BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS

The United States
Department of the Interior

and Performance Information
Fiscal Year 2014

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

NOTICE: These budget justifications are prepared for the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees. Approval for release of the justifications prior to their printing in the public record of the Subcommittee hearings may be obtained through the Office of Budget of the Department of the Interior.

References to the *2013 Full Yr. CR* signify annualized amounts appropriated in P.L. 112-175, the Continuing Appropriations Act. These amounts are the 2012 enacted numbers annualized through the end of FY 2013 with a 0.612 percent across-the-board increase for discretionary programs. Exceptions to this include Wildland Fire Management, which received an anomaly in the 2013 CR to fund annual operations at $726.5 million. The *2013 Full Yr. CR* does not incorporate reductions associated with the Presidential sequestration order issued in accordance with section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (BBEDCA), 2 U.S.C. 109a. This column is provided for reference only.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Executive Summary

Conserving the Nature of America
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is the oldest Federal conservation agency, tracing its lineage back to 1871. Over its 142 year history, the Service has adapted to the Nation's changing needs to become a leader in protecting and enhancing America's biological natural resources. In the face of escalating challenges such as land-use, population growth, invasive species, water scarcity, and a range of other complex issues, amidst a changing climate, the Service is meeting today's pressing conservation challenges with a strategic approach.

The Service is the only agency in the Federal government whose primary responsibility is management of biological resources for the American public. The Service helps ensure a healthy environment for people by providing opportunities for Americans to enjoy the outdoors and our shared natural heritage.

The Service is responsible for implementing and enforcing some of our Nation's most important environmental laws, such as the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, The Lacey Act, and international agreements like the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

The Service has an array of conservation successes that have improved the condition of fish, wildlife and plants across the Nation, but much remains to be done. Much of this success has been achieved in site- or species-specific situations. To meet the challenges of the 21st Century, the Service is addressing landscape-scale challenges like habitat loss and degradation, climate change, and invasive species and is shifting from site-specific or single-species approaches to a more integrated and complex landscape-scale model—one that accounts for the complexity and interrelated nature of ecosystems. The Service is cooperating with partners across programs, agencies, and boundaries to apply the best available science and technology to address today's conservation challenges.

The Service is now engaging a process to collaboratively identify **surrogate species** that can be used to represent other species or aspects of the species' environment (e.g., water quality, habitat conditions). Surrogate species is a commonly used scientific term for conservation planning that uses a small number of species as representatives for other species, habitats, and landscape conditions. The surrogate species concept includes various sub-categories and its use is well documented in the scientific literature.

Using surrogate species to develop, implement, and test conservation strategies and investments will help ensure that individual projects and "site-scale" management actions are coordinated and linked to landscape-scale goals—as defined and expressed through the Service's **Strategic Habitat Conservation** (SHC) framework. The greatest value of a surrogate species approach is that it reduces the complexity of ecological systems for analysis, planning, and management, easing the development of effective management plans that address the entire landscape. The surrogate species approach will provide a more effective and efficient method to achieving conservation goals. This approach provides the foundation for collaborative landscape-scale conservation that addresses Service responsibilities and the shared conservation goals of States, Tribes, other Federal agencies, and the Service's non-government partners.

The Service is using objectives and strategies derived from surrogate species planning to align its science capability, resources, and conservation actions. Using surrogate species and developing landscape-level goals enables the Service to focus on conservation actions that also benefit many species across a defined landscape. The landscape conservation goals, strategies, and expected biological outcomes will form the basis for establishing assessment criteria against which budget and other investment decisions

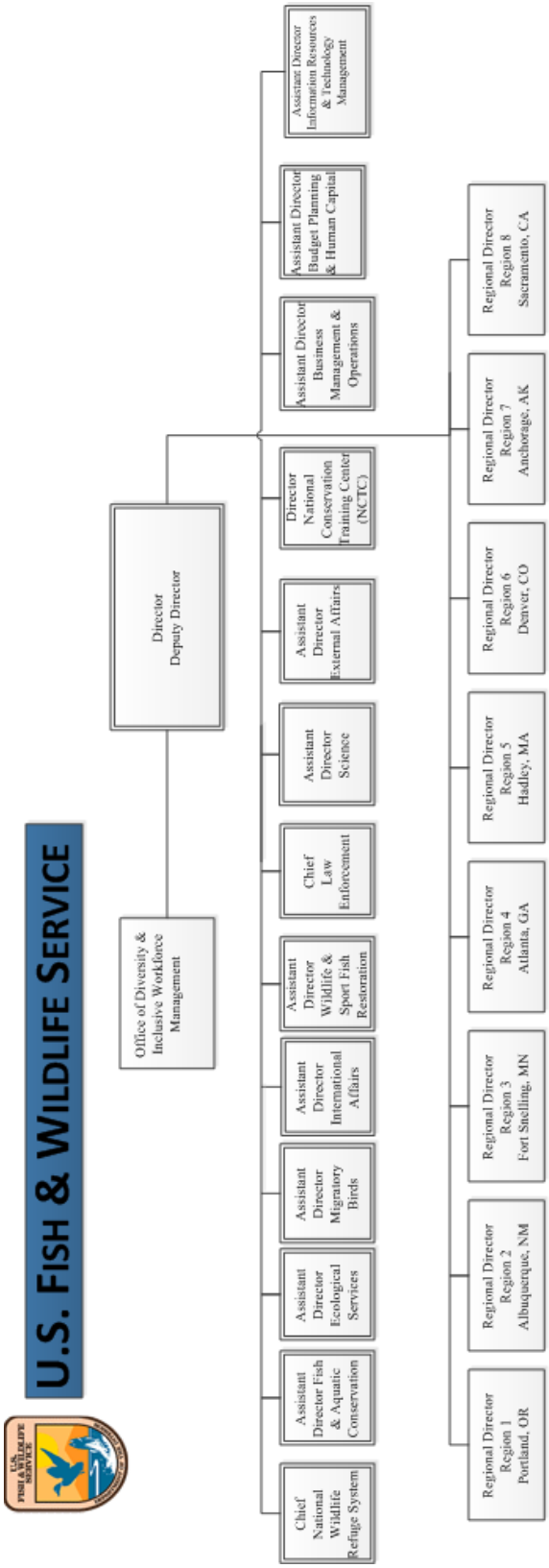
are evaluated. This approach allows the Service to extend the impact of its resources across wide swaths of the American landscape.

The Service's Organization

The Service has headquarters in Washington, D.C. and Arlington, Virginia, with eight regional offices and over 700 field stations. These include 561 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System; 6 National Monuments; 80 Ecological Services Field Stations; 72 National Fish Hatcheries; 1 historical National Fish Hatchery (D.C. Booth in South Dakota); 65 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices; 9 Fish Health Centers; seven Fish Technology Centers; and waterfowl production areas in 206 counties managed within 38 Wetland Management Districts and 50 Coordination Areas, all encompassing more than 150 million acres of land and waters. The Service works with diverse partners, including other federal agencies, state and local governments, Tribes, international organizations, and private organizations and individuals.

The Director reports to the Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and has direct line authority over headquarters and eight Regional Directors. Headquarter-based Assistant Directors provide policy, program management, and administrative support to the Director. The Regional Directors guide policy and program implementation, supervising the field structures, and coordinating activities with partners.

(See organizational chart, next page)


U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
Director
Deputy Director
Office of Diversity & Inclusive Workforce Management
Chief National Wildlife Refuge System
Assistant Director Fish & Aquatic Conservation
Assistant Director Ecological Services
Assistant Director Migratory Birds
Assistant Director International Affairs
Assistant Director Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration
Chief Law Enforcement
Assistant Director Science
Assistant Director External Affairs
Director National Conservation Training Center (NCTC)
Assistant Director Business Management & Operations
Assistant Director Budget Planning & Human Capital
Assistant Director Information Resources & Technology Management
Regional Director Region 1 Portland, OR
Regional Director Region 2 Albuquerque, NM
Regional Director Region 3 Fort Snelling, MN
Regional Director Region 4 Atlanta, GA
Regional Director Region 5 Hadley, MA
Regional Director Region 6 Denver, CO
Regional Director Region 7 Anchorage, AK
Regional Director Region 8 Sacramento, CA

Proposed

Overview of FY 2014 Budget Request

Dollars in Thousands				
Budget Authority	**2013 Full Yr. CR (PL 112-175)*** **	**2012 Enacted**	**2014 Request**	**2014 Request Change from 2012 Enacted ***
Current	*1,484,600*	1,475,571	1,551,961	+76,390
Permanent *	1,168,740	953,494	1,242,749	+74,009
Total Resources	**2,653,340**	**2,429,065**	**2,794,710**	**+150,399**
Current FTE**	*7,525*	7,608	7,564	-44
Permanent/Transfer FTE*	1,942	1,934	1,954	+20
Total FTE	**9,467**	**9,542**	**9,518**	**-24**

*Permanent funding lines reflect the change from the FY 2013 full year Continuing Resolution, not FY 2012 Enacted.
**2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.
*** Does not include current supplemental funding totaling $68.2 million provided by P.L. 113-2.

Overview

North America's native fish, wildlife and plants face enormous challenges as demand for natural resources grows. Threats such as continued degradation and fragmentation of habitat, competition from invasive species, and wildlife disease have been magnified by global climate change, water scarcity, and other landscape-scale environmental factors.

Because of these increasing challenges, the 2014 request for current appropriations totals $1.55 billion, an increase of $76.4 million compared to the FY 2012 enacted. The budget also includes $1.24 billion available under permanent appropriations, most of which will be provided directly to the states for fish and wildlife restoration and conservation. Permanent funding includes a proposal to partially fund Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) functions from permanent funds. Employee pay and other fixed costs are fully funded.

This budget funds Secretarial initiatives and Service priorities, including the America's Great Outdoors, New Energy Frontier, Youth in the Great Outdoors, Cooperative Recovery, Cooperative Watershed Management, and Service Science investments. Unless otherwise specified, all changes discussed are from the FY 2012 enacted.

America's Great Outdoors (+$120.1M)

On April 16, 2010 President Obama announced the America's Great Outdoors initiative, launching the development of a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda. The result is a call for a grassroots approach to protecting lands and waters and connecting all Americans to their natural and cultural heritage. The AGO initiative seeks to empower all Americans to share in the responsibility to conserve, restore, and provide better access to our lands and waters to leave a healthy, vibrant outdoor legacy for generations to come. Funding for the initiative is broadly defined to capture programs that are key to attaining conservation goals. That includes funding to operate and maintain our public lands; expand and improve recreational opportunities at the State and local level; protect cultural resources; and conserve and restore land, water, and native species. The President's budget for the Service proposes $1.53 billion, a $120.1 million increase for AGO related activities.

In 2013 and 2014, the urban parks and greenspaces goals of AGO will receive additional attention. As part of this effort, the Department will release a report in 2013 that will capture the following-

(1) An inventory of existing Interior urban assets, programs and funding opportunities.
(2) An assessment and recommendations on ways to reduce barriers to Interior working in urban areas
(3) Identification of twenty signature Interior urban projects
(4) Alignment, value and communication of our urban work as a core part of the Department and Bureau's missions.

The 2014 budget includes a total of $126.8 million through the LWCF for land acquisitions that the Service has identified as having the greatest conservation benefits. The Administration is proposing legislative language to partially fund land acquisition with permanent funding from the LWCF.

A number of ecosystems throughout the Nation where high-priority shared conservation goals can be achieved have been identified. Cross-bureau conservation focus areas for FY 2014 include the Crown of the Continent, Southwest Desert, and Longleaf Pine landscapes and National Trails. Many Service projects provide or enhance public outdoor recreation in close proximity to both urban and rural areas. Important factors for all projects proposed for the FY 2014 budget include contribution of leveraged funds, partner participation, and urgency of project completion to protect ecosystems and wildlife species' habitats from development or other inappropriate uses.

Youth in the Great Outdoors (+$2.5 M)

Funds proposed in the FY 2014 President's Budget Request will expand Service youth programs and partnerships to accomplish high priority projects, and promote quality participant experiences and pathways to careers. The request includes an increase of $2.5 million for expanded youth programs and partnerships, including the proposed 21st Century Conservation Service Corps.

Workforce planning studies suggest that the the Department of the Interior's bureaus are now competing for candidates who bring new competencies to the U.S. workforce. The Service must act now to ensure that talented and capable young people are ready to enter public service as natural resource professionals. The 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21 CSC), an outcome of America's Great Outdoors Initiative, is a bold national effort to put young Americans to work protecting, restoring, and enhancing public and tribal lands and waters as well as natural, cultural, and historical resources and treasures. The 21 CSC will provide service, training, education, and employment opportunities for thousands of young Americans and veterans, including low income and disadvantaged youth.

The Service will initiate the 21 CSC partnerships across the country, by providing funding to Service regions to engage a myriad of partners to complete high-quality, cost-effective project work that will increase public access, provide job training, and enhance and restore natural resources, all while spurring economic development and outdoor recreation. Participants will benefit from employment and hands-on educational experiences on the public lands they are working to restore and in the communities that surround the public lands. They will also focus on habitat enhancement and restoration, maintenance of recreational facilities, and reduction of ecological impacts that are the result of climate change. Projects that encourage career paths using the Pathways program and those that empower underserved and tribal communities will be a high priority. Some of these programs are managed through mentoring and partnerships with Friends organizations, volunteers, educational institutions, and local conservation organizations.

The Service offers the following programs to provide youth with experience in conservation and wildlife management: the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), the Pathways Program (including Internships,

Presidential Management Fellows, and Recent Graduates Programs), and the Career Diversity Internship Program (CDIP). Some students who have participated in these programs have chosen a permanent, full-time career with the Service.

New Energy Frontier (+$7.4M)

This investment includes a total of $17.5 million for activities associated with new energy development, including program increases of $2.75 million for conservation planning assistance for technical assistance in project design, $1.5 million for Endangered Species Act consultation for renewable energy projects, $750,000 to strengthen migratory bird conservation in areas with wind energy development, $1.0 million to bolster Service law enforcement activities that address the impact of new energy development and ongoing energy production on wildlife and wildlife habitat, and $1.4 million for scientific research to identify impacts from energy transmission infrastructure development in the American west and to inform mitigation strategies.

Renewable sources of energy are supplying an increasingly greater amount of our energy needs. In 2012, new wind energy generating capacity represented 44 percent of all new energy capacity in the U.S.—more than coal and nuclear generation combined. Energy development is a strategic priority for the Department, and the Nation, as the Service seeks to address economic, environmental, and national security challenges related to energy production and use. These activities have a direct impact on fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats, and have the potential to affect public recreational opportunities and experiences on national wildlife refuges. In terms of the Department's goal to "…increase approved capacity for production of renewable (solar, wind, and geothermal) energy resources on Department of the Interior managed lands, while ensuring full environmental review…"[a] the Service has a clear role in providing environmental review, especially in the area of Endangered Species Act compliance. The Service's ability to conduct consultations and planning activities are critical to ensuring that the nation can expand the production of renewable energy and create jobs without compromising environmental values.

New Energy Frontier Initiative—FY 2013

To address urgent energy-related conservation needs, in FY 2013 the Service awarded $4 million to four projects designed to "move the needle" toward conserving strategic habitat and priority species by reducing impacts of renewable or conventional energy development. During the selection process, priority was given to projects where the Service will make a difference in the conservation outcome for important trust resources. Based on the criteria, the following projects were selected:

Project	Region(s)
Pacific Islands Energy Initiative	Pacific Region (1)
Shaping Hydroelectric Development in the East and Midwest	Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast Regions (3, 4, 5)
Conserving Golden Eagles, Sage-grouse, and Their Habitats in the Face of Western Energy Development	Pacific, Southwest, Mountain Prairie, and Pacific Southwest Regions (1, 2, 6, and 8)
Desert Tortoise and Renewable Energy Development in the Mojave and Colorado/Sonoran deserts	Southwest and Pacific Southwest Regions (2 and 8)

[a] United States Department of the Interior Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2011-2016 accessed at http://www.doi.gov/bpp/data/PPP/DOI_StrategicPlan.pdf

Cooperative Recovery (+$9.4 million)

Human demands on the environment combined with environmental stressors are creating an urgent need for conservation actions. The scale of issues and challenges we face is unprecedented and no single entity has the resources necessary to address these challenges on its own. Only through cooperative efforts can the Service successfully recover our Nation's most imperiled species—endangered, threatened, and candidate wildlife and plants.

Through this investment, the Service combines the resources of multiple Service programs through a national, proposal-driven process to identify and implement the highest priority projects. The Service will implement projects with the highest likelihood of achieving recovery on the ground and hold projects accountable for achieving conservation success through performance measures. Building on the FY 2013 projects, the Service will continue its strategic approach to implement recovery actions on National Wildlife Refuges and surrounding ecosystems. The National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) comprises approximately 150 million acres of land and waters, including 54 million acres of submerged land in six Marine National Monuments. These lands and waters provide habitat for species of fish, wildlife, and plants, and sanctuary for hundreds of threatened and endangered species, and secure spawning areas for native fish. With nearly 300 listed species located in or around units of the NWRS, the ecosystem surrounding refuges provide important habitat for listed species, and can provide essential connectivity for species conservation.

Service programs in this cross-programmatic partnership include the NWRS, Fisheries, Endangered Species, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, and Migratory Birds working under the Strategic Habitat Conservation framework, and in consultation with LCCs to consider proposals for endangered species recovery projects on refuges and surrounding ecosystems. Criteria have been developed for evaluating project proposals and monitoring outcomes.

The total requested includes $1.9 million for Endangered Species Recovery, $3.2 million for Refuge Wildlife and Habitat Management, $1.5 million for Fisheries Population Assessment, $1.5 million for Partners for Fish and Wildlife, $770,000 for Service Science, and $500,000 for Migratory Birds Conservation and Monitoring.

The Cooperative Recovery Initiative—FY 2013

To address urgent endangered species conservation needs, in FY 2013 the Service awarded $5 million to 10 projects designed to recover threatened or endangered species on or near national wildlife refuges. The recovery efforts, on project sites that reach from Maine to Hawaii, and from Oregon to Mississippi, will help vulnerable species ranging from whooping cranes and pronghorn to mussels and snails.

The winning projects were chosen from 24 proposals and will be supported by funding from a wide array of Service programs that includes the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Fisheries Program, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, the Endangered Species Program and the Science Program. By working across programs to fund these efforts, the Service maximizes the conservation impact of its resources. Project teams must show their efforts have improved the status of target species within three years.

Projects Selected:

State(s)	National Wildlife Refuge or other Protected Area	Target Species
Oregon	Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge, William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge and Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge	Oregon chub (a fish), the Fender's blue butterfly and Bradshaw's lomatium (a flowering plant).
West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky	Ohio River Island National Wildlife Refuge	freshwater mussels-clubshell, orange-foot pimpleback, spectaclecase, and purple cat's paw
Nebraska	15 Wetland Production Areas	whooping cranes
Mississippi	Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge	dusky gopher frog
New Mexico	Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge	Noel's amphipod, Roswell springsnail, Koster's springsnail, Pecos assiminea (a snail) and Pecos gambusia (a fish)
Arizona	Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and Kofa National Wildlife Refuge.	Sonoran pronghorn
California	Klamath Basin Refuges	shortnose sucker and Lost River sucker
Nevada	Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area, near Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge	Paharanaget roundtail chub, White River springfish, and Hiko White River springfish.
Hawaii	Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge and Oahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge	27 critically endangered plants, including Alani (*Melicope hiiakae*) and Kamakahala (*Labordia cyrtandrae*)
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island	Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, Nantucket National Wildlife Refuge, Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge, Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge.	Roseate terns

Science Support (+$11.8M)

Funding totaling $21.5 million within this new subactivity was formerly under the Cooperative Landscape Conservation and Adaptive Science subactivity in the 2013 full year Continuing Resolution. In 2014, the Service will separate funding for Cooperative Landscape Conservation from Science Support to enable broader application of funding for scientific activities across the Service and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. The 2014 request for Science Support is $33.3 million, a programmatic increase of $11.8 million over the 2012 Enacted. The request includes a funding increase to support

applied science directed at high impact questions surrounding threats to fish and wildlife resources to provide the answers needed to manage species to healthy, sustainable, desired levels. Funding is also provided to direct, focus, and accelerate the science efforts of partnering universities, cooperative wildlife units, and other institutions to answer some of the remaining questions about how to address and mitigate the threats posed by white-nose syndrome. This budget request includes an increase of $1.5 million for that purpose. Additional science funding increases include $1.4 million for researching impacts and identifying mitigation strategies related to energy transmission corridors in the American west, focusing on impacts to Sage grouse and Desert tortoise, $1.0 million for biological carbon sequestration, $500,000 for climate adaptation focusing on early detection and rapid response for invasive species, $1.4 million for AGO ecosystem and landscape scale conservation on demonstration landscapes, and $1.0 million for the Landscape Conservation Stewardship Program.

Cooperative Watershed Management and National Blueways System (+$3.3M)

In January 2012, Secretary Salazar established the America's Great Outdoors Rivers Initiative to fulfill President Obama's vision for healthy and accessible rivers. In May 2012, the Secretary signed Secretarial Order 3321 creating the National Blueways System to provide a new national emphasis on the value and significance of a "headwaters to mouth" approach to river and watershed conservation, recreation, and education that encourages stakeholders to integrate their land and water stewardship efforts by forming watershed-based partnerships.

The Department of the Interior recognizes the level of effort necessary to establish and sustain a successful watershed partnership, working at a large landscape-scale. To promote the importance of watershed partnerships and support their important role in watershed stewardship, the Cooperative Watershed Management Program was established. The requested funding will assist the collaborative efforts of the Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service to form new watershed partnerships, expand existing watershed partnerships, and/or conduct projects in accordance with the goals of watershed management projects.

These funds will be awarded via a joint decision-making process of the National Blueways Committee, consisting of Bureau Director appointed members from BLM, FWS, Reclamation and NPS for grants and cooperative agreements specifically to support the following:

- watershed partnership coordination, collaboration and planning;
- river or watershed conservation or restoration projects or programs;
- river recreation and public education/engagement projects or programs; and
- project or programs to restore ecosystem services and sustainable economic value provided by healthy rivers and watersheds.

Fixed Costs (+$17.6M)

Fixed costs have increased by a total of $17.6 million from the 2012 Enacted. The fixed costs include adjustments for federal employee pay increase, employer contributions to health benefit plans, unemployment compensation, workers compensation, and rent. Funding fixed costs prevents the erosion of program capability.

Information Technology Transformation

The FY 2014 President's Budget Request includes $742,000 for Service participation in the Department's IT Transformation efforts through the Department's Working Capital Fund. These funds will support IT Transformation project-level planning and coordination and the implementation of enterprise IT services.

Enterprise Reforms

The Department of the Interior supports the President's Management Agenda to cut waste and implement a government that is more responsive and open. The Service budget supports the Department's plan to build upon the Accountable Government Initiative through a set of integrated enterprise reforms designed to support collaborative, evidence-based resource management decisions; efficient Information Technology (IT) Transformation; optimized programs, business processes, and facilities; and a network of innovative cost controlling measures that leverage strategic workforce alignment to realize an effective 21st Century Interior organization.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MAJOR ACCOUNT SUMMARY OF FISCAL YEAR 2014

Account		*2013 Full Yr. CR (PL 112-175*	2012 Enacted with FY 12 Actual FTE	Fixed Costs and Related Changes (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+ / -)	2014 President's Budget	Change from 2012 (+/-)
Current Appropriations								
Resource Management 1/	$000	*1,233,681*	1,226,177	+17,332	-3,434	+55,010	1,295,085	+68,908
	FTE	*7,302*	7,389		-20	-33	7,336	-53
Construction	$000	*23,192*	23,051	+123	0	-7,452	15,722	-7,329
	FTE	*82*	79	0	0	-12	67	-12
Land Acquisition 1/	$000	*54,966*	54,632	+123	+3,434	+12,644	70,833	+16,201
	FTE	*86*	89	0	+20	-3	106	+17
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	$000	*14,043*	13,958	0	0	-13,958	0	-13,958
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund	$000	*47,973*	47,681	0	0	+8,319	56,000	+8,319
	FTE	*18*	16	0	0	2	18	+2
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	$000	*35,714*	35,497	0	0	+3,928	39,425	+3,928
	FTE	*9*	8	0	0	1	9	+1
Multinational Species Conservation Fund	$000	*9,524*	9,466	0	0	+321	9,787	+321
	FTE	*4*	4	0	0	0	4	0
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation	$000	*3,809*	3,786	0	0	0	3,786	0
	FTE	*1*	1	0	0	0	1	0
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants	$000	*61,698*	61,323	0	0	0	61,323	0
	FTE	*23*	22	0	0	1	23	+1
TOTAL, Current Appropriations	**$000**	***1,484,600***	**1,475,571**	**+17,578**	**0**	**+58,812**	**1,551,961**	**+76,390**
	FTE	***7,525***	**7,608**	**0**	**0**	**-44**	**7,564**	**-44**

1/ -$3.434 million / -20 FTE in FY14 Refuge Conservation Plan, proposed transfer to Land Acquisition.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MAJOR ACCOUNT SUMMARY OF FISCAL YEAR 2014 REQUEST

Account		*2013 Full Yr. CR (PL 112-175*	Estimate in 13 PB w/ FY12 actual FTE	Costs and Related Changes (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget	*Change from 2013 (+/-)
Permanent and Trust Accounts								
Land Acquisition - FY 2014	$000	*0*	0	0	0	+35,497	35,497	+35,497
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	$000	*8,000*	8,000	0	0	0	8,000	0
	FTE	*11*	14	0	0	-3	11	-3
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Payment to Special Fund	$000	*62,636*	51,356	0	0	-1,112	61,524	-1,112
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0	0
CESCF Mandatory- FY 2014	$000	*0*	0	0	0	+28,000	28,000	+28,000
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0	0
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	$000	*500*	651	0	0	+200	700	+200
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration	$000	*462,662*	433,943	0	0	-42,146	420,516	-42,146
	FTE	*60*	60	0	0	0	60	0
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration	$000	*570,644*	399,178	0	0	+40,008	610,652	+40,008
	FTE	*53*	53	0	0	0	53	0
Migratory Bird Conservation Account	$000	*52,000*	47,000	0	0	0	52,000	0
	FTE	*65*	63	0	0	+2	65	+2
Migratory Bird Conservation Account Legislative Proposal	$000	*0*	0	0	0	+14,000	14,000	+14,000
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	+10	10	+10
Federal Lands Recreational Enhancement Act	$000	*5,100*	5,000	0	0	0	5,100	0
	FTE	*32*	35	0	0	-3	32	-3
Contributed Funds	$000	*3,000*	4,000	0	0	0	3,000	0
	FTE	*18*	16	0	0	+2	18	+2
Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations	$000	*4,198*	4,366	0	0	-438	3,760	-438
	FTE	*5*	5	0	0	0	5	0
Coastal Impact Assistance Program	$000	*0*	0	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE	*15*	11	0	0	+4	15	+4
Subtotal, Permanent Appropriations	**$000**	**1,168,740**	**953,494**	**0**	**0**	**+74,009**	**1,242,749**	**+74,009**
	FTE	**259**	**257**	**0**	**0**	**+12**	**269**	**+12**
Reimbursements and Allocations from others								+/- from 12 actual
Reimbursable (1900 series)	FTE	*871*	808			+120	928	+120
Offsetting Collections 1800 series	FTE	198	218			-20	198	-20
Offsetting Collections 4000 series	FTE	26	27			-1	26	-1
Wild land Fire Management	FTE	*453*	492			-94	398	-94
Southern Nevada Lands	FTE	21	20			1	21	+1
Federal Aid - Highway	FTE	21	12			+9	21	+9
NRDAR	FTE	*72*	72			0	72	+0
Central HAZMAT	FTE	7	7			0	7	+0
Forest Pest	FTE	1	1			0	1	+0
Energy Act - Permit Processing	FTE	*13*	20			-7	13	-7
Subtotal, Other		*1,683*	1,677	0	0	+8	1,685	+8
TOTAL FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE **	**$000**	***2,653,340***	**2,429,065**	**+17,578**	**0**	**+132,821**	**2,794,710**	**+150,399**
	FTE	***9,467***	**9,542**	**0**	**0**	**-24**	**9,518**	**-24**

*Mandatory lines reflect the change from the FY 2013 Full Yr. CR not FY 2012.
1/ 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted legislation

Agency Priority Goals

Youth in the Great Outdoors Agency Priority Goal

Priority Goal: **By September 30, 2013, the Department of the Interior will maintain the increased level of employment of individuals between the ages of 15 to 25 that was achieved in FY 2010 (35% increase in total youth employment over FY 2009) to support the Department's mission of natural and cultural resource management.** *For FY 2014, the Department is expecting to sustain a level of youth engagement similar to that achieved in FY 2010 (35% increase in total youth employment over FY 2009), based on estimated funding and participation from partners through the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (CSC).*

Bureau Contribution

Workforce planning studies suggest that the bureaus are now competing for candidates who bring new competencies to the U.S. workforce. The Service will continue to ensure that talented and capable young people are ready to enter public service as natural resource professionals.

The Service has worked with the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) to introduce young Americans to conservation opportunities at National Fish Hatcheries, National Wildlife Refuges, and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices across the country since inception of the program in 1970. The Service will continue hiring youth as resources permit to provide a quality, cost-effective outdoor work experience to a diverse pool of our Nation's youth. The Service's hires will continue to contribute to Priority Goal's objective to employ youth in the conservation mission of the Department.

Implementation Strategy

The Service's **National Wildlife Refuge System** will continue existing proven programs using creative approaches to offer public service opportunities. National wildlife refuges offer employment, education, and recreation opportunities that connect youth with the outdoors. These youth programs also provide opportunities to educate youth about career opportunities and promote public service as part of a life-long commitment to natural resource conservation. Programs are managed through mentoring and partnerships with Friends organizations, volunteers, educational institutions, and local conservation organizations.

The **Fisheries Program** will also continue supporting the Secretary's initiative to engage youth in the great outdoors by emphasizing new and creative ways to get the Nation's youth out into nature, specifically underrepresented groups such as those in urban environments, minorities, and women. The Service's Pathways program, rural and Tribal YCC programs, and the Biologist-in-Training Program complement these early learning experiences to mold future conservation stewards and advance youth into careers in conservation and natural resources management.

Support continues for the **National Conservation Training Center (NCTC)** which will continue to provide programmatic coordination and collaboration to increase the capacity of bureaus' conservation professionals to educate and train youth, and to provide natural resource career awareness, and provide professional development. NCTC is developing and implementing cutting-edge, electronic collaboration tools for sharing resources, targeting specific audiences, networking, and an interactive Youth Portal website to facilitate communication. This work enables participants to effectively share success stories, learn from other's best practices, and develop new tools to attract youth to careers in the natural resource community. NCTC will hold classroom training, workshops, and "community of practice" sessions to bring the best practices to Departmental professionals for engagement of youth in nature. The program will also build competencies to engage youth through new media and social networking tools. NCTC will also engage youth interested in natural resource careers so they can gain necessary knowledge and skills to qualify for Departmental positions. The NCTC works with learning institutions at the elementary, middle and high schools and at the college level to meet this goal.

Performance Metrics

Youth in the Great Outdoors Agency Priority Goal (APG)

Performance Goal	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB *
Number of youth (ages 15-25) employed	3,125	3,197	3,125	3,125	3,125
Comments:	* *NOTE:* For FY 2014, the Department is expecting to sustain a level of youth engagement similar to that achieved in FY 2010, based on estimated funding and participation from partners through the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (CSC).				
Contributing Programs:	Most Service programs, especially NWRS, Hatcheries				

Renewable Energy Agency Priority Goal

***Priority Goal*: By September 30, 2013, the Department of the Interior will increase the approved capacity authorized for renewable (solar, wind, and geothermal) energy resources affecting Department of the Interior managed lands, while ensuring full environmental review, by at least 11,000 Megawatts.**
By the end of FY 2014, the approved capacity authorized through the Priority Goal for renewable energy affecting DOI managed lands and waters is targeted to reach 15,429 mw cumulatively since the start of FY 2010.

Bureau Contribution

As the Nation seeks to address economic, environmental, and National security challenges related to energy supply, securing diverse energy sources to support a growing economy and protect our national interests has become a priority for the Nation. Through responsible development of federally-managed resources, the Department of the Interior (DOI) can play a central role in moving the Nation toward a clean energy economy. The transition to a renewable and emission-free energy infrastructure places

demands on the Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that new technologies and energy projects have minimal impact on fish and wildlife resources. While generally regarded as clean energy, renewable energy projects, including wind, solar, wave, and geothermal, often require large geographic areas to be commercially viable. These facilities and accompanying transmission infrastructure pose complex conservation issues on a landscape-level for migratory birds, fish, and other wildlife.

Energy development is a strategic priority for the Service as the Nation seeks to address economic, environmental, and national security challenges related to energy. These activities have a direct impact on fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats and have the potential to affect public recreational opportunities and experiences on national wildlife refuges. The Service's ability to conduct consultations and planning activities are critical to ensuring that the Nation can expand the production of renewable energy without compromising environmental values.

Implementation Strategy

Conservation Planning Assistance (CPA) will provide expert technical assistance and conservation recommendations to facilitate the siting, construction, and operation of a broad and growing spectrum of energy and transmission projects in order to avoid or mitigate significant impacts to fish and wildlife and their habitats. Program field biologists will effectively participate in additional landscape-level habitat conservation efforts with the states, industry and other conservation stakeholders to protect and conserve key fish and wildlife habitats as the Nation charts a course towards a clean energy future. The goal is to participate early to develop resource protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures that will reduce risks to fish and wildlife and conserve essential habitat.

The Department of Energy, State fish & game agencies, tribal agencies, Bureau of Land Management, and state energy commissions have expressed a need for expedited multispecies conservation strategies accompanied by appropriate permits to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The **ESA Consultations** program will enable Service biologists to work on developing these conservation strategies to provide for effective protection and conservation of natural resources while allowing solar and other qualified renewable energy development in a manner that avoids, minimizes, or mitigates environmental impacts. To complete these plans, biologists and energy specialists must develop, collect process and interpret geographic, biological, land use, and other environmental data for the entire plan area. Multiple stakeholder meetings and reviews will be necessary during plan development to ensure the resulting plan is consensus based to the extent feasible/ implementable. This effort will require intense, focused, and dedicated attention from consultation staff for renewable projects for the foreseeable future.

Performance Metrics

The Fish and Wildlife Service has identified a set of internal measures and milestones to monitor and track achievement of the Priority Goals. However, because FWS provides a "supporting role" for this priority goal none of its internal measures are reported to Performance.gov.

Climate Change Adaptation Agency Priority Goal

***Priority Goal:* By September 30, 2013, for 50 percent of the Nation, the Department of the Interior will identify resources that are particularly vulnerable to climate change and implement coordinated adaptation response actions.**

In FY 2014, progress for improved climate change adaptation and collaboration across the Department of the Interior will include pursuing the following significant milestones:

- Establishment of climate change adaptation guidance in all of the Interior land management bureaus, distributed throughout each bureau's regional offices and individual management units;
- Establishment of climate adaptation networks within each bureau and across the Department, with individual performance measures in place;
- New climate change adaptation data and decision tools relating to:
  - predicting and anticipating wildland fire trends,
  - predicting the spread or introduction of invasive species, and
  - tracking changes in wildlife abundance and distribution;
- Integrated vegetation surveys representing the entire lower 48 states; and
- Creation of a web-based searchable database of the vulnerability assessments prepared across all federal land management agencies.

Bureau Contribution

The Service uses a science-based, adaptive framework for setting and achieving cross-program conservation objectives that strategically addresses the problems fish and wildlife will face in the future. This framework, called Strategic Habitat Conservation, is based on the principles of Adaptive Management and uses population and habitat data, ecological models, and focused monitoring and assessment efforts to develop and implement strategies that result in measurable fish and wildlife population outcomes. This process uses the best available scientific information to predict how fish and wildlife populations will respond to changes in the environment, thus enabling the Service to focus habitat conservation and other management activities where they will be most effective.

The Service is working with numerous partners to develop the shared scientific and technical capacities needed to conduct landscape-scale biological planning and conservation design to inform and improve conservation delivery. Working with other DOI bureaus, state fish and wildlife agencies, other federal agencies involved in conserving fish and wildlife, non-governmental organizations, industry and the public, the Service has established several Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs). As a result, the Service and Department have moved closer to the long-term goal of establishing an integrated national network of 22 LCCs capable of defining biological objectives and developing the needed understanding to create landscape conservation strategies for managing fish and wildlife resources.

LCCs will play a significant role in the Service's ecosystem restoration efforts across the nation. The regions will utilize the LCC network and the Strategic Habitat Conservation business model to work on conservation actions more effectively in our changing ecosystems, ensuring that our actions are driven by good science, respect for our partners and a focus on outcomes.

Implementation Strategy

The strategy also will continue building the landscape-scale, long-term inventory and monitoring network to support the **National Wildlife Refuge System.** The Service launched this national effort in 2010 to increase its collective ability to inventory and monitor wildlife and habitats and inform conservation. The Inventory and Monitoring program element addresses critical information needs to plan and evaluate the effectiveness of conservation strategies implemented by the Service and conservation partners. These data collection efforts are needed in the face of accelerating climate change and growing threats from other environmental stressors. The program establishes consistent inventory and monitoring of environmental parameters, such as sea level rise, drought, shifting patterns of wildlife migration, habitat loss, disease, and invasive species. These data collection efforts will be coordinated with the National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and other federal and state efforts. This program will directly support our LCCs to inform efficient conservation delivery and expenditure of funds.

The Service is also conducting a small number of mitigation projects to help fish and wildlife populations begin to adapt to changing environmental conditions. Projects are underway as part of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP) in the Service's **Fisheries** program and in the **Partners for Fish and Wildlife** Program.

Performance Metrics

Climate Change Agency Priority Goal (APG)

Performance Measures	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB *
Number of LCCs formed	9	15	18	18	n/a
Number of LCCs operational	7	14	14	14	n/a
Number of LCCs with a management/ operating plan in place	8	10	14	14	n/a
Comments:	* *NOTE:* In FY 2014, progress for improved climate change adaptation and collaboration across the Department of the Interior will include pursuing significant milestones that are still being developed.				
Contributing Programs:	Cooperative Landscape Conservation				
Number of risk and vulnerability assessments initiated for priority species or areas. (cumulative)	64	159	222	236	n/a
Contributing Programs:	Primarily: Refuges, Endangered Species, Adaptive Science, Cooperative Landscape Cons., FWS Science Support, Environmental Contaminates, Partners, Coastal, etc.				
Number of risk and vulnerability assessments developed or refined (completed) for priority species or areas. (cumulative)	19	42	101	194	n/a
Contributing Programs:	Primarily: Refuges, Endangered Species, Adaptive Science, Cooperative Landscape Cons., FWS Science Support, Environmental Contaminates, Partners, Coastal, etc.				

Climate Change Agency Priority Goal (APG)

Performance Measures	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB *
Number of climate change adaptation actions undertaken by DOI initiated (cumulative)	18	34	46	48	n/a
Contributing Programs:	Primarily: Refuges, Endangered Species, Adaptive Science, Cooperative Landscape Cons., FWS Science Support, Environmental Contaminates, Partners, Coastal, etc.				
Number of climate change adaptation actions undertaken by DOI completed (cumulative)	0	13	29	41	n/a
Contributing Programs:	Primarily: Refuges, Endangered Species, Adaptive Science, Cooperative Landscape Cons., FWS Science Support, Environmental Contaminates, Partners, Coastal, etc.				

Administration's Management Agenda

Campaign to Cut Waste

Over the last three years, the Administration has implemented a series of management reforms to curb uncontrolled growth in contract spending, terminate poorly performing information technology projects, deploy state of the art fraud detection tools, focus agency leaders on achieving ambitious improvements in high-priority areas, open government up to the public to increase accountability and accelerate innovation.

In November 2011, President Obama issued an Executive Order reinforcing these performance and management reforms and the achievement of efficiencies and cost-cutting across the government. This Executive Order identifies specific savings as part of the Administration's Campaign to Cut Waste to achieve a 20 percent reduction in administrative spending from 2010 to 2013 and sustain these savings in 2014. Each agency is directed to establish a plan to reduce the combined costs associated with travel, employee information technology devices, printing, executive fleet services, and extraneous promotional items and other areas.

The Department of the Interior is on target to reduce administrative spending by $217 million from 2010 levels by the end of 2013, and to sustain these savings in 2014. To meet this goal, the Department is leading efforts to reduce waste and create efficiencies be reviewing projected and actual administrative spending to allocate efficiency targets for Bureaus and Departmental Offices to achieve the 20 percent target. Additional details on the Campaign to Cut Waste can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/09/executive-order-promoting-efficient-spending.

Real Property

In support of the Administration's real property cost savings efforts, the Department issued a policy restricting the maximum amount of Bureau/Office-leased and GSA-provided space to FY 2010 levels and reducing the target utilization rate (sq. ft. per person) for office space by 10 percent. Through actions such as consolidations, collocations, and disposals, the Service plans to achieve a utilization rate of 180 usable sq. ft. per person by the end of FY 2014.

The Department has a moratorium on construction of new facilities and required each Bureau/Office to set aside a minimum of 3% of its construction budget request for disposal activities that support real property cost savings goals. In FY 2014, these efforts support the Service achieving a net reduction of 35,000 gross square feet of building space. Additionally, the Service total office and warehouse square footage will not exceed the FY 2012 baseline as identified in the Service's Real Property Strategic Plan.

Data Center Consolidation

As part of the Administration's Management Priorities, the Department has initiated a plan for Information Technology (IT) Transformation designed to reduce spending by the consolidation of IT infrastructure and services under a single Chief Information Officer (CIO). The new IT shared services organization will transform the way that IT is delivered to over 70,000 DOI employees, using advances in technology to provide better services for less. The Service supports the Department's initiative to reduce 95 data centers by FY 2015 without disruption to mission.

Strategic Objective Performance Summary

Mission Area 1: Provide Natural and Cultural Resource Protection and Experiences

Goal #1: Protect America's Landscapes

Strategy #1: Improve land and water health by managing the wetlands, uplands, and riparian areas that comprise our national parks, wildlife refuges, and BLM lands.

Strategy #2: Sustain fish, wildlife, and plant species by protecting and recovering the Nation's fish and wildlife in cooperation with partners, including States.

Bureau Contribution

The FWS met (4) or exceeded (6) ten of its twelve FY 2012 targets for Strategy #1: improve land and water health performance metrics, contributing to the Department meeting or exceeding all but one of its metrics for FY 2012 in this strategic objective.

The FWS met (2) or exceeded (4) all of its FY 2012 targets for Strategy #2: sustain fish, wildlife, and plant species performance metrics, contributing to the Department's exceeding all metrics for FY 2012 in this strategic objective.

The National Wildlife Refuge System administers 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 within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. National Wildlife Refuges manage a full range of habitat types – wetlands; prairies; coastal and marine areas; temperate, tundra and boreal forests. Managing these habitats is a complex web of activities such as controlling or eradicating invasive species, using fire in a prescribed manner, assuring adequate water resources, and assessing external threats like development or contamination. Wildlife refuges are home to more than 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 reptile and amphibian species, and more than 200 species of fish.

FWS also works with partners on private, state, and other Federal lands to conserve and restore habitat for fish and wildlife and plant species. For example, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has grown into a large and diversified habitat restoration program assisting thousands of private landowners across the Nation and the Coastal Program provides incentives for voluntary protection of threatened, endangered and other species on private and public lands alike. The North American Wetlands Conservation Act provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife.

FWS is leading the Department in the establishment of a network of 22 Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) to provide the science and technical expertise needed to support conservation planning at landscape scales – beyond the reach or resources of any one organization. LCCs also promote collaboration among their members in defining shared conservation goals.

As the principal Federal partner responsible for administering the Endangered Species Act (ESA), FWS takes the lead in recovering and conserving our Nation's imperiled species by fostering partnerships, employing scientific excellence, and developing a workforce of conservation leaders. FWS works in partnership with others, on two major goals, 1) Protect endangered and threatened species, and then pursue their recovery; and 2) Conserve candidate species and species-at-risk so that listing under the ESA is not necessary. These goals are achieved through the following activities: candidate conservation; consultations; grants; habitat conservation plans; international activities; listing and critical habitat; recovery; and working with tribes.

There are almost 400 aquatic species—fishes, mussels, plants—in the United States that need attention. Many fishes offer great sporting opportunities, or are species that feed people. The FWS Fisheries Program works at the intersection of fisheries science and management, developing and using the latest techniques to conserve America's fisheries. Fisheries science is an integrative approach to understanding the biology, ecology, and economics of a fishery with the goal of sustainable management. FWS analyzes and approves new drugs and chemicals for aquatic species; monitors population levels and responses to environmental changes; maps habitat usage; identifies pathogens and diseases; breeds and grows fish; and evaluates population structure using genetics. FWS applies scientific data to focus conservation activities on high-priority species and habitats to protect and maintain stable populations and healthy habitats, and restore degraded habitats and depleted populations.

FWS has a legal mandate and trust responsibility to maintain healthy migratory bird populations for the benefit of the American public. More than 25 laws, treaties, and conventions authorize the Service to conserve more than 1,000 species of migratory birds and their habitats. Primary among these mandates is the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, which establishes federal responsibility for protecting and managing migratory birds. It also implements four international treaties affecting migratory birds common to the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan and the former Soviet Union. Management activities include establishing hunting seasons, bag limits, and other regulations and issuing permits to possess or use migratory birds. Other important laws that directly and significantly impact program activities include the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and the North American Wetlands Conservation and Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Acts, which promote habitat and bird conservation across North America and throughout the western hemisphere.

FWS' International Affairs Program engages in domestic and international efforts to protect, restore, and enhance the world's diverse wildlife and their habitats with a focus on species of international concern. The Service has international responsibilities under numerous domestic laws, international treaties, and other multilateral agreements, such as the Multinational Species Conservation Acts, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Western Hemisphere Convention, the Canada/Mexico/U.S. Trilateral Committee, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Lacey Act, the Wild Bird Conservation Act, and the Ramsar Wetlands Convention.

Implementation Strategy

FWS will continue its efforts in improving land and water health and sustaining fish, wildlife and plant species at similar levels in FY 2014 compared to FY 2012. (The response by species to changes in habitat (or other stressors on their health and sustainability) can take years before it can be measured and therefore, measures related to overall status of species tend to move slowly across the years. Also, note that, especially on projects conducted with partners on private lands, results can vary widely from year to year based on the makeup of projects and the partnerships in effect in that time span. The Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) contains details on some of the variability of specific measures.)

In FY 2014, FWS will endeavor to:

- FWS will support the Cooperative Recovery Initiative - a cross-programmatic partnership approach to complete planning, restoration, and management actions addressing current threats to endangered species on and around wildlife refuges.

- FWS will provide the resources necessary for 16 Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) to be fully operational, while still supporting all 22 LCCs at some level.

- FWS will use additional funding to build much needed science capacity, beyond that being provided by LCCs. It will be applied to strategically identified science requirements across the Service to deliver priority conservation outcomes.

- FWS will further the national Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) initiative to increase the Service's collective ability to inventory and monitor wildlife and habitats to inform conservation actions.

- FWS will facilitate a greater focus on renewable energy, while de-emphasizing other activities, particularly the collaborative development of regional impact assessment and planning tools through partnerships by its Conservation Planning Assistance program.

- FWS will complete an additional 60+ threatened/endangered species listing determinations (final or proposed) by the end of FY 2014, including critical habitat designations, as required by settlement agreements and a multi-year work plan approved by a Federal District Court.

- FWS will work collaboratively within the Service, the Department and with state agencies and conservation partners to encourage land and water stewardship through partnerships in support of Secretarial Order #3321 establishing the National Blueways System.

- FWS will support critical monitoring, prevention, and control actions both in the Great Lakes and in other areas including control and containment to help keep Asian carp from spreading.

- FWS will fund critically needed fisheries and fish habitat monitoring, planning, and habitat restoration programs for listed and native fish in support of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement.

- FWS will address limiting factors in reducing illegal wildlife trafficking by supporting direct partnership with foreign governments to share and coordinate intelligence, expand training programs, and/or provide technical assistance in customs monitoring.

- FWS funding for State & Tribal Wildlife competitive grants will increase while funding for formula grants will decrease by the same amount to allow states to tailor projects in support of goals which pursue landscape-scale management and interstate cooperation.

- FWS will reduce funding for the Avian Health and Disease Program and the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership to fund higher priority conservation activities.

- FWS will decrease support for Alaska Subsistence administrative and technical support provided to the Regional Advisory Councils, conduct fewer fish population and harvest assessments and discontinue status and trends information for several native fish populations.

Performance Metrics

FWS contributes to 12 DOI Strategic Plan measures in Strategy #1: Improve land and water health and six DOI Strategic Plan measures in Strategy #2: Sustain fish, wildlife, and plant species.

The related performance measures (including data) are included in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2014 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Goal #2: Protect America's Cultural and Heritage Resources

Strategy #1: Protect and maintain the Nation's most important historic areas and structures, archaeological sites, and museum collections.

Bureau Contribution

The FWS met or exceeded its FY 2012 targets for cultural and heritage resources performance metrics, contributing to the Department exceeding all metrics for FY 2012 in this strategic objective.

The Refuges program is FWS' primary organization responsible for identifying, protecting, and sharing cultural resources. The three primary goals are to (1) evaluate, through a systematic, open-minded study by archeologists, historians, and other specialists to locate resources and to discover or substantiate their significance. (2) provide considerable thought to the problem of simultaneously protecting resources and making them available to the public, and (3) implement essential and appropriate treatment programs and protective measures. Other programs, such as the National Fish Hatchery program (which maintains the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives in Spearfish, South Dakota), and the National Conservation Training Center also have important cultural resources to protect and share.

Established in 1896, D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives, formerly Spearfish National Fish Hatchery, is one of the oldest operating hatcheries in the country. Still rearing trout for the

Black Hills through a cooperative effort with the State, the hatchery is also a museum and archive that serves to protect and preserve our nation's fishery records and artifacts for educational, research, and historic purposes. With over 155,000 visitors and 14,000 volunteer hours annually, the facility also strives to provide interpretive and educational programs for the public.

The National Conservation Training Center Museum and Archives houses films, photos, and documents chronicling the rich heritage of wildlife conservation. A changing museum and state of the art research archive help the public, researchers and professional conservationists better understand the rich history of American wildlife conservation.

Implementation Strategy

FWS will continue its cultural and heritage resource efforts at similar levels in FY 2014, compared to FY 2012.

In FY 2014, FWS will endeavor to:

- Provide safe and accessible facilities for visitors to view/photograph/learn about archaeological sites, historic structures, and historical collections.
- Develop visitor programs, materials, and services that generate interest in cultural/historical assets in the inventory.
- Increase public education about the importance of continued regulatory field surveys, archaeological investigations, site evaluations, and mitigation.

Performance Metrics

FWS contributes to three DOI Strategic Plan measures in this strategic objective.

The related performance measures (including data) are included in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2014 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Goal #3: Provide Recreation and Visitor Experience

Strategy #1: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage by creating opportunities for play, enlightenment, and inspiration.

Bureau Contribution

The FWS exceeded its FY 2012 target for visitor satisfaction. A new visitor survey, conducted at selected, representative National Wildlife Refuge locations during FY 2012 showed increased visitor satisfaction over previous years. This updated result helped the Department also exceed its overall goal for visitor satisfaction.

The 1997 National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act provides direction to the Refuges program to provide "…compatible wildlife-dependent recreational uses involving hunting, fishing, wildlife

observation, wildlife photography, environmental education and interpretation as priority public uses of the Refuge System." In addition, many of the Service's 72 fish hatcheries and one historic fish hatchery also provide opportunities for the public to visit and learn more about aquatic wildlife and fish, and fish hatcheries, as well as take advantage of recreational activities on hatchery grounds.

Implementation Strategy

FWS will continue its visitor service programs at similar levels in FY 2014, compared to FY 2012, and expects to maintain its current high level of visitor satisfaction (90%).

In FY 2014, FWS will endeavor to:

- Increase the visibility of national wildlife refuges as an inexpensive, family-friendly place for Americans, especially children, to reconnect with America's natural and cultural resources, in accordance with the President's America's Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative.
- Continue educational and interpretive programs, and hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and photography opportunities on National Wildlife Refuges.
- Welcome more than 47 million visitors to enjoy educational and interpretive programs, hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and photography and the system will also aim to train and supervise approximately 42,000 volunteers that contribute more than 1.5 million hours to conservation and recreation programs.
- Continue maintenance and limited improvements to visitor facilities, including parking areas, kiosks, interpretive signs, trails, and boardwalks.

Performance Metrics

FWS contributes to one DOI Strategic Plan measure in this strategic objective.

The related performance measure (including data) are included in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2014 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

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Budget At-A-Glance

2014 Budget At A Glance

(Dollars in Thousands)

	2013 Full Yr. CR (PL. 112-175)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes	2014 President's Budget
Appropriation: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT						
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES						
ENDANGERED SPECIES						
Candidate Conservation	***11,439***	**11,337**	**226**	**-33**	**0**	**11,530**
Listing	***20,997***	**20,869**	**294**	**-55**	**1,514**	**22,622**
Critical Habitat					-2,945	
Listing					4,459	
Consultation/HCP	***61,673***	**60,943**	**918**	**-190**	**3,080**	**64,751**
Renewable Energy					1,500	
Science for Pesticide Consultations					1,000	
Tribal Consultation					510	
General Program Activities					70	
Recovery	***81,483***	**82,806**	**952**	**-230**	**3,015**	**86,543**
Wolf Livestock Demonstration Program					-998	
State of the Birds Activities					-995	
Cooperative Recovery					1,900	
General Program Activities					3,108	
Endangered Species Subactivity Total	***175,592***	**175,955**	**2,390**	**-508**	**7,609**	**185,446**
HABITAT CONSERVATION						
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	***55,539***	**54,768**	**540**	**-112**	**1,521**	**56,717**
Cooperative Recovery					1,483	
General Program Activities					38	
Conservation Planning Assistance	***34,145***	**35,780**	**566**	**-346**	**968**	**36,968**
Renewable Energy					2,750	
General Program Activities					-1,782	
Coastal Programs	***14,149***	**14,870**	**177**	**-30**	**-69**	**14,948**
National Wetlands Inventory	***5,219***	**5,219**	**42**	**-8**	**521**	**5,774**
Habitat Conservation Subactivity Total	***109,052***	**110,637**	**1,325**	**-496**	**2,941**	**114,407**
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS	***11,495***	**13,128**	**189**	**-289**	**198**	**13,226**
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES TOTAL	***296,139***	**299,720**	**3,904**	**-1,293**	**10,748**	**313,079**
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM						
WILDLIFE AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT						
Refuge Wildlife & Habitat Management	***225,962***	**223,439**	**2,889**	**-86**	**12,265**	**238,507**
Climate Change/Inventory & Monitoring					3,000	
Challenge Cost Sharing Partnerships					3,600	
Alaska Subsistence					-636	
Feral Swine Eradication Pilot Program					-998	
Cooperative Recovery					3,200	
Cooperative Watershed Management					3,250	
General Program Activities					849	
Refuge Visitor Services	***74,077***	**74,225**	**1,127**	**-288**	**-818**	**74,246**
Youth and Careers in Nature					128	
General Program Activities					-946	
Refuge Law Enforcement	***38,261***	**37,373**	**504**	**-110**	**2,318**	**40,085**
Radio Initiative					1,250	
General Program Activities					1,068	
Refuge Conservation Planning	***10,034***	**11,704**	**158**	**-3,521**	**-1,667**	**6,674**
Refuge Planning					-1,667	
Refuge Maintenance	***138,160***	**138,950**	**948**	**-790**	**572**	**139,680**
Maintenance Support					-32	
Deferred Maintenance					604	
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM TOTAL	***486,494***	**485,691**	**5,626**	**-4,795**	**12,670**	**499,192**

	2013 Full Yr. CR (PL. 112-175)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes	2014 President's Budget
Appropriation: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT						
CONSERVATION, ENFORCEMENT AND SCIENCE (*new name FY14*)						
MIGRATORY BIRD MANAGEMENT						
Conservation and Monitoring	***29,709***	**29,193**	**465**	**-63**	**462**	**30,057**
Renewable Energy					750	
Cooporative Recovery					500	
General Program Activities					-788	
Avian Health and Disease	***2,866***	**3,828**	**13**	**-10**	**-2,189**	**1,642**
Permits	***3,592***	**3,564**	**63**	**-14**	**5**	**3,618**
Duck Stamp Office	***597***	**843**	**11**	**-2**	**-250**	**602**
Junior Duck Stamp Program					-250	
North American Waterfowl Management Plan	***14,092***	**14,025**	**109**	**-22**	**31**	**14,143**
Migratory Bird Management Total	***50,856***	**51,453**	**661**	**-111**	**-1,941**	**50,062**
LAW ENFORCEMENT						
Law Enforcement Operations	***61,297***	**61,168**	**956**	**-121**	**5,297**	**67,300**
Renewable Energy					1,000	
Tribal Consultation					50	
General Program Activities					4,247	
Equipment Replacement	***975***	**975**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**975**
Law Enforcement Total	***62,272***	**62,143**	**956**	**-121**	**5,297**	**68,275**
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS						
International Conservation	***6,329***	**6,290**	**75**	**-9**	**327**	**6,683**
International Wildlife Trade	***6,708***	**6,681**	**161**	**-19**	**0**	**6,823**
International Affairs Total	***13,037***	**12,971**	**236**	**-28**	**327**	**13,506**
SCIENCE SUPPORT *(New FY14)*						
Adaptive Science	***[12,988]***	**[16,723]**	**31**	**12,988**	**2,180**	**15,199**
Biological Carbon Sequestration					500	
General Program Activities					1,680	
Service Science	***[8,505]***	**0**	**0**	**8,505**	**9,572**	**18,077**
AGO: Ecosystem and Landscape Scale Conservation					1,400	
Biological Carbon Sequestration					500	
Climate Adaptation: Invasive Species					500	
Energy Transmission Corridors					1,400	
White-Nose Syndrome					1,500	
General Program Activities					4,272	
Science Support Total	***[21,493]***	**[16,723]**	**31**	**21,493**	**11,752**	**33,276**
CONSERVATION, ENFORCEMENT AND SCIENCE TOTAL	***126,165***	**126,567**	**1,884**	**21,233**	**15,435**	**165,119**
FISH AND AQUATIC CONSERVATION *(new name 2013)*						
National Fish Hatchery Operations	***46,075***	**46,075**	**790**	**-165**	**-172**	**46,528**
Maintenance and Equipment	***17,997***	**18,031**	**0**	**-34**	**0**	**17,997**
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation						
Habitat Assessment and Restoration	***25,358***	**24,553**	**245**	**-48**	**2,227**	**26,977**
Fish Passage Improvements					1,518	
Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement					1,610	
Tribal Consultation					180	
General Program Activities					-1,081	
Population Assessment and Cooperative Mgmt.	***32,291***	**31,991**	**588**	**-75**	**-3,493**	**29,011**
Alaska Fisheries Subsistence					-2,254	
Cooporative Recovery					1,500	
General Program Activities					-2,739	
Aquatic Invasive Species	***10,336***	**8,836**	**107**	**-11**	**5,524**	**14,456**
State Plans/NISA Implementation/Coordination					132	
Prevention					-149	
Control and Management					-507	
Asian Carp					5,903	
Ecosystem Restoration - Chesapeake Bay					145	
Marine Mammals	***5,925***	**5,831**	**113**	**-9**	**31**	**5,966**
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation Subtotal	***73,910***	**71,211**	**1,053**	**-143**	**4,289**	**76,410**
FISH AND AQUATIC CONSERVATION TOTAL	***137,982***	**135,317**	**1,843**	**-342**	**4,117**	**140,935**

	2013 Full Yr. CR (PL. 112-175)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes	2014 President's Budget
Appropriation: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT						
COOPERATIVE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION ~~& ADAPTIVE SCIENCE~~						
Cooperative Landscape Conservation	***15,534***	**15,475**	**142**	**-9**	**2,007**	**17,615**
Adaptive Science *(Moved to Science Support FY14)*	***21,493***	**16,723**	**18**	**-21,394**	**4,653**	**0**
Adaptive Science - General Program Activities					-117	
Service Science					4,000	
Cooporative Recovery					770	
COOPERATIVE LANDSCAPE~~ AND ADAPTIVE SCIENCE~~ TOTAL	***37,027***	**32,198**	**160**	**-21,403**	**6,660**	**17,615**
GENERAL OPERATIONS						
Central Office Operations	***41,846***	**38,605**	**869**	**3,547**	**318**	**43,339**
External Affairs - Tribal Consultation					950	
General Program Activities					-632	
Regional Office Operations	***40,726***	**40,951**	**1,329**	**-178**	**1,044**	**43,146**
Servicewide Bill Paying	***36,207***	**36,039**	**1,422**	**-150**	**508**	**37,819**
IT - General Program Activities					538	
IT - Enterprise Investments					-319	
Printing					-98	
Memberships					-83	
Operational Support					470	
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	***7,525***	**7,525**	**0**	**0**	**1,000**	**8,525**
AGO: Landscape Conservation Stewardship Program					1,000	
National Conservation Training Center	***23,570***	**23,564**	**295**	**-53**	**2,510**	**26,316**
Youth Programs and Partnerships					2,500	
General Program Activities					10	
GENERAL OPERATIONS TOTAL	***149,874***	**146,684**	**3,915**	**3,166**	**5,380**	**159,145**
TOTAL - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	***1,233,681***	**1,226,177**	**17,332**	**-3,434**	**55,010**	**1,295,085**
Appropriation: CONSTRUCTION						
Nationwide Engineering Services	*9,132*	9,070	123	0	-1,984	7,209
Bridge and Dam Safety	*1,852*	1,852	0	0	0	1,852
Line Item Construction	*12,208*	12,129	0	0	-5,468	6,661
TOTAL - CONSTRUCTION	***23,192***	**23,051**	**123**	**0**	**-7,452**	**15,722**
Appropriation: LAND ACQUISITION						
Land Acquisition Management	*12,658*	12,535	123	0	123	12,781
Land Protection Planning	*0*	0	0	3,434	0	3,434
Exchanges	*2,496*	2,496	0	0	-996	1,500
Inholdings, Emergencies and Hardships	*4,492*	4,492	0	0	555	5,047
Highlands Conservation Act	*130*	4,992	0	0	-4,992	0
Land Acquisition	*35,190*	30,117	0	0	17,954	48,071
TOTAL - LAND ACQUISITION	***54,966***	**54,632**	**123**	**3,434**	**12,644**	**70,833**
Appropriation: NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND	***14,043***	**13,958**	**0**	**0**	**-13,958**	**0**
Appropriation: COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND	***47,973***	**47,681**	**0**	**0**	**8,319**	**56,000**
Appropriation: NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND	***35,714***	**35,497**	**0**	**0**	**3,928**	**39,425**
Appropriation: MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND	***9,524***	**9,466**	**0**	**0**	**321**	**9,787**
Appropriation: NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND	***3,809***	**3,786**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3,786**
Appropriation: STATE & TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS	***61,698***	**61,323**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**61,323**
TOTAL, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE	***1,484,600***	**1,475,571**	**17,578**	**0**	**58,812**	**1,551,961**

FY 2014 Summary of Fixed Cost Changes by Appropriation

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Change from FY 2012 Enacted			
Fixed Cost Component	Resource Management	Construction	Land Acq.	**TOTAL**
One More Paid Day	2,566	23	44	**2,633**
Pay Raise	6,869	70	26	**6,965**
Federal Employees Health Insurance	3,936	30	53	**4,019**
Departmental Working Capital Fund	1,768			**1,768**
Workers' Compensation Payments	-67			**-67**
Unemployment Compensation Payments	-518			**-518**
GSA and non-GSA Space Rental Payments	2,778			**2,778**
TOTAL, Fixed Costs	**17,332**	**123**	**123**	**17,578**

Resource Management

Resource Management

Appropriations Language

For necessary expenses of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, as authorized by law, and for scientific and economic studies, general administration, and for the performance of other authorized functions related to such resources, [$1,247,044,000] $1,295,085, to remain available until September 30, [2014]2015, except as otherwise provided herein: Provided, That not to exceed [$22,431,000] $22,622,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, (except for processing petitions, developing and issuing proposed and final regulations, and taking any other steps to implement actions described in subsection (c)(2)(A), (c)(2)(B)(i), or (c)(2)(B)(ii)), of which not to exceed[$4,548,000] $4,605,000 shall be used for any activity regarding the designation of critical habitat, pursuant to subsection (a)(3), excluding litigation support, for species listed pursuant to subsection (a)(1) prior to October 1, 2012; of which not to exceed [$1,498,000] $1,501,000 shall be used for any activity regarding petitions to list species that are indigenous to the United States pursuant to subsections (b)(3)(A) and (b)(3)(B); and, of which not to exceed [$1,498,000] $1,504,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, for species that are not indigenous to the United States.

Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-175). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Authorizing Statutes

African Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4201-4245, 1538). Authorizes funding for approved projects for research, conservation, management or protection of African elephants. Authorizes prohibitions against the sale, importation, and exportation of ivory derived from African elephants. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, (P. L. 100-233). Section 616 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer lands, interest therein, to Federal or State agencies for conservation purposes. The Fish and Wildlife Service assesses inventory lands to determine when such lands would be of benefit to the National Wildlife Refuge System and makes transfer recommendations.

Airborne Hunting Act, (16 U.S.C. 742 j-1). Section 13 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 prohibits taking or harassing wildlife from aircraft, except when protecting wildlife, livestock, and human health or safety as authorized by a federal or state issued license or permit.

Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980, (16 U.S.C. 410hh-3233, 43 U.S.C 1602-1784). Provides for the designation and conservation of certain public lands in Alaska, including units of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and for the continuing subsistence needs of the Alaska Natives. Sec. 42(g) of this Act makes use of such Native lands subject to refuge regulations.

Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, (43 U.S.C. 1601-1624). Provided various measures for settling the claims of Alaska Native peoples to land in Alaska, including authorization of selection and ownership of land within National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska by Native Corporations.

Anadromous Fish Conservation Act, (P. L. 89-304). Authorizes the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce to enter into cooperative agreements with the States and other non-Federal interests for the conservation, development, and enhancement of anadromous fish, including those in the Great Lakes, and to contribute up to 50 percent of the costs of carrying out such agreements.

Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, (16 U.S.C. 2401). Provides for the conservation and protection of the fauna and flora of Antarctica, and their ecosystems.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 470aa-47011**).** Provides for protection of archaeological resources and sites on public and tribal lands and for increased cooperation between government authorities, the professional archaeological community, and private collectors with collections obtained before October 31, 1979.

Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act, (P.L.106-108). Requires the Secretary of the Interior to prepare, and as appropriate implement, a comprehensive, long-term plan for the management of mid-continent light geese and conservation of their habitat.

Asian Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4261-4266, 1538). Provides for cooperative projects for the conservation and protection of Asian elephants. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act, as amended, (16 U. S.C. 5151-5158). The purpose of this act is to support and encourage development, implementation, and enforcement of effective interstate action regarding the conservation and management of Atlantic striped bass. The Act recognizes the commercial and recreational importance of Atlantic striped bass and establishes a consistent management scheme for its conservation. The three partners which share management responsibility for Atlantic striped bass are the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Every two years, NMFS and the FWS are required to produce an Atlantic Striped Bass Biennial Report to Congress on the status and health of Atlantic Coast Striped Bass Stocks. The most recent report delivered to Congress was the 2007 Biennial Report to Congress. Expired

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as amended, **(**16 U.S.C. 668-668d). This Act provides for the protection of Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles by prohibiting take, possession, sale, purchase, transport, export or import of such eagles or their parts or nests. Take, possession, and transport are permitted for certain authorized purposes.

Chehalis River Basin Fishery Resources Study and Restoration Act of 1990, (P. L. 101-452). Authorizes a joint federal, state, and tribal study for the restoration of the fishery resources of the Chehalis River Basin, Washington.

Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990, (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) Requires the Secretary (delegated to the Service) to maintain the maps of the Coastal Barrier Resources System, to review the system at least every 5 years for changes which have occurred as a result of natural forces, and to make minor and technical changes to the maps of the System reflecting those natural changes. It also requires the Secretary to submit a study to Congress on the need to include the west coast in the system, and to lead an interagency task force to provide recommendations

to Congress for legislative action and federal policies on developed and undeveloped coastal barriers. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act of 1990, (16 U.S.C. 3951-3156). Provides a federal grant program for the acquisition, restoration, management, and enhancement of coastal wetlands of states adjacent to the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, the Great Lakes, and the Pacific, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Pacific U.S. insular areas. Provides that the Service update and digitize wetlands maps in Texas and conduct an assessment of the status, condition, and trends of wetlands in that state. Provides permanent authorization to appropriate receipts, coastal wetlands conservation grants and North American Wetlands Conservation projects. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, (16 U.S.C. 1451-1464). Establishes a voluntary national program within the Department of Commerce to encourage coastal states to develop and implement coastal zone management plans. Activities that affect coastal zones must be consistent with approved state programs. The Act also establishes a National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). Expired.

Colorado River Floodway Protection Act, (43 U.S.C 1600; 42 U.S.C. 4029). Established a Task Force to advise the Secretary on the specific boundaries for and management for the area. Expired.

Colorado River Storage Project Act, (43 U.S.C. 620). Provides that facilities will be built and operated to mitigate losses of, and improve conditions for, fish and wildlife in connection with the Colorado River Storage.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 9601, et seq.). Provides that responsible parties, including federal landowners, investigate and clean up releases of hazardous substances. Trustees for natural resources, which includes the Secretary of the Interior, may assess and recover damages for injury to natural resources from releases of hazardous substances and use the damages for restoration, replacement or acquisition of equivalent natural resources. Provides permanent authorization to appropriate receipts from responsible parties.

Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.). Promotes wise management and sustainable use of coral reef ecosystems and develop sound scientific information on the condition of coral reef ecosystems and threats to them. Provides financial resources to local communities and nongovernmental organizations to assist in the preservation of coral reefs. It establishes a formal mechanism for collecting and allocating monetary donations from the private sector to be used for coral reef conservation projects. Expired.

Electronic Duck Stamp Act, (16 U.S.C. 718 note). Established a pilot program that authorized up to 15 states to issue electronic Duck stamps for three years. Expired.

Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 3901). Provides for the collection of entrance fees, thirty percent of which may be used for refuge operations and maintenance, and for the Secretary to establish and periodically review a national wetlands priority conservation plan for federal and state wetlands acquisition, complete National Wetlands Inventory maps for the contiguous United States by September 30, l998, to update the report on wetlands status and trends by September 30, 1990, and at 10-year intervals thereafter.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544). Prohibits the import, export, or taking of fish and wildlife and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered species; provides for

adding species to and removing them from the list of threatened and endangered species, and for preparing and implementing plans for their recovery; provides for interagency cooperation to avoid take of listed species and for issuing permits for otherwise prohibited activities; provides for cooperation with States, including authorization of financial assistance; and implements the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).

Fallon-Paiute Shoshone Indian Water Settlement Act, (P.L. 101-618). Establishes the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund. Funds are administered by the Service for use in restoring Lahontan Valley wetlands and recovering the endangered and threatened fish of Pyramid Lake. Section 206(a) authorizes the acquisition of water rights for restoring wetlands in Lahontan Valley. The Act stipulates that sufficient water rights be acquired to restore and sustain, on a long term average, approximately 25,000 acres of primary wetland habitat within Nevada's Lahontan Valley.

Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA), (43 U.S.C. 2301-2306). Allows the sale of BLM lands identified for disposal, with sales proceeds used for land acquisition by the various land management agencies, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Expired.

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Control Act, (7 U.S.C. 136-136y). Provides for the registration of pesticides to avoid unreasonable adverse effects to humans or the environment. Such registrations are considered Federal actions and are subject to consultations with the Service under the Endangered Species Act.

Federal Power Act, (161 S.C. 791a et seq.). Provides that each license for hydropower projects issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission includes fish ways prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior or Commerce, and that conditions for the protection, mitigation and enhancement of fish and wildlife based on recommendations of the Service and other agencies.

Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387**).** Section 404 (m) authorizes the Service to comment on permit applications submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters of the United States. Section 208(i) authorizes the Service to provide technical assistance to states in developing management practices as part of its water pollution control programs and to continue with the National Wetlands Inventory. Section 320 authorizes the establishment of a state/federal cooperative program to nominate estuaries of national significance and to develop and implement management plans to restore and maintain the biological and chemical integrity of estuarine waters.

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 742(a)-754). Establishes a comprehensive national fish and wildlife policy and authorizes the Secretary to take steps required for the development, management, advancement, conservation, and protection of fisheries resources and wildlife resources through research, acquisition of refuge lands, development of existing facilities, and other means.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 2901-2911). Directs the Secretary to undertake research and conservation activities, in coordination with other federal, state, international and private organizations, to fulfill responsibilities to conserve migratory nongame birds under existing authorities. The Secretary is required, for all species, subspecies, and migratory nongame birds, to monitor and assess population trends and status; to identify environmental change and human activities; and to identify species in need of additional conservation and identify conservation actions to ensure perpetuation of these species. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 661-666(e)). Directs the Service to investigate and report on proposed federal actions that affect any stream or other body of water and to provide recommendations to minimize impacts on fish and wildlife resources.

Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 777 note; Public Law 106-502)**.** Congress reauthorized the Fisheries and Irrigation Mitigation Act (FRIMA) as part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, P.L. 111-11. FRIMA was established in 2000 and has been an important tool for addressing fish screening and fish passage needs in the Pacific Northwest states. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2015.

Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, (Magnuson-Stevens Act), (16 U.S.C. 1801-1882, 90 Stat. 331). Authorizes the conservation and management of the fishery resources found within the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States, including anadromous species, through eight Regional Fishery Management Councils. Establishes the Service as a nonvoting member of the Councils.

Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 801-3945). Provides that the Secretary of Agriculture consult with the Secretary of the Interior on the identification of wetlands, determinations of exemptions, and issuance of regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act. Requires the Service to concur in wetland mitigation plans in association with minimal effect exemptions and to concur in conservation plans for lands proposed for inclusion in the Wetlands Reserve program. Establishes a program to protect and restore wetlands on Farmers Home Administration inventory property and provides for the Service to identify such wetlands.

Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.). Authorizes grants to foreign governments, the CITES secretariat, and non-governmental organizations for the conservation of great apes. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Great Lakes Critical Programs Act of 1990, (P.L. 101-596). Authorization for Service activities is contained in title III, the "Lake Champlain Special Designation Act of 1990". Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 2006, (P.L. 109-326). On October 12, 2006, President Bush signed the bill into law. The measure was first enacted in 1990 and reauthorized in 1998. The 2006 reauthorization places new emphasis on terrestrial wildlife projects, whereas the previous Acts were primarily devoted to fisheries. The bill also reauthorizes the existing state and tribal grant program and provides new authority for the Service to undertake regional restoration projects. In addition, it directs the Service to create and maintain a website to document actions taken as a result of the Act. Under authority of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 2006, the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Grant Program provides federal grants on a competitive basis to states, tribes and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources and their habitat in Great Lakes basin. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Great Lakes Fishery Act of 1956, (16 U.S.C. 931-939). Implements the Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries between the United States and Canada, and authorizes the Secretary and the Service to undertake lamprey control and other measures related to the Convention.

Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act, (16 U.S.C. 719 et seq.). Authorizes an annual Junior Duck Stamp competition and environmental education program for school children; provides for the licensing and marketing of winning designs, with proceeds used for awards and

scholarships to participants. Public Law 109-166 reauthorizes the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Klamath River Basin Fishery Resources Restoration Act, (16 U.S.C.460ss et seq.). Requires the Secretary to develop and implement a restoration plan for the Klamath River Basin. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Lacey Act Amendments of 1981, (18 U.S.C. 42; 16 U.S.C. 3371-3378). Provides that the Secretary designate injurious wildlife and ensure the humane treatment of wildlife shipped to the United States. Prohibits importation, exportation, transportation, sale, or purchase of fish and wildlife taken or possessed in violation of state, federal, Indian tribal, and foreign laws. Provides for enforcement of federal wildlife laws, and federal assistance to the states and foreign governments in the enforcement of non-federal wildlife laws.

Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1801-1882). Provides a framework for managing fisheries within the Exclusive Economic Zone and through eight Regional Fishery Management Councils. Establishes the Service as a nonvoting member of the Councils.

Marine Mammal Protection Act, (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). Established a moratorium on taking and importing marine mammals, including parts and products. Defines the Federal responsibility for conservation of marine mammals, with management authority vested in the Department for the sea otter, walrus, polar bear, dugong, and manatee. Expired.

Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grants, (16 U.S.C. 1421f; 114 Stat. 2765. Title II of P.L. 106-555). Amended the Marine Mammal Protection Act to authorize grants to non-governmental organizations which participate in the rescue and rehabilitation of stranded marine mammals. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Marine Turtle Conservation Act,(16 U.S.C. 6601-6607). Established a Marine Turtle Conservation Fund in the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. The fund is a separate account to assist in the conservation of marine turtles, and the nesting habitats of marine turtles in foreign countries. Expired.

Migratory Bird Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 715-715d). Authorizes the Secretary to conduct investigations and publish documents related to North American birds, and establishes a Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC) to approve areas recommended by the Secretary for acquisition. The MBCC also approves wetlands conservation projects recommended by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 718). This Act, commonly referred to as the Duck Stamp Act, requires waterfowl hunters, 16 years of age or older, to purchase and possess a valid Federal waterfowl hunting stamp prior to taking migratory waterfowl. The Secretary is authorized to use $1 million from sales of migratory bird hunting and conservation stamps to promote additional sales of stamps.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 703-712). Implements four international treaties that affect migratory birds common to the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan, and the former Soviet Union. Establishes federal responsibility for protection and management of migratory and non-game birds, including the establishment of season length, bag limits, and other hunting regulations, and the issuance of permits to band, possess or otherwise make use of migratory birds. Except as allowed by implementing regulations, this Act makes it unlawful to pursue, hunt, kill, capture, possess, buy, sell,

purchase, or barter any migratory bird, including the feathers or other parts, nests, eggs, or migratory bird products.

National Aquaculture Development Act, (16 U.S.C. 2801-2810). Established a coordinating group, the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture (JSA). The JSA has been responsible for developing the National Aquaculture Development Pan. The plan establishes a strategy for the development of an aquaculture industry in the United States. Expired.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.**).** Provides that the Service examine the environmental impacts, incorporate environmental information, and use public participation in the planning and implementation of all actions; integrate NEPA with other planning requirements; prepare NEPA documents to facilitate better environmental decision making; and review federal agency environmental plans and documents when the Service has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impacts involved. Permanent authority.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act, (16 U.S.C. 3701-3709**).** Established a federally chartered, nonprofit corporation to encourage and administer donations to benefit Service programs and other activities to conserve fish, wildlife, and plant resources. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 470-470b, 470c-470n**).** Directs federal agencies to preserve, restore, and maintain historic cultural environments.

National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.**).** Provides authority, guidelines and directives for the Service to improve the National Wildlife Refuge System; administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and restoration of fish, wildlife and plant resources and habitat; ensure the biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health of refuges is maintained; define compatible wildlife-dependent recreation as appropriate general public use of refuges; establish hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education as priority uses; establish a formal process for determining compatible uses of refuges; and provide for public involvement in developing comprehensive conservation plans for refuges.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, (P.L. 105-57**).** Spells out wildlife conservation as the fundamental mission of the refuge system; requires comprehensive conservation planning to guide management of the refuge system; directs the involvement of private citizens in land management decisions; and provides that compatible wildlife-dependent recreation is a legitimate and appropriate use that should receive priority in refuge planning and management.

National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of 2010, (P.L. 111-357**).** Authorizes cooperative agreements with nonprofit partner organizations, academic institutions, or state and local governments to construct, operate, maintain, or improve refuge facilities and services, and to promote volunteer, outreach, and education programs. Authorization of Appropriations expires September 30, 2014.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act of 2000, (P.L. 106-408**).** Reinforces *National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act* provisions to raise public understanding and appreciation for the refuge system; calls on the Secretary of the Interior to establish a Centennial Commission to oversee special public outreach activities leading up to and during the Centennial year, leverage resources with public and private partners for outreach efforts, and plan and host a major conference in 2003; calls on the Service to develop a long-term plan to address the highest priority operations, maintenance, and

construction needs of the National Wildlife Refuge System; and requires an annual report assessing the operations and maintenance backlogs and transition costs associated with newly acquired refuges lands.

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 6101 et. seq.). Authorizes grants for the conservation of neotropical migratory birds in the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean, with 75 percent of the amounts made available to be expended on projects outside the United States. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. Title III of P.L. 109-363, reauthorized appropriations for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Expired.

New England Fishery Resources Restoration Act of 1990, (P.L. 101-593). Authorizes the Service to formulate, establish, and implement cooperative programs to restore and maintain nationally significant interjurisdictional fishery resources in New England river systems.

Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species Prevention and Control Act of 1990, as amended by the National Invasive species Act of 1996, (NISA, 16 U.S.C. 4701 et seq.), authorizes the Service to develop and implement a program to prevent and control infestations of zebra mussels and other nonindigenous aquatic invasive species in waters of the United States. Expired.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, (16 U.S.C. 4401). Authorizes grants to public-private partnerships in Canada, Mexico and the U.S. to protect, enhance, restore, and manage waterfowl, other migratory birds and other fish and wildlife, and the wetland ecosystems and other habitats upon which they depend, consistent with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. There is a Standard and a Small Grants Program. Both are competitive grants programs which require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute towards a project, but are not eligible as match. Public Law 109-322 reauthorized the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Nutria Eradication and Control Act, (P.L. 108-16), Provides for the States of Maryland and Louisiana to implement nutria eradication or control measures and restore marshland damaged by nutria. Expired.

Oil Pollution Act of 1990, (P.L. 101-380)**.** Provides that the Service consult with others on the development of a fish and wildlife response plan for the protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of, and the minimization of risk of damage to fish and wildlife resources and their habitat harmed or jeopardized by an oil discharge.

Partnerships for Wildlife Act, (16 U.S.C. 3741-3744). This Act establishes a Wildlife Conservation and Appreciation Fund to receive appropriated funds and donations from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and other private sources to assist the State fish and game agencies in carrying out their responsibilities for conservation of nongame species and authorizes grants to the States for programs and projects to conserve nongame species.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act, (16 U.S.C. 3771-3774). Provides for the restoration, enhancement, and management of fish and wildlife habitats on private land through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, a program that works with private landowners to conduct cost-effective habitat projects for the benefit of fish and wildlife resources in the United States. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Pelly Amendment to the Fishermen's Protective Act, (22 U.S.C. 1978). Authorizes the President to embargo wildlife products, including fish, and limit other imports from nations whose nationals are determined by the Secretary of the Interior or Commerce to be engaging in trade or take that undermines

the effectiveness of any international treaty or convention for the protection of endangered or threatened species to which the United States is a party.

Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, (16 U.S.C. 2602-2645) and **Energy Security Act of 1980**, (16 U.S.C. 792-828(c)). Authorizes the Service to investigate and report on effects of hydropower development on fish and wildlife during the licensing process of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Recreational Use of Fish and Wildlife Areas, (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4). Commonly known as the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962, authorizes the Secretary to administer refuges, hatcheries, and other conservation areas for recreational use when such use does not interfere with the primary purpose for which these areas were established**.**

Refuge Recreation Act, (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4). Public Law 87-714, approved September 28, 1962 (76 Stat.653) as amended by Public Law 89-669, approved October 14, 1966, (80 Stat.930) and Public Law 92-534, approved October 23, 1972, (86 Stat. 1063) authorized the Secretary of the Interior to administer refuges, hatcheries and other conservation areas for recreational use, when such uses do not interfere with the areas primary purposes.

Resource Conservation Recovery Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6901). Establishes standards for federal agencies on the treatment, transportation, storage, and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes on federal lands and facilities.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, (16. U.S.C. 5306(a), 1538). Authorizes grants to other nations and to the CITES Secretariat for programs directly or indirectly assisting in the conservation of rhinoceros and tigers. Prohibits the sale, importation, and exportation of products derived from any species of rhinoceros and tiger. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Salmon and Steelhead and Conservation and Enhancement Act of 1980, (16 U.S.C. 3301, 11-15, 21-25, 31-36, 41-45). Provides for management and enhancement planning to help prevent a further decline of salmon and steelhead stocks, and to assist in increasing the supply of these stocks within the Columbia River conservation area and the Washington conservation area.

Sikes Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 670a-670o). Authorizes the Secretary to cooperate with the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Bureau of Land Management, and state agencies in planning, developing, maintaining and rehabilitating federal lands for the benefit of fish and wildlife resources and their habitat. Authorization of Appropriations: September 30, 2014.

Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.). Authorizes the Secretary to regulate surface mining and reclamation at existing and future mining areas. The Service provides technical assistance for fish and wildlife aspects of the Department of the Interior's programs on active and abandoned mine lands.

Water Resources Development Act of 1976, (90 Stat. 2921). Authorizes the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan to mitigate fish and wildlife losses caused by power generation at four Corps of Engineers dams on the Lower Snake River in Washington.

Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992, (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916). Requires that all trade in wild bird involving the United States is biologically sustainable and to the benefit of the species, and by limiting or

prohibiting imports of exotic birds when not beneficial to the species. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired.

Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972, (16 USC 1701-1706) as amended by P.L. 93-408, September 3, 1974, to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps, and for other purposes. The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program, started in 1971, is a summer employment program for young men and women (ages 15–18) from all segments of society who work, learn, and earn together by doing projects for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Refuge System lands and National Fish Hatcheries. The objectives of this program (as reflected in Public Law 93-408) authorize the Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service to operate the YCC Program.

Executive Orders

The EOs listed are not an exhaustive list and are those most frequently referenced and used by the Service.

Floodplain Management, (Executive Order 11988**).** Requires that federally owned floodplains be protected through restricting future activities that would harm the floodplain resource or withhold such properties from lease or disposal to non-federal public or private partners.

Migratory Birds, (Executive Order 13186). Directs federal agencies taking actions that may have measurable negative impacts on migratory bird populations to enter into memoranda of understanding (MOU) with the Service to promote conservation of migratory bird populations and directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish a multi-agency Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds.

Protection of Wetlands, (Executive Order 11990). Requires that federally owned wetlands proposed for lease or conveyance to non-federal public or private parties be protected through restricting any future uses that would degrade or harm the wetland resource in the conveyance or withhold such properties from lease or disposal.

Recreational Fisheries, (Executive Order 12962). Directs federal agencies to improve the quantity, function, and sustainable productivity, and distribution of U.S. aquatic resources for increased resources for recreational fishing opportunities. The Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service are ordered to promote compatibility and to reduce conflicts between the administration of the *Endangered Species Act* and recreational fisheries. The Secretary is directed to expand the role of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership council to monitor specific federal activities affecting aquatic systems and the recreational fisheries they support.

Major Treaties and Conventions

The Service is party to numerous International Treaties and Conventions, all of which cannot be listed here due to space constraints. However, those listed below are more pertinent to the daily activities of Service programs.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Flora and Fauna, (TIAS 8249). Parties who signed the Convention in March of 1973 agreed to restrict international trade in all species threatened with extinction (Appendix I species), all species which may be threatened with extinction unless trade is halted or restricted (Appendix II species), and all species which the parties identify as being subject to regulation for the purpose of preventing or restricting exploitation (Appendix III species). Many species listed under CITES are also listed under the *Endangered Species Act*. The Service is responsible for issuing all CITES permits in the United States.

Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere, (56 Stat. 1354). Signed in October of 1940, this Convention authorizes the contracting parties to establish national parks, national reserves, nature monuments, and strict wilderness reserves for the preservation of flora and fauna, especially migratory birds.

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar), (TIAS 11084). The Ramsar Convention, ratified by over 90 nations, promotes the sustainable management of important wetlands around the world, especially as habitat for waterfowl. The Service's objective with this initiative is to strengthen worldwide collaboration regarding conservation and management of wetlands habitats which sustain resources stared by or of importance to all countries of the globe.

Expiring Authorization Citation

Bureau/Office Name	Fish and Wildlife Service
Program Name	Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp
Citation	H.R. 1454, P.L. 111-241
Title of Legislation	Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010
Last Year of Authorization	FY 2013
BY Budget Request ($000)	None
Explanation of Authorization Requirement for BY	None
Program Description	Requires the U.S. Postal Service to issue and sell, at a premium, a semi postal stamp in which proceeds from the sale would be transferred to the Service's Multinational Species Conservation Funds.

Expiring Authorization Citation

Bureau/Office Name	Fish and Wildlife Service
Program Name	Sikes Act, as amended
Citation	16 U.S.C. 670(a)-670(f)
Title of Legislation	Sikes Act
Last Year of Authorization	FY 2014
BY Budget Request ($000)	None
Explanation of Authorization Requirement for BY	None
Program Description	Authorizes the Secretary to cooperate with the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Bureau of Land Management, and state agencies in planning, developing, maintaining and rehabilitating federal lands for the benefit of fish and wildlife resources and their habitat. Authorization of Appropriations: September 30, 2014.

Expiring Authorization Citation

Bureau/Office Name	Fish and Wildlife Service
Program Name	National Volunteer Coordination Program
Citation	HR 4973, P.L. 111-357
Title of Legislation	National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of 2010
Last Year of Authorization	FY 2014
BY Budget Request ($000)	None
Explanation of Authorization Requirement for BY	None
Program Description	Authorizes cooperative agreements with nonprofit partner organizations, academic institutions, or state and local governments to construct, operate, maintain, or improve refuge facilities and services, and to promote volunteer, outreach, and education programs.

Mandatory Budget and Offsetting Collections Proposal

Reference	2014 Legislative Proposal
Migratory Bird Conservation Account – See Migratory Bird Conservation Account section	Increase the sales price for Duck Stamps from $15 to $25 beginning in 2014. The anticipated increase in sales receipts for FY 2014 would be approximately $14 million.

Legislative Proposal

Concurrent with this budget request the Administration is proposing to amend the ***Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act,*** to increase the sales price for Duck Stamps from $15 to $25 beginning in 2014. Increasing the cost of Duck Stamps in 2014 will bring the annual estimate for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) to approximately $66.0 million. With the additional receipts, the Service anticipates additional acquisition of approximately 7,000 acres in fee and approximately 10,000 acres in conservation easement in 2014. Total acres acquired for 2014 would then be approximately 33,500 acres in fee title and 46,000 acres in perpetual conservation easements. After 2014, the legislation also proposes that the price of the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp can be increased by the Secretary of the Interior, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

Summary of Requirements
Appropriation: Resource Management

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity and Subactivity	2013 Full Yr. CR (PL 112-175) FTE	2013 Full Yr. CR (PL 112-175) Amount	12 Actual 3/ FTE	12 enacted Amount	Fixed Costs & Related FTE	Fixed Costs & Related Amount	Internal Transfers & new presentation 1/2 FTE	Internal Transfers & new presentation 1/2 Amount	Program Changes (+/-) FTE	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2014 President's Request FTE	2014 President's Request Amount	Changes from 2012 FTE	Changes from 2012 Amount
Ecological Services														
Endangered Species														
Candidate Conservation	74	11,439	74	11,337	0	+226	0	-33	0	0	74	11,530	0	+193
Listing	131	20,997	144	20,869	0	+294	0	-55	-5	+1,514	139	22,622	-5	+1,753
Consultation/HCP	451	61,673	451	60,943	0	+918	0	-190	+7	+3,080	458	64,751	7	+3,808
Recovery	470	81,483	470	82,806	0	+952	0	-230	+7	+3,015	477	86,543	7	+3,737
Subtotal, Endangered Species	1,126	175,592	1,139	175,955	0	+2,390	0	-508	+9	+7,609	1,148	185,446	+9	+9,491
Habitat Conservation	595	109,052	620	110,637	0	+1,325	0	-496	-9	+2,941	611	114,407	-9	+3,770
Environmental Contaminants	67	11,495	83	13,128	0	+189	0	-289	0	+198	83	13,226	0	+98
Subtotal, Ecological Services	**1,788**	**296,139**	**1,842**	**299,720**	**0**	**+3,904**	**0**	**-1,293**	**0**	**+10,748**	**1,842**	**313,079**	**0**	**+13,359**
National Wildlife Refuge System 1/	3,224	486,494	3,213	485,691	0	+5,626	-20	-4,795	+25	+12,670	3,218	499,192	5	+13,501
National Wildlife Refuge System	3,224	**486,494**	3,213	**+485,691**	0	**+5,626**	-20	**-4,795**	+25	**+12,670**	3,218	**499,192**	+5	**+13,501**
Conservation, Enforcement & Science														
Migratory Bird Management	243	50,856	246	51,453	0	+661	0	-111	-1	-1,941	245	50,062	-1	-1,391
Law Enforcement	294	62,272	282	62,143	0	+956	0	-121	+22	+5,297	304	68,275	22	+6,132
International Affairs	72	13,037	77	12,971	0	+236	0	-28	-5	+327	72	13,506	-5	+535
Science Support 2/	[22]	[21,493]	[16]	[16,723]	0	+31	+22	+21,493		+11,752	22	33,276	+22	+33,276
Subtotal, Conservation, Enforcement & Science	**609**	**126,165**	**605**	**126,567**	**0**	**+1,884**	**+22**	**+21,233**	+16	**+15,435**	643	**165,119**	+38	**+38,552**
Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation														
National Fish Hatchery Operations	360	46,075	358	46,075	0	+790	0	-165	-3	-172	355	46,528	-3	+453
Maintenance and Equipment	73	17,997	82	18,031	0	0	0	-34	0	0	82	17,997	0	-34
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation	342	73,910	342	71,211	0	+1,053	0	-143	-37	+4,289	305	76,410	-37	+5,199
Subtotal, Fisheries & Aquatic Resources	**775**	**137,982**	**782**	**135,317**	**0**	**+1,843**	**0**	**-342**	**-40**	**+4,117**	**742**	**140,935**	**-40**	**+5,618**
2/ Cooperative Landscape Conserv & Adaptive Science	79	37,027	83	32,198		+160	-22	-21,403	+3	+6,660	64	17,615	-19	-14,583
Cooperative Landscape Conservation & Adaptive Science	79	**+37,027**	83	**+32,198**	0	**+160**	-22	**-21,403**	+3	**+6,660**	64	**17,615**	-19	**-14,583**
General Operations														
Central Office Operations	245	41,846	271	38,605	0	+869	0	+3,547	-26	+318	245	43,339	-26	+4,734
Regional Office Operations	412	40,726	412	40,951	0	+1,329	0	-178	0	+1,044	412	43,146	0	+2,195
Servicewide Bill Paying	27	36,207	36	36,039		+1,422		-150	-9	+508	27	37,819	-9	+1,780
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation		7,525		7,525						+1,000	0	8,525	0	+1,000
National Conservation Training Center	143	23,570	145	23,564	0	+295	0	-53	-2	+2,510	143	26,316	-2	+2,752
Subtotal, General Operations	**827**	**149,874**	**864**	**146,684**	**0**	**+3,915**	**0**	**+3,166**	**-37**	**+5,380**	**827**	**159,145**	**-37**	**+12,461**
								0						
Total, Resource Management	**7,302**	**1,233,681**	**7,389**	**1,226,177**	**0**	**+17,332**	**-20**	**-3,434**	**-33**	**+55,010**	**7,336**	**1,295,085**	**-53**	**+68,908**

1/ In 2014, the FWS proposes to move Land Protection Planning activities, including $3.434 million and 20 FTE to the Land Acquisition account.
2/ The FWS proposes to move adaptive Science funding to the new Science Support subactivity in FY 2014
3/ 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Resource Management

Justification of Fixed Costs and Internal Realignments

(Dollars In Thousands)

Other Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	PY (2012) Total or Change	PY (2012) to BY (2014) Change
Change in Number of Paid Days	-	+2,566
The combined fixed cost estimate includes an adjustment for one additional paid day between FY2012 and FY2013. The number of paid days do not change between FY2013 and FY2014.		
Pay Raise	-	+6,869
The PY column reflects the total pay raise changes as reflected in the PY President's Budget. The BY Change column reflects the total pay raise changes between FY2012-FY2014.		
Employer Share of Federal Health Benefit Plans	+2,661	+3,936
The change reflects expected increases in employer's share of Federal Health Benefit Plans.		
Departmental Working Capital Fund	-872	+1,768
The change reflects expected changes in the charges for centrally billed Department services and other services through the Working Capital Fund. These charges are displayed in the Budget Justification for Department Management.		
Worker's Compensation Payments	+495	-67
The adjustment is for changes in the costs of compensating injured employees and dependents of employees who suffer accidental deaths while on duty. Costs for the BY will reimburse the Department of Labor, Federal Employees Compensation Fund, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 8147(b) as amended by Public Law 94-273.		
Unemployment Compensation Payments	+24	-518
The adjustment is for projected changes in the costs of unemployment compensation claims to be paid to the Department of Labor, Federal Employees Compensation Account, in the Unemployment Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 96-499.		
Rental Payments	56,023	+2,778
The adjustment is for changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration (GSA) and others resulting from changes in rates for office and non-office space as estimated by GSA, as well as the rental costs of other currently occupied space. These costs include building security; in the case of GSA space, these are paid to Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Costs of mandatory office relocations, i.e. relocations in cases where due to external events there is no alternative but to vacate the currently occupied space, are also included.		

Internal Realignments and Non-Policy/Program Changes (Net-Zero)	BY (2014) (+/-)
Science Support	
The Service has determined that it would be more efficient to separate the Agency's science activities from Cooperative Landscape Conservation. This proposed new Service Science subactivity will allow for better tracking of the Service's science work. The Service proposes to rename the former Adaptive Science subactivity Science Support, and include two program elements within that subactivity: Adaptive Science and Service Science. In recognition of this change, the Service proposes to rename the Migratory Bird, Law Enforcement, and International Affairs activity the Conservation, Enforcement, and Science activity.	
Science Support \ Adaptive Science	+12,989
Science Support \ Service Science	+8,405
Cooperative Landscape Conservation \Adaptive Science	-21,394

Internal Realignments and Non-Policy/Program Changes (Net-Zero)	BY (2014) (+/-)
Diversity Office	+4,244
In response to a finding, the Service has established an Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management in 2011. The funding to establish the office was assessed against benefitting programs. This transfer will make permanent the transfer that was initially reflected in the 2011 Operating Plan. Funding is used for a Diversity Recruiter position in each region and at the headquarters office and to assist with outreach and recruitment activities.	
Endangered Species	-458
Habitat Conservation	-246
Environmental Contaminants	-39
National Wildlife Refuge System\Refuge Wildlife and Habitat Management	-1,311
Migratory Bird Program	-111
Law Enforcement	-121
International Affairs	-28
Science Support - Adaptive Science	-1
Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation	-342
Cooperative Landscape Conservation	-9
General Operations - Central and Regional Office Operations	-1,525
National Conservation Training Center	-53
Office of the Science Advisor Technical Correction	
This is a technical correction for the FY12 Greenbook Office of the Science Advisor transfer. It was not understood that $210,000 from the Office of the Director was supposed to be taken from two separate program components and this corrects the situation.	
General Operations - Central Office Operations	+150
General Operations - Servicewide Bill Paying	-150
Improve Communications	
In FY13, the Director identified a Servicewide need to improve communications, specifically utilizing social network tools to provide the public with information on recreational opportunities and wildlife issues in order to remain relevant and connect people with nature. The funding was taken from lower priority programs. This transfer will make the change permanent.	
General Operations - Central Office Operations	+500
Endangered Species - Conservation Planning Assistance	-250
Environmental Contaminants	-250
Centralized Data Management	
In FY13, the Director identified a Servicewide need to create a centralized data management system for scientific information. The funding was taken from lower priority programs. This transfer will make the change permanent.	
Science Support - Service Science	+100
Endangered Species - Recovery	-50
National Wildlife Refuge System - Conservation Planning	-50
Land Protection Planning	-3,434
The National Wildlife Refuge System's Land Protection Planning Program directly supports the Land Acquisition program. The Service will transfer funding from the Resource Management Appropriation to the Land Acquisition Appropriation to better align the purpose of this program.	

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars) Identification code 14-1611-0-302	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Estimate	FY 2014 Estimate
Obligations by program activity:			
Direct program:			
0001 Ecological Services	306	299	317
0002 National Wildlife Refuge System	485	492	504
0003 Migratory Bird Management, Law Enforcement and International Affairs	158	163	
0004 Conservation, Enforcement, and Science			190
0005 Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation	137	140	142
0006 Cooperative Landscape Conservation and Adaptive Science	33	41	
0007 Cooperative Landscape Conservation			23
0008 General Administration	146	155	159
0799 Total Direct Obligations	1,265	1,290	1,335
0801 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative	46	45	45
0802 Reimbursable program activity	207	187	187
0899 Total reimbursable obligations	253	232	232
0900 Total new obligations	1,518	1,522	1,567
Budgetary Resources:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct 1	204	232	180
1011 Unobligated balance transfer from other accounts [72-1021]	5		
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	25	16	16
1050 Unobligated balance (total)	234	248	196
1100 Appropriation	1,228	1,234	1,295
1121 Transferred from other accounts [72-1021]	9		
1130 Appropriations permanently reduced	-2		
1160 Appropriation, Total	1,235	1,234	1,295
Spending Authority from offsetting collections, Discretionary			
1700 Collected	197	220	220
1701 Change in uncollected payments, federal sources	84		
1750 Spending auth from offsetting collections, disc total	281	220	220
1900 Budget authority (total)	1,516	1,454	1,515
1930 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	1,750	1,702	1,711
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
1941 Unexpired Unobligated balance, end of year	232	180	144

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars) Identification code 14-1611-0-302	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Estimate	FY 2014 Estimate
Change in obligated balances:			
Unpaid obligations, start of year:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1 (gross)	590	584	535
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	1,518	1,522	1,567
3011 Obligations incurred, expired accounts	3		
3020 Total outlays, gross (-)	-1,491	-1,555	-1,593
3040 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations, unexpired	-25	-16	-16
3041 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations, expired	-11		
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year (gross)	584	535	493
Uncollected payments			
3060 Uncollected payments, Fed sources brought forward	-320	-353	-353
3070 Change in uncollected payments, Fed sources unexpired	-84		
3071 Change in uncollected payments, Fed sources expired	51		
3090 Uncollected pymts, Fed sources, end of year	-353	-353	-353
3200 Obligated balance, end of year (net)	231	182	140
Budget Authority and Outlays, net:			
4000 Budget Authority, gross,	1,516	1,454	1,515
Outlays, gross:			
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	915	1,163	1,212
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	576	392	381
4020 Outlays, gross (total)	1,491	1,555	1,593
Offsets against gross budget authority and outlays:			
Offsetting collections (collected) from:			
4030 Federal sources	-195	-165	-165
4033 Non-Federal sources	-51	-55	-55
4040 Offsets against gross budget authority and outlays (total)	-246	-220	-220
Additional offsets against budget authority only			
4050 Change in uncollected customer payments from Federal Sources (unexpired)	-84		
4052 Offsetting collections credited to expired accounts	49		
4060 Additional offsets against budget authority only	-35	0	0
4070 Budget authority, net (discretionary)	1,235	1,234	1,295
4080 Outlays, net (discretionary)	1,245	1,335	1,373
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	1,235	1,234	1,295
4190 Outlays, net (total)	1,245	1,335	1,373

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
OBJECT CLASSIFICATION

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars) Identification code 14-1611-0-302	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Estimate	FY 2014 Estimate
Direct obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	519	518	526
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	33	31	33
11.5 Other personnel compensation	18	18	18
11.8 Special personal services payments	1	1	1
11.9 Total personnel compensation	571	568	578
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	193	193	196
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	30	30	30
22.0 Transportation of things	8	7	7
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	61	63	63
23.2 Rental payments to others	2	3	3
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.charges	22	22	23
24.0 Printing and reproduction	5	3	3
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	10	2	2
25.2 Other services from non-federal sources	66	76	78
25.3 Purchases of goods and services from federal sources	40	44	46
25.4 Operation and maintenance of facilities	26	28	29
25.7 Operation and maintenance of equipment	11	16	16
26.0 Supplies and materials	53	48	48
31.0 Equipment	32	34	34
32.0 Land and structures	19	22	24
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	116	131	155
99.0 Direct Obligations	1,265	1,290	1,335
99.0 Reimbursable obligations	253	232	232
99.9 Total new obligations	1,518	1,522	1,567
Employment Summary			
1001 Direct Civilian full-time equivalent employment	7,634	7,526	7,560
2001 Reimbursable Civilian full-time equivalent employment	808	871	928
3001 Allocation account Civilian full-time equivalent employment	624	588	533

Endangered Species

Activity: Ecological Services
Subactivity: Endangered Species

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Candidate Conservation	($000)	*11,439*	11,337	+226	-33	0	11,530
	FTE	*74*	74	0	0	0	74
Listing	($000)	*20,997*	20,869	+294	-55	+1,514	22,622
	FTE	*131*	144	0	0	-5	139
Consultation/ HCP	($000)	*61,673*	60,943	+918	-190	+3,080	64,751
	FTE	*451*	451	0	0	+7	458
Recovery	($000)	*81,483*	82,806	+952	-230	+3,015	86,543
	FTE	*470*	470	0	0	+7	477
Total, Endangered Species	**($000)**	***175,592***	**175,955**	**+2,390**	**-508**	**+7,609**	**185,446**
	FTE	***1,126***	**1,139**	**0**	**0**	**+9**	**1,148**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Program Overview

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered Species program implements the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), in coordination with numerous partners. The program provides expertise to accomplish key purposes of the Act, which are to provide a means for conserving the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend and to provide a program for the conservation of such species.

