2014

10/1/2013 - 9/30/2014

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>Minnesota</b>																
Big Stone	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	59.99	\$201,625.00	0.00	0.00	59.99
Detroit Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.88	793.44	\$124,200.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	103.52	\$92,750.00	0.00	0.00	921.84
Fergus Falls	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.97	160.00	\$25,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	8.02	\$202,400.00	0.00	0.00	171.99
Glacial Ridge	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	255.55	0.00	\$511,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	255.55
Litchfield	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	129.93	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	258.86	\$766,450.00	0.00	0.00	388.79
Minnesota Valley	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	13.76	\$81,225.00	0.00	0.00	13.76
Morris	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	683.05	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	208.74	\$425,650.00	108.73	0.00	1,000.52
No. Tallgrass Prairie	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	399.08	0.00	399.08
Tamarac	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	271.23	\$155,950.00	0.00	0.00	271.23
Upper Mississippi River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.00	\$98,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63
Windom	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	259.96	295.64	\$636,600.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	49.67	\$302,725.00	0.00	0.00	605.27
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>544.99</b>	<b>2,062.06</b>	<b>\$1,394,800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$991,100.00</b>	<b>23.44</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>973.79</b>	<b>\$2,208,775.00</b>	<b>507.81</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,088.65</b>
<b>Mississippi</b>																
Coldwater River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-306.60	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	-306.60
Grand Bay	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.33	0.00	\$31,300.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	5.33
Holt Collier	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	884.29	0.00	\$956,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	-180.29	704.00
Tallahatchie	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	165.49	23.44	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	188.93
Theodore Roosevelt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	804.07	0.00	\$1,800.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	-370.40
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-1,174.47</b>	<b>23.44</b>	<b>\$991,100.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$991,100.00</b>	<b>23.44</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-180.29</b>	<b>221.26</b>
<b>Missouri</b>																
Big Muddy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	\$28,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</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>10.00</b>
<b>Montana</b>																
Benton Lake	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	42.08	42.08
Blackfoot Valley	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	9,516.88	\$4,925,000.00	0.00	0.00	9,516.88
Bowdoin	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	242.18	4.00	\$317,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	3,861.51	\$652,800.00	37.00	0.00	4,144.69
Charles M. Russell	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,028.74	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	1,028.74
Rocky Mountain Front	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	55.83	\$26,740.00	0.00	0.00	55.83
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>242.18</b>	<b>1,032.74</b>	<b>\$317,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$317,000.00</b>	<b>1,032.74</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13,434.22</b>	<b>\$5,604,540.00</b>	<b>37.00</b>	<b>42.08</b>	<b>14,788.22</b>
<b>Nevada</b>																
Sheldon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	\$26,900.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Stillwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-871.67	0.00	\$458,500.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	-871.67
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-781.67</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$485,400.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$485,400.00</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>-781.67</b>
<b>New Hampshire</b>																
Silvio O. Conte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	\$40,000.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
Umbagog	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-233.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	286.50	\$99,400.00	0.00	0.00	53.50
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-218.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>286.50</b>	<b>\$99,400.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>68.50</b>



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2014**

**10/1/2013 - 9/30/2014**

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 (\$)						
												Acres	Cost (\$)			
<b>New Jersey</b>																
Edwin B. Forsythe	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.24	\$140,000.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.24	
Walkkill River	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	179.43	\$1,117,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	179.43	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>228.67</b>	<b>\$1,257,000.00</b>	<b>5.00</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>233.67</b>	
<b>New Mexico</b>																
Valle de Oro	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	81.92	\$4,081,911.00	57.16	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.49	224.57	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>81.92</b>	<b>\$4,081,911.00</b>	<b>57.16</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>85.49</b>	<b>224.57</b>	
<b>New York</b>																
Montezuma	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	192.64	\$260,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	1.05	0.00	0.00	193.69	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>192.64</b>	<b>\$260,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>193.69</b>	
<b>North Dakota</b>																
Arrowwood	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	1,074.00	
Audubon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	160.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	1,818.42	0.00	0.00	3,274.42	
Chase Lake Prairie Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	2,421.81	0.00	0.00	3,987.81	
Crosby	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	701.74	
Dakota Grassland	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	14,248.63	
Devils Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	160.00	\$280,000.00	55.91	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	1,069.00	0.00	0.00	2,593.91	
J. Clark Salyer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	88.13	0.00	0.00	533.13	
Kulm	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	845.05	0.00	0.00	4,307.05	
Long Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	227.12	0.00	0.00	1,166.89	
Lostwood	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	246.00	
Tewaukon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	102.80	\$409,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	513.80	
Valley City	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	940.00	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>262.80</b>	<b>\$689,000.00</b>	<b>215.91</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,469.53</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>33,587.18</b>	
<b>Oklahoma</b>																
Little River	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	350.54	
<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>350.54</b>	
<b>Oregon</b>																
Hart Mountain	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	280.00	\$58,800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	280.00	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>280.00</b>	<b>\$58,800.00</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>0.00</b>	<b>280.00</b>	
<b>Pennsylvania</b>																
Erie	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	\$32,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>\$32,000.00</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>15.00</b>	
<b>South Carolina</b>																
Santee	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	115.00	115.00	
Savannah	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	101.60	\$1,218,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	101.60	
Waccanaw	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,360.06	\$2,044,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-259.70	1,100.36	
<b>State Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,461.66</b>	<b>\$3,262,700.00</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>-144.70</b>	<b>1,316.96</b>	
<b>South Dakota</b>																
Huron	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	1,539.72	0.00	0.00	10,082.87	