> *"For more than three decades, the Endangered Species Act has successfully protected our nation's most threatened wildlife, and we should be looking for ways to improve it -- not weaken it. Throughout our history, there's been a tension between those who've sought to conserve our natural resources for the benefit of future generations, and those who have sought to profit from these resources. But I'm here to tell you this is a false choice. With smart, sustainable policies, we can grow our economy today and preserve the environment for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren."*
>
> *-- President Barack Obama,*
> *Remarks By The President*
> *To Commemorate The 160th Anniversary*
> *of The Department of the Interior*
> *Washington, D.C.*
> *March 3, 2009*

Since 1973, the Service has demonstrated a clear record of success in preventing the probable extinction of hundreds of species across the Nation and achieving recovery of many others. Despite this progress, the complexity and scale of today's conservation problems pose significant challenges, requiring all of the Service's energy and new ways of thinking.

The program's strategic framework is based on two over-arching goals: 1) recovery of endangered or threatened (federally-listed) species, and 2) conservation of species-at-risk, so that listing may be unnecessary. By minimizing or removing threats, which may include supporting species' capacity to

respond adequately or increasing their resilience to changing conditions, a species may be conserved, eliminating the need for protection under the ESA. Engaging stakeholders and partners is an essential ingredient for solving these conservation challenges.

Conservation of listed, candidate, or other at-risk species is a challenging task, as many species face more than one kind of threat, and some threats, such as habitat degradation and invasive species proliferation, do not have simple solutions. Because identifying and removing threats takes time and resources, species often continue to decline following listing. Development of species recovery plans as required under the ESA, and implementation of recovery tasks outlined in these plans can result in the stabilization or improvement in the status of a species.

The key role of the **Candidate Conservation** program is to provide technical assistance and work with numerous partners on proactive conservation to remove or reduce threats so that listing species may be unnecessary. This begins with a rigorous assessment using the best scientific information available to determine whether a species faces threats that make it a candidate for listing under the ESA. For U.S. species, this entails close cooperation with states and other appropriate parties. For foreign species, it includes working with wildlife agencies and species experts in other countries. In addition to identifying new candidates for listing, the Candidate Conservation program annually reviews all existing candidate species to update information regarding threats and conservation efforts. This information is used to target conservation at specific known threats that may make listing unnecessary.

For U.S. candidate species or species that are likely to become candidates, the Service uses a proactive, strategic, and collaborative approach for conservation planning that is designed to reduce or remove identified threats. Service biologists continuously coordinate with a diversity of partners to design, implement, and monitor conservation strategies and agreements, and update them to incorporate new information on threats and conservation, and to apply adaptive management. This approach seeks to make listing unnecessary by providing the foundation for a recovery plan and expediting the recovery process for listed species, even if threats cannot be reduced or removed.

Poweshiek skipperling / photo by Dave Cuthrell, Michigan State

The **Listing** program uses the best scientific information available to provide protection under the ESA for foreign and domestic plant and animal species determined to be threatened or endangered. This determination includes information crucial for recovery planning and implementation, and helps identify and address the conservation needs of the species, including the designation of critical habitat. Without the legal protections afforded under Section 9 of the ESA that become effective upon listing, many species would continue to decline and become extinct.

Endangered Species Program Mission: We will lead in recovering and conserving our Nation's imperiled species by fostering partnerships, employing scientific excellence, and developing a workforce of conservation leaders.

The ESA contains a suite of tools that provide the flexibility needed to guide land development and aid species' recovery. Working in partnership with other agencies and organizations is foundational for the Endangered Species program, as the conservation of the Nation's biological heritage cannot be achieved by any single agency or organization. The **Consultation** program leads a collaborative process between

the Service and its partners, including other federal agencies, states, tribes, non-governmental organizations, industry, academia, private landowners, and other Service programs to identify opportunities to conserve listed species. Other federal agencies consult with the Service to balance adverse impacts of their development actions with conservation actions that contribute toward species survival and often to their recovery. Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) provide the conservation benefits of proactive landscape planning, and combining private land development planning with species and ecosystem conservation planning. Research conducted by recovery partners using scientific permits issued under Section 10 is also vital to species' recovery. This research often provides current information about threats and their associated impacts on a listed species.

Interagency (often called Section 7) consultations and Habitat Conservation Planning (HCP) constitute a significant workload for the Service. The Service is continuously looking for efficiencies to improve the Section 7 consultation and Section 10 HCP processes. Considering the complex effects of environmental changes in these processes, the Service must have readily available tools to plan and implement conservation on a landscape or ecosystem scale while ensuring that listed species with very restricted ranges are managed appropriately. An internet-based "Information, Planning, and Consultation" system (IPaC) is being developed to provide the Service and project proponents with interactive, online tools to spatially link data for quick analyses of resource threats and the effectiveness of various conservation actions. This function allows for rapid identification of potential projects that will not affect specific categories of natural resources and expedites completion of requirements involving ESA Section 7 consultations, Section 10 HCPs, and other environmental review processes.

The California Habitat Conservation Planning Coalition recently estimated that regional HCPs in California will conserve almost 1.5 million acres of land, while permitting projects with a cumulative value of $1.6 trillion. This illustrates that resource development and species conservation need not be an "either-or" choice.

The **Recovery** program oversees development and implementation of strategic recovery plans that identify, prioritize, and guide actions designed to reverse the threats that were responsible for species' listing. This allows the species to improve, recover, and ultimately be removed from the ESA's protection (*i.e.*, delisted). Similar to the Candidate Conservation program, the Recovery program plays a crucial conservation role by working with various Service programs, other DOI bureaus, federal agencies, states (*e.g.*, through State Wildlife Action Plans), tribes, and other partners and stakeholders to develop and implement conservation actions.

The Service has identified species recovery as a priority for all Service programs. The Endangered Species program provides leadership in the conservation of listed and candidate species, but the contribution of others is necessary for recovery. Other Service programs and partners are key players in species conservation. Some examples of recovery implementation are:

- conducting nest box surveys;
- restoring habitat;
- providing technical guidance to partners on biological aspects of recovery projects;
- researching or monitoring threats to a species;
- participating in landscape planning;
- assisting with grant writing to fund land acquisition or research activities; and
- working with partners to maintain or restore habitat and ensure habitat connectivity.

One of the first steps in recovering listed species is strategically planning the implementation of individually-tailored recovery programs. Listed species that were under proactive, partnership-based candidate conservation agreements or strategies have a head-start on recovery planning and associated actions to address threats. Most of the existing agreements or strategies, however, need to be updated. In

these situations, the Recovery program relies on diverse partner and stakeholder involvement to develop innovative recovery approaches to address threats, make use of existing flexible conservation tools, broaden support for current and future on-the-ground actions and monitoring, and implement necessary recovery actions. Without the Service's partners and stakeholders, the recovery of more than 1,400 currently-listed domestic species could not occur. This large and diverse coalition can greatly improve a species' recovery potential but requires the continued coordination and oversight of Service Recovery program staff to ensure effectiveness.

The **Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund** (CESCF) provides grant funding to states and territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-federal lands. Habitat loss is one of the most significant threats for many listed and candidate species. Because most listed species depend on habitat found on state and private lands, the grant assistance available under CESCF for land acquisition related to HCPs or recovery needs is crucial to listed species conservation and recovery. States and territories have been extremely effective in garnering participation by private landowners. Section 6 grants assist states and territories in building partnerships that achieve meaningful on-the-ground conservation to address or minimize threats.

In addition, Traditional or Conservation Grants available under CESCF provide funding to states to assist with monitoring and basic research on listed and candidate species. Monitoring species populations and evaluating the results of conservation actions are essential to recovery success. Periodic review of all available information concerning a species' status ensures that species are properly classified, recovery funds are appropriately prioritized, and recovery plan recommendations remain up to date. Delisting and reclassification are the long term results of recovery success.

Moving Forward

In order to meet the goals of the ESA and the Service's strategic plan, the Service is conducting a comprehensive review of its processes to strengthen its tools, find efficiencies, tackle the large conservation challenges, and create innovative opportunities to recover listed and at-risk species' ecosystems. The program's commitment to excellence in carrying out the Service's responsibilities under the ESA will guide the Service's efforts to better achieve its goals. The Service will integrate the following principles into its implementation of the Act:

- Focus on Recovery
- Provide Conservation Incentives
- Increase Public Participation
- Ensure Clear and Consistent Policies and Implementation
- Make Decisions Based on Sound Science

- Resolve Conflicts

Consistent with Executive Order 13563, "Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review" and the Service's vision for endangered and threatened species recovery, the Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have identified key regulations and associated policies where there is both a need and an opportunity for improving administration of the ESA. Regulatory improvements will reduce burdens, redundancy, and conflicts between conservation and other land use and at the same time promote predictability, certainty, and innovation. The Service's combined efforts will accelerate recovery of imperiled species, enhance on-the-ground conservation delivery, and better engage the resources and expertise of partners to meet the goals of the ESA and the Nation.

Endangered Species - Performance Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
7.0.1 Percent of threatened and endangered species that have improved based on the latest 5-year review recommendation (GPRA)	n/a	n/a	4.5% (39 of 861)	4.5% (47 of 1,037)	4.4% (47 of 1,067)	4.8% (51 of 1,067)	0.2%	n/a
CSF 7.30 Percent of recovery actions for listed Spotlight species implemented	n/a	60% (762 of 1,261)	66% (829 of 1,249)	71% (902 of 1,269)	66% (833 of 1,253)	66% (833 of 1,253)	-5%	40% (484 of 1,219)
7.30.8 Percent of threatened and endangered species recovery actions implemented (GPRA)	n/a	n/a	62.8% (24,072 of 38,316)	73.3% (24,625 of 33,616)	65.1% (23,233 of 35,678)	65.1% (23,233 of 35,678)	-8%	n/a
CSF 7.31 Percent of formal/informal "other non-resource-use specific" consultations addressed in a timely manner	84% (9,263 of 11,056)	87% (8,399 of 9,723)	85% (7,827 of 9,188)	84% (8,028 of 9,590)	80% (5,403 of 6,715)	83% (5,556 of 6,715)	-1%	74% (7,584 of 10,209)
CSF 7.32 Percent of final listing determinations promulgated in a timely manner	17% (1 of 6)	20% (1 of 5)	0% (0 of 9)	5% (2 of 38)	19% (18 of 95)	91% (40 of 44)	86%	42% (5 of 12)
CSF 8.3 Percent of Spotlight species-at-risk (species that do not meet the T&E definition) where listing is unnecessary as a result of conservation actions or agreements	n/a	5% (2 of 38)	0% (0 of 34)	0% (0 of 40)	3% (1 of 38)	3% (1 of 38)	3%	3% (1 of 34)
14.1.2 % of formal/informal energy (non-hydropower) consultation addressed in a timely manner	87% (1,192 of 1,372)	78% (1,122 of 1,433)	72% (1,073 of 1,488)	83% (1,203 of 1,454)	66% (711 of 1,073)	80% (861 of 1,073)	-2%	80% (1,920 of 2,400)

Subactivity: Endangered Species
Program Element: Candidate Conservation

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Candidate Conservation	($000)	*11,439*	11,337	+226	-33	0	11,530
	FTE	*74*	74	0	0	0	74

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Justification of Changes for Candidate Conservation

The 2014 budget request for Candidate Conservation is $11,530,000 and 74 FTE, with no net program change from the 2012 Enacted.

Program Overview

The Candidate Conservation program uses a scientifically rigorous assessment process to identify species that warrant listing. The program also guides, facilitates, supports, and monitors the implementation of partnership-based conservation agreements and activities by the Service, other DOI bureaus and federal agencies, states (*e.g.*, through State Wildlife Action Plans), tribes, and other partners and stakeholders.

The most recent Candidate Notice of Review (77 Federal Register 225, November 21, 2012) identified 192 species as candidates for listing. For candidate species, the program uses a proactive, strategic, and collaborative approach for conservation planning that is designed to reduce or remove identified threats. This often results in a conservation agreement or strategy covering the entire range of one or more candidate species, or a landscape scale plan targeting threats in a particular area that supports multiple species-at-risk. A recent example of the effectiveness of this approach is the unprecedented commitment to two voluntary conservation agreements now in place in New Mexico and Texas that provide for the long-term conservation of the dunes sagebrush lizard. Provisions of these agreements eliminate the need for the Service to list this species under the ESA. Current threats to this species are oil and gas development near sand dune complexes associated with shinnery oak in southeastern New Mexico and west Texas, and the removal of shinnery oak to expand grazing forage which creates habitat fragmentation and gaps in the species' range.

The 2012 Texas Conservation Plan for Dunes Sagebrush Lizard functions as a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) between the Service and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. The Texas Plan is in effect for 30 years in west and northwest Texas, encompassing private lands and state trust lands that provide suitable habitat or are being improved or restored for the dunes sagebrush lizard. If this lizard is listed in the future, the Texas Plan would act as a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Since 2008, a similar CCAA has been in place in New Mexico with over 816,000 mineral acres and 1.3 million surface acres enrolled on federal, state, and private lands

These two state voluntary conservation efforts to protect existing shinnery oak dune habitat and reduce the impact of oil and gas development across the species' range now cover over 88 percent of the lizard's habitat. These measures also minimize the anticipated impacts of other threats, such as off-road vehicle traffic, wind and solar development, and increased predation caused by development. A diverse group of landowners are making voluntary conservation efforts and receiving the assurances that if the species covered by their CCAA is listed they will be not be asked to do more and will not be subject to additional land use restrictions.

2014 Program Performance

In 2014, the Candidate Conservation program will continue providing technical assistance for developing Candidate Conservation Agreements (CCA) and Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA), and facilitating voluntary conservation efforts by private landowners, states, Tribes, territories, federal agencies (especially the Natural Resource Conservation Service in administering the Working Lands for Wildlife program, described in the Habitat Conservation Chapter), and partners for priority candidate and other species-at-risk for which potential listing is a concern such as greater sage-grouse and lesser prairie chicken. The Service will focus conservation efforts on reducing or eliminating threats to spotlight species identified using the criteria in the program's Strategic Plan and anticipates implementing 105 conservation actions for spotlight species-at-risk in FY 2014.

The Service's cross-program approach to candidate conservation will also continue. This includes sharing information, resources and expertise, and coordinating conservation work for candidate species and geographic focal areas to increase efficiency and maximize benefits to target species. To meet the program's goal to reduce the number of species that meet the definition of threatened or endangered by one in FY 2014, the Service will continue to work with partners to design and prepare collaborative conservation activities, begin implementation, and determine effectiveness on a scale that is meaningful to the species.

The Service also will provide information and training to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of candidate conservation efforts. This includes continuing our close partnership with states to design and implement new conservation agreements, strategies, and management actions for candidate and potential candidate species identified in State Wildlife Action Plans. It also includes continuing strong coordination with the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program to help private landowners implement habitat restoration projects that are likely to be effective in addressing threats that help to make listing unnecessary for certain candidate and other species-at-risk.

Subactivity: Endangered Species
Program Element: Listing and Critical Habitat

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Critical Habitat	($000)	*4,548*	7,460	+118	-28	-2,945	4,605
	FTE	*41*	46	0	0	-5	41
Listing	($000)	*13,453*	10,413	+167	-27	+4,459	15,012
	FTE	*78*	86	0	0	0	86
Foreign Listing	($000)	*1,498*	1,498	+6	0	0	1,504
	FTE	*6*	6	0	0	0	6
Petitions	($000)	*1,498*	1,498	+3	0	0	1,501
	FTE	*6*	6	0	0	0	6
Total, Listing and Critical Habitat	($000)	***20,997***	**20,869**	**+294**	**-55**	**+1,514**	**22,622**
	FTE	***131***	**144**	**0**	**0**	**-5**	**139**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Listing and Critical Habitat

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Listing	+4,459	0
• Critical Habitat	-2,945	-5
Program Changes	**+1,514**	**-5**

Justification of Changes for Listing and Critical Habitat

The 2014 budget request for Listing and Critical Habitat is $22,622,000 and 139 FTE, a net program change of +$1,514,000 and -5 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Listing (+$4,459,000/ +0 FTE)

The Service is requesting an increase of $4,459,000 for Listing. Settlement agreements and a multi-year work plan approved by a Federal District Court in 2011 have allowed the Service to address the backlog of listing determinations for candidate species, including critical habitat designations concurrent with the listing. Under these settlement agreements, the Service is required to complete 160 listing determinations by the end of FY 2014. Additional funds will be used to meet the terms and conditions of the settlements and allow the Service to address the highest biological priorities of the Listing program for the years ahead. The funding increase in Listing will allow the Service to publish approximately five additional proposed rules with Critical Habitat in FY 2014 as compared to the FY 2013 workplan.

Critical Habitat (-$2,945,000/ -5 FTE)

The Service has made progress in recent years towards addressing the critical habitat backlog for species listed a year or more, allowing the Service to shift resources to address other statutory and court-ordered deadlines. In particular, the Service must focus resources in the Listing program towards making listing determinations for current candidate species, some of which were designated as a candidate species over a decade ago.

Program Overview

Listing a species and designating critical habitat provides the protections of the ESA, and focuses resources and efforts by the Service and its partners on recovering the species. The Listing program works to determine whether species meet the ESA definitions of threatened or endangered. Species can be selected for evaluation based on Service priorities or a public petition. Under the ESA, when the Service receives a petition it must respond within set timeframes. Designating critical habitat, as required under the ESA, is another responsibility of the Listing program. These determinations are made using the best scientific and commercial data available.

ESA DEFINITIONS	
Endangered	***Threatened***
A species is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.	A species is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

The Service conducts the listing process for species it identifies as needing the protections of the ESA, candidate species, or species for which it determines listing is warranted upon review of petitions. The Service also receives petitions for amendments to critical habitat and other actions.

Listing determinations, critical habitat designations, and their associated processes support the program's goal to recover species. This support stems in large part from the information developed when conducting the analysis of whether a species meets the definition of threatened or endangered. Using the best scientific and commercial data available, the listing rule provides information on the species (taxonomy, historic and current range, population information, habitat requirements, etc.), an analysis of the threats faced by the species, designation of critical habitat if appropriate, examples of available conservation measures, and a preview of actions that would be prohibited if the species were to be listed. Recovery efforts for species are also initially identified based on information to address threats identified within the listing rules. In this way, listing packages are a crucial step on the road to recovery.

While the Service works to accomplish many of the pending actions related to listing foreign species, it believes there is a higher conservation benefit in listing domestic species The broad range of management tools for domestic species include recovery planning and implementation under section 4, cooperation with states under section 6, coordination with other federal agencies under section 7, full take prohibitions under section 9, management agreements and permits under section 10, and other laws/treaties such as Marine Mammal Protection Act or Migratory Bird Treaty Act. In contrast, foreign species' management tools are limited as few ESA or other conservation tools apply. The chief tools for foreign listings are trade restrictions through section 10 and/or CITES trade prohibitions, education and public awareness, and grant monies. In addition, direct recovery actions are not practicable. The continuation of a budget sub-cap for listing and petition findings related to foreign species allows the Service, within its existing resources, to balance its duty to protect both foreign and domestic species in a way that will not detract from its efforts to protect imperiled domestic species.

2014 Program Performance

The Service anticipates the following accomplishments and activities:

Critical Habitat for Already Listed Species

The Service anticipates publishing 31 final critical habitat rules (for 44 species) and 1 proposed critical habitat rule (for 1 species) in FY 2014.

Listing Determinations for U.S. Species*
During the 2014 Fiscal Year, we project the following determinations:

- 33 Final listing/critical habitat determinations for 44 species.
- 28 Proposed listing/critical habitat determinations for 36 species.
- Emergency listings as necessary.

Petition Findings*
The Service intends to address six petition findings, 90-day and 12-month, for six species in FY 2014 with current resources.

Listing Determinations for Foreign Species
During the 2014 Fiscal Year, we project completion of the following determinations for foreign species:

- Six final listing determinations for seven species.
- Two proposed listing determinations for two species.
- One 90-day petition finding for 11 species.
- Three 12-month petition findings for three species.

*Note: Assumes petition sub-cap continues in FY 2014.

Endangered Species - Listing - Performance Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
7.32.1 % of final listing determinations promulgated in a timely manner	17% (1 of 6)	20% (1 of 5)	0% (0 of 9)	5% (2 of 38)	19% (18 of 95)	91% (40 of 44)	86%	n/a
Comments	Funding increase will be reflected through more final listing determinations (counted by species) completed in FY 2014.							
7.32.3 % of critical habitat rules promulgated in a timely manner	60% (6 of 10)	57% (4 of 7)	23% (3 of 13)	3% (4 of 145)	12% (19 of 153)	91% (40 of 44)	88%	n/a
Comments	Funding the Critical Habitat workload within the Service at the level proposed will allow the Service to make progress towards addressing the critical habitat backlog for species listed a year or more, while shifting resources to address other statutory and court-ordered deadlines.							

Subactivity: Endangered Species
Program Element: Consultation and HCPs

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Consultation and HCPs	($000)	*61,673*	60,943	+918	-190	+3,080	64,751
	FTE	*451*	451	0	0	+7	458

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for ESA Consultations and HCPs

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• ESA Consultation – Renewable Energy Projects	+1,500	+4
ESA Consultation – Pesticide Consultations	+ 1,000	+3
• ESA Consultation – Tribal Consultation	+510	0
• General Program Activities	+70	0
Program Changes	**+3,080**	**+7**

Justification of Program Changes for ESA Consultations and HCPs

The 2014 budget request for Consultation and HCPs is $64,751,000 and 458 FTE, a net program change of +$3,080,000 and +7 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

ESA Consultations for Renewable Energy Projects (+$1,500,000/+4 FTE)

The Service faces an increased workload for expeditious processing of permits for new renewable energy facilities. This funding will ensure energy projects are planned, developed, operated, permitted, and monitored in ways that are compatible with conservation of federal trust resources. Developing these renewable resources and the corresponding transmission capabilities requires effective coordination with permitting entities and appropriate environmental review of transmission rights-of-way applications and facilities sites. It also requires a balanced and mindful approach that addresses the impacts of development on land, wildlife, and water resources. The Department of Energy, State Fish and Game agencies, Bureau of Land Management, and State Energy Commissions have expressed a need for expedited multi-species conservation strategies accompanied by appropriate permits to comply with ESA. The additional resources will provide better customer service to the energy industry including:

- Increased technical assistance;
- More timely responses;
- Environmentally sound solutions to energy project-wildlife/habitat conflicts; and,
- Well-coordinated project reviews, working with federal agency priorities.

As a result of this increase, the Service will complete an additional 105 consultations for renewable energy development on DOI lands, and an additional 345 consultations for renewable energy development on non-DOI lands as compared to FY 2012. The construction and operation of these energy projects provide important economic benefits to the small communities where they are located.

Pesticide Consultations (+$1,000,000/+3 FTE)

The Service will use the additional funding to begin developing and implementing scientifically rigorous protocols for national consultations with EPA that are protective of threatened and endangered species. These protocols will include development of safe levels of exposure relevant to pesticide effects on listed species, which will greatly improve how the Service conducts section 7 consultations on pesticide registrations and will incorporate the findings of the soon-to-be-released report from the National Research Council (NRC). Increasing the scientific and technical capacity of the Service will help ensure

ESA compliance for pesticides early in the registration process, minimize the threat of lawsuits, and provide more certainty and guidance to applicants to allow those chemicals to continue to be available for production of food and fiber in this country.

Tribal Consultations (+$510,000/+0 FTE)
Tribal lands are essential to conserving wildlife corridors and connectivity and reducing the impacts of invasive species. Integrating strategic habitat conservation into tribal long-range natural resources management by building strong partnerships where Tribal lands abut other conservation lands is important for conservation over the long term. This increase will be used to build capacity to fulfill the mandates of Secretarial Order # 3317, which requires consultation on regulations, rulemaking, policy guidance and activities that may have a substantial effect on tribal members' traditional way of life or access to traditional sites on federal lands. Strengthening Tribal Nations is one of the Secretary's top priorities. This increase will result in an additional 153 consultations with Tribes being completed in a timely manner.

General Program Activities (+$70,000/+0 FTE)
The complexity of landscape management to support the recovery of endangered and threatened species while balancing the needs of other land use requirements continues to increase. This balance challenges the Service to work closely with action agencies and project proponents to design and complete interagency consultations and habitat conservation planning in an effective and comprehensive manner for the benefit of affected agencies, landowners, species, and other interested parties. Additional resources will be used to better integrate various environmental reviews and ecological information to assist federal agencies and project proponents with resource management decisions. As the Service increasingly seeks to use habitat as a proxy for species impacts, funding may be directed to improving research methods and conservation design efforts to standardize approaches to habitat and species conservation, particularly in the context of incidental take permitting. Such decisions have a direct impact on fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats and to support the Service's efforts to provide more regulatory certainty that will reduce burdens, redundancy, and conflicts between conservation and other land uses.

This additional funding allows the Consultation program to address the increase in requests for new consultations associated with newly listed species. The current listing work plan requires that we evaluate over 250 species for possible listing as threatened or endangered. By FY 2014, the Service will have completed listing determinations for 160 species. All newly listed species will require consultations and possibly habitat conservation plans.

Program Overview

The Consultation program, the primary customer service component of the Endangered Species program, makes an important contribution to addressing threats and moving species towards recovery. The Consultation program includes two primary elements, the Section 10 Habitat Conservation Planning (HCP) program and the Section 7 Consultation program.

The Consultation program uses the tools of sections 7 and 10 of the ESA, in partnership with other Service programs, other agencies, and members of the public, to solve conservation challenges and create opportunities to recover listed and at-risk species' ecosystems. The Service supports delivery of the consultation and HCP programs through: 1) coordination and collaboration; 2) consistent application and interpretation; 3) programmatic and landscape-level approaches to conservation management; and 4) strategic workload management.

Section 7 - Interagency Consultation
Section 7 of the ESA requires federal agencies to use their authorities to conserve endangered and threatened species, including an obligation to ensure that activities they authorize, fund, or conduct are

not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species, or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. For example, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) or Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approval of livestock grazing on federal lands or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approval of discharge of fill material into waters of the U.S. requires section 7 consultations when these activities may affect listed species. Through section 7 consultations, the Service attempts to identify and remove threats to endangered and threatened species. Coordination between the Service, other federal agencies, and their applicants during consultation is critical to ensure that the actions are designed in ways that reduce threats to species, minimize effects that cannot be avoided, and incorporate conservation measures to offset unavoidable impacts in a way that promotes species recovery.

Non-federal applicants play a large role in the consultation process. Many of the federal actions subject to section 7 consultations, such as grazing allotments or timber sales on federal lands and permits issued under the Clean Water Act, involve non-federal applicants. Section 7 of the ESA and its implementing regulations provide non-federal applicants a role in all phases of the interagency consultation process.

Interagency consultations between federal project proponents and the Service, a requirement of section 7, take time. Encouraging federal partners to initiate and better prepare for consultations lessens the time needed for Service review. Efficiencies also can be attained through automated data entry and retrieval, web-based access to spatial resource data and consultation planning, and customer education. Service staff educates and provides techniques to federal partners so federal project proponents and non-federal applicants can become more self-sufficient in fulfilling section 7 requirements.

Section 10(a) (1) (B) - Habitat Conservation Planning

The Service works with private landowners and local and state governments through the Habitat Conservation Planning program to develop HCPs and their associated Incidental Take Permits. Private land development is one of the most common threats to listed species. By working with states, cities, and private individuals to develop and implement HCPs, the Service is able to facilitate private lands development in a way that addresses threats and fulfills recovery needs of endangered and threatened species and species at-risk.

The HCP program emphasizes landscape-level conservation in order to preserve large blocks of habitat for threatened and endangered species, as well as the ecosystem function and values upon which these species depend. For example, recently developed policy, such as the General Conservation Plan policy, provides for large-scale regional conservation planning that allows individuals or non-federal entities to receive Incidental Take Permits in an expedited manner.

2014 Program Performance

The Service anticipates the following accomplishments and activities.

- Continue to work with all federal customers to design projects that will not have adverse impacts on listed species. In FY 2014, the Service anticipates completing an additional 450 renewable energy consultations as compared to FY 2012.

- Continue to develop and expand the internet-based Information, Planning, and Consultation system (IPaC) that can be used to obtain information regarding all Service trust resources, screen out projects that will not affect ESA listed species or designated critical habitat, complete or expedite the requirements of section 7 consultation, better integrate section 7 consultation with action agencies' other environmental review processes, including NEPA, and better coordinate the Service's various programs toward unified objectives in accordance with the goals of the Strategic Habitat Conservation initiative and facilitating the implementation of Executive Order

13604 on Improving Performance of Federal Permitting and Review of Infrastructure Projects (March 22, 2012).

- Ensure that the Consultation and HCP program's regulations, policies, and guidance effectively address the conservation challenges of today by carrying out a public participation process that engages a broad spectrum of interests affected by or concerned with the ESA. The Service, in partnership with the National Marine Fisheries Service, is focused on: 1) developing a regulatory definition for "destruction or adverse modification" of critical habitat that will guide consultations on projects affecting listed species, and explains the relationship of this threshold to that established by the definition of "jeopardizing the continued existence" of a species; 2) revising and updating the existing regulation governing incidental take of protected species to improve implementation and clarify criteria for incidental take permits; and 3) identifying incentives to encourage greater participation in Habitat Conservation Plans and other tools and reduce the transaction time and costs of participation in these programs,

- Working cooperatively with EPA, NOAA-Fisheries, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to implement the findings of the NRC's study considering scientific and technical issues surrounding the ESA responsibilities of EPA, NOAA and the Service related to the use of pesticides.

Endangered Species - Consultations and HCP - Performance Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
7.31.1 % of formal/informal "other non-resource-use specific" consultations addressed in a timely manner	84% (9,263 of 11,056)	87% (8,399 of 9,723)	85% (7,827 of 9,188	84% (8,028 of 9,590)	80% (5,403 of 6,715)	83% (5,556 of 6,715)	-1%	0%
Comments	The workload associated with the Consultations and HCP Program is driven by other Federal agencies and land developers. The volume and complexity of these consultations changes annually. The workload predicted for FY 2014 is based on FY 2013 estimates. The increase in funding will result in more consultations completed in a timely manner in FY 2014, as compared to FY 2013 estimates.							
14.1.2 % of formal/informal energy (non-hydropower) consultation addressed in a timely manner	87% (1,192 of 1,372)	78% (1,122 of 1,433)	72% (1,073 of 1,488)	83% (1,203 of 1,454)	66% (711 of 1,073)	80% (861 of 1,073)	-2%	0%
Comments	The workload associated with the Consultations and HCP Program is driven by other Federal agencies and land developers. The volume and complexity of these consultations changes annually. The workload predicted for FY 2014 is based on FY 2013 estimates. The increase in funding will result in more consultations completed in a timely manner in FY 2014, as compared to FY 2013 estimates.							

Subactivity: Endangered Species
Program Element: Recovery of Listed Species

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Recovery	($000)	*81,483*	82,806	+952	-230	+3,015	86,543
	FTE	*470*	470	0	0	+7	477

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Recovery of Listed Species

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	+3,108	+9
• Cooperative Recovery Initiative	+1,900	0
• State of the Birds Activities	-995	-2
• Wolf Livestock Loss Demonstration Program	-998	0
Program Changes	**+3,015**	**+7**

Justification of Program Changes for Recovery of Listed Species

The 2014 budget request for Recovery of Listed Species is $86,543,000 and 477 FTE, a net program change of +$3,015,000 and +7 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (+$3,108,000 / +9 FTE)

The goal of the Recovery program is to minimize or remove the threats that led to the species listing so that it can be delisted or reclassified from endangered to threatened. This requires decades of constant monitoring, adaptive management, and holistic planning, together with close coordination and technical leadership to our partners to assist their recovery efforts. Additional funds will allow for implementation of approximately 290 additional recovery actions addressing some of the most urgently needed actions for conservation. These actions will range from captive breeding and propagation to habitat management actions such as control of invasive species. The Recovery program strives to allocate resources to its highest priorities and is actively seeking ways to better evaluate funding opportunities. Any new funding will follow the development of a more transparent approach to our funding decisions to achieve the most conservation on the ground for our imperiled species.

In addition to on-the-ground activities, the recovery program will begin the recovery planning process for a number of newly listed species. The current listing work plan requires that we evaluate over 250 species for possible listing as threatened or endangered. By FY 2014, the Service will have completed listing determinations for 160 species. All newly listed species will require recovery plans. Recovery plans guide the conservation of the species by efficiently and effectively determining criteria for recovery and identifying necessary actions to improve the status of our species.

Species that have been listed for five or more years require the periodic assessment of status or "5-year review." A species is determined to be improving, declining, or staying the same and a recommendation of a change in status may be associated with a completed review. If a species requires a change in status from endangered to threatened or threatened to delisted, the recovery program may complete the rulemaking process for that species. Currently approximately 100 species have 5-year reviews that recommend downlisting or delisting.

Cooperative Recovery Initiative (+1,900,000/+0 FTE)
This funding will support a cross-programmatic partnership approach to complete planning, restoration, and management actions addressing current threats to endangered species in areas of strategic importance for conservation of listed species. The focus will be on implementing recovery actions for species near delisting or reclassification from endangered to threatened and actions that are urgently needed for critically endangered species. The Endangered Species Program will participate in this Cooperative Recovery Initiative by combining our resources with those of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, the Fisheries Program, the Science Program and the Migratory Bird Program to identify and implement the highest priority recovery projects for endangered species on national wildlife refuges and in surrounding ecosystems. Performance measures are being identified for selected projects; the Service anticipates being able to support approximately 10 recovery actions with its contribution.

State of the Birds Activities (-$995,000/-2 FTE)
The urgent need for increased action to recover endangered Hawaiian birds was a centerpiece of the 2009 State of the Birds Report issued by Interior Secretary Salazar in March. Funding provided since FY 2010 has been used to augment the recovery program for Hawaii's many endangered bird species. The augmentation includes but is not limited to strategic planning for species recovery and increased coordination with partners; and the development and implementation of landscape-scale conservation projects such as:

- fencing and alien species control, including predators;
- translocation and reintroduction to establish or enhance populations of rare and range-restricted species; and
- expanded surveying and monitoring efforts of listed bird species to improve understanding of threats and response to management.

These efforts benefit not only endangered birds but also their habitats and help to maintain non-listed bird populations, other critical wildlife, and plant resources. In FY 2014, the Service proposes to reduce funding in order to fund higher priority conservation activities elsewhere in the budget request.

Wolf Livestock Loss Demonstration Program (-$998,000/+0 FTE)
In FY 2012, Congress provided $998,000 to fund a demonstration program that gives grants to states and tribes for livestock producers conducting proactive, non-lethal activities to reduce the risk of livestock loss due to predation by wolves and to compensate livestock producers, as appropriate, for livestock losses due to such predation. The Service proposes to discontinue funding this in FY 2014 in order to fund higher priority conservation activities elsewhere in the budget request.

Program Overview

Coordinating, developing, implementing, and managing all of the recovery tools and partner activities in a cohesive and effective manner for species' recovery requires significant commitment and resources. The Recovery program plays a vital role in leading or guiding the recovery planning process, while facilitating, supporting, and monitoring the implementation of recovery actions by the Service, other DOI bureaus, federal agencies, states, and other partners and stakeholders.

Four examples of successful multi-party partnerships, all awarded the Service's 2011 Recovery Champions Award, include:

Eggert's sunflower and the Tennessee purple coneflower - Under David Lincicome's leadership, Tennessee Natural Heritage and Natural Areas Programs under the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation have played key roles in delisting endangered and threatened plants such as the Eggert's sunflower and the Tennessee purple coneflower—impressive

accomplishments considering the threat of habitat destruction from increasing development. Collaborating with academia to research the life-history of 19 federally protected plant species, David Lincicome has also monitored their populations, brought about the protection of several thousand acres of important plant habitat, and managed that habitat. The Natural Areas Program protects the Tennessee purple coneflower by establishing Designated State Natural Areas.

Bull Trout, Puget Sound Chinook Salmon and Steelhead - In September 2011, in one of the biggest projects of its kind, the Olympic National Park removed the Glines Canyon and Elwha Dams, providing Puget Sound Chinook salmon and steelhead access to about 70 miles of pristine habitat and opening anadromous bull trout migratory corridors into the Park for the first time in 100 years. Removal of these dams will restore the Elwha River ecosystem, with expected salmon increases that will fuel the recovery of listed fish populations and the wildlife species that depend on them. In addition, members of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will again be able to harvest their treaty protected share of returning fish at a level that supports their subsistence and provides for their livelihood. The award was presented to the Olympic National Park Team, Port Angeles, Washington that included Karen Gustin, Brian Winter, Pat Crain, and Sam Brenkman.

Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative - Comprised of more than 22 partners including universities, botanical gardens, conservation groups, consulting firms, botanical artists, and State and Federal agencies, the Rare Plant Conservation Initiative is devoted to ensuring plant diversity. This group has developed a strategy for conserving rare plants in Colorado which includes developing best management practices for oil and gas development in areas with rare plants, and then working with the industry to implement the practices. In addition, the Colorado Natural Areas Program and the Denver Botanic Gardens train and coordinate volunteers as rare plant stewards who assist with surveys, remove non-native species, and adopt particular geographic areas that they protect. Research projects include development impact on the Dudley Bluff bladderpod and twinpod as well as their associated plant communities and pollinators.

Polar bear, Steller's eider and spectacled eider - The North Slope Borough in Barrow, Alaska is a leader in conserving the polar bear, the Steller's eider and the spectacled eider through management and outreach. Through non-lethal hazing techniques, the Borough has reduced the number of polar bears entering coastal villages which decreases the number of the animals killed in the interest of public safety. The community-based project promotes support for polar bear conservation while protecting area residents. The Steller's eider and spectacled eider benefit from the North Slope Borough collaboration with area residents, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in outreach programs such as the Eider Journey Science Program, a comprehensive education and stewardship initiative designed to eliminate the take of the birds and the use of lead shot.

The Recovery program uses the inherent flexibility in the implementation of the ESA whenever it is advantageous, feasible, and practical. Special rules developed for threatened species under section 4(d) of the ESA allow the Service to tailor protections to the needs of the species while enabling human activities to continue, consistent with the conservation of the species. The special rules for the Utah Prairie Dog were recently revised to include, the ability for local landowners to control Utah prairie dogs when the species creates serious human safety hazards or disturbs the sanctity of significant human cultural or burial sites. In addition, the revision includes new incidental take exemptions for otherwise legal activities associated with agricultural practices. Recently an experimental population was established under section 10(j) of the ESA in southern Arizona to facilitate expansion of the Sonoran pronghorn. This rule provides for flexibility in management by considering the population as threatened, regardless of its status elsewhere in its range, and allowing the development of a special rule to provide flexibility in

management of the species. In this manner, provisions allow the Department of Defense Yuma Proving Grounds, multiple Native American Tribes, Customs and Border Protection and other land owners to pursue their normal activities as usual.

Other successful and flexible conservation tools include Safe Harbor agreements and recovery management agreements. Safe Harbor Agreements build positive relationships with landowners to preserve needed habitat. Recovery management agreements implement actions that manage remaining threats so that a species may be delisted and transferred to the management authority of another appropriate agency, such as a state partner.

In FY 2014, the Service will continue to encourage cross-Agency involvement in implementing the ESA and leading the recovery of listed terrestrial and aquatic species. The Service proposes to continue the Cooperative Recovery initiative to foster and facilitate the focused and strategic approach to implementing recovery plan actions on or around refuges With nearly 300 listed species in or around units of the National Wildlife Refuge System and 59 refuges founded for the purpose of recovering threatened and endangered species and the National Fish Hatchery System's unique expertise in recovering aquatic listed species, the National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System play important roles in recovering listed species. Implementing this Cooperative Recovery Initiative will help ensure that all available Service resources will provide a model for integrated landscape conservation (see those program sections for additional details).

The goal of the Recovery program is to minimize or remove the threats that led to the species listing so it can be delisted or reclassified from endangered to threatened. This step requires decades of constant monitoring, adaptive management, and holistic planning, together with close coordination and technical leadership from Service partners to assist in these recovery efforts.

2014 Program Performance

The Service anticipates the following accomplishments and activities:

- Continue to complete 5-year reviews for species listed five years or more, resulting in over 1,067 listed species with a completed 5-year review.
- Build partnerships to help the Service implement 6,846 recovery actions (including habitat restoration, captive propagation, and reintroduction) for all listed species to reach a cumulative total of 65% of the total number of threatened and endangered species recovery actions being implemented.
- Provide final recovery plans for 1,110 listed species.
- Implement more than 830 recovery actions for Spotlight species, or 66% of the actions identified in Spotlight species action plans.

Endangered Species - Recovery - Performance Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 7.30 Percent of recovery actions for listed Spotlight species implemented	n/a	60% (762 of 1,261)	66% (829 of 1,249)	71% (902 of 1,269)	66% (833 of 1,253)	66% (833 of 1,253)	-5%	n/a
Comments	FY 2014 performance is anticipated to be level with the FY 2013 estimate. Any reduction in performance can be attributed to the reduction in State of the Birds funds.							
7.30.8 Percent of threatened and endangered species recovery actions implemented (GPRA)	n/a	n/a	62.8% (24,072 of 38,316)	73.3% (24,625 of 33,616)	65.1% (23,233 of 35,678)	65.1% (23,233 of 35,678)	-8%	n/a
Comments	FY 2014 performance is anticipated to be level with the FY 2013 estimate. Any reduction in performance can be attributed to the reduction in State of the Birds funds.							

Habitat Conservation

Activity: Ecological Services
Subactivity: Habitat Conservation

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	($000)	*55,539*	54,768	+540	-112	+1,521	56,717
	FTE	*262*	268	0	0	-6	262
Conservation Planning Assistance	($000)	*34,145*	35,780	+566	-346	+968	36,968
	FTE	*253*	257	0	0	0	257
Coastal Programs	($000)	*14,149*	14,870	+177	-30	-69	14,948
	FTE	*73*	76	0	0	-3	73
National Wetlands Inventory	($000)	*5,219*	5,219	+42	-8	+521	5,774
	FTE	*7*	19	0	0	0	19
Total, Habitat Conservation	**($000)**	***109,052***	**110,637**	**+1,325**	**-496**	**+2,941**	**114,407**
	FTE	***595***	**620**	**0**	**0**	**-9**	**611**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Program Overview

The Fish and Wildlife Service promotes the protection, conservation, and restoration of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources through its Habitat Conservation program. This cooperative program provides expert technical assistance in the use and development of land, water, and energy resources to conserve America's great outdoors, address conservation challenges like sea-level rise and habitat fragmentation, and deliver environmentally responsible power to the American public. Using Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) principles, the Service provides landscape-level planning assistance to partners to address urban growth and impacts related to climate change. The program safeguards public and environmental health by conserving highly threatened coastal habitats through inventorying and monitoring, mapping the Nation's wetlands, and restoring the habitats of aquatic and terrestrial trust species. In addition, the Service is accelerating collaboration with other agencies, tribes, and non-governmental organizations to achieve responsible conventional and renewable energy goals**.**

The primary habitat conservation tools the Service uses are:

- Leveraging the Service's habitat restoration, protection, and conservation dollars through strong partnerships to make a greater impact;
- Planning habitat conservation for society's infrastructure needs by providing technical assistance and consultation to assure environmentally-balanced development and conservation;
- Coordinating reviews of energy production and transmission projects under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and National Environmental Policy Act to balance and protect the needs of the natural environment;
- Providing technical and financial assistance to protect, restore, and inventory important coastal habitats;
- Addressing the Service's ecological data needs through the development of resource databases; and
- Developing standards for monitoring and mapping wetlands and assessing and mapping the status and trends of the nation's wetlands.

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of all four Habitat Conservation program elements is proposed to move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation.

- Conservation Planning Assistance, National Wetlands Inventory, Coastal Barrier Resources Act, and Environmental Contaminants are proposed to move to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services
- The Partners and Coastal programs is proposed to move to the Assistant Director for the National Wildlife Refuge System

Subactivity: Habitat Conservation
Program Element: Partners for Fish and Wildlife

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	($000)	*55,539*	54,768	+540	-112	+1,521	56,717
	FTE	*262*	268	0	0	-6	262

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Partners for Fish and Wildlife

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Cooperative Recovery	+1,483	0
• General Program Activities	+38	-6
Program Changes	**+1,521**	**-6**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Partners for Fish and Wildlife is $56,717,000 and 262 FTE, a net program change of +$1,521,000 and -6 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

Cooperative Recovery (+$1,483,000/+0 FTE)
Funding will support a cross-programmatic partnership approach to complete planning, restoration, and management actions addressing current threats to endangered species on and around wildlife refuges. The ecosystems surrounding National Wildlife Refuges provide important habitat for hundreds of threatened and endangered species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, mollusks, insects, other invertebrates, and plants. The Partners program will collaborate with Fish and Aquatic Conservation, Endangered Species, the National Wildlife Refuge System, and Migratory Birds to work within the Strategic Habitat Conservation framework, and in consultation with our partners through the LCCs to implement recovery projects for endangered species on refuges and in surrounding ecosystems. This effort will include seeking the cooperative efforts of private landowners to implement habitat restoration and enhancement projects on private lands surrounding wildlife refuges. As part of this process, the partnership will develop evaluation criteria for determining how priority funds will be allocated and spent, and performance criteria to ensure accountability in achieving conservation goals.

General Program Activities (+$38,000/-6 FTE)
The Partners Program will continue supporting the Service's efforts on the Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) initiative through this increase. The increase will improve the Service's ability to target landowner enrollment through outreach efforts in focus areas where implementation of certain conservation practices on private lands can produce the greatest benefits for the targeted species.

The FTE reduction shown here starts from the FY 2012 Actual, but does not account for adjustments made in FY 2013.

Program Overview

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program is the Service's voluntary citizen- and community-based stewardship program that delivers habitat restoration projects on privately owned land across all 50 states and territories. The Partners program is proposed to be managed together with the Coastal program, though focus on coastal areas will continue to be a Service priority. The vision of efficiently achieving voluntary habitat restoration on private lands for the benefit of federal trust species is based on the premise that conservation is a responsibility shared by citizens and government. The Program provides

financial and technical assistance to private landowners, government agencies, tribes, and other partners to support federal and local habitat conservation strategies, including Departmental and Service initiatives and programs. It uses science-based management practices to restore and enhance wildlife habitat, create habitat corridors and connectivity on the regional landscape, and protect America's lands and waters for future generations. Efforts are concentrated on high-value "geographic focus areas" as identified in collaboratively developed regional and local strategic plans. These plans guide the Service toward 1) clearly defined national and regional habitat goals; 2) improved accountability for federal dollars expended in support of the Service and its goals; 3) enhanced communication to achieve greater responsiveness to local plans and conservation priorities; and 4) an expanded commitment to serving additional partners. The Partners Program supports the Service's efforts on the Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) initiative through outreach efforts to private landowners in focus areas where implementation of certain conservation practices on their lands can produce the greatest benefits for the targeted species.

Within the SHC framework, the Service identifies habitat restoration targets for priority species to increase or sustain their populations. The projects are designed to help achieve population and habitat objectives established at landscape-scale for species the Service considers most vulnerable and sensitive to habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, sea-level rise, and variations in weather patterns. From FY 2008-2012, over 4,000 habitat conservation projects—restoring over 890,000 acres—were designed and implemented specifically to benefit a variety of listed species. Many projects provide critical habitat for targeted species to preempt the need to list species under the Endangered Species Act, including the greater sage-grouse, New England cottontail, and the lesser prairie-chicken.

> *"By maintaining land in private ownership and thus on the local tax rolls, programs like Partners also do much to support cash-poor rural counties".*
>
> *– California Waterfowl Association*

The Partners program collaborates with LCCs to develop tools and restoration strategies that can be transferred to non-federal land owners. Through designing restoration projects that are strategically focused to mitigate the effects of threats like climate change and activities like energy development, Service partners working within and outside LCCs promote ecosystem adaptation and enhance ecosystem resiliency.

Strong partnerships help leverage Service dollars at a 4:1 ratio or greater. Figure 1 illustrates the diversity of partners who help achieve habitat restoration and enhancement on private lands. These partnerships, in collaboration with the Service, have led to the voluntary restoration of more than 3,315,095 acres of upland habitat and 1,059,750 acres of wetlands on private land since its inception in 1987. These acres, along with 10,903 miles of enhanced stream habitat, provide valuable habitat for federal trust species.

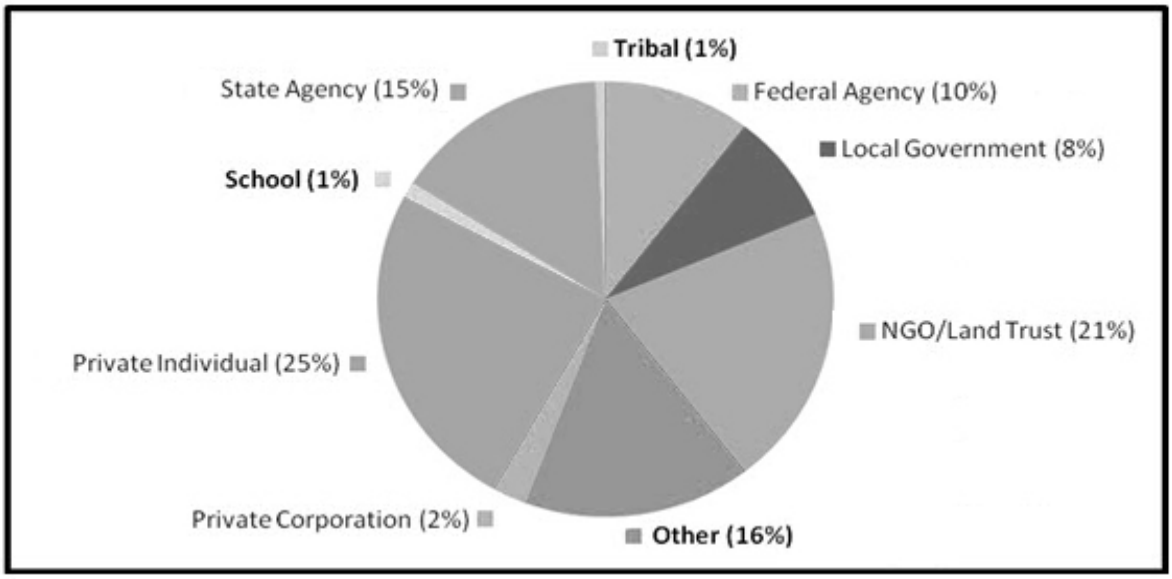


Figure 1 Partner Type Distribution

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of the Partners program is proposed to move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System.

2014 Program Performance

Beginning in FY 2012, a new 5-year Strategic Plan that identifies priority habitat restoration projects within geographic focus areas has guided the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. Seventy percent of Partners Program funds go directly to on-the-ground projects. Historically, these private lands habitat conservation projects are matched at a 4:1 ratio or greater.

In FY 2014, the Partners Program will continue to support habitat restoration efforts to benefit federal trust species. Program resources will focus on increasing the percent of self-sustaining federal trust and at-risk species populations (e.g., the Lesser prairie-chicken, gopher tortoise, northern bog turtle) in priority focus areas. The Partners Program will focus on the recovery of listed species and implementation of conservation measures for at-risk species in targeted geographic areas.

At the FY 2014 requested funding level of $56,514,000, the Partners Program will restore an estimated:

- 35,790 acres of priority wetlands;
- 218,986 acres of priority grassland and upland habitat;
- 644 miles of degraded stream and riparian habitat; and
- Implement 119 fish passage projects.

Examples of the kinds of projects that will be funded with the requested FY 2014 funding include:

Ojo Caliente Riparian Restoration, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

The Ojo Caliente Riparian Restoration Project mobilized high school and college students, community members, and tribal members and provided them with hands-on habitat restoration training. The project restored wildlife habitat and increased watershed resilience to flooding

events through erosion control measures and water quality improvements. The project also contributed to the Department's Youth in the Outdoors and America's Great Outdoors initiatives. The Service provided financial and technical assistance for project design and implementation. Project partners leveraged the Service's investment by coordinating restoration on adjoining land, acquiring grant funds, providing native plant material and recruiting local volunteers.

The project restored 3.5 miles of the Rio Ojo Caliente and was achieved by removing non-native trees from the riparian/wetland areas, planting native vegetation, and implementing prescribed cattle grazing. The project benefits the federally endangered southwestern willow flycatcher, as well as a variety of Neotropical migratory songbirds.

Cape Cod New England Cottontail Habitat Restoration, Barnstable County, Massachusetts

On Cape Cod, the Service has joined forces with the Town of Mashpee, the State of Massachusetts, the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, and other partners to return prescribed fire to reduce the risk of wildfire and provide habitat for the New England cottontail. The New England Cottontail, a candidate species, has all but disappeared in the wake of human development and the disappearance of fire and other natural disturbances that are needed to maintain their habitat. The long absence of fire also poses human risks as vegetation and fuel loads accrue to high levels, increasing the likelihood of wildfire.

With more than 8,000 homes valued at $2.5 billion, the town of Mashpee was designated a community at risk to wildfire in 2001 due to the volatile pitch pines and scrub oaks in the neighboring Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge. In 2009 and 2010, the Service provided technical and financial assistance and partners cleared vegetation along more than 12 miles of road. In 2012, the Service and partners successfully burned 13.5 acres to start restoration of fire-dependent systems on Cape Cod, improved habitat for the New England cottontail, and protected over 250 homes.

Shasta Springs and Lower Parks Fencing, Siskiyou County, California

In 2010, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) determined that the Shasta River populations of endangered Coho salmon were "functionally extinct." The Service and CDFG collaborated with the private landowner holding the only area outside of the Shasta River Canyon where CDFG has found spawning and rearing Coho salmon. The resulting project protected 13 miles of stream bank from heavy cattle grazing and 150 acres of riparian wetland habitat, increasing survival for Coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout.

The newly fenced areas protect habitat, encouraging new vegetation growth and rapidly increasing habitat diversity and spatial distribution for salmonids. Since fence installation, water quality has improved, temperatures have decreased, and habitat forming processes have resumed, exposing additional gravel for spawning and enlarging thermal refugia. Coho salmon juvenile production in the Shasta River has increased by approximately 40 percent since project completion. Additionally, in fall 2012, nearly 29,000 Chinook salmon returned to the Shasta River, with many spawning in the restored reaches. The enhanced

vegetation also benefits several migratory bird species, including the willow flycatcher, tricolored blackbird, yellow warbler, Wilson's warbler and common yellowthroat.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Performance Overview and Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
Comments	For all measures below: Past performance provides no assurances of future performance. Future performance may vary materially from prior periods due to a number of risk factors including weather and the voluntary involvement of landowners and other cooperators.							
3.1.1 "# of non-FWS riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships (includes miles treated for invasives & now restored) - PFW - annual (GPRA)"	702	538	502	306	183	644	338 (111%)	366
4.1.1 # of wetlands acres enhanced/ restored through voluntary partnerships (includes acres treated for invasives & now restored) - PFW - annual (GPRA)	33,273	49,315	43,614	38,840	19,938	35,790	-3,050 (-8%)	20,372
4.1.8 # of wetland acres restored per million dollars expended - PFW	4,009	1,400	2,737	3,840	n/a*	1,400	-2,440 (-63.5%)	1,400
4.2.1 # of non-FWS upland acres enhanced/ restored through voluntary partnerships (includes acres treated for invasives & now restored) - PFW - annual (GPRA)	230,638.	235,983	184,781	134,720	109,896	218,986	84,267 (62.5%)	124,637
5.1.14 # of fish barriers removed or installed - PFW	123	83	94	102	76	119	17 (17%)	66

**Measure 4.1.8 - No target established for 2013 Plan*

Subactivity: Habitat Conservation
Program Element: Conservation Planning Assistance

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Conservation Planning Assistance	($000)	*34,145*	35,780	+566	-346	+968	36,968
	FTE	*253*	257	0	0	0	257

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Conservation Planning Assistance

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Renewable Energy	+2,750	+8
• General Program Activities	-1,782	-8
Program Changes	**+968**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Conservation Planning Assistance (CPA) is $36,968,000 and 257 FTE, a net program change of +$968,000 and +0 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

Renewable Energy (+$2,750,000/+8 FTE)
This increase will strengthen CPA efforts on energy development. In particular, this increase will help the Service's efforts in regional mitigation planning directed through processes such as the Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) and the renewed effort to identify effective and compatible energy transmission corridors. A core function of the CPA program is to work closely with industry, states, tribes, and other federal agencies to coordinate and expedite environmental reviews of energy projects while conserving fish and wildlife habitat. This increase will facilitate a greater focus on renewable energy, particularly the collaborative development of regional impact assessment and planning tools. This work, done in cooperation with other federal agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Energy, will be given priority. This shift in focus will allow the CPA program to increase strategic planning efforts across the nation, resulting in greater conservation for listed and other high priority species and sensitive habitats, while accommodating the new energy infrastructure needed to reduce our national carbon footprint.

The Service estimates an additional 13 large-scale planning projects will be accomplished in FY 2014, and CPA will be able to engage early in the pre-permitting stage, thus streamlining the review process on 29 additional non-hydropower energy projects and 13 hydropower projects.

General Program Activities (-$1,782,000/-8 FTE)
The Service's ability to implement core CPA planning and project review activities associated with the transportation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wetland conservation and mitigation processes, National Environmental Policy Act coordination, and other development and community planning activities will be impacted by this funding decrease. Work associated with these activities, such as technical assistance, conservation planning, and the monitoring of priority species will also be impacted. However, the Service will maintain engagement in federal water project planning, including harbor deepening and development projects, flood control, large-scale coastal restoration and protection, federal dam construction, and development and management of levee systems.

These reductions will result in the following estimated impacts to performance measures:

- Participate in 10 fewer non-energy landscape-level planning efforts;

- Conserve 1,400 fewer acres of wetland habitat;
- Restore 600 fewer acres of wetland habitat;
- Conserve 300 fewer acres of riparian habitat;
- Conserve 2,200 fewer acres of high-value upland habitat; and
- Review 120 fewer non-energy projects.

Bald Eagle Recovery

The nation's iconic bird was brought back from the brink of extinction through the government's ban on using DDT and by listing it under the Endangered Species Act. The CPA program played a major role in the Service's ability to recover this majestic animal. Before beginning development projects that could potentially be in bald eagle territory, states, tribes, agencies, private developers, and individual citizens worked with CPA biologists to ensure their plans minimized impacts to the bird. In Louisiana, for example, where there are presently about 40 active nests, these stakeholders took Service recommendations and modified their plans to give bald eagles the space they needed to successfully breed. Service involvement, through CPA biologists, was instrumental in protecting the bald eagle.

Program Overview

Conservation Planning Assistance is a field-based, landscape-level program that works collaboratively with industries, agencies, tribes, and other stakeholders to balance conservation and development needs. Service biologists work with stakeholders at the planning stages of federally-authorized, licensed, or funded land, water, and energy development projects—from highway expansions to energy development—to ensure that development has minimal impact on wildlife and habitats. Service CPA biologists have extensive knowledge of Service programs and use that background to bring a true "One Service," integrated presence to the negotiation table. By engaging in the process early, Service recommendations save taxpayers money by preventing the need to list animals as endangered or threatened, streamlining the permitting process, reducing paperwork, and ensuring that development projects can be built with minimal environmental interruptions once plans are agreed upon. Advanced biological planning and conservation design assist communities and industry in adapting to environmental change.

CPA is drafting a Strategic Plan that will outline a conservation approach that will focus on:

- Landscape-level planning with a focus on high-priority species and habitats in conjunctions with LCCs;
- Four national priority needs: energy, transportation, water supply/delivery, and large-scale habitat restoration; and
- Achieving measurable, on-the-ground conservation results.

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

When the Deepwater Horizon oil drilling rig exploded in April 2010, the Service through the CPA program took crucial steps during the initial spill and throughout the clean-up to help protect the ecosystem and animals within it. Service biologists working with the State of Louisiana and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers helped design and construct oil barriers allowing clean-up to proceed while protecting shore, wading, and marsh birds.

New Energy Frontier: Renewable Energy Development – The Service works with industry to help ensure the nation's domestic energy resources are developed and delivered in an environmentally compatible way. The unparalleled drive toward clean and renewable domestic energy has increased emphasis on expanding and accelerating hydroelectric, solar, geothermal, wind-power, tidal, and hydrokinetic energy projects. Consequently, the program is increasingly engaged in extensive coordination with other Department of the Interior bureaus, federal agencies, states, and tribes early in the process to ensure conservation of trust resources as the nation expands transmission infrastructure and energy production from renewable energy sources.

- ***Hydroelectric power:*** During the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensing and relicensing process, Service biologists work with industry to minimize aquatic and terrestrial impacts and implement effective mitigation. Conservation measures recommended by Service biologists include prescriptions for fish passage, in-stream flows, and habitat acquisition and restoration. The typical 50-year duration of FERC licenses ensures these recommendations promote enduring fish and wildlife conservation benefits.

- ***Wind power:*** Since 2003, the Service has implemented voluntary guidelines to avoid or minimize the impacts of wind turbines on wildlife and their habitat. A Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) established by the Secretary of the Interior and convened by the Service provided recommendations on revising these guidelines in 2010. This Service effort in collaboration with the FAC successfully developed final Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines in March 2012.

Seasonal Wetlands (aka Vernal Pools)

California's seasonal wetlands (vernal pools) that are only wet in the winter are important habitat for migratory birds, native fish, and listed and non-listed animals. Unfortunately, the Salt Creek Plain vernal pools in Riverside County face development pressure as they sit between L.A. and San Diego. When the state wanted to realign State Route 79, Service CPA biologists were involved in the initial planning process and played a key role in working with the Riverside County Transportation Commission and City of Hamet, to successfully protect the vernal pools and animals that depend on them while satisfying residents' transportation needs and streamlining the permitting process.

- ***Solar power:*** The Southwest has abundant solar energy resources and plentiful habitat crucial to fish and wildlife. The Service's work with project proponents, states, and cooperating federal agencies continues to intensify as a result of the Administration's initiatives to identify environmentally-appropriate federal and Interior-managed lands for utility-scale solar energy development. Specifically, the Service was a cooperating agency in the joint Department of Energy and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Solar PEIS that analyzed the potential effects of commercial solar energy development on nearly 22 million acres of BLM land in six southwestern states. A final PEIS Record of Decision avoids or excludes environmentally-sensitive fish and wildlife resources, enabling more efficient project siting and federal approvals. As resources allow, the Service participates in the review of active solar project applications with BLM, states, and other conservation stakeholders.

- ***Geothermal power:*** About 250 million acres of BLM and National Forest lands in the western U.S. and Alaska are the principle stronghold for the nation's geothermal energy resources. The Service participated as a cooperating agency in the joint Department of Energy and BLM PEIS for geothermal project leasing in 2008. Effective Service participation in landscape-level lease planning enables the BLM and Forest Service to process new requests for geothermal project leases compatibly with fish and wildlife resources on nearly 180 million acres of public lands. In addition, the Service evaluates individual projects as they are tiered off the PEIS.

- ***Wave, tidal, and emerging energy technologies:*** The Service is increasingly engaged in the environmental review of innovative energy facilities that use wave energy, river flow (non-dam), and tidal flow to generate power. The program works closely with the FERC and state conservation agencies to advance environmentally-sound projects and technologies that minimize adverse impacts to fish and wildlife.

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of the CPA program is proposed to move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

2014 Program Performance

New Energy Frontier - Project Review and Development

The Service will be better positioned at the request level to facilitate the economic transition to cleaner renewable and conventional energy resources that are protective of fish and wildlife. CPA will maximize its participation in landscape-level siting initiatives with existing staff. These efforts will guide development and speed review of industry development and transmission proposals without compromising key fish and wildlife values.

In FY 2014, most performance measures will remain relatively unchanged, with the exception of the following energy-related activities:

- Assist with the ongoing planning of 13 additional large-scale (landscape-level) or programmatic approaches in multiple sectors, including energy development;
- Engage early (pre-permitting) with 29 additional non-hydropower energy projects and 13 additional hydropower proposals, and
- Streamline through early involvement the activities associated with five additional FERC licensing requests.

These expected accomplishments will provide long-term habitat conservation benefits for federally listed and vulnerable populations of fish and wildlife, migratory birds, and other trust resources. The Service will be able to continue and expand upon the following representative accomplishments and opportunities in FY 2014:

Voluntary National Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines **–** In March 2012, the Service finalized the voluntary Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines, completing a process of planning and collaboration with the wind industry and other involved stakeholders across the nation. The Service continues to develop, test, and deliver training programs for all who plan, design, operate, monitor, and provide technical assistance for wind energy facilities. Both public and private sector practitioners are trained together, promoting a common understanding of the guidelines and process, helping to minimize risks to both wildlife and developers. The first national training session was successfully conducted in September 2012.

Renewable Energy Priority Projects **–** The Service is an active partner with the BLM reviewing, assessing, and providing technical assistance on selected renewable energy priority projects on DOI land. These types of projects, beginning in 2013, are called Active Projects, and they continue to include solar, wind, and geothermal technologies. In calendar year 2013, the Service will assist in the review, approval and permitting of 23 commercial-scale solar, wind and geothermal projects on western BLM lands. The Service is assisting BLM in identifying additional projects for calendar year 2014. These projects represent about 5,300 megawatts of clean, renewable energy. CPA will review and comment on project plans, assist BLM and project applicants prepare Bird and Bat Conservation Strategies, coordinate all Service recommendations, and provide other technical assistance when needed. It is anticipated that all selected projects will have received final review by January 1, 2014. In addition to these priority projects, CPA field staff will be working on an estimated 700 private-land renewable energy projects across the nation in FY 2014.

***Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)* –** CPA assesses impacts and prepares recommendations on projects licensed by the Federal Energy Regulation Commission (FERC). The Service can influence the manner in which a permitted and/or licensed activity is carried out to help protect and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats. As an example, the Service has been assisting the Penobscot River Restoration Trust with the **Penobscot River Restoration Project**. This project involves removing the first two dams from the lower Penobscot River and modifying a third dam to provide natural fish passage, and providing instream and riparian habitat restoration. This will provide unobstructed fish passage in the Penobscot River, Maine and restore endangered Atlantic salmon to more than 1,000 miles of freshwater stream habitat. The Great Works and Veazie Dams are scheduled for removal by 2014. The project includes constructing a new fish lift and brood stock handling facility at the Milford dam, which will become the first dam on the river following the removal of the Great Works and Veazie dams. This shore-based fish handling/management facility will replace the fish trap currently in operation at the Veazie dam. The Service has coordinated licensing activities with the FERC and has advised the licensee on the design of the Milford fish passage facility by providing design and modeling expertise. The sequencing of these dam removal and restoration activities is critical to the conservation program for endangered Atlantic salmon. The Service has worked closely with the Penobscot Indian Nation, American Rivers, The Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Audubon, The Natural Resources Council of Maine, The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Maine Departments of Marine Resources and Environmental Protection. This effort has and will continue to demand a coordinated response by the Service, as well as creative solutions to integrate the various project construction activities and develop contingency plans for salmon management during the dam removals in the next few years.

CPA biologists have begun early planning activities on the **Susitna-Watana Hydropower Project** with the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA). Partners involved include other federal agencies, state agencies, and several NGOs. The proposed project would include constructing a 700-foot high dam with a 600 megawatt powerhouse located approximately 184 river miles upstream of the mouth of the Susitna River, about halfway between Anchorage and Fairbanks. The Susitna River is approximately 320 miles long and supports all five Pacific salmon species, including the fourth largest Chinook salmon stock in Alaska. If constructed, this would be the largest new hydroelectric project in the U.S. in more than 40 years, and would create a reservoir 39 miles long and two miles wide. The Service successfully requested that AEA complete an aquatic resource, terrestrial resource, water quality, and sediment transport data gap analysis of existing information to help identify questions that need to be answered about the proposed project before developing study plans with mutually agreed upon objectives. The Service also provided comments on the proposed FERC licensing process, began reviewing the gap analysis reports, and attended a project site visit and two FERC outreach meetings to ensure that information needs are identified prior to AEA filing a FERC Preliminary Application Document.

***Renewable Energy Action Team (REAT)* –** CPA has represented Service interests along with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), California Department of Fish and Game, and California Energy Commission (CEC) to form the Renewable Energy Action Team (REAT). The REAT is working

cooperatively on project planning and environmental compliance and is focusing both on current projects and longer-term planning for renewable energy projects in California.

Examples of REAT activities include:

- Working with BLM on NEPA compliance issues in advance of Section 7 consultation
- Working with BLM and CEC on coordination of NEPA and CEQA to meet ARRA or Department of Energy Loan Guarantee timeframes
- Tracking progress of solar and wind energy projects with local governments and applicants
- Developing Best Management Practices for renewable energy projects
- Working with the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Independent System Operators on issues related to proposed transmission interconnection to the electric grid
- Working with the military on issues related to projects that have effects on their operations
- Developing a large-scale desert conservation strategy (the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan) to address siting of energy projects and impacts to listed species and native ecosystems on both public and private lands.

The REAT agencies are working together to address the challenges associated with renewable energy development in the desert region of California. The agencies are working to ensure the protection and conservation of trust fish and wildlife resources while meeting the Department's priority to facilitate growth of the nation's capacity to produce renewable energy.

Savannah Harbor Expansion Project - The Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP) continues to be a focus of the Service in coastal Georgia. SHEP is a Congressionally-authorized Corps of Engineers transportation project to deepen the Savannah Harbor to support the larger cargo ships that can now pass through the enhanced Panama Canal. The deepening has the potential to impact water quality by releasing contaminants residing in sediments, which could in turn impact Refuges. Issues include migratory bird and fish passage/conservation, the threatened shortnose sturgeon, wetlands restoration, and the water supply for the City of Savannah. This complex effort calls for a coordinated effort between Service programs, state and local agencies, and other stakeholders. Proper mitigation, the protection of water quality, managing Refuge lands and addressing the future protection of wetlands at anticipated higher sea levels are all needed. In FY 2011 the Service completed the final Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) report and gave our concurrence to the Corps' Biological Assessment. CPA continues to discuss trust resource conservation issues with the Corps, especially those related to the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge. Managed freshwater wetlands on the Refuge are heavily used by wintering waterfowl and have supported an average of 23 percent of the South Carolina waterfowl observed in mid-winter counts. Proposed mitigation is expected to minimize and mitigate for the potential changes brought about by the dredging project. This project has involved the Service working with multiple entities including the EPA, Corps, NOAA, South Carolina and Georgia State resource agencies, Georgia Ports Authority, the City of Savannah, and numerous NGOs. This long-term engagement on a large water resource development project with complex impacts, negotiations and processes is an example of CPA's commitment to addressing the ecological concerns and opportunities in regional projects of national importance.

Conservation Planning Assistance Performance Overview and Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 3.2 Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles managed or protected to achieve desired condition, including through partnerships (GPRA)	11,296	1,975	1,274	1,748	787	1,744	-3 (-0.2%)	1,295
3.2.4 # of non-FWS instream miles protected/ conserved through technical assistance - annual (GPRA)	1,399	845	356	641	287	655	14 (2.2%)	495
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
3.2.5 # of non-FWS riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles protected/ conserved through technical assistance - annual (GPRA)	1,264	798	556	762	206	780	18 (2.3%)	415
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
CSF 4.1 Number of non-FWS wetland acres restored, including acres restored through partnerships (GPRA)	458,713	363,141	372,004	235,537	515,154	212,315	-23,222 (-10%)	447,693
4.1.18 # of non-FWS wetland acres restored/enhanced through conservation planning assistance (GPRA)	45,370	97,643	33,651	18,097	17,939	18,460	363 (2.0%)	147,970
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
CSF 4.2 Number of non-FWS upland acres restored, including acres restored through partnerships (GPRA)	271,138	240,345	191,288	166,718	115,299	251,603	84,885 (51%)	136,498

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
4.2.9 # of non-FWS upland acres restored/ enhanced through conservation planning assistance (GPRA)	21,376	3,012	4,023	28,813	4,243	29,400	587 (2%)	10,575
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
CSF 4.4 Number of non-FWS wetland acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres managed or protected through partnerships (GPRA)	2,440,943	965,710	760,706	254,184	3,659,870	449,606	195,422 (77%)	580,612
4.4.6 # of non-FWS wetland acres protected/ conserved through technical assistance - annual (GPRA)	72,262	119,788	64,578	38,498	3,012,430	39,300	802 (2%)	21,155
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
CSF 4.5 Number of non-FWS upland acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres managed or protected through partnerships (GPRA)	486,816	180,252	1,030,819	274,176	7,087,941	222,167	-52,009 (-19%)	249,945
4.5.4 # of non-FWS upland acres protected/ conserved through technical assistance - annual (GPRA)	96,865	126,922	942,719	146,492	7,042,742	149,400	2,908 (2%)	249,945
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
CSF 4.6 Number of non-FWS coastal and marine acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres managed or protected through partnerships (GPRA)	131,156	101,706	43,864	32,763	216,437	20,247	-12,516 (-38%)	42,220

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
4.6.3 # of non-FWS coastal/marine acres protected/ conserved through technical assistance - annual (GPRA)	80,244	68,110	15,546	10,195	201,587	10,400	205 (2%)	2,690
Comments	Spatial accomplishments accruing from CPA program engagement expected to increase slightly, especially due to continued focus on energy-related work.							
CSF 4.7 Number of other environmental technical assistance efforts to protect habitat	28,881	25,958	23,404	22,625	15,909	23,000	375 (1.7%)	20,610
4.7.8.2 # of transportation activities reviewed	3,670	3,095	3,218	3,653	2,073	3,653	0	2,350
Comments	Numbers of transportation projects reviewed are expected to remain level as CPA program maintains focus on this sector.							
4.7.15 # of all other activities reviewed (e.g., non-energy, non-transportation, non-water supply, non-restoration)	13,901	12,436	10,337	10,024	6,825	10,220	196 (2%)	9,490
Comments	Numbers of overall projects reviewed by CPA program biologists will increase approximately 2% at FY 14 funding level.							
CSF 4.8 Number of large-scale landscape planning and/or programmatic approaches in progress or completed	738	1,122	944	774	286	795	21 (2.7%)	400
4.8.1 # of large-scale landscape-level planning and/or programmatic approaches in progress	368	429	459	357	165	370	13 (3.6%)	290
Comments	Large-scale/programmatic efforts in-progress will increase primarily due to CPA focus on engaging new regional conservation planning for energy infrastructure.							
4.8.2 # of large-scale landscape planning and/or programmatic approaches completed - annual	370	693	485	417	121	425	8 (2%)	110
Comments	Large-scale planning efforts completed will increase slightly, primarily due to CPA focus on engaging regional conservation planning for energy infrastructure.							
5.1.20 # of miles stream/shoreline reopened to fish passage - CPA	1,122	587	264	298	196	310	12 (4%)	315
Comments	Due to continued energy focus, stream miles opened through CPA program's recommendations during FERC hydropower engagement will increase.							

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 14.1 Energy (NOT including hydropower): Percent of advanced planning coordination responses with early planning; and formal/informal biological consultations provided in a timely manner	55% (2,300 of 4,177)	49% (2,262 of 4,600)	51% (2,311 of 4,515)	55% (2,224 of 4,019)	47% (1,291 of 2,729)	51% (1,911 of 3,713)	-4%	64% (2,735 of 4,290)
14.1.5.2 # of energy activities (non-hydropower) reviewed	2,805	3,167	3,027	2,565	1,656	2,640	75 (3%)	1,890
Comments	Total numbers of non-hydro energy projects reviewed by CPA program biologists will increase approximately 3% at FY 14 funding level.							
CSF 14.2 Hydropower Energy: Percent of advanced planning coordination responses w/early planning; and formal/informal biological consultations provided in a timely manner	53% (600 of 1,123)	67% (465 of 693)	57% (382 of 676)	58% (460 of 788)	59% (301 of 513)	58% (460 of 794)	0%	51% (366 of 719)
14.2.5.2 # of hydropower activities reviewed	1,078	662	641	737	479	760	23 (3%)	675
Comments	Total numbers of hydropower projects reviewed by CPA program biologists will increase approximately 3% at FY 14 funding level.							
14.2.6 # of Hydropower FERC license activities streamlined through early involvement	205	112	132	135	87	140	5 (4%)	115
Comments	Total numbers of FERC licensing projects reviewed by CPA program biologists are expected to increase, including from new investments in hydrokinetic sector.							
14.2.7 # of Hydropower FERC relicense activities streamlined through early involvement	121	99	61	62	44	65	3 (5%)	90
Comments	Total numbers of FERC re-licensing projects reviewed by CPA program biologists will increase as numerous current hydropower licenses reach expiration.							

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 14.3 Water: Percent of advanced planning coordination responses w/early planning; and formal/informal biological consultations provided in a timely manner	65% (1,799 of 2,761)	59% (1,142 of 1,934)	66% (993 of 1,506)	68% (1,160 of 1,715)	61% (606 of 992)	63% (961 of 1,522)	-4%	65% (1,120 of 1,733)
14.3.5.2 # of water supply/delivery activities reviewed	1,575	1,164	854	970	510	970	0	815
Comments	Numbers of water supply projects reviewed are expected to remain level as CPA program maintains focus on this sector.							

Subactivity: Habitat Conservation
Program Element: Coastal Program

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Coastal Programs	($000)	*14,149*	14,870	+177	-30	-69	14,948
	FTE	*73*	76	0	0	-3	73

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Coastal Program

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	-69	-3
Program Changes	**-69**	**-3**

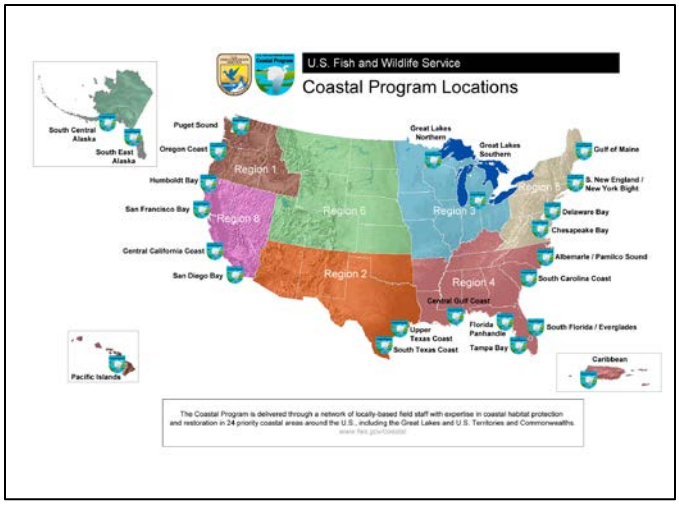
Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The FY 2014 budget request for the Coastal Program is $14,948,000 and 73 FTE, a net program change of -$69,000 and -3 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (-$69,000/-3 FTE)

This reduction will marginally affect existing project delivery capability across all 24 Coastal Program locations and decrease the delivery of habitat protection and restoration projects in priority coastal areas. Field staff will continue providing the technical and financial support to conservation partners that is essential for successfully implementing habitat protection and restoration actions that mitigate threats and build coastal resiliency in priority public and private lands. The program will also continue leveraging funds, technical expertise, and capacity in Service programs such as the National Wildlife Refuge System, and other public and private conservation initiatives to promote habitat connectivity and increase efficiency. The FTE reduction shown here starts from the FY 2012 Actual, but does not account for adjustments made in FY 2013.

Program Overview

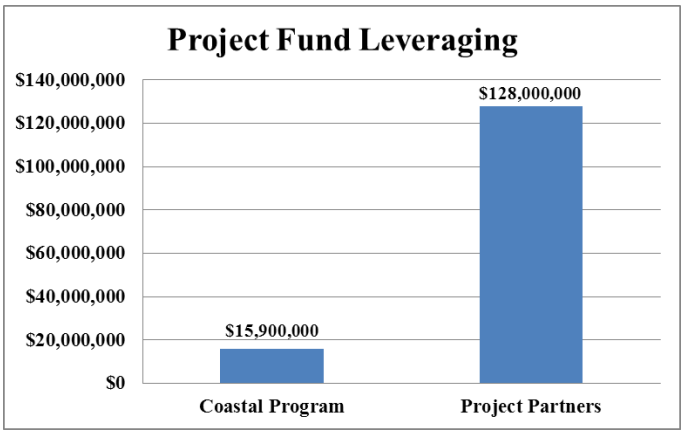


Since 1985, the Coastal Program has conserved our nation's coastal trust resources in collaboration with other Service programs, federal, state, and local agencies, tribal governments and native corporations, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, industry, and private landowners. The Service provides technical and financial assistance to implement habitat restoration and protection projects on public and private lands in 24 priority coastal ecosystems. By working on both private and public lands, the Service is able to deliver landscape conservation and maintain habitat connectivity and continuity.

The Service's primary purpose is to increase the number of self-sustaining federal trust species and preclude the requirement to list species under the Endangered Species Act. Conservation research indicates that if high-quality habitat is protected and critical habitat is restored, targeted federal trust species use the habitats. Since 1985, the Service has protected over 2 million acres of priority coastal habitat and has restored over 416,000 acres of critical

wetland and upland habitat and 1,850 miles of stream habitat. From FY 2002-2012 the Service delivered 1,488 habitat conservation projects, restoring over 1 million acres, designed specifically to benefit listed species. By maintaining a strategic field presence in priority coastal areas, Service staff delivers a local focus and a high level of technical expertise to effectively implement environmentally successful and cost effective habitat conservation projects. Building an in-depth knowledge of the community, its natural resources, environmental challenges, potential partners, and political and economic issues allows the Service to develop long-term, diverse, and effective partnerships that deliver landscape-scale conservation efficiently.

Leveraging partner resources, both technical and financial, maximizes habitat conservation and benefits federal trust species. On average, the leveraging ratio is at least eight non-federal dollars for every federal dollar spent, with recent leveraging ratios as high as 10:1.



Through the America's Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative, the Coastal Program assists with developing and implementing the 21st Century conservation and recreation agenda. Two program outcomes are 1) supporting the AGO's premise that lasting conservation solutions should come from local communities, and 2) making the Service a better partner to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the federal government's conservation and recreational activities.

Under the SHC framework, the Service delivers on-the-ground projects through active coordination and strong partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private citizens. Federal trust species recovery, migratory bird and waterfowl management plans, and State Wildlife Action Plans are also supported. In addition, the Program represents the Service on the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and helps implement the National Coral Reef Action Strategy through planning assistance, public outreach, and education. The Program is also the Service lead for implementing the National Ocean Policy, and coordinates with Department of the Interior through the Senior Ocean Policy team.

By working with the LCCs, coastal habitat conservation can be implemented under the framework of landscape-scale conservation planning. This collaboration advances the development of tools and restoration strategies that are being transferred to non-Service land stewards and habitat conservation practitioners. The Service is committed to addressing the growing threat to coastal ecosystems from habitat degradation. LCCs and Service partners seek to promote ecosystem adaptation and help coastal ecosystems and communities mitigate the effects of sea-level rise and flooding, protect coastal habitat, prevent and reduce habitat fragmentation, and restore wetlands and uplands to capture greenhouse gases.

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of the Coastal program will move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System.

2014 Program Performance

In FY 2014, the Coastal Program will continue to provide technical and financial assistance to conservation partners and practitioners to support conservation initiatives that benefit federal trust species. Program resources will focus on increasing the number of self-sustaining federal trust species

populations in priority focus areas, including the endangered Coho and Chinook salmon, the threatened Western snowy plover, the endangered tiger salamander, and the threatened Northeastern beach tiger beetle.

The Coastal Program will deliver landscape conservation and maintain habitat connectivity and continuity for priority species vulnerable to habitat loss from human activities and the impacts of climate change. The technical assistance provided by the Coastal Program will improve the science of restoration, promote cutting-edge conservation approaches, and promote a stewardship ethic that encourages the public to make ecologically sound decisions

At the requested funding level, the Coastal Program will restore and protect 10,404 acres of wetland habitat, 8,477 acres of upland habitat, and 35 miles of stream and riparian habitat that will benefit fish and wildlife species on public and private lands.

Examples of the types of projects that will be funded with the requested FY 2014 level include:

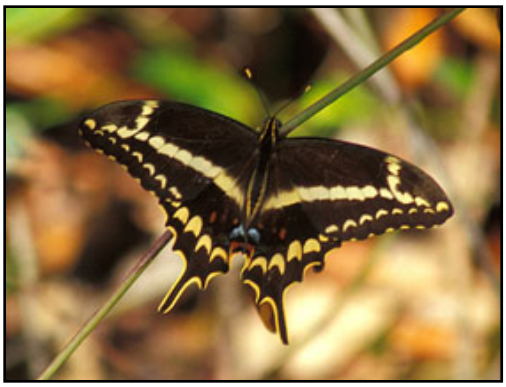
Johnston Atoll Ant Eradication Project

Johnston Atoll National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), located in the Central Pacific Ocean, is the only available seabird nesting habitat in over 750,000 square miles of ocean. The NWR is managed for marine and terrestrial wildlife, including five species of wintering shorebirds and 14 species of breeding seabirds. The atoll also supports one of the world's largest populations of Red-tailed tropicbirds.

During a routine visit to the atoll, Service biologists discovered a supercolony of invasive Yellow crazy ants covering about 70 acres of migratory shorebird and seabird habitat. The ants were disrupting the ecosystem and competing with the shorebirds for food. The ants also spray formic acid as a defensive measure and in large concentrations the acid can burn skin and eyes. On the atoll, swarming ants and high concentrations of acid have caused once commonly seen ground-nesting birds to abandon their nests.

The Service rapidly assembled a team of experts, including Coastal Program and Refuge biologists, to craft and implement an ant eradication strategy. After 14 months of active management, the team reduced the Yellow crazy ant population by 99 percent, and the Red-tailed tropicbird returned to their nesting areas. Service staff will continue to monitor and implement the ant eradication plan.

Schaus Swallowtail Habitat Restoration Project



The Schaus swallowtail butterfly population has continued to decline since it was listed as federally-endangered in 1984. In 2002, scientists estimated that the population ranged from 190 to 230 individuals. Following its listing, the Service prepared a recovery plan that identified specific conservation actions needed to ensure the survival of the species.

One of the conservation actions was to expand the species habitat and mitigate any potential storm damage in Biscayne National Park, Florida by planting Torchwood and Wild lime.

These two native plant species are found in coastal hammock habitat and are food for the butterfly's larvae. The Coastal Program, working with the National Park Service and other partners, provided technical and financial assistance to remove over two acres of invasive vegetation and replant the area with these two native plants. The project also enhanced significant socio-economic benefits to the park and local economy by enhancing park visitors' experience and drawing additional visitors to the park.

Stream Functions Framework Development and Training

Restoration practitioners have long struggled with how to determine the success of stream restoration projects. Part of the problem lies in a failure to link stream restoration with the stream function. Working with the Environmental Protection Agency and practitioners, Coastal Program staff developed a stream functions framework that evaluates a stream's hydrology, hydraulic, geomorphic, physiochemical, and biological functions.

This framework advances restoration by helping practitioners set restoration objectives and evaluate restoration performance by comparing existing stream functions to target or post restoration stream functions. This approach encourages practitioners to focus on improving stream functions in a holistic manner rather than discreet impairments. Coastal Program staff presented this framework at several national conferences and prepared training materials.

National Ocean Policy

Coastal conservation plays an important role in ocean conservation. The Service is helping lead DOI's role in developing the National Ocean Policy. The National Ocean Policy directs agencies to use resources more efficiently by identifying shared priorities, sharing data, working through potential conflicts, coordinating decision-making, and eliminating duplication. Coastal Program staff led a multi-agency working group tasked with identifying national priorities, actions, and milestones for ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystem restoration. Coastal Program staff worked to ensure that the Service's priorities and mission were represented in the implementation plan. There is no separate budget line item for the National Ocean Policy or National Ocean Council in the President's Fiscal Year 2014 budget as the National Policy uses existing authorities and resources to strengthen ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes stewardship.

South San Diego Bay Restoration and Enhancement Project

South San Diego Bay has been designated a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network Site and a Globally Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy because it supports an abundance and diversity of migratory and resident birds. The Coastal Program worked with the California Coastal Conservancy, Port of San Diego, San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association to cooperatively plan and implement the South San Diego Bay Restoration and Enhancement Project.

Since 2008, Coastal Program biologists have been working with partners to acquire grants, design the restoration project, and guide the project implementation. The Coastal Program also contributed funds to implement and enhance on-the-ground restoration activities. The project restored 300 acres of shallow subtidal and intertidal habitats providing benefits for the more than 90 species of migratory and coastal dependent birds. It also improved water quality, and nesting and foraging habitat for birds and fish. The project empowered communities through stewardship events and stimulated the local economy by creating 39 new jobs. It was the recipient of a 2012 Coastal America Partnership Award.

Coastal Program Performance Overview and Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
Comments	For all of the following measures: Past performance provides no assurances of future performance. Future performance may vary materially from prior periods due to a number of risk factors including weather and the voluntary involvement of landowners and other cooperators.							
3.1.2 # of non-FWS riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships - CoastProg - annual (GPRA)	35	46	196	268	18	17	-251 (-94%)	21
3.2.1 # of non-FWS riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles protected through voluntary partnerships - annual (GPRA)	91	31	59	56	24	18	-38 (-69%)	61
4.3.1 # of non-FWS coastal/marine wetlands acres enhanced/ restored through voluntary partnerships (includes acres treated for invasives & now restored) - annual (GPRA)	17,130	10,384	13,921	7,617	3,867	4,528	-3,088 (-41%)	7,047
4.3.2 # of non-FWS coastal/marine upland acres enhanced/ restored through voluntary partnerships (includes acres treated for invasives & now restored) - annual (GPRA)	8,972	10,427	14,012	12,022	3,831	5,491	-6,531 (-54%)	7,158
4.6.1 # of non-FWS coastal/marine wetlands acres protected through voluntary partnerships - annual (GPRA)	16,598	17,711	18,551	6,851	3,411	5,876	-974 (-14%)	11,636
4.6.2 # of non-FWS coastal/marine upland acres protected through voluntary partnerships - annual (GPRA)	34,314	15,301	9,084	14,742	11,431	2,986	-11,755 (-80%)	27,894
5.1.17 # of fish barriers removed or installed - Coastal	34	28	35	45	14	26	-19 (-42%)	17

Subactivity: Habitat Conservation
Program Element: National Wetlands Inventory

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
National Wetlands Inventory	($000)	*5,219*	5,219	+42	-8	+521	5,774
	FTE	*7*	19	0	0	0	19

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for National Wetlands Inventory

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	+521	0
Program Changes	**+521**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the National Wetlands Inventory is $5,774,000 and 19 FTE, a net program change of +$521,000 and +0 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (+$521,000/+0 FTE)
Both the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) Programs will use the additional funding to expand mapping efforts to the nation's wetlands in the Service's efforts to protect and restore them.

The NWI program will increase its efforts to update and modernize wetlands maps for an additional six million acres of the nation in small, select areas of high Service priority. These data are vital for decision-making for clean water, wildlife and fish habitat conservation, landscape-level planning, storm loss prevention and risk reduction, and energy, infrastructure, community, and private-sector development.

The CBRA program will continue efforts to produce digitally converted maps that are more user-friendly and update natural changes to the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) and produce comprehensively revised draft maps that correct errors affecting property owners and add coastal habitat appropriate for inclusion within the CBRS.

Program Overview

National Wetlands Inventory Program Overview
Access to clean water is critical for people, fish, wildlife, and plants. Wetlands, also known as marshes, swamps, wet meadows, and bottom-land hardwood forests, provide clean water; protect communities and farms from floods and coastal storm surges; recharge ground water for drinking; hold moisture on the land for farming; provide educational and outdoor opportunities; enhance property values; and provide open space for communities. Wildlife and fish need wetlands to produce young, provide shelter from predators, and as a source of food. Some plants used by people and wildlife are found only in wetlands.

Wetlands provide significant savings for the public and private sectors, create jobs, and generate revenue to local economies. It is much more cost-effective for governments to protect existing wetlands than to repair or replace them once degraded or lost. Wetlands continue to face many threats; chief among them are human impacts. Wetlands today are being drained or filled and degraded by fertilizer, pesticides, sediment, chemicals, and trash. Invasive plants and animals are also impacting them. With a changing climate, these impacts are expected to increase. Wetlands are being degraded and destroyed by droughts in the Southwest and Midwest; by sea-level rise, which is changing salt marshes to mud flats or open

water; by warmer water stressing wetland species, driving them out of historic ranges, or allowing disease vectors to increase; and by more frequent and more severe storms.

Endangered Monte Verde toad, young boy holding fish on dock, aerial photograph of wetlands and human impacts, and American Widgeon (Photos by Tom McCabe, FWS)

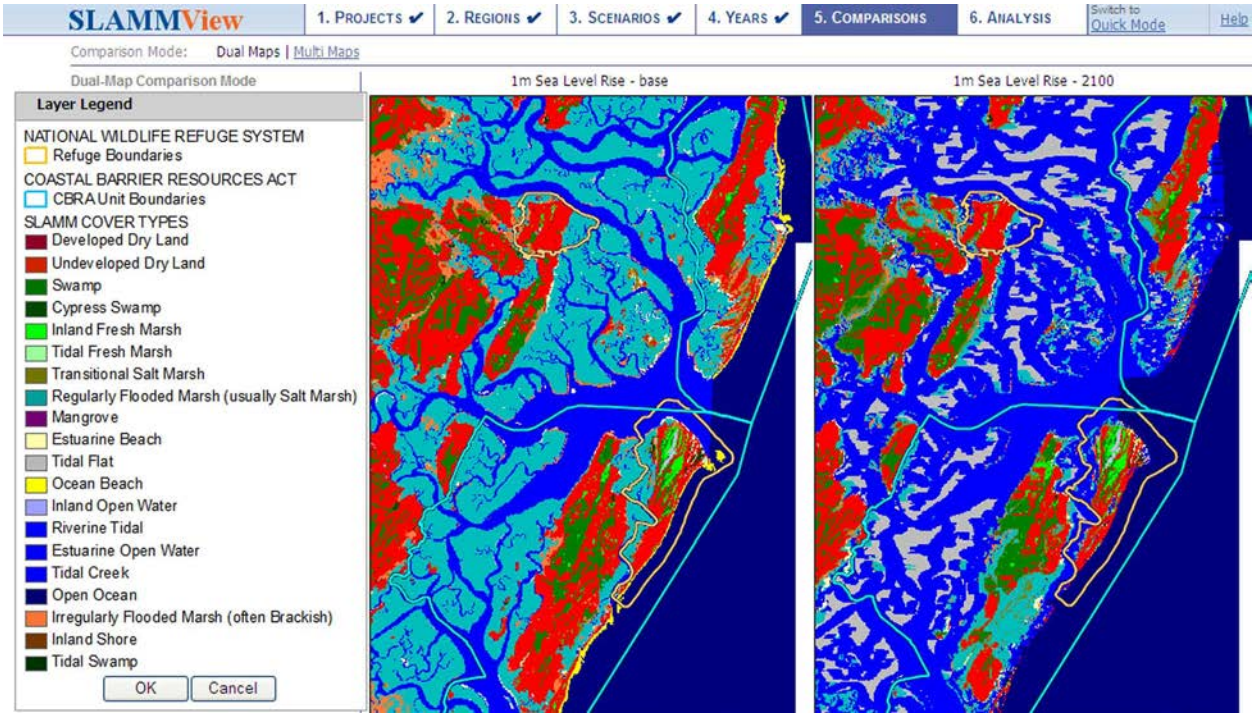
The Service is the principal Federal agency monitoring and reporting changes to the nation's wetlands. Through the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), the Service has developed a series of maps to show wetlands and deep-water habitats, and it reports to Congress every ten years on the status and trends of wetlands. The most recent report represents a comprehensive and scientifically sound effort to track wetlands resources on a national scale. NWI also prepares reports that are available to the public on local and regional wetland trends, local wetland status, watershed-based wetland characterization and preliminary functional assessment and natural habitat integrity, and an inventory on coastal submerged aquatic vegetation. NWI will work with partners to assume data updating and modernization.

The Service has played a leading role in defining the biological extent of wetlands, implementing a national classification system, developing standards for mapping and monitoring wetland habitats, and partnering with federal and state agencies, tribes, territories, and private organizations to track wetland changes over time. Information produced by NWI has promoted public awareness and educational efforts regarding wetland types, distribution, and ecological importance, and ultimately saved wetland habitat used by migratory waterfowl, endangered species, fisheries, and other aquatic organisms. This work has direct implications for Strategic Habitat Conservation and Landscape Conservation Cooperative planning efforts. NWI developed the two National Standards, National Wetlands Classification and National Wetlands Mapping and provides online Wetland Mapping training to assist cooperators and data contributors in successfully submitting standards-compliant wetlands geospatial data to the National Wetlands Inventory. This information becomes part of the NWI-managed Wetlands Layer of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and is used extensively to make resource management decisions at the federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local government levels.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-16 (Revised) assigns lead responsibility for coordinating the national coverage and stewardship of the wetlands data layer to the Service. The Service fulfills this responsibility through the NSDI, an important component of the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Geospatial Blueprint that actively supports the E-Government (E-Gov) initiative, Data.gov

and Geo.data.gov. as well as the Geospatial platform (Geoplatform.gov),[1] and The National Map (http://nationalmap.gov/index.html). NWI has been leading the way for the NSDI with coordinated collection, development, use, sharing, and dissemination of wetlands and related geospatial data. NWI's Wetlands Geodatabase, which houses all Service digital geospatial wetlands data including digital data contributed by outside cooperators, forms the Wetlands Layer of the NSDI—one of 34 data layers of national significance administered by the Federal Government.

The Wetlands Geodatabase and Wetlands Mapper allow integration of large relational databases with spatial information and map-like displays. These efforts cap a modern, efficient form of data delivery for the wetlands geospatial data layer of the NSDI and capitalize on years of data collection effort (over $220 million capital investment by the Service). The Wetlands Data Layer is one of the largest polygonal databases in the world and is visited online over 60 million times annually. It is designed for non-mapping experts, offering a user-friendly view of wetlands with topographic or imagery-based street maps. Data about wetland locations not only inform wetland management plans but also feed into models that predict the impact of sea-level rise (see SLAMM-View screen capture below) and help analyze other data. It provides easy access to information the business community needs to comply with wetland regulations and make sound business decisions more efficiently.



SLAMM-View screen capture of Blackbeard Island NWR, showing estimated change in wetlands from sea-level rise under one scenario.

Database managers or power users can download seamless statewide wetland layers. The casual user can download a small program from the NWI website that allows them to view wetlands mapped by NWI on Google Earth.™ Currently, NWI is working closely with DOI—Office of the Chief Information Officer on the development of a Wetlands Mapper mobile application with functionality targeted at dominant

[1] In 2013, the Geospatial Platform was established, the Geospatial Platform Oversight Body model was developed, DOI was designated the Managing Partner organization for the Geospatial Platform, and funding requirements for FY 2014 were defined.

mobile technologies as an important part of the DOI Digital Government Strategy. In September 2011, the Wetlands Mapper became the first geospatial service application to reach a Cloud computing platform from DOI.

Examples of the use of NWI data by Service programs are:

- *With just under 50 percent of breeding North American birds being wetlands dependent, the* ***Migratory Bird*** *program uses NWI data to analyze breeding waterfowl densities to help determine areas needed for purchase or conservation easement from willing landowners and to determine areas needed for restoration or rehabilitation and to correlate marsh birds use of habitats to NWI types for analyzing current habitat availability and modeling for future needs.*
- *As about 50 percent of endangered or threatened species are wetlands associated, the* ***Endangered Species*** *program uses NWI wetlands data for species such as the Hines emerald dragonfly in identifying new or potential habitat, as well as for the Chiricahua leopard frog, bog turtle, Tidewater goby recovery plan, piping plover in TX and ND, meadow jumping mouse in NM, and Steller's Eider in AK; and NWI riparian data for habitat for the Willow Flycatcher in the Southwest.*
- ***National Wildlife Refuges*** *use NWI data for Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) for wetlands-related species, for potential sea-level rise impacts by using the Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM) that runs on NWI data, and for planning for Refuge acquisitions.*
- ***Coastal*** *and* ***Partners*** *programs use NWI data for planning for wetlands restoration and reporting accomplishments.*

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program Overview

The Service's Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) program determines whether properties are located "in" or "out" of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS), consults with federal agencies regarding infrastructure projects proposed within the CBRS, and prepares modernized maps of the CBRS. CBRA conserves coastal habitats by restricting federal funding that encourages new development and prohibiting the sale of federally-backed flood insurance for most structures located within the CBRS. This saves millions in taxpayer dollars and reduces the intensity of development in hurricane-prone and biologically-sensitive areas that provide essential spawning, nesting, nursery, and feeding habitat for many threatened and endangered species.

The existing maps that depict the CBRS are outdated and difficult to use. The CBRS boundaries on the maps do not always precisely follow the features they were intended to follow on the ground, which can have a significant financial impact on property owners and project proponents, such as cancelling flood insurance policies, and causing foreclosures and other hardships for homeowners who are required to carry flood insurance to secure their mortgages. In the most extreme cases, homeowners have learned after a storm that their property is located within the CBRS and that their home was issued a federal flood insurance policy in error. In such cases, homeowner's premiums are refunded and the insurance claim is not paid. Modernizing the CBRS maps using digital technology will improve access to information; increase efficiency for infrastructure project planning; and increase accuracy and timeliness in determining whether individual properties are located within the CBRS. Additionally, modernized maps will help conserve natural resources and save taxpayer dollars by ensuring that federal funding for development activities is not provided in error within the CBRS.

In the wake of Hurricane Sandy in 2012, there was confusion among the public and government officials as to whether particular properties and project sites were located within the CBRS. Much of the confusion was attributed to the outdated and difficult to interpret maps that currently depict the CBRS. There may be homes within the CBRS that were damaged or destroyed by the hurricane that are carrying invalid federal flood insurance policies; such invalid policies will be cancelled and claims will

not be paid by FEMA, causing hardships for homeowners. Comprehensively modernizing the CBRS maps will help enhance coastal resiliency and sustainability following storms like Hurricane Sandy and reduce flood risk from future storms by adding new qualifying lands to the CBRS, and by facilitating coastal habitat conservation, restoration, and development planning. Map modernization will also help improve federal agency compliance with CBRA and correct mapping errors that affect private property owners.

There are two distinct types of CBRS remapping, "digital conversion" and "comprehensive map modernization." The Service, through an interagency partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is conducting a digital conversion of the CBRS maps that is anticipated to be completed for most of the CBRS by 2016. The digital conversion effort will accomplish the following: (1) ensure that the CBRS boundaries depicted on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps are the same as the boundaries depicted on the Service's official CBRS maps; (2) fulfill the Service's responsibility under CBRA to update the CBRS maps at least once every five years to account for natural changes such as erosion and accretion (Section 3 of P.L. 101-591); and (3) replace the CBRS maps at a lower cost and in a more timely manner than comprehensive map modernization (Section 4 of P.L. 109-226). The digitally converted maps will be more accurate and user-friendly than the existing CBRS maps, resulting in the reduction of inappropriate financial assistance within the CBRS and improved compliance with CBRA. Changes to the CBRS boundaries will be limited to those administrative modifications authorized under CBRA to account for natural changes on the ground and voluntary additions to the CBRS (16 U.S.C. 3503(c)-(e)). CBRS boundary changes that are outside the scope of this authority cannot be made through digital conversion; such changes can only be made through the comprehensive map modernization process that requires thorough research, input from the public, and Congressional enactment of the final maps.

The Coastal Barrier Resources Reauthorization Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-226) directs the Service to produce comprehensively revised maps for the entire CBRS. Since 1999, the Service has produced comprehensively revised maps for approximately 12% of the CBRS (including the Digital Mapping Pilot Project maps that account for about 10% of the CBRS). As comprehensive map modernization is time and resource intensive, the Service currently has a backlog to review and prepare revised maps for approximately 40 units. In FY 2014 we will only be able to complete a small portion of the remaining goal.

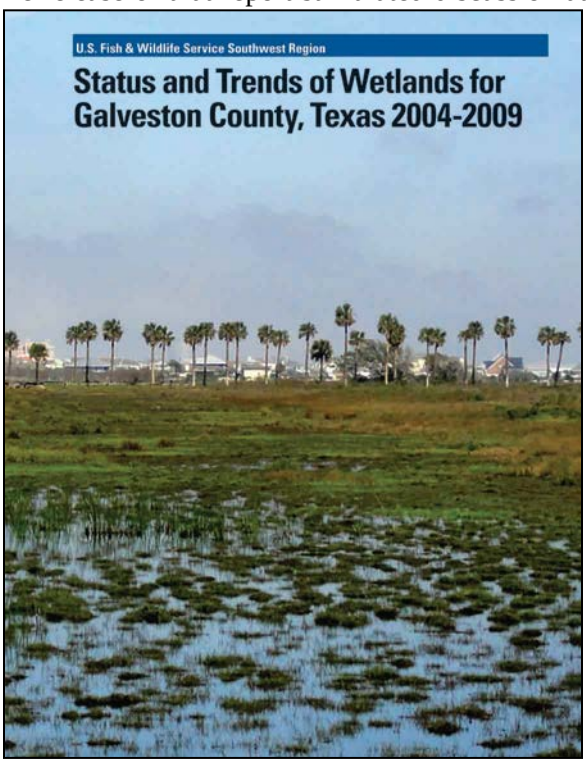
Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarter operational management of NWI and CBRA is proposed to move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

2014 Program Performance

The NWI program will increase efforts to strategically produce updated digital data in priority geographic areas while continuing its emphasis on completing data for the nation and leveraging partnerships for increased contributed data, expanding data distribution on-demand for decision makers, and supporting the Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program. The objective of this refocused effort is to enable the program to assist the nation in preparing for and reacting to environmental changes, energy and infrastructure development, and other threats to wetlands and clean water. Wetlands data will be produced and analyzed to complement Service Strategic Habitat Conservation initiatives that plan for environmental change and its effects on fish and wildlife resources. In particular, NWI will support the Service's surrogate species planning and monitoring effort and landscape conservation cooperatives, or networks of expertise shared with partners in conservation, designed to share capacities to plan, design, and deliver conservation among multiple spatial scales. The Service's digital wetlands and riparian data will be an integral component of geospatial analyses and modeling at the landscape level. NWI will also support and integrate CBRA data management and distribution needs.

National Wetlands Inventory

NWI data provides the foundation for formulation of federal wetlands policy. In 2008 the Service, in conjunction with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), released a report documenting wetland trends in the coastal watersheds of the Great Lakes, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico (Stedman and Dahl 2008). This report used data and findings taken from the Service's national wetlands status and trends study and indicated a net loss of an estimated 361,000 acres of wetland in the coastal watersheds of the eastern U.S. between 1998 and 2004. Losses along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico produced an overall net loss of an estimated 59,000 acres annually. Attribution of these losses pointed to human-induced development as the principle cause. The release of that report stimulated discussion at the federal level centering on increased wetland protection and restoration measures in the coastal watersheds and interest in the role of federal, state or local mechanisms to protect these coastal resources. The National Ocean Council's National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan uses the Service's data to establish baseline acreage goals for coastal wetlands by watershed. The Plan called for the development of a series of coastal change assessments to assist in policy formulation. In FY 2014, the National Wetlands Inventory will provide data on coastal wetland loss and change in select coastal watersheds and participate as one of the principal federal agencies comprising the Interagency Coastal Wetlands Workgroup. The NWI data underlying the change assessment are essential for understanding wetlands losses and formulating wetlands policy.



NWI data from the Galveston, Texas, and other reports provide the foundation to inform federal wetlands policy.

Coastal Barrier Resources Act

In FY 2014, the CBRA program will improve the Service's capacity to administer CBRA by preparing modernized maps of the CBRS that are more accurate and user-friendly. The CBRA program will focus on two distinct types of CBRS remapping, "digital conversion" and "comprehensive map modernization." The Service, through an interagency partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is conducting a digital conversion of the CBRS maps that is anticipated to be completed for most of the CBRS by 2016. In FY 2014, the CBRA program will produce digitally converted maps for approximately 185 CBRS units, comprising 693,680 acres, or 22 percent of the entire CBRS. The digitally converted maps will be more accurate and user-friendly than the existing CBRS maps, resulting in the reduction of inappropriate financial assistance within the CBRS and improved compliance with CBRA. Changes to the CBRS boundaries will be limited to those administrative modifications authorized under CBRA to account for natural changes on the ground and voluntary additions to the CBRS (16 U.S.C. 3503(c)-(e)).

The Coastal Barrier Resources Reauthorization Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-226) directs the Service to produce comprehensively revised maps for the entire CBRS. Comprehensive map modernization corrects mapping errors affecting property owners and adds areas appropriate for inclusion within the CBRS. In FY 2014, the CBRA Program will produce comprehensively revised maps for 16 CBRS units, comprising 58,176 acres or 2 percent of the entire CBRS.

NWI and CBRA Performance Overview and Change Tables

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 4.1 Number of non-FWS wetland acres restored, including acres restored through partnerships (GPRA)	458,713	363,141	372,004	235,537	515,154	212,315	-23,222 (-10%)	447,693
4.1.10 % of up-to-date digital wetlands data produced for the nation to Improve Information Base, Information Management and Technical Assistance	1.67% (39 of 2,324)	0.92% (21 of 2,324)	4.08% (95 of 2,325)	0.91% (21 of 2,325)	1.44% (33 of 2,325)	0.60% (14 of 2,325)	-0.31%	1.38% (32 of 2,324)
Comments	Actual totals include contributed data; future year estimates do not. In FY 2014, NWI will emphasis filling-in-the-gaps and will map wetlands in limited areas of Service priorities for habitat and species conservation.							
4.1.11 Cumulative % of acres with digital data available	61.00% (1,418 of 2,324)	63.92% (1,486 of 2,324)	66.95% (1,556 of 2,325)	73.29% (1,704 of 2,324)	76.76% 1,784 of 2,324)	79.66% (1,852 of 2,325)	6.37 (8.7%)	70.00% (1,627 of 2,324)
Comments	Actual totals include contributed data; future year estimates do not. In FY 2014, emphasis remains to fill-in-the gaps thus increasing the cumulative acres of the Wetlands Layer of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure for national or landscape-level analysis, modeling, and planning.							
4.1.14 # of scientific/technical reports produced for the nation by NWI	19	9	11	15	10	6	-9 (-60%)	5
4.6.5 Cumulative % of CBRA areas with draft digital maps	11.8% (366,851 of 3,112,691)	11.8% (366,851 of 3,112,691)	11.8% (366,851 of 3,112,691)	11.8% (368,722 of 3,112,691)	11.8% (368,722 of 3,112,691)	14.4% (448,714 of 3,112,691)	2.6%	19.1% (595,919 of 3,112,691)

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Environmental Contaminants

Activity: Ecological Services
Subactivity: Environmental Contaminants

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Environmental Contaminants	($000)	*11,495*	13,128	+189	-289	+198	13,226
	FTE	*67*	83	0	0	0	83

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Environmental Contaminants

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	+198	0
Program Changes	**+198**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Environmental Contaminants is $13,226,000 and 83 FTE, a net program change of +$198,000 and +0 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (+$198,000/+0 FTE)

In support of DOI's goal to increase the restoration of injured trust resources, the Service will use these funds primarily to provide biologist support for increased restoration activities. Additionally, this funding increase will support ongoing Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) efforts associated with the MC-252 Deepwater Horizon oil spill and the implementation of the RESTORE Act.

The Service has targeted these categories of cases in the Department of the Interior's Restoration Fund that this increase will be used to address in FY 2014:

1. Accelerate the expenditure of restoration funding on cases with stalled restoration projects; and
2. Expedite the restoration planning process on the 16 largest NRDAR cases.

The Service will accomplish these goals by financially supporting existing staff to take a leading role within Trustee Councils and stay engaged in such casework till agreement and restoration outcomes are achieved. Additionally, staff will be further supported to work across program and agency boundaries to implement restoration projects, particularly when restoration activities can be accelerated and when NRDA restoration agreements can compound existing conservation and recovery strategies. Staff will also be supported in exploring and developing potential NRDAR cases through rigorous hazardous material related field investigations. In FY 2014, we anticipate working cooperatively with the Department-wide NRDAR program to maximize the use of both funding sources to support a fully coordinated NRDAR Program. In addition, the Service will be fully engaged with the Department's plan to conduct a NRDAR Program case review and strategic planning effort. This collective effort will allow for the determination of case status and impediments to case completion. Importantly, the Service will be introspective and review its own policies and FTE and management structures which govern NRDA case work. The Program can then strategically develop a process to move assessment cases toward settlement or restoration cases toward completion. The Service anticipates working closely with all members of the NRDAR Work Group (NPS, BOR, BLM, and BIA) including the science experts of the USGS, Solicitor's Office, and the Departmental Office of Policy Analysis to complete this effort. The Service anticipates the outcome of this review and planning effort will lead to more effective and coordinated use of the NRDAR Program Assessment Funds as well as the Restoration Fund balances to maximize the restoration outcomes.

Activities such as training for hazardous and oil spill field response and investigations, which lead to new NRDAR cases; completion of standardized assessment and restoration protocols; and base funding support for existing staff are several uses of these funds. These combined efforts will result in the closure of several NRDAR cases, an increase in the initiation phase of restoration planning activities, an increase in the number of wetland and upland acres and stream miles restored using NRDAR funds, and the ongoing support to maintain the core field science capabilities required to develop future cases.

Based on the past performance of the Environmental Contaminants program, the Service expects to highly leverage NRDAR assessment and restoration funding to obtain as much as a 25 times return for natural resource conservation. For example, since 2006 the Service's EC Program has been awarded nearly $70 million in NRDAR funding from DOI to pursue large NRDAR cases. Working in close collaboration with other DOI Bureaus, other federal agencies (particularly NOAA), and numerous state and tribal partners, our NRDAR cases have returned over a billion dollars for habitat restoration, outdoor recreation, and fish and wildlife population recovery. In addition, our collaborative injury assessment investigations have resulted in polluters being held responsible for reimbursing response agencies, such as the US Coast Guard and EPA, for the several billion dollars the agencies spent to clean-up and remediate contaminated habitats.

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management for Environmental Contaminants is proposed to move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

Program Overview

The Environmental Contaminants (EC) Program is dedicated to protecting fish, wildlife and their habitats from the harmful effects of pollutants. Service trust resources are affected by thousands of chemicals in the environment, such as pesticides, personal care products, pharmaceuticals, nanoparticles, endocrine disrupters, PCBs, dioxins, mercury, selenium, cyanide, ammonia, oil, and the combined effects of these pollutants. The Service uses its technical expertise to collaborate with many internal and external partners and work within DOI's Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) to evaluate the impacts of contaminants on fish and wildlife. This effort provides a sound scientific basis for Service decisions.

The EC program operates under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. To accomplish the Service's mission, EC staff work in three important areas: (1) identifying and assessing the effects of contaminants on species and habitats; (2) preventing trust resources from being exposed to hazardous levels of contaminants; and (3) restoring habitats and DOI trust resources injured by contaminants.

Mission of the Environmental Contaminants Program

Conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife and their habitats by identifying and preventing the effects of contaminants, and by restoring impacted resources through collaboration with Service Programs, other federal, tribal, state, and local agencies as well as our partners in academia, industry and the public.

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of the Environmental Contaminants program will move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

Identify and Assess the Effects of Contaminants

The Service is the only federal management agency focused on wildlife and contaminants, and Service EC biologists work to protect fish and wildlife from the toxic effects of contaminants. To achieve this goal, the EC Program provides technical assistance to nearly every Service program to identify, assess, reduce, or eliminate contaminant impacts to trust resources through technical assistance activities. This includes assisting in

evaluating the impact of climate change on the effects of contaminants and natural resource damage assessments. The EC Program provides long-term monitoring and training needs to other Service staff to mitigate contaminant impacts and is developing wildlife criteria for contaminants to assist and streamline Service efforts.

Service biologists are evaluating the decline of pollinators, including bats, hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies, to determine if pesticides are responsible. These animals help pollinate over 75% of all flowering plants and are vital to the production of many agricultural crops. Continued research on these pollinators increases understanding of the important ecological services pollinators provide.

Continuing the legacy of Rachel Carson, Service biologists are fully integrated into the broader scientific community, serving as peer reviewers for professional journals, as orals examiners and dissertation advisors to PhD candidates, and as instructors at the Service's National Conservation Training Center. The expertise of Service biologists is internationally recognized as reflected in requests for them to serve on international expert science panels and their successful competition for Fulbright fellowships.

Through the Analytical Control Facility (ACF) located in Shepherdstown, WV, the EC Program provides high-quality analytical chemistry services to the Service and other DOI bureaus. ACF maintains this level of excellence by securing the most technical, efficient, and accurate contract labs and operating under stringent quality assurance and quality control guidelines.

Prevent Trust Resources from Being Exposed to Contaminants

In consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on water quality criteria and pesticide registrations, the Service helps prevent or minimize the harmful effects of contaminants on trust resources. In addition, work continues with EPA on completing water quality consultations on national aquatic life criteria. Protection of trust resources is also ensured through the provision of technical support to our internal and external partners through activities such as reviewing and approving pesticide use proposals, providing input on the Refuge Program's Comprehensive Conservation Plans, assisting with NEPA evaluation and compliance, and participating on work groups that evaluate the impacts of storm-water and sediment run off on our trust resources. In FY 2012 and FY 2013, funding for water quality criteria and pesticide registration work has been provided by the Endangered Species Consultation program at a 2:1 ratio. Beginning in FY 2013/2014 the Headquarters operational management of this work will be under the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

In FY 2014, the Service is continuing to develop and implement scientifically rigorous protocols for national consultations with EPA that are protective of threatened and endangered species. Working collaboratively with the Endangered Species Program, which in FY 2014 is requesting an increase of $1 million for pesticide consultations, the EC Program will work toward developing protocols that produce safe levels of pesticide exposures on listed species. These protocols will include development of safe levels of exposure relevant to pesticide effects on listed species which will greatly improve how the Service conducts Section 7 consultations on pesticide registrations. Increasing the scientific and technical capacity of the Service will help ensure ESA compliance for pesticides early in the registration process, minimize the threat of lawsuits, and provide more certainty and guidance to applicants to allow those chemicals to continue to be available for production of food and fiber in this country.

Restoration of Trust Resources

Service biologists are key members of the DOI NRDAR program, whose mission is to restore natural resources injured by oil spills or hazardous substance releases into the environment. The Service provides leadership in the development of DOI Program guidance and participates in all damage assessment cases funded by the Departmental Program. In cooperation with state, tribal and federal co-trustees, EC staff investigates injuries that result from the release of hazardous material and oil spills and applies their

unique technical expertise to reduce the impact on natural resources and to restore injured resources. Service staff determines the extent of injury, plays a key role in settlement negotiations with responsible parties, and works with interested local, state, and national groups to complete projects that restore fish, wildlife, and habitat.

FY 2012 NRDAR Accomplishments

- 32,068 wetland acres protected or restored
- 61,562 upland acres protected or restored
- 353 stream miles protected or restored
- 408 miles of river, trails and shoreline made available for public use
- 57,387 recreational opportunities created

2014 Program Performance

Focusing on a science-based conservation strategy, the Service will continue focusing on three critical areas:

1. Restoring habitats and DOI trust resources injured by contaminants;
2. Identifying and assessing contaminant effects on species and habitats; and
3. Preventing fish, wildlife, and their habitats from exposure to hazardous levels of contaminants.

Restoration of Trust Resources

The Service will remain a key member of the Department of the Interior's Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment, providing leadership in developing program guidance and spearheading restoration. Using an estimated $4.0 million from the Departmental program, the Service will continue to focus on collaborative restoration with states, tribes, and other federal agencies.

To continue expediting restoration implementation, the Service will increase efforts on focal areas for NRDAR cases. The first is on cases that have completed all associated restoration projects but have unobligated balance remains in the DOI NRDAR fund. Emphasis will be to spend these funds through additional restoration activities on that specific site, additional monitoring activities, or by combining these funds with other cases with similar injuries to accomplish restoration. The second is to accelerate spending restoration funds by building on the momentum of active and on-going cases through the strong working relationship of the trustee council, resulting in the completion of additional restoration projects. The final focus will expedite the restoration planning process and completion on the largest NRDAR cases by allowing staff to concentrate their efforts on restoration implementation. The Service will continue collaborating with NOAA and other partners by utilizing increased funding to strategically review and consider how best to allocate federal resources to pursue NRDAR cases nationally. Both agencies have extensive expertise and responsibility in addressing natural resource injuries, guiding clean-up and remedial activities, and restoring damaged fish, wildlife, and federal lands. Increasing collaborative efforts in broad scale planning, case prioritization, and resource allocation will enhance the efficiency of the NRDAR process.

The Service will consider climate related ecological changes when developing specific restoration plans and will continue to operate within the Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) framework in implementing restoration projects.

Identifying and Assessing the Effects of Contaminants

To ensure the Service remains a leader in fish and wildlife toxicology issues, we will continue to:

- Operate within the SHC framework. During the Biological Planning phase of the SHC process, contaminants are often identified as one of the factors responsible for limiting species population numbers. Service biologists will assist all Service programs in developing a science-based strategy to abate the impact of contaminants and other limiting factors on these populations;

- Strengthen our network of partnerships within established Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) to complement and build upon existing ecotoxicology science, thus increasing the Service's conservation efforts within designated geographic areas. Our partners with whom we will collect and share scientific information include Refuges, Migratory Birds, Law Enforcement, Fisheries, Endangered Species, other federal agencies, state, tribal and local governments, universities, and non-federal partners;

- Provide toxicological expertise on consultation and development of water quality criteria, pesticide registrations, pesticide use, and other pest management practices;

- Respond to oil spills and hazardous material releases that may impact Service trust resources, and provide guidance and oversight during the clean-up process. When appropriate, take necessary steps to initiate a funding request from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to support the response and clean-up activities;

- Conduct injury assessment field investigations to initiate new NRDAR cases and support ongoing cases in an effort to expeditiously reach settlement;

- Provide high quality and cost effective analytical chemistry services to the Service and other DOI bureaus through the Analytical Control Facility (ACF). Presently, the Service has contracts with 13 labs to measure a range of contaminants such as lead, mercury, and pharmaceutical compounds. We will continue assessing Service needs for ACF and offering these services to other federal agencies; and

- Provide toxicological expertise on the effects that climate change has on the interaction between contaminants in the environment and the Service's trust resources.

Preventing Trust Resources from Being Exposed to Contaminants

Service biologists will continue to play a critical role in protecting the nation's resources by preventing contaminant-induced injury to fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. Prevention eliminates the considerable costs associated with investigation, remediation, and restoration. The Service will continue to:

- Determine the impacts of proposed legislation, regulations, state water quality standards, permits, and licenses, including new licenses or permits for renewable energy initiatives, from a contaminant perspective and recommend how negative impacts might be minimized or eliminated;

- Conduct national consultations to establish an effective, efficient, and consistent nation-wide approach to consultation on water quality criteria approved or promulgated by EPA;

- Engage in spill-preparedness and prevention activities, including participating in local, area, and regional emergency contingency

Efficiencies

The EC Program continues to streamline our processes and increase our efficiencies. For example, we recently:

- Modified our Contaminant Assessment Protocol (CAP) module in ECOS to incorporate features useful for the Refuges' Water Resource Inventory and Assessment (WRIA) Program.

- Informed other DOI and federal agencies of the opportunity for them to use our existing organic and inorganic lab contracts to analyze contaminant samples, thereby minimizing their administrative costs and ensuring high quality assurance and quality control of the analyses.

- Increased collaborative NRDAR efforts with the DOI ORDA, NOAA and other trustees to provide more efficient and effective conservation through early case settlements and on-the-ground restoration.

plans as well as spill and hazardous material drills, to ensure that Service trust resources are protected as much as possible during an actual spill and that response and cleanup activities minimize any damage to trust resources;

- Promote SMARxT Disposal™, a nationwide educational campaign about the proper disposal of unused and expired medications, by using internal and external outreach and engaging more supporter groups. The Service will continue to work with pharmaceutical partners to coordinate with chain pharmacies for campaign promotion; and

- Solidify our prevention message and express it in plain language for our many stakeholder audiences, including Congress and the public. Many of the public events we engage in support the America's Great Outdoor initiative, including our involvement in Earth Day celebrations and participation in the Nation's River Bass Tournament at National Harbor and Kids' Fishing at Constitution Gardens.

Environmental Contaminants Performance Overview and Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
Comments	All increases shown are due to the proposed FY14 increase targeted for NRDAR restoration activities.							
CSF 2.1 Number of FWS wetland acres restored to the condition specified in management plans - annual (GPRA)	61,693	30,054	73,597	9,358	8,357	9,638	281 (3%)	28,000
2.1.4 # of FWS wetland acres enhanced/ restored through NRDA - annual	n/a	256	423	356	75	360	4 (1%)	156
CSF 2.2 Number of FWS upland acres restored to the condition specified in management plans - annual (GPRA)	575,957	237,819	64,212	41,756	59,291	43,008	1,253 (3%)	253,000
2.2.2 # of FWS upland acres enhanced/restored through NRDA - annual	n/a	56	20	990	25	1,000	10 (1%)	84
CSF 2.4 Number of FWS wetland acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition as specified in management plans - annual (GPRA)	32,087,460	32,069,571	32,231,040	30,509,033	30,509,506	31,424,304	915,271 (3%)	32,087,460

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
2.4.6 # of FWS wetland acres managed or protected through NRDA - annual	n/a	43,609,237	196	597	276	603	6 (1%)	945
CSF 2.5 Number of FWS upland acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition as specified in management plans - annual (GPRA)	52,352,498	52,522,320	52,824,372	49,131,341	49,661,360	50,605,281	1,473,940 (3%)	52,352,498
2.5.6 # of FWS upland acres managed or protected through NRDA - annual	n/a	2,045	0	620	274	626	6 (1%)	2,045
CSF 2.6 Number of FWS coastal and marine acres managed and protected to maintain desired condition as specified in management plans - annual (GPRA)	2,913,747	53,672,185	55,163,367	60,531,474	60,494,794	60,494,794	-36,680 (-0.1%)	55,604,384
2.6.3 # of FWS coastal and marine acres managed or protected through NRDA - annual	n/a	17	32	579	575	585	6 (1%)	n/a
2.9.5 # contaminant actions (e.g., spill drills & responses, investigations, cleanup, assessments, technical assistance, & Clean Water Act activities) benefiting FWS lands	n/a	1,764	1,006	1,725	1,130	1,130	-595 (-34.5%)	n/a
CSF 3.1 Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles restored, including through partnerships, as specified in plans or agreements that involve DOI (GPRA)	11,054	3,334	891	871	346	963	92 (10.6%)	633

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
3.1.4 # of non-FWS riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles enhanced/ restored through NRDA - annual (GPRA)	97	76	89	56	24	57	1 (1%)	111
CSF 3.2 Number of non-DOI riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles managed or protected to achieve desired condition, including through partnerships, as specified in plans or agreements that involve DOI (GPRA)	11,296	1,975	1,274	1,748	787	1,744	-3 (-0.2%)	1,295
3.2.3 # of non-FWS riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles managed or protected through NRDA - annual (GPRA)	383	300	303	288	270	291	3 (1%)	324
CSF 4.1 Number of non-FWS wetland acres restored, including acres restored through partnerships, as specified in management plans or agreements that involve FWS - annual (GPRA)	458,713	363,141	372,004	235,537	515,154	212,315	-23,222 (-10%)	447,693
4.1.3 # of non-FWS wetland acres enhanced/ restored through NRDA - annual (GPRA)	3,601	1,676	1,330	553	571	576	23 (4.2%)	1,882
CSF 4.2 Number of non-FWS upland acres restored, including acres restored through partnerships, as specified in management plans or agreements that involve FWS - annual (GPRA)	271,138	240,345	191,288	166,718	115,299	251,603	84,885 (51%)	136,498

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
4.2.3 # of non-FWS upland acres enhanced/ restored through NRDA - annual (GPRA)	18,010	1,350	2,485	3,185	1,160	3,217	32 (1%)	1,286
CSF 4.3 Number of non-FWS coastal and marine acres restored, including acres restored through partnerships, as specified in management plans or agreements that involve FWS - annual (GPRA)	85,925	80,128	31,982	27,718	8,373	18,258	-9,461 (-34.1%)	15,445
4.3.5 # of non-FWS coastal/ marine acres restored/enhanced through NRDA - (GPRA)	n/a	215	264	306	102	309	3 (1%)	n/a
CSF 4.4 Number of non-FWS wetland acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres managed or protected through partnerships, as specified in management plans or agreements that involve FWS - annual (GPRA)	2,440,943	965,710	760,706	254,184	3,659,870	449,606	195,422 (77%)	580,612
4.4.5 # of non-FWS wetland acres managed or protected through NRDA - annual (GPRA)	1,720,669	39,603	30,119	30,563	28,484	30,563	0	39,603

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 4.5 Number of non-FWS upland acres managed or protected to maintain desired condition, including acres managed or protected through partnerships, as specified in management plans or agreements that involve FWS - annual (GPRA)	486,816	180,252	1,030,819	274,176	7,087,941	222,167	-52,009 (-19.0%)	249,945
4.5.2 # of non-FWS upland acres managed or protected through NRDA - annual (GPRA)	5,625	22,858	53,052	56,767	32,687	56,767	0	n/a
CSF 4.8 Number of large-scale landscape planning and/or programmatic approaches in progress or completed	738	1,122	944	774	286	795	21 (2.7%)	400
4.8.4 # of Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restorations in progress	n/a	267	277	279	188	300	21 (7.5%)	208
6.1.8 # contaminant actions (e.g., spill drills & responses, investigations, cleanup, assessments, technical assistance, & Clean Water Act activities) benefiting migratory birds	n/a	5,945	2,149	3,086	1,751	2,419	-667 (-21.6%)	n/a
CSF 7.19 Percent of listed Spotlight Species that achieve their five-year conservation target	n/a	8% (12 of 144)	10% (14 of 144)	16% (23 of 143)	17% (25 of 143)	17% (25 of 143)	1% (8.7%)	3% (3 of 104)

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
7.19.5 # contaminant actions (e.g., spill drills & responses, investigations, cleanup, assessments, technical assistance, & Clean Water Act activities) benefiting listed species	n/a	4,674	1,420	1,916	949	1,433	-483 (-25.2%)	n/a
CSF 7.21 Percent of populations of aquatic threatened and endangered species (T&E) that are self-sustaining in the wild	11% (70 of 639)	10% (70 of 701)	10% (71 of 689)	11% (80 of 711)	8% (53 of 680)	11% (80 of 711)	0%	9% (66 of 701)
7.21.6 # contaminant actions (e.g., spill drills & responses, investigations, cleanup, assessments, technical assistance, & Clean Water Act activities) benefiting aquatic listed species	n/a	4,254	562	732	386	559	-173 (-23.6%)	5
7.31.2 # contaminant actions on Section 7 Consultations	n/a	404	446	399	160	160	-239 (-60%)	n/a
15.8.9 # of non-FWS acres of recreational opportunities made available through NRDA restorations - annual	2,477	701	57,209	57,388	56,529	57,962	574 (1%)	1,461
18.1.13 # Contaminant actions to Tribes for NRDAR, Restoration, CWA, Pesticides	151	85	70	66	44	44	-22 (-33.3%)	111

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National Wildlife Refuge System

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Wildlife and Habitat Management	($000)	*225,962*	223,439	+2,889	-86	+12,265	238,507
	FTE	*1,551*	1,507	0	0	+44	1,551
Refuge Visitor Services	($000)	*74,077*	74,225	+1,127	-288	-818	74,246
	FTE	*635*	644	0	0	-9	635
Refuge Law Enforcement	($000)	*38,261*	37,373	+504	-110	+2,318	40,085
	FTE	*249*	255	0	0	+9	264
Conservation Planning	($000)	*10,034*	11,704	+158	-3,521	-1,667	6,674
	FTE	*79*	79	0	-20	-11	48
Refuge Operations	**($000)**	***348,334***	**346,741**	**+4,678**	**-4,005**	**+12,098**	**359,512**
	FTE	***2,514***	**2,485**	**0**	**-20**	**+33**	**2,498**
Refuge Maintenance	($000)	*138,160*	138,950	+948	-790	+572	139,680
	FTE	*710*	728	0	0	-8	720
Total, National Wildlife Refuge System	**($000)**	***486,494***	**485,691**	**+5,626**	**-4,795**	**+12,670**	**499,192**
	FTE	***3,224***	**3,213**	**0**	**-20**	**+25**	**3,218**
Other Major Resources: Recreation Fee Program	*($000)*	*5,085*	*5,100*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*5,100*
	FTE	*35*	*32*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*32*

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Program Overview

The Service's National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) embodies our Nation's commitment to conserving wildlife populations and biological diversity for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. The Refuge System comprises approximately 150 million acres of land and waters, including 54 million acres of submerged land in five Marine National Monuments. These lands and waters provide habitat for thousands of species of fish, wildlife and plants; sanctuary for hundreds of threatened and endangered species, and secure spawning areas for native fish. The 561 refuges range from the relatively small, half-acre Mille Lacs National Wildlife Refuge, encompassing two rocky islands in Minnesota's Lake District, to the vast Arctic National Wildlife Refuge spanning 19.6 million acres of boreal forest, tundra, and estuary in Alaska. The Refuge System also encompasses 4.2 million acres managed under easement, agreement, or lease, including waterfowl production areas in 209 counties within 38 wetland management districts and 50 wildlife coordination areas. Thus, the Refuge System uses a variety of landscapes to protect our Nation's fish, wildlife, plants, and the habitats on which they depend.

While their benefits to wildlife are measured in many ways, refuges play crucial roles in human communities also. Through efforts to conserve migratory birds, protect endangered species, restore and manage habitats, and combat invasive species, the Refuge System also provides major societal benefits through ecosystem services such as improving air and water quality, improving soil quality and groundwater retention, reducing coastal impacts from hurricanes, sequestering carbon, and moderating flood impacts. These economic and other benefits of wildlife refuges are increasingly valuable in light of current worldwide challenges associated with climate change.

Refuges attract visitors who come to hunt, fish, photograph, and observe wildlife. These visitors are a significant boon to the local economies. According to *The Department of the Interior's Economic Contributions FY2011* report issued July 9, 2012, "FWS's refuge lands attract millions of visitors and were estimated to contribute over $4.2 billion in annual economic output and over 34,000 jobs from recreation-related spending." [p. 21] In addition, according to the Executive Summary of *Amenity Values of Proximity to National Wildlife Refuges* prepared by the Center for Environmental and Resource Economic Policy at North Carolina State University in April 2012, property values surrounding refuges are higher than equivalent properties elsewhere. Most importantly, in an increasingly urban world, these sanctuaries of natural beauty offer Americans priceless opportunities to connect with nature.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 provided the Refuge System with a clear, comprehensive mission "*…**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 within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans."***

The Refuge System fulfills this mission through the implementation of programmatic activities in five broad areas: Wildlife and Habitat Management, Visitor Services, Refuge Law Enforcement, Conservation Planning, and Refuge Maintenance. Through these programs, the Refuge System monitors, restores, and protects wildlife, fish, plants and habitat; maintains facilities; supports wildlife-dependent recreation; and conducts other activities to achieve strategic goals.

The programs of the Refuge System support Service goals for resource conservation, protection, recreation, and service to communities. Through the Refuge System, the Service works with other Federal agencies and partners to conduct vital conservation projects to achieve these goals. For example, the Service continues to work with the U.S. Geological Survey and other partners to develop best methods to conduct ongoing biological monitoring of wildlife populations and habitat to improve management of refuge resources.

The Refuge System is committed to four foundational elements for conservation science: application of sound science to refuge management; robust inventory and monitoring efforts; conducting research to solve management problems; and expanding communication and collaboration within the Service and among partners. Dedication to these principles allows the Refuge System to be more strategic in our investments - and therefore more efficient – in all of our programmatic activities. Additionally, the scientific underpinning of the System helps maintain credibility; promotes leadership in the conservation community and is foundational to the Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan.

The Refuge System is crucial to the President's America's Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative. The AGO initiative is a grassroots approach to protecting our lands and waters, and achieving lasting conservation of the outdoor spaces that power our nation's economy, shape our culture, and build our outdoor traditions. AGO seeks to reconnect all Americans – citizens of all ages; community groups and other nonprofit organizations; the private sector; and local, state, and tribal governments – to the outdoors and to empower them to share in the responsibility to conserve, restore, and provide better access to lands and waters to leave a healthy, vibrant outdoor legacy for generations to come.

Refuges are laboratories for partnership and adaptive management; pioneering new concepts in landscape conservation. The Refuge System has unique authorities and flexible programs that can deliver landscape level conservation while simultaneously providing compatible outdoor recreation. Millions of acres of refuge lands are owned outright and managed by the Service as core habitat for fish and wildlife. However, to meet the challenge of conserving highly mobile fish and wildlife populations, the Refuge

System also uses easements and partnership programs that protect important habitat features on working, private land. Conservation in the future must include the important roles of working ranches, farms and forests, as well as privately owned recreational properties with conservation provisions that can link and buffer protected areas. For example, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program works to accomplish its goals by helping to restore high-priority habitats on private lands and perpetually protecting them with conservation easements. This model effectively links the purpose of the partners program with the needs of landowners and priorities of the Refuge System.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge Credit: USFWS

By protecting wetlands, grasslands, forests and other natural habitats, refuges provide essential and irreplaceable benefits such as clean air and water, reduced erosion and flooding, improved soil quality, habitat for pollinators, and other ecological services to the surrounding landscape. Additionally, refuges provide economic incentives and advantage to those communities in close proximity to them. Refuges provide recreational opportunities, such as hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing, which create jobs and quality of life benefits to people who enjoy those activities.

Interpretive canoe tour at Bayou Sauvage NWR in Louisiana (Steve Hillebrand USFWS)

Refuges - Performance Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
1.2.1 # of NWRS riparian (stream/ shoreline) miles achieving desired conditions (GPRA)	310,032	310,003	310,009	309,980	309,968	319,279	9,299 (3%)	310,032
2.0.1 # of NWRS wetland, upland, and coastal/ marine acres achieving desired condition (GPRA)	88,066,834	138,479,026	140,205,769	140,232,660	140,741,380	142,586,774	2,354,114 (2%)	140,334,342
2.10.1 # of NWRs/WMDs with a Comprehensive Conservation Plan completed - cumulative	430	402	437	459	517	469	10 (2%)	580
Comments:	We are anticipating from FY 12 to FY 14 only doing 10 more CCPs with the limited funding increase. The majority of the CCPs have been accomplished from the Refuge Improvement Act. CCPs in 2013 are still currently planned and not finalized.							
2.10.3 # of NWRs/WMDs with a Comprehensive Conservation Plan completed (during the year)	34	44	36	24	55	24	0	31
CSF 11.1 Percent of baseline acres infested with invasive plant species that are controlled (GPRA)	6% (146,938 of 2,312,632)	6% (140,935 of 2,508,387)	4% (95,621 of 2,442,235)	4% (94,868 of 2,409,758)	3% (72,634 of 2,558,619)	4% (97,714 of 2,482,051)	0%	6% (146,938 of 2,312,632)
CSF 12.1 Percent of invasive animal species populations that are controlled (GPRA)	8% (298 of 3,900)	7% (285 of 3,844)	8% (292 of 3,849)	16% (297 of 1,847)	15% (280 of 1,900)	16% (306 of 1,902)	0%	8% (298 of 3,900)
CSF 13.1 Percent of archaeological sites and historic structures on FWS inventory in good condition	13% (2,916 of 21,608)	20% (3,335 of 16,812)	18% (3,033 of 16,923)	19% (3,267 of 17,185)	22% (3,779 of 17,282)	22% (3,779 of 17,282)	3%	13% (2,917 of 21,608)
CSF 13.2 Percent of collections in DOI inventory in good condition (GPRA)	30.3% (669 of 2,205)	35.4% (689 of 1,947)	35.6% (693 of 1,948)	35.8% (704 of 1,966)	35.8% (705 of 1,967)	35.8% (705 of 1,967)	0%	30.2% (667 of 2,205)

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
15.2.2 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality hunting programs, where hunting is compatible	95% (366 of 385)	75% (291 of 388)	81% (295 of 366)	80% (292 of 365)	82% (297 of 364)	80% (292 of 365)	0%	95% (366 of 385)
15.2.4 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality fishing programs, where fishing is compatible	93% (347 of 373)	59% (216 of 368)	64% (218 of 341)	64% (221 of 345)	73% (220 of 303)	64% (221 of 345)	0%	93% (347 of 373)
15.2.6 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality wildlife observation programs, where wildlife observation is compatible	98% (473 of 483)	73% (353 of 486)	77% (361 of 468)	78% (363 of 466)	78% (367 of 470)	78% (363 of 466)	0%	98% (473 of 483)
15.2.8 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality environmental education programs, where interpretation is compatible	81% (384 of 473)	58% (278 of 483)	75% (292 of 389)	76% (301 of 394)	76% (299 of 392)	76% (301 of 394)	0%	81% (384 of 473)
15.2.10 % of NWRs/WMDs with quality interpretative programs that adequately interpret key resources and issues, where interpretation is compatible	90% (433 of 482)	63% (309 of 490)	73% (318 of 437)	73% (320 of 437)	73% (316 of 434)	73% (320 of 437)	0%	90% (433 of 482)
15.2.23 Total # of visitors to NWRS - annual	42,592,992	44,482,399	45,733,179	47,059,171	45,221,951	47,059,171	0	42,592,992
52.1.1 # of volunteer hours are annually contributed to NWRS	1,382,990	1,449,707	1,505,114	1,594,235	1,344,702	1,594,235	0	1,382,990

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Wildlife and Habitat Management

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Wildlife and Habitat Management	($000)	*216,005*	215,629	+2,889	-86	+6,101	224,533
Healthy Habitats and Populations	($000)	*4,825*	4,825	0	0	0	4,825
Challenge Cost Share	($000)	*150*	150	0	0	+3,600	3,750
Alaska Subsistence	($000)	*2,835*	2,835	0	0	-636	2,199
Cooperative Recovery	($000)	*2,147*	0	0	0	+3,200	3,200
Total, Wildlife and Habitat Management	($000)	***225,962***	**223,439**	**+2,889**	**-86**	**+12,265**	**238,507**
	FTE	***1,551***	**1,507**	**0**	**0**	**+44**	**1,551**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Wildlife and Habitat Management

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Challenge Cost Sharing Partnerships	+3,600	0
• Cooperative Watershed Management	+3,250	0
• Cooperative Recovery	+3,200	0
• W & H Inventory and Monitoring	+3,000	+20
• General Program Activities	+849	+22
• Alaska Subsistence	-636	0
• W & H Feral Swine Eradication	-998	0
Program Changes	**+12,265**	**+44**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes for Wildlife and Habitat Management

The 2014 budget request for the Wildlife and Habitat Management (WHM) program is $238,507,000 and 1,551 FTE, a net program change of +$12,265,000 and +44 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Challenge Cost Share (+$3,600,000/+0 FTE)

The requested funding will reestablish the Wildlife and Habitat Management Challenge Cost Share program which funds a variety of small-scale projects with partners. The Challenge Cost Share program leverages Service funding needed to complete important habitat restoration and visitor services projects. The Service is looking to reestablish this valuable program after results from a Corrective Action Plan provided many important process improvements to respond to OIG concerns in previous years, including the following: requiring accurate reporting of CCS program accomplishments to Congress, and periodic management control reviews for the program to ensure that bureaus have complied with all existing policies and procedures. This funding in FY 2014 will be focused on projects such as seabird restoration and monitoring, bottomland forest and Canebrake management, and invasive species control.

Cooperative Watershed Management Initiative (+$3,250,000/+0 FTE)

In January 2012, Secretary Salazar established the America's Great Outdoors Rivers initiative to fulfill President Obama's vision for healthy and accessible rivers. In May 2012, the Secretary signed Secretarial Order 3321 creating the National Blueways System to provide a new national emphasis on the value and significance of a "headwaters to mouth" approach to river and watershed conservation, recreation, and

education that encourages stakeholders to integrate their land and water stewardship efforts by forming watershed-based partnerships.

The Department of the Interior recognizes the level of effort necessary to establish and sustain a successful watershed partnership, working at a large landscape-scale. To promote the importance of watershed partnerships and support their important role in watershed stewardship, the Cooperative Watershed Management Program was established. The requested funding will assist the collaborative efforts of the Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service to form new watershed partnerships, expand existing watershed partnerships, and/or conduct projects in accordance with the goals of watershed management projects. Projects will be selected via a joint decision-making process of the National Blueways Committee, consisting of members from these land management bureaus.

Cooperative Recovery (+$3,200,000/+0 FTE)
Funding will support a cross-programmatic partnership approach to complete planning, restoration, and management actions addressing current threats to endangered species on and around wildlife refuges. The Refuge System comprises approximately 150 million acres of land and waters, including 54 million acres of submerged land in four Marine National Monuments. These lands and waters provide habitat for hundreds of threatened and endangered species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, mollusks, insects, other invertebrates, and plants. The NWRS will partner with Fisheries, Endangered Species, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, and Migratory Birds to work within the Strategic Habitat Conservation framework, and in consultation with our partners through the LCCs to implement recovery projects for endangered species on refuges and in surrounding ecosystems. As part of this process, the partnership will develop evaluation criteria for determining how priority funds will be allocated and spent.

Climate Change/Inventory and Monitoring (+$3,000,000/+20 FTE)
The increase requested will be used to further the national Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) initiative launched by the Refuge System in 2010. The purpose of the initiative is to increase the Service's collective ability to inventory and monitor wildlife and habitats to inform conservation actions. The I&M program addresses critical information needs to plan and evaluate the effectiveness of conservation strategies implemented by the Service and conservation partners. These data collection efforts are essential in the face of accelerating climate change and growing threats from other environmental stressors. The I&M program is establishing consistent inventory and monitoring of environmental parameters, such as sea level rise, drought, shifting temporal and spatial patterns of wildlife migration, habitat loss, disease, and invasive species. These data collection efforts are coordinated with the National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and other federal and state efforts. Within the Service’s Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) framework, inventory and monitoring are essential to increasing the efficiency of our conservation actions (delivery). We evaluate the effectiveness of our actions and also gather information to plan and design improved conservation delivery actions. Investments in inventory and monitoring inform what, when, and where actions are taken to best further the System’s conservation mission. Key investments in data management integration are necessary in order to better collaborate with partners and leverage efforts –resulting in increased efficiency- across the Service, Department of the Interior and with appropriate outside partners.

General Program Operations (+$849,000/+22 FTE)
The Service requests an increase for general operations in Wildlife and Habitat Management. This increase will enhance management capability on refuges and enable the Refuge System to address the vision of the President’s America’s Great Outdoors initiative, using the Refuge System’s unique authorities and flexible programs to deliver landscape level conservation and provide compatible outdoor recreation. The FTE change reflects multi-year adjustments from 2012 actual usage to the 2014 level.

Alaska Subsistence (-$636,000/+0 FTE)
The Alaska Subsistence program manages subsistence uses by rural Alaskans on 237 million acres of Federal lands by coordinating the regulation and management of subsistence harvests among five Federal bureaus (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Forest Service), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, providing technical and administrative support for ten rural Regional Advisory Councils. The Service's Fisheries and Refuge programs' staff manage subsistence fisheries and wildlife harvests in season and conduct fish and wildlife population assessments on wildlife refuges to ensure that population objectives are met and provide for long-term subsistence harvests. The proposed funding decrease will reduce the level of administrative and technical support the Refuge System will provide to the Councils and reduce the amount the Service will contribute to Council member expenses such as meeting fees and travel.

Feral Swine Eradication (-$998,000/+0 FTE)
The budget provides no funding for the FY 2012 congressionally-directed feral swine eradication program.

Program Overview

The Wildlife and Habitat Management (WHM) subactivity addresses ecological considerations of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 and ensures the biological integrity, diversity and ecological health of Refuge System lands and Service trust resources employing actions such as inventory and monitoring of plant and animal populations and habitats; restoration of wetland, forest, grassland, and marine habitats; active management of habitats through manipulation of water levels, prescribed burning, haying and grazing; identification and control of the spread of invasive species; air quality monitoring; investigation and cleanup of contaminants; control of wildlife disease outbreaks; and assessment of water quality and quantity. These activities are vital for providing scientific information needed to inform management decisions and for the Refuge System to conserve, manage and restore fish, wildlife, and plant species and their habitats at local, landscape, and national levels. The Refuge System includes 561 national wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management districts totaling more than 150 million acres. Refuges are home to more than 700 species of migratory birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, 1,000 species of fish, and more than 280 of the Nation's 1,436 threatened or endangered species. Fifty-nine national wildlife refuges have been created specifically to help imperiled species.

Refuges are essential for the Service to accomplish its mission of administering a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the benefit of the American people. Through conducting wildlife and habitat management activities, refuges directly benefit fish and wildlife resources and play crucial roles in their surrounding communities by providing recreational opportunities, such as hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing.

The Service must work cross-programmatically to maintain the biological integrity, diversity, and ecological health of the Refuge System and other Service resources. Collaborating with other Service programs provides opportunities to leverage resources to maintain and enhance populations of migratory birds, fish and endangered species. And ensure that Refuge System lands are providing the maximum benefit for those resources and the people that enjoy them.

The Service works closely with state fish and wildlife agencies, recognizing the shared authority and responsibility for managing fish and wildlife on national wildlife refuges. This federal-state partnership, grounded in mutual respect, is essential to effective conservation work.

Much of the conservation work done on refuges is accomplished in partnership with adjacent landowners, community volunteers, non-governmental organizations, states, and other Federal agencies. Working with partners at landscape scales adds to the effective conservation achievements of the Refuge System and allows individual refuges to respond more effectively to climate change and other environmental challenges. Of the 599 units of the Refuge System [561 refuges and 38 wetland management districts], nearly 350 are supported by organized groups of volunteers, known as Friends groups. These invaluable volunteers help refuges meet public use and resource management goals. Friends groups and other volunteers annually contribute approximately 20 percent of the work hours performed on refuges to restore habitat, maintain buildings, greet and educate visitors, answer phones, survey and map invasive plant species, and a host of other activities.

Wildlife and Habitat Management funding is also used to manage lands and waters with special designations for their unique values, including 75 wilderness areas, 1,086 miles of refuge rivers within the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, tens of millions of acres of marine managed areas, and six National Monuments, including five Marine National Monuments.

Through the Refuge System, the Service conserves key habitats across broad landscapes spanning all four North American migratory bird flyways, providing protected areas across the entire range of many endangered species, and conserving expansive marine and Arctic ecosystems. Managing extensive wetland impoundments requires water management facilities, such as dikes, levees, pumps, spillways, and water level control structures. Water resources are vitally important to wildlife and their habitats, making water rights protection and adjudication an ever-increasing endeavor as demand for water grows. Management actions for wildlife populations include reintroducing imperiled species, erecting nest structures, controlling predators, banding or radio tracking wildlife, and inventorying and monitoring species and habitats, and many other techniques.

Programs that directly contribute to the Service's mission include:

Inventory and Monitoring

The Refuge System embraces a scientific, landscape-level approach to conserving, managing and restoring refuge lands and waters, and works to project conservation benefits beyond its boundaries. Coordinated inventory and monitoring (I&M) of biological resources, ecological processes, and components of the physical environment are conducted by the Natural Resource Program Center (NRPC).

The Refuge System's I&M program provides credible, interdisciplinary, scientific information to inform biological planning at multiple scales. Establishing a baseline is key to understanding how an ecosystem is changing. As most refuges do not have a comprehensive inventory of the fish, wildlife and plants within their boundaries, this program will provide the essential answers and data needed to direct effective and efficient landscape-level conservation efforts.

Consistent inventory and monitoring are critical to meeting the Refuge System's mission and supporting wildlife adaptation strategies in the face of climate change and other environmental stressors, such as sea level rise, drought, shifting temporal and spatial patterns of wildlife migration, habitat loss, disease, and invasive species. Collected data is crucial for accurate vulnerability assessment to climate change and to guide the development and implementation of adaptive management at the refuge and landscape scale. Data collection efforts are also coordinated with the National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and other federal and state efforts. The I&M program also directly supports Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) to inform efficient conservation delivery and expenditure of funds and ensures that all survey design, data storage, analysis, and reporting are consistent with the draft 701 FW2 Inventory and Monitoring Policy (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2009).

A changing climate interacts with other ongoing environmental threats and stressors and often manifests as destructive wildfires, water shortages, spreading invasive species and disease transmission. The Service is committed to taking a holistic approach to assessment and management that accounts for interactions between climate change and other stressors. For example, the Refuge System ran a Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM) at 152 refuges to examine how sea level rise will likely affect the coastal landscape. The SLAMM model provides managers with science-based information in order to consider long-term risks with managing and restoring habitat types, location and protection of facilities, and identifying the most appropriate lands to protect for conservation purposes.

Integral to an effective inventory and monitoring effort is a robust information management system. Information management is both costly and timely but also represents an area for broad collaboration resulting in wide-spread efficiencies within the System, Service, Department, and across partnerships.

Cooperative Recovery

This initiative uses a cross-programmatic approach to allow the Service to more efficiently restore and recover federally listed species on national wildlife refuges and surrounding lands. The Service combines the resources of the National Wildlife Refuge System, Endangered Species program, Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, National Fish Hatcheries program, Science program, and the Migratory Bird program through a streamlined national proposal-driven process to identify and implement projects with the highest likelihood of success. The proposals are focused on implementing urgently needed actions for critically endangered species that are at risk of going extinct without intervention, or for implementing recovery actions for species near delisting or reclassification from endangered to threatened or that will significantly improve the status of one or more listed species.

Surrogate Species

A surrogate species is one used to represent other species or aspects of the environment. Surrogate species are used for conservation planning that supports multiple species and habitats within a defined landscape or geographic area. As Director Ashe stated in the Summer 2012 issue of *Fish and Wildlife News*, "With almost 1,400 threatened and endangered species nationwide, we can no longer manage individual recovery. But by using a process known as surrogate species selection, we can identify a species as an indicator of landscape habitat and system conditions and redouble our efforts to conserve it. Those efforts should help many other species in that habitat if we have chosen the surrogate species correctly." [p. 1] The Refuge System will employ the Surrogate Species model to determine the most critical habitats to maintain on refuges throughout the country. Those habitats most critical to selected surrogate species for that region will be the refuge's highest habitat conservation priority.

Strategic Habitat Conservation

In 2006, Service leadership endorsed Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) as the conservation approach the agency would use to achieve its mission in the 21st Century. In response to the unprecedented scale and complexity of challenges facing our natural resources, agency leaders saw the need to develop and implement a landscape approach to conservation that was more strategic, science-driven, collaborative, adaptive, and understandable. SHC relies on an adaptive management framework to focus on a subset of shared conservation targets, set measurable biological objectives for them, and identify the information, decisions, delivery, and monitoring needed to achieve desired biological outcomes. Key elements include: Biological Planning, Conservation Design, Conservation Delivery, and Outcome-Based Monitoring & Assumption-Driven Research. The Refuge System uses these key elements in developing refuge management plans to ensure that management practices are based on sound science.

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) are public-private partnerships that provide the expertise needed to support conservation planning, implementation, and evaluation at landscape scales. LCCs are

generating the tools, methods, and data that managers need to carry out conservation using the SHC approach. They also promote collaboration among their members in defining shared conservation goals. The Refuge System uses the LCC model to leverage resources and ensure that we have the input of our partners when developing conservation plans.

Invasive Species Management

Invasive species management activities are critical and include preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species, and controlling or eradicating invasive species where they are established. Integrated pest management techniques are used wherever feasible with mechanical removal or herbicides sometimes needed for extensive infestations. Rapid response and eradication of emerging invasive species populations is attempted wherever possible to limit establishment or range expansion, and to prevent the need for more costly ongoing treatments, which are required once invasive species are established. Climate change is projected to exacerbate infestations-- as rapidly changing ecological conditions are expected to favor many invasive species-- making early detection and rapid response even more critical. Funds are provided to inventory, map, monitor, treat, control, and eradicate invasive species from refuge lands in order to protect and restore native ecosystems.

Invasive species continue to alter wildlife habitat and pose challenges to management of the Refuge System. According to FY2012 data, approximately 2.5 million acres of the Refuge System lands are infested with invasive plants. In FY2012, the Refuge System was only able to treat approximately 257,000 of these acres. In addition, there are more than 3,800 invasive animal populations residing on refuge lands. Invasive species are the most frequently mentioned threat in the NWRS Threats and Conflicts database. Instead of focusing on native habitat protection or enhancement, refuge management operations are becoming more frequently tied to battling invasive species. Federally-listed threatened and endangered species are also experiencing more direct impacts from exotic invasions.

Marine Monuments

Presidential Proclamations established four new Marine National Monuments in the Pacific between 2006 and 2009. Together, the monuments increased FWS responsibility in the Pacific Islands from 4,400 to 220,000 square miles. The monuments span an area larger than the continental United States, and include 12 marine national wildlife refuges covering more than 20 islands, atolls, and reefs scattered around the tropical Pacific and across five time zones.

At 54 million acres, the marine monuments now constitute one-third of the Refuge System, and are the most unspoiled tropical ecosystems under U.S. purview. However, they are experiencing the direct effects of global climate change impacts, and are some of our Nation’s last frontiers for wildlife conservation and scientific exploration. Meeting their respective missions will provide diverse options for sustaining resilient ecosystems and helping to maintain biodiversity and environmental health across the Pacific.

Wilderness Areas

The 1964 Wilderness Act established the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS). Today the System includes more than 109 million acres, of which 20.7 million acres (19% of the entire NWPS) are within 65 national wildlife refuges and one fish hatchery.

While the term “wilderness” typically brings to mind vast forests, the definition of “wilderness” contained in the 1964 Wilderness Act is, “untrammeled (free from man's control), undeveloped, and natural, offering outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.” This definition includes a variety of ecosystems, not just forested areas.

2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act. As indicated by the photos below from Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Wilderness Areas provide habitat for wildlife and compatible recreational opportunities for people.

Wilderness visitors may hunt, fish, and observe and photograph wildlife, if these activities are compatible with the refuge's primary mission of wildlife conservation. Many other types of compatible recreational uses, such as cross-country skiing, canoeing, kayaking, and hiking may also be enjoyed in some wilderness areas.

Restoring Habitat & Recovering Species - Bison Conservation Initiative

Initiated in 2008, efforts to restore bison herds to their ecological and cultural role on appropriate landscapes within the species' historical range will continue in FY 2014. In May 2012, the Secretary directed the Service to explore the feasibility of transferring Yellowstone (YOT) bison that had been quarantined for brucellosis testing to the National Bison Range (NBR). The Service determined these animals must meet genetic and health criteria established by the Service prior to any translocation. The Service has conducted genetic testing on all bison at the NBR, and can compare data from the YOT bison. Under an intra-agency agreement, the YOT bison will be genetically tested. These data will then be used to quantify the YOT bison's potential contribution to the NBR's genetic diversity and the NWRS mission of bison conservation. Analyses must also occur on Service herds at other National Wildlife Refuges. If the YOT bison meet the established genetic and health criteria, up to 35 animals may be considered for translocation.

Alaska Subsistence

The Alaska Subsistence program manages subsistence uses by rural Alaskans on 237 million acres of Federal lands by coordinating the regulation and management of subsistence harvests among five Federal bureaus (the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Forest Service), coordinating with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and providing technical and administrative support for 10 rural Regional Advisory Councils. Coordinating with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the bureaus provide technical and administrative support for ten rural Regional Advisory Councils. Fisheries and Refuge program staff manage subsistence fisheries and wildlife harvests in season and conduct fish and wildlife population

assessments on National Wildlife Refuges to ensure that population objectives are met and provide for long-term subsistence harvests.

2014 Program Performance

The 2014 budget request would be used to build upon the landscape-scale, long-term, inventory and monitoring program that began in 2010. This program would contribute to the success of the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and provide critical information for planning and management decisions in the context of climate change adaptation and mitigation. With this funding the Refuge System would be able to complete additional inventory and monitoring actions; a critical first step for the Refuge System to more effectively help species and habitats adapt to environmental changes.

The Refuge System intends to restore tens of thousands of wetland, open water, and upland acres. These activities not only benefit wildlife and habitat, but also support high-quality, wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities for more than 47 million annual visitors.

In addition to less intensive wildlife and habitat management practices, the Refuge System would continue traditional management activities, such as water level manipulation, prescriptive grazing, and selective timber harvesting. In FY 2014, the Refuge System expects to actively manage about 3.5 million acres of habitat which would include treatment of nearly 250,000 acres infested with invasive plants. Invasive species management includes the continuing operation of five Invasive Species Strike Teams operating across the country and focusing on early detection and rapid response to recently established infestations.

Refuges - Performance Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
1.2.1 # of NWRS riparian (stream/shoreline) miles achieving desired conditions (GPRA)	310,031.8	310,003.0	310,009.0	309,979.6	309,967.8	319,278.9	9,299.4 (3.0%)	0.0
Comments								
2.0.1 # of NWRS wetland, upland, and coastal/marine acres achieving desired condition (GPRA)	88,066,834	138,479,026	140,205,769	140,232,660	140,741,380	142,586,774	2,354,114 (1.7%)	0
Comments								
2.10.1 # of NWRs/WMDs with a Comprehensive Conservation Plan completed - cumulative	430	402	437	459	517	469	10 (2.2%)	0

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
Comments: We are anticipating from FY 12 to FY 14 only doing 10 more with the limited funding increase. The majority of the CCPs have been accomplished from the Refuge Improvement Act. CCPs in 2013 are still currently planned and not finalized.								
2.10.3 # of NWRs/WMDs with a Comprehensive Conservation Plan completed (during the year)	34	44	36	24	55	24	0	0
Comments								
CSF 11.1 Percent of baseline acres infested with invasive plant species that are controlled (GPRA)	6% (146,938 of 2,312,632)	6% (140,935 of 2,508,387)	4% (95,621 of 2,442,235)	4% (94,868 of 2,409,758)	3% (72,634 of 2,558,619)	4% (97,714 of 2,482,051)	0% (0.0%)	0%
Comments								
CSF 12.1 Percent of invasive animal species populations that are controlled (GPRA)	8% (298 of 3,900)	7% (285 of 3,844)	8% (292 of 3,849)	16% (297 of 1,847)	15% (280 of 1,900)	16% (306 of 1,902)	0%	0%
Comments								
15.2.2 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality hunting programs, where hunting is compatible	95% (366 of 385)	75% (291 of 388)	81% (295 of 366)	80% (292 of 365)	82% (297 of 364)	80% (292 of 365)	0%	0%
Comments								
15.2.4 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality fishing programs, where fishing is compatible	93% (347 of 373)	59% (216 of 368)	64% (218 of 341)	64% (221 of 345)	73% (220 of 303)	64% (221 of 345)	0%	0%
Comments								
15.2.6 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality wildlife observation programs, where wildlife observation is compatible	98% (473 of 483)	73% (353 of 486)	77% (361 of 468)	78% (363 of 466)	78% (367 of 470)	78% (363 of 466)	0%	0%

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
Comments								
15.2.8 % of NWRs/WMDs that have quality environmental education programs, where interpretation is compatible	81% (384 of 473)	58% (278 of 483)	75% (292 of 389)	76% (301 of 394)	76% (299 of 392)	76% (301 of 394)	0%	0%
Comments								
15.2.10 % of NWRs/WMDs with quality interpretative programs that adequately interpret key resources and issues, where interpretation is compatible	90% (433 of 482)	63% (309 of 490)	73% (318 of 437)	73% (320 of 437)	73% (316 of 434)	73% (320 of 437)	0%	0%
Comments								
15.2.23 Total # of visitors to NWRS - annual	42,592,992	44,482,399	45,733,179	47,059,171	45,221,951	47,059,171	0	0
Comments								
52.1.1 # of volunteer hours are annually contributed to NWRS	1,382,990	1,449,707	1,505,114	1,594,235	1,344,702	1,594,235	0	0
Comments								

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Visitor Services

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Refuge Visitor Services	($000)	*70,500*	70,648	+1,127	-288	-946	70,541
Youth and Careers in Nature	($000)	*1,872*	1,872	0	0	+128	2,000
Volunteer Partnerships	($000)	*1,705*	1,705	0	0	0	1,705
Total, Refuge Visitor Services	**($000)** **FTE**	***74,077*** ***635***	**74,225** **644**	**+1,127** **0**	**-288** **0**	**-818** **-9**	**74,246** **635**
Other Major Resources: Recreation Fee Program	*($000)* *FTE*	*5,085* *35*	*5,100* *32*	*0* *0*	*0* *0*	*0* *0*	*5,100* *32*

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Visitor Services

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Youth and Careers in Nature	+128	0
• General Program Activities	-946	-9
Program Changes	**-818**	**-9**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Visitor Services program is $74,246 and 635 FTE, a net program change of -$818,000 and -9 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Youth and Careers in Nature (+$128,000/+0 FTE)

The requested increase in Youth and Careers in Nature will restore the program to full funding at $2 million for FY2014. The Youth and Careers in Nature program offers employment, education and recreation opportunities that connect youth with the outdoors. These connections foster understanding and appreciation of the need to conserve America's natural resources. These youth programs provide opportunities to educate youth about career opportunities and promote public service as part of a life-long commitment to natural resource conservation. These programs are managed through mentoring and partnerships with Friends organizations, volunteers, educational institutions, and local conservation organizations. The Refuge System offers several programs to provide youth with experience in conservation and wildlife management including the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) and the Career Diversity Internship Program (CDIP). Some students who have participated in these programs have chosen permanent, full-time careers with the Service.

General Program Activities (-$946,000/-9 FTE)

The Service proposes to direct these funds to higher Service priorities in habitat restoration and Inventory and Monitoring. The FTE change reflects multi-year adjustments from 2012 actual usage to the 2014 level.

Program Overview

The Visitor Services subactivity funds the operations and management of activities related to engaging Americans in wildlife conservation through wildlife-dependent recreation, education, and stewardship programs. The six priority public uses are hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education and interpretation. Hundreds of national wildlife refuges offer education, recreation, and employment opportunities that connect youth with the outdoors. These connections foster understanding and appreciation of the need to conserve America's natural resources. Youth employment programs educate youth about career opportunities and promote public service as part of a life-long commitment to natural resource conservation. As a part of the Visitor Services Program, the Service ensures that significant cultural, archaeological, and historic resources are protected, experienced by visitors, and interpreted in accordance with authorizing legislation and policies. The Refuge System protects many significant cultural and archaeological sites including 89 resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 10 of which have been designated National Historic Landmarks. These Landmarks include World War II battlefields (Attu and Midway) and historic lighthouses.

Recognizing that direct connections to the natural world through outdoor recreation are often the best ways to accomplishing the Service's conservation mission, Service programs build an appreciation for wildlife and wild lands encouraging people to become conservation stewards. In FY 2012, more than 47 million Refuge System visitors took advantage of outstanding Service recreation programs including nearly 3,000 special events. Visitors included 2.5 million hunters and 7 million anglers. More than 30 million people visited refuges to observe wildlife from the Service's network of trails, auto tour routes, observation towers, decks, and platforms, and 7.2 million visitors came to photograph wildlife. More than 2.5 million people participated in an interpretive program, and 769,000 teachers and students used refuges as "outdoor classrooms" benefiting from Service environmental education programs. Thousands of young Americans were provided job opportunities and career-building experiences. The psychological, ecological and economic amenities that nature provides are a boon for Americans from all walks of life.

Visitor Services provides many opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent recreation (wildlife observation, hunting, fishing, nature photography, environmental education, and interpretation). These activities are evaluated by visitor satisfaction surveys to ensure that they continue to be quality experiences for the public to enjoy America's wild lands, fish, wildlife, and plants. When those recreational activities are managed according to the principles of sound fish and wildlife management and administration on national wildlife refuges, they stimulate stewardship and a conservation ethic within the public. A national survey recently completed by the Service indicated that 90 percent of refuge visitors gave consistent high marks to all facets of their experiences. Survey results from over 10,000 respondents indicate high satisfaction:

- 91% for recreational activities and opportunities;
- 89% for information and education about the refuge;
- 91% for services provided by refuge employees or volunteers; and
- 91% for the refuge's job of conserving fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

Wildlife observation, bird watching, photography, hiking, and auto-tour-route use were among the visitors' most popular refuge activities.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Improvement Act) clarified that providing wildlife-dependent recreation is a prominent and important goal for the Refuge System. The Improvement Act recognizes the importance of a close connection between wildlife resources, the American character, and the need to conserve wildlife for future generations of Americans. The Refuge System's priority public uses -- as established in the Improvement Act -- are hunting, fishing, wildlife photography, wildlife observation, environmental education, and interpretation. The Refuge System Visitor Services program also includes cultural resource protection and interpretation, an accessibility

program, volunteers and Friends programs, special use permits, recreation fees, concessions management, and a host of other activities designed to welcome and orient visitors to the Refuge System.

The Visitor Services program creates quality experiences for the American public through access to knowledgeable staff, as well as through interpretive signs and brochures, while supplying safe and accessible facilities. The program also manages recreation fees in a manner that provides the government with a fair return on investments and visitors with exceptional value for fees paid.

Hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation activities contribute an estimated $730 billion to the U.S. economy each year, and one in twenty U.S. jobs are in the recreation economy. Therefore, the Refuge System Visitor Services program has a direct impact on the local economies of communities where refuges are located. Recreational visits to refuges generate substantial retail expenditures in the local area, for gas, lodging, meals, and other purchases. Maintaining a healthy visitor program at national wildlife refuges is vital to the economic well-being of communities all across the nation.

Economic Impacts

FWS Refuge Lands	• contribute to over $4.2B in economic output • provide 34,000 jobs from recreation-related spending
Each $5 invested in the Refuge System nationally equals	• 83.2 jobs • $13.6M in total economic activity • $5.4M in job-related income • $500,000 in tax revenue
Each 1% increase or decrease in visitation equals	• $16.9M in total economic activity • 286 jobs • $5.4M in job-related income • $1.6M in tax revenue

Sources: The Department of the Interior's Economic Contributions FY2011 report, p.21; 2006 Banking on Nature report

Visitor Services program elements include:

Refuge Visitor Services
This element includes the salary and base funding that supports recreational activities, with priority given to wildlife-dependent recreation as required by the Improvement Act. The Refuge System provides wildlife-dependent recreation that is compatible with the purposes for which a particular refuge was established. Non-wildlife-dependent recreation (e.g. swimming, horseback riding, etc.) is considered to be a lower priority and must be determined to be both appropriate and compatible with the Refuge System

mission and individual refuge purposes to be allowed on a refuge. Interpretive programs include activities such as guided tours, school programs, and educational workshops. Environmental education involves structured classroom or outdoor activities that help provide awareness and direct connections with wildlife and natural resource issues. Teacher workshops, which are particularly effective at reaching local school districts, provide a service that teachers can use in developing course materials and instruction for their students. The Visitor Services Program also funds staff that review projects funded or permitted by the Service for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The NHPA regulatory reviews may include field surveys, archaeological investigations, site evaluations and mitigation. The Refuge System employs a majority of the Service's cultural resource specialists and provides compliance reviews for projects funded by other programs, such as permits and grants issued by the Ecological Services program.

1. Visitor Facility Enhancements

The visitor facility enhancements element provides for the development, rehabilitation, and construction of facilities such as parking areas at trailheads, wildlife observation platforms, kiosks, and other projects that are necessary for interpretation and environmental education on refuges. Small scale visitor facilities on refuges are overall very limited and are inadequate to provide for a quality visitor experience at many refuges. In an effort to get more people out on the ground to experience refuges first-hand, in FY 2003, the Refuge System began constructing kiosks and other modest visitor facilities designed to provide greater access for wildlife-dependent recreation on refuges and to help interpret refuge resources. Since FY 2003, the Refuge System has been able to leverage funding approximately 1:1 by partnering with refuge Friends groups, other organizations, and volunteers. As a result the Refuge System has been able to build hundreds of visitor facilities such as boardwalks, boating ramps, fishing piers, hunting blinds, and trails all across the country. Since most refuges do not charge an entry fee, most visitor facility enhancements are available free of charge to local residents as well as out-of-town refuge visitors.

This wildlife observation deck at Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge (NC) is an example of how Visitor Facility Enhancements provide wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities for refuge visitors.

2. Visitor Orientation

The Refuge System clearly identifies all wildlife refuges that are open to the public, and ensures that visitors understand what the Service does, and how to enjoy their visits to refuges. Welcoming and orienting visitors provides a unique brand identity that helps the public understand the unique role in conservation and recreation for which the Service, including the Refuge System, is responsible. This identity recognition can be heightened through clear and accurate signage, brochures, interpretive materials, uniforms, adequate and accessible recreational facilities, and knowledgeable staff or volunteers available to answer questions and describe the role of an individual refuge within the context of the Refuge System's mission.

3. Quality Wildlife-Dependent Recreation

Wildlife-dependent recreation also addresses the concern of childhood obesity and the health benefits associated with getting children and families outdoors. The American people, especially children, spend

less time playing outdoors than any previous generation. Recent research shows that our nation's children are suffering from too much time inside. *Connecting Today's Kids with Nature*, a report published by the National Wildlife Federation, states, "Today's kids spend six and a half hours a day 'plugged into' electronic media. Research shows that children are spending half as much time outside as they did 20 years ago. Meanwhile, the childhood obesity rate has more than doubled and the adolescent obesity rate has tripled. Doctors warn that, for the first time in American history, life expectancy may actually decrease because of the health impacts of the current childhood obesity epidemic. In his 2005 book, *Last Child in the Woods*, Richard Louv described this American trend as a 'nature deficit'". [p. 7] The report adds, "Research shows that children who play outside play more creatively; have lower stress levels; have more active imaginations; become fitter and leaner; develop stronger immune systems; and have greater respect for themselves, for others, and for the environment." [p. 10]

Fishing is one of the most popular wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities on national wildlife refuges.

4. Quality Wildlife-Dependent Education and Interpretation

Quality environmental education and interpretation programs engage the public in, and increase community support for the conservation mission of the Refuge System; making fish, wildlife, plants, and wildlife habitat relevant, meaningful, and accessible to the American public.

More than 769,000 students and teachers annually visit national wildlife refuges, which provide substantial environmental education programs to introduce young people to the precepts of natural resource conservation. According to the National Wildlife Federation's report, *Connecting Today's Kids with Nature*, "there are many academic benefits to environmental education, including higher test scores in math, reading, and language arts. Studies show that integrated environmental education programs also increase children's critical thinking skills, self-confidence, and academic motivation." [p.3]

Interpretive programs on wildlife refuges are designed to facilitate meaningful and memorable visitor experiences and encourage stewardship of the wildlife and habitat of the visited refuge and the Refuge System as a national network of conservation lands. Through the use of interpretation, the Refuge System can create a personal, emotional connection with visitors.

This tram tour at Laguna Atascosa NWR (TX) provides visitors information about the refuge's habitat and wildlife resources while providing them a view of wildlife they otherwise may not be able to see.

5. Birding

The National Wildlife Refuge System Birding Initiative continues to expand in scope and popularity among refuges in every region. Birding programs and festivals generate significant revenue and create jobs for local economies. A recent report, Birding in the United States: A Demographic and Economic Analysis, shows that one of every five Americans watches birds, and those birdwatchers contributed $36 billion to the U.S. economy in 2006, the most recent year for which specific economic

data are available. The report also shows that total participation in bird watching is strong at 48 million, and has remained at a steady 20 percent of the U.S. population since 1996.

This young girl at Big Muddy NWR (MO) is one of the 48 million Americans who enjoy bird watching.

In partnership with Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and several retail companies, the Birder-friendly Refuge System Incentives Program was launched in 2010 to share existing, successful birding program elements among field stations and improve recreation opportunities for visitors who connect to nature and conservation through bird watching. More than 500 sets of binoculars, 100 spotting scopes, hundreds of backpack kits and GPS units, and thousands of field guides to loan to visitors and school groups were distributed to 100 Refuge System units through this initiative. Birds and birding programs have also been catalysts for offering more citizen science opportunities on refuges. Public monitoring programs such as The Big Sit! and Christmas Bird Count for Kids, targeted at families and youth, are increasing in quality and quantity annually.

6. Cultural and Historic Resources

The Service ensures that significant cultural, archaeological, and historic resources are protected, experienced by visitors, and interpreted in accordance with authorizing legislation and policies. The Refuge System protects many significant cultural and archaeological sites including 89 resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places, ten of which have been designated National Historic Landmarks. These Landmarks include World War II battlefields (Attu and Midway) and historic lighthouses. The Refuge System has identified more than 20,000 archaeological and historical sites within its borders to date, with more yet to be discovered. The Refuge System museum collections consist of approximately 6.2 million objects maintained in Service facilities or on loan to more than 200 non-Federal repositories, such as qualified museums and academic institutions, for scientific study, public viewing, and long-term care.

The lighthouse at St Marks NWR (FL) is one of 21 lighthouses located on national wildlife refuges. (photo credit Keith Ramos, St Marks NWR)

Volunteers and Community Partnerships

This element encompasses activities directed by the Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998. Refuge System volunteers facilitate recreation activities, habitat restoration, maintenance, administrative activities, and many other tasks. In FY2012, the Refuge System benefitted from the hard work and commitment of more than 42,000 volunteers who contributed more than 1.5 million hours of volunteer service. This equates to roughly 8 volunteers for every Refuge System employee. Volunteers contribute nearly 20 percent of the work hours performed on refuges and more than 225 non-profit Friends organizations are critical to building effective community partnerships, leveraging resources, and serving as conservation ambassadors in their communities.

The Refuge System's nearly 43,000 volunteers provide 1.5 million hours or service each year.

The Refuge System continues to support volunteers and Friends groups through on-site training, mentoring, workshops, and awards. New efforts are underway to build a suite of Refuge System citizen science programs for participation by Friends organizations, volunteers, and visitors. These programs offer volunteers and visitors new, meaningful opportunities to contribute data that would help the Service understand the causes and consequences of climate change on refuges and adjacent landscapes.

Youth in Natural Resources

The Service is building upon existing proven programs with new and creative approaches to offer public service opportunities, support science based education and outdoor learning laboratories, and engage young Americans in wildlife-dependent recreation such as hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and wildlife photography. Hundreds of national wildlife refuges connect youth with the outdoors through career and public service opportunities that foster an understanding and appreciation of the need to conserve America's natural resources. These programs are managed through mentoring and partnerships with Friends organizations, volunteers, educational institutions, and local conservation organizations.

Youth are hired on scores of national wildlife refuges through term and seasonal jobs, often through the collaboration of the Service with nongovernmental organizations whose mission is to reach diverse audiences. The Service also works in partnership with a range of citizen science programs that engage young people in natural resource programs that not only heighten scientific knowledge nationwide, but also raise the awareness of young people from diverse backgrounds about the importance of natural resource protection.

In addition to Environmental Education and Wildlife-Dependent Recreation previously discussed, youth also benefit from:

1. Youth Conservation Corps which provides opportunities for young adults from varied backgrounds to work together on conservation projects, such as maintenance and construction, habitat management, and visitor services. Enrollees learn about potential career opportunities and are offered guidance and training.

2. Volunteer and Community Service Programs where Service volunteers work with school and youth groups and support organizations, such as the Scouts. Volunteers often serve as important role models and mentors for youth.

3. Student Conservation Association (SCA) which focuses on developing conservation and community leaders through conservation internships and summer trail crew opportunities while accomplishing important work supporting the Service mission.

4. Career Pathways which offer clear paths to Federal internships for students from high school through post-graduate school and to careers for recent graduates, and provide meaningful training and career development opportunities for individuals who are at the beginning of their Federal service. Students or recent graduates can begin their careers in the Federal government by choosing the path that best describes their academic status:

   •Internship Program**:** This program is for current students enrolled in a wide variety of educational institutions from high school to graduate level, with paid opportunities to work in agencies and explore Federal careers while still in school.

   •Recent Graduates Program: This program is for individuals who have recently graduated from qualifying educational institutions or programs and seek a dynamic, career development program with training and mentorship. To be eligible, applicants must apply within two years of degree or certificate completion (except for veterans precluded from doing so due to their military service obligation, who will have up to six years to apply).

   •Presidential Management Fellows Program: For more than three decades, the Presidential Management Fellows Program has been the Federal government's premier leadership development program for advanced degree candidates. This program is now for individuals who have received a qualifying advanced degree within the preceding two years.

2014 Program Performance

The 2014 budget request would allow the Refuge System to continue to welcome more than 47 million visitors to enjoy educational and interpretive programs, hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and photography. Funding will be used to develop visitor programs, materials, and services that improve upon visitor satisfaction rates, which are currently at 90 percent. Satisfaction rates will soon be reassessed with a comprehensive new survey.

Refuge System staff aim to train and supervise approximately 42,000 volunteers that contribute more than 1.5 million hours to conservation and recreation programs. The Refuge System will continue to support training programs for volunteer coordinators and provide support for refuges working with Friends organizations. In addition, the Refuge System will provide support for the many Friends groups across the country that help each refuge meet its mission.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Refuge Law Enforcement

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Refuge Law Enforcement	($000)	*37,687*	36,799	+504	-110	+1,068	38,261
IMARS	($000)	*574*	574	0	0	0	574
Radio Initiative	($000)	*0*	0	0	0	+1,250	1,250
Total, Refuge Law Enforcement	($000)	***38,261***	**37,373**	**+504**	**-110**	**+2,318**	**40,085**
	FTE	***249***	**255**	**0**	**0**	**+9**	**264**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Refuge Law Enforcement

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	+1,068	+9
• Radio Initiative	+1,250	+0
Program Changes	**+2,318**	**+9**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Refuge Law Enforcement program is $40,085,000 and 264 FTE, a net program change of $2,318,000 and +9 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (+$1,068,000/ +9FTE)

This increase will allow the Refuge System to hire additional officers to help ensure the safety and security of Refuge System visitors, staff, facilities, and property. Officers will be hired in the areas of greatest need.

Radio Initiative (+$1,250,000/ +0 FTE)

Building on a successful BLM pilot to assess and address their radio infrastructure, this increase will support a Department-wide initiative to improve radio infrastructure and coordination of efforts to consolidate radio infrastructure. These funds will purchase communications equipment, facilitate contracts and mutual-aid agreements and provide infrastructure support to enhance the ability of Federal Wildlife Officers to communicate with other law enforcement agencies when patrolling, verifying information on criminal suspects, and summoning aid under emergency circumstances.

The radio initiative will improve resource and visitor protection across the National Wildlife Refuge System in addition to improving safety, enhancing cooperation, and increasing efficiency of service with other Federal, local and tribal agencies.

Program Overview

The Refuge Law Enforcement subactivity funds the operations, training, equipping, and management of the System's full-time officers, collateral duty officers, and associated Regional and Headquarters management staffs to support the System's officers. The Refuge System employs a professional cadre of law enforcement officers dedicated to natural resource protection and public safety. Federal wildlife officers also contribute to community policing, environmental education and outreach, protection of native subsistence rights, as well as other activities supporting the Service's conservation mission.

Federal wildlife officers are routinely involved with the greater law enforcement community in cooperative efforts to combat the nation's drug problems, addressing border security issues, and other pressing challenges.

Federal wildlife officers protect the security and safety of more than 47 million refuge visitors, Service employees and volunteers, government property, and wildlife populations and habitats. In 2011, Refuge Law Enforcement documented more than 35,000 law enforcement incidents on wildlife refuges, including more than 5,600 hunting contacts; 4,200 fishing contacts; 692 endangered species issues; 755 easement violations, and 59 Archeological Resource Protection Act cases. Refuge Law Enforcement responded to 239 medical situations and conducted 297 search and rescue missions. Refuge Law Enforcement also participated in more the 14,500 educational encounters.

Refuge Law Enforcement supports a broad spectrum of Service programs by enforcing conservation laws established to protect the fish, wildlife, cultural and archaeological resources the Service manages in trust for the American people. Refuge Law Enforcement also participates in educating the public about the Service mission, providing safety and security for the visiting public, and assisting local communities with law enforcement and natural disaster recovery.

While the Refuge System continues to improve its law enforcement operations through the hiring and training of full-time officers, dual-function officers continue to play a critical role in meeting law enforcement needs. Dual-function officers dedicate 25 to 50 percent of their time to law enforcement activities and spend the balance of their time on traditional conservation and wildlife dependent recreation programs. The Refuge System began to reduce dependency on dual function officers in 2002 to improve effectiveness and efficiency of refuge law enforcement operations. Since 2002, the Refuge System has lost 382 dual-function officers through retirement, relinquishment of commissions, etc. As the Refuge System loses dual- function officers, full-time officers need to be added which will allow current dual-function officers to focus on their primary duties. Refuges also rely on partnerships through Memorandums of Understanding with local, county, state, and other Federal agencies for mutual law enforcement assistance for the purpose of protecting lives, property, and resources.

The Refuge System is experiencing an increase in violent crime against persons and a decrease in detection of natural resource crimes due to a lack of field officers. The Refuge System has 371 Federal Wildlife Officers to patrol the 150 million acre Refuge System. A 2005 analysis by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) detailed the urgent need for more law enforcement (LE) officers in the Refuge System to respond to drug production and smuggling, wildlife poaching, illegal border activity, assaults and a variety of natural resource violations. IACP recommended that 845 full-time Federal wildlife officers were necessary to adequately protect visitors and natural resources. Visitation to national wildlife refuges has increased by 15% since 2005, and the lack of officers directly affects the Refuge System's law enforcement operational capacity to deter, detect, record, and address both violent crimes and natural resource crimes which are essential to our refuge system mission and priorities.

The Refuge System has also instituted a Zone System to provide critical law enforcement planning, deployment, and support to multiple wildlife refuges with maximum efficiency through experienced officers. A Federal wildlife Zone Officer provides refuges within his or her designated zone with technical assistance on law enforcement, institutes reliable record keeping and defensible reviews, enhances training, and promotes communication and coordination with other law enforcement agencies.

The Refuge System remains concerned about the current situation on the southwest border, and directed a significant portion of previous funding increases to regions with refuges located along the border. These management increases continue to enhance the law enforcement programs within the regions, including all officers along the southwest border.

Refuge Law Enforcement works with State Wildlife Officers to protect the public and wildlife.

Highlighted Activities:

This program element includes funding for the Refuge Law Enforcement Program and the Service's Emergency Management Program. Included under the funding are emergency managers, Federal wildlife zone officers, regional refuge law enforcement chiefs, field officers, training, equipment, and supplies. Officers play an integral part of the Department-wide strategy of drug interdiction and marijuana eradication on public lands. The Refuge System applies various operational activities to combat illegal marijuana cultivation on refuge lands such as aircraft usage, training, equipment, and any associated environmental clean-up activities.

Incident Management Analysis Reporting System (IMARS)

The Refuge Law Enforcement program is working with the DOI to develop and implement the Department-wide Incident Management Analysis Reporting system (IMARS). The program will document all law enforcement related incidents occurring on refuges, and will be accessible at all levels of the organization. It will track not only different types of crimes, but also locations which will allow us to be proactive in crime prevention. This information is necessary to prioritize law enforcement officer needs and to deploy officers where they are needed in emergencies."

2014 Program Performance

The Division of Refuge Law Enforcement would continue to pursue its goal of protecting human lives, wildlife, and properties. The FY 2014 budget request would support FTE within the Law Enforcement program. These officers would provide for the security and safety of 47 million refuge visitors and employees, government property, and the wildlife and habitats the Refuge System strives to protect. Federal wildlife officers anticipate documenting more than 50,000 natural, cultural, archaeological, and heritage resource crimes, in addition to more than 48,000 other crimes such as drug abuse, burglary, assaults, and murders.

The budget request includes $574,000 for the completion and implementation of the Incident Management, Analysis, and Reporting System (IMARS). Several years in the making, IMARS will allow for more effective law enforcement through more accurate data reporting, tracking of trends, and information sharing. Refuge Law Enforcement would continue to help monitor approximately 33,200 conservation easement contracts with non-federal landowners, with a goal of ensuring that the terms are met on at least 95 percent of the contracts.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Conservation Planning

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Refuge Planning	($000)	*5,655*	7,288	+158	-50	-1,667	5,729
Land Protection Planning	($000)	*3,434*	3,434	0	-3,434	0	0
Comprehensive Conservation Plans	($000)	*945*	982	0	-37	0	945
Total, Conservation Planning	**($000)**	***10,034***	**11,704**	**+158**	**-3,521**	**-1,667**	**6,674**
	FTE	***79***	**79**	**0**	**-20**	**-11**	**48**

*Note: The 2013 Full Year CR (P.L. 112-75) and FY 2012 Enacted for Conservation Planning include $3,434,000 and 20 FTE for Land Protection Planning, which the Service requests to be transferred to Land Acquisition for FY 2014. The 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Conservation Planning

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Refuge Planning	-1,667	-11
Program Changes	**-1,667**	**-11**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Conservation Planning program is $6,674,000 and 48 FTE, a net program change of -$1,667,000 and -11 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Refuge Planning (-$1,667,000/-11 FTE)
The Service proposes this decrease to fund higher budget priorities such as habitat restoration and Inventory and Monitoring.

Program Overview

Through solid planning and conservation design, this program enables the Service to successfully implement conservation efforts on the ground. Planning contributes to informed decision making that recognizes the interests of everyone, while never losing sight of the mission and goals of the Service. Our planning ensures a transparent public process that guides on-the-ground stewardship of threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, inter-jurisdictional fish, and other species of special concern to the American people.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 requires all Refuge System units to prepare and implement Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) every fifteen years. Refuges also develop documents such as Habitat Management Plans and Visitor Services Plans that "step down" CCP guidance and provide specificity needed to inform local conservation action.

Consistent with *Conserving the Future: Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation*, the Service is preparing the Refuge System to confront challenges posed by climate change, invasive species and habitat fragmentation. The next generation of conservation plans shifts the Service's focus beyond refuge boundaries and links refuge planning and management actions to the larger landscape. This will require a greater understanding and incorporation of environmental drivers, such as climate change and urbanization, into the planning process. Service conservation plans incorporate the best available science, encourage collaboration with partners, and explore ways to increase recreational opportunities.

By using an interdisciplinary approach, management activities can address the diversity of current biological and socioeconomic issues. The Service is aware that conservation plans must be written so those who read them clearly understand what is expected and are inspired to take action to become a part of the Service's conservation legacy. The Service is also exploring ways to increase recreational opportunities, working closely with regional recreation, trails and transportation planners to leverage resources that make refuges more accessible to the public.

The planning program serves a leadership role in biological planning and conservation design to support the Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) framework and Adaptive Management efforts for the National Wildlife Refuge System and broader Fish and Wildlife Service. Refuge planning works closely with all Service programs such as Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Endangered Species, Fisheries, and the Office of the Science Advisor , Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, states, and stakeholders to identify priority species, develop measurable biological/conservation (e.g., population) objectives, and deliver habitat conservation through a landscape level approach.

Highlighted Activities:

Refuge Planning

Refuge management plans, such as Habitat Management and Visitor Services plans, are developed for individual refuges by conservation planners and refuge personnel with extensive input from the public, states, tribes, and other partners. Effective refuge planning requires integration of multiple data points. For example, targeted restoration is necessary in many wildlife refuges to bring altered landscapes back into balance. Restoration efforts should create landscape-level habitats or habitat complexes capable of supporting viable populations of target species; be resilient to short-term climate fluctuations and long-term climate change; restore as many ecosystem processes as possible on the landscape; integrate partnerships with other agencies, groups and private landowners; and integrate with future acquisition efforts. This subactivity supports funding for these plans, as well as for geographic information system capability and other related support tools.

Comprehensive Conservation Plans

The Service uses Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) development as the primary method to conduct citizen-centered government. Developing these long-term plans relies on public participation and input. Local communities, state conservation agencies, and other partners help guide refuge management through the development of each CCP. Diverse private organizations, such as the National Rifle Association, Defenders of Wildlife, and many others, also participate in the CCP planning process to complete projects.

The CCPs ensure that each refuge unit is comprehensively managed to fulfill the purpose(s) for which it was established. Developing a CCP facilitates decision making regarding management issues. Completed CCPs allow refuge managers to implement resource management actions that support State Wildlife Action Plans, improving the condition of habitats at a landscape scale and benefiting wildlife.

CCPs provide an opportunity to improve and increase wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities which are critical to connecting people, particularly children, with nature.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Improvement Act) was passed into law on October 9, 1997. The Improvement Act mandated that the Service complete a CCP for every unit of the Refuge System within 15 years (by October 9, 2012). There were 551 units of the refuge system, including wetland management districts, at the time of the passage of the Act. Since then, Congress mandated that the Service also complete CCPs for three newly established field stations before the 2012 deadline. Thus, 554 field stations required completed CCPs by October 9, 2012. In addition, the

Improvement Act requires that a CCP be developed for every new unit that is created (within 15 years of its creation) and that every CCP must be revised every 15 years (or more often if conditions warrant).

The current status is:

- CCPs for 21 units were completed in FY2012.
- As of October 9, 2012, CCPs for 458 of the 554 required units (83%) had been completed.
- CCP development is underway for the remaining 96 units.

CCPs for 9 of the 458 completed units are currently being revised. Another of the completed CCPs was revised in 2011. In addition, the Service has completed CCPs for 10 units and is developing CCPs for 7 units that were created after the Improvement Act (not included in the 554). So, the total number of CCPs completed since 1997 is actually 469 (458 +1 revision + 10 CCPs for new units).

The CCPs ensure that each refuge unit is comprehensively managed to fulfill the purpose(s) for which it was established. Developing a CCP facilitates decision making regarding issues such as allowable wildlife-dependent recreation, the construction of facilities, and the development of biological programs. The process of completing a CCP also helps refuge managers address any conflicting uses that may exist or be proposed. Once a refuge finishes its CCP, it may develop subsequent step-down management plans to meet the CCP's goals and objectives. Issues addressed by these step-down management plans include habitat management, visitor services, fire management, wildlife inventorying and monitoring, and wilderness management plans. Completed CCPs allow refuge managers to implement resource management actions that support States Wildlife Action Plans, improving the condition of habitats at a landscape scale and benefiting wildlife. Refuge personnel also have the ability to improve and increase wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities which are critical to connecting people, particularly children, with nature.

Refuge Planning documents provide opportunities for extensive input from the public, states, tribes, and other partners.

2014 Program Performance

In FY2014, the Conservation Planning program will continue to serve a leadership role in biological planning and conservation design to support the Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) framework and Adaptive Management efforts for the Service. Conservation Planning will continue to work closely with all Service programs, LCCs, states, and stakeholders to identify priority species, develop measurable biological (e.g., population) objectives, and deliver habitat conservation through a landscape level approach. The program will continue close coordination with Service programs such as Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Endangered Species, Fisheries, and the Office of the Science Advisor, for the stewardship of threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, and inter-jurisdictional fish. Conservation Planning will continue to work with the Service's Inventory and Monitoring efforts to both inform what data collection efforts are the highest priorities and also to adapt our conservation delivery actions in an iterative manner as the monitoring data dictates. Conservation Planning will continue to incorporate the best available science, encourage collaboration with partners, and explore ways to increase recreational opportunities by working closely with regional recreation, trails and transportation planners to leverage resources that make Service lands more accessible to the public. Over the past five years, the Refuge System has completed, on average, 38 Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) per year. However, with the pending budget reductions, the Service anticipates that the number of CCPs completed in FY2014 will be less than the average.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Refuge Maintenance

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Maintenance Support	($000)	53,350	54,744	+948	-790	-32	54,870
Annual Maintenance	($000)	28,186	28,186	0	0	0	28,186
Small Equipment and Fleet Management	($000)	5,971	5,971	0	0	0	5,971
Heavy Equipment Management	($000)	5,774	5,774	0	0	0	5,774
Deferred Maintenance	($000)	39,131	38,527	0	0	+604	39,131
Deferred Maintenance WO/RO Support	($000)	5,748	5,748	0	0	0	5,748
Total, Refuge Maintenance	**($000)**	**138,160**	**138,950**	**+948**	**-790**	**+572**	**139,680**
	FTE	**710**	**728**	**0**	**0**	**-8**	**720**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Refuge Maintenance

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Deferred Maintenance	+604	0
• Maintenance Support	-32	**-8**
Program Changes	**+572**	**-8**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Refuge Maintenance program is $139,680,000 and 720 FTE, a net program change of +$572,000 and -8 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Deferred Maintenance (+$604,000/ +0 FTE)
An increase of $604,000 for deferred maintenance will allow the Refuge System to complete additional critical deferred maintenance projects in FY 2014, reducing the backlog. An estimated six additional projects would be completed with this increase to include rehabilitation of a water management facility, repair of parking lots, reroofing of a maintenance shop, replacement of a small office, and disposal of several excess buildings.

Maintenance Support (-32,000/-8 FTE)
The requested decrease allows program savings to be redirected to higher priority operational needs. The FTE change reflects multi-year adjustments from 2013 actual usage to the 2014 level.

Program Overview

The Refuge Maintenance Program supports a complex infrastructure including habitat management; visitor, administrative, and maintenance facilities; and a fleet of vehicles and heavy equipment necessary to conduct wildlife and habitat management activities. A critical function of this program is providing access to Refuge System lands in support of wildlife and habitat management programs and enabling more than 47 million annual visitors to enjoy our nation's diverse fish and wildlife heritage. Refuge maintenance staff actively manage about 3.5 million acres of wildlife habitat each year and more than $27.5 billion in assets such as roads and critical resource management equipment.

To meet habitat and visitor services goals, refuge lands, facilities, and equipment must be serviceable and properly maintained. There is a direct link between adequate maintenance funding and healthy wildlife habitats and populations. Sufficiently maintained facility and equipment assets enable the Service to accomplish habitat management, refuge operations, and achieve visitor services goals and its conservation mission. Without sufficient maintenance, much needed wildlife management facilities such as water control structures for wetlands or breeding facilities for endangered species would not operate properly; office and maintenance buildings needed to conduct core refuge operations would not be functional; and roads, trails and other facilities would be inadequate to allow access for management purposes or for visitation by the public. Without Annual Maintenance, the Service could not complete wildlife and habitat management activities such as mowing fields to enhance habitat, removing unwanted woody vegetation from wetland impoundments, and controlling invasive plants and animals, negatively impact the quality of wildlife habitat and reduce wildlife populations.

Ongoing maintenance of visitor facilities including roads, trails, and a variety of small facilities needed to provide visitors with appropriate access to refuge lands is vital to enabling a positive experience for more than 47 million annual visitors. As of January 31, 2013, refuge maintenance staffs maintain nearly 18,000 lane miles of roads; 5,190 buildings; 6,783 water management structures; and approximately 14,000 other structures such as visitor facility enhancements (hunting blinds, fishing piers, docks, observation decks, information kiosks). The overall facility infrastructure is valued at more than $27.5 billion. In addition to achieving performance targets for assets using the Facility Condition Index (FCI), proper support of Refuge System infrastructure is critical to achieving other performance targets for the entire range of mission accomplishments. These include wetland restoration, wildlife monitoring, and providing recreational opportunities for the public.

Preventive maintenance; including scheduled servicing, repairs, and parts replacement; results in fewer breakdowns and is required to achieve the expected life of facilities and equipment. Cyclic maintenance is preventive maintenance scheduled in periods greater than one year. Annual maintenance allows scheduled replacement of small equipment, defined as equipment of less than $5,000 in value, and addresses problems cost-effectively, before they grow in expense. The Youth Conservation Corps, a temporary employment program for high school youth, is also included under this category since much of their work supports annual maintenance.

Refuge System assets enable wildlife biologists to accomplish their mission and allow visitors to engage in wildlife dependent recreational activities. Biologists rely on well-serviced boats and vehicles to conduct wildlife surveys. Visitors rely on well-maintained hunting blinds, observation decks, piers, boardwalks, and roads to enjoy wildlife-dependent recreation. Annual maintenance activities directly support the Refuge System's wildlife and habitat mission, other Service programs such as Ecological Services and Migratory Birds, as well as the visitor services mission. Annual maintenance allows refuge units to provide the habitat required for desired species and provides safe access to visitors. Refuge Maintenance staff spend more than one-third of their work hours performing tasks to improve and maintain wildlife habitat or maintain fire breaks such as monitoring and manipulating water levels at wetland impoundments, mowing to maintain fields, removing invasive species, and prescribed burning.

Highlighted Activities:

Facilities Management

The overall facility infrastructure is valued at more than $27.5 billion as indicated in the following table.

Constructed Real Property Summary Accumulated for National as of January 31, 2013

Real Property Grouping	Total No. Assets Owned or Managed	No. Assets Over 50 Years Old	Current Replacement Value ($ millions)	No Assets with Deferred Maintenance	Total Deferred Maintenance ($ millions)	Overall Condition
Buildings	5,190	1,692	2,822.61	1,939	359.13	0.16
Dams	236	148	1,239.66	160	48.04	0.11
Levees	3,236	906	5,877.16	804	210.43	0.08
Non Public Use Roads	2,571	1,074	4,235.19	996	384.54	0.08
Non Public Use Trails	177	52	25.57	7	0.38	0.03
Other Structures	14,122	2,652	5,453.27	3,583	471.21	0.14
Other WCS	3,311	717	1,038.27	600	75.56	0.11
Public Use Roads	3,102	1,351	6,792.74	1,705	855.07	0.12
Public Use Trails	909	104	190.48	175	19.50	0.14
Totals	**32,854**	**8,696**	**27,674.67**	**9,969**	**2,423.30**	**0.12**

Note: Overall Condition rating is based on the Facility Condition Index (FCI) which is a measure of the ratio of the repair costs to the current replacement cost of each asset. An FCI of > 0.15 (15% of the value of the asset) is considered Unacceptable by Department of Interior standards.

Nationwide portfolio of Refuge System constructed facility assets as of January 31, 2013

Asset Groupings	Asset Count		Replacement Value		Deferred Maintenance	
	Number	% of Total	$ millions	% of Total	$ millions	% of Total
Buildings (admin, visitor, housing, maintenance, storage, etc.)	5,190	16%	2,823	10%	359	15%
Water Management Structures	6,783	21%	8,155	30%	334	14%
Roads Bridges and Trails	6,759	21%	11,244	40%	1,259	52%
Other Structures (visitor facilities, radio systems, fencing, others)	14,122	42%	5,453	20%	471	19%
Total	**32,854**	**100%**	**27,675**	**100%**	**2,423**	**100%**

The Service uses a strategic, portfolio based approach to manage these assets in a manner that informs decision making and maximizes efficient and effective mission delivery with an emphasis on prioritizing mission critical assets and assuring long-term protection of investments through long-term life cycle management. Using principles outlined in Executive Order 13327, Federal Real Property Asset Management, the Department's Capital Asset and Investment Control policy, and the Department's guidance for deferred maintenance and capital improvement plans, the Refuge System is managing its portfolio of facility and mobile equipment assets to:

- account for what it owns;

- determine the costs to operate and maintain each individual asset;
- track the condition of assets and the associated costs to correct deficiencies;
- plan and prioritize budgets to most effectively meet mission needs
- understand and plan life cycle costs for both existing and proposed new assets and
- dispose of any extraneous assets
- strive for environmentally friendly and sustainable business practices by seeking to reduce energy use and applying renewable energy strategies.

In managing available resources in the most cost effective manner the Service is taking the following actions:

For constructed facility assets:

- Focusing available resources on the highest priority needs in 5 year plans
- Strengthening the Service's use of mission dependency identification to assure that the most critical facility assets receive priority funding
- Applying standard facility design components to reduce the costs of project design
- Minimizing facility development in accomplishing mission goals
- Managing and replacing assets taking into account life-cycle management needs
- Appling energy conservation and renewable energy options to lower long-term operating costs
- Seeking innovative new options and authorities for constructing and managing facility assets
- Working with volunteers and partners to maximize the conservation benefits of facility assets

Equipment and Vehicle Fleet Management

In addition to managing an extensive facility infrastructure with 32,854 assets, the Service owns and maintains a variety of traditional and specialized mobile equipment items necessary to achieve its strategic goals. As of January 1, 2013, the small equipment fleet consists of about 14,886 items valued at $301 million, and the heavy equipment fleet consists of 1,909 items valued at $148 million. Most of the 5,000 vehicles used on refuges are four wheel drive trucks and utility vehicles used for firefighting, wildlife and habitat surveys, transporting equipment and tools to remote sites, and law enforcement. Considering approximately 90% of refuge roads are gravel or native surface, much of the vehicle use is on gravel roads. Extensive off-road use is also required. Thousands of refuge volunteers rely on refuge vehicles to accomplish their volunteer tasks. Agricultural, earthmoving, and construction equipment are used to maintain wetland impoundments and roads; enhance areas for wildlife habitat; control invasive plants; and maintain and construct modest visitor facilities such as boardwalks, observation platforms, tour routes, and nature trails. Smaller, specialized equipment such as all-terrain vehicles, aircrafts, boats, small tractors and snowmobiles are needed to access remote or rugged areas. Vehicles are also crucial on most refuges for law enforcement, public safety and wildlife surveys

Refuges use a variety of equipment including this glider used to guide Whooping Cranes. Photo credit Keith Ramos.

To apply available resources in the most cost effective manner the Service is taking the following actions

For mobile equipment assets:

- Reducing petroleum consumption for vehicles
- Increasing use of alternate fuel vehicles
- Using equipment sharing across multiple locations where feasible
- Using equipment rental when more cost-effective than ownership
- Providing reliable transportation and equipment to the full range of permanent and temporary staff as well as volunteers and cooperators
- Providing safety training to maximize safe operation

Energy Management

Energy conservation, reduction of energy costs and application of renewable energy sources is a current priority associated with management of Service facility assets. Approximately $8,000,000 was devoted to renewable energy measures in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). As deferred maintenance projects are completed, sustainable energy measures are incorporated to reduce annual Operations and Maintenance costs and to help reduce dependence upon petroleum based energy. These efforts also reduce the carbon footprint of the Refuge System in furtherance of goals established in the Service's January 2011 Carbon Mitigation Report. In response to Executive Order 13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management, and the Service goal of becoming a Carbon neutral agency, the Service is assessing its energy use and opportunities for investments to boost energy efficiency and implement renewable energy sources in many of its locations. Energy audits will help identify needed actions and performance measurements such as return on investment, reduce O&M costs, and reduce energy intensity as measured in BTU's/Gross Square foot. The identified needed actions will help the Service prioritize the actions it will take.

Managing Service Assets

The Service is using financial and performance data to improve its management of facility infrastructure and its mobile equipment fleet. The Service asset management plan aids in management of assets, based on workload drivers including General Services Administration useful life standards, geographic location, utilization patterns, and generally accepted asset management principles.

The Service considers costs and benefits when allocating maintenance funding for these assets. The Service Asset and Maintenance Management System (SAMMS) identifies assets that can most effectively be maintained by simultaneously applying an Asset Priority Index (API) and a Facility Condition Index (FCI). Using the FCI, which is a measure of the ratio of the repair cost to the current replacement cost for each asset, in combination with the Asset Priority Index (API), which indicates the relative importance of an asset to accomplishing its mission, provides valuable information to prioritize the use of maintenance funding. With this information, scoring mechanisms are applied that consider critical health and safety, enabling managers to see where they should apply funding to most efficiently manage the entire asset portfolio. This insight into asset management enables managers to make better cost/benefit decisions about related matters like lease space and new construction projects. The Service is using SAMMS as the system of record to document assessments, facility maintenance histories, and maintenance schedules to improve its overall FCI and to reduce out year project costs.