**Fish and Wildlife Service Acquisitions and Disposals in Fiscal Year 2014**

**10/1/2013 - 9/30/2014**

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 (\$)						
<b>South Dakota (Continued)</b>																	
Lake Andes	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	188.00	0.00	\$2,951,250.00	2,471.10	0.00	2,659.10
Madison	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,106.76	0.00	\$2,324,170.00	1,875.73	0.00	2,982.49
Sand Lake	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,177.35	0.00	\$8,124,958.00	12,018.29	0.00	13,195.64
Waubay	WMD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$2,581,450.00	3,558.71	0.00	3,558.71
<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>4,011.83</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$22,979,663.00</b>	<b>28,466.98</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>32,478.81</b>
<b>Texas</b>																	
Anahuac	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,114.13	\$1,562,689.88	1,350.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	2,465.01
Lower Rio Grande Valley	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	1,119.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	1,119.00
Neches River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	675.40	\$1,047,722.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	675.40
San Bernard	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,617.64	\$3,507,132.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.74	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	2,630.38
Trinity River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	275.28	\$308,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,611.54	1.44	0.00	276.72
<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>4,682.45</b>	<b>\$6,426,243.88</b>	<b>2,469.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>12.74</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$1,611.54</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,166.51</b>
<b>Utah</b>																	
Bear River	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	403.20	\$1,209,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	403.20
<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>403.20</b>	<b>\$1,209,600.00</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>403.20</b>
<b>Vermont</b>																	
Silvio O. Conte	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
<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>0.00</b>
<b>Virginia</b>																	
Mackey Island	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.14	\$147,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	4.14
<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>4.14</b>	<b>\$147,100.00</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>4.14</b>
<b>Washington</b>																	
McNary	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.85	\$355,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	1.85
Turnbull	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	405.38	\$547,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	405.38
<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>407.23</b>	<b>\$902,000.00</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>407.23</b>
<b>West Virginia</b>																	
Canaan Valley	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	53.94	\$146,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	53.94
Ohio River Islands	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94	\$28,500.00	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>0.00</b>	<b>54.88</b>	<b>\$174,500.00</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>0.00</b>	<b>54.88</b>
<b>Wisconsin</b>																	
Trempealeau	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	199.70	\$363,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	199.70
Whittlesey Creek	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.10	\$19,380.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	5.10
<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>204.80</b>	<b>\$382,380.00</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>204.80</b>
<b>Wyoming</b>																	
Seedskaadee	NWR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.50	\$63,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	2.50
<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>2.50</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>2.50</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>		<b>2,051.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-67.62</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>18,508.41</b>	<b>\$42,095,077.88</b>	<b>8,055.95</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>11,043.12</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$55,363,868.69</b>	<b>74,122.07</b>	<b>-310.97</b>	<b>113,402.85</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)

**About this report**

This publication, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Annual Report of Lands as of September 30, 2014 (formerly known as the Annual Report of Lands Under Control of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) is compiled annually by the National Wildlife Refuge System's Division of Realty.

The Division of Realty is dedicated to acquiring the land base necessary to protect diverse natural communities as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

This report catalogs all lands conserved by the Service as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, waterfowl production areas, marine national monuments and other submerged lands, coordination areas, and other administrative sites in federal Fiscal Year 2014 (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014). Some of these lands are cooperatively managed by other public entities.

A digital version of this and previous reports can be found at: [www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/land/LandReport.html).



July 2015