Regular condition assessments of assets and their contribution to the Service mission assure that information used to allocate funding will contribute to effective asset management. By completing assessments for all facilities, the Service improved its ability to provide maintenance, repair, and, where required, replacement costs with greater accuracy. Annual Operations and Maintenance (O&M) cost data for each asset has been collected since 2005 in the Federal Real Property Profile. Collecting this data has helped the Service identify opportunities for energy efficiency, disposal of unneeded assets, replacement, and other cost saving measures. Asset managers are also identifying opportunities to

employ energy conservation and renewable energy strategies within the Refuge System. Energy conservation and renewable energy opportunities are a regular part of planning and completing deferred maintenance projects.

The program elements for this subactivity are:

Refuge Maintenance Support
Refuge Maintenance Support includes salaries and associated funding for maintenance staff at refuge field stations. Maintenance staff supports all refuge programs by maintaining functional facilities and reliable equipment, and by performing tasks such as mowing fields to enhance habitat, removing unwanted woody vegetation from wetland impoundments, and controlling invasive plants. Ongoing maintenance of visitor facilities including roads, trails, and a variety of small facilities provides visitors with appropriate access to refuge lands and ensures a positive visitor experience.

Annual Maintenance and Youth Conservation Corps
According to the *Sustainable Building Technical Manual*, over a 30 year period, initial building costs amount to only about one-third of a building's total operations and maintenance costs. Annual maintenance encompasses all ongoing non-staff expenditures needed to keep the Service's facility portfolio and mobile equipment fleet functioning for its intended purpose. Annual maintenance includes: 1) utilities, custodial care, and snow removal for offices, administrative, and visitor center buildings; 2) repairing system failures in the year they occur; and 3) preventive and cyclic maintenance. Preventive maintenance-- including scheduled servicing, repairs, and parts replacement-- results in fewer breakdowns and is necessary to achieve the expected life of facilities and equipment. Cyclic maintenance is preventive maintenance scheduled in periods greater than one year. Annual maintenance addresses problems cost-effectively, before they grow in expense. The Youth Conservation Corps, a temporary employment program for high school youth, is also included under this category since much of their work supports annual maintenance.

Small Equipment and Fleet Management
The Small Equipment and Fleet Management program facilitates the acquisition, repair, and disposal of equipment valued from $5,000 to over $25,000 including passenger vehicles and pickup trucks. It also includes a rental and leasing program that provides a cost-effective alternative to purchasing equipment, particularly for short-term needs to complete vital projects, while limiting the maintenance cost of the equipment fleet.

As it is difficult to access a wide variety of off-road areas to include remote and rough terrain, and all types of water bodies, the Service needs a wide variety of vehicles and equipment to meet mission needs, environmental mandates, and to serve as an example for the efficient use of public assets. This includes about 9,000 small equipment items including all-terrain vehicles, boats and motors, pumps, generators, trailers, agricultural implements, and similar equipment. Most of the 5,000 refuge vehicles are used for firefighting, wildlife and habitat surveys, transporting equipment to remote work sites, and transporting volunteers. About 1,600 units of agricultural equipment are used to manage habitats, maintain roads and levees and preclude growth of undesirable vegetation.

Federal mandates require all federal agencies to reduce petroleum fuel use by two percent per year, as compared to their levels in 2005, through the year 2020, thereby reducing petroleum fuel use by 30%. Petroleum fuel reduction mandates, more than any other factor, will drive fleet management practices through 2020. Therefore, the Service is attempting to replace older, inefficient vehicles, with more fuel efficient models. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding from the General Services Administration made it possible for the Service to replace more than 400 of its vehicles in 2009. Combined with normal vehicle acquisitions, the Service replaced 10% of its fleet which was the largest

single vehicle acquisition and replacement year ever for the Service. As a result, the Service's petroleum fuel use decreased by approximately 185,000 gallons per year.

Inventory of Refuge System Small Equipment and Vehicles as of January 1, 2013

Small Equipment and Vehicles	Total Units	Original Cost (millions)	Current Replacement Cost (millions)	Average Year of Purchase	# Units Exceeding Useful Life	% Units Exceeding Useful Life
Ag/Construction	1,610	$21.2	$23.3	1995	775	48%
Implements/ Attachments/Trailers	4,039	$35.5	$44.7	2001	1,645	40%
Off Road Utility Vehicles	2,345	$19.4	$23.7	2002	1,013	43%
Pumps / Power Units	331	$5.4	$6.9	1993	177	53%
Boats	970	$33.7	$41.5	1989	204	21%
Vehicles – Passenger	303	8.7	9.3	2008	80	26%
Vehicles – Trucks & Tractors	5,288	177.5	201.0	2006	2,708	51%
Total	14,886	$301.4	$357.9		6,602	

Heavy Equipment Management

Heavy equipment management includes acquisition, repair, and disposal of heavy equipment which is any equipment item exceeding $25,000 in replacement cost, excluding passenger vehicles and light trucks. This program element also includes a rental and leasing program to provide a cost-effective alternative to purchasing new equipment. Equipment rental allows completion of vital projects while limiting the size and cost of the heavy equipment fleet.

Heavy Equipment Management funds optimize the management of equipment to meet mission needs, environmental mandates, and serve as an example for the efficient use of public assets. The Service owns more than 2,000 heavy equipment assets with a combined replacement value of about $183 million. The Service depends on reliable heavy equipment since 3.5 million acres are managed each year through water control, tillage, mowing, invasive species control, or farming for habitat management, wildfire prevention, and other goals. Providing access to refuge lands and facilities by maintaining a variety of access roads is vital to all aspects of conservation land management. Visitor programs rely on heavy equipment for maintenance of roads, trails, boat ramps, and facilities, as well as enhancing habitat for wildlife in particular areas.

Heavy Equipment Inventory as of January 1, 2013

Heavy Equipment	Total Units	Original Cost (millions)	Current Replacement Costs (millions)	Average Year of Purchase	# Units Exceeding Useful Life	% Units Exceeding Useful Life
Bulldozers	345	$37.1	$54.5	1997	150	43%
Backhoes	309	$18.7	$30.1	2000	99	32%
Cranes	18	$1.6	$2.1	1986	12	67%
Excavators	159	$21.6	$34.1	2002	39	24%
4WD Loaders	174	$13.7	$26.1	1999	50	28%
Graders	234	$23.5	$46.8	1995	91	38%
Compact Track Loader	157	$8.0	$8.2	2000	18	11%

Heavy Equipment Inventory as of January 1, 2013

Heavy Equipment	Total Units	Original Cost (millions)	Current Replacement Costs (millions)	Average Year of Purchase	# Units Exceeding Useful Life	% Units Exceeding Useful Life
Skid Steer	119	$3.5	$4.3	1999	19	16%
Specialty Wheeled	43	$2.3	$3.1	1990	30	69%
Specialty Tracked	122	$11.8	$14.9	1992	46	37%
Forklifts	255	$6.5	$8.1	1993	160	62%
Total	1,909	$148.3	$232.3		706	

Deferred Maintenance Projects

Deferred Maintenance projects include repair, rehabilitation, disposal, and replacement of facilities. Only those projects that have already been delayed beyond their scheduled maintenance or replacement date are included in Deferred Maintenance. Projects that have not reached their scheduled date are not included in Deferred Maintenance. Major building components such as roofs have a scheduled replacement date; if funds are not available for the component to be replaced as scheduled, the project falls into the Deferred Maintenance category. The Service maintains an inventory of Deferred Maintenance and capital improvement needs for all field stations consistent with Federal Accounting Standards. Available funds are directed to the highest priority projects based upon Facility Condition Index (FCI), a ratio of repair cost to replacement cost, and Asset Priority Index (API), an indicator of individual assets' contribution to the refuge system mission, in accordance with the DOI guidance on Deferred Maintenance and capital improvement plans. Ranking scores are currently derived from ten DOI-wide priority ranking factors. The Deferred Maintenance category funds both Service engineers and temporary staff working on Deferred Maintenance projects.

This bulldozer at Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in North Carolina is just one of many types of heavy equipment used on national wildlife refuges to create and maintain adequate wildlife habitat and visitor access.

In the past, the Refuge Roads program provided $29,000,000 per year from the Federal Highway Administration to assist in maintaining refuge public use roads (defined as public roads, bridges, and parking areas). The new Transportation authorization replaces the Refuge Roads Program with the Fish and Wildlife Service Transportation Program, and makes National Fish Hatchery public use roads eligible for funding. The new authorization level is $30,000,000 million per year.

Deferred Maintenance Backlog Reported in CFO Audit (Actual Dollars)

End of Fiscal Year	DM Backlog	Increase/Decrease
2002	1,300,000,000	NA
2003	1,180,000,000	-120,000,000
2004	1,510,500,000	330,500,000
2005	2,040,500,000	530,000,000
2006	1,530,773,712	-509,726,288
2007	2,482,588,534	951,814,822
2008	2,495,752,018	13,163,484
2009	2,710,782,879	215,030,861
2010	2,706,402,236	-4,380,643

End of Fiscal Year	DM Backlog	Increase/Decrease
2011	2,544,517,841	-161,884,395
2012	2,397,390,016	-147,127,825

The Refuge System was able to decrease the deferred maintenance backlog by $147 million during FY2012 by continuing to refine its condition assessment process, using maintenance action teams, actively pursuing local partnerships, carefully prioritizing budgets, and disposing of unneeded assets.

Impacts of Natural Disasters

Between FY 2005 and FY 2012, the National Wildlife Refuge System sustained more than $600 million in storm damages from natural disasters. The Refuge System received less than $257 million in Emergency Supplemental funding for natural disaster damages between FY 2005 and FY 2012. The remaining $355 million is now included in the Refuge System Deferred Maintenance backlog. The cumulative appropriation for Deferred Maintenance from FY 2005 through FY 2012 was $335 million.

This picture reveals the total devastation of the visitor center at McFadden National Wildlife Refuge in Texas as a result of Hurricane Ike.

Regional and Central Support

The regional and central office support element includes management and coordination of the facility and equipment maintenance and improvement effort at the regional and national level. Primary support activities include:

- Management and technical support for implementing SAMMS, the corporate data system of record. Costs include maintaining and refining software, managing databases and servers, providing support via a help desk, and training personnel to use the software.
- Completing condition assessments of 20 percent of capitalized facilities at field stations each year to ensure that real property data is accurate and complete. This program supports decision making for facility management, and provides technical support and short term assistance for deferred maintenance projects.
- Developing and implementing 5-year maintenance plans, including coordinating and reporting on project completions.
- Planning and implementing major maintenance and capital improvement efforts including development of budget plans, monitoring annual O&M costs, executing deferred maintenance

projects and related costs, coordinating energy conservation initiatives, prioritizing needs across multiple field locations, responding to major health and safety issues, and identifying and disposing of assets that are not mission-dependent.

- Managing a heavy equipment program including operator safety training, budget planning, consolidated purchasing of replacement equipment, and coordination of equipment rental.

Impact of ARRA Funding on Requested Deferred Maintenance Projects

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 provided the Service with a unique opportunity to accelerate work on Deferred Maintenance projects and brought much needed facility infrastructure funding to the Service. A total of nearly $210 million in facility repair or improvement projects were funded. They included $132 million for deferred maintenance projects, $10 million for repair of public use roads, $8 million for energy improvements, and $60 million for capital improvements. ARRA funds contributed to the Service's goal of improving the condition of its facility assets; however, significant needs remain.

2014 Program Performance

The 2014 budget request would support maintenance staffing for field stations, as well as provide annual preventive maintenance, including funds for supplies, materials, and contracts. These funds will allow the Refuge System to repair facilities and equipment, and perform regular annual maintenance on schedule.

The budget would also support replacement of mobile equipment assets and allow initiation of more than 200 deferred maintenance projects which would improve the condition of Service assets as measured by the FCI. These funds would allow the Refuge System to fund projects to repair facilities and equipment within the year in which deficiencies occur and perform cyclical maintenance on schedule, ensuring that cyclic projects do not become deferred maintenance.

The Refuge System would use its ongoing condition assessment program to focus maintenance activities on highest priority needs. By completing an assessment of all facilities every five years, the Refuge System improves its ability to apply maintenance, repair, and where required, replacement funds with greater accuracy. Under this subactivity, the Refuge System would also continue use of the SAMMS database to reduce these costs through improved management.

The Refuge System would continue to use maintenance funding to support refuge operations. The facilities and equipment utilized on refuges contribute to wildlife and habitat management goals, and help maintain the vast majority of Refuge System acreage in desirable condition. Maintenance funding would also support Visitor Services by enabling visitors to access refuge lands and ensuring the safety of visitors using observation decks, trails, hunting blinds, fishing piers, and more. These facilities would help provide more than 47 million visitors with high quality, wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities.

Migratory Bird Management

Activity: Conservation, Enforcement and Science
Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Conservation and Monitoring	($000)	*29,709*	29,193	+465	-63	+462	30,057
	FTE	*138*	139	0	0	+3	142
Avian Health and Disease	($000)	*2,866*	3,828	+13	-10	-2,189	1,642
	FTE	*12*	14	0	0	-4	10
Permits	($000)	*3,592*	3,564	+63	-14	+5	3,618
	FTE	*37*	37	0	0	0	37
Federal Duck Stamp	($000)	*597*	843	+11	-2	-250	602
	FTE	*2*	2	0	0	0	2
North American Waterfowl Management/Joint Ventures	($000)	*14,092*	14,025	+109	-22	+31	14,143
	FTE	*54*	54	0	0	0	54
Total, Migratory Bird Management	**($000)**	***50,856***	**51,453**	**+661**	**-111**	**-1,941**	**50,062**
	FTE	***243***	**246**	**0**	**0**	**-1**	**245**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Program Overview

The Service has a legal mandate and trust responsibility to maintain healthy migratory bird populations for the benefit of the American public. More than 25 laws, treaties, and conventions authorize the Service to conserve more than 1,000 species of migratory birds and their habitats. Primary among these mandates is the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, which establishes federal responsibility for protecting and managing migratory birds. It also implements four international treaties affecting migratory birds common to the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan and the former Soviet Union.

Because the MBTA prevents unregulated take of migratory birds, their parts, nests, eggs and other products, it underlies much of the Migratory Bird Program's conservation planning and many of its management activities, including establishing hunting seasons, bag limits, and other regulations and issuing permits to possess or use migratory birds. Other important laws that directly and significantly impact program activities include the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668), which provides additional protection for those birds, and the North American Wetlands Conservation and Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Acts, which promote habitat and bird conservation across North America and throughout the western hemisphere.

The Division of Migratory Bird Management, Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, Regional Migratory Bird offices, Joint Ventures, the Duck Stamp Office and the FWS Office of Aviation Management make up the Service's Migratory Bird Program. These units work together, and with other Service programs, federal and state agencies, tribes, and nongovernmental partners to increase the effectiveness of migratory bird programs on the landscape. For example, through the Service's Cooperative Recovery Initiative, the Migratory Bird Program contributes survey data to provide accurate, comprehensive status and trend information with the Endangered Species, Refuges, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Science, and Fisheries programs to help recover endangered species on and around National Wildlife Refuges.

Using sound science and collaborative partnerships, the Service works to increase the number of migratory bird populations that are healthy and sustainable, prevent bird populations from declining and requiring further protection under the Endangered Species Act, and conserve habitats necessary to support these populations. To accomplish these objectives, staff routinely:

- Develop and implement surveys and other monitoring and assessment activities to determine the status of numerous migratory bird populations;
- Formulate regulations and administer permits for activities such as hunting, scientific research, rehabilitation of injured birds, education, falconry, taxidermy, and control of overabundant species;
- Manage grants across the Western Hemisphere that implement on-the-ground habitat protection, restoration, and enhancement and other conservation activities for the benefit of migratory birds;
- Implement strategic management planning, action, and evaluation to increase the effectiveness of migratory bird conservation at regional, national, and international landscape scales;
- Develop and implement scientifically based management strategies to improve the population status of focal species populations;
- Coordinate efforts to reduce bird mortalities resulting from fisheries by-catch, pesticides, collisions with communication towers, wind turbines, transmission lines, and buildings, as well as other human-related causes;
- Participate in international treaty negotiations related to migratory birds;
- Reach out to a diverse constituency that pursues, enjoys, observes, and studies migratory birds and encourage public involvement in bird conservation activities such as International Migratory Day, the Federal Duck Stamp program, the Junior Duck Stamp program, Urban Bird Conservation Treaties, and managed harvest opportunities;
- Develop and maintain collaborative partnerships with Federal, State, and municipal agencies and non-government organizations to further migratory bird conservation, education, and recreational opportunities;
- Support international partners to expand and manage shared migratory bird resources through continental-scale projects and programs; and
- Participate in early detection and response planning programs intended to address a broad spectrum of infectious and noninfectious diseases impacting migratory bird species.

A female Common eider with satellite transmitter implant. These birds are being tracked to determine migration patterns and the potential distribution of Wellfleet Bay virus. Photo by: Joshua Beuth, University of Rhode Island.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program Element: Conservation and Monitoring

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Conservation and Monitoring	($000)	*29,709*	29,193	+465	-63	+462	30,057
	FTE	*138*	139	0	0	+3	142

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Migratory Bird Conservation and Monitoring

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Renewable Energy	+750	+7
• Cooperative Recovery	+500	0
• General Program Activities	-788	-4
Program Changes	**+462**	**+3**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Conservation and Monitoring is $30,057,000 and 142 FTE, a net program change of +$462,000 and +3 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Renewable Energy (+$750,000 /+7 FTE)

Energy development is a strategic priority for the Service as the nation seeks to address economic, environmental, and national security challenges related to energy. This funding will help the Service address increasing requests from the renewable energy industry for regulatory and conservation guidance. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the American Revitalization and Restoration Act provided financial incentives to accelerate the development, testing, and deployment of alternative energy technologies. An unintended consequence of these measures was a dramatic increase in workload for Service field offices responding responsibly to permit requests for compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) from the energy industry. In order to expedite technical assistance and consultation, requested funds will be used to address this burgeoning workload to ensure renewable energy projects are planned, developed, and operated in ways that are compatible with conservation of federal trust resources. The Service will develop decision tools, such as the Rapid Assessment Methodology (RAM), as well as information on species ranges and best management practices, that can be integrated into the Service's Information Planning and Consultations (IPaC) system. This will assist in assessing impacts, proper siting, and determining appropriate conservation measures for best management practices. These efforts will contribute to several of our performance measures, including the number of management actions taken to reduce the incidental take of migratory birds.

Cooperative Recovery (+$500,000/+0 FTE)

This funding will support a cross-programmatic partnership approach to complete planning, restoration, and management actions addressing current threats to endangered species in areas of strategic importance for conservation of listed species. The focus will be on implementing recovery actions for species near delisting or reclassification from endangered to threatened and actions that are urgently needed for critically endangered species. The Migratory Bird Program will participate in this Cooperative Recovery Initiative by combining our resources with those of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, the Fisheries Program, the Science Program and the Endangered Species Program through a national, proposal-driven process to identify and implement the highest priority

projects. Performance measures are being identified for selected projects; the Service anticipates being able to support approximately 10 recovery actions with its contribution.

General Program Activities (-$788,000 /-4 FTE)

The Service proposes to redirect some of its general program funds to fund higher priority conservation activities. The Service will eliminate or reduce the scope of low priority surveys. The surveys are ranked according to who uses them (state and local governments and other partners) and for what purpose..

Program Overview

Conservation, monitoring, and assessment are the integral activities that define the Service's key role in addressing treaty mandates for migratory birds. Monitoring is a basic component of the Service's trust responsibility for North America's migratory birds and the Service is a world-renowned leader in this effort. Monitoring is essential to inform a science-based approach to bird conservation and is critical to the Service's ongoing efforts to improve the status of Birds of Management Concern, including focal species. The ability to monitor bird populations allows the Service to evaluate the effectiveness of management actions, identify population shifts due to climate change and other factors, and make informed decisions about management plans and regulations. In addition, monitoring provides the information needed to assess the landscape impacts of energy and other development activities on migratory bird populations.

A Whimbrel banded by Service biologists and colleagues in southern Chile was seen at Mystic Lake, California, enroute to its breeding grounds in Alaska. Photo by Chet McGaugh, "Birder"

Survey and assessment information is also critical to the conservation and management of migratory birds. Government and non-government resource managers, researchers and other conservation professionals depend on the Service's migratory bird surveys and assessment capabilities to provide accurate, comprehensive population status and trend information. The Service conducts extensive surveys across the breeding grounds of North American waterfowl each year and produces a *Waterfowl Status Report* documenting changes for ducks and geese. The Service and our partners also periodically conduct extensive surveys of nongame Focal Species, including Snowy Plover and Black Oystercatcher to provide comprehensive status information necessary to understand population response to management actions and environmental variation.

Other Federal and State agencies rely heavily on the results of annual assessments to inform their management and budgeting decisions about migratory birds within their jurisdictions. Survey data are essential for identifying and prioritizing management actions, research needs and providing a scientific, informed basis for effective long-term migratory bird conservation and management on a national and international scale. Each year the Service uses our North American waterfowl population monitoring data to set harvest regulations in a framework of Adaptive Resource Management. Many of the Service's migratory bird databases are shared via the Migratory Bird Data Center at https://migbirdapps.fws.gov

Although many entities support or are involved in activities related to bird conservation, the Service's Migratory Bird Program is the only entity, public or private, with the specific responsibility to address the range-wide spectrum of issues, problems, and interests related to migratory bird protection, conservation, and management. To accomplish such a significant task, the Migratory Bird Program coordinates and supports a number of multi-partner conservation efforts. Through Executive Order 13186

- *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies To Protect Migratory Birds* that promotes the federal stewardship of migratory birds we partner with other Federal agencies to develop Memoranda of Understanding. In 2012, the Service signed two new agreements, one with the Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Services and the Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The Service also works closely with state and provincial wildlife agencies to administer migratory bird resources and direct the hunting regulations process. The Migratory Bird Program coordinates the efforts of a large number of national and international governmental and private partners by leading shorebird, waterbird, and landbird initiatives.

The importance of public agency partnerships (both at the Federal and State level) was underscored recently in the "State of the Birds, Report on Public Lands and Waters", our nation's first assessment of the distribution of birds on public lands and waters. This report demonstrates the tremendous potential for federal and state agencies to work together to sustain the diversity and abundance of the nation's birds. More than 1,000 species of birds rely on our public lands and waters for nesting, foraging, or resting, and there is encouraging evidence that targeted conservation efforts are making a difference for species that had been declining

Based on the Service's long legacy of waterfowl surveys, migratory bird program staff is working closely with partners from other federal agencies, States, NGOs, and universities to lead monitoring efforts that will help answer important continental landscape questions. For example, secretive marshbirds that rely on emergent wetlands, are threatened by loss of their habitats across the United States. The Service and its partners are collaborating on a multi-faceted investigative program that will guide informed decision making to implement biological planning and conservation delivery to benefit these and other birds. The data will help inform the regulation of harvest for hunted marsh birds, and the interventions and investments needed for some of these highly imperiled species.

Migratory Birds Conservation and Monitoring - Performance Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
6.1.3.2 total # of management actions targeted that address focal species	95	148	149	139	132	122	-17 (-12.2%)	0
Comments	With reduced Program funding we anticipate the number of individual management actions addressing focal species will be reduced.							
6.1.6 # of management actions taken that annually address Birds of Management Concern, excluding focal species actions	198	282	244	233	207	200	-33 (-14.2%)	0
Comments	With reduced program funding and other FWS higher conservation priorities, we anticipate the number of individual management actions addressing Birds of Management Concern will be reduced.							
15.7.2.1 # of management actions completed	185	183	180	174	165	160	-14 (-8.0%)	0
Comments	With reduced Program funding we anticipate the number of individual management actions that support sport hunting or falconry will be reduced.							

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruin g in Out-years
15.8.12 # of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported	39	74	100	114	70	75	-39 (-34.2%)	0
Comments	We estimated the number of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported will be reduced.							

Migratory Birds Conservation and Monitoring - Performance Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 6.1 Percent of all migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels (GPRA)	62.3% (568 of 912)	72.0% (725 of 1,007)	72.1% (726 of 1,007)	72.1% (726 of 1,007)	72.1% (726 of 1,007)	72.1% (726 of 1,007)	0%	71.2% (728 of 1,022)
Comments	During FY2010, the List of Migratory Birds published in the Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR § 10.13) was updated. The change reflects an update of best scientific understanding and taxonomic organization of bird species and is used to determine how many species are defined as "migratory birds" for this measure.							
6.1.3.2 total # of management actions targeted that address focal species	95	148	149	139	132	122	-17 (-12%)	135
Comments	With reduced Program funding we anticipate the number of individual management actions addressing focal species will be reduced.							
6.1.6 # of management actions taken that annually address Birds of Management Concern, excluding focal species actions	198	282	244	233	207	200	-33 (-14%)	245
Comments	With reduced Program funding and other FWS higher conservation priorities, we anticipate the number of individual management actions addressing Birds of Management Concern will be reduced.							
15.7.2.1 # of management actions completed	185	183	180	174	165	160	-14 (-8%)	175
Comments	With reduced Program funding we anticipate the number of individual management actions that support sport hunting or falconry will be reduced.							
15.8.12 # of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported	39	74	100	114	70	75	-39 (-34%)	50
Comments	We estimated the number of bird-related outreach or educational venues conducted or supported will be reduced.							

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program Element: Avian Health and Disease

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Avian Health and Disease	($000)	*2,866*	3,828	+13	-10	-2,189	1,642
	FTE	*12*	14	0	0	-4	10

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Avian Health and Disease

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	-2,189	-4
Program Changes	**-2,189**	**-4**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Avian Health and Disease is $1,642,000 and 10 FTE, a net program change of -$2,189,000 and -4 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Avian Health and Disease Program (-$2,189,000/-4 FTE)

The Service is shifting management of wildlife health issues to the Science program, and is phasing out the separate funding for Avian Health and Disease. In 2011, the Avian Health program was redesigned to address all avian disease concerns in an effort to break the cycle of short-term, reactionary approaches to one disease emergency at a time by providing a stable, long-term, prepared, and proactive resource. This year we are expanding that concept to wildlife health in general and focusing on wildlife health on a landscape scale or in the context of an ecosystem.

Program Overview

The Migratory Bird Program established a nationwide Avian Health and Disease Program that focuses on monitoring infectious and non-infectious diseases within wild bird populations. The objectives of the program are to conduct health and disease surveillance of wild bird populations in order to:

- establish avian health baselines,
- identify existing and emerging avian health and disease risks,
- ensure disease preparedness and prevention, and
- develop, guide, and implement appropriate and effective management actions.

In addition to providing information on avian health, this program serves as an early warning system for diseases which have the potential to impact humans, as well as poultry and livestock agri-businesses.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program Element: Permits

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Permits	($000)	*3,592*	3,564	+63	-14	+5	3,618
	FTE	*37*	37	0	0	0	37

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Permits

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	+5	0
Program Changes	**+5**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Permits Program is $3,618,000 and 37 FTE, a net program change of +$5,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Permits (+$5,000/ +0 FTE)

The Service is requesting a slight increase to the Permits program to fully support existing activities.

Program Overview

Under the authorities of the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (16 U.S.C. 703-712, MBTA), the Service is responsible for regulating activities associated with migratory birds. The *Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 668, BGEPA) provides additional protections to Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles. The MBTA and the BGEPA are the primary acts that address conservation of migratory birds and only allow their taking, killing, possession or sale with authorization, generally by permit. The take of migratory birds for purposes other than hunting is administered through the permitting system at 50 CFR parts 21and 22.

Cooper's Hawk with a bird band and transmitter, which is a type of migratory bird permit the FWS helps USGS administer. Photo by, Brian Millsap, USFWS

The mission of the Migratory Bird Permits Program is to promote the long-term sustainability of migratory bird populations while providing opportunities for the public to study, use, and enjoy migratory birds consistent with the provisions of the MBTA and the BGEPA. Regulations authorizing take and possession of migratory birds focus on a number of allowable activities: scientific study, depredation control, falconry, raptor propagation, rehabilitation of injured birds, educational use, taxidermy, waterfowl sale, Native American religious use of eagles, and other purposes. The permits are administered by the eight Regional Migratory Bird Permit Offices, which process more than 15,000 applications annually. Native American eagle feather possession permits are valid indefinitely; most other permits are valid for 1 to 5 years. Approximately 49,000 permits are valid at any time.

The Service is helping facilitate sustainable renewable energy development through revisions of regulations permitting the take of golden and bald eagles in otherwise lawful situations. The Service is also finalizing guidance consistent within the provisions of the MBTA and the BGEPA that will enable permit applications to assess and minimize the potential impact of projects on eagles.

Policy and regulations are developed by the Division of Migratory Bird Management at the Headquarters level. Sound science is a fundamental component of migratory bird permit polices and decisions. Computer technologies, such as the Service's Permits Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS), provide a tool for issuing permits and help monitor cumulative impacts to migratory bird populations. Policy and regulation development focuses on clarifying and streamlining regulatory requirements and on related issues, such as providing Native Americans opportunities to exercise their religious traditions.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program Element: Federal Duck Stamp Program

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Federal Duck Stamp	($000)	*597*	843	+11	-2	-250	602
	FTE	*2*	2	0	0	0	2

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Federal Duck Stamp Program

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Junior Duck Stamp Program	-250	0
Program Changes	**-250**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Federal Duck Stamp Program is $602,000 and 2 FTE, a net program change of -$250,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Junior Duck Stamp Program (-$250,000/+0 FTE)

In order to fund higher priorities, the Service proposes to eliminate direct funding for the Junior Duck Stamp Program. Funding for the National Junior Duck Stamp coordinator position will be eliminated. No appropriated funds will be available to regional and state Junior Duck Stamp coordinators for administrative expenses such as travel and salary, or for monitoring the distribution, use, and effectiveness of the new Junior Duck Stamp curriculum.

Program Overview

The 2012-2013 Duck Stamp

The Federal Duck Stamp program, an internationally recognized and emulated program, supports conservation of important migratory bird habitat within the National Wildlife Refuge System through the sale of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (commonly known as the Duck Stamp). The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act (U.S.C. 718-718j, 48 Stat. 452 amended March 16, 1934) requires waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older to possess a valid Federal Duck Stamp when hunting. Many non-hunters also buy Federal Duck Stamps to support wetland habitat conservation, as 98% of these funds are used to purchase wetland habitat.

In 2011, Duck Stamps sales totaled nearly $25 million. Since 1934 the stamps have raised more than $850 million for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, enabling the protection of more than 5.6 million acres of prime waterfowl habitat. Lands acquired with Duck Stamp dollars also provide Americans with opportunities to enjoy the outdoors by engaging in activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking and wildlife watching, key components of the Administration's America's Great Outdoors Initiative.

The Administration's FY 2014 budget request proposes to increase the price of the Federal Duck Stamp from $15 to $25. Since the last price increase in 1991, land prices have increased, but the buying power of the Duck Stamp has not kept pace. If the price of the Duck Stamp were to increase to $25, the Service

could acquire approximately 7,000 additional waterfowl habitat acres in fee and approximately 10,000 additional conservation easement acres annually.

The 2012-2013 Duck Stamp features Minnesota artist Joseph Hautman's painting of a wood duck. The issuance of the 2012 stamp also marks the fifth year the Service continued to sell Duck Stamps in eight participating states through the Electronic Duck Stamp (E-Stamp) pilot. The E-Stamp program is a valuable customer service tool, making Duck Stamps available in a quick and convenient manner. The acceptance of this initiative has been clearly demonstrated by the growth in E-Stamp sales from 58,000 in the pilot's first year (2007) to more than 375,000 in 2011. The sales period is July through June. As of February, 2013, sales of the 2012-2013 E-Stamp already exceed 400,000.

Since 1989, the Junior Duck Stamp Program has provided an art and science-based environmental education curriculum to help teach wildlife conservation to American schoolchildren. As our nation's population has become more urban, children are increasingly disconnected from, and uninterested in the outdoors and the natural world, a cultural phenomenon termed "nature deficit disorder." The Junior Duck Stamp Program promotes an increased appreciation for the outdoors and fosters environmental stewardship amongst youngsters, while providing educators with tools to teach about nature and encouraging conservation activities. Annual program participation ranges from approximately 25,000 to 30,000 students.

In FY 2012, the Service introduced an updated Junior Duck Stamp curriculum. This new curriculum includes state-of-the-art technology, social networking tools, and current scientific information (for example, the impacts of rising sea levels on coastal wetland habitats). Additionally, it is designed to be multi-culturally relevant and incorporates information about careers in nature and conservation. It also maintains its heritage with the opportunity for students to submit artwork for inclusion in their State's Junior Duck Stamp art competition In 2012 at the National Junior Duck Stamp art contest, Ohio native Christine Clayton's painting of a northern pintail duck took top honors from the 50 State winners.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management
Program Element: North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP)/Joint Ventures

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
North American Waterfowl Management/Joint Ventures	($000)	*14,092*	14,025	+109	-22	+31	14,143
	FTE	*54*	54	0	0	0	54

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for North American Waterfowl Management Plan/JVs

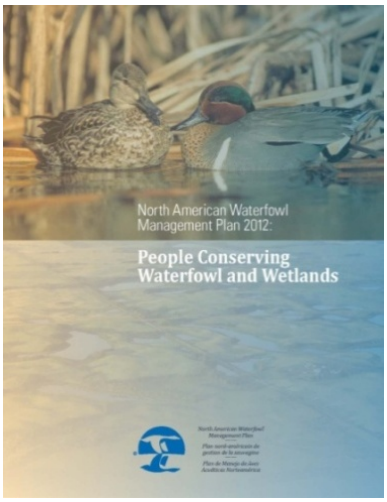
Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Joint Ventures	+31	0
Program Changes	**+31**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan / Joint Ventures Program is $14,143,000 and 54 FTE, a net program change of +$31,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

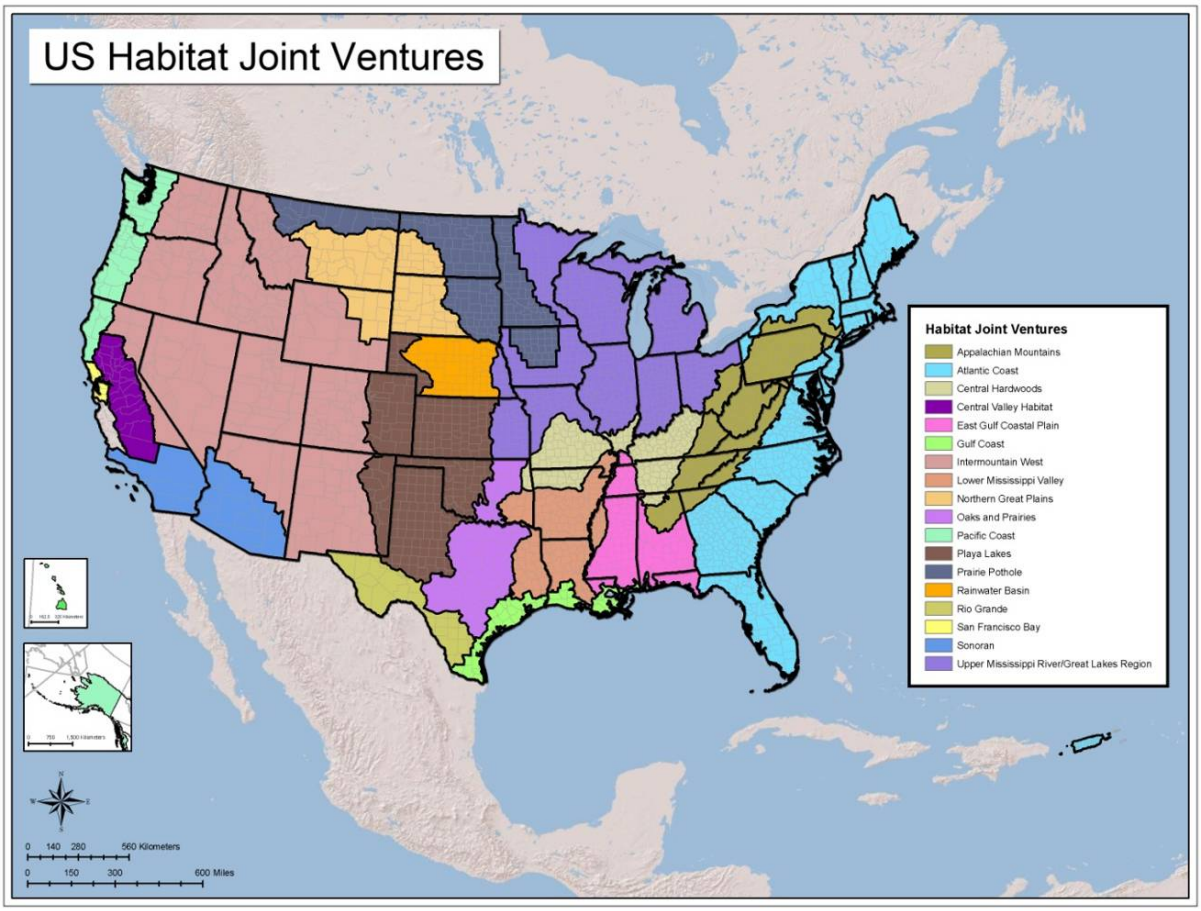
Joint Ventures (+$31,000/ +0 FTE)
This funding request permits Joint Ventures to continue support of ongoing landscape conservation planning and habitat projects that benefit populations of migratory birds, maintain the application of regionally-based adaptation strategies among multiple partners including state agencies, local governments, private corporations and landowners, as well as non-profit organizations, and develop effective adaptation strategies for migratory birds in response to threats resulting from habitat loss, climate change, and other impacts on the landscape.

Program Overview



The North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP or Plan) is an international accord signed by the U.S. and Canada in 1986 and by Mexico in 1994. Addressing waterfowl management across North America, the NAWMP has for 26 years helped to sustain abundant waterfowl populations by conserving landscapes through partnerships guided by sound science.

The habitat goals of the Plan are primarily implemented by migratory bird Joint Ventures, regional, self-directed partnerships involving Federal, State, and local governments, corporations, individuals, and non-government conservation groups. Eighteen U.S. habitat-based Joint Ventures and three species-specific Joint Ventures address local, regional, and continental goals for sustaining migratory bird populations by developing landscape conservation plans and habitat projects. By catalyzing partnerships to conserve habitat, Joint Ventures also support community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and provide recreational opportunities that are helping to reconnect Americans to the outdoors.



Joint Ventures are active partners in the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs), contributing their 26 years of experience with partnership development, conservation planning, and habitat delivery for migratory birds to the collective science and capacity of the LCCs. LCCs in turn address Joint Venture priority science needs. For example, the Great Northern LCC is funding an effort to monitor the distribution and abundance of breeding landbirds across five states and six Bird Conservation Regions in the mountains and prairies of the western United States. The Intermountain West Joint Venture and its partners are using these data to identify priority habitats for conserving sensitive species within both the Great Northern LCC and the Intermountain West Joint Venture.

The Service's participation in the NAWMP and the Joint Ventures occurs under several authorities and accords: 1) The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712) authorizes appropriations to accomplish the purposes of the migratory bird conventions with Canada, Mexico, Japan, and the Former Soviet Union; 2) The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4401-4412) finds that protecting migratory birds and their habitat requires the coordinated action of governments, private organizations, landowners, and other citizens, and specifically cites the NAWMP as a key implementation framework; and 3) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 2901-2911) authorizes financial and technical assistance to the States for the developing, revising, and implementing conservation plans and programs for nongame fish and wildlife.

Using a science-based, adaptive framework, Joint Ventures set and achieve habitat conservation objectives at multiple scales. This framework is particularly well suited to strategically address the

problems migratory birds face on their breeding, migration, and wintering grounds. Called Strategic Habitat Conservation, the framework is based on the principles of Adaptive Management and uses the best available scientific information to predict how bird populations respond to habitat conservation and other management activities.

Joint Ventures use the products of biological planning -- often maps or models – to design landscape conservation strategies that can direct habitat management resources where they will have greatest effect and lowest relative cost. This strategy enables Joint Venture partners to focus their conservation programs and resources on the highest priority areas in the amounts needed to sustain healthy populations of migratory birds.

NAWMP/Joint Ventures - Combined Performance Changes and Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
6.4.1 % of habitat needs met to achieve healthy and sustainable levels of migratory birds - cumulative	52.3% (233,903,136 of 447,209,213)	57.2% (296,983,282 of 519,506,615)	49.6% (257,569,902 of 519,655,943)	57.7% (299,890,960 of 519,665,916)	50.1% (260,171,676 of 519,675,916)	50.2% (301,488,700 of 600,000,000)	-7.5% (-12.9%)	0.0%
Comments	The level of funding requested in 2014 will result in an increase in both habitat needs met and habitat needs identified following the maturation of conservation planning and habitat delivery work initiated with the budget increase for 2012 from established joint ventures.							
6.4.5 # of BMC with habitat management needs identified at eco-regional scales	390	379	442	533	487	550	17 (3.2%)	0
Comments	BMCs with management needs identified will increase slightly due to the maturation of capacity built following a funding increase for joint ventures in 2012.							

Law Enforcement

Activity: Conservation, Enforcement and Science
Subactivity: Law Enforcement

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Operations	($000)	*61,297*	61,168	+956	-121	+5,297	67,300
Equipment Replacement	($000)	*975*	975	0	0	0	975
Total, Law Enforcement	**($000)**	***62,272***	**62,143**	**+956**	**-121**	**+5,297**	**68,275**
	FTE	***294***	**282**	**0**	**0**	**+22**	**304**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Law Enforcement

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Operations—General Program Activities	+4,247	+20
• Operations—Renewable Energy	+1,000	+2
• Tribal Consultation	+50	0
Program Changes	**+5,297**	**+22**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is $68,275,000 and 304 FTE, which is a net program change of +$5,297,000 and +22 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

Law Enforcement Operations—General Program Activities (+$4,247,000/+20 FTE)

International Coordination: Wildlife trafficking is increasingly a transnational crime involving illicit activities in two or more countries and often two or more global regions. A portion of this increase ($3,000,000/+5 FTE) will be used to hire special agents to investigate international wildlife trafficking. The funding will also be used to address limiting factors in countries that drive or enable the market for illegal wildlife by supporting direct partnership with foreign governments to share and coordinate intelligence, expand training programs, and/or provide technical assistance in customs monitoring. Cooperation between nations is essential to combat this crime. Investigations of transnational crime are inherently difficult, and they become even more so without organizational structures to facilitate this cooperation. This additional funding will be used to foster these needed partnerships.

The proposed special agent program will allow the Service to expand law enforcement capacity building efforts overseas.

Previous Service investigations of large-scale international wildlife trafficking have secured many successful prosecutions of smugglers in the U.S. and of foreign wildlife dealers who have

traveled here to complete black market business deals. For example, Operation Crash is a broad-reaching, ongoing investigation of rhino horn trafficking involving entities in the U.S., South Africa, China, and other countries. The impact of these investigations on criminals involved in the "front end" of the supply process (poachers, middlemen, and organized criminal syndicates) has, however, been more limited because of the difficulties of communicating sensitive intelligence information to appropriate authorities and coordinating complex investigative activities that must often span continents to be fully effective.

To address this deficit in global coordination and help improve anti-poaching and anti-trafficking enforcement efforts in range, transit, and other intermediary and end market countries, the Service will hire five officers to focus on five geographic regions: Southeast Asia, Europe, Central and South America and Africa. These officers will plan, conduct, and coordinate investigations of complex and highly sensitive transnational crimes with officials from regional countries, multiple agencies or levels of foreign and U.S. government. Additionally, they will identify and address training deficiencies in wildlife crime enforcement and build capacity in these regions through on-the-job training and continued consultation and guidance as real-time investigative efforts proceed.

Forensics Technical Challenges: The other portion of this increased funding ($1,247,000/+5 FTE) will be used to address technical challenges in the science of wildlife forensics. Specifically, the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory will expand research involving genetic markers and isotope analysis to make it easier to determine the origin or geographic source of illicit wildlife material, particularly for species threatened by current patterns of illegal trade.

Conclusive evidence of criminal activity in a wildlife investigation often hinges on the investigators and prosecutor's ability to establish definitively exactly where in the world a specific animal or animal parts originated. A specimen of a species acquired in one geographic setting may, for example, be off limits for hunting, harvest, or trade, while specimens of that same species removed from a different location are not. Given the scope of wildlife trade and the speed of modern transportation, it is generally not possible to infer geographic source either from the location of the seizure or from the natural taxonomic range of the species.

The Service hopes to build extensive new databases to support expanded use of DNA techniques in wildlife forensics.

Instead, both DNA-based and isotopic techniques provide ways to pinpoint the geographic source of an animal (i.e., an elephant) or animal part (i.e., an ivory tusk). The first draws on the premise that wildlife populations have identifiable genetic profiles based on their limited interbreeding with populations in other geographic areas. The second builds on the fact that isotope ratios are specific to given geographic locations, meaning that a living organism will have isotopic signatures that reflect the geographic location where it lives.

Neither technique, however, can be used readily for "geolocation" of evidence in wildlife investigations without the creation of large databases of information on each of the many potentially relevant species, their many populations, and related geographic locations. This increase will fund the research needed to build these critical databases and allow wider use of both techniques to support wildlife crime investigations. DNA studies will focus on animals imperiled by trade (such as rhinos), while priorities for isotope analysis will include the development of digital isotope ratio "maps" for the Amazon basin and sub-Saharan Africa (key geographic sources of contraband wildlife).

Assistance to USDA: The Service will continue to assist the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in developing critical import regulations that are needed to implement the 2008 illegal wood amendments to the Lacey Act. The Service has decades of experience in developing, refining, and operating a wildlife import inspection program focused on conservation concerns as well as longstanding expertise in Lacey Act enforcement. The Law Enforcement program has actively participated in interagency efforts to implement the 2008 amendments since they were signed into law and sees this work as part of its core responsibilities covered by existing operational funds. The Service will continue to provide subject matter expertise and related support to APHIS as that agency structures import requirements for timber and wood products protected under the conservation laws of other countries.

The remaining 10 additional FTE will be incorporated into the general work of the Law Enforcement program. While the FTE change shown begins with the FY 2012 Actual, it does not account for adjustments made in FY 2013.

Law Enforcement Operations—Renewable Energy (+$1,000,000/+2 FTE)

This increase will provide the support and additional staff needed to bolster Service law enforcement activities that help address the impact of new energy development and ongoing energy production on wildlife and wildlife habitat. This initiative will contribute to the Department of the Interior's mission of protecting America's Great Outdoors and powering our future by funding expanded compliance outreach and preliminary investigative work to secure voluntary remedial actions from industry. This funding will put dedicated and specially trained enforcement resources on the ground to uphold statutory protections for wildlife, secure industrial engagement in cooperative conservation efforts, and promote wildlife stewardship. These efforts will help ensure that the nation's dual quest to secure energy independence and reduce our reliance on traditional nonrenewable energy resources that contribute to climate change are achieved in tandem with our longstanding commitment to wildlife conservation.

Increased law enforcement outreach to renewable energy companies will help protect golden eagles and other species. Photo Credit: T. HisgettWikimedia Commons.

Specifically, the funding will allow the Service to provide specialized training and ongoing operational support for special agents to undertake new priority work in this critical and sensitive conservation arena. This includes comprehensive training for the agent force on the new voluntary conservation guidelines for the wind industry and their application in outreach and enforcement; increased agent travel to remote locations involved in energy production for outreach and investigative efforts; increased agent participation in industry meetings, forums, and conferences to conduct conservation outreach; and acquisition and utilization of new monitoring and investigative technologies and equipment. Law Enforcement efforts will target impacts on distinctive species at risk as well as both expanding and new energy industry sectors that are taking an increased toll on wildlife populations.

Law Enforcement Operation—Tribal Consultation (+$50,000/+0 FTE)

This increase allows the Law Enforcement program to improve our capacity to collaborate with tribes in conservation efforts and participate in government-to-government formal consultation if needed. Tribal lands are vital to conserving wildlife corridors and connectivity; building strong partnerships where tribal lands abut other conservation lands is essential to the success of long-term, sustainable landscape-level conservation.

Program Overview

Under the provisions of the Lacey Act (16 U.S.C. 3771-3778), the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), and other U.S. wildlife conservation laws, the Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) protects fish, wildlife, and plant resources by investigating wildlife crimes, including commercial exploitation, habitat destruction, and industrial hazards, and monitoring the Nation's wildlife trade to intercept smuggling and facilitate legal commerce. Effective enforcement of the Nation's wildlife laws is essential to the Service's conservation mission and supports the Department's goal of protecting and enhancing America's Great Outdoors.

Service special agents, wildlife inspectors, and forensic scientists help recover endangered species, conserve migratory birds, restore fisheries, combat invasive species, safeguard wildlife habitat, and promote international wildlife conservation. Law Enforcement efforts that protect species and support strategic habitat conservation are increasingly critical as wildlife resources face accelerating threats from climate change and habitat loss. These threats make wildlife populations even more vulnerable to such crimes as poaching, black market trafficking, and industrial take.

Protecting the Nation's Species: Service special agents investigate crimes involving federally-protected resources, including endangered and threatened species native to the United States, migratory birds, eagles, and marine mammals. Enforcement efforts focus on dismantling criminal enterprises illegally profiteering from trade in U.S. wildlife and plants, as well as addressing other potentially devastating threats to wildlife, including habitat destruction, environmental contaminants, and industrial hazards. Service special agents provide enforcement assistance to support the strategic habitat conservation efforts of the Department's Landscape Conservation Cooperatives; help negotiate and enforce Habitat Conservation Plans under the Endangered Species Act; and investigate violations of laws that safeguard wildlife and wildlife habitat. Law Enforcement also works with industries whose activities affect U.S. wildlife resources and their habitat to reduce hazards and secure voluntary compliance with wildlife laws.

Investigations of rhino horn and other global wildlife trafficking remain a priority for the Law Enforcement program.

Combating Illegal Global Wildlife Trafficking: The United States remains one of the world's largest markets for wildlife and wildlife products, both legal and illegal. Illegal global trafficking represents a threat to the continued viability of thousands of species around the world. Law Enforcement's trade monitoring activities at U.S. ports provide a front-line defense against illegal wildlife trade. Service wildlife inspectors process declared shipments, intercept wildlife contraband, conduct proactive enforcement blitzes to catch smugglers, and work with special agents to investigate businesses and individuals engaged in illegal wildlife trafficking. Service Law Enforcement officers also work to prevent the introduction of invasive species via international trade and travelers. Special agents and wildlife inspectors enforce prohibitions on the importation and interstate transport of injurious wildlife.

Facilitating Legal Wildlife Trade: OLE's mandate to enforce wildlife trade laws encompasses a responsibility to deal fairly and efficiently with the businesses, organizations, and individuals that legally import and export wildlife. The speed and efficiency of wildlife inspection operations affect not only

businesses trading in legal commodities but also the international movement of wildlife for purposes that range from scientific research to public entertainment. Service officers provide guidance to individuals and businesses to help them obey wildlife laws and expedite their import and export transactions. Customer service efforts use technology to speed trade, streamline communication, and improve public access to information about laws and regulations affecting trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

Management Excellence: Law Enforcement's success in protecting the Nation's wildlife, stemming illegal global wildlife trafficking and facilitating legal wildlife trade depends on how well it uses its resources to meet these goals. The program maintains ongoing strategic planning and performance management; is implementing comprehensive workforce plans; and is working to strengthen the career development and professional integrity of its workforce. Law Enforcement also leverages technology to support its investigative and inspection efforts and works to reduce the impact of its operations and facilities on global climate change.

2014 Program Performance

In FY 2014 the Law Enforcement program will build on past successes in combating global trafficking in protected species and stemming the unlawful exploitation of the nation's wildlife and plants. Investigations will prioritize crimes that jeopardize wild populations of protected species nationally and around the world that are being devastated by poaching, black market trafficking, and transnational profiteering. In FY 2012 and FY 2013 these efforts included very successful high-profile criminal investigations into trafficking rhino horn that involved transnational organized crime, African elephant ivory, and coral. During this time, Law Enforcement created a professional detector dog program to station four wildlife inspector/canine detection teams at critical ports of entry to improve the interception of smuggled wildlife. Service investigations exposed unlawful take (and in some cases sale) of numerous protected and non-protected animals and plants, including Mexican wolves, grizzlies, American alligators, sea otters, salamanders, whooping cranes, bald and golden eagles, paddlefish, spiny lobster, freshwater U.S. turtles, ginseng, and cacti.

Most of the general program activities increase will hire, station, and provide support for five senior special agent/international attaché officers at U.S. Embassies in key regions. They will help the Service ability to address the surge in international wildlife trafficking that threatens not only species but also governance and local national security. In this first year, the Service will focus on coordinating with the Department of State to establish positions at appropriate embassies. Agents will focus on identifying and enhancing contacts and building sustainable relationships with other governments, enforcement agencies and conservation groups in their assigned regions. They will also provide training support to help improve wildlife law enforcement capacity in other nations. Over time, these contacts will support the initiation of long-term complex international investigations of global wildlife trafficking with related cases and eventually defendants in both the United States and other countries. Some of the individuals and businesses involved in the international investigations facilitated by the special agent/attachés will be citizens of or businesses operating in other nations that are not subject to prosecution in the U.S. Consequently, the increase in investigations and defendants will occur not only here but also in the countries that are sources, suppliers, and transit points for illegal wildlife destined for the global market. Because the agent/attachés will have no authority to impose reporting requirements on the various law enforcement agencies and organizations that they assist in addressing illegal wildlife trade, the Service's performance measures will not capture the full positive impact we have had.

With the rest of the increased funds, the Service will hire five new forensic specialists to begin working on the massive, long-term project of building the needed databases to use DNA and isotopic techniques to determine the geographic origin of smuggled wildlife and wildlife parts and products.

The increase for energy-related enforcement will allow Service special agents to expand both proactive outreach and investigative activities to ensure energy companies comply with wildlife protection laws when applicable. These efforts will help the nation reduce our reliance on traditional non-renewable resources that are linked to climate change and expand renewable energy sources without undue negative impacts on wildlife and wildlife conservation. In FY 2014, increased enforcement outreach and documentation of violations with respect to wind energy operations is expected to result in greater voluntary implementation of conservation measures or, if needed, court-ordered actions to protect wildlife.

Law Enforcement Performance Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
Comments:	Applies to all measures below: Although difficult to predict due to reactive nature of law enforcement, minimal change projected in FY 2014.							
CSF 6.5 Number of individuals and businesses conducting illegal activities involving migratory birds	2,755	2,739	2,596	2,510	2,420	2,520	10 (0.4%)	2,690
6.5.4.1 # of migratory bird investigations	1,230	1,267	1,175	1,147	1,000	1,100	-47 (-4.1%)	1,200
6.5.4.2 total # of investigations	15,000	14,000	12,013	12,034	11,000	12,000	-34 (-0.3%)	14,000
CSF 7.33 Number of individuals and businesses conducting illegal activities involving T&E species	3,430	3,261	2,941	2,853	2,700	2,750	-103 (-3.6%)	3,330
7.33.4.1 # of T&E investigations	2,529	2,330	2,116	2,152	1,900	2,150	-2 (-0.1%)	2,500
CSF 9.2 Number of individuals and businesses conducting illegal activities involving marine mammals	218	250	224	269	207	260	-9 (-3.3%)	206
9.2.4.1 # of marine mammal investigations	208	218	212	245	205	250	5 (2%)	205
CSF 10.4 Number of individuals and businesses conducting illegal activities involving foreign species	8,660	8,758	8,237	8,473	7,800	8,400	-73 (-0.9%)	8,600
10.4.4.1 # of investigations involving foreign species	8,921	9,180	8,671	8,620	8,500	8,600	-20 (-0.2%)	9,000
10.4.5.2 total # of wildlife shipments	180,000	185,000	164,485	185,002	175,000	185,000	-2 (0%)	185,000

International Affairs

Activity: Conservation, Enforcement and Science
Subactivity: International Affairs

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
International Conservation	($000)	*6,329*	6,290	+75	-9	+327	6,683
	FTE	*24*	29	0	0	-5	24
International Wildlife Trade	($000)	*6,708*	6,681	+161	-19	0	6,823
	FTE	*48*	48	0	0	0	48
Total, International Affairs	**($000)**	***13,037***	**12,971**	**+236**	**-28**	**+327**	**13,506**
	FTE	***72***	**77**	**0**	**0**	**-5**	**72**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for International Affairs

Request Component	**($000)**	**FTE**
• Wildlife Without Borders	+327	-5
Program Changes	**+327**	**-5**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the International Affairs is $13,506,000 and 72 FTE, a net increase of $327,000 and -5 FTE from the FY 2012 Enacted.

Wildlife Without Borders (+$327,000/-5 FTE)

Growing consumer demand, especially in several Asian countries, is increasing poaching of such flagship species as tigers, as well as, elephants, and rhinos throughout Africa. Poaching and trafficking in key species are at levels not seen in recent decades. For example, in South Africa in 2012, more than 600 rhinos were poached--compared to fewer than 20 poached per year from 2004 to 2009 (and 333 in 2010 and 448 in 2011). Rhino conservation is expensive, and outside protected areas, rhinos have already been poached to extinction. Given the growing threats, elephants risk a similar fate.

This increase will support innovative conservation activities that target market and consumer demand for illegal wildlife products, with the ultimate goal of changing attitudes, consumption patterns and public policy about the use of these wildlife products. Such actions include building public awareness and support to change consumer behavior, significantly strengthening law enforcement capacity to stem illegal wildlife trade, and instilling environmental values that include the protection of iconic species. The increase would augment funding to maintain wildlife security in protected areas and in key corridors, including support for community game scouts and other programs that involve local communities in wildlife management. The FTE change reflects multi-year adjustments from 2012 actual usage to the 2014 level.

African Elephants (Photo credit: Betsy Greer)

Program Overview

The Service's International Affairs Program engages in domestic and international efforts to protect, restore, and enhance the world's diverse wildlife and their habitats with a focus on species of international concern. The Service has international responsibilities under numerous domestic laws, international treaties, and other multilateral agreements, such as the Multinational Species Conservation Acts, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Western Hemisphere Convention, the Canada/Mexico/U.S. Trilateral Committee, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Lacey Act, the Wild Bird Conservation Act, and the Ramsar Wetlands Convention. The Service works with private citizens, local communities, federal and state agencies, foreign governments, U.S. and international non-governmental organizations, scientific and conservation organizations, industry groups and other interested parties to ensure effective implementation of treaties and laws, and the global conservation of species.

Global issues such as rampant poaching for ivory and rhino horn, climate change, wildlife disease, and illegal and unsustainable trade are increasingly important factors to consider in wildlife conservation. The capacity of other countries to address conservation problems affects the health and viability of species important to the United States economy as well as their intrinsic value to the American public.

The International Conservation and the International Wildlife Trade activities promote conservation across the globe in order to conserve the planet's biodiversity. Through a science-based approach the Service works to conserve living resources around the world by working to safeguard nature and ensuring sustainable international wildlife trade. The Division of International Conservation implements the Wildlife Without Borders program and its signature initiatives through Species, Regional, and Global programs. The International Wildlife Trade program provides oversight of domestic laws and international treaties that promote the long-term conservation of plant and animal species by ensuring that international trade and other activities do not threaten their survival in the wild. For cross-cutting issues, such as the illegal trade and poaching of elephants and rhinos, the International Wildlife Trade and the International Conservation programs work collaboratively and effectively through on-the-ground efforts to address these conservation threats while working at international and governmental policy levels to reduce consumer demand. This 'one-two-punch' approach results in targeted and long-term responses to complex conservation threats.

International Conservation

Through the Wildlife Without Borders (WWB) Species, Regional, and Global programs, the Service promotes, facilitates, and supports vital conservation efforts to preserve the world's rich diversity of wildlife. These programs target win-win conservation initiatives that set a positive tone for U.S. international relations around the globe, including Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico, Africa, Asia, and Russia.

The survival of wildlife species largely depends on the health of habitats extending beyond political boundaries which illustrates that the need for international collaboration has never been greater. The Service works on meaningful landscape scales to conserve species that depend on those landscapes, and maintain the diversity of life within those landscapes. A number of statutes and international treaties mandate the Service to provide the necessary support for the conservation of these species of international concern.

Since 1989, the Service's WWB program has provided more than 3,000 grants for international conservation totaling more than $140 million. The Service has worked with nearly 700 partners in developing countries, who have contributed more than $240 million in matching support for grant projects, tripling the impact of our funding. The WWB Regional and Global programs have supported

more than 800 conservation projects, from 2007 to 2011 and awarded over $16 million and leveraged an additional $26 million in matching funds across the globe to provide education, training and outreach to conserve endangered wildlife and nature.

These initiatives bridge the gap to long-term viability, which is dependent upon the knowledge and skills of local conservation managers and the advice and ongoing support of Service project managers. These initiatives support DOI's Resource Protection Mission, aimed at sustaining biological communities, by fulfilling DOI's international obligations to manage populations to self-sustaining levels for specific species and create habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish. The Service achieves these goals through on-the-ground projects that provide for habitat management training, education, information and technology exchange, and networks and partnerships.

The WWB program administers the *Convention on Wetlands of International Importance,* (Ramsar Convention) and supports the *Multinational Species Conservation Acts* (African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes, and marine turtles). Equally important is Service support of other international agreements and conventions, which help conserve the diverse habitats and the myriad of species of conservation concern abroad.

Wildlife Without Borders — Global Program

The Global Program seeks to ensure international cooperation to conserve habitats and endangered species. The Global Branch focuses on international treaties and conventions; partnerships; cross cutting and emerging issues; communications; and grant programs. Specific examples include the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) which has designated 34 Wetlands of International Importance in the United States, the majority of which are on National Wildlife Refuge lands; as well as the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative, Amphibians in Decline Fund, and the Critically Endangered Animals Conservation Fund, among others. The Global Progam partners with federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector corporations, philanthropic institutions, multilateral agencies, and other entities to align priorities for international wildlife conservation considering societal impact and leveraging collaborative efforts.

Wildlife Without Borders— Critically Endangered Animals

Thousands of species throughout the world are currently facing the threat of extinction due to heavy poaching, illegal trade of wildlife-- especially regarding bushmeat and ivory, human-wildlife conflict, disease, and disappearing habitats. The *WWB* Program created the Critically Endangered Animals Conservation Fund (CEACF) in 2009 to focus conservation actions on high risk vertebrate species and provide funding for projects them that have a high likelihood of creating long-lasting benefits to prevent the threat of global extinction. Since 2009, this program has supported 79 projects with $2,134,789 that has been leveraged with an additional $3,355,144.

Philippine cockatoo (*Photo credit: Katala Foundation*)

Wildlife Without Borders - Amphibians In Decline

Panamanian Golden Frog (Photo credit: John White)

Currently there are 6,771 identified amphibian species in decline around the world. The *Amphibians in Decline Fund*, created in 2010, seeks to support research and investigative efforts to identify and implement effective and comprehensive strategies for the conservation of amphibians in their natural habitats. To date, the *Amphibians in Decline Fund* has successfully supported conservation efforts to

protect species such as the Chinese great salamander, Cameroon's caecilian, and the Panamanian golden frog. Since 2010, this program has awarded 31 projects with $827,823 that has been leveraged by $1,530,944 from other sources.

Wildlife Without Borders — Africa

Africa is home to many of the world's most spectacular animals and ecosystems. Gorillas, chimpanzees, African elephants and white and black rhinos are just some of the iconic species found only on the continent. African wildlife and their habitats, however, face many threats, such as human population growth, illegal hunting and the conversion of forests and drylands. Mining, logging and petroleum exploration are opening more and more roads into vulnerable wildlife refuges. Moreover, in some countries, political instability continues to hurt the ability of governments to protect and manage wildlife.

Kenya Bushmeat Symposium participants (Photo credit:BEAN)

To meet these challenges, African wildlife professionals need to have strong conservation capacity. The WWB - Africa program is helping institutions and individuals to better manage and conserve species, habitats, and ecological processes for the benefit of the people of Africa and the world. The program aims to lessen the impact of threats such as extractive industries, climate change, human-wildlife conflict, illegal trade in bushmeat, and wildlife disease. It is carrying out these aims through small grants and cooperative agreements. Since 2007 the Service's Africa program has provided nearly $3 million that generated $2.9 million in matching resources to implement a mentoring program, designed to assist countries in Africa with the development of their wildlife management capacity.

Wildlife Without Borders — Latin America & The Caribbean

Artisans make cotton-top tamarin plush toys to sell as an alternative to purchasing the live animal, Colombia. (Photo credit: Proyecto Tití)

The landscapes and wildlife of Latin America and the Caribbean are facing serious threats due to habitat degradation and loss, invasive species, pollution, over-exploitation of natural resources, and climate change. At the root of most of these threats are social, political, and economic factors which include human poverty, population growth, and inadequate policy planning and implementation.

Solving these problems requires strengthening the ability of local people and organizations to deliver effective conservation. For the past 30 years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's WWB - Latin America and the Caribbean program has provided critical support to the region's efforts to conserve and manage biodiversity. The Service supports training that

strengthens the ability of people and organizations to implement conservation programs in a way that takes their local culture and economy into account.

From 2007 through 2011, $4.5 million in appropriations has leveraged over $10.4 million in matching and in-kind support from a wide range of partner organizations. Trainees from these programs now manage some of the most important protected areas all over Latin America, helping protect numerous endangered and migratory species of priority to the United States.

Wildlife Without Borders — Mexico

The WWB – Mexico program has been working since 1995 to conserve our shared natural wealth. The program provides small grants, delivers Signature Initiatives and coordinates the Trilateral Committee by partnering with Mexican universities, research centers, non-governmental organizations, private industries, local communities and indigenous people. In 2011 the program funded 22 projects including Signature Initiatives: Managing for Excellence, Stewards of the Land, and Voices for Nature.

Binational Restoration Project (Photo credit: USFWS)

WWB - Mexico grants promote sustainable conservation practices through academic and technical training, conservation education, information exchange and technology transfer, networks and partnerships, and informed citizen participation in natural resource issues. For the past five years (2007 through 2011) this program has leveraged over $7.05 million in matching and in-kind support, doubling the Service's investment of $3.5 million.

Wildlife Without Borders — Russia & East Asia

The Service cooperates with Russia to conserve shared species of wildlife, such as sea otters, walrus, polar bears, sturgeon, emperor geese, and eider ducks under the 1972 U.S. - Russia Environmental Agreement and the 1976 U.S. - Russia Migratory Bird Convention. A grants program instituted in 1995 has provided needed support to enhance law enforcement, education activities and infrastructure at federal nature reserves. For the past five years, this program has provided $631,000 for these and other activities.

Polar bears (Photo credit: USFWS)

With its unique wildlife, plant species and landscapes, some of which are found nowhere else, China's biodiversity has long been of interest to the American people. The U.S. Department of the Interior and China's Ministry of Forestry signed the *Protocol on Cooperation and Exchanges in the Field of Conservation of Nature* in 1986. Since then nearly 80 short-term exchanges of biologists have taken place, and the Service has encouraged China to better safeguard its wildlife resources through conservation education, improved management of wildlife trade and enforcement, and protection of rivers and wetland habitat.

The Service's relationship with its Japanese counterparts is a result of a 1972 bilateral Migratory Bird Convention. The two countries meet periodically to review efforts to conserve the 189 species of birds common to both countries, including the endangered short-tailed albatross.

International Wildlife Trade

The Service's International Conservation Strategic Plan identifies as a primary goal the conservation of "species and habitats through international treaties, agreements, protocols, and domestic laws." To that end, the International Wildlife Trade (IWT) program, comprised of the Division of Management Authority and Division of Scientific Authority, implements domestic laws and international treaties to promote long-term conservation of global plant and animal resources. In response to ever-increasing global pressures of wildlife trade and habitat loss on species worldwide, the IWT program dedicates its efforts to conserving species at risk from trade and implementing policies that have a broad impact on conservation.

The United States, as the largest importer and exporter of wildlife, plays a significant role in the global wildlife trade. An efficient, responsive permit system to regulate this trade is critical to ensure international trade in listed wildlife and plants is legal**,** and will not adversely affect the biological status of the species in the wild. Strong Service participation in international meetings and negotiations that result in decisions on species protection and on policies and procedures for international wildlife trade is essential to meeting U.S. conservation priorities.

The Service has thirty-eight years of history implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) – the only global treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild. CITES is one of the most effective forces in the world today for conservation of fauna and flora through its effort to ban the commercial trade in species threatened with extinction and by fostering sustainable use of other species. Bigleaf mahogany, sturgeon and paddlefish, American alligator, orchids, queen conch, and American ginseng, which are commercially imported and/or exported by the United States, represent some of the approximately 35,000 species protected by CITES. The Service also implements domestic laws, such as the ESA, Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), Lacey Act, Wild Bird Conservation Act (WBCA), African Elephant Conservation Act, and Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, to regulate the trade and movement of species of international concern.

When the government of a country decides that it will be bound by the provisions of CITES, it can accede to the Convention by making a formal declaration to this effect in writing to the Depositary Government and becoming a Party to CITES. At present, 176 countries, including the United States, are Parties to CITES (i.e., countries that have signed onto the treaty). As the U.S. CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority, the Service is a global leader in working with their counterparts from other CITES Parties to shape the development and implementation of international policy on permitting, scientific and technical matters, and other wildlife trade-related issues. These U.S. Authorities work closely with the CITES Secretariat, and communicate regularly with foreign CITES Authorities. The United States, as one of the first Parties to CITES, takes a very active role at meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) and the Standing and Technical Committees. The

A Chinese delegate releases a juvenile American alligator as part of the reintroduction program. (Photo credit: Thomas Leuteritz)

Service participates in cooperative efforts, such as training workshops and CITES working groups, to build the international effectiveness of CITES and to empower other countries to better manage their own wildlife resources and implement CITES. This constructive involvement is key to highlighting and addressing the concerns and interests of the U.S. Government and its constituencies.

In response to ever-increasing pressures of wildlife trade and habitat loss affecting species worldwide, the Service makes critical decisions on the status of species, on wildlife trade policy, and on individual imports and exports through its permit program. The Service's IWT program issues between 15,000 and 20,000 permits annually to applicants seeking to engage in a wide variety of wildlife trade activities. The Service uses the best available biological information to make findings on whether the import or export of CITES-listed species may be detrimental to their survival and, in the case of Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed species, whether the trade will actually enhance their survival. These decisions may involve countrywide review of management programs or, in the case of native CITES Appendix-II species, the review of state and tribal management programs. Permit approval is based on a number of findings -- whether the specimens are legally acquired, whether trade in CITES Appendix-I species (species threatened with extinction) is not for primarily commercial purposes, whether trade is not detrimental to a species, and whether transport of live specimens will be humane. Decisions on whether to issue permits frequently must be made in close consultation with foreign CITES Authorities, the States, other federal agencies, the CITES Secretariat, other relevant experts, and applicants.

The Service is also responsible for reviewing the status of species to determine if they are appropriately listed in the CITES appendices. The CITES Appendix in which a species is included determines the level of protection afforded to it. Appendix I includes species threatened with extinction and provides the greatest level of protection, including restrictions on commercial trade. Appendix II includes species that, although currently not threatened with extinction, may become so without trade controls. Changes to Appendices I and II are proposed at a meeting of the CoP and must be agreed to by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting. In contrast, individual Parties can request listings in Appendix III at any time. Appendix III includes species protected by at least one country that has requested assistance from other Parties to control trade. Listing proposals by the United States may originate from various sources. Recommendations from the public, in response to our requests for information leading up to a CoP, are the basis for some proposals. A proposal may result from the regular review of the CITES Appendices, which is led by the CITES Animals and Plants Committees. A U.S. proposal could result from consultations with the States and Tribes on native species subject to international trade; in addition, a foreign country may ask the United States to assist in the preparation of a proposal to protect one of their species. Finally, a proposal may arise as a consequence of new information received by the Service at any time that indicates that a species should be considered for listing, delisting, or transfer from one Appendix to another. Any proposed listing action is subject to public notification and comment, to ensure that the Service has the best available information on which to base CITES listing decisions.

Giant pandas are listed in Appendix I of CITES. International Affairs also implements a Giant Panda Policy, ensuring that permitted activities will directly contribute to the survival and recovery of the wild panda population. (Photo credit: Roddy Gabel/USFWS)

The Service collaborates with States and Tribes to support their implementation of management programs for native species listed under CITES, including American ginseng, American alligator, bobcat, Alaska lynx, and river otter, to appropriately control and monitor the export of these species and support improved conservation efforts for species of international concern. The IWT program oversees and monitors approved export programs for 49 states and 21 tribes. These programs apply an appropriate level of control while streamlining procedures so as not to impede trade that is legal and not detrimental to the species involved.

Trade Monitoring, Training, and Technical Assistance

In addition to processing permits and furthering U.S. international wildlife trade policy, the Service compiles and maintains trade records for U.S. imports and exports for monitoring trends in trade over time. The 2011 U.S. CITES Annual Report compilation includes data on U.S. trade with the rest of the world in live specimens, as well as parts and products of CITES-listed species of animals and plants during the calendar year. This report contains 139,751 data records of which 128,848 represent CITES animal trade, and 10,903 represent CITES plant trade. The records form the basis of the U.S. CITES annual report required by the Convention. This information, in conjunction with data from other CITES Parties, is used to determine trends in trade and to help ensure that significant trade in plants and animals is sustainable. The Service also provides technical assistance and training to encourage effective implementation and enforcement of CITES in collaboration with other CITES Parties. The Service also works with range countries and permit holders to generate funding for the conservation of high-visibility species in the wild, such as giant pandas in China and argali sheep in Asia.

Science Support

Activity: Conservation, Enforcement, and Science
Subactivity: Science Support

Proposed Budget Structure Change:

The Service is a natural resource conservation organization that is reliant upon science to accomplish our mission. Science is fundamental to the effective operations of all Service programs. In FY 2014, the Service proposed to separate science funding from the Cooperative Landscape Conservation activity into its own Service Science subactivity to clarify this point. Under the LCC framework, Steering Committees comprised of partners determine the focus, direction and highest priority needs of the particular LCCs. Under the new Service Science subactivity, funding for science would not be constrained by such a framework and will allow the Service to rapidly respond to emerging science needs, improve the rate of return on our conservation investments through a more targeted approach, and to better track the Service's science work.

The Service proposed to rename the former Adaptive Science subactivity Science Support, and include two program elements within that subactivity: Adaptive Science and Service Science. In recognition of this change, the Service proposes to rename the Migratory Bird, Law Enforcement, and International Affairs activity the Conservation, Enforcement, and Science activity.

Science Support

		*2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)**	2012 Enacted*	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Adaptive Science	($000)	*[12,988]*	[16,723]	+31	+12,988	+2,180	15,199
	FTE	*[8]*	[16]	0	+8	0	8
Service Science	($000)	*[8,505]*	0	0	+8,505	+9,572	18,077
	FTE	*[14]*	0	0	+14	0	14
Total, Science Support	($000)	***[21,493]***	**[16,723]**	**+31**	**+21,493**	**+11,752**	**33,276**
	FTE	***[22]***	**[16]**	**0**	**+22**	**0**	**22**

*Adaptive Science was under the Cooperative Landscape Conservation and Adaptive Science Activity in the 2012 Enacted and 2013 CR. Service Science, new in FY 2014, was included in Adaptive Science in the 2013 CR. The amounts are shown in brackets here for reference.

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Program Overview

The FWS Science Support activity addresses two science needs: **Adaptive Science** and, new in FY 2014, **Service Science**.

Adaptive Science needs are addressed through Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) partnerships that include not only the Service, but all Interior bureaus, a diverse suite of other federal agencies, state natural resource agencies, and other public and private partners to identify and implement landscape-scale conservation solutions to address on-the-ground conservation management questions.

Service Science needs are addressed outside of the LCC partnerships. To be effective in its mission-delivery, the Service needs focused, applied science directed at high impact questions surrounding threats to trust fish and wildlife resources for which management and/or mitigation is required to maintain species at healthy, sustainable, desired levels. Service Science funding provides the Service the resources necessary to participate more fully in collaborating with the USGS and others to purchase studies, develop models, and utilize scientific expertise to help managers interpret and apply the body of knowledge they provide.

Both components of Science Support - Adaptive Science and Service Science - use Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) as a guiding framework. Furthermore, the Service is focusing its science funding on four high-priority activities that are critically important to its mission, and which help the larger conservation community sustain fish, wildlife and plants across the nation:

1. **Operationalizing a network of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC)**
   In FY 2014, the Service and its many conservation partners, including state fish and wildlife agencies, multiple federal agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs) and tribes, will have established all 22 LCCs and supported their efforts to mature into fully operational status. Moving forward it is the Service's vision to allocate funding to LCCs based on an assessment of past performance and potential future opportunities of individual LCCs, and the LCC network collectively.

2. **Helping build a National Fish, Wildlife and Plant Climate Adaption Strategy (Strategy)**
   The Service has worked closely with partners within the federal government and the broader conservation community to develop a National Fish, Wildlife and Plant Climate Adaption Strategy. Development of this strategy has been led by the Service, NOAA, and the Association of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and is being coordinated with the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and key Congressional personnel. This Strategy provides a common understanding, among the three levels of government (federal, state and tribal) that have authority and responsibility for fish and wildlife resources, of the major strategies and actions that must be undertaken to sustain landscapes in the face of climate change. The Strategy is expected to be released to the public in 2013. The Strategy will be implemented by many conservation partners through a wide variety of mechanisms, including Landscape Conservation Cooperatives.

3. **Implementing the Service's Climate Change Strategic Plan**
   In September 2010, the Service adopted a strategic plan for climate change. This plan outlined a series of seven major goals which still guide the efforts of the agency. Among those specifically relevant to the funding provided through Service Science are:
   - Goal 1 – Develop the Strategy
   - Goal 2 – Develop long-term capacity for biological planning and conservation design
   - Goal 3 – Plan and deliver landscape conservation actions and support climate change adaptations
   - Goal 4 – Develop monitoring and research partnerships
   - Goal 7 – Engage partners in collaborative conservation

   The Adaptive Science and Service Science funding categories address these goals and have resulted in an operationalization of the Strategic Plan.

4. **Building science capacity**
   Science funds will be used to build the science capacity necessary to help ensure that the Service fulfills its regulatory and management responsibilities for threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, marine mammals, and inter-jurisdictional fish. Priorities in this area include:
   - White Nose Syndrome research
   - Spotted Owl and Barred Owl experimental management
   - Research on minimizing effects of energy projects on bald and golden eagles, bats, prairie chickens, sage grouse, and desert tortoise
   - Climate adaptation and carbon sequestration
   - Research to further community-based landscape-scale conservation efforts on demonstration landscapes

- Use surrogate species to develop, implement, and test conservation strategies

These four high-priority activities use three fundamental approaches that are proving increasingly effective and efficient in helping the broader conservation community sustain fish and wildlife and address today's threats and challenges.

- They are highly **collaborative** and take advantage of the contributions of many partners;
- They emphasize a **landscape scale approach** to conservation, which the conservation community embraces as holding the greatest promise of succeeding today and in the future; and
- They use an **adaptive management framework** that integrates science and management in a way that increases effectiveness in an environment of limited fiscal resources and unforeseen changes.

The National Research Council defines adaptive management as flexible decision making that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties as outcomes from management actions and other events become better understood. Careful monitoring of these outcomes advances scientific understanding and helps adjust policies or operations as part of an iterative learning process. While adaptive management has been embraced by the Service for many years, its use today is even more essential as the challenges to successful conservation of fish and wildlife are compounded by the uncertainties of future climatic conditions. An adaptive management framework includes setting measurable objectives, making resource management investments and decisions, systematically assessing results against expected outcomes, then making adjustments for future strategies and actions. Building an adaptive management framework ensures that future decisions are not made simply by "trial-and-error", but on the basis of the best available science.

To achieve these critically-important outcomes, the Service will maintain its capacity in six areas of science, through work with USGS and other science partners:

(1) *Species Risk and Vulnerability Assessments* – These assessments are the essential first step in deciding where to focus conservation activities and where additional scientific information is necessary for conservation.

(2) *Inventory and Monitoring* – The Service will participate in inventory and monitoring programs, develop or acquire systems for managing data, and evaluate assumptions and scientific information used in models that link populations to their habitats and other limiting factors. The Service will coordinate its inventory and monitoring programs with other Bureaus, especially the National Park Service, and integrate its data and results with those of other agencies, especially those in the DOI Climate Effects Network.

(3) *Population and Habitat Assessments* – These assessments will improve the Service's understanding of the relationship between species and their habitats at various spatial scales as well as among species. This information will be used by LCCs to predict how environmental change will affect populations of fish and wildlife and their habitats, and how various management treatments can reduce or avoid those effects.

(4) *Biological Planning and Conservation Design* – Capacity for biological planning and conservation design includes highly-specialized expertise, training and tools, and the use of complex statistical methods and modeling. The Service will examine management options, identify their strengths and weaknesses, and ultimately identify the mix of conservation actions that have the greatest likelihood of achieving the desired biological and ecological outcomes.

(5) *Management Evaluation and Research* – The Service will use scientific "learning" to provide essential feedback for adaptive management. Science funding will support evaluations and research to answer

questions that arise from habitat and species responses to management actions. Targeted research will enable the Service to fill information gaps and reduce uncertainty.

(6) *Conservation Genetics* – Conservation genetics research identifies distinct population and management units. Biological assessments, conservation design strategies, and conservation delivery activities are most effective when they recognize the genetic population structure of a given species. Maintaining genetic diversity is essential for maintaining healthy, resilient populations of fish, wildlife and plants.

Subactivity: Science Support
Program Element: Adaptive Science

		*2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)**	2012 Enacted*	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Adaptive Science	($000)	*[12,988]*	[16,723]	+31	+12,988	+2,180	15,199
	FTE	*[8]*	[16]	0	+8	0	8

*Adaptive Science was under the Cooperative Landscape Conservation and Adaptive Science Activity in the 2012 Enacted and 2013 CR. The amounts are shown in brackets here for reference.

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Adaptive Science

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Adaptive Science	+1,680	0
• Biological Carbon Sequestration—Development of decision support tools for land managers and other users	+500	0
Program Changes	+2,180	**0**

Justification of Program Changes for Adaptive Science

The 2014 budget request for Adaptive Science is $15,199,000 and 8 FTE, a net program change of +$2,180,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Adaptive Science (+$1,680,000/+0 FTE)

Since FY 2012, the Service has focused funding and support on those LCCs that were best able to deliver priority conservation outcomes as defined by LCC partners, while maintaining others at a reduced level. Adaptive science funding has been targeted at the more established LCCs where they can be used effectively to benefit fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats. In FY 2014, this increase will provide additional funding to build LCC adaptive science capacity in some of the LCCs that have received little or no adaptive science funding such as: Aleutian and Bering Sea Islands, Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers, Northwestern Interior Forest, Peninsular Florida, Great Basin, Caribbean, and Southern Rockies.

Biological Carbon Sequestration—Development of decision support tools for land managers and other users (+$500,000/ +0 FTE)

Working with USGS and its LandCarbon products, as well as other partners (such as The Nature Conservancy), the Service will identify and classify spatial distributions of habitats with high soil organic carbon and woody biomass levels and a high likelihood of future conversion. This involves developing spatially-explicit decision support tools that integrate the locations of existing and anticipated restoration and conservation efforts with maps of pertinent habitat carbon values to identify resource activities and areas with potential carbon sequestration benefits. Initial efforts will be focused on two priority landscapes that support the Service's climate adaptation strategy: the Pocosin wetlands of the eastern Carolinas (South Atlantic LCC) focusing on quantification of carbon stocks in peatlands and peatland restoration; and the plains and prairie potholes of the Dakotas (Plains and Prairie Pothole LCC), focusing on prairie pothole acquisition and management planning. In addition to setting priorities for management, acquisition and restoration, this effort will also identify and test methods for monitoring carbon sequestration over time as a measure of conservation/restoration progress and success, incorporating in-field carbon sequestration monitoring with spatial analysis methods developed and applied through the LandCarbon Project. The implementation of this effort may take form as a land conservation pilot project at the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge and/or the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge that addresses threats to Albemarle Sound peatlands resulting from altered hydrology and prolonged droughts. As

expressed above, the pilot project would examine numerous co-benefits including carbon sequestration, air and water quality protection and increased resiliency of peatlands to SLR as well as legal processes. Partner cost-sharing will leverage funding.

Program Overview

In response to Secretarial Order 3289 which established an approach for applying scientific tools to increase the understanding of climate change and other landscape scale stressors on federal resources, the Service began developing a national network of LCCs. The Service, with its highly diverse and actively engaged partners, uses LCCs to examine key conservation challenges on a landscape scale level that threaten the Nation's fish and wildlife resources. Funding for Adaptive Science acquires the science necessary to understand and mitigate for threats such as habitat loss and degradation from various development activities, climate change and its myriad direct and indirect impacts, invasive species, energy and agricultural development, and ever-increasing demands for clean abundant water. These threats are occurring on such a scale that no single organization, agency, or level of government acting in isolation can successfully address them.

Adaptive science funding is provided to the LCCs to support risk and vulnerability assessments, inventory and monitoring, population and habitat assessments, conservation design, evaluation of management options for LCC partners, and other applicable research.

Key Examples and Accomplishments

- The Western Alaska LCC has focused its attention on *Changes in Coastal Storms and their Impacts* for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. Recent hurricanes have demonstrated how dangerous storm surges are to coastal communities and landscapes. Global climate models indicate that extreme storms are likely to be more frequent as the globe warms. These changes are especially true in arctic and subarctic regions where the loss of sea ice now leaves shorelines vulnerable to the full impact of storms. In FY 2012, the LCC funded a suite of projects to: improve the ability to predict and model storms in western Alaska, understand how storm surges impact waterfowl distribution so that vulnerability assessments can be generated for the massive waterfowl breeding area on the Yukon and Kuskokwim Deltas, and establish baseline coastal conditions necessary for managing storms and other coastal change.

  The Western Alaska LCC has also invested in local communities to establish community coastal observers and incorporate local knowledge into the development of unique ice berm formation models. Scientists, decision-makers and local experts were brought together to determine the most important actions the LCC can take in FY 2013 to further understand coastal storms and their impacts. As a result, the State of Alaska, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Army Corps of Engineers and USGS have designed a water level network strategy to fill the most important data gaps needed to understand how storms affect terrestrial resources.

- The Desert and Southern Rockies LCCs leveraged Federal and non-Federal funds from multiple partners such as Arizona Game and Fish to develop a spatial fisheries database and a decision tool that can be used by both wildlife and water managers to forecast the spread of invasive species across the landscape. Working with the Nature Conservancy, these LCCs are developing a decision support tool for incorporating ecological flows into water management models used for basin-wide water supply planning.

- The Great Northern, Plains and Prairie Potholes, Great Basin, and Southern Rockies LCCs, in cooperation with resource management partners, facilitated the Inter-LCC Sage-Grouse Collaboration Project. Working with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the

LCCs participated in compiling data and information, elucidating critical data gaps, and looking ahead to future conservation challenges that will face the Greater Sage-Grouse, and concomitantly, other species that rely on the sagebrush ecosystem.

- The Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative worked with modeling experts to "downscale" global models for use in Hawaii. Rainfall models are fundamental to understanding possible future conditions for natural ecosystems and human communities. As global rainfall models are too coarse to "see" islands like Hawaii and give no useful projections of changes in rainfall, wind, or temperature for the islands, more accurate rainfall models are essential to protect endangered birds, manage water resources, and predict the spread of avian diseases. These models are already being used by the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative and project partners such as the Service, NOAA's Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences Assessment, and the Pacific Islands Climate Science Center, which is expanding this effort to the Mariana Islands and American Samoa.

2014 Program Performance

In FY 2014, the Service will focus on implementation of the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Climate Adaptation Strategy (NFWPCAS). The Service and its partners will promote awareness of the issue, present a forum for agencies to identify opportunities for programmatic coordination and integration, and align natural resource sector adaptation activities with other efforts (e.g., agriculture, energy, transportation). This level of work is essential to mitigate duplication and redundancy among agency programs, establish a level of consistency across sectors and agencies and provide the level of coordination essential to success.

At the same time, the Service will place major emphasis on using LCCs to address the "who, what, when and where" of the many strategies and actions identified in the NFWPCAS. For instance, the number one action recommended in the draft strategy is to "identify high priority areas for protection using species distributions, habitat classification, land cover and geophysical settings". LCCs provide an ideal venue for bringing together the many partners necessary to accomplish this work.

Adaptive Science - Combined Performance Change and Overview Table

Performance Measure	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB
Number of risk and vulnerability assessments developed or refined for priority species or areas. (Cumulative) INITIATED	20	32	71	96	124	53
Number of risk and vulnerability assessments developed or refined for priority species or areas. (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	5	23	48	80	57
Number of inventory and monitoring protocols developed, refined or adopted to capture data on priority species addressed in LCC work plans that are expected to be vulnerable to climate change (Cumulative) INITIATED	28	46	57	71	88	31

Performance Measure	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB
Number of inventory and monitoring protocols developed, refined or adopted to capture data on priority species addressed in LCC work plans that are expected to be vulnerable to climate change (Cumulative) COMPLETED	2	12	29	45	66	37
Number of population and habitat assessments developed or refined to inform predictive models for changes in species populations and habitats as a result of climate change (Cumulative) INITIATED	33	58	89	113	139	50
Number of population and habitat assessments developed or refined to inform predictive models for changes in species populations and habitats as a result of climate change (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	14	31	63	99	68
Number of biological planning and conservation design projects developed in response to climate change (Cumulative) INITIATED	27	39	66	79	95	29
Number of biological planning and conservation design projects developed in response to climate change (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	9	23	40	62	39
Number of management actions evaluated for effectiveness in response to climate change and research activities conducted to address information needs in response to climate change (Cumulative) INITIATED	13	37	51	61	73	22
Number of management actions evaluated for effectiveness in response to climate change and research activities conducted to address information needs in response to climate change (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	6	15	24	36	21
Number of conservation genetics projects to improve and enhance conservation design and delivery for fish and wildlife populations in response to climate change (Cumulative) INITIATED	3	7	10	12	14	4
Number of conservation genetics projects to improve and enhance conservation design and delivery for fish and wildlife populations in response to climate change (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	2	4	7	12	8

Subactivity: Science Support
Program Element: Service Science

		*2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)**	2012 Enacted*	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Service Science	($000)	*[8,505]*	0	0	+8,505	+9,572	18,077
	FTE	*[14]*	0	0	+14	0	14

*The Service proposes to separate science funding from the Cooperative Landscape Conservation activity into its own Service Science subactivity in 2014. Funding existed under the Cooperative Landscape Conservation and Adaptive Science Activity in the 2013 CR. The amounts are provided in brackets for 2013 for reference.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Service Science

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Service Science Research	+4,272	0
• White Nose Syndrome Research	+1,500	0
• Transmission Corridors and Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan	+1,400	0
• Ecosystems and Landscape Scale Conservation: America's Great Outdoors—Demonstration Landscapes	+1,400	0
• Climate Adaptation Implementation—Invasive Species Early Detection and Rapid Response	+500	0
• Biological Carbon Sequestration—Development of decision support tools for land managers and other users	+500	0
Program Changes	+9,572	**0**

Justification of Program Changes for Service

The 2014 budget request for Service Science is $18,077,000 and 14 FTE, a net program change of +$9,572,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Service Science Research (+$4,272,000/+0 FTE)

This increase will provide additional funding to build much needed science capacity within the Service. It will be applied to strategically identified science requirements across the Service to deliver priority conservation outcomes. An evaluation team, led by the Office of the Science Advisor, will solicit, evaluate, and prioritize the projects for funding. The Service will partner with USGS, universities, LCCs, and others to acquire this priority science. It will be applied across the suite of Service programs, including refuges, endangered species, migratory birds, and fisheries and aquatic resources.

This additional science capacity will address critical management issues such as:

- Science gaps affecting listing determinations as well as recovery plans; such as understanding the decline in northern sea otter and tufted puffin populations.
- Science gaps in managing refuges such as understanding the impacts of sea level rise on coastal national wildlife refuges, and researching the effectiveness and potential impacts of chemical spraying vs. burning or other management efforts to control invasive species on refuge lands.
- Management of biological outcomes at landscape levels using a surrogate species conservation approach. Specific areas requiring additional resources include: identification of surrogate species, identification of knowledge gaps and uncertainties, and monitoring and evaluation of surrogate species approaches.

White Nose Syndrome Research (+$1,500,000/+0 FTE)

This increase will provide additional funding to support the White-nose Syndrome (WNS) implementation plan which directs, focuses, and accelerates the science efforts of partnering universities, cooperative wildlife research units, and other institutions to answer some of the remaining questions about how to address and mitigate the threats posed by white-nose syndrome. FY 2013 funding supports the following projects:

- Examining how environmental conditions impact fungal growth and disease expression within bat hibernacula and potentially manipulating environmental conditions to improve survival.
- Investigating the mechanisms of infection by *Geomyces destructans (Gd)* and studies to understand the differences between Gd and closely related congeneric species.
- Further developing a robust monitoring strategy and initiating a North American bat population monitoring program.

WNS is a devastating fungus that is rapidly spreading throughout the Nation. First documented in New York in 2006, the fungus was recently discovered in caves in Georgia and South Carolina for the first time and now threatens bat populations in more than 20 states. The Service will apply funding to three primary focus areas: research, monitoring/management, and outreach. Research will focus on critical areas for investigation and support the development of effective management protocols.

Transmission Corridors and the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (+$1,400,000/+0 FTE)

Significant conservation challenges remain in renewable energy development. The Service's goal is to protect sensitive lands and improve certainty for developers seeking to support the installation of renewable energy projects. For example, identifying high risk areas that energy developers should avoid will minimize the loss of golden eagles from strikes at wind energy facilities and power transmission lines, reduce disturbance and direct mortality of desert tortoise, and lessen impacts to federally protected species. The Service will use this funding increase to ensure energy transmission corridors avoid endangered and threatened species to the greatest extent possible by:

- conducting research and developing more robust risk analyses;
- determining the effectiveness of avoidance, minimization, and compensation measures;
- developing robust eagle monitoring protocols around proposed renewable energy projects;
- researching mortality factors to ensure proper siting of energy transmission corridors that minimize harm to wildlife, plants, and their habitats; and,
- researching impacts on behavioral and reproductive impacts on species of concern including sage grouse.

Research is urgently needed to inform Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Endangered Species Act permitting processes and joint Federal-State conservation planning. Part of this research will be used to revise the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, a large-scale planning effort developed in collaboration between the Service's Pacific Southwest Region, Bureau of Land Management and the State of California. The DRECP will streamline renewable energy permitting on federal and non-federal lands while providing conservation for trust resources. Additionally, the increase will all the Service to engage with the Federal family in efforts to identify energy transmission corridors throughout the west, ensuring that designation of these corridors is done utilizing best practices, such as upfront regional mitigation planning, to promote better environmental stewardship and provide predictability to project developers.

Ecosystems and Landscape Scale Conservation: America's Great Outdoors—Demonstration Landscapes (+$1,400,000/+0 FTE)

Funding will be used by the Service as part of a multi-bureau initiative to further community-based landscape-scale conservation efforts on three areas in the America's Great Outdoors initiative landscape

portfolio – the Crown of the Continent (COC), Grasslands of the Northern Great Plains, and Southwest Deserts.

The COC is one of North America's most ecologically diverse and jurisdictional fragmented ecosystems. Examples of the type of work which could be supported in the Crown of the Continent include:

- Facilitating COC Invasive Species Working Groups (Terrestrial and Aquatic) through developing cooperative agreements and enhances funding opportunities.
- Enhancing interagency capacity for management and restoration by compiling and evaluating existing spatial information of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species to identify data and information gaps.
- Supporting COC invasive species management information needs through cooperative agreements, competitive grants and existing agency efforts to utilize habitat suitability models to predict areas of invasive species occupancy.

Grasslands of the Northern Great Plains is arguably the most endangered ecosystem on the planet as prairies are being plowed and prairie wetlands drained due to global demand for food and energy. Examples of the science capacity that these funds would support in the Grasslands of the Northern Great Plains include:

- Accelerating current Dakota Skipper, an insect considered a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act, population surveys and detectability indexes, particularly in North and South Dakota where large contiguous blocks of native prairie currently exist. This information will then be used to focus and target the on-the-ground delivery funds provided through the Natural Resources Conservation Service Farm Conservation Programs as well as the restoration and enhancement projects delivered through the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program.
- Developing grazing management research and monitoring protocols to determine the optimum grass height and plant diversity to maximize Dakota Skipper reproduction and sustainability.

Funding for the Malpai borderlands will facilitate landscape-scale restoration of wetlands, uplands, core fish and wildlife areas, and wildlife corridors. Examples of the science capacity that these funds would support in the Southwest Deserts landscape include:

- Advancing scientific collaboration on issues including but not limited to invasive species prevention and management, fire and hydrological changes and their impacts on functioning systems, and strategies to enhance grassland connectivity.
- Providing effective planning, alignment and coordination to support perennial wetlands for fish and wildlife across the area's mosaic of private, state, and federal lands. Better functioning watersheds will expand secure habitats for a tremendous array of native fish and wildlife. Invasive plants and animals threatening the health and integrity of these landscapes will be adequately addressed through a more cost effective and efficient coordinated effort among stakeholders.

Climate Adaptation Implementation—Invasive Species Early Detection and Rapid Response (+500,000/ +0 FTE)

Prevention has always been the most cost-effective strategy to halt the establishment and spread of invasive species, so a mechanism to support early detection and rapid response (EDRR) will lower the cost of eradication or allow for the suppression of aggressive infestations of invasive species such as cheatgrass. Climate change is increasing the number of wildfires fueled by invasive weeds, such as cheatgrass, that are spreading throughout the Great Basin and the West. Future management of greater sage-grouse habitat must first focus on eliminating cheatgrass, thereby reducing current fire risk and

allowing native plants to regain dominance in the remaining "at risk" Wyoming big sagebrush communities. Over the long term, this will eliminate cheatgrass monocultures and restore those areas that were once productive sagebrush habitat. Innovative current research has developed a way to enhance a naturally occurring cheatgrass-suppressive soil bacterium, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* (*P.f.ACK 55*). Application of this bacterium to the soil of sagebrush communities can reduce cheatgrass to near zero in three to five years after a single application. This in turn would allow native sage-brush species to re-establish and provide habitat for greater sage-grouse and other sage-brush obligate species. Further application of this research is needed to pursue EPA registration of the product and make it available for widespread field application. Current field studies with this bacterium have been on small plots of less than 10 acres. In all cases this potential tool has had no adverse effect on non-target plants, fauna or animals. It is critical to fund and test P.f. ACK55 at the landscape scale to assess whether there are any negative effects at this scale in order to pursue EPA registration.

The National Invasive Species Council (NISC), under the auspices of DOI, will continue to coordinate the establishment and management of an EDRR program pilot, and will support the final development, registration, and deployment of *P.f.* ACK55, in coordination with the Service and other Bureaus, and in partnership with other agencies and entities, such as the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Biological Carbon Sequestration—Development of decision support tools for land managers and other users (+$500,000/ +0 FTE)

The Service recognizes the importance of considering carbon sequestration values in the protection and management of its lands, and is continually looking for data and tools to assist its land acquisition, management, and restoration practices. Use and promotion of carbon sequestration management techniques within the Service will provide land management leadership by demonstrating the link between protecting and increasing biological carbon storage with other land management objectives.

The USGS Biologic Carbon Sequestration Assessment (LandCarbon Project) has identified lands with high carbon sequestration capacity and the potential for future climate change, wildfire, land use change, and land management activities to modify that capacity. Service application of LandCarbon assessment products to conservation and restoration actions could significantly assist in identifying priority lands for acquisition and/or restoration, but will require decision support tools that incorporate biological carbon sequestration considerations into resource planning strategies that are applicable in ecosystems across the United States.

The Service will develop and test tools and guidelines that can be used to identify lands with the greatest current or potential carbon stocks and/or sequestration values for application in two key areas of Service interest: (1) National Wildlife Refuge System's land protection and acquisition activities, and (2) ecological restorations associated with Natural Resource Damage Assessment settlements and with Partners for Fish and Wildlife restoration work.

Program Overview

Service Science funding targets resources to address science for on-the-ground management and conservation outside of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) and Adaptive Science activities. The Service will partner with USGS, universities and other scientific institutions for acquiring scientific knowledge to answer imminent and important natural resource management questions and provide near-term solutions to address urgent and emerging issues. To be effective in its mission-delivery, the Service needs focused, applied science directed at high impact questions surrounding threats to fish and wildlife resources for which management and/or mitigation is required to maintain species at healthy, sustainable, desired levels The Service must base its decisions on the best science available, in order to defend its regulatory decisions, biological opinions and species conservation recommendations to land managers. Some examples of the science needed are:

- Determining potential impacts to species (e.g., golden eagles, the endangered Virginia big-eared and Indiana bats) by wind turbines and how to mitigate project impacts on fish and wildlife resources.
- Identifying science gaps affecting listing determinations as well as recovery plans; such as understanding the decline in northern sea otter and tufted puffin populations.
- Identifying science gaps in managing refuges; for example, understanding the impacts of sea level rise on coastal national wildlife refuges and researching the effectiveness and potential impacts of chemical spraying vs. burning or other management efforts to control invasive species on refuge lands.
- Managing for biological outcomes at landscape levels using a surrogate species conservation approach. Specific areas requiring additional resources include:
    - Identification of surrogate species.
    - Identification of knowledge gaps and uncertainties.
    - Monitoring and evaluation of surrogate species approaches.

Key Examples of Service Science

- Science needs for Energy—The continued and expected growth of wind and solar power, and natural gas and oil drilling, raises questions about the impacts on species of concern from energy projects, including migratory birds; bats; bald and golden eagles and other birds of prey; prairie and sage grouse; Arctic wildlife; and listed, proposed, or candidate endangered and threatened species. The Service must invest resources to focus and accelerate our partners' research on tools, methods, and techniques for siting, designing, monitoring, operating and mitigating these energy projects in ways that can best reduce mortality and other impacts on wildlife. Funding is needed to determine the best mitigation methods, manage energy development-related data, determine how to best track changes to species populations or habitats as a result of energy developments, and explore landscape-level cumulative effects.

  Examples of projects FY 2013 funding supports include:

- **Bald and Golden Eagle**
    - *Survival Studies:* Providing additional CLS/ARGOS satellite time for the Platform Transmitter Terminal (PTT) transmitters which have been placed on golden eagles to develop more robust estimates of survival rates and to obtain an unbiased sample for determining the relative importance of various causes of mortality to help design compensatory mitigation efforts.
    - *Risk Analyses:* Developing a specialized GIS application to manage and track "available" eagle take as a spatial density function, greatly simplifying the current method.

Martin Mecnarowski

    - *Tracking Mortality:* Developing an automated system for tracking PTT data downloads, decreasing the time to find a dead eagle.

- **Desert Tortoises**
  - *Barriers*: Determining the importance of corridors and physical barriers to desert tortoise distribution and gene flow, range-wide, as well as to local/regional population viability.
  - *Threats and Mitigation*: Improving models of threats, threat mitigation, and desert tortoise demographics.
  - *Disease Epidemiology*: Conducting research on desert tortoise diseases and their effects on populations. This information is critical for decisions on translocations of desert tortoises.

- **Bats**
  - *Bat Migration Studies:* Conducting spring emergence studies for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats across the range to locate maternity colonies and identify possible spring migration routes.
  - *Evaluation of Trends and Factors Resulting in Bat Fatality at Existing Wind Projects:* Data from a number of existing wind projects can be compiled and analyzed to better understand the trends and factors resulting in bat fatality at wind projects. This will be useful for assessing siting and environmental factors that affect bat fatality rates, developing quantitative tools to predict anticipated take levels, and devising methods to assess effectiveness of best management practices aimed at reducing bat fatality rates.
  - Bat Acoustic Data Meta-analysis: Coordinating the collection, analysis, and summary of currently available acoustic transect data is useful for informing wind project siting decisions and for better understanding of where to focus mitigation efforts.

Designing conservation management to meet the individual needs of many thousands of species is simply not feasible, nor is determining the effects of energy development on all species at the landscape scale. In response to this challenge, various surrogate approaches – umbrella species, flagship species, indicator species, focal species, or species groups chosen on the basis of taxonomy, habitat, life-history features, or other ecological functions – may provide a more efficient and effective approach to achieving conservation objectives while reducing the burden of addressing the requirements of individual taxa. The use of surrogate species is an evolving field and will require rigorous monitoring and testing of the assumptions made when selecting surrogate species. Funds will be used to help support the selection of surrogate species and implementation of surrogate-derived conservation strategies, within the Strategic Habitat Conservation framework.

Fish and Aquatic Conservation

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
National Fish Hatchery Operations	($000)	*46,075*	46,075	+790	-165	-172	46,528
	FTE	*360*	358	0	0	-3	355
Maintenance and Equipment	($000)	*17,997*	18,031	0	-34	0	17,997
	FTE	*73*	82	0	0	0	82
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation	($000)	*73,910*	71,211	+1,053	-143	+4,289	76,410
	FTE	*342*	342	0	0	-37	305
Total, Fish and Aquatic Conservation	**($000)**	***137,982***	**135,317**	**+1,843**	**-342**	**+4,117**	**140,935**
	FTE	***775***	**782**	**0**	**0**	**-40**	**742**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Program Overview

America's fish and aquatic resources are among the world's richest in abundance and diversity and provide substantial economic, social, and ecological benefits to its citizens. Yet many aquatic resources are declining at alarming rates, outpacing the conservation efforts of the Service and its partners. Almost 400 aquatic animal and plant species require special protection in some part of their natural or historic range. The causes of these declines are largely due to habitat loss and the impact of non-native invasive species.

Approximately 800 employees are located nationwide in over 150 facilities or offices, including 72 National Fish Hatcheries, 65 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (including the Alaska Conservation Genetics Laboratory), one Historic National Fish Hatchery, nine Fish Health Centers, and seven Fish Technology Centers. These varied Service offices conduct assessments of species, habitats, vectors of invasive species and pathogens, and ecological functions. Service employees provide a network unique in its geographic range, array of technical and managerial capabilities, and ability to work across political and program boundaries. Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of the Marine Mammals program will move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation (FAC) to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

FAC works with numerous state, federal, tribal, and private partners to provide services crucial to the survival of aquatic species and their habitats. This work is broken into eight focus areas, each with its own associated goals, strategies, and performance targets that are consistent with the *Fisheries Program Vision*

for the Future that the Service developed in 2003 with the Sport Fish and Boating Partnership Council (SFBPC) and guidance from Congress:

1) Partnerships and Accountability
2) Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management
3) Aquatic Species Conservation and Management
4) Cooperation with Native American Tribes
5) Recreational Fishing and Public Use
6) Leadership in Science and Technology
7) Asset Management
8) Workforce Management

Based on comments solicited in 2009 from national partners and stakeholders, it was clear FAC had changed significantly enough that a new 10-year vision and strategic plan was needed. Today, the SFBPC is leading this effort and is expected to deliver recommendations to the Service by May or June 2013.

Since 1871, the Service has provided national leadership in strategically managing populations of aquatic species, conserving habitat, and sustaining the biological health of America's aquatic resources. Using the Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) framework, efforts are focused on geographic areas and species with the greatest conservation needs. Through accurate biological inventories, assessments, modeling and conservation strategies, the Service works with partners and other Service programs to better understand the threats to fish, wildlife, and habitats. Adhering to the SHC framework, the Service seeks to ameliorate these risks by strategically restoring the connectivity of the nation's waterways, preventing new infestations of aquatic invasive species, and improving the adaptability and resilience of species and their habitats. The ability to design and implement critical research programs, maintain decision-support systems and databases, and deliver on-the-ground and in-the-water conservation is integral to successful conservation.

FAC directly supports the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) model and works with the LCCs across geographic and political borders to foster partnerships with states, tribes, other governments, private organizations, and interested citizens to conserve America's aquatic resources. Through its existing cooperative partnerships such as the National Fish Habitat Action Plan, wide-ranging programs, and over 150 field stations nationwide, FAC expertise can address LCCs' priorities and provide information needed to construct landscape and climate models. Working collaboratively within the LCCs framework, Service scientists and their partners, academia, and other agencies address landscape-scale stressors including habitat fragmentation, genetic isolation, spread of invasive species, and water scarcity—all of which are magnified by accelerating environmental change.

The Service actively implements the President's America's Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative. For generations, the Service has engaged families and local communities to instill a love of the outdoors and a strong conservation ethic in tomorrow's leaders. Working with volunteers, partners, and Fishery Friends Groups, the FAC delivers a wide array of formal and informal conservation education programs. Fisheries Friends Groups help coordinate volunteers and businesses in communities in support of facility operations, special events, and outdoor classrooms for youth. The Program benefits from many adults who become volunteers, Fishery Friends, or youth mentors, and who contribute more than 150,000 hours of their time annually. With thousands of outreach and educational events, the Program reaches over one million youth annually.

Messages on conservation and environmental issues are delivered through innovative, science-based, hands on learning, incorporating programs such as Biologist-in-Training, Kids in the Creek, Baby

Brookies, and the Salmon Festival. The Service also fully supports the Secretary's Youth in the Great Outdoors initiative to create a 21st Century Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) that builds the next generation of conservation and community leaders through youth employment, exposing youth to conservation careers, and targeting under-represented groups, such as those in urban environments, minorities, and women. The Service's Pathways program, rural and tribal YCC programs, and the Biologist-in-Training Program complement these early learning experiences to steer youth into careers in conservation and natural resources management. In particular, the tribal YCC program provides Native youth the opportunity to not only honor their elders, local traditions and culture, but also to participate in valuable career-enhancing work experiences. These youth gain experience in team work, their local natural environment, and conservation practices. Several former YCC participants are now employed in the Service.

FAC continues to fuel American economic growth in local communities. As evidenced in *Net Worth, The Economic Value of Fisheries Conservation Fall 2011* report, FAC:

- Generates $3.6 billion in annual contributions to the U.S. economy
- Annually returns 28 times our initial federal investment (taxpayer dollars)
- Generates 13.5 million angler days
- Creates 68,000 jobs
- Returns real benefits back to local economies as a result of National Fish Hatchery System activities, such as:
  - $551 million in retail sales;
  - $903 million in industrial output;
  - $256 million in wages/salaries; and
  - $35 million in local tax revenues from recreational angling.

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation
Subactivity: National Fish Hatchery System Operations

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
National Fish Hatchery Operations	($000)	*46,075*	46,075	+790	-165	-172	46,528
	FTE	*360*	358	0	0	-3	355

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for National Fish Hatchery System Operations

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• General Program Activities	-172	-3
Program Changes	**-172**	**-3**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the National Fish Hatchery System Operations is $46,528,000 and 355 FTE, a net program change of -$172,000 and -3 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (-$172,000/-3 FTE)
This $172,000 net decrease includes an additional $228,000 for critical supplies for the National Fish Hatchery system and a reduction of $400,000 for the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) program.

Critical supplies, which include fish food and fuel for fish distribution, support successful, collaborative recovery and restoration programs for Federal trust species such as threatened Apache and Gila trout, endangered Atlantic salmon, and a myriad of imperiled native mussel and amphibian species. The requested funding will be used for the highest priority work of the National Fish Hatchery System, as defined by an internal review of propagation facilities within the National Fish Hatchery System. The Service will sustain animals currently held in refugium, as well provide refugium for trust aquatic species in emergency situations, as in the case of five threatened and endangered fish impacted by the 2012 Whitewater Baldy Complex Fire in New Mexico.

The Service will decrease funding for its AADAP program by $400,000 and three FTE to focus base funds toward higher-priority fish and aquatic conservation activities. The number of data related submissions to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the approval of new animal drugs and the number of applied aquatic science and technology tools developed will be impacted. In the past, AADAP has worked under interagency agreements with states to help recover some of the drug approval process costs; the Service will pursue similar agreements with the states and other partners in FY 2014. Additionally, the Service is exploring development of a user-pay system to recover costs associated with developmental work of the AADAP Program.

Program Overview

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) consists of 72 National Fish Hatcheries (NFHs), nine Fish Health Centers (FHCs), seven Fish Technology Centers (FTCs), one Historic National Fish Hatchery, and the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) Program. It operates under the authority of numerous treaties and consent decrees, recovery and restoration plans, and statutes. Its contribution to habitat conservation is multi-faceted and its activities provide some of the scientific basis for recovery and restoration programs inherent in the National Fish Habitat Action Plan and the Landscape

Conservation Cooperatives. A unique network of highly-skilled scientists work with hundreds of state, tribal, and non-governmental organizations and private citizen partners to deliver conservation of Federally-listed and non-listed aquatic species. These skills include propagation of healthy and genetically-appropriate aquatic animals and plants to help re-establish wild populations; leadership in applied research, aquatic animal health diagnostics, and assessment; and development of new animal drugs. Working closely with partners, the Service also provides recreational opportunities, conservation, and economic benefits to local communities.

The NFHS is a key contributor to the restoration and recovery of Federally-listed and non-listed aquatic species with declining populations. The enormity of the challenge, and the significance of the Service's participation in aquatic species conservation, is indicated by the 142 species held in refugia, worked with, or propagated in 2012, a significant increase over the 81 species reared just a decade earlier. Non-fish species (mussels, amphibians, plants, etc) propagation increased from seven species in 1998 to 49 in 2012. The Service anticipates a changing environment will increase the numbers of species that require captive propagation to avoid extinction.

Through applied research, captive propagation and refugia, and development of innovative assessment techniques prescribed in species Recovery Plans, the NFHS contributes to the recovery of threatened and endangered aquatic species and populations. Genetic tools are used to identify populations, set recovery goals, guide captive propagation programs, and assess population recovery. Captive propagation techniques are developed, refined, and implemented, while studies in applied physiology and ecology help address problems related to survival in the wild or help establish basic life history parameters. The development of non-lethal marking and tagging techniques assists in the evaluation of propagation programs and enhances adaptive management, while modeling techniques help link restoration actions to population goals. Hatcheries provide refugia for populations impacted by wildfire, drought, or other environmental conditions, and provide critical infrastructure as environmental changes continue to affect a number of native aquatic species. Additionally, a small percentage of hatcheries produce fish to mitigate the adverse effects of federal water development projects, primarily on a reimbursable basis.

The NFHS supports many other Service program priorities. Water resources and the associated riparian habitats found on NFHs attract many different bird species and may provide critical stopovers on annual migrations. Stations in proximity to the US/Mexico border are especially important, as they are positioned in a major migratory bird flyway and are often enhanced with the assistance of local communities to attract waterfowl and other species and to provide viewing opportunities. Additionally, the NFHS works with the National Wildlife Refuge System to survey aquatic animal populations on and adjacent to refuge lands, and may provide native and recreational species of fish for restoration/recovery efforts or recreational angling.

Science and Technology – The Service's Fish Health and Fish Technology Centers provide the scientific foundation for many recovery and restoration programs. The AADAP program works to ensure continued progress toward obtaining FDA-approved and EPA-compliant new animal drugs for use in federal, state, tribal, and private fish propagation programs throughout the U.S. Areas addressed by Fish Health and Fish Technology centers involve genetic analyses, nutrition, ecological physiology, reproductive biology, population dynamics and modeling, cryopreservation, biometrics, culture technologies, disease diagnostics, aquatic health management, and invasive species studies.

Authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Fish Technology Centers address an array of research topics related to altered habitat conditions and population fragmentation, stemming from various factors. Examples of this research include studying the physiological impacts of temperature-induced stress on reproduction and survival of endangered species, providing management guidance on the effects of

reduced stream flow, and examining invasive species pathways and their impacts on native fish populations, and examining genetic diversity.

As FTCs continue to develop and refine technology associated with cryopreservation of reproductive cells to assist in restoration and recovery efforts, the Service benefits from reduced space and costs related to housing live broodstock and assurance of genetically representative specimens at spawning time. Cryopreservation provides a safeguard for preserving genetic diversity and with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Agriculture, the NFHS can transfer cryopreserved cells for secure archiving within USDA's National Germplasm Repository in Ft. Collins, CO until they are needed for restoration and recovery.

Aquatic Animal Health – As environmental and human-related changes impact the landscape, the potential for impacts from the introduction or spread of dangerous aquatic pathogens to our nation's aquatic species increases. The Service's Fish Health Center's (FHC) aquatic animal health biologists detect and monitor pathogens, providing timely information to help fisheries managers make informed conservation and management decisions, and investigating emerging animal health issues such as threats from global environmental change that threaten the health and well-being of all aquatic species. These centers are critical components of the Service's aquatic animal health program and guide the National Aquatic Animal Health Plan in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. FHCs provide expertise to the State Department in the trade of live fish products and to the American Fisheries Society's Fish Health Section in detecting pathogens and infectious diseases. The FHCs are also important participants in the new National Aquatic Animal Pathogen Testing Network, the preeminent source of information on the status of aquatic animal pathogens in the wild.

Located in Bozeman, Montana, AADAP coordinates the data gathering and analysis, compilation of final study reports, dissemination of information and data, and management of data submissions to the FDA in support of new animal drug approvals for aquatic species. The Service has worked under interagency agreements with the states to help recover the costs associated with the drug approval process. In addition, the program also benefits from grants from other agencies. In FY 2014 the Service will pursue similar agreements with the states and others for additional cost recovery.

Recreation – The Service works to restore, enhance, and protect native fish and their habitats, including game fish. Working with state, tribal, non-governmental organizations, and other partners, and operating under approved fishery management plans, the Service restores depleted populations of native game fish and enhances fishing opportunities. The Service's responsibilities and authorities for recreational fishing and native fish are established in a variety of laws and support the activities of more than 58 million recreational anglers.

According to the peer-reviewed report, the *Economic Effects of Rainbow Trout Production by the NFHS*, the $5.4 million from reimbursable agreements that is expended by NFHS field stations to grow and stock rainbow trout provide a total economic output of $325 million. These agreements are primarily with states, tribes, and local agencies. This 60:1 return on taxpayer investment directly supports over 3,500 jobs and $173 million in angling-related sales.

According to the peer-reviewed report, *Conserving America's Fisheries, An Assessment of Economic Contributions from Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation*, recreational angling resulting from National Fish Hatchery stocking programs generates 13.5 million angler-days; $554 million in retail sales; $903 million in industrial output; 8,000 jobs; $256 million in wages/salaries; $37 million in federal tax revenues; and $35 million in local tax revenues. These recreational fish grown by the Service are funded through reimbursable agreements. National Fish Hatcheries in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia,

Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Louisiana reared and released 22.3 million sport fish in 12 southeastern states that provided 3.2 million days of fishing, generating $239 million in economic output and supported 3,100 jobs.

Conservation Education – National Fish Hatcheries are integral parts of the communities in which they are located. Through the National Fish Hatchery System Volunteer Act of 2006, FAC offers outdoor classroom opportunities for over one million youth each year that combine educational curricula with personal experiences with fish, aquatic species and their habitats, and the cultural and historical resources of these hatchery facilities. Through these outdoor classrooms the Service seeks to improve scientific literacy while promoting conservation of aquatic species and cultural resources through hands-on experiences and opportunities for discovery. The Program also reaches out to families by working in cooperation with volunteers, partners and Fishery Friends Groups to deliver a wide array of formal and informal conservation education programs both on and off Service properties.

Mitigation – Consistent with FAC *Strategic Plan* and *Vision for the Future*, and authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Service supplies fish for federal agencies to mitigate the adverse effects of federal water development projects while focusing on native fish recovery and restoration. To address the future aquatic resource needs of the U.S., the Service must focus its resources on our highest priority production species. Service resources will address recovery of threatened and endangered species, restoration of imperiled species and fulfillment of tribal trust responsibilities and mitigation hatcheries will be run on a fee-for-service basis. The Service has partnered with the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bonneville Power Administration to recover the costs associated with mitigation fish hatcheries, establishing a user-pay system for a number of hatcheries.

2014 Program Performance

The Program will maintain NFH operations and existing staffing levels and fund fish production and distribution through critical supplies (fish food and fuel for fish distribution). The NFHs will maintain the current levels of production and sustain the animals currently held in refugium and will continue to provide refugium for trust aquatic species in emergency situations, such as the five threatened and endangered fish that were impacted by the 2012 Whitewater Baldy Complex Fire in NM and held at the Moran NFH and the Dexter NFH and Technology Center.

The NFHS will continue its multi-faceted efforts to accelerate recovery of listed fish and other native aquatic species. Working with state, tribal, federal, non-governmental, and internal partners (in particular, the Endangered Species Program and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices), the NFHS will implement recovery activities that include propagation and stocking of healthy, genetically-sound fish, and providing refugia to populations in distress—tasks prescribed in recovery and fishery management plans. The NFHS will continue to complete recovery and restoration plan tasks, including: 1) improving culture, spawning, and rearing methods; 2) enhancing “wild” attributes to maximize survival of broodstock and progeny; and 3) propagating genetically fit native aquatic species for reintroduction into restored habitats. High-priority projects include the production and release of native trout, other finfish, and imperiled and declining native amphibian and freshwater mussel species.

The NFHS’ Fish Health Centers (FHC) will continue to provide diagnostic support to our NFHs and state and tribal hatcheries, and work with the USDA and Great Lakes partners on pathogen issues. In addition, FHC personnel will be working closely with USDA-APHIS and other federal, state, and tribal partners to implement the National Aquatic Animal Health Plan. Fish Technology Centers (FTC) will continue to provide fishery managers with science support through development of new concepts and techniques to solve specific problems in aquatic restoration and recovery activities. In particular, FTCs will focus on

aquatic resources issues, such as effects of water temperature and other factors on species reproduction, growth, and survival. FTCs will expand efforts to characterize genetic diversity as a basis for management decisions and work to develop models that predict the population response of various management actions, such as habitat restoration to assist NFHs with improved water conservation and treatment technologies.

National Fish Hatcheries Performance and Change Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
CSF 5.3 Percent of tasks implemented, as prescribed in management plans	74% (2,866 of 3,894)	63% (2,453 of 3,906)	58% (2,525 of 4,384)	56% (2,568 of 4,600)	52% (2,500 of 4,800)	45% (2,063 of 4,600)	-11%	61% (2,388 of 3,906)
5.3.1.3 % of tasks implemented, as prescribed in management plans - NFHS	34% (1,339 of 3,894)	36% (1,418 of 3,906)	33% (1,551 of 4,693)	30% (1,601 of 5,305)	24% (1,641 of 6,773)	30% (1,591 of 5,305)	0%	27% (1,041 of 3,906)
Comments	AADAP -$400K decrease = (-10) less FMP tasks in FY2014.							
5.3.7 # of applied aquatic science and technologic tools developed through publications	311	286	266	280	208	241	-39 (-13.9%)	286
Comments	AADAP -$400K decrease = (-39) less tools.							
5.3.8 # of data-related submissions made to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to complete technical section requirements for the approval of new animal drugs for use in aquatic species for which FDA assigns a Document Control Number.	97	118	104	123	92	71	-52 (-42.3%)	101
Comments	AADAP -$400K decrease = (-52) less number of data-related submissions made to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to complete technical section requirements for the approval of new animal drugs.							
5.5.1 The condition of NFHS mission critical water management assets, as measured by the DOI FCI, is x. (GPRA)	0.106 (115,472,369 of 1,087,233,873)	0.098 (128,244,148 of 1,305,484,969)	0.090 (121,403,568 of 1,344,649,517)	0.093 (121,923,996 of 1,309,977,842)	0.086 (124,850,172 of 1,456,067,641)	0.093 (121,923,996 of 1,309,977,842)	0.000	0.098 (128,244,148 of 1,305,484,969)
CSF 7.21 Percent of populations of aquatic threatened and endangered species (T&E) that are self-sustaining in the wild	11% (70 of 639)	10% (70 of 701)	10% (71 of 689)	11% (80 of 711)	8% (53 of 680)	11% (80 of 711)	0%	9% (66 of 701)

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
7.21.5.3 % of tasks implemented as prescribed in Recovery Plans - NFHS	35% (445 of 1,286)	33% (460 of 1,404)	32% (436 of 1,379)	28% (419 of 1,471)	24% (396 of 1,670)	28% (419 of 1,471)	0%	23% (322 of 1,404)
CSF 13.1 Percent of archaeological sites and historic structures on FWS inventory in good condition	13% (2,916 of 21,608)	20% (3,335 of 16,812)	18% (3,033 of 16,923)	19% (3,267 of 17,185)	22% (3,779 of 17,282)	19% (3,267 of 17,185)	0%	13% (2,917 of 21,608)
13.1.5 % of NFHS historic structures in FWS inventory that are in good condition (GPRA)	78% (28 of 36)	81% (29 of 36)	83% (30 of 36)	70% (26 of 37)	70% (26 of 37)	70% (26 of 37)	0%	81% (29 of 36)
13.1.7 NFHS Cultural and Natural Heritage-related Facilities Improvement: Overall condition of NFHS cultural and natural heritage facilities ((GPRA)	0.066 (1,284,801 of 19,480,085)	0.043 (1,284,801 of 29,657,551)	0.048 (1,418,579 of 29,657,551)	0.060 (1,903,287 of 31,879,589)	0.059 (1,903,287 of 31,995,370)	0.060 (1,903,287 of 31,879,589)	0	0.043 (1,284,801 of 29,657,551)
13.2.3 % of NFHS cultural collections in FWS inventory are in good condition (GPRA)	100% (1 of 1)	100% (1 of 1)	100% (1 of 1)	100% (1 of 1)	100% (1 of 1)	100% (1 of 1)	0%	100% (1 of 1)
CSF 15.4 Percent of fisheries mitigation tasks implemented as prescribed in approved management plans	76% (56 of 74)	96% (73 of 76)	70% (74 of 105)	91% (87 of 96)	73% (80 of 110)	91% (87 of 96)	0%	49% (37 of 76)
15.5.4 NFHS Recreation-related Facilities Improvement: Overall condition of NFHS buildings and structures (GPRA)	0.073 (2,089,589 of 28,669,669)	0.062 (2,089,589 of 33,477,839)	0.618 (21,309,161 of 34,482,174)	0.162 (26,640,720 of 164,670,764)	0.148 (27,280,098 of 183,891,378)	0.162 (26,640,720 of 164,670,764)	0	0.062 (2,089,589 of 33,477,839)
CSF 18.1 Percent of planned tasks implemented for Tribal fish and wildlife conservation as prescribed by Tribal plans or agreements	65% (351 of 538)	55% (335 of 608)	63% (349 of 555)	68% (367 of 538)	62% (350 of 560)	58% (313 of 538)	-10% (-54 of 538)	46% (281 of 608)

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
54.1.6 NFHS Administrative Facilities Improvement: Overall condition of NFHS buildings and structures ((GPRA)	0.119 (34,470,113 of 289,067,422)	0.104 (34,470,113 of 332,564,082)	0.058 (19,899,238 of 342,541,000)	0.083 (23,300,568 of 282,269,649)	0.078 (23,859,783 of 305,493,867)	0.083 (23,300,568 of 282,269,649)	0.000	0.104 (34,470,113 of 332,564,082)

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation
Subactivity: Maintenance and Equipment

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
National Fish Hatchery Maintenance and Equipment	($000)	*17,479*	17,513	0	-34	0	17,479
	FTE	*73*	82	0	0	0	82
FWCO Maintenance and Equipment	($000)	*518*	518	0	0	0	518
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Maintenance and Equipment	**($000)**	***17,997***	**18,031**	**0**	**-34**	**0**	**17,997**
	FTE	***73***	**82**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**82**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Maintenance and Equipment is $17,997,000 and 82 FTE, requesting no net program change and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Program Overview

Properly functioning and adequately maintained equipment, as well as the condition of equipment used in water delivery and outflow and for fish production, are all critical in delivering the Service's mission to restore native aquatic populations to self-sustaining levels. An overall, comprehensive, proactive asset management system is essential to ensure adequate water flow and quality to sustain captive aquatic populations to meet recovery, restoration, and mitigation objectives and tribal trust responsibilities identified in Recovery Plans and Fishery Management Plans.

Service Asset & Maintenance Management System (SAMMS)

Under the auspices of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and DOI standards, the Service has developed an Asset Management Plan that guides program management of its nearly $2 billion in essential real and personal property inventories, including systematic and objective tracking, evaluation, reporting of asset condition, and prioritization of asset management. Using SAMMS, an integrated web-based information system, the Service standardizes asset management, corroborates deferred maintenance needs with objective condition assessment data, identifies short- and long-term maintenance needs, and initiates analyses of annual operating and maintenance expenditures.

National Fish Hatchery System Maintenance and Equipment

These funds allow the Service to provide timely upkeep of hatchery property and equipment, purchase maintenance-related supplies, and repair, rehabilitate, or replace built assets. The ability of the Service to accomplish its mission is largely determined by the condition of key assets associated with water delivery, aquatic species culture, and effluent management. These assets include those that deliver, treat, and discharge water from the station, and those that regulate the rearing or holding environment of fish and other aquatic species, to minimize losses associated with water supply failure, especially those involving threatened and endangered species. Three-fourths of the NFHS's $1.75 billion of real property assets are mission-critical. The Service has developed asset performance measures and a strategy for ensuring its crucial assets remain fully functional. The Department measures real property

asset conditions using a Facility Condition Index (FCI), a ratio of repair cost to replacement cost. The Service's current rating is higher than DOI's standard but still considered "fair."

The Service's Asset Management Plan and Regional Asset Business Plans are used to manage assets, address repair needs, and dispose of assets that are low in priority or excess to the government's needs. A rigorous Condition Assessment process ensures that repair needs are determined objectively and associated costs are appropriately estimated using industry standards. To ensure critical assets remain in fully operational condition, attention to both annual maintenance (regular servicing of water supply components) and deferred maintenance (outstanding repair needs of these vital assets) is necessary.

Environmental concerns and energy costs have increased over the past several years, prompting the Service to track energy use by station and to some extent by asset, and providing the impetus for thorough consideration of what these data indicate. In FY 2012, the NFHS had the following energy uses:

- The NFHS's real property assets constitute 7.6% of all Service assets by replacement value, yet account for 37% of all Service energy use;
- The average NFHS field station uses 2.3 billion British Thermal Units (BTUs) annually, over 3 times the 0.7 billion BTU average used by non-NFHS field stations; and
- Seventeen of the NFHS's 85 field stations account for 62% of all NFHS' energy use.

Hatcheries can play an important role in reducing the Service's and the Department's carbon footprint. Service staff are developing energy performance measures reflective of both energy use by station and energy reduction opportunities. Energy consumption can be reduced through building renovations, new technologies, and proper placement and sizing of cost effective renewable energy systems. Annual analysis of the greatest energy-consuming stations, along with metering, will help significantly. Required energy audits every five years have continued to focus our attention on utilizing energy wisely.

The Maintenance Budget includes three components: 1) Annual Maintenance, 2) Deferred Maintenance, and 3) Equipment Repair and Replacement.

Annual Maintenance – Properly managed, annual preventive maintenance is the most logical and cost-effective way to address maintenance issues before they occur. Annual maintenance funds pay salaries of maintenance employees, ensure timely upkeep of hatchery real property and equipment, purchase maintenance-related supplies (e.g., lumber, pipe, paint, tools, filters), and replace small equipment (generally less than $5,000). Current annual maintenance funding allows priority preventive maintenance needs to be addressed. Similarly, critical water assets such as wells and pumps require regular care to ensure dependable operation. Existing funding will be used to service such components at appropriate intervals, reducing the likelihood of preventable pump failure. Through SAMMS and condition assessments, the Service can plan recurring maintenance to enable more proactive asset management, reduce maintenance needs from becoming more costly deferred maintenance deficiencies, and foster successful operations and mission delivery.

Deferred Maintenance – Three-fourths of the NFHS's $1.75 billion in assets are mission-critical water management assets that are currently in fair condition (based on the 9.46% FCI identified above). Ensuring these properties are fully functional is key to the Service's ability to conserve fish and other aquatic species. Deferred maintenance projects are directed at the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of constructed assets, target assets used for restoration, recovery, outdoor education, and mitigation. The current focus is on high-priority mission-critical water management projects and human health and safety projects to maintain current efficiencies (including reduced losses) in fish production and address safety issues. The NFHS has identified $177 million in current deferred maintenance needs.

The 5-Year Deferred Maintenance/Construction Plan prioritizes the projects of greatest need, focusing first on human health and safety and then on critical resource protection. The Service has undertaken an intense effort in the field, Regions, and Headquarters to develop and refine this list. Modifications to the list occur through its annual review and update, with the addition of a new fifth year, and then it is submitted to the Congress.

Equipment: Routine Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement – Equipment is essential for proper hatchery operations. Over $35 million in machinery (fish pumps, tractors, loaders, backhoes, riding mowers), fish transports (trucks, tanks, oxygen containment), standard vehicles (pickups, sedans, vans), and tools (table saws, welders, and hand-held power tools) are maintained. With proper operation by trained and qualified personnel and with scheduled maintenance completed and documented in a timely manner, equipment will remain in a safe, operating condition for the foreseeable future. Proper maintenance of equipment includes both short- and long-term storage.

The NFHS equipment funds pay for maintenance, repair, and replacement of equipment. Replacement generally targets items with a value between $5,000 and $30,000, and includes passenger vehicles. More expensive equipment purchases are identified in the Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Plan. To minimize the need to purchase expensive specialized equipment and to maximize efficiency, the NFHS works closely with the National Wildlife Refuge System to accomplish certain projects using Refuge equipment and personnel. If scheduling conflicts arise, specialized equipment can be leased from the private sector and Refuge-based equipment operators are loaned to hatcheries for the duration of the project, saving the Service considerable funds.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office Maintenance and Equipment – Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office maintenance and equipment funds are used to purchase and maintain over $21 million in assets such as boats, vehicles, and sampling equipment. This equipment is essential for inventory and monitoring of aquatic species and is critical to the Service's mission to restore native aquatic populations to self-sustaining levels.

2014 Program Performance

The NFHS will continue to work on its repair needs involving mission-critical water management assets by implementing the following highly-ranked projects from the 2014-2018 NFHS Deferred Maintenance Plan:

- The FY 2014 Deferred Maintenance plan has numerous projects to rehabilitate, repair, or replace water lines and valves at Norfork NFH (AR), Warm Springs NFH (GA), Ouray NFH (UT), Inks Dam NFH (TX), and Harrison Lake NFH (VA). These water lines and valves are critical to moving water for aquatic animals and are therefore critical to fulfilling the mission of these hatcheries.
- Rehabilitate raceways and install raceway covers at Jordan River NFH (MI) to improve rearing conditions for lake trout, improve fish health, reduce water loss, and prevent bird predation and prevent avian transfer of fish diseases. This project will further support lake trout restoration in the Great Lakes and meet production goals for the U.S. v. Michigan consent decree.
- Replace the ultraviolet water treatment system at Mora NFH (NM) to disinfect reused water and provide clean rearing water to threatened Gila trout.
- Repair concrete burrows ponds at Kooskia NFH (ID) that were built in 1969. Epoxy coating will be applied to improve the health of Chinook salmon, prevent water leaks, and extend the useful life of these concrete ponds at this hatchery that is managed by the Nez Perce Tribe.

Maintenance issues that directly deal with human health and safety, water delivery, water treatment (both influent and effluent), fish culture, and efficient discharge are high priorities for the Service. Maintenance

and water supply failures have caused fish losses or seriously impacted production programs, such as the recent back-up generator switch failure at Jackson Hole NFH (WY), which resulted in the loss of 150,000 Snake River cutthroat trout and affected the programs of partner agencies, including the Idaho Fish and Game Department, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the Wind River Reservation and the Bureau of Reclamation. A dedicated Service workforce continues to maximize production of a large variety of aquatic species for restoration, recovery, and mitigation. Rehabilitating or replacing critical assets is necessary to meet program goals and the expectations of the Service's many partners and stakeholders in aquatic resource conservation.

Addressing critical maintenance needs will help meet Facility Condition Index performance targets. Furthermore, continuing to conduct condition assessments has directly contributed to increasing the credibility of NFHS repair needs identified for essential assets.

In FY 2014 the NFHS is committed to:

- Continuing the second 5-year cycle of assessments by completing Condition Assessments at approximately 20 percent of the hatcheries. Efforts will continue to improve the assessment program by implementing knowledge gained in the first 5-year cycle, using SAMMS to improve the efficiency of the data storage and retrieval system, and increasing the reliability of data used to effectively and efficiently meet DOI and NFHS maintenance goals and objectives.
- Implementing an Asset Management Plan and Asset Business Plan that outlines proactive strategies to maintain assets for their efficient, safe use. Critical water management assets in poor or marginal condition will continue to be the primary focus of NFHS asset management efforts. The NFHS will incorporate energy efficient components and materials into all projects to reduce energy usage Additionally, Asset Business Plans developed at the Regional level will continue to be implemented, ensuring essential Service uniformity in managing its crucial assets.

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation
Subactivity: Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Habitat Assessment and Restoration	($000)	*25,358*	24,553	+245	-48	+2,227	26,977
	FTE	*117*	115	0	0	-12	103
Population Assessment and Cooperative Management	($000)	*32,291*	31,991	+588	-75	-3,493	29,011
	FTE	*173*	170	0	0	-37	133
Aquatic Invasive Species	($000)	*10,336*	8,836	+107	-11	+5,524	14,456
	FTE	*28*	30	0	0	+12	42
Marine Mammals	($000)	*5,925*	5,831	+113	-9	+31	5,966
	FTE	*24*	27	0	0	0	27
Total, Aquatic Habitat & Species Conservation	**($000)**	***73,910***	**71,211**	**+1,053**	**-143**	**+4,289**	**76,410**
	FTE	***342***	**342**	**0**	**0**	**-37**	**305**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Asian Carp	+5,903	+12
• Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement	+1,610	0
• Fish Passage Improvements	+1,518	+3
• Cooperative Recovery	+1,500	0
• Tribal Consultation	+180	0
• Ecosystem Restoration – Chesapeake Bay	+145	0
• State Plans/NISA Implementation/Coordination	+132	0
• Marine Mammals, General Program Activities	+31	0
• Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention	-149	0
• Aquatic Invasive Species Control and Management	-507	0
• Habitat Assessment and Restoration, General Program Activities	-1,081	-15
• Alaska Fisheries Subsistence	-2,254	-3
• Population Assessment and Cooperative Management, General Program Activities	-2,739	-34
Program Changes	**+4,289**	**-37**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation is $76,410,000 and 305 FTE, a net program change of +$4,289,000 and -37 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Asian Carp (+$5,903,000/+12 FTE)

Asian carp are a voracious and prolific fish that can devastate important fisheries across entire watersheds by destroying habitat, consuming native fishes' food, and over-populating the ecosystem. This funding increase will allow the Service to dedicate a strong focus on limiting the spread of these invasive fish in major watersheds that are highly likely to have habitat suitable for self-sustaining populations of Asian carp, such as the Great Lakes and the Missouri, Ohio, and Upper Mississippi River watersheds. The

Service will build upon our initial investment of funds in FY 2012 for work inside the Great Lakes and continue work initiated in FY 2013 for Asian carp activities outside the Great Lakes as directed by the *Management and Control Plan for Bighead, Black, Grass, and Silver Carps in the United States* (ACMCP).

Included in this increase is $903,000 to support critical monitoring, prevention, and control actions in the Great Lakes as identified in the *Asian Carp Control Strategy Framework* for the Service. Since FY 2012, the Service has established an eDNA lab at the La Crosse Fish Health Center to help identify possible carp invasions and allow more effective responses. With this funding, the Service will be able to more effectively implement our eDNA sampling and analysis efforts here, building upon existing early detection and surveillance. The effort will complement an enhanced program of traditional sampling that will be used to rapidly assess the abundance and distribution of Asian carp where eDNA samples find a positive result. Working together, the two techniques will help ensure Asian carp populations are rapidly identified and targeted before they can continue to spread. The public is a critical partner in this work, and funds will also be used to increase outreach that both educates and informs constituents of the hazards of Asian carp, resulting in a more committed public capable of taking responsible actions to mitigate the spread of this highly invasive species.

In addition to working in the Great Lakes, funds will support activities outside the Great Lakes that are directed by the ACMCP. A coordinated response to Asian carp includes early detection and rapid assessment, containment, rapid response, and control. Together, these elements form the strongest possible barrier to preventing Asian carp from continuing their spread into new areas where they can alter the existing ecosystem and cause harm. Some of these actions will use funds provided to the states to achieve objectives and outcomes that have been identified in State Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans, the Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species rapid response and management plans, and other ANS planning documents produced by our state, tribal, and federal partners. Building on our work since FY 2012, the Service will dedicate $5 million of our total Asian carp funds for this important work.

- $2,000,000 will be used for early detection and rapid assessment, supporting both eDNA and traditional fish sampling tools. Priorities will be set based on risk assessment of the species, pathways by which they spread, and geographic location.
- $1,500,000 will be used for containment to help keep Asian carp from spreading from areas where they already exist. For example, physical barriers will help keep Asian carp from spreading independently. The Service will work with the states and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to design, construct, and evaluate structure(s) placed in the Upper Mississippi River system and other priority areas identified as leading edges of either present or potential Asian Carp invasions. Improved partnerships and outreach, such as better use of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point planning, will also create an “information barrier” that encourages behavioral changes to contain the spread of Asian carp. The Service will also partner with the states and law enforcement to investigate and interdict illegal shipments of Asian carp, and identify and develop consistent and uniform regulations that better manage the trade in Asian carp for allowed purposes.
- Using information supplied by results of early detection and rapid assessment, $500,000 will support state-led rapid response efforts to attempt eradication of Asian carp incipient invasions in locations outside of their established range.
- $1,000,000 will be allocated toward control. Based on risk assessment of established population impacts, the Service will support state-led efforts to control abundance of Asian carp at locations where impacts are, or are projected to be, highest. Control targets will be at or below levels that allow sustainability of native species and habitats. Together, these efforts will form a shield allowing coordinated action among partners. Up to $500,000 of this funding will be awarded to states under a

competitive grant process for control actions identified by ACMCP and under the aegis of the state's State/Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan. Portions of other components may be competitively awarded to states as well if warranted.

As an example of expected performance, in FY 2014 the AIS Program will control and manage nine aquatic invasive species populations, including Asian carp in watersheds such as the Great Lakes, Ohio, upper Mississippi, and Missouri River. With partners, the AIS Program will conduct an additional 131 activities to support the management and control of aquatic invasive species populations, such as those highlighted above.

Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (+$1,610,000/+0 FTE)
Funds will be directed to the Arcata, Yreka, and Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Offices to continue critically needed fisheries and fish habitat monitoring, planning, and habitat restoration programs for listed and native fish. Projects will include fish-related monitoring and modeling (such as fish population, water temperature, hydrology, water quality, fish disease, and stock assessments, fish and watershed habitat planning and assessments), fish and watershed habitat planning and restoration projects, and projects to improve instream flows for fish. These offices will continue to produce data, analytical tools, plans, and models that are crucial to improving the health of the Klamath River and its tributaries and provide critical support to agency, tribal, and other parties who have come together to settle long disputed claims in the Klamath Basin.

Demands on Service staff, supported in part by these funds, are anticipated to increase significantly in 2014 due to increasing demands on limited water supplies. These funds will also enhance the Service's ability to restore high-priority stream habitats and recover listed and native fish species in the Klamath system while working with stakeholders to resolve natural resource issues. This funding supports the removal of one barrier to reopen four miles of historic habitat, implementation of nine fishery management plan and six recovery plan tasks, seven new or modified tribal fish and wildlife cooperative agreements, six new tribal fish and wildlife conservation consultations, and updating status and trend information for aquatic species in the Klamath River Basin.

Habitat Assessment and Restoration—Fish Passage Improvements (+$1,518,000/+3 FTE)
The additional $1,518,000 requested for the National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) will be used to implement as many as 28 high-priority barrier removal or bypass projects that will reconnect roughly 300 river miles and over 2,000 wetland acres of aquatic habitat. This will result in an estimated $200 million in economic benefits to local communities, create or maintain over 1,300 jobs, support practices of responsible water stewardship for ranchers and farmers, and implement long term flood resiliency for road crossings and related infrastructure. The Service will work with over 700 partners to assist local communities with the planning and implementation of these projects, and will leverage additional financial and other in-kind resources to maximize benefits. This funding increase supports the goals of the President's *America's Great Outdoors* initiative by promoting recreational and economic opportunities for local communities created by reconnecting America's rivers and restoring watershed corridors.

The Service's focus will be on rivers where large portions of the watershed can be reconnected for fish and aquatic species and where the largest return on investment can be achieved. These areas include flood prone places where NFPP assists communities to implement flood resilient road infrastructure projects. Areas of work may include:

- Removing culverts and remnant dams in the Narraguagus River, Maine, which restores connectivity to 150 miles of stream habitat for brook trout, American eel, and alewife (habitat and fishery

population assessments have been completed and existing shovel-ready projects can be initiated immediately);

- Removing the Pigg River Dam, Virginia, which restores connectivity on more than ten river miles for Federally-listed endangered Roanoke logperch, other native fish species supporting a recreational opportunities, and State-listed native aquatic species; and
- Working with ranchers to construct fish friendly water diversions in states such as Wyoming, Montana, Nevada, and California, which provides safe passage to endangered or declining native species like the redband, coastal cutthroat, and bull trout.

All NFPP projects are voluntary, collaborative efforts with multiple partners and provide benefits for both aquatic species and economies of local communities. The NFPP helps communities build sustainable road crossing infrastructure, which increases public safety, lowers long term replacement costs, and opens habitat for fish and other aquatic species.

Cooperative Recovery (+$1,500,000/+0 FTE)

The increased funds will support FAC's efforts in this cross-programmatic initiative to complete planning, restoration, and management actions addressing current threats to listed species on and around National Wildlife Refuges. FAC is a key player in this initiative and works to ensure the Service's aquatic species and habitat conservation needs are addressed. Working within the framework of SHC, and in close coordination with LCC's, Fish Habitat Partnerships, and other Service Programs, FAC biologists serve as aquatic conservation subject matter experts and provide significant contributions to the successful identification of projects that address the species of highest conservation need, and on the ground delivery and post-project monitoring of the projects.

Ecosystems surrounding National Wildlife Refuges provide important habitat for over 400 Federally-listed plants and animals and can provide essential connectivity on a landscape-scale for both terrestrial and aquatic native species conservation. The Service's core activities in conserving native aquatic trust populations at the national, regional, and local scales are primarily focused on aquatic population and habitat assessment, restoration, and monitoring; captive propagation and species repatriation and/or reintroduction support; aquatic invasive species prevention and management; conservation genetics; applied research; and refugia for 94 threatened and endangered aquatic species. This work directly supports the Service's capability to recover listed species and prevent the need to list those that are vulnerable to environmental change.

Increased funding for Cooperative Recovery will result in new habitat and population assessments for native aquatic species, current status and trend data for a threatened and /or endangered population, and implementation of two new recovery plan tasks. These tasks will serve to stem the loss of keystone fish species on several National Wildlife Refuges that also support fish and aquatic species and bolster economies of local communities through recreational fishing.

Tribal Consultation (+$180,000/+0 FTE)

The requested increase will be used for informal tribal consultation and collaboration. Effective collaboration will increase the ability to achieve successful resolution of issues and reduce the need for more formal government to government consultations. The requested increase will allow the Service to expand sustainable landscape-level conservation.

Tribal lands are essential to conserving wildlife corridors and connectivity and reducing the impacts of invasive species. Integrating strategic habitat conservation into tribal long-range natural resources management by building strong partnerships where tribal lands abut other conservation lands and key fish habitat is important for conservation over the long term.

Across programs and regions, the Service regularly interacts with about 367 of the 566 federally recognized tribes. For example, the Service's trust responsibilities to Alaskan tribes are fulfilled in large part through Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) working with tribal resource agencies to recover fish and aquatic species on 56 million acres of tribal trust lands and 44 million acres of Alaska Native lands.

Ecosystem Restoration—Chesapeake Bay (+$145,000/+0 FTE)
The Service proposes to increase monitoring and assessment to prevent both intentional and unintentional introductions of aquatic invasive species in the Chesapeake Bay Ecosystem. Rapid response teams will eradicate new infestations of invasive species before they can become established. These teams offer a unique opportunity to enlist community members in work to protect their most precious resources from the threat of invasive species. For species whose eradication is not feasible, methods to control and prevent their spread will be explored. Increased education and outreach efforts will help the public understand the ecological and economic damage caused by the spread of aquatic invasive species.

State Plans/NISA Implementation/Coordination (+$132,000/+0 FTE)
The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF), composed of 13 Federal and 12 ex-officio organizations, serves as the only intergovernmental organization dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic nuisance species (ANS). The ANSTF provides a national infrastructure and forum to discuss and collaborate on nationally-coordinated approaches to ANS management with a wide variety of organizations on critical issues that can impact prevention, control, and management of ANS at the federal, state, and local levels. This increase will help support regional coordination efforts for nationally- and regionally-coordinated invasive species management approaches between Federal agencies and other partners.

The State/Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan grant program, through which the Service provides funding to states and tribes for implementation of ANSTF-approved plans, was eliminated in FY 2012 because funding was redirected to other priorities. However, Congressional language still allowed the Plans to be funded in FY 2012 through the quagga/zebra mussel line item. The State AIS programs coordinate with their partners to prevent the introduction and spread of AIS and have accomplished significant regional and landscape-level outcomes, such as educating public citizens, inspecting hundreds of thousands of recreational boats, rapidly responding to new infestations, and providing essential monitoring in support of AIS management. In FY 2014 the Service will once again allocate $1 million of the quagga/zebra mussel funding to states with approved State/Interstate Plans. Funding will, therefore, be available to support approximately 44 ANSTF-approved plans. Without this funding, the states' capacity to prevent the establishment and spread of AIS would be severely curtailed.

Marine Mammals, General Program Activities (+$31,000/+0 FTE)
The Service will work with partners to sustain efforts surveying and assessing population statuses and trends for sea otters, Pacific walruses, polar bears, and manatees and will continue supporting response efforts for stranded or beached marine mammals. We will also continue efforts to maintain current population assessment reports for all 10 marine mammals protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Service will maintain collaborations with Russia and Canada to manage polar bear and Pacific walrus populations and support existing international agreements. The Service will continue implementing regulations associated with oil and gas industry activities to minimize potential impacts and address other sources for incidental take authorizations.

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention (-$149,000/+0 FTE)
This funding reduction will be spread across a variety of AIS program functions and specifically impact the 100th Meridian Initiative, a Service program originally created to prevent the spread of zebra mussels

into western waters primarily through recreational boating, but now working hard to prevent further spread of the invasive mussels and other AIS throughout this area. Decreased funding will negatively impact the Service's early detection and monitoring capabilities and our ability to respond to aquatic invasions, especially in Alaska (the most uninvaded part of the U.S.). Decreased funding will also prevent completion of injurious wildlife evaluations and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Planning (HACCP), an internationally recognized planning process that identifies potential risks for invasion so that they can be properly managed and significantly reduced. As a result, 12 fewer risk assessments will be conducted to evaluate potentially invasive species, 37 fewer surveys will be conducted to gather baseline/trend data, and 21 fewer surveys will be conducted for early detection and rapid response actions.

Control and Management (-$507,000/+0 FTE)
With this decrease, the Service will be unable to fund the many ANSTF-approved national plans that focus on management and control of specific AIS. Rather, the Service will focus remaining control and management efforts on zebra and quagga mussels, Asian carp, and sea lamprey, with some limited resources devoted to species such as brown tree snakes and New Zealand mudsnail. With the resources to address 11 other important AIS populations that are currently managed not available, there is an increased risk of their spread and the resultant impact on wildlife resources. Control and management activities will not be funded across the United States for species such as Eurasian ruffe, Chinese mitten crabs, apple snails, Caulerpa (a seaweed), water chestnut, Undaria pinnatifada (a kelp), and lionfish.

Historically, the Service's coordination and leadership for management and control actions has been crucial to minimizing the spread of these species. Without Service involvement, states, tribes, stakeholders, and other partners will have primary responsibility for combating their spread. Additionally, funding will not be available to rapidly contain small and localized aquatic invasive populations, which could increase the chance of their spreading to other locations. As a result of this decrease, 82 activities such as coordinating and implementing interjurisdictional management and control strategies will not be conducted. Reduced funding will be available for public outreach campaigns, which will likely lead to the enlistment of fewer partners, decreased updates of the website and ultimately reaching fewer people.

Habitat Assessment and Restoration, General Program Activities (-$1,081,000/-15 FTE)
Recommendations from the Sport Fish and Boating Partnership Council, Congress and the Administration resulted in the Service shifting efforts toward more aquatic habitat restoration with the goal of supporting self-sustaining populations of aquatic species. This decrease will eliminate 15 FTE and reduce the Service's core capacity to deliver essential on-the-ground cooperative fish and aquatic species habitat restoration and conservation.

Numerous performance metrics will be impacted by this reduction, including:

- 130 fewer habitat assessments completed;
- 610 fewer miles of aquatic habitat assessed;
- 30 fewer miles of stream and shoreline restored;
- 250 fewer tasks implemented as prescribed in management plans;
- 70 fewer recovery plan tasks implemented;
- 130 fewer aquatic education and outreach activities;
- 30 fewer tasks implemented for Tribal fish and wildlife conservation; and,
- 700 fewer volunteer hours in support of Fish and Aquatic Conservation objectives.

Alaska Fisheries Subsistence (-$2,254,000/-3 FTE)
The Service is the lead agency in administering the Federal Subsistence Management Program for the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture. This program coordinates the regulation and management among federal land managers of subsistence harvests by rural Alaskans on 237 million acres of land. It

provides information and analysis for the regulatory function of the Federal Subsistence Board and support for the advisory functions of the 10 Regional Advisory Councils.

The reduction will require that the Alaska Federal Subsistence Board work with the Service to prioritize workload within the program and achieve efficiencies through changes in staffing. The workload reduction will result in 25 percent fewer fish population and harvest assessments and eliminate the gathering of status and trends information for more than 12 native fish populations. Funding support the Service provides to the State of Alaska to help reimburse its activities associated with the subsistence program and the work of the Federal Subsistence Board will be reduced and one program that utilizes local youth in fish and wildlife research and study efforts will be eliminated. Even with the reduction, the total funding provided in the budget is adequate to ensure that subsistence harvest of fish and wildlife by rural Alaskans continues and will allow for the implementation of some of the higher priority recommendations of the Secretary's Alaska Subsistence Review.

Population Assessment and Cooperative Management, General Program Activities (-$2,739,000/-34 FTE)

As the principal funding source for the nationwide network of 65 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) coast-to-coast, this reduction will directly impact infrastructure and workforce at the majority of FWCOs and the Service's capacity to deliver essential on-the-ground fish and aquatic species conservation. This will affect partnership projects, conservation efforts to native species, and benefits to local economies estimated at $64,000,000. Despite this decrease, the FWCO budget is modestly supported with the requested $1,500,000 increase for Cooperative Recovery, minimizing some of the anticipated workforce reduction by increasing Service fish population recovery and management activities on or around Refuges. Working cooperatively across programs and with partners, the Service will focus on delisting threatened and endangered species and enhancing habitat for depleted fish populations. This work will create aquatic refuges for fish and other aquatic organisms that otherwise would be in peril of decline and ultimately, extinction.

Undisputedly, much of the Service's on-the-ground competence comes from FWCOs, where over 300 biologists work with other Service programs, states, tribal governments, and partners to recover, restore, and maintain fish and other aquatic species and their habitats. FWCO's are the source for aquatic biological and scientific expertise, aquatic resource conservation and management, and technical assistance to a wide range of stakeholders and partners.

Decreased funding to FWCOs will substantially hamper the Service's mission to:

- Use science to inform implementation of SHC;
- Assess condition, status, trends, and management of fish and wildlife populations and habitat at watershed and landscape scales;
- Inform the process of identifying surrogate species;
- Provide real-time status and trends data for populations of aquatic trust species;
- Provide critical data for informing land use decisions (energy, water use, etc);
- Inform long-term restoration efforts for native species, often involving propagation and re-introduction;
- Fulfill federal trust responsibility to tribal governments;
- Implement collaborative projects to restore habitat for aquatic species via the National Fish Habitat Partnership and National Fish Passage Program;
- Prevent, survey, and control aquatic invasive species;

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Hinder progress on Apache trout delisting;

- Hamper Tribal Trust responsibilities to over 20 Southwestern tribes;
- Hinder restoration of American shad in throughout Mid Atlantic;
- Slow Yellowstone native fish restoration in Montana and Wyoming;
- Hamper American shad/Atlantic salmon in the Connecticut River;
- Cease progress on bull trout recovery and upper Columbia Basin restoration; and
- Hamper federal coordination of striped bass restoration and management.

Program Overview

The Service monitors and assesses aquatic populations and their habitats to inform our resource management decisions and yield on-the-ground conservation actions. A 2008 report by a U.S. Geological Survey-led team examined the status of North America's freshwater fishes and documented a substantial decline among 700 fishes.[1] Sea-level rise, temperature elevations, and precipitation changes are devastating the nation's fisheries. The Service's ability to respond to these impacts is hampered by a severe lack of basic population-level data. Monitoring and assessing fish populations and their habitats, important components of the Service's Strategic Plan for Climate Change, are carried out by the Service's 65 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) and are critical to the Service's success to protect trust resources by understanding current conditions and stressors; establishing trends and addressing environmental impacts on fisheries; identifying sensitive aquatic ecosystems, key processes, and critical information gaps; and implementing management plans and projects, including projects funded by the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (Action Plan), the National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs). These data will provide the Service and its partners with the information necessary to respond to environmental impacts strategically, scientifically, and successfully.

Habitat Assessment and Restoration Program Overview

The need for aquatic habitat assessment by FWCOs continues to grow as a result of the expanding network of LCCs, the increase of environmental impacts on freshwater and coastal systems, and resource shifts toward habitat management programs in fisheries agencies across the country.[2] The Action Plan and NFPP are two habitat assessment and restoration programs implemented by FWCOs that are vital tools in meeting our legal requirements under statutes such as the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act and the Endangered Species Act.

National Fish Habitat Action Plan: The National Fish Habitat Action Plan (Action Plan) delivers local fish habitat conservation projects, supported by diverse regional partnerships and national leadership that marshals funds, knowledge, and other resources. The focus of the Action Plan is fish, but the mission is much broader: healthy aquatic ecosystems that improve the quality of life for the American people. LCCs contribute in achieving this goal by using landscape-scale science to identify and attack sources of degradation. The Service is a lead Federal partner, along with all 50 states, major federal agencies, tribal governments, national conservation groups, and the sport fishing industry.

[1] Jelks, H.L., S.J. Walsh, N.M. Burkhead, S.Contreras-Balderas, E. Díaz-Pardo, D.A. Hendrickson, J. Lyons, N.E. Mandrak, F. McCormick, J.S. Nelson, S.P. Platania, B.A. Porter, C.B. Renaud, J. J. Schmitter-Soto, E.B. Taylor, and M.L. Warren, Jr. 2008. Conservation status of imperiled North American freshwater and diadromous fishes. Fisheries 33(8):372–407.

[2] Jackson, J.R., J.C. Boxrucker, D.W. Willis. 2004. Trends in agency use of propagated fishes as a management tool in inland fisheries. American Fisheries Society Symposium 44:121–138.

Service funds for the Action Plan contribute to activities of the National Fish Habitat Board and 18 regional Fish Habitat Partnerships, and support cost-shared projects to protect, restore, or enhance aquatic habitats. Projects leverage federal, state, and private funding to address strategic priorities and achieve maximum results. Since 2006, the Service has provided $18.7 million to support fish habitat conservation projects in 45 states, leveraging $49 million in partner contributions, a 3:1 ratio. The economic value generated by the projects is conservatively estimated at $996 million. Local communities and landowners are key participants in these voluntary projects. To help prioritize future project funding, *Through a Fish's Eye: The Status of Fish Habitats in the United States 2010*, a Service report, is used in conjunction with an associated online data system as a baseline measurement of aquatic habitat conditions. This assessment will be updated and improved every five years and is available to the public.

The Action Plan was revised in 2012 to account for progress made since 2006. New objectives call for 1) measurable conservation results through strategic actions; 2) a consensus set of national conservation strategies; 3) a broader community of support for fish habitat conservation; 4) filling gaps in the national fish habitat assessment, including socio-economic information; and 5) communicating conservation outcomes, as well as new opportunities and voluntary approaches for conserving fish habitats.

Also new in 2012, the Secretaries of the Interior, Commerce, and Agriculture signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support the Action Plan and to coordinate actions of their constituent agencies in delivering fish habitat conservation. There are 19 Federal agencies with roles related to fish habitat, coordinated by the Service through the Federal Caucus.

National Fish Passage Program (NFPP): Approximately 6 million dams and poorly-designed culverts contribute to the degradation or loss of aquatic habitat. The NFPP works with federal and state governments, private landowners, tribes, and community organizations to remove or bypass barriers that fragment the nation's waterways. Projects range in size from large-scale dam removals to the repair or removal of culverts and agricultural water diversions. Since the program's

Tropical Storm Irene and the National Fish Passage Program

In 2011 Tropical Storm Irene hit the Northeastern U.S. Undersized road culverts failed and water backed up until the rivers spilled over their banks, peeling away highway asphalt, buckling culverts, undermining bridge abutments, and blowing out road crossings. Irene displaced whole communities, bringing commerce to a halt and jeopardizing human health and safety.

Post-storm damage assessments demonstrated that culvert replacements funded by the National Fish Passage Program prior to the storm survived Irene's catastrophic fury. This disaster, and similar ones in South Dakota during spring flooding events, highlight the benefits of right-sized culverts and provide opportunities for managers of rivers and roads to replace damaged and failing culverts with ones that will withstand future flooding events. Across the country, Service fish passage engineers work with local communities to rebuild their road/stream infrastructure with flood resilient designs that benefit the aquatic and human communities. Repairing infrastructure to help fish provides overwhelming value to humans and their safety, and saves time and money in the long term.

inception in 1999, cooperative efforts have led to the restoration of natural flows, reduced sediment inputs, and have allowed fish to move freely between the habitats needed for survival and reproduction.

In cooperation with its partners, NFPP has removed or bypassed over 1,231 barriers and reconnected 19,719 miles of river and 129,983 wetland acres. The resulting increase in resilience to environmental pressures and urbanization has benefited more than 90 species of fish and fresh water mussels. NFPP projects have also generated an economic value of $9.7 billion since the program's inception, creating or maintaining 186,000 jobs and leveraging funds at a greater than 3:1 ratio.

GeoFin, formerly referred to as the Fish Passage Decision Support System, is an online tool developed by FAC, to identify barriers on the nation's waterways. The system provides baseline information for assessing stream connectivity and allows Service biologist to strategically identify the best opportunities for successful habitat restoration.

Another important NFPP asset is its comprehensive fish passage engineering and technical assistance capacity. Fish passage engineers and technical specialists ensure that passage projects are strategic and structurally sound –making sure that project restoration goals are achieved and human health and safety benefits are realized by surrounding communities.

Population Assessment and Cooperative Management

Service assessment activities focus on inventory, monitoring, management, restoration, and maintenance of healthy and diverse aquatic species populations. The Service's FWCOs evaluate the causes of species decline, determine the limiting factors for aquatic populations, and implement actions to restore those populations. With a legal mandate to work across habitat types and jurisdictional boundaries, FWCOs work with tribal nations and state and federal natural resource agencies to restore fish and other aquatic populations to self-sustaining levels to preclude listing under the Endangered Species Act. The development and implementation of fisheries management plans for federal trust species is a core function that requires population data, which FWCOs can provide. Species currently being monitored include American shad, Atlantic sturgeon, striped bass, brook trout, Pecos bluntnose shiner, and Atlantic salmon.

Other Service programs, such as National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) and Endangered Species, depend on FWCOs for technical assistance. This assistance includes conducting population surveys on NWRs, leading recovery teams, undertaking population status assessments, and developing and implementing restoration and recovery programs for native fish and mussel species. Additionally, FWCOs work with hatcheries to monitor captive propagation programs and with stakeholders to develop management and restoration plans that define the appropriate use of hatchery fish and measure progress toward meeting plan objectives. Service personnel provide a critical field presence in the fight against the spread of aquatic nuisance species by reclaiming habitats overrun with non-native species and suppressing invasive species, such as sea lamprey and Asian Carp.

The Service's trust responsibilities to tribes are fulfilled in large part through the FWCOs by working with tribal resource agencies to recover fisheries on 56 million acres of tribal trust lands and 44 million acres of Alaska Native lands. Fish conservation on tribal lands is advanced through providing technical assistance and tribal engagement in cooperative management, as well as supporting the Fish Conservation Education Initiative and the Secretary's Youth in the Great Outdoors Initiative. The latter is fulfilled by the Youth Conservation Corps, which employs Native youth and encourages them to pursue careers in natural resource conservation.

Alaska Subsistence Management Program: More than 135,000 people in over 270 communities in rural Alaska are entitled to subsistence fishing, hunting, and trapping on federal lands. Across Alaska, the

average subsistence harvest is approximately 375 pounds of food per person, or 50 million pounds of food per year. Replacing subsistence harvested foods with store-bought foods would cost $270 million[3] ($320M adjusted for inflation). The Alaska Fisheries Subsistence Management Program provides a direct benefit to rural subsistence users on more than 237 million acres of federal lands, encompassing 66% of Alaska's lands and 52% of Alaska's rivers and lakes.

The Service is the lead federal agency in administering the program for the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. Since 1999, the Service's Office of Subsistence Management has implemented an annual regulatory program and a fisheries monitoring program, supported ten Regional Advisory Councils, and has provided administrative and technical support to five federal agencies and the Federal Subsistence Board. The Subsistence Management Program operates with strong stakeholder participation by rural residents and the State of Alaska**.**

Aquatic Invasive Species

Operating under the authority of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act, as amended by the National Invasive Species Act, the Service's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program consists of three components: administration of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, regional implementation of the National AIS Program, and Injurious Wildlife evaluations and listings through the Lacey Act.

Invasive species have significantly impacted the health of native species and ecosystems and are considered second only to direct habitat destruction in the U.S. as the leading cause of declining biodiversity. Nearly half of the imperiled species in the U.S. are threatened by invasive species.[4] These species cause tens of billions of dollars of economic and ecological impacts each year in diminished recreational opportunities, agricultural productivity, personal property values, human health, and public utility capacity, and the problem is growing.[5]

Aquatic invasive species are especially troublesome because they are not always readily detected, their pathways are not always obvious, and their impacts to native species and habitats can be difficult to determine. In addition, they are difficult to eradicate once they become established because they can remain persistent and spread widely even after their pathways of introduction are interrupted. In the Great Lakes, where invasive zebra and quagga mussels have been present since the 1980s, new problems and impacts caused by invasives continue to be identified. Recent University of Michigan studies, for example, reveal changes due to invasive mussels at every level of the Great Lakes ecosystem.[6] Without prevention and management, Asian carp, giant salvinia, and other aquatic invasive species not yet found in the U.S., will continue to establish and spread, with damages accelerating over time.

Administration of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force

The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF), composed of 13 Federal and 13 ex-officio organizations, was established in 1991 under the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (NANPCA, as amended by National Invasive Species Act). This unique legislation mandated the ANSTF, the only intergovernmental organization dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic nuisance species (ANS). The ANSTF provides a national infrastructure and forum for

[3] Fall, J. A., D. Caylor, M. Turek, C. Brown, J. Magdanz, T. Krauthoefer, J. Heltzel, and D. Koster. 2007. Alaska Subsistence Salmon Fisheries 2005 Annual Report. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence Technical Paper No. 318, Juneau, Alaska.
[4] Wilcove, D.S., Rothstein, D., Bubow, J., Phillips, A., Losos, E., 1998. Quantifying threats to imperiled species in the United States. Bioscience 48(8): 607-615.
[5] Pimentel, D., Lach, L., Zuniga, R., Morrison, D., 2005. Update on the environmental and economic costs associated with alien-invasive species in the U.S. Ecological Economics 52:273-288.
[6] Erickson, J. 2009. Great Lakes: 'Amazing Change'. Michigan Today, 7/21/2009. http://michigantoday.umich.edu/2009/07/story.php?id=7510&tr=y&auid=5077806

collaborative discussion and decision making with a wide variety of organizations on critical ANS issues that can impact prevention, control, and management of ANS at federal, state, and local levels. As directed in NANPCA, the Service supports the funding and implementation of species management plans and 41 State/Interstate ANS Management plans, provides funding to the ANSTF's six regional panels, co-chairs the ANSTF with NOAA, and provides administrative support through staffing the Executive Secretary position.

Regional Implementation of the AIS Program

The Service contributes to the conservation of trust species and their habitats by preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species, rapidly responding to new invasions, monitoring the distribution and control of established invaders, and fostering responsible conservation behavior through national public awareness campaigns.

The front line for preventing new aquatic species invasions is to address those introduced through pathways such as the trade in live organisms (e.g., such as food and pets), canals and waterways, and recreational boating. Priority containment (e.g., such as boat inspection and decontamination); early detection and rapid response (using Incident Command-led responses and cutting-edge genetic tools for species like Asian carp species); interjurisdictional coordination, planning, and implementation (Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan and the 100th Meridian Initiative); regulatory actions (prohibiting importation and interstate transport of harmful injurious wildlife); non-regulatory actions; and campaigns (Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!) have occurred across many jurisdictions. Through the actions of the AIS Program, a national AIS network that includes other federal agencies, states, local governments, Regional ANSTF Panels, other regional organizations, over 1,000 participants in two national public awareness campaigns, and many other partners has been built. This national network has planned, directed, and accomplished significant regional and landscape-level invasive species prevention and management resource outcomes.

The National AIS Program has three primary focus areas:

Implementation of NANPCA

Recognizing the magnitude of the problem and the need to leverage resources, NANPCA created the State/Interstate ANS Management Plan grant program through which the Service provides funding to states and tribal entities for implementation of ANSTF-approved plans. To date, this program has facilitated the establishment of 41 state and interstate ANS management programs and more plans are under development. The State AIS programs coordinate with their partners to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species and have planned, directed, and accomplished significant regional- and landscape-level invasive species prevention and management resource outcomes, such as educating public citizens, inspecting hundreds of thousands of recreational boats, rapidly responding to new infestations, and supporting needed research. Through the leveraging achieved by the Service, states, and tribes, the State/Interstate ANS Management Plan grant program helps the 41 state/interstate AIS programs accomplish far more than the Service could ever accomplish on its own.

Prevention

The single most cost-effective strategy, and the primary focus of the AIS Program, is to protect the nation's wildlife and their habitats from invasive species by preventing new introductions. The control alternative is extremely costly, and the outcome is uncertain for long-term management of invasive species once they become established. Without the AIS Program's prevention work, costs to Americans are guaranteed to increase as new introductions occur.

The Service has a broad array of programs that support efforts to prevent introductions and contain invasive species, such as public awareness campaigns, risk assessment and mitigation tools, and efforts to identify and prevent species introduction into the country or between states. For example, the national "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!" campaign targets aquatic recreational users and engages with them to become part of the solution by cleaning their equipment every time they leave the water. This behavioral change campaign has broken new ground for the Service because it relies upon partners to help spread the prevention message and actively involves citizens to address this global threat. Currently, 1,044 organizations have joined the campaign—including 80 state fish and wildlife, parks and recreation, agriculture, and environmental protection agencies, 260 businesses, and many conservation and watershed protection organizations.

Control/Management

For invasive species that have already become established, there are often opportunities to prevent further spread or lessen their impacts through various control and management techniques. These measures are best accomplished using an integrated pest management approach. Containment of damage can buy time while new control methods are developed that offer hope for eradication. Because these invasive species do not always behave as they do in their native habitats, research is often needed before effective control measures can be implemented. Although prevention remains a priority, the AIS Program and its partners focus on control and management to meet their objectives for protection of native fish and wildlife resources and their associated recreational and economic benefits. Currently, the Service leads the implementation of the Asian carp, ruffe, brown tree snake, *Caulerpa* (a seaweed), and mitten crab national species management plans by providing staffing and funding support, and has leveraged these efforts by actively involving local expertise, skills, and resources. The western U.S.-focused Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan is also a programmatic priority for implementation. While the Service will reduce funding for many of these activities, it will continue to seek opportunities to work with the states and other partners to address these species.

Injurious Wildlife

Injurious wildlife are defined as species that are injurious or potentially injurious to the interests of human beings, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, wildlife, or wildlife resources of the U.S. Under the auspices of the Lacey Act, the Service seeks to prevent the introduction of new invasive species by regulating imports of injurious wildlife that have the potential to harm America's economy and natural resources. The Service does this through an ongoing process of evaluating species under the Lacey Act and listing species as injurious through the rulemaking process. An injurious wildlife listing prohibits the species from being imported or transported across state lines without a permit. More importantly, the listing process is being evaluated for improvements that will allow harmful invasive species to be more efficiently identified and to protect America's economy and natural resources.

Marine Mammals

Beginning in FY 2013/2014, Headquarters operational management of the Marine Mammals program is proposed to move from the Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation to the Assistant Director for Ecological Services.

Marine mammals are a resource of great aesthetic, economic, cultural, and recreational significance.
The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), enacted in 1972, is one of the most important statutory authorities for conserving and managing marine mammals. This statute provides protection by

prohibiting (with certain exceptions): 1) "take" of marine mammals in U.S. waters and by U.S. citizens on the high seas, and 2) the import, export, and sale of marine mammals and marine mammal parts, and products in the U.S. Under the MMPA, marine mammal populations, and the health and stability of marine ecosystems upon which they depend, are required to be maintained at, or returned to, healthy levels. The MMPA assigns the Department of the Interior, through the Service, responsibility for the conservation and management of polar bears, walruses, sea and marine otters, three species of manatees, and dugongs. These prominent species occupy the upper trophic levels of the world's oceans and coastal waters and provide valuable insight into the health and vitality of these global ecosystems. These species are significant functioning elements in each of their unique ecosystems and serve as sentinels that can provide key understanding of the effects of a variety of environmental impacts on these ecosystems. Through regular monitoring, the Service can learn more about the effects of global changes on the environment by understanding the health and dynamics of marine mammal populations that depend on these environments.

The Service recognizes that meeting our mandate for the conservation of marine mammal species requires communication and cooperation with other federal agencies (including the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Marine Mammal Commission, and the U.S. Geological Survey), state governments, Alaska Native Organizations, scientists from numerous institutions and organizations, industry groups, and non-governmental organizations. Through active collaboration and coordination, the Service is able to enhance the effectiveness of the implementation of the MMPA and achieve its goal of Optimum Sustainable Population for marine mammal stocks. In particular, the Service is involved in cooperative studies to understand population trends of marine mammals in Alaska, Florida, Puerto Rico, and along the Pacific Coast; aerial surveys to monitor population distribution, abundance, status, and trends and to track changes in baseline information to help us better understand the effects of sea ice retreat, particularly on ice-dependent marine mammals such as polar bears and walruses; coordination with the oil and gas industry to gain information on the location and frequency of sightings for both polar bears and walruses as well as identifying the location and use of polar bear dens; and cooperative efforts with Alaskan Native subsistence hunters. These efforts provide key information that informs the focus and efforts of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives.

To carry out its responsibilities, the Service:

- Prepares, reviews, and revises species management plans and stock assessments;
- Conducts and supports a variety of biological investigations, scientific research, and studies with management applications;
- Assesses population health, status, and trends;
- Provides support for rescue and rehabilitation of stranded marine mammals;
- Develops and implements management plans and habitat conservation strategies;
- Promulgates and implements various regulations as necessary, including incidental take regulation and authorizations;
- Conducts harvest monitoring projects for Alaska species;
- Implements the Marking, Tagging, and Reporting Program for polar bears, walruses, and northern sea otters harvested by Alaska Natives;
- Implements the 1973 International Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears between the U.S., Canada, Russia, Norway, and Denmark (for Greenland);
- Implements the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation on the Conservation and Management of the Alaska-Chukotka Polar Bear Population; and,
- Develops and supports U.S. bi-lateral and multi-lateral efforts and agreements for the conservation and management of marine mammal species.

The Marine Mammal program is comprised of two elements: Stock Assessment/Conservation Management and Cooperative Agreements.

Stock Assessment/Conservation Management

The Service's Marine Mammal Program acts to manage and conserve polar bears, Pacific walruses, northern sea otters in Alaska, northern sea otters in Washington State, southern sea otters in California, and West Indian manatees in Florida and Puerto Rico. The program also supports recovery objectives for those marine mammals that are listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The majority of the Service's marine mammal funding is provided for monitoring population assessment and health, conservation, and management activities. In 2012, funding was directed to support these activities for all 10 marine mammal stocks under the management jurisdiction of the Service in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, the California Coast, and Florida and Puerto Rico. In Alaska, some of these funds are for monitoring and recording harvest information, cooperative activities with Alaska Natives, and developing international agreements for marine mammal populations shared with Canada and Russia. National coordination and guidance by staffing Headquarters is also provided. The Service achieves much of its priority work through partnerships with other federal, state, tribal, and private agencies. Ecological Services funding further supports conservation work on listed marine mammal stocks, primarily through endangered species recovery efforts.

Cooperative Agreements

Section 119 of the MMPA authorizes the Service to enter into cooperative agreements with Alaska Native Organizations to conserve marine mammals and provide for co-management of subsistence use by Alaska Natives. The purpose of the agreements is to develop capability in the Alaska Native community to actively manage subsistence harvest, and determine sustainability of harvests through the collection of information on subsistence harvest patterns and harvested species of marine mammals. Efforts pursued under this program element enhance communications with Alaska Native communities and allow the initiation of projects with the potential to gather information critical for developing long-term conservation strategies and increase the collective understanding of marine mammals.

2014 Program Performance

Habitat Assessment and Restoration

In FY 2014, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) will continue their comprehensive efforts through the National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) and the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) to assess the condition of aquatic habitats and populations, restore physical condition and fish passage, and reverse declines in populations of federal trust aquatic species. Utilizing the framework of Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC) and working in collaboration with the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC's) and partners, FWCOs will identify and restore aquatic habitats and river connectivity in high priority areas that benefit surrogate species and provide flood resiliency for communities through habitat restoration, dam removals and installation and design of flood resilient and fish friendly road stream culverts.

Most recently, super storms have caused significant ecological destruction in the U.S. Through the NFPP's science-based approach to fish passage improvements, FWCOs will work with partners and communities to create flood resilient infrastructures that protect watersheds and property. And FWCOs will work with agricultural managers and ranchers to install ecologically responsible water diversions and fish screens that allow smart water use and safe access to vital habitat for aquatic species. These activities serve to increase aquatic connectivity, as well as increase recreational opportunities, including angling, boating, kayaking, and rafting.

In FY 2014, the Service will support the NFHP in protecting, restoring, and enhancing fish habitats for the benefit of the American people. Eighteen public-private Fish Habitat Partnerships involving all 50 states identify strategic conservation priorities, measure progress toward goals, and enlist non-traditional partners in fish habitat conservation. The Service 1) will fund at least 75 cost-share fish habitat conservation projects that address strategic priorities of the Fish Habitat Partnerships; 2) provide operational support to Fish Habitat Partnerships, including strategic planning, resource assessment, and outreach; and 3) support ground-breaking landscape science leading toward the second national assessment of fish habitats, scheduled for 2015. These efforts are enhanced by growing collaboration with LCCs across the nation.

The Service's FWCOs will use the Fisheries Operational Needs System and GeoFIN to strategically prioritize work activities. Service biologists will continue to identify and target priority areas that provide the best opportunities to restore connectivity to fish habitat and increase fish species' resiliency.

Population Assessment and Cooperative Management

The Service as a whole is embarking on a new direction: conserving sustainable fish and wildlife populations in large landscapes, using tools of Strategic Habitat Conservation, and measuring success through the lens of surrogate species. The assets and expertise of the FWCOs will help to make this new direction a reality, especially when utilized effectively and in concert with other conservation tools of the Service. Deploying our assets across the nation to conserve fish, other aquatic species, and aquatic habitat for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of the American people on and off refuges, FWCOs work hand-in-hand with numerous partners inside and outside of the Service, sometimes supporting, sometimes leading. Cooperation with partners, including a long-term commitment to shared goals, is critical to the success of the Service in fulfilling its mission.

Information for Conservation of Functional Landscapes: The FY 2014 budget request will serve to support FWCO field staff to continue engagement with the LCCs, providing important information on the condition and trends of populations and in the identification of surrogate species. The national network of 65 FWCOs, with over 300 biologists strategically located in 32 states will provide technical assistance to a wide range of stakeholders and partners across geographic and political borders, helping craft partnerships and solutions to ensure the continuing ecological, recreational, subsistence, and commercial health of America's aquatic resources.

Working with Tribes: FWCO field staff will continue working with tribes to assess and manage their fish and wildlife resources on tribal lands. FWCO biologists will assist in the development of management plans, restoration of native species and their habitats, and evaluation of results of fish and wildlife management actions. In FY 2014 these efforts include implementing the 2000 Consent Decree to manage fish stocks in the Great Lakes with five Chippewa/Ottawa Tribes and the State of Michigan, working with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to delist Apache trout, and working with tribes to evaluate big game herds such as deer, elk, and pronghorn antelope on tribal lands in Wyoming and Montana. The Service will encourage tribal youth to explore careers in the fisheries conservation field through expanding its Youth Conservation Corps programs (YCC) to promote the growth of conservation expertise within tribal communities and to increase ethnic and cultural diversity within the fisheries management profession.

Aquatic Invasive Species

In FY 2014 the Service will focus new funding on a coordinated strategy involving early detection and rapid assessment, containment, rapid response, and control aimed at minimizing the range expansion and population growth of Asian carp. Funds will also be used to restore some of the regional coordination activities that were cut in previous years. With the exception of these efforts, the Service will continue to implement activities generally at a lower level than in FY 2013 to prevent the introduction, spread, and establishment of AIS. These activities include working with partners to identify potential points of

species introduction and define actions that reduce the risk of spreading invasive species through specific pathways, conducting surveys for early detection of AIS, working with the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force on collaborative efforts, improving the injurious wildlife listing process to better address prevention of invasive species, and completing regionally significant rapid response planning exercises to prepare for and build capacity regionally to respond to the next invader. The Service will also continue to lead the implementation of "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!" and "Habitattitude™"—two social marketing campaigns designed to unify government and interested parties to speak with one voice and to empower target audiences to become part of the solution by promoting their prevention behaviors.

In FY 2014 the Service, through the Strategic Habitat Conservation lens, will continue to use the Fisheries Operations Needs System (FONS) to strategically prioritize work activities that prevent the introduction, spread, and establishment of aquatic invasive species. The Service will also work with partners to identify and implement voluntary and regulatory actions that prevent the introduction and establishment of invasive species from the organisms in trade pathway. While there will be focused attention on Asian carp and zebra/quagga mussels, species such as Eurasian ruffe, snakehead, and lionfish will be at increased risk of establishment and spread.

Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation Performance Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
12.2.3 # of aquatic invasive species populations controlled/managed (annually) - FWMA	11	14	19	19	5	15	-4	11
Comments	Decrease -4 (+9 for Asian Carp; -13 for Control & Management)							
12.2.6 # of activities conducted to support the management/ control of aquatic invasive species - FWMA	303	269	220	261	157	357	96	120
Comments	Increase +116 (+131 for Asian Carp; -15 for Control & Management); however -20 for FWCOs due to loss of GPA funding for 1335.							
12.2.7 # of public awareness campaigns conducted and supported re: invasive species	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2
12.2.9 # of risk assessments conducted to evaluate potentially invasive aquatic species - annual	56	60	235	1,053	256	1,051	-2	30
Comments	Increase +5 (+12 for Asian Carp; -7 for Prevention); however -7 for FWCOs due to loss of GPA funding for 1335.							
12.2.11 # of surveys conducted for baseline/trend information for aquatic invasive species	682	457	311	398	186	593	195	165
Comments	Increase +195 (+199 for Asian Carp; -4 for Prevention).							

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
12.2.12 # of surveys conducted for early detection and rapid response for aquatic invasive species	638	270	185	254	109	336	82	285
Comments	Increase +102 (+127 for Asian Carp; -25 for Prevention); however -20 for FWCOs due to loss of GPA funding in 1335.							
12.2.13 # of state/interstate management plans supported to prevent and control aquatic invasive species (annually)	87	23	36	38	42	44	6	41
Comments	Increase +6 (approx. 44 State ANS Plans should be approved by 2014).							
12.2.14 # of partnerships established and maintained for invasive species tasks	523	469	498	452	312	458	6	362
Comments	Increase +6 (+29 for Asian Carp; +3 for State Plans; -26 for Control & Management).							
CSF 5.1 Percent of fish species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels, in cooperation with affected States, tribes, and others, as defined in approved management documents (GPRA)	12% (17 of 146)	8% (16 of 211)	8% (17 of 213)	17% (39 of 233)	21% (39 of 185)	21% (39 of 185)	4%	8% (17 of 211)
5.1.3 # of habitat assessments completed	1,971	1,465	1,314	1,310	662	1,182	-128	955
Comments	(+2) increase for Cooperative Recovery, but (-130) loss due to major decrease in GPA funding for FWCOs (1334).							
5.1.4 # of miles of instream and shoreline habitat assessed	34,126	128,846	6,461	10,278	3,107	9,668	-610	7,031
Comments	Decrease due to major loss of GPA funding for FWCOs (1334).							
5.1.9 # of populations managed for subsistence fishery harvest	103	103	103	104	104	78	-26	51
Comments	Decrease due to loss of funding for Alaska Fisheries Subsistence (-$2,254,000).							
5.1.10 # miles of stream/ shoreline restored in U.S.	233	358	166	133	140	103	-30	162
Comments	Decrease due to major loss of GPA funding for FWCOs (1334).							
5.1.11 # of fish passage barriers	160	170	139	158	164	187	29	111

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
removed or bypassed								
Comments	(+28) additional barriers removed due to additional funds for Fish Passage Improvements and (+1) barrier removed for Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement.							
5.1.12 # of miles reopened to fish passage - FWMA	1,220	1,602	1,205	2,032	3,250	2,336	304	880
Comments	(+300) miles reopen due to additional funds for Fish Passage Improvements and (+4) miles reopen for Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement.							
5.1.13 # of acres reopened to fish passage - FWMA	25,277	23,319	36,798	18,552	1,813	20,552	2,000	5,198
Comments	(+2,000) acres reopen due to additional funding for Fish Passage Improvements (+$1,518,000).							
CSF 5.2 Percent of populations of native aquatic non-T&E species managed or influenced by the Fisheries Program for which current status (e.g., quantity and quality) and trend is known	34% (526 of 1,569)	32% (502 of 1,708)	34% (542 of 1,723)	35% (578 of 1,632)	35% (581 of 1,668)	31% (513 of 1,632)	-4%	30% (466 of 1,565)
5.2.1.6 % of populations of native aquatic non-T&E species managed or influenced by the Fisheries Program for which current status (e.g., quantity and quality) and trend is known - FWMA	32% (506 of 1,569)	28% (481 of 1,708)	30% (511 of 1,723)	33% (543 of 1,632)	32% (536 of 1,668)	29% (478 of 1,632)	-4%	26% (446 of 1,708)
Comments	Minimum of (+1) non-T&E aquatic population will have updated status and trend information due to Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement; however Alaska will have (-16) less pops and FWCOs (1335) will have (-50) less pops due to lose of funding.							
5.2.2.6 % of populations of native aquatic non T&E species with approved management plans - FWMA	52% (813 of 1,569)	48% (820 of 1,708)	49% (846 of 1,723)	46% (756 of 1,632)	46% (775 of 1,668)	40% (656 of 1,632)	-6%	48% (815 of 1,708)
Comments	Estimating that (-100) less aquatic populations will have approved management plans due to loss of funding for FWCOs (1335).							
5.2.4 # assessments completed	2,807	2,895	2,909	2,803	1,801	2,458	-345	1,642
Comments	Minimum of (+1) population assessment will be conducted with Cooperative Recovery funding; however, Alaska will loss (-16) pop assessment and FWCOs can no longer conduct approx. (-330) pop assessment due to loss of funding (1335).							
5.2.7 # of management plans completed or revised during the fiscal year	7	10	3	5	12	6	1	9

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
Comments	Minimum of (+1) management plan completed or revised due to funds for Tribal Consultation.							
CSF 5.3 Percent of tasks implemented, as prescribed in management plans	74% (2,866 of 3,894)	63% (2,453 of 3,906)	58% (2,525 of 4,384)	56% (2,568 of 4,600)	52% (2,500 of 4,800)	45% (2,063 of 4,600)	-11% (-505 of 4,600)	61% (2,388 of 3,906)
5.3.1.6 % of tasks implemented, as prescribed in management plans - FWMA	39% (1,527 of 3,894)	46% (1,870 of 4,085)	38% (1,828 of 4,872)	36% (2,012 of 5,568)	24% (1,716 of 7,052)	27% (1,517 of 5,568)	-9%	33% (1,347 of 4,085)
Comments	Additional (+4) FMP tasks for Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement and a minimum of (+1) FMP task for Tribal Consultation; however, loss of approx. (-500) tasks for FWCOs due to major decreases in funding from 1334 and 1335.							
CSF 7.21 Percent of populations of aquatic threatened and endangered species (T&E) that are self-sustaining in the wild	11% (70 of 639)	10% (70 of 701)	10% (71 of 689)	11% (80 of 711)	8% (53 of 680)	11% (80 of 711)	0%	9% (66 of 701)
7.21.3.6 % of aquatic T&E populations managed or influenced by the Fisheries Program for which current status (e.g., quantity and quality) and trend is known - FWMA	26% (165 of 639)	23% (158 of 701)	21% (148 of 689)	30% (215 of 711)	31% (209 of 680)	28% (197 of 711)	-3%	25% (175 of 701)
Comments	A minimum (+1) aquatic T&E population will have updated status and trend information due to Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement and a minimum of (+1) aquatic T&E population due to Cooperative Recovery; however, loss of approx. (-20) aquatic T&E populations with current status and trends due to decrease funding for FWCOs (1335).							
7.21.4.6 % of aquatic T&E populations managed or influenced by the Fisheries Program with approved Recovery plans - FWMA	57% (365 of 639)	60% (421 of 701)	60% (414 of 689)	49% (351 of 711)	49% (336 of 680)	41% (291 of 711)	-8%	59% (416 of 701)
Comments	Loss of approx. (-60) aquatic T&E populations with approved Recovery Plans due to decrease funding for FWCOs (1335).							
7.21.5.6 % of tasks implemented as prescribed in Recovery Plans - FWMA	39% (505 of 1,286)	41% (573 of 1,404)	39% (535 of 1,379)	35% (517 of 1,471)	30% (500 of 1,670)	31% (452 of 1,471)	-4%	32% (443 of 1,404)
Comments	Additional (+3) Recovery Plan tasks for Klamath Basin and additional (+2) Recovery Plan tasks for Cooperative Recovery; however loss of approx. (-70) tasks due to decrease in funding for FWCOs (1334).							
CSF 9.1 Percent of marine mammal stocks with self-sustaining populations	40% (4 of 10)	40% (4 of 10)	30% (3 of 10)	30% (3 of 10)	30% (3 of 10)	30% (3 of 10)	0%	40% (4 of 10)

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
9.1.5 # of current marine mammal stock assessments	10	9	8	8	9	10	2	10
9.1.6 % of populations managed or influenced by the Marine Mammal Program for which current population trend is known	70% (7 of 10)	70% (7 of 10)	70% (7 of 10)	60% (6 of 10)	60% (6 of 10)	60% (6 of 10)	0%	70% (7 of 10)
CSF 15.4 Percent of fisheries mitigation tasks implemented as prescribed in approved management plans	76% (56 of 74)	96% (73 of 76)	70% (74 of 105)	91% (87 of 96)	73% (80 of 110)	91% (87 of 96)	0%	49% (37 of 76)
15.4.9 # of aquatic outreach and education activities and/or events	1,026	1,150	1,102	1,004	681	724	-280	473
Comments	Loss of approx. (-280) aquatic outreach/education activities or events due to major decreases in funding for FWCOs in 1334 and 1335.							
52.1.3 # of volunteer participation hours are supporting Fisheries objectives for FWMA	18,789	25,374	18,571	14,233	10,512	13,533	-700	12,485
Comments	Loss of approx. (-700) volunteer hours due to decrease in funding for FWCOs (1334).							
18.1.3 % of planned tasks implemented for Tribal fish and wildlife conservation as prescribed by Tribal plans or agreements - FWMA	35% (186 of 538)	38% (230 of 608)	36% (232 of 643)	39% (263 of 670)	40% (255 of 630)	31% (209 of 670)	-8%	27% (162 of 608)
Comments	A minimum of (+1) Tribal task from Tribal Consultation funding; however, the loss of approx. (-55) Tribal tasks due to decrease funding for FWCOs (1334 and 1335).							
18.1.6 # of training sessions to support Tribal fish and wildlife conservation - FWMA	100	115	128	124	81	115	-9	70
Comments	A minimum of (+1) Tribal training session from Tribal Consultation funding; however, the loss of around (-10) Tribal training sessions due to decrease in funding for FWCOs (1335).							
18.1.9 # of new or modified cooperative agreements with Tribes or IPA Agreements that support Tribal fish and wildlife conservation - FWMA	0	7	3	5	11	8	3	12

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
Comments	Additional (+4) new or modified agreements from Klamath Basin funding and a minimum of (+1) from Tribal Consultation funding; however, loss of (-2) agreements due to decrease in funding for FWCOs (1335).							
18.1.12 # of consultations conducted to support Tribal fish and wildlife conservation - FWMA	198	185	213	257	203	246	-11	92
Comments	Additional (+3) Tribal consultations from Klamath Basin funding and a minimum of (+1) Tribal consultation from Tribal Consultation funding; however, the loss of around (-15) Tribal consultations due to decrease in funding for FWCOs (1335).							

Cooperative Landscape Conservation

Activity: Cooperative Landscape Conservation

Proposed Budget Structure Change:

The Service is a natural resource conservation organization that is reliant upon science to accomplish our mission. Science is fundamental to the effective operations of all Service programs. In FY 2014, the Service proposes to separate science funding from the Cooperative Landscape Conservation activity into its own Service Science subactivity to clarify this point. Under the LCC framework, Steering Committees comprised of partners determine the focus, direction and highest priority needs of the particular LCCs. Under the new Service Science subactivity, funding for science would not be constrained by such a framework and will allow the Service to rapidly respond to emerging science needs, improve the rate of return on our conservation investments through a more targeted approach, and to better track the Service's science work.

Cooperative Landscape Conservation

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Cooperative Landscape Conservation	($000)	*15,534*	15,475	+142	-9	+2,007	17,615
	FTE	*57*	67	0	-6	+3	64
Adaptive Science*	($000)	*21,493*	16,723	+18	-21,394	+4,653	0
	FTE	*22*	16	0	-16	0	0
Total, Cooperative Landscape Conservation	**($000)**	***37,027***	**32,198**	**+160**	**-21,403**	**+6,660**	**17,615**
	FTE	***79***	**83**	**0**	**-22**	**+3**	**64**

* Moved to new Science Support Subactivity, where it is discussed.
Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Cooperative Landscape Conservation

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Landscape Conservation Cooperatives	+2,007	+3
Program Changes	**+2,007**	**+3**

Justification of Program Changes for Cooperative Landscape Conservation

The 2014 budget request for Cooperative Landscape Conservation is $17,615,000 and 64 FTE, a net program change of +$2,007,000 and +3 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (+$2,007,000/+3 FTE)

In FY 2012, the Service focused funding and support on those Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) that were best able to deliver priority conservation outcomes as defined by LCC partners, while maintaining others at a reduced level. Progressively increased funding and associated staffing has allowed the LCC network to further develop. Targeted funding will provide for continued development of critical partnerships associated with more established LCCs and will focus resources so they are used effectively to benefit fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats. In FY 2014, this funding increase will provide the resources necessary for 16 LCCs to be fully operational, while still supporting all 22 LCCs at some level.

Program Overview

The Service has worked with a diverse suite of partners to establish a national network of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs). The LCCs are regional conservation partnerships that produce and disseminate applied science products for resource management decisions, and that lay the foundation for a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to landscape conservation. The LCCs, as guided by their

steering committees, will address a full range of conservation challenges across the Nation as they work collaboratively with other federal agencies, state agencies, Tribes, industry, non-governmental organizations (NGO), academic institutions, and the conservation community at large. Without duplicating the effort of existing partnerships, LCCs promote efficient and effective targeting of federal dollars to obtain and analyze the science necessary for the Service and its partners to develop landscape-scale conservation models protecting fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats. This collaborative effort also enhances the Service's ability to collect information which can be used to improve or augment many of the Service's ongoing conservation efforts such as Endangered Species Recovery Plans, National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP), Joint Ventures, and fish passage and habitat restoration.

The LCCs have developed a mature management structure consisting of individual LCC steering committees; technical staff; focused, task-specific work teams; and an emerging National LCC Council that will be established in FY 2013 (see figure on p. 3 for schematic of the LCC organizational structure). The Landscape Conservation Cooperative Network[a] (LCC Network or Network) has developed, with affirmation of the 22 LCC steering committees, a statement of Vision, Mission, and Guiding Principles:

Vision

Landscapes capable of sustaining natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

Mission

A network of cooperatives depends on LCCs to:

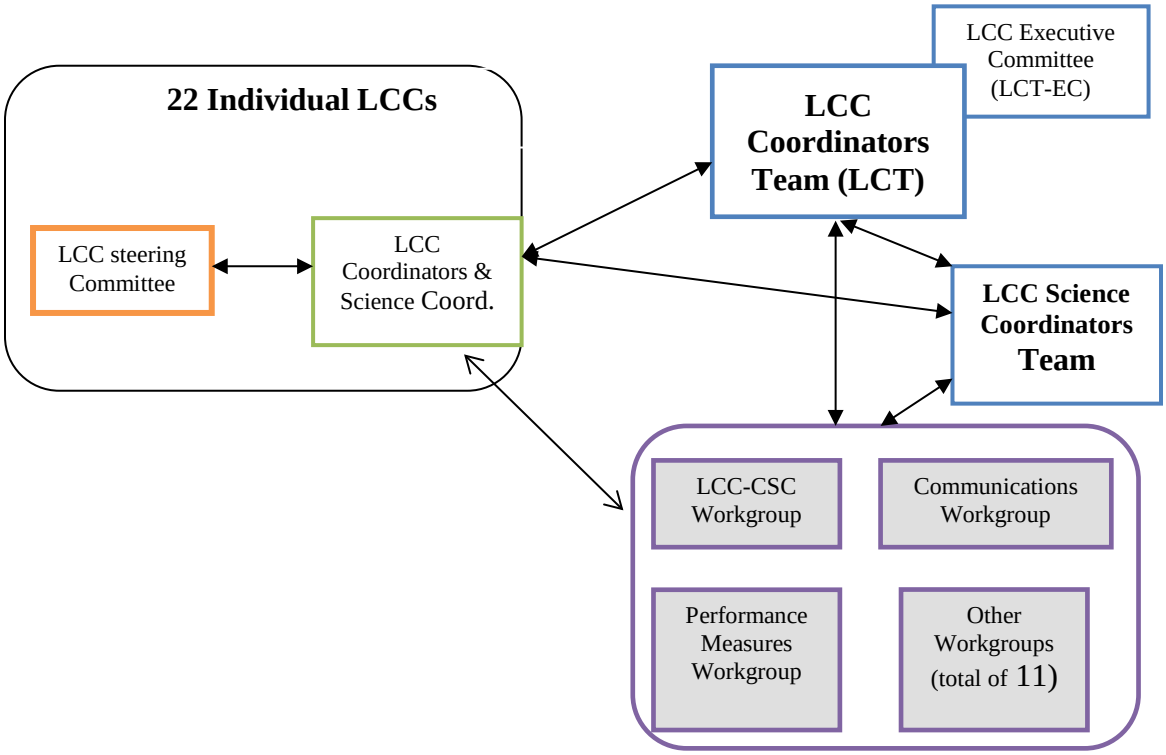
- Develop and provide integrated science-based information about the implications of climate change and other stressors for the sustainability of natural and cultural resources;
- Develop shared, landscape-level, conservation objectives and inform conservation strategies that are based on a shared scientific understanding about the landscape, including the implications of current and future environmental stressors;
- Facilitate the exchange of applied science in the implementation of conservation strategies and products developed by the Cooperative or their partners;
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of LCC conservation strategies in meeting shared objectives; and,
- Develop appropriate linkages that connect LCCs to ensure an effective network**.**

Guiding Principles

- Consider and respect each participating organization's unique mandates and jurisdictions;
- Add value to landscape-scale conservation by integrating across LCCs and other partnerships and organizations to identify and fill gaps and avoid redundancies;
- Conduct open and frequent communications within the LCC network and among vested stakeholders and be transparent in deliberations and decision-making;

[a] The LCC Network is composed of the twenty-two individual LCCs and their linkages (i.e., steering committees, staff, partners and others associated with the LCCs).

- Focus on developing shared landscape-level priorities that lead to strategies that can be implemented; and,
- Develop and rely upon best available science.
- Develop explicit linkages and approaches to ensure products are available in a form that is usable by partners delivering conservation.
- Use a scientifically objective adaptive management approach in fulfilling the mission.



Fundamental to each LCC is the individual steering committee. A full suite of all 22 planned LCCs have now been established each with a steering committee comprised of its key partners. These partners include representatives from state natural resource agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations, as well as all principle federal land management agencies (e.g., National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Defense, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Natural Resources Conservation Service, and U.S. Forest Service), the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Representatives from fish and wildlife agencies in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia are engaged with the LCCs, serving as chairs, vice-chairs, or co-chairs of six LCC steering committees. Other chairs or co-chairs of LCC steering committees come from a wide variety of federal agencies and NGOs.

The importance that state fish and wildlife agencies place on establishing LCCs is also evident in that their directors, regional directors, program leads, and senior scientists are individually engaged and provide invaluable support and leadership. LCCs complement and build upon existing cooperative science and conservation entities such as fish habitat partnerships and migratory bird joint ventures as well as other efforts which focus on water resources and land protection. LCCs also benefit from their work with the U.S. Geological Survey's Climate Science Centers, and Cooperative Fish and Wildlife

Research Units, as well as the National Park Service's Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units. LCCs are unique in that one of their primary purposes is integration of existing work and providing new information or coordination to connect the current array of resource management partners with the ultimate goal of providing information necessary for on-the-ground conservation actions. The value of LCCs is demonstrated in the Intermountain West, an area already rich with effective landscape-scaled conservation partnerships. Here, several LCCs are reaching out to existing partnerships and supporting them by focusing on shared priorities and specific objectives, such as integrating quality data about wildlife and habitats, and ensuring that separate conservation initiatives are not duplicative.

http://www.westgov.org/initiatives/wildlife/102-articles/initiatives/380-chat

The LCCs and the Western Governor's Association's Wildlife Council Crucial Habitat Assessment Tools (CHAT)

The Western Governors' Wildlife Council, at the direction of the Governors, is developing policies and tools to assist states in identifying and conserving crucial wildlife habitat and corridors across the region. The effort has resulted in the development of a set of natural resource information systems, the Crucial Habitat Assessment Tools (CHAT; see http://www.westgov.org/initiatives/wildlife/380-chat). While individual states are compiling information within their borders, they also are working with neighboring states to improve the regional understanding of areas important to wildlife to better inform land use planning efforts. The CHAT aims to bring greater certainty and predictability to planning efforts by establishing a common starting point for discussing the intersection of development and wildlife. In its simplest form, CHAT will be an easily accessible online system of maps displaying crucial wildlife habitat and corridors across the West. While not intended for project-level approval, CHAT is designed to reduce conflicts and surprises while ensuring wildlife values are better incorporated into land use decision-making, as well as large-scale conservation projects. Several Western LCCs have been providing critical support to the CHAT process, including Great Plains, North Pacific, Great Northern, Southern Rockies, and Desert.

LCCs often use existing facilities and infrastructure of conservation partners, thereby greatly reducing expenditures for space and associated costs. For example, LCC Coordinators for the North Pacific LCC and the Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks LCC work out of offices provided by state agency partners, and the staff of the South Atlantic LCC is housed in the main office of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

As the LCC network becomes fully operational it will inform and facilitate conservation of populations of fish, wildlife and plants at landscape scales through the following actions:

- develop explicit and measurable biological objectives for populations of priority species to guide conservation design and delivery;

- apply and refine dynamic population-habitat models and other decision-support tools that will enable partners to manage species more effectively at landscape scales;
- apply down-scaled climate models at landscape scales to predict effects on fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats;
- help implement the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Climate Adaptation Strategy through design and evaluation of adaptation approaches that will help conserve populations at landscape scales;
- identify and, when necessary, design protocols and methodologies best suited to monitoring and inventorying species, habitats, and ecological functions and structures at landscape scales; and
- identify high-priority research and technology needs.

Development of the Science Investment and Accountability Schedule (SIAS)

The Service has used an evolving system of measures that reflect the organizational maturation of the LCCs. Previous LCC funding allocations, such as FY 2012, were based on a five-tier model that characterized LCC administrative and structural developmental stages ranging from those that were recently initiated such as the Eastern Tallgrass Prairie LCC (established in 2012), to those that were more mature such as the North Atlantic, Arctic, and Great Northern LCCs (established in 2010). Reflecting Congress's intent to focus on creating an effective model by advancing a subset of LCCs first, funding allocations to the mature LCCs was substantially greater (six-fold) than to the newer LCCs. Such established LCCs' have the ability to more effectively utilize funding for research, develop decision support tools, and inform management, among other activities.

To build upon and improve on previous measures and continue to mature LCCs overall, the Service developed the Science Investment and Accountability Schedule (SIAS) to guide the FY13 funding allocation. The SIAS is also in response to Congressional direction that "the Service to establish clear goals, objectives and measurable outcomes for LCCs that can be used as benchmarks of success of the program."

The SIAS is comprised of nine interrelated Conservation Activity Areas (CAA):

1. Organizational Operations
2. Landscape Conservation Planning
3. Landscape Conservation Design
4. Informing Conservation Delivery
5. Decision-based Monitoring
6. Assumption-driven Research
7. Data Management and Integration
8. Science and Conservation Community Integration
9. Conservation Science and Adaptation Strategy

Associated with each CAA are benchmarks for achievement that support the LCC Network's Vision and Mission. The purpose of SIAS is to provide one component of a performance standards system for the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and the National Landscape Conservation Cooperative Network. In support of the Service's mission and vision for science, the SIAS will help specify the investment and participation of each LCC in the LCC Network to ensure effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency. The SIAS also clearly recognizes that the LCC network is a broad partnership relying on multiple investments. The construction of SIAS reflects many of the values of these partners, and we fully expect and encourage them to help develop other performance expectations to reflect their LCC involvement in future versions of the SIAS.

In FY 2014, SIAS will be the principal tool used to allocate funding to the LCCs. The FY14 process will build upon the initial SIAS version utilized in FY13 for a subset of funds ($1.0 million) that was directed at the most recent LCCs to encourage programmatic development. The Service used FY13 to test out the validity of the nine conservation activity areas and associated benchmarks. Results from FY13 are being incorporated into a revised FY14 version that will allow for a more objective and quantifiable process and that will also reflect the continuing maturity of the LCC network. For FY14, all 22 LCCs will complete a full SIAS assessment, the scores will be reviewed by an independent panel and final scores will be related to a funding allocation. The allocation model will also incorporate a base funding component to ensure that all LCCs achieve a minimum standard of operational capacity.

Key Examples and Accomplishments

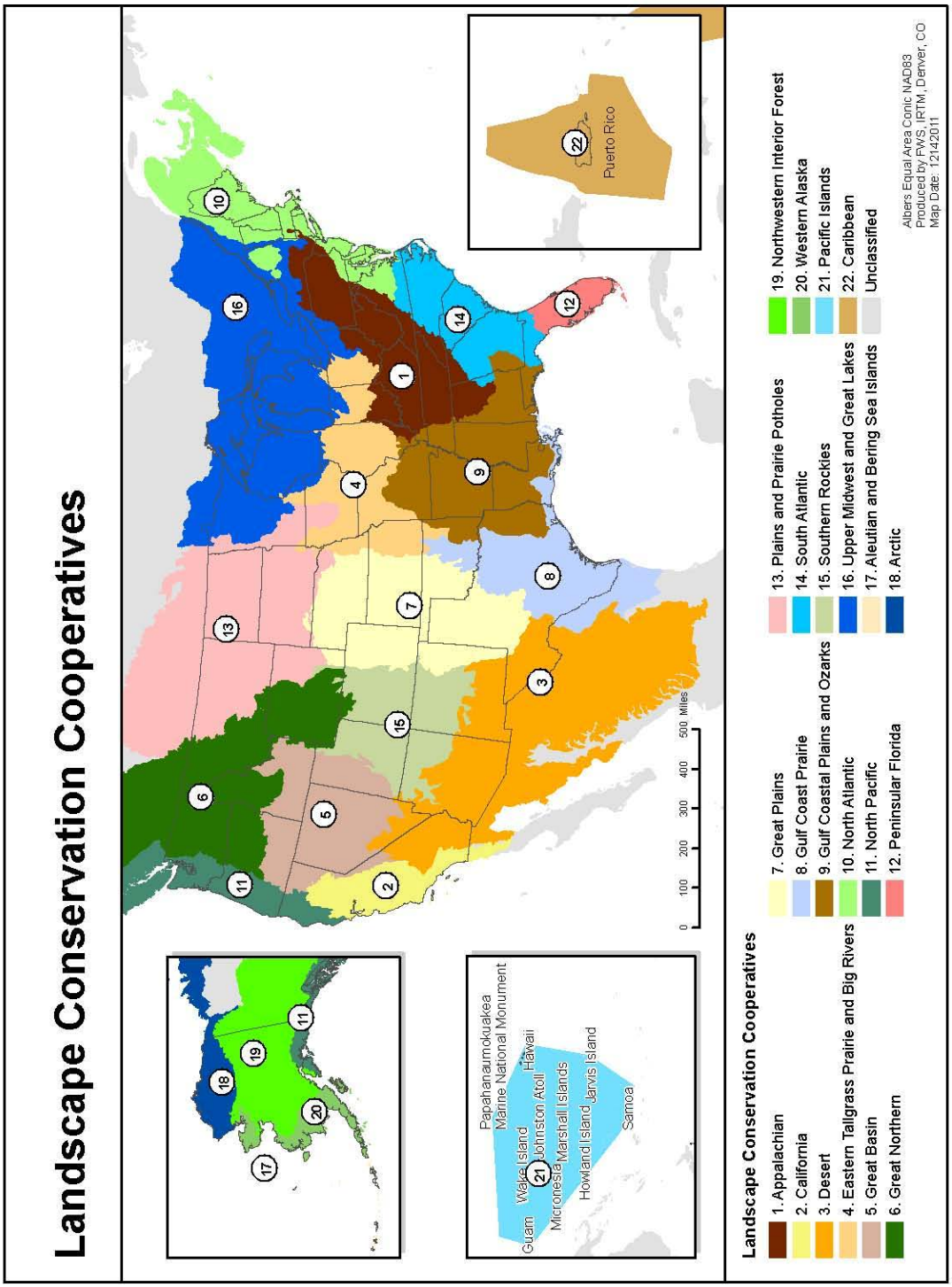
Northeast Regional Conservation Science Synthesis for State Wildlife Action Plan Updates

In FY 2012, the North Atlantic LCC worked with 13 states, the District of Columbia and the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (NEAFWA) to initiate a synthesis of regional conservation science information for integration into State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) updates. This synthesis builds upon regional conservation science projects supported through the LCC and the Regional Conservation Needs program that pools State Wildlife Grant funds from NEAFWA member states. The compiled and synthesized regional information will be included in each state's SWAP and will provide regional context for species, habitats, threats and actions. Including regional information will help ensure consistency among these plans and allow the states to address regional conservation needs and achieve common goals identified last year by Northeast partners in the Northeast Conservation Framework. The regional synthesis supports SWAP updates, and is available to all conservation partners through an LCC information management system that is continually updated as new information and tools become available. The North Atlantic LCC is addressing a high priority conservation need identified by its partners to not only focus on the development of new science and tools, but to focus on the organization, translation and delivery of science to conservation partners in the formats and scales they need to support their conservation decisions.

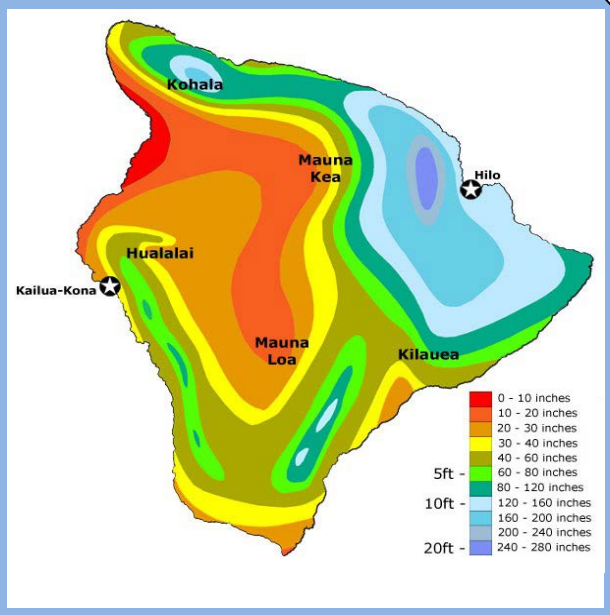
Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative (PICCC)

Sea level rise, changing rainfall patterns, rising air and sea temperatures, and ocean acidification threaten ecosystems and traditional ways of life throughout the Pacific Island region. At risk are thousands of unique island plant and animal species, including more than 450 threatened and endangered species, some of which inhabit only one island. These fragile species depend on a network of protected areas that include 22 National Wildlife Refuges, 11 National Parks, four Marine National Monuments, three National Marine Sanctuaries, and local and private conservation lands.

The survival of Hawaii's endangered species requires coordinated resource management and a clear understanding of the relationship between each individual species and its habitat. Recognizing the need to address these region-wide threats collaboratively, the 28-member organizations of the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative (PICCC) are working together through the PICCC to develop adaptation, mitigation and management strategies that will provide the best possible protection for the region's natural and cultural resources in the face of climate change. PICCC's ground breaking habitat mapping project provides managers with current and predicted species distribution maps for more than 1,100 Hawaiian native plant and forest bird species. These maps are based on the best available science and enable managers to identify priority species and habitats, develop vulnerability assessments for individual species and groups of species, and prioritize their conservation investment.


Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
Puerto Rico
Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument
Hawaii
Guam
Wake Island
Johnston Atoll
Micronesia
Marshall Islands
Howland Island
Jarvis Island
Samoa
0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles
Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
1. Appalachian
2. California
3. Desert
4. Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers
5. Great Basin
6. Great Northern
7. Great Plains
8. Gulf Coast Prairie
9. Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks
10. North Atlantic
11. North Pacific
12. Peninsular Florida
13. Plains and Prairie Potholes
14. South Atlantic
15. Southern Rockies
16. Upper Midwest and Great Lakes
17. Aleutian and Bering Sea Islands
18. Arctic
19. Northwestern Interior Forest
20. Western Alaska
21. Pacific Islands
22. Caribbean
Unclassified
Albers Equal Area Conic NAD83
Produced by FWS, IRTM, Denver, CO
Map Date: 12142011

PICCC AT WORK: REFINING REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTIONS FOR EFFECTIVE ADAPTATION



Several PICCC research partners have found signs of changing water availability for the Pacific Islands. Recent analyses of rainfall records from Hawai'i show a 15% decline in precipitation over the last 15 to 20 years for the region (Diaz et al. 2005; Chu and Chen 2005). This declining trend in rainfall is corroborated by a decline in stream flow from early in the last century and significant drought intensification on some of the Hawaiian archipelago (Oki, 2004). Trade wind inversions (features of mid-latitude climates that cap cloud formation at high elevations) have been more persistent and occurring at lower elevation which may result in less precipitation in high elevation areas (Cao et al, 2007). These historical trends suggest a worrisome, drier future for people, wildlife, and plants in the Pacific Islands.

Climate downscaling to bridge science and management - As rainfall is distributed unevenly across the islands due to local topographical and climatic variability, detailed climate projections are crucial to help managers plan and adapt to a future where vital water resources are potentially scarcer. To meet this need PICCC has partnered with several regional climate researchers to provide fine-scaled climate change projections. PICCC's efforts include statistical climate downscaling to estimate the future rainfall changes over the Hawaiian Islands for the 21st century and dynamical climate modeling for Pacific Islands at a spatial scale (0.5 to 1 km) that is ecologically relevant to natural resource managers. Such efforts will not only yield better estimates of changes in precipitation but also changes in temperature extremes, and storm and drought frequency -- all factors of critical importance to land and marine managers in the region. The broad representation of regional resource managers in PICCC, and their input into the ongoing research, will ensure that these PICCC science efforts lead to proactive and collaborative actions based on common interests in protecting resources of high ecological and cultural value.

Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC)

In the face of severe drought and climate change, successful conservation in the southwestern U.S. requires cooperation that transcends jurisdictional and resource boundaries. The Desert LCC, led by the Bureau of Reclamation, is working with the Big Bend Conservation Cooperative, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, plus partners from federal, state, non-profit, and private sectors in the USA and Mexico, to identify and support critical science that is directly applicable to conservation. Projects funded in support of the Big Bend Conservation Cooperative inform efforts to re-establish the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow, guide the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation project under the America's Great Outdoors initiative, and implement elements of the Fish and Wildlife Service's International Conservation Strategic Plan. Specifically, the Desert LCC funded the project, *Assessing Actions to Improve Resilience of the Rio Grande through Big Bend National Park Using Remote Topography (Lidar) and Multispectral Imagery Data*. Implementation of this project is key to assessing and refining the effectiveness of critical, on-going river management actions to benefit the Rio Grande ecosystem, the Rio Grande silvery minnow, and the other native fish and wildlife it supports.

Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SRLCC):
The Gunnison Climate Working Group is a chartered partnership of 14 public and private organizations in Colorado's Upper Gunnison Basin. The SRLCC, led by the Bureau of Reclamation, funded a comprehensive vulnerability assessment identifying species and ecosystems most at risk from climate change. The assessment included a set of habitat adaptation strategies for priority species, such as the Gunnison sage-grouse. As a final product, local demonstration projects were designed and installed. The financial support and partnership provided by the SRLCC was critical to the Gunnison Climate Working Group's success and progress towards addressing climate change. As a direct result of the SRLCC involvement, partners designed and completed construction of over 100 rock structures on private lands to improve or restore wet meadows—which function as brooding habitat for the Gunnison sage-grouse. The tools, methods, and findings of the Gunnison Basin vulnerability assessment go beyond habitat adaptation strategies applied to support populations of Gunnison sage-grouse. The new tools build ecosystem resilience, and support the Gunnison Basin agricultural and recreational economies. The vulnerability assessment funded by the LCC provides a scientific foundation for a robust decision making process which can be carried out over a larger landscape to inform and direct conservation delivery mechanisms for use by multiple partners.

2014 Program Performance

Delivering Priority Conservation Outcomes Defined by LCC Partners

The Service will continue to strategically build the National LCC Network. In FY 2012 and FY2013, the Service worked with its LCC partners to complete the fundamental organizational structure and work plans for each LCC. Each LCC will establish explicit conservation objectives and targets and then prepare biological plans and conservation designs capable of achieving these targets. In FY 2014, more attention will be directed toward establishing landscape-scale conservation targets and objectives for the priority species and habitats collaboratively identified by LCC steering committees. This process is a core component of the Science Investment and Accountability Schedule (SIAS) that will direct funding allocations to the LCCs in FY 2014. As a result, partners can better align their funding and personnel to implement or complement specific activities laid out in the conservation designs. As these transitions occur, LCCs will stimulate, inform, and leverage resources for the conservation delivery activities of partners which will provide significant benefits for fish and wildlife and help sustain those resources in critical landscapes across the country. As this occurs, LCCs will devote more time and resources to designing and implementing monitoring and evaluation efforts capable of determining the extent of those successes, while refining and improving science and planning tools which will benefit future biological planning and conservation delivery.

Cooperative Landscape Conservation - Combined Performance Change and Overview Table

Performance Measure	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB
Number of LCCs formed	9	15	18	18	18	0
Comments:	All 18 LCCs that FWS leads have been formed. Other bureaus report the status of the other 4 LCCs.					
Number of LCCs operational	7	14	14	14	16	2
Comments:	In FY 2014, funding will provide the resources necessary for 16 LCCs to be fully operational, while still supporting all 22 LCCs at some level. It is the Service's goal to fund all LCCs at a level sufficient for them to be fully operational by FY 2016.					
Number of LCCs with a management/ operating plan in place	8	10	14	14	16	2
Number of decision-support tools provided to conservation managers to inform management plans/decisions and ESA Recovery Plans (Cumulative) INITIATED	21	35	65	92	122	57
Number of decision-support tools provided to conservation managers to inform management plans/decisions and ESA Recovery Plans (Cumulative) COMPLETED	2	15	26	43	65	39
Number of conservation delivery strategies and actions evaluated for effectiveness (Cumulative) INITIATED	11	17	31	39	49	18
Number of conservation delivery strategies and actions evaluated for effectiveness (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	5	12	14	18	6
Number of landscape-scale conservation strategies developed that can direct management expenditures where they have the greatest effect and lowest relative cost (Cumulative) INITIATED	13	20	37	52	71	34
Number of landscape-scale conservation strategies developed that can direct management expenditures where they have the greatest effect and lowest relative cost (Cumulative) COMPLETED	1	5	16	24	39	23

General Operations

Activity: General Operations

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Central Office Operations	($000)	*41,846*	38,605	+869	+3,547	+318	43,339
	FTE	*245*	271	0	+15	-41	245
Regional Office Operations	($000)	*40,726*	40,951	+1,329	-178	+1,044	43,146
	FTE	*412*	412	0	0	0	412
Servicewide Bill Paying	($000)	*36,207*	36,039	+1,422	-150	+508	37,819
	FTE	*27*	36	0	0	-9	27
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	($000)	*7,525*	7,525	0	0	+1,000	8,525
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0
National Conservation Training Center	($000)	*23,570*	23,564	+295	-53	+2,510	26,316
	FTE	*143*	145	0	0	-2	143
Total, General Operations	**($000)**	***149,874***	**146,684**	**+3,915**	**+3,166**	**+5,380**	**159,145**
	FTE	***827***	**864**	**0**	**+15**	**-52**	**827**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Program Overview

General Operations funding provides the management and support for the Service's programmatic activities and organizations; and ensures compliance with legal, regulatory, and Departmental policy in all functional areas of administration. It is comprised of five components:

- Central Office Operations
- Regional Office Operations
- Servicewide Bill Paying
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Conservation Training Center

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: Central Office Operations

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Central Office Operations	($000)	*41,846*	38,605	+869	+3,547	+318	43,339
	FTE	*245*	271	0	+15	-41	245

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Central Office Operations

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• External Affairs – Tribal Consultation	+950	0
• General Program Activities	-632	-26
Program Changes	**+318**	**-26**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Central Office Operations is $43,339,000 and 245 FTE, with a net program change of +$318,000 and -26 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

External Affairs – Tribal Consultation (+$950,000/+0 FTE)
This increase allows the Service to improve its capacity to collaborate with Tribes in conservation efforts and, when needed, to participate in Government-to-Government formal consultation. Tribal lands are vital to conserving wildlife corridors and connectivity; building strong partnerships where Tribal lands abut other conservation lands is essential to the success of long-term, sustainable landscape-level conservation.

General Program Activities (-$632,000/ -26 FTE)
Funding is reduced in order to support other Service priorities, including information resources and technology elements within the Servicewide Bill Paying subactivity.

Program Overview

Central Office Operations is comprised of six Headquarters components: the Office of the Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management, Assistant Director for External Affairs, Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital, Assistant Director for Business Management and Operations, and Assistant Director for Information Resources.

Office of the Director
The Office of the Director consists of the Director, Deputy Directors, and staff specialists, who provide policy direction and support for program and management activities of the Service. The Office supports and advances the Service's mission through leadership and coordination within the Service and with the Department and conservation community. Goals include promoting a national network of lands and waters for conserving fish and wildlife, protecting endangered species, migratory birds and inter-jurisdictional fish, and facilitating partnerships to conserve fish and wildlife for present and future generations.

Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management
The Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management (ODIWM) manages the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in compliance with EEO laws, Executive Orders, court decisions, and directives from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Department of Justice, and the Department of the Interior. To ensure a diverse workforce, the ODIWM provides direction, policy formulation, and management with regard to applicable civil rights laws. Functional areas include managing programs in diversity, EEO, affirmative employment and recruitment, special emphasis, and conflict resolution.

External Affairs
The Assistant Director for External Affairs formulates national policy and directs operations in the Divisions of Communications, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Program and Partnership Support, and the Native American Liaison Office.

The Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs serves as the key point of contact for members of Congress and their staff. An important component of External Affairs' work is responding to Congressional inquiries, and coordinating Congressional briefings and meetings. In addition, External Affairs serves as a fundamental contact in developing Administrative positions on legislative proposals, bills of interest to the agency, testimony for Congressional hearings and authorizing legislation and oversight activities.

The Division of Communications provides national communications policy, guidance, and strategic communications planning and implementation to support the agency's conservation goals. External Affairs develops and provides information about the Service's policies, programs, and actions to the news media, constituent organizations, and the public. External Affairs also works to advise and support the efforts of Service leadership to communicate effectively with agency employees.

The Division of Program and Partnership Support provides coordination and support for many of the Service's key national partnerships, as well as front line customer service to the general public. External Affairs coordinates all print, multimedia and audiovisual materials, while ensuring compliance with federal and Departmental print and web standards and improving customer service through the worldwide web. External Affairs coordinates the Service's environmental justice activities.

The Native American Liaison Office builds the Service's capacity to work cooperatively with Native American tribes to further the agency's conservation mission, implements the Department of the Interior's Secretarial Order on Tribal Consultation, develops policies, guidelines and training to ensure appropriate government-to-government consultation with tribes, and implements the Tribal Wildlife Grants program.

Budget, Planning and Human Capital
The Assistant Director for Budget, Planning and Human Capital formulates policy and directs operations in the Divisions of Human Capital, Budget, Policy and Directives Management, and Cost and Performance Management. Budget, Planning, and Human Capital provides the following support services to Headquarters offices, regional offices, and field stations:

- Works with Service programs and the Directorate to formulate the Service's budget proposals. Executes Congressional direction regarding budget implementation.
- Develops and implements Human Capital (HC) programs and procedures and provides consultant services to the leadership of the Service concerning Human Capital issues.
- Manages the Service-wide Strategic Cost and Performance Management system. Provides software tools for setting performance measure targets, reporting performance accomplishments, and validating and verifying performance data. Develops performance and cost information for use in executive/management decision-making. Develops scalable cost and performance

management models to inform decision making. Provides the cost and performance data required for preparation of the Budget submissions.

- Manages various administrative programs including publication of notices and regulations in the Federal Register, the Service directives system, Paperwork Reduction Act compliance, liaison with the General Accountability Office and the Office of the Inspector General, programmatic Internal Controls under OMB Circular A-123, FAIR Act inventory, FACA committees, forms management, and promotes use of plain language in documents. Compiles and submits the annual FAIR Act inventory.

Business Management and Operations

The Assistant Director for Business Management and Operations (BMO) serves as the Service's Chief Financial Officer and Chief Procurement Executive. BMO provides direction, policy formulation and management in the areas of financial management, contracting and acquisition management, engineering and construction management, environmental compliance, energy management, safety, occupational health, and industrial hygiene programs, economic analyses, and other associated support functions.

BMO focuses on financial management and process improvements, and assists the Department in obtaining an unqualified audit opinion for the Department of the Interior's consolidated financial statement audit. BMO provides support for internal control activities related to OMB Circular A-123 guidance and manages the Service's investment accounts to maximize investment revenue within acceptable risk parameters. In FY 2014, BMO will provide the overall project management for training Service personnel on the E-travel 2 system and will incorporate current Department and Service travel policy to the new system.

Through the Division of Safety and Health, BMO conducts workers' compensation cost containment activities through injury prevention initiatives and by regularly interacting with regional compensation coordinators. Technical safety and health assistance is provided to the regions through special emphasis programs such as watercraft safety and diving safety. The Division of Engineering provides Service-wide coordination for Emergency Support Function (ESF) 3 which addresses engineering and construction support needs as part of the federal response to hurricanes and other emergencies.

Annual, quarterly and monthly financial reporting to the Department, Office of Management and Budget and Treasury Department is accomplished through the Division of Financial Management. The Division of Economics provides socio-economic reviews and analyses including: designation of critical habitat for threatened and endangered species; regulatory impact statements; natural resource damage assessments; record of compliance statements; and hydroelectric dam relicensing reviews.

BMO has primary responsibility for managing the Federal Business Management System (FBMS) for the Service, and developing a plan to reduce the Service's Carbon Footprint. Both responsibilities require extensive coordination across multiple Service programs and regions and will be a significant workload into FY 2014.

In addition to supporting the Service at a national level, BMO provides local support services and instruction to headquarters program staff. BMO is the project manager working with GSA on the headquarters relocation that is expected to occur in FY 2014. Through BMO's work with GSA, the Service's lease space square footage will be reduced and new workstations will emphasize employee collaboration. The new building will, at a minimum, meet a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification.

Information Resources and Technology Management (IRTM)
The Assistant Director for Information Resources (ADIR) provides secure, efficient and effective management of information resources and technology to enable and enhance the Service to accomplish its mission. IRTM provides leadership and expertise to the Service in meeting Information Technology (IT) strategic goals by providing Service-wide infrastructure services and direction. Infrastructure services include the Service Wide Area Network (SWAN), Enterprise Messaging, Web Services, Land Mobile Radio, Enterprise Technical Service Center and Technology Engineering. Direction is provided by Enterprise Architecture, Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC), Privacy, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The security program maintains and monitors network security subsystems to ensure a stable and reliable environment for the FWS network, provides a liaison to manage IT audits and inspections, and manages the Computer Security Incident Response capability for the Service. IRTM is also responsible for: data resource management, standards, and stewardship; national GIS coordination, GIS spatial data inventory, and geospatial metadata creation/publication; systems consultation and development; oversight of IT portfolio and capital management, E-Gov, and enterprise hardware/software management; project management of IT initiatives and investments; IRTM Emergency Management; Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act; GPRA; and Service Budget Book reporting for E-Gov.

2014 Program Performance

In 2014 the **Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management** will:

- Work with Service supervisors to recruit potential applicants from diverse backgrounds.
- Manage the discrimination complaints programs, conduct EEO Counseling, mediations, investigations, and process Final Agency Decisions for employees, former employees and applicants who believe they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, reprisal, or sexual orientation. Provide for the prompt, fair, and impartial consideration and disposition of discrimination complaints, ensure implementation of settlement agreements, track complaints activities, review reports of investigation for completeness, and coordinate depositions, hearings, and appeals with DOI, EEOC, and the Office of the Solicitor.
- Collect, analyze and disseminate workforce data, conduct analysis of workforce trends, issue reports on workforce-related data, diversity and complaints trends, and other types of EEO-related information.
- Develop and monitor implementation of the affirmative programs of equal employment opportunity and effective affirmative action programs.
- Advise the Director and Directorate on strategic diversity implementation plans, objectives, goals, and accomplishments.
- Develop and deliver Equal Employment Opportunity related training for managers, supervisors, and employees and provide guidance and assistance on EEO related matters to managers, supervisors, and employees.

The **External Affairs** program will implement a Service-wide approach to communications, emphasizing effective, focused and accountable efforts that improve service to the public and help the agency meet its conservation objectives. The External Affairs program will:

- Support the Department's Tribal Consultation Policy, and develop and implement a step down policy within the agency.
- Work with a wide variety of partners, including the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council, and Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation to maintain a strong focus on fishing, boating, hunting and shooting sports issues.

- Work with Congress to identify and implement the Service's legislative priorities and to increase our effectiveness in responding to Congressional inquiries through improved coordination across the programs and regions.
- Promote appropriate use of the worldwide web, online video and audio services and other emerging technologies to enhance the Service's effectiveness in communicating with the public.
- Support agency initiatives for connecting people and nature, specifically targeting multicultural communities and urban populations, along with efforts to promote youth careers in nature.
- Continue to enhance an interactive intranet to improve internal communications between Service leadership and employees.

For 2014 the **Budget, Planning and Human Capital** office will:

- Budget effectively, incorporating performance information and analysis of program needs; execute the Service's budget according to authority in Appropriations Acts.
- Provide timely and accurate budget information to Congress, the Department and OMB.
- Support the Service's use of to the Federal Business Management System (FBMS) financial system.
- Continue the deployment of tools to leverage the Service's investment in the Strategic Cost and Performance Management system. Using performance and cost data, provide managers with opportunities to improve program efficiencies by identifying least cost business practices for specific program areas of interest.
- Meet the OMB Circular A-11 requirements for collecting and reporting GPRA performance information to the DOI for inclusion in the DOI Performance and Accountability Report.
- Maintain and update the Service's directives system, which includes manuals and Director's Orders, the latter being our way of rapidly announcing policy changes to Fish and Wildlife staff.
- Review over 500 documents the Service publishes each year in the Federal Register. These reviews assure the documents are clear and meet all requirements.
- Develop a searchable standard position description library that is 508 compliant.
- Implement the Electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF) initiative. This initiative will move OPF paper documents to electronic form, facilitating the on-line transfer between Federal agencies.
- Continue to coordinate internal control reviews under OMB Circular A-123 and perform liaison activities with the General Accountability Office and the Office of the Inspector General.

In 2014, the **Office of Business Management and Operations (BMO)** will focus on maintaining existing programs while simultaneously guiding the Service through the many workload and resource actions associated with the implementation of the Department's Financial and Business Management System (FBMS), and its support systems for grant and acquisitions (PRISM) processing. We will assist the Department in maintaining an unqualified audit opinion of its consolidated financial statements. We will achieve stated goals in the areas of Transportation Management, Improved Financial Management, Energy Management, and Environmental Stewardship. Resources will continue to be utilized for activities related to OMB Circular A-123 for internal controls. We will expand Energy Management to monitor and reduce the Service's carbon footprint and expand efforts to provide safe and efficient operations to Service employees.

In 2014, BMO will also:

- Complete Acquisition, Property, Fleet and Financial process and policy updates to support FBMS implementation Development, review and implementation of standardized acquisition file templates throughout the Service.

- Conduct the economic analysis of the migratory bird hunting regulations. The analysis will estimate the benefits and costs of alternative hunting regulations that form the umbrella for all State hunting regulations for migratory birds.
- Support the Return-to-Work initiative focused on bringing injured employees back to work as soon as medically feasible, with an emphasis placed on employees on the long-term compensation rolls.
- Emphasize Collateral Duty Safety Officers training initiative to provide standardized training and reference documents applicable to FWS operations and activities.
- Support the Carbon Neutral Team's efforts to respond to environmental stressors by reviewing fleet management activities and continuing to replace aged fleet with Alternative Fuel Vehicles, reviewing travel management activities to determine steps for reducing workforce's carbon footprint, and evaluating and reducing the Service's energy usage.
- Refine processes for assessing internal controls over financial reporting in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-123, Appendix A.
- Review and revise Service financial policies and processes to ensure they remain consistent with Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), OMB and DOI requirements.
- Implement the Strategic Sourcing Initiative by working with DOI and OMB to review current acquisition practices and identify potential reforms, and coordinate large acquisition needs with other Bureaus to negotiate lower costs.
- Support the Energy Efficiency Initiative by providing engineering expertise for retrofitting existing buildings with energy efficiency improvements, and update policies and processes to ensure construction projects meet energy conservation standards.
- Support the President's commitment on fiscal discipline by participating in an aggressive Department-wide effort to curb non-essential administrative spending. In accordance with this initiative, the Service has identified activities where savings will be realized: advisory contracts; travel and transportation of people and things, including employee relocation; printing; supplies; and equipment.

Managing **Information Resources and Technology Management** is key to accomplishing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's mission and goals. Information resources and technology enables us to provide goods and services to our customers, partners, and employees in a better, faster, and cheaper manner. To leverage this potential, the Service must change the way it acquires and uses these assets by providing better management and delivery of information services. The Service's IT systems, including Interior-wide, multi-agency, E-government and mission critical systems used by the Service, need to be integrated and share data with each other more than in the past. In 2014, the Service will:

- Operate and maintain the previously deployed DOI enterprise IT projects, including the Enterprise Service Network and active directory services.
- Transition the Service to the Departmental standard federated messaging system.
- Continue to develop, deploy and use new DOI enterprise business systems and retire obsolete legacy systems as planned in the Departmental modernization blueprints.
- Evaluate opportunities to streamline and reduce costs of IT infrastructure through effective consolidation, centralization and/or standardization, and leveraging of cloud computing/external sources.
- Continue to improve the maturity of IT Security, Enterprise Architecture, Capital Planning and project management disciplines.
- Continue to develop and exercise key practices and processes to work towards achievement of Information Technology Investment Management Maturity (ITIM) Stage 4.
- Continue to accomplish improvements in Standard Configurations.
- Develop and implement Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGs) for other IT platforms.

- Implement a standard Software Development Life Cycle Process.
- Develop, improve, document, and implement Freedom of Information Act plans and initiatives; continue progress in reduction of FOIA backlogs.
- Develop, improve, document, and implement strategy and initiatives to enhance Service posture for safeguarding of Personally Identifiable Information and reducing uses of Social Security Number information.

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: Regional Office Operations

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Regional Office Operations	($000)	*40,726*	40,951	+1,329	-178	+1,044	43,146
	FTE	*412*	412	0	0	0	412

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Regional Office Operations

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Regional Office Operations	+1,044	0
Program Changes	**+1,044**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Regional Office Operations is $43,146,000 and 412 FTE, with a net program change of +$1,044,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

General Program Activities (+$1,044,000/+0 FTE)
This increase will help restore Regional Operations funding to FY 2011 levels, reduce impacts on program operations, and reverse a trend of directing administrative functions to program staff in the field, ensuring program resources remain focused on meeting Service mission goals.

Program Overview

The Regional Offices provide front line, daily support for the Service's approximately 700 geographically diverse field offices by managing Regional leadership, Budget and Administration, and External Affairs functions. The Service has delegated authority to the field level in many functional areas; however, functions that require extensive training, certification (such as contracting warrants), or specialized knowledge (such as personnel hiring authorities) are retained at centralized, regional locations for cost efficiency purposes. Approximately 75 percent of our field locations have 15 or fewer employees and cannot support specialists in these administrative disciplines. Regional Office funding supports the following organizational components:

The Regional Directors advise the Service Director and develop recommendations on national and regional policies, plans, and procedures. In addition, the Regional Directors serve as liaisons to state, local and tribal governments, civic and interest groups, and the public within their geographic jurisdiction.

Within each region, the Budget and Administration offices direct the overall management and execution of administrative support activities, advise Regional Directors on administrative matters, and provide day-to-day operational management for budget, finance, contracting, human resources, diversity, safety, and information technology throughout each Region. Budget and Administration also provides organizational support services such as office equipment leasing, facility maintenance, reproduction and copying, telephone and computer connectivity, and service contracts. The office also supervises the Engineering Division (which is detailed in the Construction Appropriation section of the President's Budget justification.)

The Regional office Division of Budget and Finance coordinates business operations and delivers management information for regional management, including other support divisions. This office

manages regional internal control programs (including external and internal audits), provides accounting system (FBMS) support and training, coordinates vendor payments, manages charge card and travel management systems, manages real property accounting processes, and monitors agreements to ensure costs are recovered in regional efforts to deliver conservation services for external partners.

The Regional office Division of Contracting and General Services performs activities associated with acquisitions, property and facilities. This includes acquisition of supplies and services (above the micro-purchase level), fleet management, quarters management, personal property management, leasing and office space management, coordinating facility operations, and issuing grants and agreements where external partners assist the Service in meeting conservation goals.

The Regional office Division of Human Resources implements Service personnel policies, programs and procedures, and provide support services to the Regional Director's Office and program officials on human resource issues. The office provides a full range of services including work force planning, position management, recruiting and hiring, special employment programs, employee relations, performance management and recognition, retirement administration, benefits administration, training, labor relations, ethics, worker's compensation, security clearances and payroll services.

The Regional office Division for Diversity and Civil Rights manages the region's compliance with applicable civil rights laws, ensuring a diverse workforce. Functional areas include managing programs in diversity policy and reporting, EEO policy and reporting, federally assisted compliance, federally conducted compliance, special emphasis, disability/reasonable accommodation assistance, EEO complaints, conflict resolution (ADR/CORE), limited English proficiency and environmental justice.

The Regional office Division of Safety and Occupational Health develops and administers policies and procedures to prevent and reduce: employee injuries and illnesses; watercraft and motor vehicle accidents; property damage; fire losses; and injuries to the visiting public. This office also coordinates Continuity of Operations (COOP)/emergency management efforts.

The Regional office Division of Information Resources and Technology Management (IRTM) manages the region's operational technology requirements. This includes help desk operations (physical and virtual), support for various IT networks; monitoring IT security, managing communication devices (e.g. office phones, cell phones, tablets), providing web services, developing IT purchase/spend plans, acquisition and installation of IT hardware and software.

The Regional External Affairs Office administers a multifaceted program that provides technical support to field stations by communicating with the public, interest groups, and local, state, federal, and tribal governments. Typical functions in the Regional Office for External Affairs include Congressional affairs, press releases, media inquiries, Native American liaison, Tribal grant program management, special event planning and support, message and image management, developing communication plans and products, education, outreach, web site design and management, and coordinating regional social media efforts.

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: Servicewide Bill Paying

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Servicewide Bill Paying	($000)	*36,207*	36,039	+1,422	-150	+508	37,819
	FTE	*27*	36	0	0	-9	27

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Servicewide Bill Paying

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• IRTM – General Program Activities	+538	-9
• Operational Support	+470	0
• IRTM – Enterprise Investments	-319	0
• Printing	-98	0
• Memberships	-83	0
Program Changes	**+508**	**-9**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Servicewide Bill Paying is $37,819,000 and 27 FTE. There is a net program change of +$508,000 and -9 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Information Technology – General Program Activities (+$538,000/ -9 FTE)
This increase will reduce the amount needed from other programs to ensure Service bills can be paid and ensure that resources remain focused on meeting Service mission goals.

Operational Support (+$470,000/+0 FTE)
This increase will reduce the amount needed from other programs to ensure Service bills can be paid and ensure that resources remain focused on meeting Service mission goals.

Information Technology – Enterprise Investments (-$319,000/+0 FTE)
The reduction represents cost savings that the Service will realize due to the Department's Information Technology transformation in the area of IT investments.

Printing (-$98,000/+0 FTE)
The reduction represents cost savings in printing costs paid centrally from the Service-wide bill paying account. The Service has implemented several efficiencies to reduce printing costs and incorporate ideas from the President's Campaign to Cut Waste. For example, the Service's website provides content available to the public that previously was in printed form.

Memberships (-$83,000/+0 FTE)
The reduction will eliminate centrally paid memberships and/or sponsorships of numerous scientific/resource associations. As a result, the Resource Management programs will now budget for these costs and prioritize the memberships needed to build partnerships with these groups.

Program Overview

The Servicewide Bill Paying subactivity pays expenses associated with nationwide operational support costs not directly attributable to a specific program.

Expenses paid via Servicewide Bill Paying include:

- **Information Technology and Communication Needs** (Assistant Director – Information Resources):
  - Payments and support costs for the GSA Networxx contract, and other communication costs including land, wireless, radio, satellite and related communications expenses and implementation of mandated information technology requirements.
  - IT Systems Certification and Accreditation (C&A) – Costs related to on-going maintenance of certification and accreditation status for information technology systems.
  - IT Security – Includes homeland security requirements, ongoing efforts to create and maintain a secure environment for systems and data, as required by several legislative and administrative mandates. Includes ensuring compliance with mandatory IT Security Awareness Training and improving IT security compliance with A-130 and FISMA requirements.
  - IT Investments – Provides funding in support of establishment and maintenance of risk assessments, planned controls, testing of controls, long range capacity planning and technology refresh assessments.

- **DOI Working Capital Fund (WCF)** – Payments in support of services received from the Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary and the National Business Center for a variety of centralized administrative and support services.

- **Mail Delivery and Distribution** – Intra-Agency and Departmental courier and mailroom contract charges. Includes the Service's pro-rata share of costs arising from the DOI mailroom in the Main Interior Building (MIB), intra-bureau mail handling and distribution between MIB, FWS Headquarters Offices in Arlington, VA., the National Business Center in Denver, CO., and FWS Regional Offices.

- **Servicewide Workers' Compensation and Unemployment Compensation Costs** – Includes costs of compensating injured employees and dependents of employees who suffer accidental deaths while on duty. Unemployment compensation costs represent the estimated changes in the costs of unemployment compensation claims.

- **Printing** (Assistant Director – External Affairs) – The Service continues its effort to reduce printing costs by limiting the number of printed publications in favor of electronic media. However, printed copies of documents such as the Code of Federal Regulations, Congressional Bills and Hearings, Federal Register indexes and related documents, and all employee products produced by the Office of Personnel Management must remain available.

- **Economic Studies** (Assistant Director – Business Management and Operations) – Contract costs for socio-economic reviews and analyses including: designation of critical habitat for threatened and endangered species; regulatory impact statements; natural resource damage assessments; record of compliance statements; and hydroelectric dam re-licensing reviews.

- **PRISM** (Assistant Director – Business Management and Operations) – Supports overall Service administration for PRISM, the acquisition module that is part of FBMS. Activities to support PRISM include system administration throughout the Regions, technical support, contract support, and database management.

- **Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks (AS-FWP)** – Costs of salary, benefits and travel of personnel for activities directly related to Service issues, and other activities as established by Reimbursable Support Agreements.

- **Reimbursable Support Agreements (RSA's)** – Support services provided by the Department and external agencies. Examples include the Employee Assistance Program, Flexible Spending Plan administration and storage services from the National Archives and Records Administration.

- **Document Tracking System (DTS)** (Office of the Director) – Cost of administration and technical support for the electronic system for managing and tracking official correspondence.

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	($000)	*7,525*	7,525	0	0	+1,000	8,525
	FTE	*0*	0	0	0	0	0

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Ecosystems and Landscape Scale Conservation	+1,000	0
Program Changes	**+1,000**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is $8,525,000 and 0 FTE, a net program change of $1,000,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Ecosystem and Landscape Scale Conservation: America's Great Outdoors-Landscape Conservation Stewardship Program (+$1,000,000/+0 FTE)

The America's Great Outdoors Landscape Conservation Stewardship Program was initiated in 2012 and is a partnership between US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). This initiative facilitates the development of community-based partnerships that further the conservation of fish, wildlife, plants and other natural resources in distinct landscapes and brings together public and private partners to replicate successful community-driven regional landscape conservation coalitions.

NFWF was established by Congress for the express purpose of furthering conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and plant resources for present and future generations, and a significant amount of the Foundation's work is managing and leveraging grant funding. By partnering with NFWF to build conservation and stewardship capacity within other conservation organizations, the FWS can leverage this $1.0 million into a much greater impact in local communities throughout the nation.

Program Overview

The Foundation runs a competitive challenge grant program with a statutory non-Federal matching requirement of 1:1 for all federally appropriated dollars the Foundation awards; it has averaged 3:1 in recent years. With Federal dollars from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Foundation has supported more than 3,725 grants among 1,860 conservation partners, leveraging more than $174 million in Service funds into $620 million for projects benefitting conservation in all 50 States. This appropriation does not support the Foundation's administrative expenses, and all of the monies are targeted to on-the-ground conservation. The Foundation challenge grant model calls for multiple collaborators for each grant: the Service and/or the grantee; the matching private funders; and the Foundation. The Foundation also solicits diverse outside reviewers (Federal, State, non-profit, educational, and private sector) to assess each project using detailed evaluation protocols. By building partnerships among conservation organizations, government, businesses, private organizations, and individuals, the Foundation stimulates new support for on-the-ground conservation – an important niche in conservation funding.

In 2012, NFWF staff awarded grants from NFWF Federal Funds (FWS) and Matching Funds to the following organizations:

- Connecticut River Watershed Blueway: A National Model; Total Project: $100,000.00
- The Northern Everglades Alliance (FL); Total Project: $150,000.00
- Coalition to Create Southern Appalachian Mountain Bogs National Wildlife Refuge (NC); Total Project: $199,825.00
- Chama Peak Land Alliance (CO, NM); Total Project: $75,000.00
- Private Landowner Outreach Capacity Building (CO); Total Project: $203,500.00
- Community Based Conservation Workshop and Mentorship (MT); Total Project: $163,261.00

2014 Program Performance

The Foundation has developed numerous successful conservation partnerships that are complementary to the Service's mission and goals. These include the Foundation's Special Grant Programs, Keystone Initiatives and Impact-Directed Environmental Account (IDEA) mitigation and settlement accounts. In 2013, the Foundation will work with the Service to continue implementing the strategic funding plans developed for each Keystone Initiative. The Wildlife and Habitat Initiative will focus on a landscape approach with a particular emphasis on developing sustainable solutions to energy development, improving wildlife corridors, addressing the impacts of environmental stressors, and recovering select "spotlight" wildlife populations. The Fish Initiative will focus on the implementation of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan through targeted investments addressing Eastern brook trout, Lahontan cutthroat trout, and select diadromous (migrating between fresh water and salt water) fish. The Bird Initiative will focus on the recovery of targeted bird species/habitats such as lesser prairie chickens, Gunnison sage grouse, sea birds, and early successional, forest-dependent species. The Marine and Coastal Initiative will focus on targeted estuary programs and programs focused on sea turtles, corals and other species of mutual concern. Through these programs, the Foundation will work with the Service to demonstrate how strategic habitat conservation investments can achieve maximum conservation results.

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: National Conservation Training Center

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
National Conservation Training Center	($000)	*23,570*	23,564	+295	-53	+2,510	26,316
	FTE	*143*	145	0	0	-2	143

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for National Conservation Training Center

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Youth Programs and Partnerships	+2,500	+1
• Operations	+10	-3
Program Changes	**+2,510**	**-2**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) is $26,316,000 and 143 FTE, with a net program change of +$2,510,000 and -2 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Youth Programs and Partnerships (+$2,500,000/+1 FTE)

- This increase includes $2.50 million, for expanded youth programs and partnerships, including funding for the proposed 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC), an outcome of the America's Great Outdoors (AGO) Initiative. The 21CSC is a bold national effort to put young Americans to work protecting, restoring and enhancing public and tribal lands and waters as well as natural, cultural, and historical resources and treasures.
- The 21CSC will provide service, training, education and employment opportunities for thousands of young Americans and veterans, including low income and disadvantaged youth. The Fish and Wildlife Service will initiate the 21CSC partnerships across the country, by providing funding to Service regions to engage a myriad of partners to complete high-quality, cost-effective project work that will increase public access, provide job training, and enhance and restore natural resources; all while spurring economic development and outdoor recreation.
- Participants will benefit from employment and hands-on educational experiences on the public lands they are working to restore, and in the communities that surround the public lands. They will also focus on habitat enhancement and restoration, maintenance of recreational facilities, and reduction of ecological impacts that are the result of climate change. Projects that encourage career paths using the Pathways program and those that empower underserved and tribal communities will be a high priority.

Projects that leverage funding through partnerships will be the highest priority. There will be an emphasis on regional project partnerships to have cost sharing arrangements of at least a 50% match, and project partners should be accredited under standards put in place by the National Council for 21CSC.

Operations (+$10,000/-3 FTE)

The requested increase will be used to continue the highest priority training of the Service. The FTE change shown begins with FY 2012 Actual and does not account for adjustments made in FY 2013.

Program Overview

Training Programs

The National Conservation Training Center is the primary training facility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition to training Service employees, NCTC provides training on a reimbursable basis to conservation professionals from DOI, other federal, State and local governments, not-for-profit conservation organizations, private landowners and the business community. In this way, NCTC programs expand their reach and impact and help Service professionals build collaborative partnerships for conservation. The campus is located on 533 acres along the Potomac River in Shepherdstown, WV. The Center opened in 1997, and since then has hosted more than 5,440 courses and events, serving nearly 219,000 professionals from 50 countries and all 50 states.

Training for Service employees is tied directly to mission accomplishment, ensuring the "workforce has the job-related knowledge, competencies, and skills necessary to accomplish organizational goals" as outlined in the DOI Strategic Plan. By providing these skills to Service employees, NCTC training programs assists the Service in accomplishing the goals of the DOI strategic plan and the Service Operations Plan. Examples include training in watershed restoration that helps accomplish DOI resource protection goals, courses in environmental education and public-use to accomplish DOI youth goals, and courses in adaptive management, statistics, sampling design and data analysis that ensure scientific integrity and a coordinated approach to environmental stressors.

To address and close competency gaps, NCTC implements training to help address needs identified in the Service's Human Capital Plan, a Service wide training needs assessment, and ongoing program-based needs assessments. NCTC staff work closely with Service leaders, headquarters, and the field to constantly revise and refine training to meet the constantly evolving needs of the Service and its employees. NCTC bases course development activities on these mission-driven needs and priorities, offering approximately 200 courses each year tied directly to mission accomplishment.

The growth of NCTC's distance learning offerings has greatly expanded its reach. These courses and learning modules can be accessed via the NCTC website and are open to all with an interest in conservation. In the last few years, NCTC has doubled its distance learning offerings and plans additional growth in the coming year.

Overall, NCTC continues to provide excellence in mission-focused training aligned with the needs of the Service. The benefit is leveraged across the organization due to increased employee and organizational performance, with significant benefit provided directly and indirectly to employees and organizations across all sectors and levels of government.

Youth in the Great Outdoors

NCTC is a leading force in the execution of the Secretary's Youth in the Great Outdoors Initiative (YGO). To build the next generation of conservation professionals, this initiative seeks to: 1) Engage youth from all backgrounds and walks of life in the outdoors; 2) Educate millions of youth about our lands, waters, wildlife, culture, and heritage; and 3) Employ thousands of youth to protect and restore our environment and revitalize our communities.

NCTC is focused on three key strategies for achieving the goals of the initiative:

<u>Coordination and Collaboration</u>

Through DOI's Youth Coordinating Council and Task Force, NCTC supports and works with the DOI's Office of Youth, Partnership, and Service. NCTC continues to develop, implement, and administer effective collaboration tools for sharing resources across DOI that target specific audiences including the

DOI Youth Portal (YouthGo.gov). This work enables public land management agencies (DOI/USDA) and partners to effectively share success stories that highlight resources and educational and employment opportunities for young people.

Professional Development

The NCTC builds capacity through curriculum development and training within the Service and shares these resources with other Department bureaus and partners. A variety of classroom and distance learning programs are offered to Service and Department employees in environmental education, youth outdoor skills, and youth leadership to assist Service employees in engaging, educating, and employing youth. To ensure that programs are executed with high effectiveness, the NCTC conducts program evaluations to determine effectiveness and impact for the Service and the youth.

The NCTC supports Service regions in implementing the Career Discovery Internship Program (CDIP), a 10-week summer internship program targeting college students from a variety of backgrounds. The NCTC provides training on mentoring and supervising youth and assists with the CDIP week-long orientation in several regions across the country.

To engage high-school teachers and educators in the YGO Initiative, NCTC works with DOI bureaus and partners to conduct summer Educator Career Awareness Institutes for teachers from all 50 states, providing these teachers with an internal, hands-on view of the variety of occupations available within the Department. These educators incorporate what they learn about these careers into their curriculum and disseminate this information by conducting in-service programs for fellow educators at their schools.

Career Awareness

NCTC supports the Service by coordinating the National Connecting People with Nature priority and by supporting the expansion of Service entry-level employment programs that reach diverse communities. A key component is working with internal and external partners to connect people with nature through engagement, education, and employment programming across America. NCTC works with strategic partners, in the field and at NCTC, to host inclusive student engagement events designed to expose young people to the mission of Service and the importance of conservation and public service careers and STEM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) careers.

NCTC works collaboratively with internal and external partners to increase the diversity of the agency's applicant pools by using a targeted approach to reach young people interested in natural resource careers at secondary and post-secondary institutions. The ultimate goal of this work is to build a diverse and inclusive workforce that ensures the next generation of conservation professionals reflects the face of America.

The Service will work closely with the Department and other DOI bureaus on the implementation of the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. In addition, NCTC works closely with the national student work/internship conservation program to match potential interns and summer employees with appropriate positions in the bureaus. The NCTC also works with a range of partners to engage universities to ensure alignment between graduate skills and entry-level job competencies. This is a critical piece to building the next generation of conservation professionals ready to enter public service and address the complex conservation challenges of the future.

Maintenance

NCTC is a 434,000 square foot, 17 building facility located on 533 acres of forest and grasslands. The north boundary edge is along the Potomac River, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. The maintenance account supports NCTC programmatic activities and DOI strategic goals by keeping the national center in efficient operating condition.

The request includes a $1,572,000 for maintenance activities at the NCTC in 2014. Because of the scope of the facilities, annual maintenance is necessary to ensure the campus is free of hazards and to prevent project backlogs and more costly emergency repairs. Presently the NCTC monitors campus infrastructure condition and prepares an annual list of projects that are prioritized and addressed as funding permits. There are several categories of projects, including emergency flood damage repairs, building exterior repairs, HVAC, plumbing and electrical repairs and replacements, building interior repairs and replacements, and road and trail upkeep.

The industry benchmark for maintenance budgeting is 2% to 4% of construction costs. The 2013 replacement value of the NCTC is $183M and the projected 2014 maintenance budget is 0.86% of construction costs. The Service will continue to develop annual maintenance priority lists for NCTC and will address the highest priority projects within available funding. The Service works closely with the NCTC engineering contractor to develop and execute robust preventive maintenance and value engineering programs that help reduce the cost of future major maintenance projects.

2014 Program Performance

The NCTC will be offering approximately 250 courses in 2014 at the Shepherdstown campus and at various locations around the country, serving more than 4,400 students from the Service, and a variety of other government, non-profit and business organizations. Combined learning days for both classroom courses and distance learning events will be approximately 49,000. Courses in 2014 will focus on high priority science, leadership, youth engagement, and partnership training topics. The NCTC will accommodate approximately 550 total on-campus events, serving more than 15,500 conservation professionals.

Distance learning offerings, including web-based delivery methods, and the continuation of video and broadcast-based technologies will continue to be used to provide needed training to conservation professionals around the country and educational programs to teachers and schoolchildren. The Service anticipates providing approximately 200 distance learning offerings in 2014.

The NCTC will work with a variety of Service field stations on the production of various video projects and graphic displays and exhibits. The centralized NCTC Literature Search Program will respond to more than 240,000 requests from Service resource professionals and deliver more than 35,000 articles to the field.

The NCTC will continue to develop and facilitate conservation partnerships and public outreach education and extension education materials to reach learners in schools, youth groups such as 4H, Scouts, and adults, designed to provide objective, science-based information and educational materials.

NCTC will continue to facilitate FWS efforts to connect people with nature working with the Service's Connecting People with Nature Working Group. There will be additional development of resources and programs for use by Service field stations.

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Construction

Construction

Appropriations Language

For construction, improvement, acquisition, or removal of buildings and other facilities required in the conservation, management, investigation, protection, and utilization of fishery and wildlife resources, and the acquisition of lands and interests therein; [$19,136,000,] $15,722,000, to remain available until expended.

Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-75). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution as well as amounts from P.L. 113-2, the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (no language shown).

Authorizing Statutes

Recreation Use of Conservation Areas Act of 1962 (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4). Commonly known as the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962, authorizes development of fish and wildlife areas for recreational use, including land acquisition and facilities construction and management.

National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to award contracts for the provision of public accommodations of the National Wildlife Refuge System. It was amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (P.L. 105-57).

Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715k). Provides for land acquisition, construction, maintenance, development, and administration for migratory bird reservations.

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a-742f). Authorizes the development, management, advancement, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources, including the acquisition and development of existing facilities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 9601, et seq.). Authorizes federal agencies to recover costs associated with hazardous materials removal, remediation, cleanup, or containment activities from responsible parties.

Federal Facilities Compliance Act (50 U.S.C. 1941). Requires federal agencies to comply with federal, state, and local solid and hazardous waste laws in the same manner as any private party.

Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, (P.L. 101-508) as amended (42 U.S.C. 13101, 13101 note, 13102-13109). Requires pollution that cannot be prevented at the source to be recycled in an environmentally sound manner, and disposal as a last resort.

Solid Waste Disposal Act (P.L. 89-272, 79 Stat. 997, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act). Mandates that federal agencies divert solid waste from disposal in landfills through waste prevention and recycling at the rate of 45 percent by 2005 and 50 percent by 2010.

Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701 -7706). Establishes an earthquake hazards reduction program.

National Dam Safety Program Act (P.L. 104-303 as amended by the Dam Safety and Security Act of 2002, P.L. 107-310 and the Dam Safety Act of 2006, P.L. 109-460). Provides for Federal agencies to implement the Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety, which established management practices for dam safety at all Federal agencies.

National Energy Conservation Policy Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-619, as amended, and 92 Stat. 3206, 42 U.S.C. 8252 et seq.). Establishes an energy management program in the federal government and directs federal agencies to perform energy surveys and implement energy conservation opportunities to reduce consumption of nonrenewable energy resources in buildings, vehicles, equipment, and general operations.

Federal Energy Management Improvement Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-615, November 5, 1998). Promotes the conservation and efficient use of energy throughout the federal government.

Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT) (P.L. 109-58, August 8, 2005). Extends previous Congressional direction to Federal facility managers with even greater goals of energy efficiency improvements in existing and new facilities, mandates increased use of renewable energy sources, sustainable building design and construction, metering of all Federal buildings, and procurement of Energy Star equipment. This legislation contains energy efficiency tax credits and new ways to retain energy savings.

Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA) (P.L. 110-140, December 19, 2007). Intends to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security; increase production of clean renewable fuels; protect consumers; increase the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles; promote research on and deploy greenhouse gas capture and storage options; and improve the energy performance of the Federal Government.

Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-8, March 11, 2009; 123 Stat. 527). Section 748 codifies Executive Order 13423. "Executive Order 13423 (72 Fed. Reg. 3919; Jan. 24, 2007) shall remain in effect hereafter except as otherwise provided by law after the date of the enactment of this Act."

(16 U.S.C. 695k-695r). Provides for limitations on reduction of areas by diking or other construction in California and Oregon in the case of migratory waterfowl and other refuges, as well as other construction provisions.

(16 U.S.C. 760-760-12). Provides for the construction, equipping, maintenance, and operation of several named fish hatcheries.

(23 U.S.C. 144 and 151). Requires bridges on public highways and roads to be inspected.

Executive Orders

Presidential Memorandum of October 4, 1979. Directs all federal agencies to adopt and implement the Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety as prepared by the Federal Coordinating Council for Science, Engineering, and Technology. (Secretary of the Interior Order No. 3048, implements and assigns responsibility for a Department-wide dam safety program in accordance with the President's memorandum).

Executive Order 12088 (October 13, 1978). Requires agencies to ensure that facilities comply with applicable pollution control standards; ensure that sufficient funds for environmental compliance are requested in their budgets; and include pollution control projects in an annual pollution abatement budget plan.

Executive Order 12941 for Seismic Risk Safety (December 1994). Adopts minimum standards for seismic safety, requires federal agencies to inventory their owned/leased buildings and estimate the cost of mitigating unacceptable seismic risks.

Executive Order 12699, Seismic Safety of Federal and Federally Assisted or Regulated New Building Construction. Covers the new construction portion of *The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977* (P.L. 95-124).

Executive Order 13031, Federal Alternative Fueled Vehicle Leadership (December 31, 1996). Mandates that the federal government demonstrate leadership in Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) use and ensures that 75 percent of new light-duty vehicles leased or purchased in FY 2000 and subsequent years in urban areas are alternative fuel vehicles.

Presidential Memorandum, Energy Conservation at Federal Facilities (May 3, 2001). Directs agencies to take appropriate actions to conserve energy use at their facilities to the maximum extent consistent with the effective discharge of public responsibilities. Agencies located in regions where electricity shortages are possible should conserve especially during periods of peak demand.

Presidential Memorandum, Energy and Fuel Conservation by Federal Agencies (September 26, 2005). Directs Federal agencies to take immediate actions to conserve energy and fuel use throughout Federal facilities and the motor fleet.

Memorandum of Understanding for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings (signed January 25, 2006, by the Deputy Secretary of the Interior; Final High Performance and Sustainable Buildings Guidance, including revision to the Guiding Principles for Sustainable New Construction and Major Renovations, and for new guidance for Sustainable Existing Buildings, was published by the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive on December 1, 2008.).

Executive Order 13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management (January 24, 2007). [E.O. 13423 rescinds several previous E.O.s, including E.O. 13101, E.O. 13123, E.O. 13134, E.O. 13148, and E.O. 13149.] The Executive Order directs Federal agencies to implement sustainable practices for: energy efficiency and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions use of renewable energy; reduction in water consumption intensity; acquisition of green products and services; pollution prevention, including reduction or elimination of the use of toxic and hazardous chemicals and materials; cost effective waste prevention and recycling programs; increased diversion of solid waste; sustainable design/high performance buildings..

Executive Order 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance (October 5, 2009). This Executive Order expands on the energy reduction and environmental performance requirements of Executive Order 13423 and establishes an integrated strategy towards sustainability and reduction goals for greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption, petroleum consumption, recycling and diversion of materials. It further defines requirements for sustainability in buildings and leases, sustainable acquisition, and electronic stewardship among others.

Construction

Justification of Fixed Costs

(Dollars In Thousands)

Other Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	PY (2012) Total or Change	PY (2012) to BY (2014) Change
Change in Number of Paid Days	-	+23
The combined fixed cost estimate includes an adjustment for one additional paid day between FY2012 and FY2013. The number of paid days do not change between FY2013 and FY2014.		
Pay Raise	-	+70
The PY column reflects the total pay raise changes as reflected in the PY President's Budget. The BY Change column reflects the total pay raise changes between FY2012-FY2014.		
Employer Share of Federal Health Benefit Plans	+39	+30
The change reflects expected increases in employer's share of Federal Health Benefit Plans.		
Rental Payments	+13	+0
The adjustment is for changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration (GSA) and others resulting from changes in rates for office and non-office space as estimated by GSA, as well as the rental costs of other currently occupied space. These costs include building security; in the case of GSA space, these are paid to Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Costs of mandatory office relocations, i.e. relocations in cases where due to external events there is no alternative but to vacate the currently occupied space, are also included.		

Appropriation: Construction

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Nationwide Engineering Services	($000)	*9,132*	9,070	+123	0	-1,984	7,209
Bridge and Dam Safety Programs	($000)	*1,852*	1,852	0	0	0	1,852
Line Item Construction Projects	($000)	*12,208*	12,129	0	0	-5,468	6,661
Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriation	($000)	*68,200*	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Construction	($000)	***91,392***	**23,051**	**+123**	**0**	**-7,452**	**15,722**
	FTE	***82***	**79**	**0**	**0**	**-12**	**67**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Construction

Request Component	($000)	FTE
Nationwide Engineering Services	-1,984	-12
Line Item Construction Projects	-5,468	0
Program Changes	**-7,452**	**-12**

Justification of Program Changes for Construction

The 2014 budget request for the Construction program is $15,722,000 and 67 FTE, with a net program change of -$7,452,000 and -12 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Nationwide Engineering Services (-$1,984,000/-12 FTE)

The Service requests a decrease of $1,984,000 from Nationwide Engineering Services (NES), specifically from Core Engineering Services, in order to support higher priorities. This level of CES funding will reduce the Service's ability to provide financial and project tracking, as well as technical leadership, program management, and project oversight functions for Service construction and maintenance work. This funding level also will reduce the Service's capability to address environmental issues identified through compliance audits.

Line Item Construction Program Projects (-$5,468,000/+0 FTE)

The FWS request includes a $5,468,000 reduction for line-item construction projects. This reduction in construction funding will delay the Service's ability to address its highest priority construction and rehabilitation needs.

2014 Construction Project Listing by Program					
DOI Rank Score	**Reg**	**Station**	**State**	**Project Title/Description**	**Request ($000)**
National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS)					
1000	3	Crab Orchard NWR	IL	Repair Crab Orchard Dam Relief Well Toe Drain System (d/c)	525
1000	8	Modoc NWR	CA	Install Seepage Control at Dorris Dam (p)	300
860	4	White River NWR	AR	Rehabilitate Habitat at Dry Lake	600

2014 Construction Project Listing by Program					
DOI Rank Score	**Reg**	**Station**	**State**	**Project Title/Description**	**Request ($000)**
860	5	Great Meadows NWR	MA	Install Renewable Energy at Headquarters (p/d/cc)	362
843	4	White River NWR	AR	Install Tier 2 Energy Upgrades to Visitor Center and Offices	550
720	5	John Heinz NWR	PA	Rehabilitate Boardwalk (cc)	527
720	4	Okefenokee NWR	GA	Repair Boardwalk and Observation Platform	159
686	2	Tishomingo NWR	OK	Rehabilitate Headquarters Building to Improve Energy Efficiency	139
665	5	Great Swamp NWR	NJ	Install Photovoltaic System	330
633	1	Turnbull NWR	WA	Complete Tier 2 Energy Upgrade for Comfort Station and Remove Power Line	210
166	3	Crab Orchard NWR	IL	Demolish Buildings within Areas 9 and 7	409
Subtotal, NWRS					**4,111**
National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS)					
979	1	Abernathy NFH	WA	Replace Electric Fish Barrier (cc)	1,100
930	1	Makah NFH	WA	Replace Electric Fish Barrier (ic)	970
260	1	Kooskia NFH	ID	Rehab Signs and Interpretive Displays (p/d/cc)	25
105	1	Little White Salmon NFH	WA	Demolish Hatchery Building Water Reuse System	50
Subtotal, NFHS					**2,145**
Other					
1000	N/A	Servicewide – Seismic Safety	N/A	Perform Seismic Engineering Evaluations	215
937	6	National Black-footed Ferret Conservation Center	CO	Emergency Building Stabilization (p/d/c)	190
Subtotal, NFHS					**405**
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS					**6,661**
Dam and Bridge Safety					
N/A	9	Servicewide	N/A	Dam Safety Program and Inspections	1,113
N/A	9	Servicewide	N/A	Bridge Safety Program and Inspections	739
SUBTOTAL, DAM & BRIDGE SAFETY					**1,852**
Nationwide Engineering Services (NES)					
N/A	9	Servicewide	N/A	Core Engineering Services*	5,991
N/A	9	Servicewide	N/A	Environmental Compliance	998
N/A	9	Servicewide	N/A	Seismic Safety Program	120
N/A	9	Servicewide	N/A	Waste Prevention & Recycling	100
Subtotal, Nationwide Engineering Services (NES)					**7,209**
TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION					**15,722**

Notes: p = planning, d = design, ic = initiate construction, cc = complete construction

* CES amount includes User Pay Cost Share.

Program Overview

The Service's Construction program delivers high quality, timely, cost-effective and code-compliant construction projects in support of the operation and maintenance of Service facilities. Construction funding supports engineering and technical program management for over 700 field stations, 561 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System, 72 fish hatcheries, and 65 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices situated on more than 150 million natural resource acres. Water scarcity, energy security objectives, and sustainable operations requirements have given rise to initiatives and mandates to minimize consumption and maximize use of renewable resources in conducting operational activities. The Service has been exemplary in meeting and exceeding these mandates. Maintaining an efficient and knowledgeable workforce that can help meet these requirements is critical to the Service's ability to meet ongoing infrastructure needs.

This appropriation supports the accomplishment of the Services' national engineering programs which include nearly 300 dams, 700 bridges, 7,100 buildings, seismic safety programs, and environmental compliance and management activities. Work is primarily accomplished through performing assessments, audits, and inspections. Responses to findings are addressed to the extent possible through operational changes, program funds, and when necessary, line-item construction requests. Required energy reporting is also managed as a national program. The Construction appropriation consists of the following activities and program elements:

Nationwide Engineering Services
- Core Engineering Services, CES
- Environmental Compliance and Management
- Seismic Safety Program

Dam and Bridge Safety Program
Line-Item Construction

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge

Nationwide Engineering Services

Nationwide Engineering Services (NES) support the management of numerous construction and maintenance projects completed each year. These projects must be designed and constructed in a manner that meets building code and other Federal facility requirements. Nationwide Engineering Services is a critical component to the Service's ability to meet ongoing infrastructure needs and ensure the lawful and safe operation of Service facilities. NES includes:

Core Engineering Services

Service engineers deliver high quality construction and maintenance project design and implementation. Core Engineering Services (CES) funding covers the cost of a small group of engineering managers at the headquarters and regional levels, who are accountable for policy development, budget planning and execution, technical expertise, and workload management. CES funds are also used to support overhead expenses for the engineering organization, including training, leave, and administrative support. Salary costs for project delivery are charged directly to projects (direct costs).

Environmental Compliance and Management

Environmental Compliance and Management encompasses two program areas: (1) Environmental Compliance; and (2) Waste Prevention, Recycling and Environmental Management Systems.

Practice Bomb Disposal Site, Vieques NWR, Puerto Rico

Environmental Compliance -The Engineering Compliance Branch (ECB) ensures that Service facilities and activities comply with new and existing Federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations as required by the Federal Facility Compliance Act. Environmental compliance audits are conducted for approximately 900 field locations on at least a five-year cycle, and in FY 2012, the Service conducted approximately 260 audits. The ECB provides technical assistance to Regional Offices and field stations regarding large-scale environmental contamination cleanup projects, compliance policy, training, environmental compliance audits, Environmental Management Systems (EMS) conformance audits, and compliance with regulatory requirements.

Dam Maintenance, Wichita Mountains NWR, Comanche County, Oklahoma

The ECB assists Project Managers in effectively cleaning up releases of hazardous substances by: interpreting a broad array of guidance and regulations that apply to the clean-up of releases of hazardous substances to the environment; providing recommendations for remedy implementation; solving site-specific issues, such as the availability of disposal options, that can delay progress in cleaning up contamination; and in some cases, managing contracts for activities such as ground-water sampling and technical document review.

Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Environmental Management Systems- Funding is used to support the Service's implementation of Executive Orders 13423 and 13514 outlined in the Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan, and carrying out associated waste prevention, recycling, and similar actions outlined in the Department's Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan. The Waste Prevention, Recycling, and EMS Program objectives include: continuing to implement and maintain EMS at appropriate organizational levels; reducing waste by-products; increasing the recycled content of materials used by the Service in accordance with the opportunities identified in prior years; and reducing the use of toxic/hazardous chemicals and materials.

Seismic Safety Program *The Earthquake Hazards Reductions Act of 1977* is intended to reduce risk to life and property from future earthquakes in the United States through establishment of an effective earthquake hazards reduction program. Executive Order 12699, Seismic Safety of Federal and Federally Assisted or Regulated New Buildings Construction, covers the new construction portion of the Act. Executive Order 12941 requires that Federal agencies inventory existing buildings and estimate the cost of mitigating unacceptable seismic risks.

The Service owns approximately 7,100 buildings, many of which are located in high or moderate seismic zones and potentially subjected to damage or collapse from seismic events. Results of preliminary screenings show that approximately 50 of the Service's owned buildings have a significant seismic risk of collapse.

Crab Orchard Dam, Repair of Relief Wells and Toe Drain, Marion, Illinois

The Seismic Safety Program is responsible for the implementation and oversight of the nationwide Seismic Safety Program. Program funding is inadequate to conduct the more detailed engineering evaluations required to assess these 50 identified high risk buildings. Funding for these evaluations is included in the 5-year Construction Plan as a line-item project in each of the fiscal years from 2014

through 2018. Upon completion of each assessment, the Service will understand the extent and likely costs necessary to mitigate seismic risk at these facilities. Funding to complete seismic safety structural repairs will be requested in future requests as individual line-item construction projects as required.

Lake Darling Dam, Flood Control Spillway Gates, Minot, North Dakota

Dam and Bridge Safety

Dam Safety Program - The Service owns nearly 300 dams at wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries that are in place for resource or facility management. The referenced statutes require existing dams to be properly designed, operated and maintained to ensure human health and safety. In addition, dams that threaten downstream populations are required to have Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) which provide guidance for early detection and mitigation of conditions that may cause potential dam failures; and communication protocols for notification and evacuation of downstream populations. During 2014, the Service will continue its Dam Safety Program, which includes periodic Safety Evaluation of Existing Dams (SEED) inspections, EAP exercises, and engineering investigations. SEED inspections include performing and reassessing hazard classification, which is based upon the population at risk and the economic loss were a dam to fail. The Service uses the hazard classification, risk assessment, and overall condition of the dam to identify the need and priority for dam safety repair and rehabilitation projects.

It is anticipated that the Service will perform approximately 70 dam inspections, including 10 (33%) formal inspections of high risk dams and approximately 45 (22%) inspections of low risk dams as well as an estimated 15 initial assessments of impoundments to determine whether they qualify as dams. Funding to complete needed dam safety structural repairs is requested by the Service separately as individual line-item construction projects. Management of major rehabilitation or construction work is accomplished under the supervision of the Service's Dam Safety Officer.

Construction of Ice Bridge to support stabilization work at a Native America Burial Ground, Mississquoi NWR, Vermont

Bridge Safety Program- The Service owns approximately 700 bridges that serve essential administrative functions or provide primary public access. Inspections are conducted at statutorily required time intervals, and involve: determining or verifying the safe load-carrying capacity; identifying unsafe conditions and recommending ways to eliminate them; and identifying maintenance, rehabilitation, or reconstruction needs. Funds are also used to provide national management, administration and technical supervision of the Bridge Safety Program. Funding to complete needed bridge safety structural repairs is requested by the Service separately as individual line-item construction projects.

Bridges inspections are scheduled accordingly to their condition and last inspection. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) requires all vehicular bridges to be inspected on a regular basis, typically at 24-month intervals. The 2014 Bridge Safety Inspection Program will include inspection of approximately 350 bridges, satisfying FHWA NBIS requirements.

Line Item Construction

Construction funding is used to reconstruct, repair, rehabilitate and replace existing buildings, other structures and facilities such as bridges and dams, and also to construct buildings, structures and facilities

not previously existing. Construction funds are requested as project specific line-items in the President's Budget Request. Funds may be used for project-specific planning, design and construction management, construction, demolition, site work, land acquisition, and furniture, fixtures and equipment. Proposed construction projects are identified annually in the Service budget request as part of the "Five-Year Construction Plan." The FY 2014 request includes projects only for repair or rehabilitation of existing facilities; no new facilities are proposed.

2014 Program Performance

Line-Item Construction Projects. In 2014, the Service requests a total of $6,661,000 for 17 line-item construction projects. A summary of proposed projects is included in the 2014 Construction Appropriation List of Project Data Sheets (PDS) table below. A Project Data Sheet (PDS) is provided for each project and includes key data on project description, justification, cost and schedule. Following the individual PDSs is a Summary Project Data Sheet for 2014 – 2018. This summarizes the Service's 5-Year Construction Plan that directs funding to the most critical health, safety, and resource protection needs. This plan complies with the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) Number 6 on deferred maintenance reporting. Project selection is based on each project's alignment with the Department and Service objectives, condition assessments of existing facilities, and subsequent ranking of Facility Condition Index (FCI) and DOI Rank.

National Black-Footed Ferret Conservation Center, Wellington, Colorado

2014 Construction Appropriation List of Project Data Sheets

DOI Rank	Region	Station	State	Project Title/Description	Request ($000s)
1000	N/A	Servicewide – Seismic Safety	N/A	Perform Seismic Engineering Evaluations	215
1000	3	Crab Orchard NWR	IL	Repair Crab Orchard Dam Relief Well Toe Drain System (d/c)	525
1000	8	Modoc NWR	CA	Install Seepage Control at Dorris Dam (p)	300
979	1	Abernathy Fish Technology Center	WA	Replace Electric Fish Barrier (cc)	1,100
937	6	National Black-Footed Ferret Conservation Center	CO	Emergency Building Stabilization (p/d/c)	190
930	1	Makah NFH	WA	Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier(ic)	970
860	5	Great Meadows NWR	MA	Install Photovoltaic System at Headquarters (p/d/cc)	362
860	4	White River NWR	AR	Rehabilitate Habitat at Dry Lake	600
843	4	White River NWR	AR	Install Tier 2 Energy Upgrades to Visitors Center and Offices	550
720	5	John Heinz NWR	PA	Rehabilitate Boardwalk (cc)	527

2014 Construction Appropriation List of Project Data Sheets					
DOI Rank	**Region**	**Station**	**State**	**Project Title/Description**	**Request ($000s)**
720	4	Okefenokee NWR	GA	Repair Boardwalk and Observation Platform	159
696	2	Tishomingo NWR	OK	Rehabilitate Headquarters Building to Improve Energy Efficiency	139
665	5	Great Swamp NWR	NJ	Install Photovoltaic System	330
633	1	Turnbull NWR	WA	Complete Tier 2 Energy Upgrades for Turnbull Comfort Station and Remove Power Line	210
260	1	Kooskia NFH	ID	Rehab Signs and Interpretive Displays (p/d/cc)	25
166	3	Crab Orchard NWR	IL	Demolish Buildings within Areas 9 and 7	409
105	1	Little White Salmon NFH	WA	Demolish Hatchery Building Water Reuse System	50
TOTAL, LINE-ITEM CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS					**6,661**

Notes: p = planning, d = design, ci = initiate construction, cc = complete construction

Abernathy Fish Technology Center, Longview, Washington

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Total Project Score/Ranking: 1000
PROJECT DATA SHEET	Programmed Funding FY: 2014
	Funding Source: Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Seismic Engineering Evaluations

Project #: 2012218248 **Unit/Facility Name:** Seismic Safety

Region/Area/District: Multiple **Org Code:** Multiple **Congressional District:** Multiple **State:** Multiple

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: **Unique Identifier:** 98510 **API:** 100 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

These funds will be used to complete up to 10 seismic engineering evaluations of select Service buildings. Preliminary screening level assessments over 7100 buildings performed through the Fish and Wildlife Service Seismic safety program were completed in 2012. The results identified over 50 Service building as having significant seismic risks of collapse. More detailed investigations, beyond the screening level, are necessary and the engineering evaluations are the next required analysis to confirm the seismic hazard and to propose potential mitigation options based on the analysis. The engineering evaluations also may provide technical evidence, not available through the simplified screening process that the seismic risk is low and no mitigation efforts are required. This is a very high priority for the FWS and is the first year of a multi-year project seeking $1,000,000 over five years to perform these necessary engineering evaluations using a consistent and uniform process. Funds to mitigate Service buildings that are confirmed as being seismically deficient will be requested through the Service's 5-Year Construction Plan.

Project Need/Benefit:

The project supports Department strategic goal 4.1 (Protect Lives, Resources, and Property). This project supports necessary and continuing efforts to identify Service buildings that are at risk of collapse due to an earthquake and to provide mitigation options and preliminary cost estimates to reduce the risk to acceptable levels.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

100	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 1000
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	$'s	%	Project Funding History (Entire Project):	$'s
			Appropriated to Date:	0
Deferred Maintenance Work:	215,000	100	Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	215,000
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0	Future Funding to Complete Project:	860,000
Total:	215,000	100	Total:	1,075,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s
Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 0

Dates:	Sch'd	Project Data Sheet	DOI Approved?
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY)	1/14	Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)	NO
Project Complete: (QTR/YY)	4/16		

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	**Total Project Score/Ranking:** 1000
	Programmed Funding FY: 2014
PROJECT DATA SHEET	**Funding Source:** Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Repair Crab Orchard Dam Relief Well Toe Drain System (d/c)

Project #: 2013226404 **Unit/Facility Name:** Crab Orchard NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 3 **Org Code:** 33610 **Congressional District:** 12 **State:** IL

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40162000 **Unique Identifier:** 10013507 **API:** 100 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Funding will repair the existing relief well drainage system installed in 1990 as part of the major rehabilitation project. The relief well system is an essential component of the dam which relieves uplift pressures from the foundation material beneath the dam. The relief wells were designed to limit the uplift pressures to a safe level preventing a slope failure or internal erosion failure. The relief wells were tested in 2011 and were found to be in need of rehabilitation to maintain their design function. In addition, the remote video inspection of the relief wells and the collector drain identified damaged drainage pipe and debris within some of the relief wells. The proposed project will include replacing the damaged collector pipe, cleaning out the debris from the relief wells, redeveloping the relief wells though chemical cleaning and flushing of the relief wells screens to restore their flow capacity and ability to control the uplift pressures. Pump tests will be performed on the relief wells to confirm performance; and, if necessary additional relief wells will be constructed. Crab Orchard Dam is a zoned earth embankment dam, 57 feet in height, that provides habitat and recreation for the Crab Orchard NWR in Marion, Illinois. The Crab Orchard Dam is a High Hazard dam with a Population at Risk (PAR) is over 13,000 people.

Project Need/Benefit:

This repair of the relief well and drainage system will restore the necessary function of the relief wells to appropriate design standards and maintain safe pressures beneath the dam.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

100	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 1000
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**	**Project Funding History (Entire Project):**	**$'s**
			Appropriated to Date:	0
Deferred Maintenance Work:	525,000	100	Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	525,000
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0	Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	525,000	100	Total:	525,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D A

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s
Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 0

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (4/14)
Project Complete: (4/15)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	3,686	Projected:	0	Net Change:	3,686

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	1000
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Modoc NWR Dorris Dam [p]

Project #: 2010137154 | **Unit/Facility Name:** Modoc NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 8 | **Org Code:** 81690 | **Congressional District:** 4 | **State:** CA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40162000 | **Unique Identifier:** 10001673 | **API:** 100 | **FCI - Before:** 0.01 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Project Description: Dorris Dam is a high hazard dam with a large population at risk of over 600 people. The dam has significant seepage problems resulting from a lack of a toe drain as well as a continuing problem with animal burrows. In addition, the trash rack that protects the service spillway is prone to collect debris potentially reducing the spillway performance. Project funds are requested to complete necessary site investigations and determine the planning, design and construction required to resolve these continuing dam safety deficiencies.

Project Need/Benefit:

The ongoing potential seepage problems increase the risk of a dam failure through internal erosion through the embankment and the trash rack problem increases the risk of a dam failure due to a large flood event by potentially blocking flood discharge through the only spillway serving the dam.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

100	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 1000

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	$'s	%
Deferred Maintenance Work:	300,000	100
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0
Total:	300,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	$'s
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	300,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	300,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D
Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s
Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 0

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet
Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	137	Projected:	0	Net Change:	137

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	979
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Replace Hazardous Fish Barrier (C) Phase II

Project #: 2007728297 | **Unit/Facility Name:** Abernathy Fish Technology Center

Region/Area/District: Region: 1 | **Org Code:** 13210 | **Congressional District:** 3 | **State:** WA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40500100 | **Unique Identifier:** 10054470 | **API:** 100 | **FCI - Before:** 0.38 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

This work order is the second phase to a two phase project to repair the Abernathy electric fish barrier. The first phase will address planning, design and permitting requirements for the project. The second phase will be the construction portion of the project. The first phase (2007728297) of the project was funded in FY13 with construction funds.

The existing electric fish barrier was built in 2003 to replace an unsafe and possibly non functional 20 year old electric barrier in anticipation of the start of a large, complex research project with regional scope and partner interest. The externally funded project ($461,000 in FY12) is ongoing and continues to provide information to the FWS and its partners concerning possible threats to threatened and endangered salmonids from hatchery salmonids. A barrier that allows fish to be handled at AFTC before passing them upstream is critical to the success of such research. However, the current electric barrier at AFTC presents serious human safety risks to AFTC's employees and the public and has been a focus of concern by the Pacific Region's safety staff. The barrier has caused known fish (several) and mammal (2 deer and raccoon) mortalities. In addition, the concrete structure has caused hydrological damage to the creek (bank damage, inappropriate boulder and gravel deposition, and scouring) making wild fish passage more difficult. An initial engineering evaluation determined the existing barrier was too wide and as such has caused many of the identified problems. To correct these problems will require replacement or major modification of the existing barrier. In the short term, use of the barrier has been minimized, endangering the current and future mission of the Abernathy Fish Technology Center to provide research services while not fully eliminating the risks to human safety.

Project Need/Benefit:

The Abernathy Fish Technology Center (AFTC) provides critical applied aquatic research and development capabilities to the Pacific and Pacific Southwest Regions related to sturgeon, lamprey, bull trout, anadromous salmon, steelhead, lamprey, and other aquatic species. Applied research programs develop and evaluate scientific methods, concepts, systems, and approaches in support of Strategic Habitat

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

40	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
60	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No | **Total Project Score:** 979

VE Required(Y or N): Y Type: D Scheduled (YY): 2014 Completed (YY): 2014

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**	**Project Funding History (Entire Project):**	**$'s**
			Appropriated to Date:	510,000
Deferred Maintenance Work:	440,000	40	Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	1,100,000
Capital Improvement Work:	660,000	60	Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	1,100,000	100	Total:	1,610,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY	13	$250,000
Design Funds Rec'd in FY	13	$260,000

Dates: **Sch'd**

Construction Start/Award: (1/14)

Project Complete: (4/16)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	343	Projected:	343	Net Change:	0

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	937
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Emergency Building Stabilization (p/d/c)

Project #: 2013226424 | **Unit/Facility Name:** National Black-Footed Ferret Conservation Center

Region/Area/District: Region: 6 | **Org Code:** 65417 | **Congressional District:** 4 | **State:** CO

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 35800200 | **Unique Identifier:** 10050936 | **API:** 100 | **FCI - Before:** 0.00 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

The Pre-Conditioning pens need to be excavated and re-built due to tunnel collapse which resulted in 36 ferret deaths in 2012. Building stabilization and repair concerns have arisen due to soil expansion issues at the Ferret Holding Building and the Prairie Dog Quarantine (Holding) Building. This has caused some concern about possible building collapse. Modifications to the Prairie Dog Holding Building will improve husbandry success.

Project Need/Benefit:

Black-footed ferrets once considered extinct in the wild and considered one of the most endangered mammals in North America, have made a remarkable comeback in eight western states, Mexico, and Canada due to captive breeding and reintroduction efforts headquartered at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Black-footed Conservation Center in northeastern Colorado. This Center is equipped with complete facilities for the housing, breeding, whelping, and rearing of the black footed ferret. Ferrets are bred, raised and nurtured indoors until reintroduction locations have been coordinated with Partners. At that point, the ferrets are transferred to pre-conditioning pens in order to become acclimated to the outdoors prior to reintroduction to the natural settings throughout the historic range of the species in the Great Plains area.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

40	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
60	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 937

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	190,000	100
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0
Total:	190,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	190,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	190,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014	0
Design Funds Received in FY 2014	28,500

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/16)

Project Data Sheet
Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	Projected:	Net Change:
116	0	116

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	930
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Replace Fish Barrier (I/C) Phase II

Project #: 2013222787 **Unit/Facility Name:** Makah NFH

Region/Area/District: Region: 1 **Org Code:** 13240 **Congressional District:** 6 **State:** WA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40162300 **Unique Identifier:** 10002732 **API:** 100 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

This project will be phase II of a two phase project. Phase I addressed the planning and design for replacing the diversion dam and electric fish barrier at Makah NFH. The existing diversion dam and electric fish barrier is starting to deteriorate and is considered unsafe. Throughout the region, electric fish barriers have killed mammals and do not meet regional safety concerns. The current barrier is a hanging probe weir and was constructed in 1981. The diversion dam has deteriorated and has loose boards/parts that can be washed away if large debris comes down river.

This project should construct a replacement barrier that will address fish passage concerns and meet hatchery mission needs. The project will address all safety concerns and also meet all environmental requirements.

Project Need/Benefit:

The diversion dam and electric fish barrier are mission critical components to the hatchery and play a vital role in directing fish to the fish ladder. If the dam or electric barrier fails, fish may by pass the hatchery that could result in a broodstock failure for the program. Makah NFH is responsible for raising chinook salmon, coho salmon, and steelhead. They work cooperatively with the Makah Nation and Washington department of Fish and Wildlife to ensure a balanced and sustainable harvest of these fish.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
80	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	20	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 930

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	194,000	20
Capital Improvement Work:	776,000	80
Total:	970,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	970,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	970,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s
Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 0

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/16)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	59	Projected:	0	Net Change:	59

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	860
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Install Photovoltaic Systems at Headquarters (p/d/cc)

Project #: 2010123083 **Unit/Facility Name:** Great Meadows NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 5 **Org Code:** 53511 **Congressional District:** 05 **State:** MA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: **Unique Identifier:** 53511 **API:** 100 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Install renewable energy system incorporating solar photovoltaic panels. The headquarter facility was constructed in 1965 with no solar electric generating capacity. This project will involve placement of solar panels on the roof to supplement energy use. The planned system size for 50% electrical demand will be a 30 kW solar system. This system will power a significant portion of electrical needs.

Project Need/Benefit:

This project will comply with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Executive Order 13423 and the Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007 which require significant reductions in our energy use and increases in our use of electricity from renewable sources. Current utility cost for electric is $17,497/yr.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	100	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 860

VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	0	0
Capital Improvement Work:	362,000	100
Total:	362,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	362,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	362,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D C

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY in 2014 0

Design Funds Rec'd in FY in 2014 36,200

Dates: **Sch'd**

Construction Start/Award: (1/14)

Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	860
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Rehabilitate Habitat at Dry Lake

Project #: 2011200610 **Unit/Facility Name:** White River NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 4 **Org Code:** 43670 **Congressional District:** 01 **State:** AR

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: **Unique Identifier:** 43670 **API:** 100 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Rehabilitate habitat at Dry Lake to maximize duck use days for up to 300,000 migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds. Currently within the 800-acre Dry Lake impoundment, only 400 acres can be managed for waterfowl during flooded conditions. This project will develop a series of sub-impoundment levees and water control structures capable of providing independent water management cells that would increase habitat management by 200 acres. In accordance with the Comprehensive Conservation Plan, rehabilitating moist soil units to improve duck use days on White River NWR are part of the proposed planning efforts to occur sometime in the future.

Project Need/Benefit:

Dry Lake is a well-known waterfowl resting area adjacent to Jacks Bay waterfowl hunting area. The entire Jacks Bay area annually provides 2,400 day of waterfowl hunting opportunity on White River NWR and under ideal conditions can provide up to 300,000 duck use days per month. This site could easily increase duck use days which will effectively increase waterfowl numbers on the Jacks Bay area as well as numerous tracts of private lands within 10-12 miles of the site. Estimate: 600K

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
100	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 860

VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	0	0
Capital Improvement Work:	600,000	100
Total:	600,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	600,000
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	0
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	600,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0

Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 60,000

Dates: **Sch'd**

Construction Start/Award: (1/14)

Project Complete: (4/16)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	843
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Install Tier 2 Energy Upgrades to Visitor's Center and Offices

Project #: 2010124568 | **Unit/Facility Name:** White River NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 4 | **Org Code:** 43670 | **Congressional District:** 1 | **State:** AR

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 35290700 | **Unique Identifier:** 10050361 | **API:** 100 | **FCI - Before:** 0.10 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Rehabilitate building by designing and installing energy efficient heating, ventilation, cooling, and lighting improvements to office/ VC. Rehabilitate heating ventilation and cooling system. Project involves component renewal of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment, windows, insulation, water heater, and lighting fixtures.

Project Need/Benefit:

This project is in support of Executive Order 13514, the Energy Independence and Security Act and the Energy Policy Act, The Department of the Interior has committed to achieving 20% reduction in scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	75	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	25	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 843

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	137,500	25
Capital Improvement Work:	412,500	75
Total:	550,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0.00
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	550,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0.00
Total:	550,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014	0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014	55,000

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	Projected:	Net Change:
64,068	0	64,068

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	**Total Project Score/Ranking:** 720
PROJECT DATA SHEET	**Programmed Funding FY:** 2014
	Funding Source: Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Rehabilitate Boardwalk (cc)

Project #: 2009965104 **Unit/Facility Name:** John Heinz NWR at Tinicum

Region/Area/District: Region: 5 **Org Code:** 52570 **Congressional District:** 01 **State:** PA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: **Unique Identifier:** 52570 **API:** 100 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Rehabilitate existing boardwalk, with expansion and interpretation to expand and enhance public access, interpretation and environmental educational opportunities of this rare freshwater tidal marsh habitat. The refuge protects Pennsylvania's largest remaining freshwater tidal marsh, and is only able to provide limited public access due to a deteriorating boardwalk that only extends to the fringe of the marsh. Many visitors never have a chance to experience the marsh, and the unauthorized access to the core of the marsh that currently takes occurs in an effort to enjoy and experience this habitat is a threat to multiple locally endangered micro habitats. The project will rehabilitate existing portions of the boardwalk, install interpretive signs and markers to inform visitors and to provide environmental education opportunities of the unique aspects and history of Tinicum Marsh

Project Need/Benefit:

The existing boardwalk repairs are required to prevent closure to the public due, and expansion of the boardwalk will protect endangered microhabitats, nesting birds and invertebrates. Installation of interpretation will facilitate a quality visitor experience on self-guided tours, with expanded ability for the general public to view and learn about this rare freshwater tidal marsh habitat without threatening or damaging the wildlife and habitat. The extension of the boardwalk will provide expanded wildlife and habitat viewing and photography opportunities, as well as greatly enhancing the environmental educational opportunities. The repaired, expanded and enhanced boardwalk will give school groups and all public visitors a convenient and low impact way to experience a freshwater tidal marsh. It will also provide access to handicapped visitors who cannot currently access the marsh. The project will also eliminate the deferred maintenance backlog for this real property asset.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	50	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			50	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 720
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**	**Project Funding History (Entire Project):**	**$'s**
			Appropriated to Date:	0.00
Deferred Maintenance Work:	263,500	50	Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	527,000
Capital Improvement Work:	263,500	50	Future Funding to Complete Project:	0.00
Total:	527,000	100	Total:	527,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D C

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014	0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014	52,700

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	720
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Repair Boardwalk and Observation Platform

Project #: 2011207236 | **Unit/Facility Name:** Okefenokee NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 4 | **Org Code:** 41590 | **Congressional District:** 8 | **State:** GA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40800900 | **Unique Identifier:** 10014855 | **API:** 100 | **FCI - Before:** 0.00 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

As a result of lightning strikes during the storms of 2011, the boardwalk and observation platform at Chesser Island was severely damaged. Large sections of the highly used boardwalk were completely destroyed deeming this important visitor related asset unusable. The asset was inspected and assessed by one of the regional facility management coordinators due to the Prairie Fires of 2011. Results of the inspection warrant replacement of several sections of boardwalk and structural repairs to the observation platform.

Project Need/Benefit:

It is important this asset be repaired as soon as possible in order to provide visitor access, and to ensure repairs are made prior to the area becoming overgrown with vegetation. These repairs will also provide a safe boardwalk and observation platform for the public. This project scores 100 percent Other Deferred Maintenance due to backlog of these much needed repairs. This project will not be included in any requests for supplemental storm recovery funding if approved for the 2013 Construction Appropriations.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	50	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			50	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 720

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	79,500	50
Capital Improvement Work:	79,500	50
Total:	159,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	159,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	159,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014	0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014	15,900

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet
Prepared/Last Updated 9/8 (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	76	Projected:	0	Net Change:	76

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	686
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Rehabilitate Headquarters Building to Improve Energy Efficiency

Project #: 2010123071 **Unit/Facility Name:** Tishomingo NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 2 **Org Code:** 21650 **Congressional District:** 3 **State:** OK

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 35600100 **Unique Identifier:** 10008250 **API:** 80 **FCI - Before:** 0.02 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Energy saving project to the refuge headquarters building. Rehabilitate the existing brick exterior by removing and putting on insulation wrap, insulation board, and properly installed brick exterior. The project will also replace 9 overhead doors that are not currently insulated and do not properly close causing security issues. U Panel metal will be installed above the parking bays to cover the 1920's windows that currently allow loss of heating and cooling to the outside environment. Four large windows at the shop end of the building will be replaced with energy rated windows and reduced in size to standard window openings.

Project Need/Benefit:

Rehabilitate refuge headquarters building used by Refuge management and administrative staff. Insufficient insulation and doors not being able to tightly secure/seal allow loss of heating and cooling to the outside environment. Staff member's performance is hindered due to high noise levels from adjacent work areas, inadequate lighting, ventilation, and electrical power systems. Project is scored 75% energy policy, high performance sustainable buildings by updating doors, rehabilitating the existing brick exterior, insulating with insulating board, improve lighting with energy efficient lighting fixtures and bulbs, ventilation, and electrical power systems to comply with the energy policy act. This project will subdivide interior space with walls and doors. Completion of this project will result in greater energy savings, greater productivity from Refuge staff and improve employee safety, health, and accessibility. Project is scored 25% for other Capital Improvement.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	75	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			25	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 686

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	0	0
Capital Improvement Work:	139,000	100
Total:	139,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	139,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	139,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014	0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014	13,900

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	38,918	Projected:	0	Net Change:	38,918

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	665
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Install Photovoltaic System

Project #: 2011202355 | **Unit/Facility Name:** Great Swamp NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 5 | **Org Code:** 52530 | **Congressional District:** 11 | **State:** NJ

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 35290800 | **Unique Identifier:** 10052449 | **API:** 70 | **FCI - Before:** 0.02 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Utilize completed solar designs at Great Swamp Helen C. Fenske Visitor Center, and headquarters facilities at Great Swamp NWR and Sachuest Point NWR. Designs were completed under ARRA and during the rehabilitation of Great Swamp headquarters HVAC rehabilitation. The proposed photovoltaic system for the 4213 square-foot Weatherlea Visitor Center will be a 4.8 KW, expandable, roof mounted system consisting of 20 panels (240 watts each) mounted on a nearby southerly facing storage building and provide electrical power to the Visitor Center. The work includes replacing the existing storage building roof and structural improvements to the building to support the weight of the panels. The proposed photovoltaic system for the 3242 square-foot Great Swamp headquarters building will be a 10.5 KW, roof mounted system consisting of 44 panels (240 watts each). The 5500 square-foot Sachuest Point headquarter building will be a 24.4 KW ground mounted system.

Project Need/Benefit:

The installation of solar panels will reduce fuel and electricity consumption by 25 percent annually. The anticipated total energy cost saving is estimated at $5000 for the three projects. This project will comply with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Executive Order 13423 and the Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007 which require significant reductions in our energy use and increases in our use of electricity from renewable sources.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	100	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No | **Total Project Score:** 665

VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	$'s	%
Deferred Maintenance Work:	0	0
Capital Improvement Work:	330,000	100
Total:	330,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	$'s
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	330,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	330,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D A

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0

Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 33,000

Dates: **Sch'd**

Construction Start/Award: (1/14)

Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	14,518	Projected:	10,888	Net Change:	3,630

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	633
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Complete Tier 2 Energy Upgrades for Turnbull Comfort Station and Remove Power Line

Project #: 2010123884 **Unit/Facility Name:** Turnbull NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 1 **Org Code:** 13560 **Congressional District:** 5 **State:** WA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 35240100 **Unique Identifier:** 10003876 **API:** 65 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Complete Tier 2B energy efficiency projects for Turnbull comfort station. Project will remove failing buried 0.25-mile power line cable to this comfort station, install a water pipe from the office to the comfort station, and add 1 kW of photovoltaic panels to operate the comfort station lights. Project will also insulate and heat the plumbing system.

Project Need/Benefit:

Project will eliminate the failing buried cable and save energy by eliminating energy loss caused by transforming alternating current twice to operate minimal lights and pump at the comfort station. This is a Tier 2B project because main benefit is to eliminate energy loss rather than to replace the power source with solar, and because most of the cost is removing the power line.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	100	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 633

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	$'s	%
Deferred Maintenance Work:	0	0
Capital Improvement Work:	210,000	100
Total:	210,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	$'s
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	210,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	210,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D C

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014	0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014	21,000

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	Projected:	Net Change:
986	0	986

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	260
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Rehab Signs and Interpretive Displays [p/d/cc]

Project #: 2007729667 **Unit/Facility Name:** Kooskia NFH

Region/Area/District: Region: 1 **Org Code:** 14235 **Congressional District:** 1 **State:** ID

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40750700 **Unique Identifier:** 10004908 **API:** 0 **FCI - Before:** 0.00 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Rehab Visitor Services Outdoor Educational Interpretive displays. Project includes a new hatchery entrance gate sign full color, outdoor quality high pressure laminate poster 2 foot x 2 foot in size; Mill Pond/Looking Glass trailhead interpretive overview signs, with cultural and natural history information per the Snake River Basin Adjudication agreement for tribal management);(for existing wood structure, one sign on each side; Trailhead and hatchery outdoor brochure racks; Wildlife identification and interpretive sign panels for pond observation platform to include 4 signs, full color w/text, 2 foot x 3 foot size; Print costs for Kooskia portion of Dworshak Complex brochure, currently in production; matching funds to existing GPO print account; and Hatchery self guided tour route interpretive signs, 2 color process, high pressure laminate, outdoor quality, 10x12", 8 signs total. These signs would be placed at points of interest identified in self guided tour. Currently, the only orientation is the large kiosk panel in front of the main building, but no other interpretation/information is available beyond this one sign. New signs are needed for the adult fish trap, buildings, office, nursery, outside ponds. Signs would allow the public to visit and gain a better understanding of the operations on their own due to limited hatchery staff available to conduct improved visitor services to over 2,000 visitors to the facility each year. The fish production program includes over 500,000 spring Chinook salmon in cooperation with the Nez Perce tribe salmon restoration programs.

Project Need/Benefit:

Connecting people with nature is directly related to the mission of the National Fish Hatchery System. The Visitor Facility Enhancement Program is designed to get people outside to enjoy fish and wildlife resources through small construction projects that facilitate quality fish and wildlife dependent recreation.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	100	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	0	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 260

VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	**$'s**	**%**
Deferred Maintenance Work:	25,000	100
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0
Total:	25,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	**$'s**
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	25,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	25,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0

Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 2,500

Dates: **Sch'd**

Construction Start/Award: (4/13)

Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	54	Projected:	0	Net Change:	54

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	166
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Demolish Buildings within Areas 9 and 7

Project #: 2012215194 **Unit/Facility Name:** Crab Orchard NWR

Region/Area/District: Region: 3 **Org Code:** 33610 **Congressional District:** 12 **State:** IL

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 35740100 **Unique Identifier:** 10013470 **API:** 0 **FCI - Before:** 0.10 **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Dispose of buildings within Area 9 and Area 7 of the Refuge. Buildings were never used in FWS operations and are excess to the Service's needs. Retired date is date of acquisition. Disposal cost of these assets exceeds 10 times the annual operations and maintenance cost, but the assets must be disposed of due to public and employee safety concerns. The structures are deteriorated to a state of potential structural instability, and are also an attractive nuisance. All of the structures contain significant amounts of asbestos that will be removed prior to demolition. Thus, potential safety and liability concerns justify the cost of demolition and disposal.

Project Need/Benefit:

The project is scored at 100% Other Deferred Maintenance due to the need to improve public safety, health or accessibility to the Crab Orchard NWR. Removal of these buildings will eliminate a source of asbestos contamination on the Refuge. When the area has been completely restored it will provide habitat to a variety of wildlife. This project will remove approximately 40,000 SF of space from the real property records.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

25	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	75	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No **Total Project Score:** 166

VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	$'s	%
Deferred Maintenance Work:	409,000	100
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0
Total:	409,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	$'s
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	409,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	409,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D

Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s

Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0

Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 40,900

Dates: **Sch'd**

Construction Start/Award: (4/13)

Project Complete: (4/14)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	Projected:	Net Change:
0	0	0

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FY 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	105
Programmed Funding FY:	2014
Funding Source:	Construction

Project Identification

Project Title: Demolish Hatchery Building Water Reuse System

Project #: 2012218140 | **Unit/Facility Name:** Little White Salmon NFH

Region/Area/District: Region: 1 | **Org Code:** 13230 | **Congressional District:** 3 | **State:** WA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code: 40710300 | **Unique Identifier:** 10002654 | **API:** 0 | **FCI - Before:** 0.45 | **FCI - Projected:** 0.00

Project Description:

Demolish the hatchery building reuse system including pump vault and biofilters. System no longer needed due to potential for deteriorating fish health and disease concerns when reusing water for incubation. System also contains confined space.

Project Need/Benefit:

Due to the increased risks of disease and other fish health related issues, it has been determined that the use of re-circulated water during the incubation period should no longer occur at Little White Salmon NFH. This water re-use system has not been used in the culture of salmonids at Little White Salmon for over 10 years. During this time of non-use, the system has deteriorated and the costs associated with maintaining the system are significantly greater than the cost of demo/removal. Future use of the system would require that employees obtain training and certification in confined spaces , or the re-use system be redesigned and/or modified such that such training and certification would not be necessary.

Ranking Categories: Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

0	% Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	(10)	0	% Energy Policy, High Performance Sustain Bldg CI	(6)
0	% Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	(9)	0	% Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	(7)	0	% Code Compliance Capital Improvement	(4)
0	% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	(6)	100	% Other Deferred Maintenance	(3)
			0	% Other Capital Improvement	(1)

Capital Asset Planning Required? (Y or N): No
VE Required(Y or N): N Type: Scheduled (YY): Completed (YY):

Total Project Score: 105

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	$'s	%
Deferred Maintenance Work:	50,000	100
Capital Improvement Work:	0	0
Total:	50,000	100

Project Funding History (Entire Project):	$'s
Appropriated to Date:	0
Requested in FY 2014 Budget:	50,000
Future Funding to Complete Project:	0
Total:	50,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C,D
Estimate Escalated To FY: 14 (yy)

Planning and Design Funds: $'s
Planning Funds Received in FY 2014 0
Design Funds Rec'd in FY 2014 0

Dates: **Sch'd**
Construction Start/Award: (1/14)
Project Complete: (4/16)

Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated (mm/yy)

DOI Approved? NO

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs ($'s)

Current:	141	Projected:	0	Net Change:	141

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN FY 2014 - 2018
Summary Project Data Sheet

DOI Score	Region	Unit/Facility	State	Cong. Dist	Project Title	Ranking Categories (%)											Cost ($000)
						% CHSdm	% CHSci	%CRPdm	% CRPci	% EPHPSBc	%Ccci	% CMdm	% Odm	% Oci	% DM	% CI	
FY 2014																	
1000	9	Seismic Safety Investigations	NA	NA	Seismic Safety Inspections	100										100	215
1000	3	Crab Orchard NWR	IL	12	Repair Crab Orchard Dam Relief Well Toe Drain System (d/c)								100		100		525
1000	8	Modoc NWR	CA	4	Construct Seepage Control at Dorris Dam (p/d)	100									100		300
979	1	Abernathy FTC	WA	3	Replace Electric Fish Barrier	40	60								40	60	1,100
937	6	National Black-Footed Ferret Conservation Center	CO	4	Emergency Building Stabilization (p/d/c)	40		60							100		190
930	1	Makah NFH	WA	6	Replace Electric Fish Barrier		80					20			20	80	970
860	4	White River NWR	AR	1	Rehabilitate Habitat at Dry Lake				100							100	600
860	5	Great Meadows NWR	MA	05	Install Photovoltaic System at Headquarters (p/d/cc)					100						100	362
843	4	White River NWR	AR	1	Install Tier 2 Energy Upgrades to Visitors Center and Offices					75		25			25	75	550
720	5	John Heinz NWR	PA	1	Rehabilitate Boardwalk								50	50	50	50	527
720	4	Okefenokee NWR	GA	8	Repair Boardwalk and Observation Platform								50	50	50	50	159
686	2	Tishomingo NWR	OK	3	Rehabilitate HQ building to improve energy Efficiency					75				25		100	139
665	5	Great Swamp	NJ	11	Install Photovoltalic System					100						100	330
633	1	Turnbull NWR	WA	5	Complete Tier 2 Energy Upgrades for Turnbull Comfort Station and Remove Power Line					100						100	210
260	1	Kooskia NFH	ID	1	Rehab Signs and Interpretive Displays							100			100		25
166	3	Crab Orchard NWR	IL	12	Demolish Buildings Witin Area 9								100		100		409
105	1	Little White Salmon NFH	WA	3	Demolish Hatchery Building Water Reuse System								100		100		50
																FY 2014 Total Cost	**6,661**

DOI Score	Region	Unit/Facility	State	Cong. Dist	Project Title	Ranking Categories (%) % CHSdm	% CHSci	%CRPdm	% CRPci	% EPHPSBc	%Ccci	% CMdm	% Odm	% Oci	% DM	% CI	Cost ($000)
FY 2015																	
1000	9	Seismic Safety Investigations	NA	NA	Seismic Safety Investigations	100									100	0	215
1000	8	Modoc NWR	CA	04	Rehab Dorris Dam (c)	100									100	0	2,000
1000	2	Buffalo Lake NWR	TX	19	Umbarger Dam - Repair Roller Compacted Concrete Spillway (p/d)	100									100		300
864	7	Tetlin NWR	AK	00	HQ Conversion to Solar Tetlin			10		90					10	90	300
864	6	Saratoga NFH	WY	00	Rehab Water Treatment System			70				30			100	0	264
860	8	Bitter Creek NWR	CA	21	Install Solar Array					100					0	100	270
860	2	Santa Anna NWR	TX	15	Replace HVAC System					100						100	750
779	4	Wolf Creek NFH	KY	01	Replace Oxygenation System			60	40						60	40	1,200
755	1	Midway Atoll NWR	UM	99	Remove Various Buildings								100		100	0	1,232
610	9	NFHS	NA	NA	NFHS-Dispose of Excess Property							100			100	0	130
															FY 2015 Total Cost		**6,661**

DOI Score	Region	Unit/Facility	State	Cong. Dist	Project Title	Ranking Categories (%)											Cost ($000)
						% CHSdm	% CHSci	%CRPdm	% CRPci	% EPHPSBc	%Ccci	% CMdm	% Odm	% Oci	% DM	% CI	
FY 2016																	
1000	9	Seismic Safety Investigations	NA	NA	Seismic Safety Investigations	100									100	0	251
1000	2	Buffalo Lake NWR	TX	19	Umbarger Dam - Repair Roller Compacted Concrete Spillway	100									100	0	1,720
860	1	Abernathy FTC	WA	03	Admin/Lab/VC Bldg Reconstruction(p/d)				70			30			30	70	330
860	8	San Pablo Bay NWR	CA	02	Restore Sears Point				100						0	100	1,831
844	4	Warm Springs NFH	GA	02	Replace Fish Holding House	20		80							100	0	1,114
685	9	Bavin Lab	OR	02	Replace Leased Space with Secured Storage Building									100	0	100	450
685	7	Yukon Delta NWR	AK	00	R7 Remove Old BIA Ofc									100	0	100	843
610	9	NFHS	NA	NA	NFHS - Dispose of Excess Property							100			100	0	122
																FY 2016 Total Cost	**6,661**

DOI Score	Region	Unit/Facility	State	Cong. Dist	Project Title	Ranking Categories (%)											Cost ($000)
						% CHSdm	% CHSci	%CRPdm	% CRPci	% EPHPSBc	%Ccci	% CMdm	% Odm	% Oci	% DM	% CI	
FY 2017																	
1000	9	Seismic Safety Investigations	NA	NA	Seismic Safety Investigations	100									100	0	215
1000	9	Dam Safety Program	NA	NA	Evaluations of Newly Acquired Dams	100									100	0	250
869	5	Harrison Lake	VA	03	Reconfigure and Rehabilitate Pond Complex	25		25				50			100	0	733
860	1	Abernathy FTC	WA	03	Admin/Lab/VC Bldg Reconstruction(d/ic)				70			30			30	70	2,538
685	8	Bavin Lab	OR	00	Replace Leased Space with Secured Storage Building									100	0	100	2,550
610	9	NFHS	NA	NA	NFHS - Dispose of Excess Property							100			100	0	138
189	5	Back Bay NWR	VA	02	Remove Three Hog Raising Buildings	10		30				50	10		100	0	237
																FY 2017 Total Cost	**6,661**

DOI Score	Region	Unit/Facility	State	Cong. Dist	Project Title	Ranking Categories (%)											Cost ($000)
						% CHSdm	% CHSci	%CRPdm	% CRPci	% EPHPSBc	%Ccci	% CMdm	% Odm	% Oci	% DM	% CI	
FY 2018																	
1000	9	Seismic Safety Investigations	NA	NA	Seismic Safety Investigations	100									100	0	115
1000	9	Dam Safety Program	NA	NA	Evaluations of Newly Acquired Dams	100									100	0	250
869	5	Harrison Lake NFH	VA	03	Reconfigure and Rehabilitate Pond Complex	25		25				50			100	0	246
860	1	Abernathy FTC	WA	03	Admin/Lab/VC Bldg Reconstruction(cc)				70			30			30	70	3,819
825	8	Modoc NWR	CA	03	Restore Godfrey Tract Riparian and Upland Habitat				50			50			50	50	2,101
610	9	NFHS	NA	NA	NFHS - Dispose of Excess Property							100			100	0	130
															FY 2018 Total Cost		**6,661**
Total Number of Projects - This Plan:			**27**												**Total Cost of All 5-Year Plan Projects ($000):**		**33,305**

Summary of Requirements for Construction
(Dollars in Thousands)

	2013 CR	2012 Enacted						2014			
						Program Changes (+/-)				Change from 2012 Enacted	
	Amount	Total *FTE*	Amount	Fixed Costs & Related	Internal Transfers	*FTE*	Amount	*FTE*	Amount	*FTE*	Amount
CONSTRUCTION											
Nationwide Engineering Services											
Nationwide Engineering Services	*9,132*	82	9,070	+123	+0	-15	-1,984	67	7,209	-15	-1,861
Total, NES	***9,132***	**82**	**9,070**	**+123**	**+0**	**-15**	**-1,984**	67	**7,209**	**-15**	**-1,861**
Dam and Bridge Safety											
Dam Safety	*1,113*		1,113					0	1,113	+0	0
Bridge Safety	*739*		739					0	739	+0	0
Total, Bridge and Dam Safety	***1,852***	**0**	**1,852**	**+0**	**+0**	**+0**	**+0**	0	**1,852**	**+0**	**0**
Line Item Construction											
Wildlife Refuges	*8,553*		8,848				-4,737	0	4,111	+0	-4,737
Fish Hatcheries	*3,655*		2,917				-772	0	2,145	+0	-772
Other	-		364				+41	0	405	+0	41
Total, Line Item Construction	***12,208***	**0**	**12,129**	**+0**	**+0**	**+0**	**-5,468**	0	**6,661**	**+0**	**-5,468**
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	***23,192***	**82**	**23,051**	**+123**	**+0**	**-15**	**-7,452**	67	**15,722**	**-15**	**-7,329**
Supplemental, Hurricane Sandy	*68,200*	0	-				+0		-	+0	0
Reimbursable Program	*2,000*	0	2,000				+0		2,000	+0	0
TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	***93,392***	**82**	**25,051**	**+123**	**+0**	**-15**	**-7,452**	67	**17,722**	**-15**	**-7,329**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
CONSTRUCTION

Program and Financing (in million of dollars) **Identification code 14-1612-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Obligations by Program Activity:			
0001 Refuges	13	30	51
0002 Hatcheries	1	3	2
0003 Law Enforcement and Other Projects	0	0	1
0004 Dam safety	2	2	2
0005 Bridge safety	1	1	1
0006 Nationwide engineering Services	11	11	11
0100 Total, Direct program:	28	47	68
0801 Reimbursable program:	1	2	2
0900 Total, new obligations	29	49	70
Budgetary Resources:			
Unobligated balance:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct 1	23	24	72
1021 (01) Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	5	4	4
1050 Unobligated Balance (total)	**28**	**28**	**76**
Budget Authority:			
Appropriations, discretionary:			
1100 (01) Appropriation	23	23	16
1100 (02) Appropriation: Hurricane Sandy Emergency Supplemental	0	68	0
1160 Appropriation, Discretionary (total)	**23**	**91**	**16**
Spending Authority from Offsetting Collections:			
1700 (01) Collected	1	2	2
1701 Change in uncollected payments, Federal sources	1	0	0
1750 Spending authority from offsetting collection, disc. (total)	2	2	2
1900 Budget Authority (total)	25	93	18
1930 Total Budgetary Resources Available	53	121	94
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
1941 Unexpired unobligated balance, end of year	24	72	24
Change in Obligated Balance:			
Unpaid Obligations:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	86	40	43
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	29	49	70
3020 Outlays (gross)	-70	-42	-56
3040 Recoveries of prior year, unexpired	-5	-4	-4
3050 Unpaid Obligations, end of year	40	43	53
Uncollected Payments:			
3060 Uncollected payments, Fed Sources, brought forward, Oct 1	-5	-5	-5
3060 Change in uncollected payments, Fed Sources, unexpired	-1	0	0
3071 Change in uncollected payments, Fed Sources, expired	1	0	0
3090 Uncollected pymts, Fed sources, end of year	-5	-5	-5
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
3100 Obligated balances, start of year	81	35	38
3200 Obligated balances, end of year	35	38	48

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
CONSTRUCTION

Program and Financing (in million of dollars) **Identification code 14-1612-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Budget Authority and Outlays, net:			
Discretionary:			
4000 Budget Authority, gross	25	93	18
Outlays, gross:			
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	8	14	5
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	62	28	51
4020 Outlays, gross (total)	70	42	56
Offsets Against Gross Budget Authority and Outlays:			
Offsetting collections from:			
4030 (01) Federal sources	-1	-2	-2
4050 Change in uncollected payments, Fed sources, unexpired	-1	0	0
4070 Budget authority, net (discretionary)	23	91	16
4080 Outlays, net (discretionary)	69	40	54
4090 Budget authority, net (total)	23	91	16
4190 Outlays, net (total)	69	40	54

Object Classification Summary			
Direct obligations:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	6	6	5
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	1	1	1
11.9 Total personnel compensation	7	7	6
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	2	2	2
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	1	1	1
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	1	1	1
23.3 Communications, utilities and misc. charges	0	0	1
25.2 Other Services from non-Federal sources	4	4	3
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	1	1	1
25.4 Operation and maintenance of facilities	1	1	1
25.7 Operation and maintenance of equipment	1	1	1
26.0 Supplies and materials	0	1	1
31.0 Equipment	0	1	1
32.0 Land and structures	8	26	48
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	2	1	1
99.0 Subtotal obligations, Direct Obligations	28	47	68
Reimbursable obligations:			
41.0 (01) Reimbursable obligations: Grants, subsidies, and contributions	1	2	2
99.9 Total, new obligations	29	49	70

Employment Summary			
1001 Direct civilian full-time equivalent employment	79	82	67

Land Acquisition

Land Acquisition

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l-4 through 11), including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, [$106,892,000]$70,833,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds appropriated for specific land acquisition projects may be used to pay for any administrative overhead, planning or other management costs. Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, this account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 112-175). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Authorizing Statutes

The Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a). Authorizes acquisition of additions to the National Wildlife Refuge System for the development, management, advancement, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources by purchase or exchange of land and water or interests therein.

Refuge Recreation Act of 1962, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460). Authorizes acquisition of areas that are adjacent to or within, existing fish and wildlife Conservation Areas administered by the Department of the Interior, and suitable for (1) incidental fish and wildlife-oriented recreation development, (2) the protection of natural resources, (3) the conservation of listed, threatened or endangered species, or (4) carrying out two or more of the above.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l). Authorizes appropriations to the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for National Wildlife Refuges as otherwise authorized by law. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2015.

National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd). Established overall policy guidance, placed restrictions on the transfer, exchange, or other disposal of refuge lands, and authorized the Secretary to accept donations for land acquisition.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1534). Authorizes the acquisition of land, waters, or interests therein for the conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants, including those that are listed as endangered or threatened species, with Land and Water Conservation Fund Act appropriations.

Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 3901). Authorizes the purchase of wetlands, or interests in wetlands, consistent with the wetlands priority conservation plan established under the Act.

Land Acquisition

Justification of Fixed Costs and Internal Realignments

(Dollars In Thousands)

Other Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	PY (2012) Total or Change	PY (2012) to BY (2014) Change
Change in Number of Paid Days	+0	+44
The combined fixed cost estimate includes an adjustment for one additional paid day between FY2012 and FY2013. The number of paid days do not change between FY2013 and FY2014.		
Pay Raise	+0	+26
The PY column reflects the total pay raise changes as reflected in the PY President's Budget. The BY Change column reflects the total pay raise changes between FY2012-FY2014.		
Employer Share of Federal Health Benefit Plans	+35	+53
The change reflects expected increases in employer's share of Federal Health Benefit Plans.		
Rental Payments	+9	+0
The adjustment is for changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration (GSA) and others resulting from changes in rates for office and non-office space as estimated by GSA, as well as the rental costs of other currently occupied space. These costs include building security; in the case of GSA space, these are paid to Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Costs of mandatory office relocations, i.e. relocations in cases where due to external events there is no alternative but to vacate the currently occupied space, are also included.		

Internal Realignments and Non-Policy/Program Changes (Net-Zero)	2014 (+/-)
Land Protection Planning	+3,434
The National Wildlife Refuge System's Land Protection Planning Program directly supports the Land Acquisition program. The Service proposes to transfer funding from the Resource Management appropriation (National Wildlife Refuge System activity \ subactivity) to the Land Acquisition Appropriation to better align the purpose of this program	

Appropriation: Land Acquisition

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Land Acquisition Management	($000)	*12,658*	12,535	+123	0	+123	12,781
Land Protection Planning[1]	($000)	*0*	0	0	+3,434	0	3,434
Exchanges	($000)	*2,496*	2,496	0	0	-996	1,500
Inholdings / Emergencies and Hardships	($000)	*4,492*	4,492	0	0	+555	5,047
Highlands Conservation Act	($000)	*130*	4,992	0	0	-4,992	0
Federal Refuges/Projects	($000)	*35,190*	30,117	0	0	+17,954	48,071
Subtotal, Land Acquisition-Discretionary	**($000)**	***54,966***	**54,632**	**+123**	**+3,434**	**+12,644**	**70,833**
	FTE	***86***	**89**	**0**	**+20**	**-3**	**106**
Land Acquisition – Mandatory[2]	($000)	***0***	**0**	**0**	**0**	**+35,497**	**35,497**
Total, Land Acquisition	**($000)**	***54,966***	**54,632**	**+123**	**+3,434**	**+48,141**	**106,330**
	FTE	***86***	**89**	**0**	**+20**	**0**	**106**

[1]Land Protection Planning directly supports the Land Acquisition program. In the FY 2014 budget request, $3,434,000 and 20 FTE will be funded under the Land Acquisition Appropriation instead of the Resource Management Appropriation. The FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

[2]In addition to this discretionary request, the Administration will submit a legislative proposal to permanently authorize annual funding, without further appropriation, from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Land Acquisition

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Federal Refuges/Projects	+17,954	0
• Inholdings / Emergencies and Hardships	+555	0
• Land Acquisition Management	+123	0
• Exchanges	-996	0
• Highlands Conservation Act	-4,992	0
Program Changes	**+12,644**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for Land Acquisition is $70,833,000 and 106 FTE, a net program change of +$12,644,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Federal Refuges/Projects

The Service makes acquisition decisions based on the resource values of lands and waters proposed for acquisition, ecosystem considerations, the potential for landscape-level conservation, and opportunities to advance and support projects involving partnerships with both public and private conservation partners.

Acquisition of land for conservation provides public health benefits and supports the America's Great Outdoors and the Rivers and Trails initiatives. National wildlife refuge lands provide affordable public outdoor recreational activities such as bird watching, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, fishing, and hunting.

More than 47 million people visited national wildlife refuges in 2012. Recreation opportunities provided by national wildlife refuges support local tourism, which supports local economies. Visitors stay in local lodges, eat at local restaurants, and shop in local stores. Local employment increases, and additional funding goes to local, county, and state governments from the increase in tax revenues.

Land acquired through conservation easements supports the America's Great Outdoors initiative by keeping land owners on their land to continue compatible activities to protect habitat and maintain ecosystems. Local communities benefit from the ecological aspect of enhanced wildlife corridors, providing habitat for wildlife and maintaining grasslands, wetlands, and forests.

Land Acquisition Mandatory Funds

The Department of the Interior's 2014 budget request proposes a multi-year strategy leading to full and mandatory funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Mandatory funding would help to fulfill the commitment of LWCF: a fair return of the profits from oil and gas development to improve and increase the availability of outdoor opportunities for all Americans. Starting in 2015, $900 million annually in mandatory funds will be requested. During the transition to mandatory funding in 2014, the budget proposes $600 million in total LWCF funding, comprised of $200 million mandatory and $400 million discretionary funds. The amounts requested include the authorized levels for the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. In 2014, the mandatory proposal includes $35.497 million for the Fish and Wildlife Service Land Acquisition program. Together with this discretionary request, the complete listing would cover the top 18 FWS priorities. For project specific information, see the project data sheets that follow at the end of this section.

Federal Refuges/Projects – Discretionary (+$17,954,000/+0 FTE)

The Service requests a total of $48,071,000 for land acquisition projects, representing a $17,954,000 increase over the 2012 Enacted. This funding will allow the Service to acquire and conserve important wildlife habitat for eight projects and 65,032 acres. The project descriptions later in this section provide details about the resource values of the lands and waters proposed for addition to the Department's network of conservation lands. The following list is the discretionary portion of the Service's request in priority order.

Inholdings / Emergencies and Hardships (+$555,000/+0 FTE)

Increased funding will enable the Service to acquire additional lands that become available sporadically. With the economic downturn of the past few years, the Service has received a higher number of contacts from landowners offering to sell biologically diverse properties within approved acquisition boundaries. The Service has a waiting list of these landowners offering choice parcels for addition to the National Wildlife Refuge System. Emergencies and Hardships funding enables the Service to acquire land quickly from willing sellers who may have urgent medical or financial challenges.

Land Acquisition Management (+$123,000/+0 FTE)
This increase will directly support the administration and execution of the Service's efforts to both acquire important fish, wildlife, and plant habitat for the conservation of listed endangered and threatened species, as well as managing the lands it already owns. Staff will work cooperatively with sister bureaus in the Department of the Interior (BLM and NPS) and the Department of Agriculture (FS) to acquire land for landscape-scale Collaborative Conservation projects.

Exchanges (-$996,000/-3 FTE)
Decreased funding for Exchanges will allow the Service to concentrate efforts on changing priorities. The FTE change reflects multi-year adjustments from 2012 actual usage to the 2014 level.

Highlands Conservation Act (-$4,992,000/+0 FTE)
Funding for the Highlands Conservation Act agreement is not needed beyond 2013 because no additional activity on this project is anticipated

FY 2014 Land Acquisition

Core and Collaborative Landscape Planning Acquisitions

(dollars in thousands)

Project (In Priority Order)			Acres	2014
1	MT	Crown of the Continent [1]	21,874	11,940
2	ND/SD	Dakota Grassland CA	23,053	8,650
3	FL	Everglades Headwaters	1,250	5,000
4	GA/FL/SC	Longleaf Pine: Okeefenokee NWR/St. Mark's NWR/Cape Romain NWR/Waccamaw NWR [2]	3,900	9,481
5	KS	Flint Hills Legacy CA	5,000	2,000
6	TX	Neches River NWR	1,913	3,000
7	ND/SD	Dakota Tallgrass Prarie WMA	6,122	3,000
8	AR	Cache River NWR	1,920	5,000
Subtotal, FWS line-item projects - discretionary funds			65,032	48,071
9	RI	John H. Chafee NWR	13	900
10	CA	Desert Southwest: San Diego NWR [3]	1,405	11,770
11	CT/NH/VT/MA	Silvio O. Conte NWR	3,700	4,600
12	CA	San Joaquin River NWR	91	1,000
13	TX	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR	800	1,000
14	CA	Grasslands WMA	475	1,000
15	IA	Upper MS River NW&FR	300	1,000
16	MD	Blackwater NWR	247	1,000
17	MN	Northern Tallgrass Prarie NWR	80	567
18	PA/NM/WA	National Historic/National Scenic Trails: Cherry Valley NWR/Valle de Oro NWR/Steigerwald Lake NWR [4]	3,868	12,660
Subtotal, FWS line-item projects - mandatory funds			10,979	35,497
Subtotal, All FWS line-item projects			**76,011**	**83,568**
Subtotal, Federal Land Acquisition -- Discretionary Funds				**48,071**
Subtotal, Federal Land Acquisition -- Mandatory Funds				**35,497**
Total, Federal Land Acquisition				**83,568**

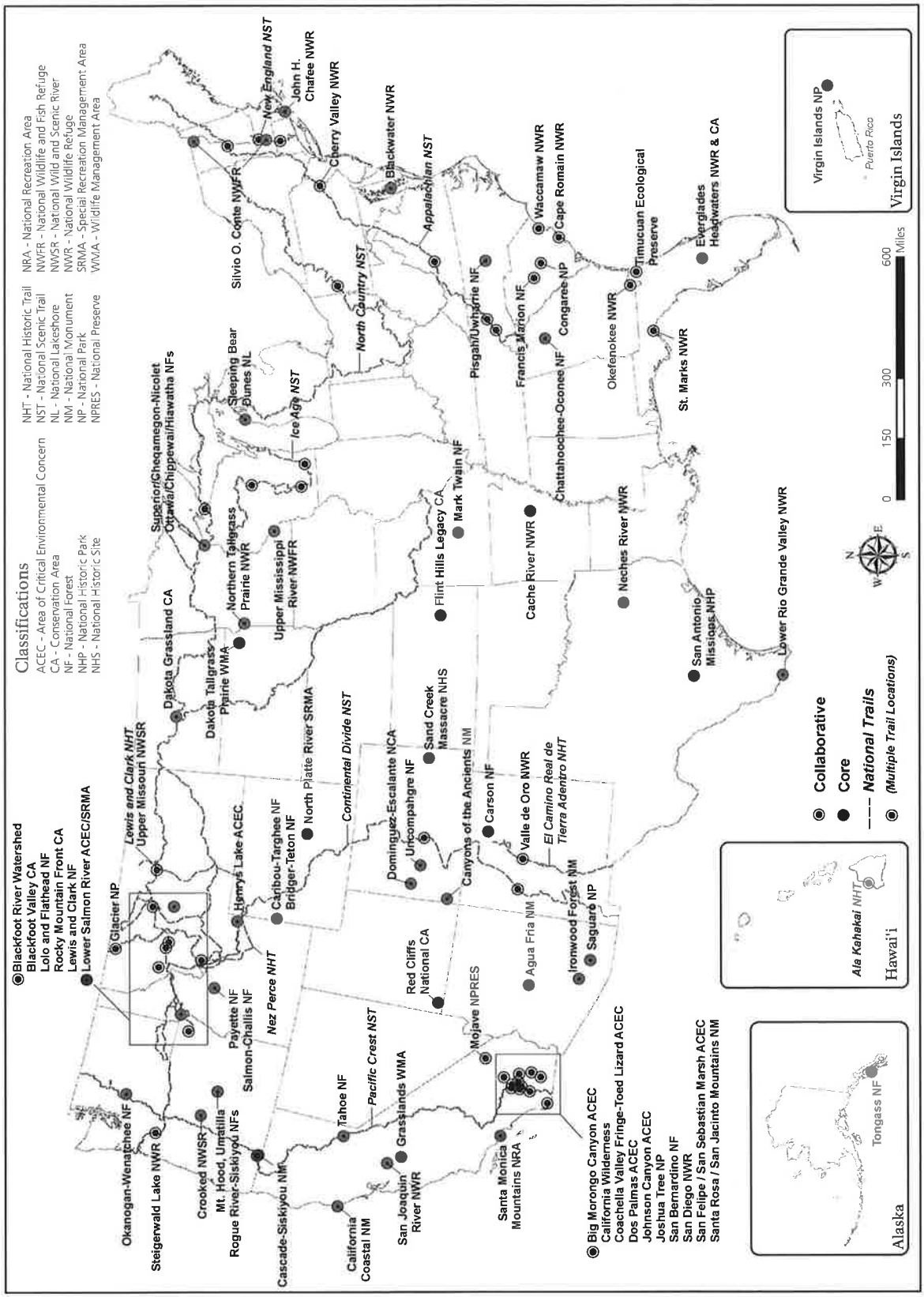
1/These projects are part of the Collaborative Landscape Planning for the Crown of the Continent/ Northern Rockies landscape.

2/These project are part of the Collaborative Landscape Planning for the Longleaf Pine landscape.

3/These project are part of the Collaborative Landscape Planning for the Southwest Deserts landscape.

4/These projects are part of the Collaborative Landscape Planning for the National Trails landscape.

Land and Water Conservation Fund
Land Acquisition Budget Proposal FY2014



Information on this map is provided for purposes of discussion and visualization only

Program Overview

Through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Service receives funding to acquire lands and waters with the habitats required to support desirable populations of fish and wildlife, while providing outdoor recreational areas for the public, as authorized by acts of Congress. The Service acquires important fish, wildlife, and plant habitat for the conservation of listed endangered and threatened species, as additions to the existing National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish Hatchery System. Linking conservation actions to measurable biological outcomes of wildlife populations will increase the Service's ability to monitor future abundance and distribution of species.

The Land Acquisition Program uses alternative and innovative conservation tools, including conservation easements; implements projects that have the input and participation of the affected local communities and stakeholders; and leverages Federal dollars to the maximum extent possible.

Refuge Land Protection Planning

This planning program evaluates potential land acquisitions to support the strategic growth of the National Wildlife Refuge System. By using models of species-habitat interactions and decision support tools, landscape-scale conservation planning aids Service staff in prioritizing where conservation and/or management actions are needed to support sustainable fish and wildlife populations at desired levels. Connecting local actions to common State and regional conservation goals enhances attainability of landscape-scale habitat conservation goals. By addressing both regional and national goals for species for which fish and wildlife agencies have trust responsibility, the Service and conservation partners can accomplish much more than working as separate entities.

Refuge field stations work in cooperation with Federal, State, and local governments, in addition to private landowners, private organizations, and local and national conservation groups, to identify and protect habitats for migratory birds, and trust and other important species. In some cases, Land Protection Plans will be prepared to propose new or expand existing national wildlife refuges to address the needs of fish, wildlife, and plant communities. Specific activities include gathering background data, coordinating with state and local entities, involving the public, analyzing ecological, legal, and financial issues, and printing and distributing draft and final plan documents for public comment and information.

The Service has developed three draft planning policies to guide the strategic management of the Refuge System. When finalized, these policies will be incorporated into the Service Manual as sections on Strategic Growth, Land Protection Planning, and Land Acquisition Planning. The Strategic Growth policy provides guidance on identifying areas of ecological importance for conservation and potential land acquisitions or exchanges. The Land Protection Planning policy describes the specific procedures and documents used in the conservation planning processes. The Land Acquisition Planning policy provides criteria for prioritizing approved proposals for funding.

Strategic Outcomes and Results

The Land Acquisition Program fulfills its goals by acquiring habitat where biological communities will flourish. The Service's Land Acquisition Priority System (LAPS), a biological merit-based selection process, ranks lands proposed for acquisition using standardized biological criteria. The LAPS quantifies the biological contributions of fisheries and aquatic resources, endangered species, migratory birds, and larger ecosystems at the refuge level. Using this information, the LAPS is an objective and biologically - based starting point for the prioritization of active land acquisition projects with willing sellers.

The America's Great Outdoors initiative enhances the Service's science-based prioritization of land acquisition projects by focusing on landscape-scale conservation projects. The Service's projects support its mission-oriented priorities as well as potential cross-bureau collaborative conservation projects.

Cross-bureau conservation focus areas for FY 2014 include the Crown of the Continent, California Desert, Longleaf Pine, and National Trails. Many Service projects provide or enhance public outdoor recreation in close proximity to both urban and rural areas. Important factors for all projects proposed for the FY 2014 Budget include contribution of leveraged funds, partner participation, and urgency of project completion to protect ecosystems and wildlife species' habitats from development or other inappropriate uses.

The Rivers and Trails initiative works in conjunction with the Land and Water Conservation Fund to increase the economic benefits to local communities through ecotourism and recreation activities. Studies have been conducted by federal government agencies and non-profit organizations on the benefits of having a National Wildlife Refuge in close proximity for recreation. Local economies benefit from tourist dollars associated with the affordable public activities available on the refuge.

Means and Strategies

It is the Service's policy to request acquisition funding only for those areas within previously approved Refuge System boundaries. In every project for which the Service is requesting funding, the Service has completed the necessary National Environmental Policy Act process and has an approved Land Protection Plan.

Federal Refuge projects often have small amounts of funds remaining after land has been acquired. These amounts of funds are insufficient to acquire additional land. In 2014, the Service will institute a policy that line-item projects with residual funding less than $50,000 will be reallocated to the Inholdings line item to acquire tracts of land on refuges that do not have project funding. This policy will increase the Service's flexibility to respond when tracts of land within refuge boundaries are put on the market. FY09 and FY10 projects would be excluded due to existing reprogramming restrictions.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lands Mapper

The Service Lands Mapper is a web-based application for viewing Service managed lands and waters that is accessible DOI-wide as of 2012. The Lands Mapper mapping application is designed to provide an overview of the fee title lands, Service-owned lands without complete fee title rights, and inholdings in the Cadastral Program in all Service Regions. All lands and boundaries depicted are considered resource-grade, and include purchase information and data about a majority of the Service interest tracts at this time.

The Service has opened access to the Lands Mapper to enable the public to view maps of Service managed lands via the web. The external FWS Lands Mapper Lite shows Fee and Secondary lands, allows the Service to share, and directly access, data with the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Lands Program, and display this information on the Mapper and provides interactive maps of the NWRS Refuges for the public. This application is a huge move forward in data sharing, saving time, and utilizing the resources of other federal agencies and has added significant, biologically-valuable lands to the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Service employees also use this application to learn more about the land and water the Service manages. The Service's cadastral data, maintained by the Service's Cadastral Working Group, is used to reflect the external boundaries of all fee title and land where the Service has less than fee title inholdings within Service-managed units, such as National Wildlife Refuges, as well as the water within those boundaries. Cadastral data is maintained in the National Cadastral Geodatabase and updated twice yearly with an average of 600-700 new tracts of land. Additional tabular data specific to the fee title tracts of land and water is contained in the Land Records System (LRS). Benefits of the Lands Mapper for Realty staff and other Service programs and DOI bureaus include:

- Display aerial photography, topographic maps, and street data for anywhere in the country.
- Search and zoom capability of Service-managed lands.
- Ability to overlay shapefiles or other web services in the mapper.
- Locate acreage information, links to station websites, and data for Service lands and the associated tracts of land or water (including the Wetland Management Districts).
- Compute measurements of distance and area.
- Print and export custom-made maps.

Land Acquisition Success Stories

Each year, the Service acquires land in fee title or conservation easement through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The acquired lands provide strengthened continuity of Service operations and improved habitat corridors for wildlife. Also, fee title acquisitions increase recreation on public lands, provide economic opportunities for local businesses, and provide opportunities for visitors to enjoy the outdoors without traveling long distances.

Below are highlights of lands added to the National Wildlife Refuge System during FY 2012.

Dakota Grasslands Conservation Area

During FY 2012, the Service placed 3,676 acres in grassland conservation easements. Located along the border of North and South Dakota on the eastern side of the states, the Dakota Grasslands Conservation Area is a landscape-scale, strategic habitat conservation effort to preserve a unique and highly diverse endangered ecosystem. Large-scale land use changes, including wetland drainage and conversion of grassland to cropland, are expanding rapidly on formerly secure grassland-wetland complexes, and threatening the ecosystem.

Grazing cattle on new Dakota Grasslands acquisition.

The Dakota Grassland conservation easements restrict the landowner from converting the grassland to cropland and delay haying until after July 15. Livestock grazing is not restricted, and farming and haying are allowed, providing landowners the opportunity to protect their livelihoods and to protect their lands for future generations.

The wetland easement restricts the landowner from draining, filling, leveling, or burning the wetland basin. The easement not only protects ranching and livestock operations, but it also conserves the ecological integrity of the wetlands and grasslands thereby maintaining and enhancing the historical native plants, migratory birds, and other wildlife species.

The photograph shows coastal development to the north and south of Timber Point in Rachel Carson NWR. Timber Island, in the lower right, is accessible by foot at low tide.

Rachel Carson NWR, Maine

Timber Point and Timber Island, within Rachel Carson NWR, is one of the largest open space properties along the southern Maine coast. The

157-acre parcel added to the National Wildlife Refuge Service is critical for the role it plays in providing habitat for migrating waterfowl, offering ice-free wintering habitat for common eider and American black duck, plus other species during the spring and fall migrations. Timber Point is ecologically significant due to its rare plant and animal species. The diversity of habitat meets the life cycle stages of key species such as bobolink, willow flycatcher, wood thrush, American woodcock, prairie warbler, alewife, Blanding's turtle, and New England Cottontail. The New England Cottontail is a candidate for federal listing as a threatened or endangered species.

The appraised value of Timber Point and Timber Island was $5,125,000. In FY 2010, the Service was appropriated $3,000,000 in LWCF funds. The acquisition was made possible as a joint effort by the Service, the Trust for Public Lands (TPL), Friends of Rachel Carson, and local residents with a passion for conservation of Timber Point. A multitude of fundraising activities were held locally and online, and over the course of two years, the financial goal of raising the additional $2,125,000 needed to complete the acquisition was achieved to eliminate the threat of development of multi-family condo units

Umbagog NWR, New Hampshire

The Mollidgewock Brook traverses the Umbagog NWR for approximately 11.48 mile.s The brook is a low gradient stream with a forested bank. Beaver influences have created a series of open water impoundments, scrub wetlands, and forested wetlands that provide excellent habitat for waterfowl.

Within the Umbagog NWR boundary, 4,532 acres were permanently protected, with the help of The Trust for Public Land. The purchase was the second-half phase of land acquisition from Plum Creek Timber Company. The land protected will provide critical wildlife habitat for moose, deer, bear, and a variety of waterfowl species. The 11.5 miles of trout streams, all of which flow into the Androscoggin River, form one of the best recreational fisheries in New Hampshire. Under Service ownership, the property will remain open to recreational use, including hiking, hunting, and fishing. The property also contains more than 13 miles of snowmobile trails that are maintained by the Umbagog Snowmobile Association and the NH Trails Bureau and are a vital link in the statewide snowmobile system and an economic driver of the North Country's winter tourism economy.

Still to be acquired are 23,000 acres of working forest conservation easements held by the State of New Hampshire and a State fee acquisition of 934 acres around the Greenough Pond. The easements will prohibit future development and guarantee recreational access, while allowing Plum Creek Timber Company to continue commercial forestry. Approximately 11,500 acres of this land that is slated for state-held conservation easements are within the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge boundary but will not become part of the Refuge. This is a compromise that the project partners agreed to in order to strike a balance between commercial forestry, wildlife conservation, and recreational access. The entire project is anticipated to be completed in 2013.

James Campbell NWR, Hawaii

The Service acquired 310 acres at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, located on the north shore of O'ahu, Hawaii. This acquisition is the third phase of a four-phase acquisition that began in 2008. The property connects the existing refuge to approximately 1.4 miles of dune and strand vegetation along the coast, providing resting habitat for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal ('ilio holo i ka uaua) and nesting habitat for threatened green turtles (honu) and important seabirds.

James Campbell NWR, Phase 3; North Shore, Oahu, Hawaii. Photo: Charlie Parrott, USFWS

Grasslands Wildlife Management Area, California

The Grasslands Wildlife Management Area is located in western Merced County, California, within the San Joaquin River basin. The basin supports the largest remaining block of contiguous wetlands in the Central Valley. These wetlands constitute 30% of the remaining wetlands in California's Central Valley and are extremely important to Pacific Flyway waterfowl populations. The acquisition of 520 acres of conservation easements on private property provide long term viability of the grassland and wetland ecosystem, as well as provide a safe haven for migratory birds and other wildlife species.

San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge, California

Established in 1987, the San Joaquin River NWR, the newest unit of the San Luis NWR Complex, has an endangered species focus to protect the wintering grounds of Aleutian Canada (cackling) geese. The population of the cackling geese has significantly increased since the establishment of the refuge, resulting in its delisting and becoming a game species for sportsmen. The other major endangered species focus for the Refuge is the riparian brush rabbit, perhaps the most endangered mammal in California. As very little of the species' dense riparian habitat remains, the Recovery Plan requires three new self-sustaining populations; acquisition of needed habitat is a key element for this species' recovery. Recently the Service acquired a 66-acre conservation easement on predominantly native, irrigated pasture that provides habitat for both the riparian brush rabbit and the cackling geese.

Willow Creek-Lurline Wildlife Management Area, California

The Service acquired a conservation easement on 63 acres within the Willow Creek/Lurline Wildlife Management Area (WMA), located in Colusa County, California. Established in 1985 to preserve wetland habitat for wintering waterfowl and other wetland dependent wildlife, the WMA is a component of the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge complex. The acquisition provides protection of private wetlands for the benefit of waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, raptors, and other wetland dependent wildlife, and provides a corridor of natural habitat between Sacramento and Delevan National Wildlife Refuges.

Looking west over a seasonal wetland at the Willow Creek-Lurline WMA. USFWS photo

Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Nevada

The Service acquired 410 acres of land at Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in southern Nevada. The Refuge was established in 1984 for the conservation and recovery of threatened and endangered plant and animal species. The acquired land includes rare desert springs and surface flows, providing protection of eleven specially-designated species, including the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and the threatened Ash Meadows sunray.

Ashmeadows NWR, Nevada. USFWS photo

Turnbull NWR, Washington

The Service acquired more than 450 acres from three owners within the designated Stewardship Area of Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge near Spokane, Washington. The land was acquired in the approved expansion area and includes unique remnant wetlands, shrub-steppe habitat, and mixed forest lands left by the Great Ice Age Floods. Species found on these lands include elk, white-tailed deer, black bear, bobcat, coyote, bats, voles, and numerous smaller mammals. Cranes, swans, and pelicans occur along with common wetland and passerine migratory species. The acquisition enhances the recovery of federally listed plant *species including water howellia (Howellia aquatilis) and Spalding's silene (Silene spaldingii). With th*e acquisition of the land, the original refuge boundary has been expanded and provides a springboard for further acquisitions in the Stewardship Area.

Turnbull NWR, Stewardship Area, Photo: Lisa Langelier, USFWS

Update on Land Exchanges for FY 2014

The following pages list refuges, waterfowl production areas, wetland management districts, and Native Corporations' properties that may be part of ongoing projects in the negotiation or acquisition phases of possible land exchanges. Other exchanges may be undertaken throughout FY 2014 as opportunities arise. The Service projects an estimated $1,962,000 in acquisition costs for over 250,363 acres. Exchanges may involve on-going expenditures over a period of years.

Exchange projects have provided unique experiences to work with partners from Federal, state, and local governments, in addition to private landowners, organizations, and local and national conservation groups. Taking advantage of the expertise of the collective groups, exchange projects have decreased habitat fragmentation, have provided significant biologically valuable lands providing critical habitat for a variety of wildlife within the National Wildlife Refuge System, and have provided access to resources for the public to enjoy.

Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge, California

The Service completed a land exchange at Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Kern County, California, to correct a land encroachment issue between the Service and a landowner. The Service received 3.69 acres of private land in exchange for 3.69 acres of Service land. During a land survey in 2008 to set refuge property boundaries, a land encroachment by an adjacent landowner on approximately

3.69 acres of Service land was discovered. To correct this issue, a land exchange was initiated, whereby the landowner would convey 3.69 acres of other land he owned, in exchange for the 3.69 acres of Service land that he was encroaching on. The land valuation concluded that the fair market value of each tract of land was identical. This exchange was completed in June 2012.

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

The Service acquired from the Nunakauiak Yupik Corporation (NYC), an Alaska Native village corporation, 36,852 acres of lowland and coastal wetland habitats bordering the Bering Sea. The land exchange protects an area used by two federally-listed species, the threatened spectacled eider and Steller's eider. Of the acres acquired, 3,840 acres is designated critical nesting habitat for the spectacled eider, and is an important coastal corridor for a variety of species that include black turnstones, bristle-thighed curlews, swans, emperor geese, white-fronted and Canada geese, black brant, and other shore and migratory birds. The critical habitat contributes to the recovery goals of the threatened spectacled eider.

Before the exchange, NYC owned the surface, but not the subsurface estate. The Service, by exchanging to NYC the subsurface estate adjacent to the City of Toksook Bay and fee title to uplands, has provided NYC opportunities for development of its lands and the ability to provide sand and gravel for community projects.

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge

The Service acquired land on five islands containing quality wildlife habitat within the Aleutian Islands through an exchange from the Akutan Corporation (Akutan). This acquisition consolidated land ownerships which improves refuge management, reduces habitat fragmentation, and furthers the purposes for which the Refuge was established. Sensitive Steller sea lion rookery habitat, sensitive sea otter haul out, loafing, and pupping habitat, and substantial seabird colonies, exist on the islands acquired in the exchange. Many of the islands contain non-native mammals (such as fox, cattle, and rabbits) that damage the habitat and significantly decrease bird populations. The Service now has complete ownership of Unalga, Rootok, Avatanak, and Poa islands and can plan for and implement eradication of non-native species. Benefits to Akutan from the exchange include acquisitions that provide for potential geothermal development and potential hard rock mining.

STATE	POTENTIAL EXCHANGES	ACRES TO BE ACQUIRED	MANAGEMENT COSTS
ALASKA	Arctic NWR - Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation	2,000.0	$10,000
	Izembek NWR - King Cove	52,000.0	$250,000
	Kenai NWR - CIRI	3,000.0	$10,000
	Selawik NWR - NANA Corp	Undetermined	$10,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Alakanuk	Undetermined	$10,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Cherfornak	40,000.0	$30,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - NIMA Corp	5,000.0	$65,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Napakiak	55,000.0	$65,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Kotlik	Undetermined	$25,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Bethel Native Corporation	1,000.0	$15,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Napaskiak	45,000.0	$80,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Eek	Undetermined	$25,000
	Yukon Delta NWR - Aniak	Undetermined	$10,000

STATE	POTENTIAL EXCHANGES	ACRES TO BE ACQUIRED	MANAGEMENT COSTS
	Yukon Delta NWR - Chevak	30,000.0	$65,000
CALIFORNIA	Bitter Creek NWR	297.0	$10,000
	Bitter Creek NWR	0.1	$10,000
	Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR	3.0	$75,000
COLORADO	Arapaho NWR	1,700.0	$40,000
	Rocky Flats NWR	640.0	$45,000
FLORIDA	ARM Loxahatchee NWR	2,723.0	$20,000
	Pelican Island NWR	47.0	$10,000
	St. Marks	3.0	$15,000
ILLINOIS	Meredoisia NWR - IL DOT	10.0	$20,000
	IL River NWR	5.0	$10,000
	Cypress Creek NWR	10.0	$10,000
INDIANA	Patoka NWR	Undetermined	$20,000
IOWA	Union Slough NWR	40.0	$10,000
LOUISIANA	Upper Ouachita NWR	80.0	$10,000
MAINE	Rachel Carson NWR	150.0	$50,000
	Moosehorn NWR	115.0	$45,000
MASSACHUSETTS	Assabet River NWR	350.0	$50,000
	Great Meadows NWR	5.0	$15,000
	Oxbow NWR	20.0	$10,000
MICHIGAN	Shiawassee NWR	337.0	$50,000
	Jackson County FmHA	5.0	$10,000
	Jackson County WPA	2.0	$25,000
MINNESOTA	Minnesota Valley NWR - MN DNR	279.6	$25,000
	Kandiyohi County FmHA	20.0	$10,000
	Pope County WPA	40.0	$10,000
	Tamarac NWR	10.0	$10,000
	Upper Mississippi River NW&FR	2.0	$10,000
MISSISSIPPI	St. Catherine Creek NWR	510.0	$45,000
	Tallahatchie NWR	4.7	$5,000
MONTANA	Pablo NWR	2.0	$10,000
NEBRASKA	North Platte NWR	5.0	$5,000
	Rainwater Basin WMD	160.0	$25,000
NORTH DAKOTA	Various North Dakota WPA's & WMA's	100.0	$80,000
NEW JERSEY	E. B. Forsythe NWR	100.0	$25,000
NEW YORK	Missisquoi NWR	262.3	$20,000
SOUTH CAROLINA	Carolina Sandhills NWR	269.0	$10,000
	Santee NWR	32.8	$5,000

STATE	POTENTIAL EXCHANGES	ACRES TO BE ACQUIRED	MANAGEMENT COSTS
SOUTH DAKOTA	Various South Dakota WPA's & WMD's	160.0	$55,000
	South Dakota WMD State Land	4,022.0	$15,000
TENNESSEE	Lower Hatchie NWR	1.7	$10,000
TEXAS	Lower Rio Grande Valley - Hildalgo , Co Irrigation District #3	5.0	$5,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR FM 800	5.6	$2,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley Cameron County CCRMA	73.0	$10,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR - Agriculture Investment Associates	2,700.0	$45,000
	Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR - Fred Shuster	80.0	$20,000
	Neches River NWR-Tetlin-through Exxon Exchange in Alaska	516.0	$10,000
VERMONT	Silvio O. Conte NFWR	100.0	$25,000
WASHINGTON	Conboy Lake NWR	8.0	$15,000
	Willapa NWR Complex	227.0	$60,000
WISCONSIN	Neceda WMA	5.0	$20,000
	Fondu Lac County WPA	113.4	$15,000
	Upper MS River NW&FR - WI DOT	Undetermined	$25,000
	Upper MS River NWFR	280.0	$10,000
WYOMING	Cokeville Meadows NWR	657.0	$70,000
	Cokeville Meadows NWR	70.0	$25,000
	Total Exchange Acres and Management Costs	**250,363.1**	**$1,962,000**

Land Acquisition Projects for FY 2014

The 2014 request includes 17 proposed land acquisition projects totaling 76,024 acres that are funded from discretionary and mandatory sources. This is the current set of land acquisition priorities that has been vetted and approved by bureau and Department leadership to meet the high priority programmatic needs of the Service.

Collaborative Landscape Planning (CLP)

The 2014 Federal Land Acquisition program builds on collaborative conservation efforts started in 2011 and 2012, and included in the President's budget request for the first time in FY 2013. The collaborative conservation program was developed to support strategic interagency landscape-scale conservation projects while continuing to meet agency-specific programmatic needs. The collaborative conservation program was initiated partially in response to Congressional direction to the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (FS), to use LWCF land acquisition funds to strategically protect contiguous landscapes and meet shared conservation goals. Interior bureaus collaborated extensively with the FS to develop a process to coordinate land acquisition planning with government and local community partners, to achieve the highest priority shared conservation goals more effectively.

To facilitate the request from Congress, the CLP process is designed to collaboratively plan for measurable outcomes at the landscape scale; invest LWCF resources in some of the most ecologically important landscapes; and invest in projects that have a clear strategy to reach shared goals grounded in science-based planning, are driven by and in response to local community initiatives, and will make the most efficient use of federal funds.

For the FY 2014 budget request, the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture have a combined request of $169.215 million of discretionary and mandatory funding for this effort. This includes a request of $ 112.2 million for the three Interior bureaus (FWS, BLM, and NPS) and the remaining $57.015 million for the Forest Service. The Service has four projects totaling over $ 45 million as part of the Collaborative effort. The 2014 CLP projects were evaluated by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) made up of FWS, BLM, NPS, and Forest Service staff, and were rated according to merit-based criteria in the following categories:

- Process – ensure proposals are built through Federal agency and local stakeholder collaboration and make efficient use of Federal funding. Stakeholder commitment to proposals, including broad-based community support, resources, or funding, were considered.
- Outcomes – ensure Federal resources are targeted to achieve important biological, recreational, cultural, and socio-economic outcomes, including improving access to public lands.
- Urgency – ensure funding is focused on outcomes that may be lost today if no action is taken, or that are particularly achievable today.
- Contribution to national and regional priorities – ensure contributions are to the highest priority conservation goals.

The joint Interior-Agriculture National Selection Committee identified a number of ecosystems throughout the Nation where high priority shared conservation goals can be achieved based on existing locally-driven conservation efforts. Through the rigorous merit based evaluation process, the four ecosystems selected for inclusion in the 2014 budget include: Crown of the Continent, Longleaf Initiative, California Desert, and the National Trails System Collaborative.

Investing now in these ecologically important but threatened landscapes will ensure that they remain resilient in the face of development pressures and global change. Smart investment in strategic conservation of these landscapes will prevent further ecosystem decline or collapse, which will preclude the need for future investments in restoration. The proposed federal investments in these landscapes will additionally leverage significant private commitments to land and water conservation in the four ecosystems.

In the **Crown of the Continent** landscape, FWS, BLM, NPS, and the Forest Service aim to build resiliency in ecological systems and communities, so that as climate conditions change, this collaborative area will continue to support a full range of native biodiversity. Building ecological resiliency includes maintaining intact, interconnected landscapes and restoring fragmented or degraded habitats. The agencies have engaged in longstanding collaborations with Non-Government Organization (NGO) partners, local community groups, and State and county government officials, to tailor a Federal conservation strategy and acquisition program that achieves a synergy among private rights, open space, traditional land uses, and conservation. This shared vision, includes maintaining working ranches and forests by acquiring conservation easements, as well as acquiring lands in fee that will provide public access and enjoyment.

The planned acquisitions will contribute to species conservation for an array of sensitive, threatened, and endangered species. The landscape, which serves as the southern “bookend” for the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, is home to a number of large game species, including antelope, elk, deer,

and moose, which can be hunted within some fee ownership acquisitions. Hunting provides recreational opportunities and vital revenue to local communities. The Federal acquisition projects will complement the conservation goals of State wildlife action plans as well as other conservation and strategic plans.

Tracts identified in the **Longleaf Pine Initiative** are crucial to the ecological well-being and recovery of the diminishing longleaf pine ecosystem across the southeastern United States. Longleaf pines once covered up to 98 million acres of the Southeast, but have been reduced to three million acres, much of it in poor condition. Collaborative regional efforts to address this decline have been underway for over 15 years. Strong public-private partnerships, like the Longleaf Pines Alliance, bring together private landowners, forest industries, state and federal agencies, conservation groups, and researchers to work on collaborative solutions.

Federal agencies drew from Florida wildlife habitat gap analyses, recovery plans, and other Florida and Federal natural resource assessments and initiatives, along with local government and general public input, to develop a plan for land acquisition that targets the most critical conservation needs. Based on this plan, State and local governments and conservation non-profit groups, such as The Nature Conservancy, worked closely with Federal agencies to secure these tracts to allow sufficient time for the Departments to acquire them.

In South Carolina, opportunities to leverage funds are also time sensitive. The Charleston County Greenbelt Program, funded by a local sales tax approved by county referendum in 2004, will match LWCF investments for a limited time period. A $10 million match from the Greenbelt Program was approved to protect 6,500 acres adjacent to the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge.

The Longleaf pine initiative also protects significant cultural lands, including the Gullah Geechee Corridor, an area intrinsically linked to cultural heritage of African Americans in NC, SC, GA, and FL.

Although many threatened and endangered species require a longleaf pine ecosystem to survive, the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) is the keystone species for the ecosystem. The FWS, BLM, Forest Service, and our local partners have collaborated for over 20 years to dramatically grow the RCW populations and promote the recovery of the longleaf pine ecosystem through the RCW Southern Range Translocation Cooperative, and to protect and expand critical wildlife areas.

Canoeing through Okefenokee NWR. Photo by Joy Campbell

The acquisitions proposed to be funded in this request address the most critical needs of each agency in support of our shared priority of longleaf pine ecosystem conservation, restoration, and Endangered and Threatened species recovery. The lands selected for this proposal are the highest priority for each unit to protect critical habitat, improve management, protect private lands from wildfire, and leverage the efforts of conservation partners to secure these tracts for Federal protection.

The **California Deserts** proposal exemplifies a commitment to the important role collaboration plays between federal agencies and non-federal partners in achieving a common landscape conservation vision.

To further conservation and community goals in this area, a partnership comprised of state, local and NGO entities, has leveraged federal funding impressively, including NGOs that have donated all or a portion of the market value of real property or defrayed acquisition costs in order to allow the agencies to maximize use of available dollars.

The California Desert focal area is comprised of Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and the west half of Imperial Counties. Less than a day's drive for 40 million people, the area is characterized by extensive wildlife corridors, miles of national scenic and historic trails and 72 federally protected species. Rich in biodiversity and recreational opportunity, the landscape is under pressure from increasing demands such as energy development and urban growth that impact these unique resources.

Propelled by Congressional designation, **National Scenic and Historic Trails** the country's national scenic and historic trails are significant both in their entirety and individually. Each is a collaborative venture in the conservation, interpretation, and responsible public use of important elements of our Nation's natural and cultural heritage. As established by law, the administration and management of these trails requires interagency collaboration. Significant LWCF investment is essential to protect national scenic and historic trails for public appreciation.

The collaborative nature of the National Scenic and Historic Trails means that a financial investment by any of the partners has the potential to be greatly leveraged by contributions from other partners (state agencies, local governments, and land trusts), as so often is the case with the National Trails System. Federal financial investment not only buys land to protect critical resources, it also sets the stage for citizen and community involvement in national trail stewardship. For example, the Federal investment in these trails – well illustrated by the Appalachian Trail – clearly stimulates citizen engagement in public resource stewardship and volunteerism, connects citizens with the Nation's natural and cultural heritage, and strengthens communities across the country.

The National Trails System Collaborative seeks to fund critical missing pieces along various trail routes. Many of the trails in this proposal were authorized by Congress more than 30 years ago, yet less than one-third have received funds to assist in acquiring and protecting critical parts of their corridors.

CROWN OF THE CONTINENT DISCRETIONARY
Montana

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2014 Priority: No. 1 of 18

Location: 65 miles northwest of Great Falls, MT

Congressional Districts: Montana At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $43,944,480

FY 2014 Budget Request: $11,940,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	14	10,869	$12,695,193	$1,168
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	37	85,173	$30,734,650	$361
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	2	3	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	16	19,590	$0	$0
Acquired Other Means through FY 2012	35	55,892	$514,637	$9
Total Acquired through FY 2012	104	171,527	$43,944,480	$256
Planned FY 2013	8	30,685	$18,295,750	$596
Proposed FY 2014	7	21,874	$11,940,000	$546
Remaining	119	259,191	$155,762,994	$601
Totals	238	483,277	$229,943,224	$476

*Includes numerous funding sources including LWCF, NAWCA, MBCF, and FLTFA.

Purpose of Acquisition: Acquisition would support long-term viability of fish and wildlife habitat on a large, landscape-scale basis in the Crown of the Continent. Acquisition of perpetual conservation easements preserves habitat where existing biological communities are functioning well and maintains the traditional rural economies for present and future generations of Americans.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund/Mellon Foundation, Blackfoot Challenge, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Swan Ecosystem Center, Clark Fork Coalition, The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Missoula, Lake, Beaverhead, Lewis & Clark County Commissioners, Montana DNRC, Montana Wilderness Association, and Montana Audubon Society.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire perpetual conservation easements on approximately 21,874 acres for the Rocky Mountain Front and Blackfoot Valley Conservation Area portions of the Crown of the Continent in Montana. These lands border existing protected land (owned by the Service, other federal agencies, or The Nature Conservancy) and include important habitat for grizzly bear, wolverine, lynx, goshawk, willow flycatcher, sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, burrowing owl, Lewis woodpecker, trumpeter swan, yellow-billed cuckoo, cutthroat trout, arctic grayling, and Columbia spotted frog. The Rocky Mountain Front is considered one of the best remaining intact ecosystems left in the lower 48 states, and supports nearly every wildlife species described by Lewis and Clark in 1806, with the exception of free-ranging bison. The Blackfoot Valley is one of the last, undeveloped river valley systems in Western Montana. Red Rock Lakes NWR lies in the heart of the Centennial Valley and

includes one of the largest wetland complexes in the Northern Rockies. There is increasing pressure to subdivide and develop these landscapes for second home development and commercial uses. Protecting these tracts would prevent fragmentation and preserve trust species habitat in some of the nation's best remaining intact ecosystems.

O&M: The Service estimates that annual monitoring and inspection of the 21,874 acres of easements would require approximately 0.5 FTE of total staff time (approximately $40,000 per year).

DAKOTA GRASSLAND CONSERVATION AREA **DISCRETIONARY**
North Dakota and South Dakota

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2014 Priority: No. 2 of 18

Location: North Dakota and South Dakota east of Missouri River

Congressional Districts: At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $1,000,000

FY 2014 Budget Request: $8,650,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost*	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Easement through FY 2012*	17	6,470	$2,301,350	$356
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	1	1,071	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	18	7,541	$2,301,350	$305
Planned FY 2013	19	7,145	$2,500,000	$350
Proposed FY 2014 (easements)	Multi	23,053	$8,650,000	$375
Remaining	Multi	1,902,261	$574,548,650	$302
Totals	Multi	1,940,000	$588,000,000	$303

* Includes MBCF funding

Purpose of Acquisition: Purchase perpetual wetland and grassland easements to protect wildlife habitats of native grassland and associated wetlands located in the Prairie Pothole Region (PPR).

Project Cooperators: North Dakota Game and Fish Department, North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., The Nature Conservancy, South Dakota Grassland Coalition, and private landowners.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire perpetual conservation easements on approximately 23,053 acres from multiple owners. The PPR ecosystem consists of native mixed-grass prairie intermingled with high densities of temporary, seasonal, semi-permanent, and permanent wetlands that support breeding habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, grassland birds, and the endangered piping plover. Habitat fragmentation and loss due to conversion of wetlands and grasslands to cropland is the primary threat to wildlife species in the PPR. With the protection afforded by perpetual easements, this highly productive yet fragile ecosystem will remain intact, preserving habitat where biological communities will flourish. Acquisition of these easements would help to maintain traditional farming and ranching operations while fostering landscape-level conservation.

O&M: The Service anticipates spending a minimal amount for annual compliance over-flights, estimated at less than $3,600 per year, which the Service would fund out of NWRS base funding.

EVERGLADES HEADWATERS NWR AND CONSERVATION AREA DISCRETIONARY
Florida

Acquisition Authority: Land and Water Conservation Fund of 1965
Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2014 Priority: No. 3 of 18

Location: Approximately 50 miles south of Orlando and 75 miles east of Tampa in Polk, Osceola, Okeechobee, and Highlands Counties

Congressional Districts: Florida, Districts 12, 15, and 16 **FWS Region 4**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $1,500,000

FY 2014 Budget Request: $5,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	1	10	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	1	10	$0	$0
Planned FY 2013	7	2,877	$4,500,000	$1,564
Proposed FY 2014	1	1,250	$5,000,000	$4,000
Remaining (easement)	Multi	96,506	$241,271,000	$2,500
Remaining (fee)	7	49,357	$196,828,000	$4,049
Totals	Multi	150,000	$447,599,000	$2,984

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, restore, and conserve habitat for 278 federal and state listed species, including Florida panther, Florida black bear, Audubon's crested caracara, Florida scrub jay, red-cockaded woodpecker, whooping crane, Everglades snail kite, and, most significantly, protect habitat for the Florida grasshopper sparrow, a federally endangered endemic species. Acquisitions would protect, restore, and conserve the headwaters, groundwater recharge and watershed of the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, and Lake Okeechobee region. This acquisition would also directly improve water quantity and quality in the Everglades watershed, complementing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan goals, and protect the water supply for millions of people.

Project Cooperators: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, U. S. Air Force, Avon Park Air Force Range, The Nature Conservancy, National Wildlife Refuge Association, Florida Cattlemen's Association, and Florida Farm Bureau.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to approximately 1,250 acres. This is an opportunity for the Service to protect a large landscape of diverse and high-quality habitats, and to conserve and restore large numbers of threatened and endangered species, while supporting Central Florida's rich ranching heritage. The America's Great Outdoors (AGO) Initiative is a Presidential initiative and one of the Secretary of the Interior's top three national priorities, designed to create and

conserve large functional landscapes for wildlife and ecosystem services protection, historic and cultural protection, and to provide the American public with outstanding wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.

O&M: The Service estimates annual costs of up to $25,000 for habitat management and restoration, prescribed burning, and hunting and public use management.

LONGLEAF INITIATIVE **DISCRETIONARY**
South Carolina, Florida, and Georgia

Acquisition Authority: Migratory Bird Conservation Act, Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2014 Priority: No. 4 of 18

Location: Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina coastal areas

Congressional Districts: Florida, Districts 2 and 4 **FWS Region 4**
Georgia, District 1
South Carolina, District 1

Total LWCF Appropriations: $25,408,006

FY 2014 Budget Request: $ 9,481,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	171	476,737	$25,092,820	$1,339
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	9	538	$1	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	17	42,919	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	15	40,133	$0	$0
Acquired Other Means through FY 2012	7	2,217	$315,185	$1,414
Total Acquired through FY 2012	219	562,544	$25,408,006	$45
Planned FY 2013	8	20,215	$39,877,044	$1,973
Proposed FY 2014	2	3,900	$9,481,000	$2,250
Remaining	323	109,408	$719,005,916	$6,572
Totals	552	696,067	$793,771,966	$1,140

Purpose of Acquisition: To conserve populations of threatened, endangered, rare, and imperiled plants and animals and their native longleaf pine habitats; to restore former slash pine plantations to native longleaf pine; to provide suitable black bear habitat, including corridors to link to critical habitat for major population centers; to provide high-quality habitat for migratory birds, shorebirds, waterbirds, and marshbirds; and to provide public opportunities for hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-dependent recreation.

Project Cooperators: Charleston County Greenbelt, The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Fund, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Pee Dee Land Trust, American Rivers, Sam Shine Foundation

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire a combination of 3,900 fee and conservation easement acres at Cape Romain (SC), Okefenokee (GA/FL), St. Marks (FL) and Waccamaw (SC) NWRs. Acquisition would support longleaf pine ecosystem conservation and restoration. Acquisition would also help to preserve a tapestry of federal, state, and private forest lands that provide more than a million acres of unfragmented habitat for a variety of federally-listed endangered and threatened species, including red-cockaded woodpecker, wood stork, flatwoods salamander, Eastern indigo snake, and whooping crane. Residential, commercial, and industrial, fragmentation, extraction industries, loss of public access, and loss of paleontological resources are some the greatest threats facing this landscape. Acquisition funding would significantly contribute to a multi-partner, multi-state effort to ensure resiliency and connectivity of

this ecosystem, support working lands, enhance recreational access and opportunities, and protect historic and cultural resources.

O&M: The Service estimates annual costs of up to $100,000 for habitat management and restoration, prescribed burning, and hunting and public use management. Acquisition may produce efficiency improvements in Service law enforcement and boundary posting, which would reduce these costs. Costs associated with restoration work could be offset by hunting fees or outside funding.

FLINT HILLS LEGACY CONSERVATION AREA **DISCRETIONARY**
Kansas

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2014 Priority: No. 5 of 18

Location: In the Flint Hills Ecoregion, a long narrow band running north-south in eastern Kansas

Congressional Districts: Kansas, Districts 1, 2, and 4 **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $1,000,000

FY 2014 Budget Request: $2,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	1	5	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	1	5	$0	$0
Planned FY 2013	2	7,450	$2,901,000	$389
Proposed FY 2014 (easement)	3	5,000	$2,000,000	$400
Remaining	307	1,087,545	$435,099,000	$400
Totals	313	1,100,000	$440,000,000	$400

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect the Flint Hills tallgrass prairie ecosystem and associated grassland-dependent wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, the Kansas Land Trust, the Ranchland Trust of Kansas, the Tallgrass Legacy Alliance, and the local community.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire perpetual conservation easements on approximately 5,000 acres of tallgrass prairie. Tallgrass prairie is one of the most endangered ecosystems in the United States, with less than four percent of the original acreage remaining. The Service will use conservation easements to ultimately protect 1,100,000 acres of the remaining tallgrass prairie in the Flint Hills ecoregion in eastern Kansas from the threat of fragmentation. This fragmentation occurs as the result of residential, commercial, and industrial development, as well as encroachment of woody vegetation. Acquisition of perpetual conservation easements from willing sellers provides permanent protection for tallgrass prairie ecosystems and fosters landscape level conservation, while helping to maintain traditional ranching operations. Landowner interest is high, and the Service is currently identifying lands for acquisition that contain high quality tallgrass habitat with minimal fragmentation and woody vegetation encroachment. In addition to preserving some of the last remaining tallgrass prairie, conservation easements would protect habitat that is important for the threatened Topeka shiner, as well as a wide variety of grassland-dependent birds and other species.

O&M: The Service estimates annual costs of $1,000 for maintenance of new acquisitions, mainly for easement enforcement, which the Service would fund out of NWRS base funding.

NECHES RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **DISCRETIONARY**
Texas

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956
Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2014 Priority: No. 6 of 18

Location: Approximately 35 miles south-southeast of Tyler, TX

Congressional District: Texas, District 5 **FWS Region 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $2,000,000

FY 2014 Budget Request: $3,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	4	1,598	$1,873,922	$1,173
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	1	30	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	5	1,628	$1,873,922	$1,151
Planned FY 2013	1	640	$1,000,000	$1,563
Proposed FY 2014	1	1,913	$3,000,000	$1,568
Remaining	57	21,100	$31,051,500	$1,472
Totals	64	25,281	$36,925,422	$1,461

* The easement acquired was donated

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect important remnant bottomland habitat and associated habitats for migrating, wintering, and breeding waterfowl; to protect the forest's diverse biological values and wetland functions of water quality improvement and flood control; and to provide compatible wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund, The Trust for Public Land, and The Nature Conservancy.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to approximately 1,913 acres. Acquisition would provide much-needed resting habitat for neo-tropical birds migrating north in the spring after crossing the Gulf of Mexico. The Refuge is located along the Neches River, which runs for 420 miles and is one of Texas's largest rivers. Bottomland habitats in east Texas, like those along the Neches River, are used by nearly three million dabbling ducks. These same areas provide habitat for 273 bird species, 45 mammal species, 54 reptile species, 31 amphibian species, and 116 fish species, including the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, the federally threatened American alligator, and several State species of special concern. The diversity provided by the bottomlands is greater than the upland habitat types due to the diversity of floral species and the abundance of food sources.

O&M: The Service estimates initial costs of $25,000 for posting and fencing.

DAKOTA TALLGRASS PRAIRIE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA DISCRETIONARY
North Dakota and South Dakota

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2014 Priority: No. 7 of 18

Location: Northeastern South Dakota and southeastern North Dakota

Congressional Districts: At Large **FWS Region 6**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $9,673,750 (Includes Title V funds)

FY 2014 Budget Request: $3,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost**	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	201	60,997	$9,590,414	$157
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	1	160	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	12	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	202	61,169	$9,590,414	$156
Planned FY 2013	4	1,020	$500,000	$490
Proposed FY 2014 (easement)	24	6,122	$3,000,000	$490
Remaining	Multi	121,689	$53,388,426	$439
Totals	Multi	190,000	$66,478,840	$350

** Includes incidental costs.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect the northern tallgrass prairie ecosystem and associated wildlife.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and the local community.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire perpetual conservation easements on approximately 6,122 acres of tallgrass prairie. Tallgrass prairie once covered 90 percent of the Dakotas, but less than three percent remains. Habitat fragmentation and conversion to crop production are the primary threats to this ecosystem. The Service plans to use grassland easements to ultimately protect 190,000 acres of the remaining tallgrass prairie in the eastern Dakotas, including 25,000 acres in North Dakota and 165,000 acres in South Dakota. These easement acquisitions will help maintain traditional ranching operations while fostering landscape-level conservation.

The project area has a rich variety of plant, animal, and insect species including more than 147 species of breeding birds ranging from neotropical migrants to waterfowl. Several candidate endangered species are found within the tallgrass prairie ecosystem, including Baird's sparrow, loggerhead shrike, ferruginous hawk, and rare butterflies such as the Dakota skipper. These large blocks of grasslands help to buffer prairie ecosystems from agricultural chemicals and invasive species, and provide the natural habitat mosaic required by prairie-dependent species. Existing prairie is a well-documented store of terrestrial carbon. Preventing conversion of tallgrass prairie with grassland easements ensures continued sequestration of this carbon.

O&M: A minimal amount of resources would be needed for annual compliance over flights, estimated at less than $1,500, which the Service would fund out of NWRS base funding.

CACHE RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **DISCRETIONARY**
Arkansas

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2014 Priority: No. 8 of 18

Location: Adjacent to the White River, Cache River, and Bayou De View tributaries, from State Highway 79 near Clarendon to Grubbs

Congressional Districts: Arkansas, District 1 **FWS Region 4**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $11,883,213

FY 2014 Budget Request: $ 5,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	108	66,927	$57,406,338	$858
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	7	2,155	$134,000	$62
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	2	945	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	1	0	$115,000	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	118	70,027	$57,655,338	$823
Planned FY 2013	2	1,355	$3,523,982	$2,601
Proposed FY 2014	3	1,920	$5,000,000	$2,604
Remaining	347	111,675	$230,919,638	$2,068
Totals	470	184,977	$297,098,958	$1,606

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, National Wildlife Refuge Association, Ducks Limited, and Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to approximately 1,920 acres from three owners. These tracts contain row crop agriculture, bottomland hardwood forest, moist soils units, and bald cypress-tupelo swamps. Acquisition of these tracts would contribute greatly to the Service's habitat conservation efforts in the Cache River project area, which encompasses some of the largest remaining expanses of forested wetlands on any tributary within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. The Refuge project area is considered the most important wintering area for mallards in North America, and one of the most important for pintail and teal ducks, Canada geese, and other migratory waterfowl. Forest and wetland restoration on these tracts would facilitate carbon sequestration, provide surrogate species habitat, and fulfill national and state conservation plan goals.

O&M: The Service estimates initial costs of $7,500 for posting and fencing, which the Service would fund from Refuge System base funding. Annual costs would be less than $500 for maintenance.

JOHN H. CHAFEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **MANDATORY**
Rhode Island

Acquisition Authority: Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965

FY 2014 Priority: No. 9 of 18

Location: On the Narrow River in the Towns of Narragansett and South Kingstown, Washington County, Rhode Island

Congressional Districts: Rhode Island, District 2 **FWS Region 5**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $9,596,702

FY 2014 Budget Request: $900,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	46	509	$9,596,702	$18,854
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	0	0	0	0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	1	15	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	5	24	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	52	548	$9,596,702	$17,512
Planned FY 2013	0	0	$0	$0
Proposed FY 2014	1	13	$900,000	$69,230
Remaining	319	803	$13,838,258	$17,233
Totals	372	1,364	$24,334,960	$17,840

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and safeguard the Whale Rock property, a diversity of coastal habitats important to trust resources, and to complement existing refuge lands along the estuary.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, the State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the Champlin Foundation.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to 13 acres of the Whale Rock property at Pettaquamscutt Cove. The land proposed to be acquired plays a critical role in protecting the water quality and integrity of the Cove, its tidal wetland complex, and associated fish and wildlife populations. The property is being acquired in five phases, of which the first two phases are complete. The Nature Conservancy is assisting with this acquisition.
The total acreage is 112 acres, including seven acres of salt marsh, more than 5,500 feet of shoreline, 22 acres of maritime forest, and 29 acres of coastal shrubland. The estuary's marshes and tidal flats provide important habitat for priority waterfowl species such as the American black duck, wading birds and shorebirds, terns, osprey, and other high priority species such as the salt marsh sharp-tailed sparrow and seaside sparrow.

O&M: The Service anticipates an initial cost of $500 to install refuge signs and no additional workload.

SOUTHWEST DESERTS **MANDATORY**
California

Acquisition Authority: Endangered Species Act of 1973
Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2014 Priority: No. 10 of 18

Location: Approximately 15 miles east of the City of San Diego

Congressional Districts: California, Districts 50, 51, and 52 **FWS Region 8**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $31,793,320

FY 2014 Budget Request: $ 11,770,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	54	4,993	$31,793,320	$6,367
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	4	1	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	14	4,253	$0	$0
Acquired Other Means through FY 2012	1	1,905	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	73	11,152	$31,793,320	$2,851
Planned FY 2013	1	10	$235,000	$23,500
Proposed FY 2014	13	1,405	$11,770,000	$8,377
Remaining	426	25,326	$46,201,680	$1,842
Totals	513	37,893	$90,000,000	$2,375

Purpose of Acquisition: The California Desert SW focal area is comprised of Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and the west half of Imperial counties in California. Less than a day's drive from 40 million people, the area is characterized by extensive wildlife corridors, miles of national scenic and historic trails and 72 federally protected species. Rich in biodiversity and recreational opportunity, the landscape is also responding to increasing demands (e.g., energy development and urban growth), which impact these unique resources. The community's conservation goals are rooted in years of partnership between government agencies and NGOs, and are informed by multiple conservation and recreation plans.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, Friends of SDNWR, Conservation biology Institute, Public and private partners that participate in the State of California's Natural Communities Conservation Planning program and the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP).

Project Description: Funds would acquire fee title to approximately 1,405 acres of mostly undisturbed coastal sage and chaparral, across several ownerships adjacent to existing Service lands. Acquisition of these tracts would extend the Service's successful efforts with more than a dozen local jurisdictions, the California Department of Fish and Game, and many private landowners to protect over 172,000 acres of natural habitat within a 582,000-acre planning area. Acquisition of these mountainous upland tracts would assist in recovery efforts by providing opportunities to protect and restore habitat by creating a buffer from surrounding high-density development and limiting off-road access. Refuge land acquisitions not only help meet natural resource goals, but may also reduce the need to list additional species under

federal and state laws. These include species such as the coastal California gnatcatcher, Otay tarplant, and Quino checkerspot butterfly.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition as the tracts are located within the refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

SILVIO O. CONTE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE REFUGE **MANDATORY**
Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont

Acquisition Authority: The Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge Act (P.L.102-212)

FY 2014 Priority: No. 11 of 18

Location: Within the Connecticut River Watershed located in CT, MA, NH, and VT

Congressional Districts: Connecticut, Districts 1, 2, and 3 **FWS Region 5**
Massachusetts, Districts 1 and 2
New Hampshire, District 2
Vermont, At Large

Total LWCF Appropriations: $28,482,268

FY 2014 Budget Request: $ 4,600,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	69	35,236	$27,344,806	$776
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	2	169	$126,000	$746
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	5	125	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012 *	76	35,530	$27,470,806	$773
Planned FY 2013	12	381	$1,500,000	$3,937
Proposed FY 2014	9	3,726	$4,600,000	$1,476
Remaining	1,913	39,270	$36,029,194	$917
Totals	2,010	78,907	$69,600,000	$893

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fisheries and wildlife resources and provide public access to refuge lands.

Project Cooperators: The Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, the Kestrel Land Trust, the Middlesex Land Trust and the National Wildlife Refuge Association.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to 3,034 acres and 692 acres in conservation easement. Acquisition of tracts within the Refuge's Fort River Division (MA) would contribute toward the protection of a large grassland project for grassland species, the endangered dwarf wedge mussel, and anadromous fish. In addition, acquisition of northern boreal forest tracts in the Nulhegan Basin Division (VT), and acquisition of wetland tracts in the Pondicherry and Mohawk River Divisions (NH), would protect nesting songbirds and provide wildlife-dependent recreational and educational opportunities. Both the Whalebone Cove and Salmon River Divisions in CT contain extensive freshwater tidal marshes used by migrating and wintering waterfowl. The forested mountainous habitat of the Mascoma Division in NH will contribute towards breeding habitat for interior migrant land birds and rare plants.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional costs associated with this acquisition because the parcel is located within the refuge boundary and would create no additional workload.

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **MANDATORY**
California

Acquisition Authority: Endangered Species Act 1973

FY 2014 Priority: No. 12 of 18

Location: Approximately 10 miles west of Modesto, CA

Congressional Districts: California, District 18 **FWS Region 8**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $18,843,600

FY 2014 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	8	7,148	$25,725,448	$3,599
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	4	3,553	$18,184,556	$5,118
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	12	10,701	$43,910,004	$4,103
Planned FY 2013	1	167	$1,000,000	$5,988
Proposed FY 2014	1	91	$1,000,000	$10,989
Remaining	3	2,956	$24,089,996	$8,150
Totals	17	13,915	$70,000,000	$5,031

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect native grasslands and wetlands that are essential for long-term survival of the Aleutian Canada goose, and to protect a large piece of riparian habitat valuable to a variety of wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: State of California CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire a perpetual conservation easement on approximately 91 acres of predominantly native, irrigated pasture. The biggest threat to the Refuge is residential development and the conversion of grasslands and wetlands to croplands and orchards that provide little or no benefit for wildlife. Acquisition of the tract would support long-term viability of the grassland and wetland ecosystems as well as provide a safe haven for migratory birds and other wildlife species.

O&M: The interest to be acquired in the 91 acres is a perpetual conservation easement. For this reason, there will be little to no long-term management costs associated with this acquisition.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **MANDATORY**
Texas

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Refuge Recreation Act of 1962

FY 2014 Priority: No. 13 of 18

Location: South Texas coast approximately one hour southeast of McAllen, TX

Congressional Districts: Texas, Districts 15, 27, and 28 **FWS Region 2**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $32,777,516

FY 2014 Budget Request: $ 1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	299	79,168	$75,073,310	$948
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	*6	**5,616	$1,412,751	$252
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	12	9,142	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	4	953	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	321	94,879	$76,486,061	$806
Planned FY 2013	1	1,940	$1,985,204	$1,023
Proposed FY 2014	1	800	$1,000,000	$1,250
Remaining	792	34,881	$45,225,300	$1,297
Totals	1,115	132,500	$124,696,565	$941

* Out of six conservation easements acquired, two were donated, raising the amount of easement ownerships from four to six.
** Four of the six conservation easements were acquired with LWCF funds (2,566 acres), and two were donated (3,050 acres), for a total of 5,616 acres.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect native subtropical brush lands within the diverse biotic communities of the area.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, National Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, North American Butterfly Association, and The Trust for Public Land.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire 800 acres of the Refuge's best remaining brush land habitat from willing sellers. The Refuge has 11 distinct biotic communities, which provide habitat for resident and migrating plants and animals. Nearly 400 species of birds, 300 species of butterflies, and 1,100 species of plants have been noted in the four-county project area. The area not only provides an important migration corridor for neotropical migratory birds, but also provides sanctuary for a number of endangered species, including the piping plover, northern aplomado falcon, ocelot, and jaguarandi.

O&M: The Service anticipates minimal expenses beyond an initial $10,000 for signage and posting of boundaries, which the Service would fund from Refuge System base funding.

GRASSLANDS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA **MANDATORY**
California

Acquisition Authority: Emergency Wetlands Resource Act of 1986

FY 2014 Priority: No. 14 of 18

Location: In the Pacific Flyway between the cities of Los Banos and Gustine, California

Congressional Districts: California, District 18 **FWS Region 8**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $12,276,332

FY 2014 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	8	14,970	$18,066,228	$1,207
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	168	78,157	$43,547,190	$557
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	176	93,127	$61,613,418	$662
Planned FY 2013	2	475	$1,000,000	$2,105
Proposed FY 2014	2	475	$1,000,000	$2,105
Remaining	235	39,223	$182,255,769	$4,647
Totals	416	133,300	$245,869,187	$1,844

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect an important wintering area for the Pacific Flyway waterfowl populations.

Project Cooperators: State of California.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire perpetual conservation easements on approximately 475acres of predominantly native, irrigated pasture. The biggest threat to the Refuge is residential development and the conversion of grasslands, wetlands, and riparian habitat to croplands and orchards that provide little or no benefit for wildlife. The acquisition of this property will provide long-term viability to the grassland ecosystem as well as provide a safe haven for migratory birds and other wildlife species.

O&M: The interest to be acquired in the 475 acres is a perpetual conservation easement. For this reason there will be little long-term management costs associated with this acquisition.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE AND FISH REFUGE MANDATORY
Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin

Acquisition Authority: Act of June 7, 1924; Act of March 4, 1925; Act of May 12, 1928; Act of April 10, 1928; Act of June 18, 1934; Act of June 13, 1944; P.L. 87-44; P.L. 105-312; Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986

FY 2014 Priority: No. 15 of 18

Location: 261 miles along the Mississippi River from Wabasha, MN, to Rock Island, IL

Congressional Districts: Minnesota, District 1 **FWS Region 3**
Iowa, Districts 1 and 4
Illinois, Districts 16 and 17
Wisconsin, District 3

Total LWCF Appropriations: $8,263,600

FY 2014 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost[‡]	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	1,185	209,021	$6,307,324	$30
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	8	61	$5,051	$83
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	24	684	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	4	95	$35	$1
Total Acquired Through FY 2012	1,221	209,861	$6,312,410	$30
Planned FY 2013	2	600	$1,938,000	$3,230
Proposed FY 2014	3	300	$1,000,000	$3,333
Reprogrammed FY 2008[††]	0	0	$300,000	$0
Reprogrammed FY 2009[††]	0	0	$1,000,000	$0
Remaining	316	20,984	$27,724,996	$1,321
Totals	1,540	231,745	$38,275,406	$165*

[†] Includes incidental acquisition costs and MBCF.
[††] Amount reprogrammed from Great River NWR to Upper Mississippi NW & FR.
***** Approximately half of the acreage was acquired by the Corp of Engineers, and is managed by the Service, hence, the low $/acre value.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, restore, and manage grassland and wetland habitat for migratory birds, including waterfowl, resident wildlife, federal and state threatened and endangered species, and public recreation.

Project Cooperators: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Minnesota DNR, Wisconsin DNR, Iowa DNR, Illinois DNR, and Friends of the Upper Mississippi Refuge.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to approximately 300 acres, in three parcels. One parcel is located in Houston County, MN, and two parcels are located in La Crosse County,

WI. The tracts are located within the flood plain of the Mississippi River and all are within or contiguous to the refuge acquisition boundary. These acquisitions would preserve critical feeding and resting habitat for waterfowl and other birds in the Mississippi Flyway. They would protect the extensive wetland complexes that function as flood control and nutrient recycling.

O&M: The Service estimates an initial cost of $10,000 for restoration and enhancement work (spraying, mowing, burning, and fencing supplies and signage), which the Service would fund from Refuge base funding.

BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **MANDATORY**
Maryland

Acquisition Authority: Endangered Species Act of 1973

FY 2014 Priority: No. 16 of 18

Location: Sixty-five miles southeast of Baltimore, in the south central portion of Dorchester County on Maryland's Eastern Shore

Congressional Districts: Maryland, District 1 **FWS Region 5**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $15,604,345

FY 2014 Budget Request: $1,000,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	35	25,764	$17,516,187	$680
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	1	50	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	11	1,402	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	1	856	1,080,000	$1,262
Total Acquired through FY 2012	48	28,072	$18,596,187	$662
Planned FY 2013	0	0	0	$0
Proposed FY 2014	1	247	$1,000,000	$4,049
Remaining	52	31,606	$34,750,000	$1,099
Totals	99	59,925	$54,346,187	$907

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect high quality habitat for the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel and other endangered species, along with nesting and wintering habitat for the American bald eagle, migratory waterfowl, colonial waterbirds, shorebirds, and forest interior dwelling bird species.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire fee title to 247 acres along the northern border of the Refuge boundary. This parcel has been a high priority for the Refuge for over a decade. The tract consists of forested wetlands interspersed with tidal waters, ponds, and marsh. These areas provide excellent habitat for migratory birds such as osprey, black and wood ducks, Canada geese, marsh and water birds, the bald eagle, as well as foraging opportunities for the peregrine falcon. This area of the Refuge is also important to federal and state listed endangered and threatened species. Acquisition would expand public opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation.

O&M: The Service anticipates no additional operations or maintenance costs associated with this acquisition as the parcel is located within refuge boundaries and would add no additional workload.

NORTHERN TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE **MANDATORY**
Portions of Minnesota and Iowa

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956

FY 2014 Priority: No. 17 of 18

Location: Eighty-five counties in western MN and northwestern IA

Congressional District: Minnesota, Districts 1, 2 and 7 **FWS Region 3**
Iowa, Districts 2, 3, 4, and 5

Total Appropriations: $5,806,657

FY 2014 Budget Request: $567,000

Acquisition Status:

	Owners	Acres	Cost	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	11	2,803	$4,319,393	$1,541
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	44	2,452	$1,672,903	$683
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Other means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	55	5,255	$5,992,296	$1,141
Planned FY 2013	0	0	$0	$0
Proposed FY 2014	1	80	$567,000	$7,088
Remaining	794	71,665	$18,440,704	$257
Totals	850	77,000	$25,000,000	$325

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, restore, and enhance the remaining northern tallgrass prairie habitats and associated wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, The Nature Conservancy, Minnesota Waterfowl Association, several county conservation boards, and several local Chambers of Commerce.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire 80 acres from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation in south central Iowa. The project will include prairie preservation and restoration, which will protect the prairie ecosystem and benefit grassland birds such as dickcissel, bobolink, grasshopper sparrow, and sedge wren. This project has strong support from the Iowa congressional delegation.

Rather than acquiring a contiguous boundary with the aim of eventual ownership of all lands, the Service has set a goal of acquiring 77,000 acres, spreading land acquisition across all or portions of 85 counties. The Service will acquire fee and easement lands to reach this goal. The Service will work with private landowners to develop stewardship agreements, and provide incentives and management assistance in the interest of preserving the prairie landscape regardless of ownership.

O&M: The Service anticipates annual operation and maintenance costs of approximately $10,000 for initial restoration and enhancement work (spraying, mowing, burning, and signage).

NATIONAL TRAILS **MANDATORY**
New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Washington

Acquisition Authority: Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Refuge Recreation Act of 1962

FY 2014 Priority: No. 18 of 18

Location: New Mexico, Pennsylvania ,and Washington

Congressional Districts: New Mexico District 1, Pennsylvania District 10, and Washington District 3 **FWS Regions 1, 2, 5**

Total LWCF Appropriations: $7,843,880

FY 2014 Budget Request: $12,660,000

Acquisition Status:

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost*	$/Acre
Acquired Fee through FY 2012	14	5,514	$9,568,160	$1,735
Acquired Easement through FY 2012	1	2	$0	$0
Acquired Exchange through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Acquired Donation through FY 2012	3	725	$0	$0
Acquired Other Means through FY 2012	0	0	$0	$0
Total Acquired through FY 2012	17	6,241	$9,568,160	$1,533
Planned FY 2013	2	75	$3,000,000	$40,000
Proposed FY 2014	7	3,868	$12,660,000	$3,273
Remaining	4	0	$7,011,663	$26,769
Totals	30	10,184	$32,239,823	$3,166

* Price per acre includes the cost of acre/feet of water.

Purpose of Acquisition: The National Scenic and Historic Trails are physical and cultural corridors traversing 49 states and every ecological biome in the U.S. These long distance trails, stretching for hundreds or thousands of miles each, connect with 70 NWRs, 80 national parks, 90 national forests, and 100 major metropolitan areas. As they pass through or alongside NWRs, they protect crucial conservation areas, provide wildlife migration corridors, and offer tremendous recreational opportunities and viewsheds. This request would be directed to three Refuge/trail acquisitions: Valle de Oro (NM), Cherry Valley (PA), and Steigerwald Lake (WA) NWRs.

Project Cooperators: The Trust for Public Land, Walmart Corporation, City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico State Parks Department, The Nature Conservancy, and The Conservation Fund.

Project Description: Funds would be used at Valle de Oro NWR to acquire fee title to the final portion of this 570-acre refuge located along the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail, just a few miles from downtown Albuquerque. Located along the Rio Grande, within a 30-minute drive of 40 percent of the state's population, this acquisition would create an important buffer from urban development. This includes the trail portion of the property along the river, which also provides cover for terrestrial species that move along the river corridor.

Funds for Cherry Valley NWR would be used to acquire fee acres, protecting both the Trail itself and its viewshed. This acquisition would also protect threatened and endangered plants, fish, and wildlife, and ensure the resiliency and connectivity of terrestrial and watershed ecosystems. The Refuge is a hotspot for the threatened bog turtle, and is located along an important migration corridor for raptors.

Funds for Steigerwald Lake NWR would be used to acquire four parcels along the Lewis & Clark NHT, a 50-state AGO project. Lands along the lower Columbia River portion of the Lewis and Clark Trail would be acquired to protect wildlife habitat and lands similar to what the Corps of Discovery explorers encountered more than 200 years ago. These lands are within 15 miles of Portland, Oregon, and Vancouver, Washington. Acquisition would protect trail resources and access, and would also improve water quality and protect vital winter habitat for dusky Canada geese and other species. Threats to this iconic landscape include residential and agricultural development.

O&M: The Service estimates total initial costs of $35,000 for posting and fencing for the trails.

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
LAND ACQUISITION

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5020-X**	**2012** **Actual**	**2013** **Estimate**	**2014** **Estimate**
Obligations by program activity:			
Direct program:			
0001 Acquisition management	11	11	13
0002 Emergencies and hardships	3	3	3
0003 Exchanges	2	2	1
0004 Inholdings	2	2	2
0005 User Pay Cost Share	2	2	2
0006 Federal refuges (refuge land payments)	25	36	70
0100 Total, direct program	**45**	**56**	**91**
0801 Reimbursable program activity Border Fence Mitigation	8	0	0
0900 Total new obligations	**53**	**56**	**91**
Budgetary Resources:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct 1	21	35	35
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	1	1	1
1050 Unobligated balance (total)	**22**	**36**	**36**
Budget Authority:			
Appropriations, Discretionary:			
1101 Appropriation (special fund)	55	55	71
Spending authority from offsetting collections:			
Appropriations, mandatory:			
1221 Appropriations transferred from the LWCF	0	0	36
Spending authority from offsetting collections, discretionary:			
1700 Offsetting collections (cash)	11	0	0
1750 Spending authority from offsetting collections (total)	**11**	**0**	**0**
1900 Total new budget authority (gross)	66	55	71
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**88**	**91**	**143**
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
1941 Unexpired unobligated balance, end of year	35	35	52
Change in obligated balances:			
3000 Unpaid obligations brought forward, Oct 1 (gross)	33	25	18
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	53	56	91
3020 Total outlays, gross (-)	-60	-62	-78
3040 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	-1	-1	-1
3050 Unpaid Obligations, end of year	**25**	**18**	**30**
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
3100 Obligated balance, start of year	33	25	18
3200 Obligated balance, end of year	25	18	30

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
LAND ACQUISITION

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5020-X**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Budget authority and outlays, net:			
Discretionary:			
4000 Budget authority, gross	66	55	71
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	22	22	42
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	38	40	36
4020 Outlays, Gross (total)	**60**	**62**	**78**
Offsets again gross budget authority and outlays:			
Offsetting collections (collected) from:			
4030 (01) Federal Sources	-11	0	0
4070 Budget authority, net (discretionary)	55	55	71
4080 Outlays, net (discretionary)	49	62	64
Mandatory:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	0	0	36
Outlays, gross:			
Outlays from onew mandatory authority	0	0	14
4160 Budget authority, net (mandatory)	0	0	36
4170 Outlays, net (mandatory)	0	0	14
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	**55**	**55**	**107**
4190 Outlays (net)	**49**	**62**	**78**

Object Classification			
Direct obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	7	7	9
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	2	2	2
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	1	1	1
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	4	6	6
25.3 Purchases of goods and services from Federal sources	1	1	1
32.0 Land and structures	29	39	72
99.0 Subtotal, obligations, Direct obligations	**44**	**56**	**91**
Reimbursable obligations:			
32.0 Land and structures	8	0	0
99.5 Below reporting threshold	1	0	0
99.9 Total new obligations	**53**	**56**	**91**

Personnel Summary			
1001 Direct civilian full-time equivalent employment	**89**	**86**	**106**

National Wildlife Refuge Fund

National Wildlife Refuge Fund

Appropriations Language

[For expenses necessary to implement the Act of October 17, 1978 (16 U.S.C. 715s), $13,980,000], (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012.)

Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, this account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 112-175). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Justification of Language Changes

Deletion of all language since language is no longer needed if program is eliminated as requested. (Mandatory portion does not require appropriations language.)

Authorizing Statutes

Refuge Revenue Sharing Act (16 U.S.C. 715s), as amended. Authorizes payments to be made to offset tax losses to counties in which Service fee and withdrawn public domain lands are located.

Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), Section 1002 and Section 1008, 16 U.S.C. 3142 and 3148. These sections address the procedures for permitting oil and gas leases on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge coastal plain (Section 1002) and other non-North Slope Federal lands in Alaska (Section 1008).

Appropriation: National Wildlife Refuge Fund

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Appropriations	($000)	*14,043*	13,958	0	0	-13,958	0
Receipts	($000)	*8,000*	7,596	0	0	+404	8,000
Total, National Wildlife Refuge Fund	**($000)**	***22,043***	**21,554**	**0**	**0**	**-13,554**	**8,000**
	FTE	**11**	**14**	**0**	**0**	**-3**	**11**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates.

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for National Wildlife Refuge Fund

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Appropriations	-13,958	0
TOTAL Program Changes	**-13,958**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for National Wildlife Refuge Fund is $0 and 0 FTE, a program change of -$13,958,000 and -3 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Appropriations (-$13,958,000/-3 FTE)

The Service proposes the elimination of the entire appropriated (discretionary) portion of this program. The mandatory receipts collected and allocated under the program would remain. Refuges often generate tax revenue for communities far in excess of that which was lost with federal acquisition of the land. In addition, Refuge lands provide many public services and place few demands on local infrastructure such as schools, fire, and police services when compared to development that is more intensive. National Wildlife Refuges bring a multitude of visitors to nearby communities and so provide substantial economic benefits to these communities.

The Refuge System welcomed more than 47 million visitors in FY 2012. Hunters, birdwatchers, beach goers and others who recreate on refuges also bring money into local economies when they stay in local hotels, dine at local restaurants, and make purchases from local stores. Recreational spending on refuges generates millions of dollars in tax revenue at the local, county, state and Federal level. According to *The Department of the Interior's Economic Contributions FY2011* report, in 2011 national wildlife refuges generated more than $4.2 billion in economic activity and created more than 34,500 private sector jobs nationwide. In addition, property values surrounding refuges are higher than equivalent properties elsewhere. Most importantly, in an increasingly urban world, these sanctuaries of natural beauty offer Americans priceless opportunities to connect with nature. The FTE change reflects multi-year adjustments from 2012 actual usage to the 2014 level.

Mandatory Receipts - The 2014 estimate for National Wildlife Refuge Fund revenue is $8,000,000.

Program Overview

The *Refuge Revenue Sharing Act*, as amended, authorizes revenues and direct appropriations to be deposited into a special fund, the National Wildlife Refuge Fund (NWRF), and used for payments to counties in which lands are acquired in fee (fee land) or reserved from the public domain (reserved land) and managed by the Service. These revenues are derived from the sale or disposition of (1) products (e.g., timber and gravel); (2) other privileges (e.g., right-of-way and grazing permits); and/or (3) leases for

public accommodations or facilities (e.g., oil and gas exploration and development) incidental to, and not in conflict with, refuge purposes.

The Act authorizes payments for Service-managed fee lands based on a formula contained in the Act that entitles counties to whatever is the highest of the following amounts: (1) 25 percent of the net receipts; (2) 3/4 of 1 percent of the fair market value of the land; or (3) 75 cents per acre. Every 5 years, appraisals are updated to determine the fair market value.

If the net revenues are insufficient to make full payments for fee lands according to the formula contained in the Act, direct appropriations up to an amount equal to the difference between net receipts and full authorized payment are authorized.

The refuge revenue sharing payments made on lands reserved from the public domain and administered by the Service for fish and wildlife purposes are always 25 percent of the net receipts collected from the reserved land in the county. If no receipts are collected, there is no revenue sharing payment. However, the Department makes Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) (31 U.S.C. 6901-6907) on all public domain lands, including Service-reserved land. The Service annually reports to the Department all of our reserved land acres and the revenue sharing amount already paid on those acres. The Department then calculates the PILT amount, subtracts the amount the Service has already paid, and makes the PILT payment to the community.

The *Refuge Revenue Sharing Act* also provides for the payment of certain expenses incurred in connection with revenue producing activities. Such expenses include:

- Salaries of foresters who cruise and mark timber for sale;
- Staff salaries and supplies associated with maintenance of fences in support of grazing;
- Costs associated with sale of surplus animals and collecting refuge share of furs and crops;
- Costs of conducting land appraisals, processing, and maintaining the records.

Sections 1008 and 1009 of the *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act* (ANILCA), 16 U.S.C. 3148, address procedures for oil and gas leasing on non-North Slope Federal lands in Alaska. Title XI of the Act, 16 U.S.C. 3161, addresses the procedures for transportation and utility systems in and across the Alaska conservation system units. An applicant pays the cost to process an application or administer a permit relating to utility and transportation systems or seismic exploration. Payments are deposited in the NWRF for reimbursement to the Region.

2014 Program Performance

According to current projections, payments to counties in 2014 will equal $4,899,000, or 6 percent of the estimated full entitlement, based on appropriations of $0 and $4,899,000 of estimated receipts less expenses. In addition to payments to counties, national wildlife refuges provide tangible and intangible benefits to communities that bring increased tax revenues that may offset the reductions.

(Dollars in Thousands)				
	2012	**2013**	**2014**	**Program**
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	**Actual**	**Estimate**	**Estimate**	**Change (+/-)**
Receipts / Expenses				
Receipts Collected	7,281	8,000	8,000	0
Recoveries	50	50	50	0
Expenses for Sales	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	0
ANILCA Expenses	-10	-10	-10	0
Estimated User-Pay Cost Share	-287	-141	-141	0
Net Receipts – Available during the following year	4,034	4,899	4,899	0
Payments to Counties				
Receipts Available - collected previous year		4,034	4,899	865
Current Appropriation Request		13,958	0	-13,958
Total Available for Payments to Counties		**17,992**	**4,899**	-13,093
Authorized Level		73,821	73,821	0
Percent Payment		24%	6%	-18%

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5091-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Special and Trust Fund Receipts:			
0100 Balance, start of year	0	0	0
Receipts:			
0220 National Wildlife Refuge Fund	8	8	8
Appropriations:			
0500 National Wildlife Refuge Fund	-8	-8	-8
0799 Balance, end of year	**0**	**0**	**0**
Obligations by Program Activity:			
0001 Expenses for sales	2	2	2
0002 Civilian Pay	1	1	1
0003 Payments to counties	18	19	5
0900 Total obligations	**21**	**22**	**8**
Budgetary Resources Available for Obligation:			
1000 Unobligated balance available, start of year	4	5	5
Budget Authority:			
Appropriations, discretionary:			
1100 Appropriation	14	14	0
1160 Appropriation discretionary (total)	**14**	**14**	**0**
Appropriation. mandatory:			
1201 Appropriation (special or trust fund)	8	8	8
1900 Total new budget authority (gross)	22	22	8
1930 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	**26**	**27**	**13**
1941 Unexpired Unobligated balance available, end of year	5	5	5
Change in obligated balance:			
Unpaid obligations:			
3000 Unpaid obligations brought forward, Oct 1	2	2	4
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	21	22	8
3020 Outlays, gross	-21	-20	-8
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**2**	**4**	**4**
Budget authority and outlays, net:			
Discretionary:			
4000 Budget authority, gross	14	14	0
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	14	14	0
Mandatory:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	8	8	8
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	5	6	6
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	2	0	2
4110 Total, outlays (gross)	**7**	**6**	**8**
Net Budget Authority and Outlays:			
4180 Budget authority	**22**	**22**	**8**
4190 Outlays	**21**	**20**	**8**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5091-0**	**2012** **Actual**	**2013** **Estimate**	**2014** **Estimate**
Object Classification:			
Direct Obligations:			
11.1 Personnel compensation: Full-time permanent	1	1	1
25.2 Other Services from non-Federal sources	1	1	1
25.3 Purchase of goods and services from Federal Sources	0	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	18	19	5
99.5 Below reporting threshold	1	0	0
99.9 Total obligations	**21**	**22**	**8**

Employment Summary:			
1001 Direct civilian Full-time equivalent employment	**14**	**11**	**11**

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), [$60,000,000]$56,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Note: A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-75). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Authorizing Statutes

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Prohibits the import, export, or taking of fish and wildlife and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered species; provides for adding species to and removing them from the list of threatened and endangered species, and for preparing and implementing plans for their recovery; provides for interagency cooperation to avoid take of listed species and for issuing permits for otherwise prohibited activities; and implements the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 1992.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l). Authorizes appropriations to the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for national wildlife refuges as otherwise authorized by law. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2015.

Appropriation: Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Conservation Grants	($000)	*10,593*	10,529	0	0	+2,072	12,601
Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants	($000)	*9,543*	9,485	0	0	-2,485	7,000
Species Recovery Land	($000)	*10,045*	9,984	0	0	+5,503	15,487
HCP Land Acquisition Grants to States	($000)	*15,068*	14,976	0	0	+2,962	17,938
Administration	($000)	*2,724*	2,707	0	0	+267	2,974
Total Appropriated Funds	($000)	***47,973***	**47,681**	**0**	**0**	**+8,319**	**56,000**
	FTE	***18***	**16**	**0**	**0**	**+2**	**18**
Permanent Funds (LWCF)	($000)	***0***	**0**	**0**		**+28,000**	**28,000**
Mandatory – Unavailable Receipts**	($000)	*62,636*	52,938	0	0	+8,586	61,524

** Amounts shown reflect an annual deposit of an amount equal to 5% of total Federal Aid/Sport Fish and Lacey Act violation collections above $500,000 into this Special Fund. The Special Fund amounts are not available in the fiscal year in which they are collected, but are available for subsequent appropriation to the CESCF.

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates.

Program information may be accessed at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Conservation Grants	+2,072	0
• Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants	-2,485	0
• Species Recovery Land Acquisition	+5,503	+2
• HCP Land Acquisition Grants to States	+2,962	0
• Administration	+267	0
Program Changes	**+8,319**	**+2**

Justification of Program Changes for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

The 2014 budget request for Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund is $56,000,000 and 18 FTE, a net program change of +$8,319,000 and +2 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

Traditional Conservation Grants (+$2,072,000/+0 FTE)

Conservation Grants provide financial assistance to states and territories to implement conservation projects for listed and candidate species. Funding will be provided to states to implement recovery actions for listed species, implement conservation measures for candidate species, and perform research and monitoring critical to conservation of imperiled species. The Service anticipates funding 50 additional Conservation grants with this increase.

Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants (-$2,485,000/+0 FTE)

Through the development of regional, multi-species habitat conservation plans (HCPs), local governments and planning jurisdictions incorporate species conservation into local land use plans, thereby streamlining the project approval process. Funding will be provided to states to assist local governments

and planning jurisdictions to develop regional, multi-species HCPs. The Service is requesting shifting funds from HCP Planning Assistance to other CESCF grant programs to address the very high demand for traditional conservation grant and land acquisition funding, and because of the fluctuating demand for the HCP Planning Assistance program funding from year to year. With this decrease, the Service anticipates funding 5 fewer HCP Planning Assistance grants.

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants (+$5,503,000/+2 FTE)
Recovery Land Acquisition grants are provided to states to address habitat loss, the primary threat to most listed species. Land acquisition is often the most effective and efficient means of safeguarding habitats essential for recovery of listed species from land use changes that impair or destroy key habitat values. Recovery Land Acquisition grants are matched by states and non-federal entities to acquire habitats from willing sellers. The Service anticipates funding 9 additional Recovery Land Acquisition grants with this increase.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition Grants (+$2,962,000/+0 FTE)
The conservation benefits provided by HCPs can be greatly increased by protecting important habitat areas associated with HCPs. HCP Land Acquisition funds are used by states and non-federal entities to acquire habitats from willing sellers and are meant to complement, not replace, the mitigation responsibilities of HCP permittees. States and territories receive grants for land acquisitions associated with approved HCPs because of their authorities and close working relationships with local governments and private landowners. HCP Land Acquisition grants are matched by states and non-federal entities to acquire habitats from willing sellers. The Service anticipates funding one additional HCP Land Acquisition grant with this increase

Administration (+$267,000/+0 FTE)
The CESCF administrative funding has not increased proportionally to the increased requirements for program oversight and operational costs. Federal grant management and administrative oversight are necessary to ensure compliance with program requirements and purposes. The small increase in funding will improve fund fidelity by reducing reliance on other funding from resource management accounts (mostly recovery), as well as support better report tracking and monitoring oversight of the grant recipients and funding. The funding requested for Administration supports these Service responsibilities.

Mandatory Land and Water Conservation Fund
The Department of the Interior will submit a legislative proposal to permanently authorize annual funding, without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Starting in 2015, $900 million annually in mandatory funds will be requested. During the transition to mandatory funding in 2014, the budget proposes$600 million in total LWCF funding, comprised of $200 million mandatory and $400 million discretionary funds. The amounts requested include the authorized levels for the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. In 2014, the proposal includes $28 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Fund, which is not shown here.

Program Overview

The Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF; Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act), administered by the Service's Endangered Species program, provides grant funding to states and territories for species and habitat conservation actions on non-federal lands, including habitat acquisition, conservation planning, habitat restoration, status surveys, captive propagation and reintroduction, research, and education.

The Service's Endangered Species program implements the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended. The key purposes of the Act are to provide a means for conserving the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened (federally-listed) species depend and to provide a program for the conservation of such species. The Endangered Species program's strategic framework is based on two goals: 1) recovering federally-listed species, and 2) preventing the need to list species-at-risk. The Service's approach to achieving these goals is through the minimizing or abating threats to the species. Threats are categorized under the ESA as the following five factors:

- The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of a listed species' habitat or range;
- Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;
- Disease or predation;
- The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms;
- Other natural or manmade factors affecting a species' continued existence.

Because most listed species depend on habitat found on state and private lands, grant assistance through the CESCF program is crucial to conserving federally-listed species. States and territories have been extremely effective in garnering participation by private landowners.

Section 6 grants assist states and territories to build partnerships that achieve meaningful on-the-ground conservation. Land acquisition grants address land-based threats by preventing land use changes that impair or destroy key habitat values on lands purchased through the grant program. Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance grants assist in abating threats by protecting habitat and preventing the decline of sensitive species, often precluding the need for listing a species under the ESA. Habitat Conservation Plans are pro-active landscape level planning instruments that result in private land development planning and species ecosystem conservation.

In order to receive funds under the CESCF program, states and territories must contribute 25 percent of the estimated costs of approved projects, or 10 percent when two or more states or territories implement a joint project. The balance of the estimated costs is reimbursed through the grants. To ensure that states and territories are able to effectively carry out endangered species conservation funded through these grants, a state or territory must enter into a cooperative agreement with the Service to receive grants. All 50 states currently have cooperative agreements for animals, and 44 states have agreements for plants. All but one of the territories have cooperative agreements for both animals and plants.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

• HCP Land Acquisition, HCP Planning Assistance, and Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants are awarded through national and regional competitions. The established eligibility and ranking criteria for the program and the competitions conducted to select grants allow the Service to focus the program on its overall goals and ensure that program performance goals are achieved.

• The Service continues to analyze results from previous years of the program to further refine program elements to better meet program goals. For the FY 2012 competition, the Service targeted 10 percent of the HCP Land Acquisition funding to support single-species HCPs to further the conservation of high priority species across the Nation.

In 2012, the following were awarded:

• 18 HCP Planning Assistance Grants to States

• 14 Recovery Land Acquisition Grants to States and Territories.

• 8 HCP Land Acquisition Grants to States.

• 267 Traditional Conservation Grants to States and Territories.

Traditional Conservation Grants

Conservation Grants provide financial assistance to states and territories to implement conservation projects for listed and candidate species. The Service makes a regional allocation of these funds based on the number of species covered under cooperative agreements within each Service region. Each Region

then solicits proposals and selects projects based on species and habitat conservation benefits and other factors. States receive Conservation Grants funding to implement recovery actions for listed species, implement conservation measures for candidate species, and perform research and monitoring critical to conservation of imperiled species.

Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants
By developing regional, multi-species habitat conservation plans (HCPs), local governments and planning jurisdictions incorporate species conservation into local land use plans, streamlining the project approval process. Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants provide funding to states to assist local governments and planning jurisdictions to develop regional, multi-species HCPs.

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants
Loss of habitat is the primary threat to most listed species. Land acquisition is often the most effective and efficient means of safeguarding habitats essential for recovery of listed species from development or other land use changes that impair or destroy key habitat values. Land acquisition is costly, and neither the Service nor states and territories individually have all the resources necessary to acquire habitats essential for recovery of listed species. Recovery Land Acquisition Grants are matched by states and non-federal entities to acquire these habitats from willing sellers.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition Grants
The conservation benefits provided by HCPs can be greatly increased by protecting important habitat areas associated with HCPs. HCP Land Acquisition Grants are used by states and non-federal entities to acquire habitats from willing sellers and are meant to complement, not replace, the mitigation responsibilities of HCP permittees. States and territories receive grants for land acquisitions associated with approved HCPs because of their authorities and close working relationships with local governments and private landowners.

Administration
Federal grant management and administrative oversight are necessary to ensure compliance with program requirements and purposes. The funding requested for Administration allows the Service to carry out these responsibilities.

2014 Program Performance

Traditional Conservation Grants
The Service published a request for proposals in October 2012 and anticipates making award announcements in the summer of fiscal year 2013. With the requested program funding, the Service expects that approximately 50 additional grants will be funded in FY 2014 (assuming the average grant amount is constant with that of FY 2012).

The Service awarded 266 Traditional Conservation Grants in FY 2012. Examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCF program, but in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds.

- Developing Cultivation Methods, Population Establishment, and Augmentation of the Federally-Listed *Fritillaria gentneri* in SW Oregon $25,000.00.
- Establishment of Non-essential Experimental Population of Guam Rails (Ko'Ko') on Rota, CNMI, $7,000.00.
- Conservation of Endangered, threatened and sensitive reptiles and amphibians in New Mexico, $73,392.00.

- Genetic structure of Ozark big-eared bat populations and the establishment of an unobtrusive population monitoring program, Oklahoma, $16,104.00.
- Indiana Bat Survey in Adair, Boone, Dallas, Guthrie, Iowa, Jasper, Poweshiek, and Story Counties, Iowa, $16,440.00.
- Captive Rearing Program to facilitate habitat evaluation, head-starting, and population augmentation for the Hine's Emerald Dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*) in Illinois, $39,922.00.
- Braun's rockcress and running buffalo clover working with landowners and identifying additional landowners willing to enter into State conservation registry agreements and investigating other conservation agreement opportunities to expand protection to these listed plants, Kentucky, $3,000.00
- Annual surveys of nesting colonies, productivity assessment, and outreach to landowners - wood stork, Georgia, $18,623.00
- Cheat Mountain salamander population status assessment, West Virginia, $10,000.00
- Karner blue butterfly monitoring and habitat management, New York, $40,000.00,
- eDNA sampling as a non-invasive monitoring tool for threatened and endangered species: Experimental studies using Topeka shiners (*Notropis topeka*), Kansas, $33,996.00
- A Test of Trap-and-Relocate Conservation Measures for American Burying Beetle, Nebraska, $26,433.00
- Comparison of Techniques to Detect Denning Polar Bears, Alaska, $4,275.00.
- Santa Cruz long-toed salamander and California red-legged frog breeding pond construction, California, $123,672.00.
- Breeding season survey for the southwestern willow flycatcher and yellow-billed cuckoo in southern Nevada, $35,000.00

Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants

The Service published a request for proposals in October 2012 and anticipates making award announcements in the summer of fiscal year 2013. With the requested program funding, the Service expects that 5 fewer grants will be funded in FY 2014 (assuming the average grant amount is constant with that of FY 2012).

The Service awarded 18 HCP Planning Assistance Grants in FY 2012. Examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCF program, but in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds. (Please see http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/FY12Section6AwardSummariesFinal.pdf for a full list of awarded projects.)

- **Bay Delta Conservation Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) (Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta, CA) $640,575.**

  This project supports the development of an HCP/NCCP for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta (Delta) Region. The Delta is the largest estuary on the West Coast and supports over 750 plant and animal species, 126 of which are threatened, endangered or sensitive. The Delta is also critical to California's economy as it serves as the "hub" of the State's water infrastructure, supplying drinking water for two-thirds of Californians and irrigation water to over 7 million acres of highly-productive

San Joaquin kit foxes, photo by B Moose Peterson, FWS

agricultural lands. The Bay Delta HCP/NCCP is being developed as a long-term comprehensive plan that will conserve and manage covered species and natural communities in perpetuity, while providing reliable water supplies for the State's myriad of beneficial uses. Some of the many listed species that will benefit from this planning effort include the San Joaquin kit fox, least Bell's vireo, California red-legged frog, and Lange's meadowlark butterfly.

- **Interior Least Tern and Piping Plover: Inclusion in the Great Plains Wind Energy Habitat Conservation Plan (MT, ND, SD, NE, KS, CO, OK, TX, NM) $999,989.**
  This multi-state and multi-regional planning assistance grant will support the inclusion of the least tern and piping plover into the development of the Great Plains Wind Energy HCP and ensure the adequate conservation of these species through measures to minimize and offset impacts from wind energy development. These efforts will enhance the ongoing development of a comprehensive strategy to protect listed and candidate species, including the whooping crane and lesser prairie-chicken, while supporting responsible renewable energy development in the Great Plains. This HCP represents a ground-breaking effort involving a large partnership between 19 wind companies, nine states, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- **Habitat Conservation Plan for Indiana Bats Associated with Forest Management Activities on Pennsylvania State Game Lands and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources State Forests and State Parks Lands (All Counties, Pennsylvania) $600,000.**
  The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), will use this funding to prepare a draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and a National Environmental Policy Act document. The proposed HCP will cover the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) on the 1.4 million acres PGC State Game Lands, the 2.2 million acres of DCNR State Forests, and the 295,000 acres of DCNR State Parks. The 3.8 million acres of largely forested land provides potential foraging, roosting, maternity colony, and fall swarming habitat for all bat species that occur in Pennsylvania. The HCP will clarify the activities associated with forest management practices that may cause incidental take of the Indiana bat and will analyze the likely result from such takings. This information will be used to develop an adaptive management strategy by identifying the measures the state will take to minimize and mitigate direct and indirect impacts to Indiana bats. The process for developing the HCP will also evaluate whether to include other species in the ITP application, such as the little brown bat, eastern small-footed bat, northern long-eared bat, and the tri-colored bat, which may become federally listed in the future due to rapid population declines caused by White Nose Syndrome.

Recovery Land Acquisition Grants

The Service published a request for proposals in October 2012 and anticipates making award announcements in the summer of fiscal year 2013. With the requested program funding, the Service expects that 9 additional grants will be funded in FY 2014 (assuming the average grant amount is constant with that of FY 2012).

The Service awarded 14 Recovery Land Acquisition Grants in FY 2012. Examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCF program, but in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds.
(Please see http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/FY12Section6AwardSummariesFinal.pdf for a full list of awarded projects.)

- **Acquisition of the Hancock South Tract along the Little Cahaba River (Bibb County, AL) $1,000,000.**

This grant will enable the acquisition of 812 acres of important riparian and upland habitat along one mile of the Little Cahaba River and one mile of Six Mile Creek to directly benefit multiple endangered and threatened species. Protecting this tract will help in the recovery efforts for listed species, such as the goldlined darter, plicate rocksnail, flat pebblesnail, orange nacre mucket, and fine lined pocketbook. The area around the Little Cahaba is largely undeveloped and has tremendous potential to help in the recovery efforts of these and other aquatic species. This acquisition will also benefit endangered species, such as the gray bat. Acquisition of this parcel will help consolidate an area of adjacent conservation areas, including the Bibb County Glades TNC Preserve and Cahaba National Wildlife Refuge.

- **Kahuku Coastline Protection and Management: Helping Habitat for Hawaiian Hawksbill Turtles (Hawaii County, HI) $1,214,000.**
  This grant funds the acquisition of 3,128 acres of coastal lands, including over a mile of coastline, on the southern coast of the island of Hawaii. These beaches are important habitat for the federally-listed hawksbill turtle, green turtle, and Hawaiian monk seal. The property also includes an anchialine pool complex containing important habitat for native marine invertebrates, fish, and unique native crustaceans, including three candidate species of endemic anchialine pool shrimp. The property is adjacent to the largest natural area reserve in the entire state and will provide landscape-level protection of the area's unique ecosystems and habitats. The property will be added to the County of Hawaii's Open Space lands where it will be protected and managed for species management in perpetuity.

- **Paradise Valley Tract Acquisition for the Salt Creek Tiger Beetle (Lancaster County, NE) $270,000.**
  Acquisition of this parcel will protect habitat supporting most of one of the three remaining populations of the endangered Salt Creek tiger beetle. Protection of this parcel will also provide connectivity between other conservation lands acquired to benefit the beetle and will enhance the consolidation of these lands. By acquiring the Paradise Valley tract, the state and its public and private partners, through the Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership, will be able to provide the protection, restoration, and enhancement of a habitat that is vital to the survival and recovery of the Salt Creek tiger beetle.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition Grants

The Service published a request for proposals in October 2012 and anticipates making award announcements in the summer of fiscal year 2013. With the requested program funding, the Service expects that one additional grant will be funded in FY 2014 (assuming the average grant amount is constant with that of FY 2012).

The Service awarded 8 HCP Land Acquisition Grants in FY 2012. Examples are listed below. Each project includes the federal funds provided through the CESCF program, but in all cases these funds were leveraged by state, county, city, or private matching funds.
(Please see http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/FY12Section6AwardSummariesFinal.pdf for a full list of awarded projects.)

- **Bald Hill Farm and Mary's River Watershed (Benton County, OR) $1,259,000.**
  This project will acquire and permanently protect 602 acres of upland prairie, oak woodland and wetland prairie habitats critical to the stability and recovery of Fender's blue butterfly, Kincaid's lupine, Bradshaw's lomatium, Willamette daisy and Taylor's checkerspot butterfly. The properties targeted for acquisition will link and aggregate properties that have similar, important conservation values across a landscape that has experienced considerable fragmentation and development, yet remains a key area for populations of prairie species. The Greenbelt Land Trust and the Benton

County, as subgrantees of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, will acquire and protect the property in perpetuity.

- **City of Carlsbad Habitat Management Plan (HMP) Northwest San Diego County Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan* (San Diego County, CA) $2,000,000.**
  This project will purchase approximately 1,351 acres of important biological core habitat areas for the threatened coastal California gnatcatcher. The purchases will also benefit numerous other listed and unlisted species covered by the Carlsbad HMP, including the least Bell's vireo, California least tern, western snowy plover, and several plant species. The proposed land acquisition supports a large, landscape-level conservation initiative that will greatly enhance the conservation goals of the Carlsbad HMP by securing key regional wildlife linkages and preserving core habitat in the three targeted areas. The parcels proposed for acquisition support a mosaic of high quality, native riparian and upland habitats.

- **Mountain View 4-O Ranch (Asotin County, WA) $3,700,000.**
  This project will protect 4,160 acres in southern Asotin County, including four miles of bull trout critical habitat along the Lower Grande Ronde River and three miles or riparian habitat along Cougar Creek. This acquisition is part of a larger, landscape-level conservation effort that will protect over 13,000 acres of important habitat lands and 15 miles of streams. The project encompasses a large, ecologically intact and diverse landscape which contains riparian as well as upland habitats, including cliff and talus habitats, meadows, springs, curl-leaf mahogany shrubland, interior grassland, and Ponderosa pine woodland. Protected habitats support federally listed gray wolf, bull trout, and steelhead as well as the unlisted interior redband trout, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, and golden eagles. The project is bordered on the north by Forest Service lands, and the south and east by Bureau of Land Management lands.

CESCF – Combined Performance Change and Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
7.30.2 # of listed species benefiting from Endangered Species Grant Programs (Traditional and Nontraditional Section 6)	693	756	835	784	624	728	-56 (-7%)	339
7.30.3 # of Spotlight listed species benefitting from Endangered Species Grant Programs (Traditional and Nontraditional Section 6)	99	86	86	78	64	74	-4 (-5%)	41
8.3.7 # Candidate Species benefiting from Endangered Species Grant Programs (Traditional & Nontraditional Section 6) Project Awards	63	75	89	74	52	60	-14 (-19%)	30
8.3.8 # Spotlight Candidate Species benefiting from Endangered Species Grant Programs (Traditional & Nontraditional Section 6) Project Awards	14	20	21	7	5	5	-2 (-29%)	4

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5143-X**	**2012** **Actual**	**2013** **Estimate**	**2014** **Estimate**
0100 Balance, start of year	291	321	361
Receipts:			
0240 Payment from General Fund, Cooperative Endangered Species Fund	53	63	62
0400 Total: Balances and collctions	**344**	**384**	**423**
Appropriations:			
0500 Cooperative Endangered Species Fund	-23	-23	0
0799 Balance, end of year	**321**	**361**	**423**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 Conservation Grants to States	11	14	18
0002 HCP Planning Assistance Grants	6	7	14
0004 Administration	2	2	3
0005 HCP Land Acquisition Grants to States	10	14	28
0006 Species Recovery Land Acquisition	11	16	22
0007 Payment to special fund unavailable receipt acct	53	63	62
0900 Total new obligations	**93**	**116**	**147**
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct 1	52	75	74
1001 Discretionary unobligated balance brought forward, Oct. 1	52	75	0
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	15	4	4
1050 Unobligated balance (total)	**67**	**79**	**78**
Budget authority:			
Discretionary:			
1101 (01) Appropriation (LWCF special fund, 14 5479)	25	25	56
1101 (02) Appropriation (CESCF special fund 14 5143)	23	23	0
1160 Appropriations discretionary (total)	**48**	**48**	**56**
Mandatory:			
1200 Appropriation	53	63	62
1221 Appropriations transferred from the LWCF (14-5005)	0	0	28
1260 Appropriations, mandatory (total)	**53**	**63**	**90**
1900 Budget authority (total)	**101**	**111**	**118**
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**168**	**190**	**224**
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
1941 Unexpired unobligated balance, end of year	**75**	**74**	**77**
Change in obligated balance:			
Unpaid obligations:			
3000 Unpaid obligations brought forward, Oct 1	180	155	116
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	93	116	147
3020 Outlays (gross)	-103	-151	-147
3040 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations, unexpired	**-15**	**-4**	**-4**
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**155**	**116**	**112**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5143-X**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Budget authority and outlays, net:			
Discretionary:			
4000 Budget authority, gross	**48**	**48**	**56**
Outlays, gross:			
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	1	5	6
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	49	83	76
4020 Outlays, gross (total)	**50**	**88**	**82**
Mandatory:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	**53**	**63**	**90**
Outlays, gross:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	53	63	65
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	**101**	**111**	**146**
4190 Outlays, net total	**103**	**151**	**147**

Object classification:			
Direct obligations:			
11.1 Personnel compensation; Full-time permanent	1	1	1
41.0 Grants, susidies, and contributions	39	51	83
94.0 Financial transfers	53	63	62
99.0 Subtotal, obligations, Direct obligations	**93**	**115**	**128**
99.5 Below reporting threshold	0	1	1
99.9 Total new obligations	**93**	**116**	**129**

Employment Summary			
1001 Direct civilian full-time equivalent employment	**16**	**18**	**18**

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.), $39,425,000, to remain available until expended.
Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-75). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Authorizing Statutes

North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 4401). Section 4406 of the Act (NAWCA) authorizes fines, penalties, and forfeitures from violations of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to be made available for wetlands conservation projects. Section 4407 authorizes interest on excise taxes for hunting equipment deposited for wetlands conservation grants and costs for administering this grant program. The Act authorizes appropriations to be used to encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interests to protect, enhance, restore, and manage wetland ecosystems and other habitats for migratory birds and other fish and wildlife; to maintain current or improved distributions of migratory bird populations; and to sustain an abundance of waterfowl and other migratory birds consistent with goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and international obligations with other countries.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 3951-3956). Establishes the National Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Program within the Sport Fish Restoration Account for projects authorized by NAWCA in coastal states.

Aquatic Resources Trust Fund (26 U.S.C. 9504). Authorizes appropriations from the Sport Fish Restoration Account to carry out the *Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act*.

Appropriation: North American Wetlands Conservation Fund

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Appropriations: North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	($000)	*35,714*	35,497	0	0	+3,928	39,425
Receipts (Mandatory): Migratory Bird Treaty Act Fines	($000)	*500*	651	0	0	+49	700
Total, North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	($000)	***36,214***	**36,148**	**0**	**0**	**$3,977**	**40,125**
	FTE	***9***	**8**	**0**	**0**	**+1**	**9**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for North American Wetlands Conservation Fund

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	+3,928	+1
Program Changes	**+3,928**	**+1**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund is $39,425,000 and 9 FTE, a $3,928,000 and +1 FTE increase from the 2012 Enacted.

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund (+3,928,000/+1 FTE)

The Administration requests $39.4 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund in 2014 to help partners acquire, protect, restore and enhance wetland habitat across the continent. NAWCA funding is a catalyst that brings federal and state conservation agencies, local governments, private industry, non-profit conservation organizations, and individuals together in public-private partnerships to address mutual conservation needs and concerns in important wetland areas.

These vital local conservation partnerships match each grant dollar awarded with at least one non-federal dollar, and often more. Consequently, the FY 2014 increase in available grant dollars will ultimately result in more than $7,850,000 for conserving thousands of acres of important wetland ecosystems such as the Gulf Coast of Louisiana and Mississippi, the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta, the Great Lakes watershed, and the Atlantic Coast.

Mandatory Receipts - Receipts are derived from court-imposed fines for violations of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and vary greatly from year to year. The FY 2014 estimate is $700,000 for this account.

Program Overview

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) provides grants throughout North America to conserve habitat for waterfowl and other wetland-associated migratory birds. For the past 23 years, NAWCA has provided the funds for the Service, state wildlife agencies, and conservation organizations to protect, enhance, and restore more than 27 million acres for wetland-dependent fish and wildlife. NAWCA is the primary federal program and most important funding mechanism for the conservation of waterfowl nesting, and migrating and wintering habitat across North America.

NAWCA funds are invested in North America's most vital wetland ecosystems. Projects are selected for funding based on the significance of the wetland ecosystems and wildlife habitat to be conserved, migratory bird species benefitted, partner diversity and non-federal contributions leveraged, as well as the long-term value of the conservation work proposed. Evidence of partner past successful performance is a factor in grant selection. The Service seeks to maintain or increase the amount and intensity of project monitoring to help projects succeed and ensure grant program accountability. Consistent and thorough monitoring helps the Service identify areas of technical assistance needed by partners; evaluate grantee performance; ensure regulatory compliance and responsible financial management; correct grant administration errors, irregularities and noncompliance; and deter waste, fraud and abuse.

A successful marsh restoration project at Marble Lake, Dickinson County, IA, was part of the Prairie Lakes Wetland Initiative NAWCA program. Restoration resulted in elimination of non-native rough fish from the marsh, and return of emergent and submergent aquatic vegetation. Waterfowl and waterbird use increased exponentially following the restoration. Photo taken by Leakhena Au, FWS.

Grants made through NAWCA have assisted thousands of public-private partnerships in protecting and improving the health and integrity of wetland and wetland-associated landscapes across North America, providing critical habitat for waterfowl and other wetland species. Through FY 2012, the NAWCA program has supported over 2,200 projects in 50 U.S. States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, 13 Canadian provinces and territories, and 31 Mexican states and the Federal District of Mexico. Millions of acres have been conserved by more than 4,700 partners.

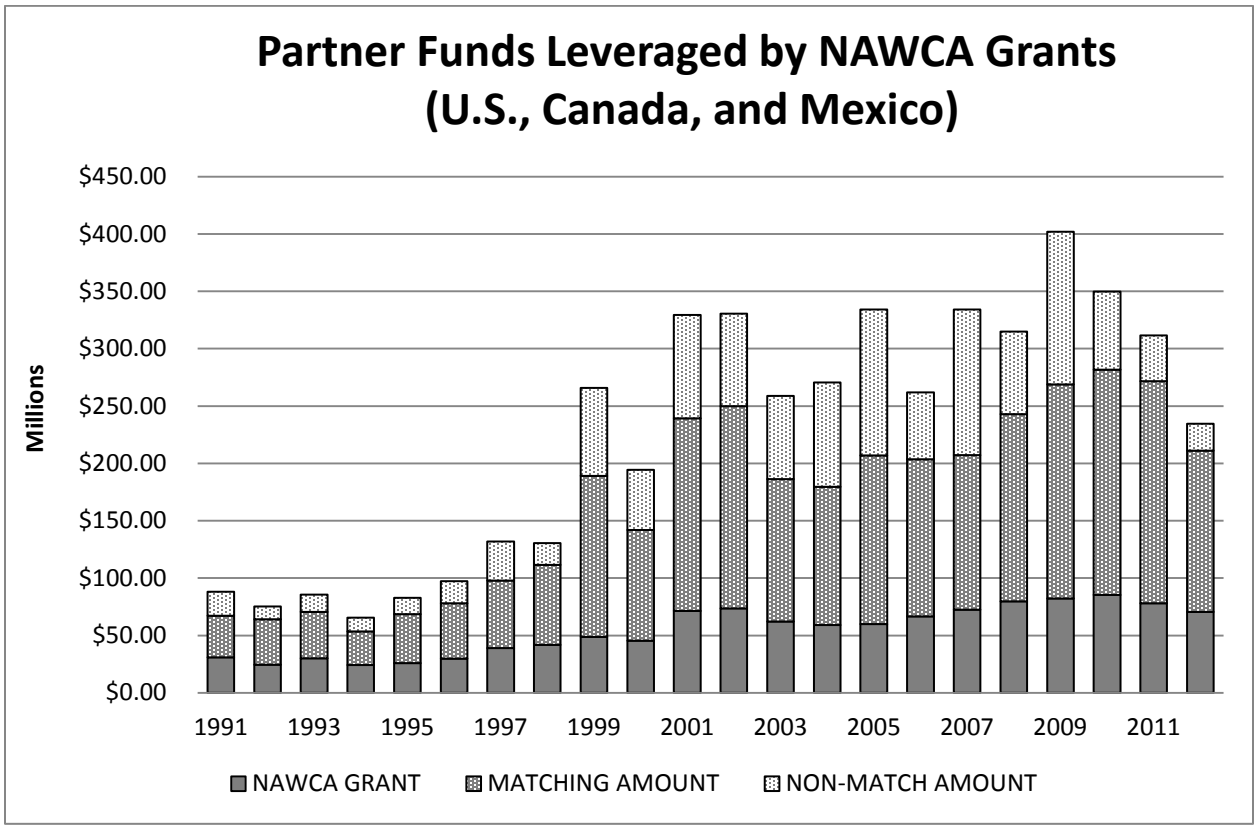
Country	Protected Acres	Enhanced, Restored, and Created Acres	Number of Projects
Canada	14,762,850	3,271,086*	503
Mexico	2,178,318	1,100,900	262
U.S.	4,641,269	3,573,050	1,455
All Countries	21,582,537	7,945,036	2,220

Acreages represent total proposed acres approved for funding in the U.S. and Canada from FY 1991 through FY 2012. Some acres are included in both "Protected" and "Enhanced, Restored and Created" due to multiple activities occurring on the same property. Therefore, while the two categories should not be added to demonstrate total acres affected, approximately 28.5 million acres have been affected by protection, enhancement, or restoration activities.

* This figure includes 413,910 acres of moist soil management completed prior to 1998.

By working with non-federal partners such as private landowners, states, local governments, conservation organizations, national and local sportsmen groups, tribes, trusts, and corporations, NAWCA funds have effectively leveraged twice the legally required 1:1 match-to-grant ratio. NAWCA grants are the catalysts for partnerships and projects that:

- Support migratory bird conservation, flood control, erosion control, and water quality improvement;
- Sustain cultural traditions, such as hunting and fishing;
- Help implement the tri-national North American Waterfowl Management Plan and other national and international bird conservation plans;
- Assist in the recovery of endangered and threatened species; and
- Achieve the Service's long-term outcome goal of healthy and sustainable migratory bird populations, including waterfowl.



Starting in FY 2011, FWS only tracks non-match amounts that are pooled with NAWCA grant and match-funded activities.

NAWCA funds Standard Grants and Small Grants. Standard Grants are open to applicants in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Standard Grant amounts in the U.S. are typically $750,000 to $1,000,000, and eligible grantees must provide non-Federal matching funds at least equal to the award amount. Small Grants, available only in the U.S. and limited to $75,000 per project, are intended to assist smaller partners and projects to successfully compete for NAWCA funds. The Small Grants attract new partners for wetland conservation and help diversify the types and locations of projects funded by NAWCA.

Data collected through 2012 show the NAWCA Standard Grants have supported over 3,700 partners as they implemented 1,645 projects worth over $4.5 billion. NAWCA has contributed almost $1.2 billion to these projects, with total partner funds of more than $3.6 billion. More than $2.4 billion of these partner funds are from *non-federal sources*, providing more than $2 in eligible match for every NAWCA dollar awarded. More than 27.1 million acres of wetlands and associated uplands have been protected, restored, enhanced and/or established through the Standard Grants Program in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

The Small Grants Program started in 1996 with $250,000 in grant funds. Currently, up to $5 million of NAWCA funds may be used for small grant awards each year, depending upon the availability of funds and number of qualifying projects. Through 2012, 576 projects have been approved for more than $31.2 million in grant funds. Eligible partners have contributed more than $121 million in *non-federal matching* funds (including in-kind contributions) to projects located in 49 states and Puerto Rico. Such *non-federal matching* has allowed small grants to leverage almost $4 for every NAWCA dollar awarded, affecting over 227,000 acres, benefitting a diversity of wetland and wetland-associated habitats, and fostering new and expanded partnerships for the NAWCA program.

A nine-member North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) recommends projects for approval by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC). The Council is comprised of the FWS Director, the Secretary of the Board of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, four Directors of state wildlife agencies representing each of the migratory bird flyways (Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, Pacific), and representatives from three nonprofit conservation organizations actively involved in wetlands conservation projects. The Council also includes Ex-Officio members appointed at the discretion of the Secretary.

The MBCC includes two U.S. Senators and two U.S. Representatives, the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. The MBCC approves or rejects projects, or may reorder the priority of any Council-recommended project list.

The Act authorizes funding from four sources:

- Direct appropriations
- Fines, penalties and forfeitures resulting from violations of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Interest from receipts in the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration account
- Receipts from the Sport Fish Restoration account for U.S. coastal projects (Pacific and Atlantic coastal states, states bordering the Great Lakes, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa).

NAWCA - Combined Performance Change Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
4.1.6 # of habitat acres enhanced/ restored of habitat in North America through NAWCF - annual (GPRA)	264,189	214,507	293,410	178,047	476,707	157,489	- 20,558 (-11.5%)	0
Comments	Acres of habitat reported as restored and enhanced are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2009 to 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 demonstrated the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year.							
4.4.1 # of non-FWS wetland acres protected/ secured through NAWCF - annual (GPRA)	497,254	797,083	666,009	185,123	618,956	379,743	194,620 (105.1%)	0
Comments	Acres of habitat reported as protected or secured are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2009 to 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 demonstrated the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year.							

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5241-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
0100 Balance, start of year	1	1	1
Receipts:			
0200 Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures from Migratory Bird Treaty Act	1	1	1
0400 Total: Balances and collections	2	2	2
Appropriations:			
0500 North American Wetlands Conservation Fund (-)	-1	-1	-1
0799 Balance, end of year	**1**	**1**	**1**
Obligations by program activity:			
0003 Wetlands conservation projects	39	37	41
0004 Administration	1	1	1
0900 Total obligations	**40**	**38**	**42**
Budgetary Resources:			
Unobligated balance:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct. 1	7	5	5
1001 Discretionary unobligated balance brought forward, Oct. 1	7	4	0
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	1	1	1
1050 Unobligated balance, total	**8**	**6**	**6**
Budget authority:			
1100 Appropriation, discretionary	36	36	40
1201 Appropriation (special fund)	1	1	1
1900 Budgetary authority, total	37	37	41
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**45**	**43**	**47**
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
1941 Unexpired unobligated balance, end of year	5	5	5
Change in obligated balance:			
Unpaid obligations:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	75	74	67
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	40	38	42
3020 Outlays, (gross)	-40	-44	-46
3040 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	-1	-1	-1
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**74**	**67**	**62**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5241-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Budgetary authority and outlays, net:			
Discretionary:			
4000 Budgetary authority, gross	36	36	40
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	4	7	8
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	35	34	36
4020 Total outlays (gross)	**39**	**41**	**44**
Mandatory:			
4090 Budgetary authority, gross	1	1	1
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	0	1	1
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	1	2	1
4110 Total outlays (gross)	1	3	2
4180 Budget authority, net	37	37	41
4190 Outlays, net	**40**	**44**	**46**

Object Classifications:			
11.1 Personnel compensation: Full-time permanent	1	1	1
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	0	1	1
32.0 Land and structures	2	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	37	35	39
99.9 Total new obligations	**40**	**38**	**42**

Employment Summary:			
1001 Direct civilian full-time equivalent employment	**8**	**9**	**9**

Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.), the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), [$9,980,000,] $9,787,000, to remain available until expended. Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-75). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Authorizing Statutes

African Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4201-4203, 4211-4214, 4221-4225, 4241-4246,1538). Authorizes funding for approved projects for research, conservation, management and protection of African elephants and their habitats. Authorizes prohibitions against the sale, importation, and exportation of ivory derived from African elephants. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 2012.

Asian Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4261-4266, 1538). Authorizes financial assistance for cooperative projects for the conservation and protection of Asian elephants and their habitats. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 2012.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, (16. U.S.C. 5301-5306, 1538**).** Authorizes grants to other nations and to the *CITES* Secretariat for programs directly or indirectly assisting in the conservation of rhinoceros and tigers. Prohibits the sale, importation, and exportation of products derived from any species of rhinoceros and tiger. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 2012.

Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 6301-6305, 1538). Authorizes grants to foreign governments, the *CITES* secretariat, and non-governmental organizations for the conservation of great apes. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 2010.

Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004, (16 U.S.C. 6601-6607). Authorizes financial assistance in the conservation of marine turtles and the nesting habitats of marine turtles, to conserve the nesting habitats, conserve marine turtles in those habitats and address other threats to the survival of marine turtles. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. Authorization of Appropriations: Expired September 30, 2009.

Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010, (H.R. 1454).
Requires the United States Postal Service to issue and sell, a Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp. The proceeds from the stamp are made available to the Service to help fund the operations supported by the Multinational Species Conservation Funds and divided equally among the existing Conservation Funds. Proceeds are prohibited from being taken into account in any decision relating to the level of discretionary appropriations. The stamp is to be made available to the public for at least two years.

Appropriation: Multinational Species Conservation Fund

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
African Elephant Conservation Fund	($000)	*1,655*	1,645	0	0	+160	1,805
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund	($000)	*1,660*	1,645	0	0	0	1,645
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund	($000)	*2,481*	2,471	0	0	+161	2,632
Great Ape Conservation Fund	($000)	*2,072*	2,059	0	0	0	2,059
Marine Turtle Conservation Fund	($000)	*1,656*	1,646	0	0	0	1,646
Total, Multinational Species Conservation Fund	**($000)**	***9,524***	**9,466**	**0**	**0**	**+321**	**9,787**
	FTE	***4***	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4**

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for International Affairs

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund	+161	0
• African Elephant Conservation Fund	+160	0
Program Changes	**+321**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Multinational Species Conservation Funds is $9,787,000 and 4 FTE, a net program change of +$321,000 and +0 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

African Elephant Conservation Fund and Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund (+$321,000/+0 FTE)

With African Elephant and Rhinoceros poaching at a three decade high, these funds play a critical conservation role in many countries with limited resources. Moreover, the program has proven effective at leveraging large sums of non-federal dollars. The Service will use the additional resources in a multi-prong approach to stem the poaching: piloting unique strategies and programs that target the countries driving the illegal wildlife trade market; helping African range states better understand and address the linkage between illegal killing of elephants and rhinoceros in the field, illegal trade networks, and the consumer markets; and promoting capacity building and information gathering to protect key populations that are especially vulnerable to illegal international trade.

Program Overview

The Multinational Species Conservation Fund (MSCF) conserves some of the world's fastest disappearing and most treasured animals in their natural habitats. These funds provide direct support in the form of technical and cost-sharing grant assistance to range countries for on-the-ground protection and conservation of African and Asian elephants, rhinoceroses, tigers, chimpanzees, gorillas, bonobos, gibbons, orangutans, and marine turtles—a total of 30 species important to the conservation of larger ecosystems and to the American people, as recognized by five Congressional Acts and 175 million annual public visitors to zoos and aquariums.

Asian elephant herd in China (Photo credit: Bejing Normal University)

Activities funded through this program promote collaboration with key range country decision-makers, and further the development of sound policy, international cooperation and goodwill toward the United States among citizens of developing countries. These funds strengthen law enforcement activities, build support for conservation among people living in the vicinity of the species' habitats, and provide the vital infrastructure and field equipment needed to conserve habitats. This funding provides for essential training and opportunities for these newly trained staff to apply their skills in implementing field projects and allows local people to gain project management expertise which strengthens local capacity.

The range countries of these species are often underdeveloped nations in Africa and Asia, where local people have limited skills or little training in wildlife management. The sustainability of species in these regions can potentially be achieved through modern human-wildlife management techniques, training and collaborative efforts. The Multinational Species Conservation Funds, which are implemented through International Conservation's Wildlife Without Borders - Species Program, provide technical assistance and grant funding to range countries through broad-based partnerships with national governments, local communities, non-governmental organizations, and other private entities for on-the-ground conservation projects. Funding is targeted to the highest-priority projects impacting the greatest number of species, and support is provided for a range of activities including anti-poaching, conservation education, research, monitoring, habitat restoration, community outreach, law enforcement, training, and capacity building. Without this financial assistance, degradation of species and their habitats will continue, which may ultimately result in extinction.

In many cases, the Service is the sole or leading funding source of projects that affect the survival of these endangered wildlife populations. The Multinational Species Conservation Funds have engaged nearly 600 domestic and foreign partners working in over 54 foreign countries. From 2008 to 2012, the Multinational Species Conservation Funds provided $59 million in grant funding for on-the-ground conservation, leveraging nearly $89 million in additional matching funds. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to use up to $100,000 for general program administration for each of the African and Asian Elephant Conservation Funds, the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, and the Great Apes Conservation Fund. For the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund, the limitation is $80,000. Administration costs represent salary and related support activities for these grant programs.

In 2012, African elephant funds helped finance projects to protect the largest known population of forest elephants in the Democratic Republic of Congo. These projects included strengthening and rebuilding the national wildlife agency, anti-poaching patrols and overnight missions to reduce elephant poaching in the area, and targeted training to improve the ability of the Royal Malaysian Customs officers to more effectively prevent illegal trade in ivory at selected ports in Malaysia. The training for the Royal Malaysian Customers officers focused on policy restricting ivory trade, the latest information on illegal ivory trade routes and smuggling methods, and improved detection and interception of ivory shipments.

Savanna elephants testing their strength (Photo Credit: USFWS)

Southern black rhinos in Zimbabwe (Photo credit: USFWS)

In 2012, funds for rhinoceros and tigers improved intelligence and investigations capacity in the North Luangwa conservation area of Zambia. Funding supported training courses for the Zambia Wildlife Authority in crime investigation procedures and techniques and supported operating costs and equipment for law enforcement units protecting Zambia's reintroduced southern black rhino population. Another project was strengthening anti-poaching and community engagement programs to secure endangered tigers, rhinos and elephants in Parsa Wildlife Reserve in Nepal. This project focused on developing Parsa Wildlife Reserve into a secure habitat for rhinos, tigers, elephants and other wild animals while emphasizing development of local livelihoods. Accomplishments include establishing a park security post, research station and an intelligence network and community based anti-poaching units, upgrading a forest road network, training frontline staff in law enforcement and wildlife monitoring, and conducting community engagement programs.

In 2012, Asian elephant funds ensured the protection of wild elephants and their habitat in the Way Kambas National Park in Indonesia. With the aid of captive elephants and their handlers, work was carried out to reduce human-elephant conflict (HEC) in communities surrounding the park and to establish a network between local communities and the conservation response unit (CRU) to ensure rapid conflict response. The CRUs monitor and manage HEC and respond to encroachment matters. Veterinarians also manage the health care regimen of CRU elephants, and address any wildlife emergencies that the CRU teams may come across in the course of their work. Another project was strengthening government and local capacity for elephant conservation in Northeast Cambodia by building community capacity at four new locations to mitigate human elephant conflict (HEC) and providing training in elephant monitoring and protection in Cambodia's newest and largest protected area – Prey Long Protected Forest.

Adult Chimpanzee (Photo credit: I. Nichols/NGS)

In 2012, the Great Ape Conservation Fund helped conserve globally significant gibbon populations in the Lao People's Democratic Republic by implementing cooperative interventions to protect gibbon populations involving villages, the Department of Forest Inspection, the Integrated Ecosystem and Wildlife Management Project and the private sector. Accomplishments include improving enforcement cooperation between government agencies and stakeholders as well as maintaining cooperation between the government agencies and industry partners while strengthening forest-based patrolling and checkpoint operations within and adjacent to the gibbon conservation area. Another project supports conservation efforts in Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of the Congo which first began in 2008. This project helps improve law enforcement and training for park rangers, develops alternative fuel sources to reduce the destructive practice of charcoal creation, increases aerial surveillance capacity, and increases park tourist revenue through a chimpanzee habituation and tourism project in the region that generates nearly 1 million dollars.

Ngobe children watch a satellite tagged hawksbill return to the sea, Chiriqui Beach, Panama (Photo credit: Sea Turtle Conservancy)

In 2012, funds for marine turtle conservation implemented an extensive loggerhead turtle nesting beach conservation project in Cape Verde. The project supported night time beach patrols in collaboration with the military to protect nesting loggerhead females from rampant illegal slaughter on important nesting beaches on the Cape Verde Island of Boa Vista which hosts about 90 % of the Cape Verde nesting population. The project also organized an annual meeting for the Cape Verde Sea Turtle Partnership and implemented public awareness programs in schools and communities throughout the island. Another project supported the reduction of threats to sustain hawksbill turtle conservation in El Salvador. The project supported hawksbill conservation programs for the largest remaining hawksbill nesting population in the Eastern Pacific at three sites covering 37 km of beach in El Salvador. The project also addressed the threat of blast fishing to adult and juvenile turtles through training programs for regional fisheries authorities and law enforcement officers to increase the effectiveness of blast fishing enforcement.

The Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2010 provides an opportunity for the public to support the Service's mission to save imperiled species globally. The *Save Vanishing Species* semipostal stamp was launched in September 2011 to raise public awareness and garner support for critically important global conservation work. The stamp is a collaborative effort of a diverse coalition of conservation organizations, the private sector, and bipartisan support from members of Congress. The intent is to give the public an easy and inexpensive way to help conserve wild tigers, rhinos, elephants, great apes and marine turtles around the world. The stamp, which featured the image of an Amur tiger cub, sold at a rate of 55 cents per stamp - just slightly above the cost of first-class postage. In the first year, 16.5 million stamps were sold, raising more than $1.7 million for the conservation of international wildlife. The proceeds from the stamp directly benefit the species supported by the Multinational Conservation Species Funds, funding more than 1,800 projects in 80 countries. For further information on regarding the stamp, see www.tigerstamp.com.

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Program and Financing (in million of dollars) **Identification code 14-1652-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 African Elephant Conservation projects	1	2	2
0002 Asian Elephant Conservation Projects	2	2	2
0003 Rhinoceros/Tiger Conservation Projects	2	2	2
0004 Great Ape Conservation Fund	2	2	2
0005 Marine Turtle	2	2	2
0799 Total direct obligations	9	10	10
0801 Multinational Species Semi Postal Stamp Act	1	1	1
0900 Total new obligations	**10**	**11**	**11**
Budgetary resources:			
Budget Authority:			
Appropriations, discretionary:			
1100 Appropriation	9	10	10
1160 Appropriation Discretionary (Total)	**9**	**10**	**10**
Spending authority from offsetting collections, mandatory:			
1800 Collected	1	1	1
1850 Spending auth from offsetting collections, mand (total)	1	1	1
Multinational Species Semi Postal Stamp Act			
1900 Budget Authority (total)	**10**	**11**	**11**
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**10**	**11**	**11**
Change in obligated balance:			
Unpaid obligations:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	7	8	7
3030 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	10	11	11
3020 Outlays (gross)	-9	-12	-11
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**8**	**7**	**7**
Memorandum (non-add) entries:			
3100 Obligated balance, end of year	7	8	7
3200 Obligated balance, end of year	8	7	7
Budget authority and outlays, net			
Discretionary:			
4000 Budget authority, gross	**9**	**10**	**10**
Outlays, gross:			
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	4	3	3
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	5	8	7
4020 Outlays, gross (total)	**9**	**11**	**10**
4070 Budget authority, net (discretionary)	9	10	10
4080 Outlays, net (discretionary)	**9**	**11**	**10**
Mandatory:			
4090 Budget Authority, gross	1	1	1
Outlays, gross:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	0	1	1
Offsets against gross budget authority and outlays:			
Offsetting collections (collected) from:			
4120 Federal sources (01)	-1	-1	-1
4160 Budget authority, net (mandatory)	0	0	0
4170 Outlays, net (mandatory)	**-1**	**0**	**0**
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	**9**	**11**	**10**
4190 Outlays, net (total)	**8**	**11**	**10**

Object Classification:			
Direct obligations:			
41.0 Direct obligations: Grants, subsidies, and contributions	9	10	10
Reimbursable obligations:			
41.0 Reimbursable obligations: Grants, subsidies, and contributions (01)	1	1	1
99.9 Total new obligations	**10**	**11**	**11**

Personnel Summary:			
1001 Direct Civilian full-time equivalent employment	**4**	**4**	**4**

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.),$3,786,000, to remain available until expended. Note.--A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-75). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Authorizing Statutes

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2006, (16 U.S.C. 6101). For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.). Authorizes a competitive grants program for the conservation of Neotropical migratory birds in the United States, Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean.

Appropriation: Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund

		2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund	($000)	*3,809*	3,786	0	0	0	3,786
	FTE	*1*	1	0	0	0	1

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 enacted formulation estimates

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund is $3,786,000 and 1 FTE, with no net program change from the 2012 Enacted.

Program Overview

The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA) program provides matching grants to partners throughout the Western Hemisphere to promote the conservation of Neotropical migratory birds in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Over 350 species of Neotropical migratory birds breed in the United States and Canada and winter in Latin America, including sandpipers, hawks, thrushes, warblers and sparrows. The populations of many of these birds are declining, and several species are protected as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Thirty-two of these migratory birds are targeted by the Service as focal species and 62 are on the Service's list of birds of conservation concern. Conservation actions funded through this program are essential to keeping these species from becoming listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Sprague's Pipit, a species targeted for conservation through a NMBCA pilot program. Credit: Jerry Oldenettel CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

A primary purpose of the NMBCA is to perpetuate healthy populations of these birds by catalyzing migratory bird conservation projects that otherwise would not take place. The program serves as an important funding source, leveraging nearly four dollars of non-federal match for every federal grant dollar invested. The NMBCA program's grant selection criteria considers whether a proposed project: 1) addresses priority Neotropical migrants, including the Service's focal species list; 2) addresses conservation priorities of other international bird conservation plans such as Partners in Flight; and 3) represents coordination among public and private organizations, such as through a Migratory Bird Joint Venture; among other factors.

By law, at least 75 percent of the funds available each year must go to projects in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada, with the remaining funds available for projects in the United States. In Latin America and the Caribbean, resources for migratory bird conservation are scarce and the NMBCA program provides critical funds for our partners working to conserve shared bird species on their migrating and wintering grounds.

NMBCA Pilot Program

In 2012, the Service focused approximately 30% of NMBCA funding on thirteen particularly threatened Neotropical migratory bird species to achieve a measurable biological improvement in their populations

at a local, regional or population scale within 5-10 years. Each species has a conservation action plan identifying threats to the birds and priority actions to address those threats. By dedicating funding over the next ten years to these species the NMBCA can leverage resources where progress of conservation actions can be measured in terms of biological improvements such as increased abundance or survival or improved quality of habitat. Projects must include monitoring and evaluation to track these measurable objectives for the desired improvements.

Grantee Associación Armonia recorded over 1,000 Buff-breasted Sandpipers at the Barba Azul Nature Reserve last year. This breaks all previous records for Buff-breasted Sandpipers in Bolivia! The NMBCA supported their work to conserve habitat for this species in 2010 and 2012.

In the first year of the pilot program, the Service supported seven projects taking actions on breeding and stopover or wintering grounds to conserve Sprague's Pipit, Mountain Plover, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and Bicknell's Thrush. One Canadian project has the goal of increasing suitable breeding habitat for Sprague's Pipit by 1% over 5 years by improving grazing management, while another project in the US-Mexico Chihuahuan grasslands seeks to double the local population of Sprague's Pipit wintering on project sites over the next 4-5 years. Another project supported a Bolivian organization's effort to protect critical stopover habitat for Buff-breasted Sandpiper.

The NMBCA conserves Neotropical migrants for the benefit of the American people. By targeting our investment to key priority species and seeking projects that will demonstrate a measurable improvement, the pilot program will show the return on investment of taxpayer dollars. The pilot program is set up to achieve a significant impact for each grant dollar invested and to evaluate the value of that investment for birds.

With the 70% of funding not dedicated to the pilot program, the NMBCA continues to be a catalyst for conservation by supporting organizations working to address threats in areas important to migratory birds. The NMBCA grants support a full range of conservation activities needed to protect and conserve Neotropical migratory bird populations, including:

- securing, restoring, and managing wintering, migrating, and breeding habitat;
- conducting law enforcement;
- providing community outreach and education; and
- conducting bird population research and monitoring.

Examples of other projects supported by NMBCA in 2012 include:

- The establishment of a bird banding program in Peru that is monitoring migratory and resident bird populations while training dozens of Peruvians in bird banding techniques.
- A tri-national partnership to produce and apply best management practices for Long-billed Curlews on their breeding grounds in Canada and the U.S., and to protect

Banding a Semipalmated Plover in Peru.

significant wintering habitat for this species in Mexico.

- A broad international partnership conserving critical stopover and wintering habitat for at least 33 species of Neotropical migrants in Sierra Caral, Guatemala. Funds will train, equip, and support personnel to prevent unsustainable activities, and to provide outreach and education to local communities.

Through 2012, more than $43 million in NMBCA grant funds have supported 395 projects in 36 countries and 48 U.S. States and territories across the Western Hemisphere. Non-federal partners have contributed $166 million in matching funds to these projects. All bird groups have benefited from this funding, including songbirds, raptors, shorebirds, and waterfowl.

NMBCA - Performance Change Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 Actual to 2014 PB	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
6.4.3 # of acres restored/ enhanced of habitat in U.S./ Mexico/ Latin America through NMBCA	36,999	3,464	28,313	398,455	312,020	395,057	-3,398 (-0.9%)	
Comments	Acres of habitat reported as restored and enhanced are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2009 to 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 demonstrated the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year.							
6.4.4 # of acres protected/ secured of habitat in U.S./ Mexico/ Latin America through partnerships and networked lands through NMBCA	497,254	176,282	50,495	390,133	135,388	403,204	13,071 (3.4%)	
Comments	Acres of habitat reported as protected or secured are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2009 to 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 demonstrated the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year.							

NMBCA - Performance Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
6.4.3 # of acres restored/ enhanced of habitat in U.S./ Mexico/ Latin America through NMBCA	36,999	3,464	28,313	398,455	312,020	395,057	-3,398 (-0.9%)	9,365
Comments	Acres of habitat reported as restored and enhanced are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2009 to 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 demonstrated the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year.							
6.4.4 # of acres protected/ secured of habitat in U.S./ Mexico/ Latin America through partnerships and networked lands through NMBCA	497,254	176,282	50,495	390,133	135,388	403,204	13,071 (3.4%)	114,803
Comments	Acres of habitat reported as protected or secured are the result of projects funded from several years previous that were completed during a particular fiscal year. The change in performance from 2009 to 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 demonstrated the variability inherent in multi-year grants as to when they are proposed/funded and when they are reported as completed. This year-to-year variability is responsible for the fluctuation in reported acreages that are associated with a given fiscal year.							

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-1696-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 Neotropical Migratory Bird	4	4	4
0900 Total obligations	**4**	**4**	**4**
Budgetary Resources:			
1100 Appropriation, discretionary	4	4	4
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**4**	**4**	**4**
Change in obligated balance:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	6	6	5
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	4	4	4
3020 Outlays (gross)	-4	-5	-5
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**6**	**5**	**4**
Budgetary authority and outlays, net:			
4000 Budgetary authority, gross	4	4	4
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	0	1	1
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	4	4	4
4020 Total outlays (gross)	**4**	**5**	**5**
4180 Budget authority, net	4	4	4
4190 Outlays, net	**4**	**5**	**5**

Object Classification:			
Direct Obligations:			
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	4	4	4
99.9 Total obligations	**4**	**4**	**4**

Personnel Summary:			
1001 Civilian full-time equivalent employment	**1**	**1**	**1**

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants

Appropriations Language

For wildlife conservation grants to States and to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and federally recognized Indian tribes under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished, $61,323,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the amount provided herein,$4,268,000, is for a competitive grant program for federally recognized Indian tribes not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: Provided further, That $13,000,000 is for a competitive grant program to implement approved plans for States, territories, and other jurisdictions, and at the discretion of affected States, the regional associations of fish and wildlife agencies, [with approved plans,] not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: Provided further, That the Secretary shall, after deducting $17,268,000 and administrative expenses, apportion the amount provided herein in the following manner: (1) to the District of Columbia and to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, each a sum equal to not more than one-half of 1 percent thereof; and (2) to Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, each a sum equal to not more than one-fourth of 1 percent thereof: Provided further, That the Secretary shall apportion the remaining amount in the following manner: (1) one-third of which is based on the ratio to which the land area of such State bears to the total land area of all such States; and (2) two-thirds of which is based on the ratio to which the population of such State bears to the total population of all such States: Provided further, That the amounts apportioned under this paragraph shall be adjusted equitably so that no State shall be apportioned a sum which is less than 1 percent of the amount available for apportionment under this paragraph for any fiscal year or more than 5 percent of such amount: Provided further, That the Federal share of planning grants shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of such projects and the Federal share of implementation grants shall not exceed 65 percent of the total costs of such projects: Provided further, That the non-Federal share of such projects may not be derived from Federal grant programs: Provided further, That any amount apportioned in [2013]2014 to any State, territory, or other jurisdiction that remains unobligated as of September 30, [2014]2015, shall be reapportioned, together with funds appropriated in [2015]2016, in the manner provided herein. Note: A full-year 2013 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112-75). The amounts included for 2013 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

Justification of Language Change

Addition: "and at the discretion of affected States, the regional associations of fish and wildlife agencies…"

The budget proposes allowing regional associations of fish and wildlife agencies (AFWA), with approval from the affected States, to submit proposals for the competitive State Wildlife Grant program.

Authorizing Statutes

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544). Prohibits the import, export, or taking of fish and wildlife and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered species; provides for adding species to or removing them from the list of threatened and endangered species, and for preparing and implementing plans for their recovery; provides for interagency cooperation to avoid take of listed species and for issuing permits for otherwise prohibited activities; provides for cooperation with states, including

authorization of financial assistance; and implements the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742(a)-754). Establishes a comprehensive national fish and wildlife policy and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to take steps required for the development, management, advancement, conservation, and protection of fisheries resources and wildlife resources through research, acquisition of refuge lands, development of existing facilities, and other means.

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661). The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to provide assistance to, and cooperate with, federal, state, and public or private agencies and organizations in the development, protection, rearing, and stocking of all species of wildlife, resources thereof, and their habitat, in controlling losses of the same from disease or other causes, in minimizing damages from overabundant species, and in providing public shooting and fishing areas, including easements across public lands for access thereto.

Appropriation: State and Tribal Wildlife Grants

	2013 Full Yr. CR (P.L. 112-75)	2012 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
State Wildlife Grants (Formula) ($000)	*51,637*	51,323	0	0	-7,268	44,055
State Wildlife Grants (Competitive) ($000)	*5,767*	5,732	0	0	+7,268	13,000
Tribal Wildlife Grants ($000)	*4,294*	4,268	0	0	0	4,268
Total, State and Tribal Wildlife Grants ($000)	***61,698***	**61,323**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**61,323**
FTE	***23***	**22**	**0**	**0**	**+1**	**23**

Note: 2012 FTE amounts reflect actual usage, not 2012 Enacted formulation estimates

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants

Request Component	($000)	FTE
▪ State Wildlife Grants (Formula)	-7,268	0
▪ State Wildlife Grants (Competitive)	+7,268	+1
Program Changes	**0**	**+1**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants is $61,323,000 and 23 FTE with no net program change and +1 FTE from the 2012 Enacted.

State Wildlife Grants (Formula) (-$7,268,000/+0 FTE)
The Service is proposing to redirect funding from the formula-driven grants to competitively-awarded grants in FY 2014.

State Wildlife Grants (Competitive) (+$7,268,000/+1 FTE)
For the 2014 budget request, funding for competitive grants will increase by $7,268,000. This increase in competitive funding, consistent with proposed funding last year, allows states to tailor projects which focus on key State Wildlife Action Plan improvements or support national resource management goals such as landscape-scale management and interstate cooperation and which identify outcomes and employ methodologies that measure success. With a changing environment, this effort builds upon other Service initiatives, like Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and Cooperative Recovery, to conserve species on a broader scale, regardless of political boundaries. Projects funded with competitive grant funding can greatly enhance efforts at State specific level by:

1. Improving State fish and wildlife agencies' ability to work collaboratively with Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) and neighboring States in implementing management tools and projects to conserve species across landscapes, regardless of political boundaries;

2. Incorporating climate change adaptation strategies for wildlife into State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs), which may include identification and planning for protection and restoration of migration corridors, conducting climate change vulnerability assessments, or developing or downscaling existing climate change models for use at regional or local scales.;

3. Supporting State efforts to identify and map geographic areas of the State that present the best opportunities for SGCN conservation. States are incentivized to map these focal areas (also called

conservation opportunity areas in some SWAPs) on a State-wide basis or align and unify common areas across multiple SWAPs.

4. State efforts to strategically and systematically prioritize SGCN, their habitats, and targeted conservation actions on a Statewide basis, along with measurable future habitat conditions or other biological outcomes to be achieved within a defined period.

5. Encouraging States to identify and adopt adaptation strategies for planned infrastructure development, associated with energy, transportation, or other planned developments. States are also encouraged to repackage and deliver SWAP data to a broader range of partners through innovative means, making it more accessible and relevant.

6. Supporting State efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of a SWAP to determine whether and to what degree the plan is meeting its intended goals, and to develop strategies for improvement of the plan.

In addition to helping States improve their SWAPs, Competitive SWG funds continue to support collaborative efforts of States and their partners to implement conservation priorities identified in the SWAPs. Examples of recent SWAP implementation projects include:

1. Intensifying multi-state responsiveness to large-scale emerging wildlife disease, such as sylvatic plague in prairie dogs in the Western U.S.

2. Better protecting species' habitat across state boundaries for Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) and their habitats through cooperative projects between state fish and wildlife agencies that support viable populations of SGCN across multiple states and broader ecological scales; and

3. Increasing national capability and strategic decision-making that gathers state fish and wildlife agency survey and project data, technical expertise and best management practices into a cohesive approach to address common resource management issues.

Projects have included enhancing native grasslands, wetlands, and woodlands on public, private, and tribal lands across multiple State boundaries. Implementation projects benefit more than 200 SGCN nationally each year, including various amphibians and raptors in the western States, the Karner Blue Butterfly and Henslow's Sparrow in the upper Midwest, and the gopher tortoise in Alabama. In several cases, SWG competitive funding has helped stabilize declining SGCN by supporting range-wide conservation actions which result in species de-listing and down-listing. The FTE change shown begins with FY 2012 Actuals and does not account for adjustments made in FY 2013.

Program Overview

As authorized by the *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*, the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants (STWG) Program provides Federal grant funds to states, the District of Columbia, commonwealths, territories (states), and tribes, to develop and implement programs for the benefit of fish and wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished. The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 2002 (Public Law 107-63) provided funding for STWG and this funding continues in the annual appropriations legislation. For the past 12 years, this grant program has provided State fish and wildlife agencies a stable Federal funding source. All funded activities must link with species, actions, or strategies included in each SWAP. These SWAPs collectively form a nationwide strategy to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered, and are unique from many prior conservation plans because of broad participation and an inclusive public planning process. By working with stakeholders and other members of the community, State fish and wildlife agencies translate pressing conservation needs into practical actions and

on-the-ground results. The success of this program is evident in the 1.79 million acres of species habitat it has enhanced and the nearly 130,000 acres of critical habitat through land acquisition or conservation easements it has protected.

Results in STWG will be assessed through effectiveness measures designed in coordination with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) and will be tracked using the Service's new performance reporting database, Wildlife TRACS. This will allow the Service to consider an evidence based approach for future grants.

In accordance with the *Endangered Species Act* of 1973, the STWG program is the primary source for States and tribes to fund proactive alternatives to address the needs of declining species. Through preventative measures, such as habitat restoration and protection through land acquisition, STWG helps to avert vastly greater expenditures to communities and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service), by preventing imperiled species from becoming listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Consistent with the *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act*, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661), STWG accomplishes its goals by leveraging Federal funding through cost-sharing provisions with State fish and wildlife agencies, tribes, and other partners. In doing so, it grants States the flexibility to identify, study, and conserve those species most in need. Effective partnerships are therefore a core principle of STWG, as the program embodies the spirit of cooperation and sharing of resources inherent in the *Coordination Act*.

Goals of the Program - The long-term goal of STWG is to stabilize, restore, enhance, and protect species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) and their habitat. By doing so, the nation avoids the costly and time-consuming process entered into when habitat is degraded or destroyed and species' populations plummet, therefore requiring additional protection (and Federal expenditure) through the Endangered Species Act or other regulatory processes. The program accomplishes its protection goals by 1) focusing projects on SGCN and their habitats, and 2) leveraging Federal funding through cost-sharing provisions with State fish and wildlife agencies.

State Wildlife Action Plan - Each State must have a SWAP, approved by the Service's Director, for the conservation of fish and wildlife. Each Wildlife Action Plan must consider the broad range of fish and wildlife and associated habitats, with priority on those species with the greatest conservation need, and take into consideration the relative level of funding available for the conservation of those species. The states must review and, if necessary, revise their SWAP by October 1, 2015, and every ten years afterwards, unless completed more frequently at each state's discretion. Revisions to SWAPs must follow the guidance issued in the July 12, 2007 letter from the Service's Director and the President of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Tribal Wildlife Grants - The Tribal Wildlife Grant (TWG) program provides funds to federally recognized tribal governments to develop and implement programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species of Native American cultural or traditional importance and species that are not hunted or fished. Although tribes are exempt from the requirement to develop wildlife plans, individual tribes are eager to continue their conservation work using resources from the national tribal competitive program.

Wildlife TRACS - Wildlife TRACS is the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's new tracking and reporting system for the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. It replaces the Federal Aid Information Management System (FAIMS) which was decommissioned in late 2012. TRACS stands for Tracking and Reporting Actions for the Conservation of Species. The outcomes that result from expenditure of State Wildlife Grants will be documented and displayed in Wildlife TRACS beginning in 2013. One of the significant new advancements in accomplishment reporting provided by Wildlife TRACS is a geospatial database which displays locations of conservation actions and other activities supported with SWG and

other program funds. Another is the incorporation of standard results chains developed for the SWG program to assess the potential impact and effectiveness of conservation actions on target species and their associated habitats. Wildlife TRACS will allow better coordination of conservation efforts among States, their many partners, and the Service. It will give stakeholders the ability to see accomplishments by species and geography, and help to measure the impacts of program spending on species population, distribution, and other trends over time.

Activities that may be eligible for STWG:

- Conservation actions, such as research, surveys, species, and habitat management, acquisition of real property, facilities development, and monitoring.

- Coordination and administrative activities, such as data management systems development and maintenance, developing strategic and operational plans, and coordinating implementation meetings with partners. Partners are entities that participate in the planning or implementation of a state's plan. These entities include, but are not limited to, Federal, State, and local agencies, tribes, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, industry groups, and private individuals.

- Education and law enforcement activities under the following conditions:
    - The education activities are actions intended to increase the public's knowledge or understanding of wildlife or wildlife conservation through instruction or distribution of materials.
    - The law enforcement activities are efforts intended to compel the observance of laws or regulations.
    - The activities are critical to achieving the project's objectives.
    - The activities are no more than 10 percent of the respective project cost.
    - The activities specifically benefit SGCN or their habitats.

- Providing technical guidance to a specific agency, organization, or person that monitors or manages SGCN or their habitats. Technical guidance is expert advice provided to governmental agencies, landowners, land managers, and organizations responsible for implementing land planning and management.

- Addressing nuisance wildlife or damage caused by wildlife, but only if the objective is to contribute to the conservation of SGCN or their habitats, as indicated in a state's Wildlife Action Plan.

- Conducting environmental reviews, site evaluations, permit reviews, or similar functions intended to protect SGCN or their habitats.

- Responding to emerging issues.

- Planning activities.

Activities ineligible for funding under the SWG include:

- Mitigation or compensation for resource losses caused by subprogram-funded activities, or are necessary to secure permits or approval of these activities. "Mitigate" means to take action required by a federal, state, or local government agency, through law or regulation, to compensate for adverse impacts on natural resources.

- Mitigating wildlife habitat losses resulting from activities that are not approved.

- Initiating or enhancing wildlife-associated recreation, which includes outdoor leisure activities associated with wildlife, such as hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and photography.

- Establishing, publishing, and disseminating state-issued regulations on the protection and use of wildlife. This includes, but is not restricted to, laws, orders, seasonal regulations, bag limits, creel limits, and license fees. This does not prohibit the scientific collection of information or the evaluation of this information to support management recommendations.

- Projects that have more than a minor component of educating the public or conducting law enforcement activities.

- Public relations activities to promote organizations or agencies.

- Projects with the primary purpose of producing revenue. This includes all processes and procedures directly related to efforts imposed by law or regulation, such as the printing, distribution, issuance, or sale of licenses or permits. It also includes the acquisition of real or personal property of rental, lease, sale, or other commercial purposes.

- Wildlife damage management activities that are not critical to the conservation of SGCN or their habitats.

Types of State Wildlife Grant Program (SWG) Projects - All 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands participate in this program through their respective fish and wildlife agencies. Each State, Commonwealth, and territory develops and selects projects for funding based on the agencies' assessment of problems and needs associated with their SWAP.

Funding Planning and Implementation Grants – In 2007, the Service introduced new SWG guidance that narrowed the scope of work that may be conducted under planning grants. The guidance restricted the content of state planning grants to: 1) conducting internal evaluation of SWAPs; and 2) obtaining input from partners and the public on how to improve those plans. Because of the restrictions on the content of work that can be carried out under planning grants, the Service expects the States will shift most of their SWG financial resources away from planning activities and toward conducting "implementation" work for more on-the-ground activities.

After deducting administrative costs for the Service's Headquarters and Regional Offices, the Service distributes SWG funds to states in the following manner:

A. The District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico each receive a sum equal to not more than one-half of 1 percent. The territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U. S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands each receive a sum equal to not more than one-fourth of 1 percent.

B. The Service divides the remaining amount among the 50 states by a formula where one-third of the amount for each state is based on the ratio of the state land area to the total land area of the 50 states, with the other two-thirds based on the ratio of the state population to the total population of the 50 states. However, each of the 50 states must receive no less than 1 percent of the total amount available and no more than 5 percent.

The Federal share of planning grants must not exceed 75 percent of the total cost, and the federal share of implementation grants must not exceed 65 percent of the total cost. These percentages are subject to change

in the annual Appropriations Acts that both reauthorize and fund the SWG. The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) can waive the 25 percent non-Federal matching requirement of the total grant cost for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and American Samoa up to $200,000 (48 U.S.C. 1469a (d)). The non-Federal share may not include any Federal funds or Federal in-kind contributions unless legislation specifically allows it. Again, Tribal Wildlife Grants are competitive and are not required to provide a share of project costs; however, many do, and some quite substantially.

Obligation Requirements – States must obligate SWG funds to a grant by September 30 of the second federal fiscal year after their apportionment, or the remaining unobligated dollars revert to the Service. Reverted SWG funds lose their original fiscal year and State identity, and all states will receive them as an addition to the next year's national appropriation. If a State obligates SWG funds to an approved grant but does not expend the funds in the grant period, WSFR will deobligate the unexpended balance. If WSFR deobligates the funds during the two-year period of availability, WSFR will reobligate these funds to an existing or new grant to the same State. SWG funds deobligated after their two-year period of availability revert to the Service and lose their original fiscal year identity. These reverted funds will go into next year's SWG appropriation for apportionment to all states.

2014 Program Performance

With the FY 2014 budget of approximately $61 million in payments to States and Tribes, the Service expects program grantees to continue to stabilize, restore, enhance, and protect SGCN, as well as their habitat. In addition, the Service will continue working cooperatively with them to find ways to more consistently and comprehensively report accomplishments. By 2014, the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program will be tracking all STWG project spending using Wildlife TRACS, which captures geospatial data for all conservation actions, as well as program accomplishments and outcomes.

The STWG program has proved a stable Federal funding source for State and tribal fish and wildlife agencies for the past 12 years. This funding stability is critical to the recovery and continued resilience of many species that are in the greatest need of conservation. Some examples of activities planned by State fish and wildlife agencies in FY 2014 include:

- **Pacific Northwest Prairie and Oak Habitats: a Bi-State Partnership** The project will improve the population status of 21 rare or declining species of greatest conservation need associated with prairie-oak habitats of the Willamette Valley and Puget Trough regions of Oregon and Washington, and thus reduce the likelihood of their need for consideration under the Endangered Species Act. Resources will allow the States to determine distribution and status of Oregon vesper sparrow, Mazama pocket gopher, and western bluebirds.

- **Nebraska Natural Legacy Project: Striding Toward Sustainability** In the Colorado / Nebraska Border Panhandle, the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory will deliver shortgrass prairie habitat improvements for Mountain Plover, Burrowing Owl and McCown's Longspur, which are classified as vulnerable species. This project supports Nebraska Game and Parks Commission in landscape-scale efforts to conserve biologically unique landscapes.

- **Recovery of the Palila, a Rapidly-Declining Hawaiian Honeycreeper** Partners will trap predators in 10,000 acres of Palila critical habitat, and seek to remove ungulates from 50,000 acres of U.S. Fish and Wildlife-designated critical habitat on Mauna Kea volcano, on the Big Island of Hawaii. In addition, project partners will restore native plants, collect and process native plant seed, and control. In total, 13,000 acres of Service-designated Palila Recovery Habitat on Mauna Loa will be protected and restored. The project also includes Palila monitoring and propagation.

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
STATE and TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS FUND

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5474-0**	**2012** **Actual**	**2013** **Estimate**	**2014** **Estimate**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 State Wildlife Grants	50	51	51
0002 State Competitive Grants	7	9	11
0003 Administration	4	4	3
0004 Tribal Wildlife Grants	6	5	3
0900 Total obligations	**67**	**69**	**68**
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
Unobligated Balance:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct 1	42	38	34
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	2	3	3
1050 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	44	41	37
New budget authority (Discretionary):			
1100 Appropriation	61	62	61
1930 Total Budgetary Resources Available	**105**	**103**	**98**
Change in Obligated Balance:			
3000 Obligated balance, start of year	154	154	145
3010 New obligations	67	69	68
3020 Total outlays, gross (-)	-65	-75	-78
3040 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	-2	-3	-3
3200 Obligated balance, end of year	**154**	**145**	**132**
Outlays (gross), detail:			
4010 Outlays from new discretionary authority	12	13	14
4011 Outlays from discretionary balances	53	62	64
4020 Total Outlays (gross)	**65**	**75**	**78**
Net budget authority and outlays:			
4180 Budget authority	61	62	61
4190 Outlays	65	75	78

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
STATE and TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS FUND

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5474-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Object Classification			
Direct obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Personnel compensation: Full-time permanent	2	2	2
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	1	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies and contributions	64	66	65
99.9 Total obligations	**67**	**69**	**68**
Personnel Summary			
1001 Direct civilian Full-time equivalent employment	**22**	**23**	**23**

Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration

Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration

Appropriation Language

The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration account does not require appropriations language because there is permanent authority to use the receipts deposited into the Trust Fund in the fiscal year following their collection.

Authorizing Statutes

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950, now referred to as the *Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act* (16 U.S.C. 777 et seq.), as amended by the Deficit Reduction and Control Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-369), the *Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Act of 1987* (P.L. 100-17), the *Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1987* (P.L. 100-448), the *Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century* (P.L. 105-178), the *Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000* (P.L. 106-408), the *Surface Transportation Act of 2003* (P.L. 108-88), SAFETEA-LU, and the *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act* (P.L. 112-141) (MAP-21) which expires September 30, 2014, authorizes assistance to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to carry out projects to restore, enhance, and manage sport fishery resources. In addition to sport fishery projects, these acts allow for the development and maintenance of boating access facilities and aquatic education programs.

The Appropriations Act of August 31, 1951, (P.L. 82-136, 65 Stat. 262), authorizes receipts from excise taxes on fishing equipment to be deposited into the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, established as a permanent, indefinite appropriation. Receipts and interest distributed to the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund are available for use and distribution by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to states in the fiscal year following collection.

The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990, (16 U.S.C. 3951 et. seq.), provides for three federal grant programs for the acquisition, restoration, management, and enhancement of coastal wetlands in coastal states. A coastal state means a state of the United States, or bordering on the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands. The Service administers two of the three grant programs for which this Act provides funding, including the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and the North American Wetlands Conservation Grant Program. The latter program receives funds from other sources, as well as from the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration program. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers administers the third grant program that receives funding because of this Act. It also requires the Service to update and digitize wetlands maps in Texas and assess the status, condition, and trends of wetlands in Texas, and provides permanent authorization for coastal wetlands conservation grants and North American Wetlands Conservation projects. MAP-21 authorizes funding for the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990 through 2014.

The Clean Vessel Act of 1992, (16 U.S.C. 777c), Section 5604, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide grants to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for the construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of sewage pumpout stations and dump stations, as well as for educational programs designed to inform boaters about the importance of proper disposal of their onboard sewage. Section 5604 also amended the *Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish*

Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of funds out of the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund for use by the Secretary of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard) to fund state recreational boating safety programs. MAP-21 authorizes funding for the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 through 2014.

The Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998, (16 U.S.C. 777c-777g), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to develop national outreach plans to promote safe fishing and boating, and to promote conservation of aquatic resources through grants and contracts with states and private entities. The Act contains provisions for transferring funds to the U.S. Coast Guard for state recreational boating safety programs. In addition, it authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide funds to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to construct, renovate, and maintain tie-up facilities with features for transient boaters in vessels 26 feet or more in length, and to produce and distribute information and educational materials under the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. MAP-21 authorizes funding for boating infrastructure through 2014.

The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000, (P.L. 106-408) amends the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the **Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act**. It authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide funding under the Multistate Conservation Grant program for wildlife and sport fish restoration projects identified as priority projects by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. These high priority projects address problems affecting states on a regional or national basis. It also provides $200,000 each to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission; and $400,000 to the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council. The Act provides 12 allowable cost categories for administration of the Act, as well.

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users of August 10, 2005 (P.L. 109-59) made several changes to the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. SAFETEA-LU changed the distribution of Sport Fish Restoration receipts from amounts primarily specified in law to a percentage-based distribution. The Act extended program authorizations for Clean Vessel Act grants, Boating Infrastructure grants, and the National Outreach and Communications program through FY 2009, and it extended the authority to use Sport Fish Restoration receipts for the U.S. Coast Guard's State Recreational Boating Safety Program through FY 2009. The Act authorized the expenditure of remaining balances in the old Boat Safety Account through FY 2010, for Sport Fish Restoration and State recreational boating safety programs and redirected 4.8 cents per gallon of certain fuels from the general account of the Treasury to the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, (16 U.S.C. 4407) requires the Secretary of the Treasury to invest the portion of the Sport Fish Restoration fund not required for current year spending in interest-bearing obligations to be available for wetlands conservation projects.

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (P.L. 112-141) (MAP-21) amends Section 4 of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777c) to extend program authorizations for Coastal Wetlands, Clean Vessel Act, and Boating Infrastructure grants; and the National Outreach and Communications program through FY 2014. It also extends the authority to use Sport Fish Restoration receipts for the U.S. Coast Guard's State Recreational Boating Safety Program through 2014.

Appropriation: Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration

		2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 Budget Request
Payments to States	($000)	348,776	372,486	0	-35,219	337,267
Administration	($000)	10,293	10,498	0	+209	10,707
Clean Vessel	($000)	12,238	13,070	0	-1,236	11,834
National Outreach	($000)	12,238	13,070	0	-1,236	11,834
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program	($000)	12,238	13,070	0	-1,236	11,834
Multistate Conservation Grant Program	($000)	3,000	3,000	0	0	3,000
Coastal Wetlands	$000)	16,980	18,134	0	-1,714	16,420
Fishery Commissions	($000)	800	800	0	0	800
Sport Fishing & Boating Partnership Council	($000)	400	400	0	0	400
SubTotal	**($000)**	**416,963**	**444,528**	**0**	**-40,432**	**404,096**
	FTE	**53**	**53**		**0**	**53**
North American Wetlands	($000)	16,980	18,134	0	-1,714	16,420
	FTE	7	7		0	7
TOTAL, Sport Fish Restoration	**($000)**	**433,943**	**462,662**	**0**	**-42,146**	**420,516**
	FTE	**60**	**60**		**0**	**60**

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Sport Fish Restoration

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Payments to States (Sport Fish Restoration Program)	-35,219	0
• Administration	+209	0
• Clean Vessel Grant Program	-1,236	0
• National Outreach and Communication Program	-1,236	0
• Boating Infrastructure Grant Program	-1,236	0
• National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program	-1,714	0
• North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program	-1,714	0
Program Changes	**-42,146**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act programs is $420,516,000 and 60 FTE, a net program decrease of $42,146,000 and 0 FTE from the 2013 estimated receipts. Program changes are based on current law estimates provided by the Department of the Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis and are attributed to a decrease in receipts from gasoline excise taxes on motorboats, small engines and fishing equipment.

Payments to States (Sport Fish Restoration Grant Program) (-$35,219,000/+0 FTE) - The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration grant program will provide an estimated $337.3 million to states for 2014 – a decrease of $35.2 million from the 2013 estimated receipts.

Administration (+$209,000/+0 FTE) - Yearly administration funds for the program are based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the prior fiscal year, as published by the Bureau of Labor statistics. This increase will support the administration of payments to States. The Multistate Grant

Program, the Sport Fish and Boating Partnership Council, and fisheries commissions will not receive funding increases as a result of this CPI adjustment.

Clean Vessel Grant Program (-$1,236,000/+0 FTE) – In 2014, an estimated $11.8 million is available for the Clean Vessel Act program to build, renovate, and maintain sewage pump-out facilities and dump stations for recreational vessels. This is a decrease of $1,236,000 from the 2013 estimated receipts.

National Outreach and Communications Program (-$1,236,000/+0 FTE) - For 2014, an estimated $11.8 million will be available for the National Outreach and Communications program. The program educates anglers, boaters, and the public about fishing and boating opportunities; conservation; the responsible use of the Nation's aquatic resources; and, safe boating and fishing practices. This is a decrease of $1,236,000 from the 2013 estimated receipts.

Boating Infrastructure Grant Program - Non-trailerable Boating Access (-$1,236,000/+0 FTE) - For 2014, an estimated $11.8 million will be available for the Boating Infrastructure Grant program. The program develops, renovates, and improves public facilities, thereby increasing public access to United States' waters for recreational boats over 26 feet long (non-trailerable recreational boats). This is a decrease of $1,236,000 from the 2013 estimated receipts.

National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program (-$1,714,000/+0 FTE) - For 2014, an estimated $16.4 million will be available for the National Coastal Wetlands Grant program to restore and protect coastal wetlands ecosystems nationwide. This is a decrease of $1,714,000 from the 2013 estimated receipts.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program (-$1,714,000/+0 FTE) – In 2014, the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund will provide an estimated $16.4 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant. This grant program helps sustain the abundance of waterfowl and other migratory bird populations in Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. This is a decrease of $1,714,000 from the 2013 estimated receipts.

Program Overview

The Sport Fish Restoration program has provided a stable Federal funding source for State fish and wildlife agencies for over 60 years. This funding stability is critical to the recovery of many of the nation's sport fish species. The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act programs have expanded over time through a series of Congressional actions and now encompass several grant programs that address increased conservation and recreation needs of States, the District of Columbia, commonwealth, and territorial governments. The various programs enhance the country's sport fish resources in both fresh and salt waters. They also provide funding for projects that improve and manage aquatic habitats, protect and conserve coastal wetlands, and provide important infrastructure for recreational boaters. Specifically, Congress has authorized the Service to use funding from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund to administer these six grant programs: Sport Fish Restoration, Multistate Conservation, Clean Vessel, Boating Infrastructure, Coastal Wetlands (including North American Wetlands), and National Outreach and Communications. MAP-21 (P.L. 112-141) authorizes the last four grant programs until September 30, 2014.

The Sport Fish Restoration grant program is the cornerstone of fisheries recreation and conservation efforts in the United States. All 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (State(s)) can participate in this grant program through their respective fish and wildlife agencies. The program also increases boating opportunities and aquatic stewardship throughout the country. The Sport Fish Restoration program is widely recognized as one of the most successful conservation programs in the world. Since its inception in 1950, this program has awarded more than $7.32 billion to State fish

and wildlife agencies for their fisheries conservation and boating access efforts. The stable funding provided by this program allows States to develop comprehensive fisheries conservation programs and provide public boating access. The Sport Fish Restoration grant program is a formula-based apportionment program. The formula is based on 60 percent of its licensed anglers and 40 percent of its land and water area. No state may receive more than 5 percent or less than 1 percent of each year's total apportionment. Puerto Rico receives 1 percent, and the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, and the District of Columbia each receive one-third of 1 percent. Table 1 provides the estimated FY 2013 and FY 2014 Sport Fish Restoration apportionment to States.

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) and the Service work cooperatively together to manage the Multistate Conservation Grant Program. The Service ultimately awards and manages grants; however, the AFWA administers the grant application process, providing oversight, coordination, and guidance for the program as established by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-408). These high priority projects address problems affecting States on a regional or national basis. Project types generally selected for funding are: biological research/training, species population status, outreach, data collection regarding angler participation, aquatic education, economic value of fishing, and regional or multistate habitat needs assessments. One ongoing activity funded by the program is a project awarded to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, which provides for the formation and operation of Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs) to facilitate National Fish Habitat Plan implementation. The objectives are: to collectively advance each partnership's habitat assessments through identification of mutual data needs, data acquisition and landscape-level-analysis techniques for the benefit of fish, and other aquatic animals; coordinate all the ongoing partnerships' engagement and educational activities; and retain and enhance critical capacity to implement each of the individual FHP's Partnership's Strategic Plans.

The Clean Vessel Act grant program is a nationally competitive program for the construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of sewage pumpout stations and dump stations, as well as for educational programs designed to inform boaters about the importance of proper disposal of their onboard sewage. For example, the state of Oregon installed the first floating restroom on Detroit Lake in 1991 and has added two more since then, collecting an average of 5,500 gallons of boater sewage over the five-month high-boater season. The state of New York has funded seven pumpout boats for the Town of Southampton's program that operate seven days a week during the boating season. These boats have collected over 1 million gallons of boater sewage. Table 2 provides the FY 2012 Clean Vessel grant program awards.

The Boating Infrastructure Grant program is a nationally competitive program that provides funding to construct, renovate, and maintain tie-up facilities with features for transient boaters in vessels 26 feet or longer. The program also produces and distributes information and educational materials. For example, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will partner with the City of St. Pete Beach to construct 12 new transient boat slips and provide utilities and water. The State will also partner with the City of Key West to replace the transient dock restroom, bathhouse, laundry facilities and electric wiring at the Garrison Bight Marina. Tables 3 and 4 provide the FY 2012 Boating Infrastructure Grant awards.

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation grant program continues to expand its reach and beneficial conservation work. The program provides grants to States and organizations to restore and protect coastal wetlands ecosystems nationwide. Partnerships are an essential part of this program and allow the Service to work closely with a diverse number of agencies and organizations concerned about natural resources. For example, the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources will partner with the conservation group Ka `Ohana O Honu`apo to initiate the first phase of restoration of the State-owned 225.5-acre Honu'apo Park. The complex encompasses 50 acres of estuarine, subtidal, intertidal, and palustrine wetlands and adjacent coastal areas. The estuary is part of a unique coastal ecosystem of semi-sheltered near-shore pools, brackish ponds, and open environs. Although the wetland system supports a diversity of endemic species and microhabitats, decades of neglect and misuse have contributed to impairment of

wetland functions and decreased habitat for endangered birds. This estuarine wetland is also frequented by the threatened green sea turtle and serves as a nursery area for marine fishes. The 11.5 acre restoration project will include removal of invasive vegetation, sculpting of deep water areas for improved wildlife habitat, reintroduction of native vegetation, and increased predator control. Table 5 provides the FY 2012 Coastal Wetlands Conservation grant awards.

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant program is an internationally recognized conservation program that provides grants throughout North America for the conservation of waterfowl and other wetland-associated migratory birds. The North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant program receives funds from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund to support projects in U.S. coastal areas. These funds help sustain the abundance of waterfowl and other migratory bird populations throughout the Western Hemisphere. In Merced County, California, the State is using this funding to work with the California Waterfowl Association and other partners to protect and restore 6,712 acres of wetland habitat within the 180,000-acre Grassland Ecological Area. The restoration will benefit wetland bird species and other wildlife. Table 6 provides the FY 2012 North American Wetlands Conservation grant awards.

The National Outreach program improves communications with anglers, boaters, and the public regarding angling and boating opportunities which reduces barriers to participation in these activities, advances adoption of sound fishing and boating practices, promotes conservation and the responsible use of the Nation's aquatic resources, and furthers safety in fishing and boating. The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3), administers this nationally-competitive grant program.

2014 Program Performance

The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act programs provide essential grant funds to address many of the nation's most pressing conservation and recreation needs. The grant programs focus primarily on aquatic-based issues and contribute directly, or indirectly, to several of the Department of Interior's mission goals. In FY 2014, the states will continue to conduct conservation projects, similar to those below, with funds provided from the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act:

- Research and survey of sport fish populations;
- Fish stocking in suitable habitats to help stabilize species populations and provide angling opportunities;
- Improve public access and facilities for the use and enjoyment of anglers and boaters;
- Operate and maintain fishing and boating access sites, fish hatcheries and other associated opportunities;
- Develop and improve aquatic education programs and facilities;
- Support partnerships, watershed planning, and leveraging of ongoing projects in coastal wetlands; and
- Construct, renovate, operate, and maintain pump-out stations and dump stations to dispose of sewage from recreational boats.

All grant programs funded by the Sport Fish Restoration program leverage the federal funds by requiring a minimum of a 25 percent cost share, with the exception of the Multistate Conservation grant program, which does not require a cost share. While the Sport Fish Restoration grant program began over 60 years ago, its core value is a cooperative partnership of federal, state, anglers, boaters, and industry that provide significant benefits to the public and our nation's natural resources. Moreover, the program is central to the Service's mission of "working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for continuing benefit of the American people."

Some examples of activities planned by state fish and wildlife agencies in FY 2014 include:

- **Florida:** A Multi-species Approach for Improving Assessment and Management of Estuarine and Coastal Sport Fish Stocks in Florida. Scientists from the Florida Wildlife and Conservation Commission (FWC) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have developed a generalized sampling strategy for the west Florida shelf that partitions research and monitoring effort into various spatially-explicit, yet integrated components. This sampling strategy relies upon the use of multiple sampling methods to target important life-history stages that range from post-settlement juveniles in estuarine habitats to fully-recruited adults in neritic waters. Research and monitoring activities build upon existing programs (estuarine monitoring in several systems by FWC and NMFS–Panama City, neritic SEAMAP trawl surveys by FWC and NMFS, and neritic trap/camera surveys by NMFS – Pascagoula and NMFS – Panama City) to leverage available funds as well as maximize the quantity and quality of data available for assessment purposes.

- **Kentucky:** The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (DWFR) will continue to work on their two FY 2013 constructed boating access locations. The first access facility is a paved, single-lane boat ramp and paved parking lot able to accommodate 15 vehicles/trailers (with additional overflow parking in grass fields) in the section of Grayson Lake (Little Sandy River). The second access area developed was a gravel parking area and a paved walkway leading down to a concrete platform. This area was developed specifically for people to carry canoe/kayaks down to the river (Little Sandy River) and use as a put-in and take-out facility. This access facility is also conveniently located approximately 4.5 miles upstream of the first access site built, so this makes a convenient little day float for beginners/ intermediates in the canoe/kayak field. They can put in at the upstream location (referred to as Heritage access site) and enjoy a leisurely 4.5 mile paddle downstream to the first boat ramp site (Newfoundland boat ramp) and utilize this as their take-out facility.

- **Puerto Rico:** The Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) will utilize funding from the Sport Fish Restoration Program (Boating Access subaccount) for the development of a boat access project at La PargueraWard, Lajas, PR (southwest coast of the Island). The newly updated DNER Strategic Plan for the Fish and Wildlife Resources emphasizes the need and strategies for the development of fishing and boating access sites island-wide. Parguera area was proposed as one of the highest priorities for boat launching facilities and is considered a boating and fishing hot spot internationally. This area is visited by local and international tourists due to its spectacular scenario, beautiful cays and coral reefs, and a world renowned marine science laboratory center. Despite that, Parguera is lacking an adequate public boating access facility for launching and retrieving boats. The main boat ramp cannot support the current nautical activity levels that take place on a regular basis, much less during holidays or peak seasons, and has led to the construction of improvised and illegal access over unpaved soil created by cutting down mangrove trees. The existing ramp also is highly deteriorated, presenting unsafe conditions to boaters when launching and retrieving their vessels. The environmental impact from these conditions is very high, due to increased sedimentation in nearby habitats and the destruction of mangrove trees. The proposed renovations to the boating access infrastructure include a two-lane boat ramp, a concrete boarding dock, a paved parking area for approximately 15 cars and trailers, and complementary facilities such as a lighting system, storm sewer infrastructure, and general signage. Project design was completed under a prior Sport Fish Restoration grant.

In September 2008, after a two-year effort, the Service, in cooperation with States, developed a Conservation Heritage Strategic Plan that includes goals and performance measures for the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration program. Data collection to assess progress on the Conservation Heritage Strategic Plan began in FY 2009. The Conservation Heritage Measures demonstrate long-term national

outcomes as well as annual output performance goals through data provided by the individual States and collected in national surveys. Below are the targeted measures for FY 2014 under the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration program.

Sport Fish - Performance Change and Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
15.8.13 # of resident and nonresident fishing license holders	n/a	n/a	28,396,914	29,323,585	28,000,000	28,000,000	-1,323,585	28,000,000
Comments:	It is difficult to predict how the number of fishing license holders will change with time, but we expect a very slight decrease compared to 2012 due to the projection of improvements in the economy.							
15.8.16 Number of Days of participation in fishing	n/a	n/a	516,781,000	553,841,000	553,841,000	553,841,000	0	457,600,000

Table 1

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF DINGELL-JOHNSON SPORT FISH RESTORATION FUNDS CFDA: 15.605		
STATE	**FY 2013**	**FY 2014**
ALABAMA	$7,035,048	$6,274,210
ALASKA	18,908,317	16,863,389
AMERICAN SAMOA	1,260,554	1,124,225
ARIZONA	7,413,120	6,611,394
ARKANSAS	6,449,658	5,752,130
CALIFORNIA	18,908,317	16,863,389
COLORADO	9,159,571	8,168,967
CONNECTICUT	3,781,664	3,372,678
DELAWARE	3,781,664	3,372,678
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	1,260,554	1,124,225
FLORIDA	12,464,440	11,116,416
GEORGIA	6,910,694	6,163,305
GUAM	1,260,554	1,124,225
HAWAII	3,781,664	3,372,678
IDAHO	6,635,823	5,918,161
ILLINOIS	7,550,848	6,734,227
INDIANA	4,965,533	4,428,513
IOWA	4,923,250	4,390,802
KANSAS	5,346,962	4,768,690
KENTUCKY	5,626,308	5,017,825
LOUISIANA	6,981,364	6,226,332
MAINE	3,781,664	3,372,678
MARYLAND	3,781,664	3,372,678
MASSACHUSETTS	3,781,664	3,372,678
MICHIGAN	12,106,230	10,796,946
MINNESOTA	14,237,452	12,697,677
MISSISSIPPI	4,516,418	4,027,969
MISSOURI	8,677,592	7,739,114
MONTANA	8,966,749	7,996,999
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	1,260,554	1,124,225
NEBRASKA	4,671,251	4,166,057
NEVADA	5,506,302	4,910,798
NEW HAMPSHIRE	3,781,664	3,372,678
NEW JERSEY	3,781,664	3,372,678
NEW MEXICO	6,524,231	5,818,638
NEW YORK	8,916,547	7,952,226
NORTH CAROLINA	10,762,896	9,598,893
NORTH DAKOTA	4,210,338	3,754,992
OHIO	7,551,405	6,734,724
OKLAHOMA	7,645,350	6,818,508
OREGON	8,476,575	7,559,837
PENNSYLVANIA	8,707,417	7,765,714
PUERTO RICO	3,781,663	3,372,677
RHODE ISLAND	3,781,664	3,372,678
SOUTH CAROLINA	5,388,412	4,805,657
SOUTH DAKOTA	4,604,037	4,106,112
TENNESSEE	8,065,101	7,192,864
TEXAS	18,908,317	16,863,389
UTAH	6,856,172	6,114,680
VERMONT	3,781,664	3,372,678
VIRGIN ISLANDS	1,260,554	1,124,225
VIRGINIA	6,011,179	5,361,072
WASHINGTON	7,614,411	6,790,915
WEST VIRGINIA	3,781,664	3,372,678
WISCONSIN	12,536,321	11,180,522
WYOMING	5,743,659	5,122,485
TOTAL	**$378,166,352**	**$337,267,798**

<Note> FY 2013 apportioned amount includes reverted funds of $5,680,473.

Table 2

FY 2012 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program Awards

State	Coastal/Inland	Federal Share
Alabama	Coastal	$205,986
Alabama	Inland	$83,510
Arizona	Inland	$160,000
Arkansas	Inland	$831,072
Connecticut	Coastal	$1,500,000
Florida	Coastal	$1,307,462
Florida	Inland	$673,177
Georgia	Coastal	$287,573
Georgia	Inland	$168,390
Hawaii	Coastal	$150,000
Indiana	Coastal	$103,780
Indiana	Inland	$103,780
Kentucky	Inland	$75,000
Maine	Coastal	$352,441
Massachusettes	Coastal	$1,368,602
Michigan	Coastal	$100,000
Missouri	Inland	$48,000
New Hampshire	Coastal	$107,200
New Hampshire	Inland	$57,563
Ohio	Coastal	$97,044
Oklahoma	Inland	$167,078
Pennsylvania	Coastal	$1,368,602
Pennsylvania	Inland	$35,625
Rhode Island	Coastal	$366,250
South Carolina	Coastal	$554,981
South Carolina	Inland	$159,740
Tennessee	Inland	$468,750
Texas	Coastal	$234,000
Texas	Inland	$330,000
Utah	Inland	$40,517
Utah	Inland	$311,318
Washington	Coastal	$853,500
Washington	Inland	$96,375
Wisconsin	Coastal	$105,000
Wisconsin	Inland	$131,250
	Total	**$13,003,567**

Table 3

FY 2012 Boating Infrastructure Grant Program – Tier 1 Awards

State	Federal Share
Alabama	$100,000
Arkansas	$100,000
California	$100,000
Connecticut	$100,000
District of Columbia	$100,000
Hawaii	$100,000
Illinois	$57,781
Indiana	$100,000
Maine	$100,000
Maryland	$100,000
Massachusetts	100,000
Michigan	$100,000
Minnesota	$100,000
New Jersey	$100,000
New York	$100,000
North Carolina	$100,000
Oregon	$100,000
Rhode Island	$97,000
South Carolina	100,000
Tennessee	$100,000
Texas	$100,000
Vermont	$100,000
Virgin Islands	$100,000
Virginia	$86,400
Washington	$100,000
West Virginia	$100,000
Total	**$2,541,181**

Table 4

FY 2012 Boating Infrastructure Grant Program – Tier 2 Awards

State	Project Title	Federal Share
Alabama	Docks at Manderson Landing	$199,568
Arkansas	Rockwater Marina	$1,028,425
Louisiana	Slidell Municipal Marina	$1,500,000
Florida	Garrison Bight Transient Dock	$500,000
Florida	St. Pete Beach	$219,750
Mississippi	J. P. Coleman State Park	$802,560
Connecticut	Wethersfield Cove Marina	$494,650
DC	Market Pier Docks at the Wharf	$1,423,110
New York	Renovations at Gratwick Park Marina	$686,919
Pennsylvania	Southside Works Marina Development	$405,377
California	City of Martinez – Transient Facility Imp.	$1,329,190
California	San Mateo County, Oyster Point Guest Dock	$250,000
	TOTAL	**$8,839,549**

Table 5

FY 2012 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program Awards

State	Project Title	Federal Share
Alaska	Goose Bay Estuary Conservation Project	$60,000
Alaska	Upper Knik Arm Coastal Wetland Conservation Project	$1,000,000
California	Ten Mile River Estuary Protection Project	$1,000,000
Delaware	Thousand Acre Marsh Wetland Protection Project	$829,400
Florida	Big Talbot Island State Park Addition	$653,510
Georgia	Boyles Island Tract Acquisition Project	$1,000,000
Hawaii	Honu'apo Estuary Wetland Restoration Phase 1	$549,000
Maine	Long Cove, Seal Cove and Oscar's Pond: Maine Wetlands Acquisition Project, Pleasant Bay WMA	$980,000
Maryland	Chiacamacomico River Coastal Wetland Conservation	$986,604
Maryland	Point Pleasant Farm Conservation Easement	$1,000,000
Massachusetts	Rumney Marsh Restoration and Conservation Project	$1,000,000
New Jersey	Cape May Wetlands Project	$1,000,000
Texas	Bird Island Cove Estuary Habitat Restoration Project	$1,000,000
Texas	Settegast Phase II Land Acquisition Project	$1,000,000
Virginia	Lynnhaven Estuary Protection Project	$1,000,000
Washington	Big Quilcene River Coastal Stream Acquisition and Restoration	$900,000
Washington	Crockett Lake Coastal Wetlands- Phase 2	$960,000
Washington	Indian Point Coastal Wetlands Project	$618,000
Washington	Lower Nooksack River Conservation and Restoration Project	$759,281
Washington	Nooksack River - Smuggler's Slough Estuary Restoration Phase III	$803,804
Washington	North Bay/Coulter Creek Estuary	$585,000
Washington	Snow Creek Salt Marsh And Nearshore Restoration	$811,479
Washington	Triangle Cove Coastal Acquisition and Protection Project	$1,000,000
Washington	Union River Estuary Habitat Restoration Project	$1,000,000
	Total	**$20,496,078**

Table 6

FY 2012 North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Awards

	CFDA Number 15.623	
State	**Project**	**Amount**
CA	CALIFORNIA DELTA & YOLO BASINS HABITAT PROJECT, PHASE I	$1,000,000
CA	SKAGIT LOWLANDS CONSERVATION COLLABORATIVE	$1,000,000
CA	McDaniel Slough Restoration Project	$75,000
CT	Bell Cedar Swamp	$20,000
FL	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON COASTAL WETLANDS - PHASE I	$1,000,000
FL	Critical Bird Habitat Restoration in the NWRs of the Indian River Lagoon II	$68,250
MA	Mattapoisett Riverfront	$75,000
MD	OAK HILL CONSERVATION EASEMENT	$15,000
ME	KENNEBEC RIVER ESTUARY: PHASE IV	$995,000
ME	HEADS OF THE ESTUARIES PARTNERSHIP, MAINE: HABITAT PROTECTION - PHASE II	$1,000,000
ME	BAGADUCE RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT	$1,000,000
ME	Sucker Brook West Project	$75,000
MI	WESTERN MICHIGAN COASTAL HABITAT PROJECT	$1,000,000
MI	NORTHEASTERN OHIO WETLANDS PROJECT	$1,000,000
MI	SAGINAW BAY TO LAKE ERIE COASTAL HABITAT PROJECT PHASE III	$1,000,000
MS	WHITE LAKE WETLANDS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	$1,000,000
NC	CARTERET COUNTY, NC COASTAL INITIATIVE PHASE II	$775,000
NC	SOUTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA WETLANDS INITIATIVE II	$1,000,000
NY	Lakeshore Marshes Wetland Restoration	$75,000
NY	McCarn Creek	$70,040
NY	Upper St. Lawrence River/Thousand Island IBA - II	$75,000
NY	Rest & Enh of Waterbird Nesting Habitat on Maine Coast Islands II	$75,000
OH	Franklin Bog Protection Project	$75,000
OH	Medina Marsh Protection Project	$75,000
OR	CLEAR LAKE	$75,000
OR	Waite Ranch Tidal Wetlands Restoration Project	$75,000
PA	Chestnut Grove Natural Area Ecological Restoration Project	$75,000
SC	SANTEE DELTA & WINYAH BAY WETLANDS PROTECTION PROJECT: PHASE I	$1,000,000
SC	ACE BASIN EDISTO RIVER CORRIDOR PHASE VI	$1,000,000
SC	SOUTH CAROLINA LOWCOUNTRY WETLANDS INITIATIVE II	$1,000,000
SC	Restoration and Enhancement of Plum Hill Managed Wetlands Complex	$29,154
TX	WETLANDS REST & ENH OF PRIVATE & PUBLIC LANDS, TEXAS GULF COAST IX	$996,912
TX	LIVE OAK BAYOU MARSH	$1,000,000
TX	Gulf Coast Mottled Duck Conservation Plan - Phase V	$27,500
VA	SOUTHERN TIP ECOLOGICAL PARTNERSHIP IV	$254,961
WA	Lummi Island Wetland Preservation Project	$50,000
WA	Samish River Riparian and Wetland Protection, Phase III	$75,000
	Administration (4% of $18,201,817)	$728,073
	Total	**$18,201,817**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
SPORTFISH RESTORATION

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars) **Identification code 14-8151-0-303**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Obligations by Program Activity:			
0001 Payments to States for sport fish restoration	394	402	383
0003 North American wetlands conservation grants	18	18	16
0004 Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants	15	16	16
0005 Clean Vessel Act - pumpout station grants	12	13	12
0006 Administration	11	11	11
0007 National Communication and Outreach	12	13	12
0008 Non-Trailerable Recreational Vessel Access	10	13	12
0009 Multi-State Conservation Grants	3	3	3
0010 Marine Fisheries Commissions & Boating Council	1	1	1
0900 Total new obligations	**476**	**490**	**466**
Budgetary Resources Available for Obligation:			
1000 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	222	228	232
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	48	32	32
1050 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	**270**	**260**	**264**
New Budget Authority (gross), detail:			
Mandatory:			
1201 Appropriation (Sport and Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund)[20-8147-0-303-N-0500-01]	626	668	607
1220 Transferred to other accounts [96.8333] U.S. Army Corps	-79	-85	-77
1220 Transferred to other accounts [70.8149] Coast Guard	-113	-121	-109
1260 Appropriation (total mandatory)	**434**	**462**	**421**
1930 Total Budgetary Resources Available	**704**	**722**	**685**
Change in Unpaid Obligations:			
3000 Obligated balance, start of year	516	517	515
3010 Total new obligations	476	490	466
3020 Total outlays, gross (-)	-427	-460	-427
3040 Recoveries of prior year obligations	-48	-32	-32
3050 Obligated balance, end of year	**517**	**515**	**522**

Outlays, (gross) detail:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	130	139	126
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	297	321	301
4110 Total outlays (gross)	**427**	**460**	**427**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
SPORTFISH RESTORATION

Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars) **Identification code 14-8151-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Net Budget Authority and Outlays:			
4180 Budget authority, net	434	462	421
4190 Outlays, net	427	460	427
Object Classification:			
Direct Obligations:			
11.1 Personnel compensation: Full-time permanent	6	6	6
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	2	2	2
23.1 Rental payment to GSA	1	1	1
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	1	0	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	1	0	0
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	4	1	1
25.7 Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	461	479	455
99.9 Total new obligations	**476**	**490**	**466**

Employment Summary:			
1001 Direct civilian full-time equivalent employment	**60**	**60**	**60**

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration

Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration

Appropriations Language

The Wildlife Restoration Account does not require appropriations language because there is permanent authority to use the receipts in the account in the fiscal year following their collection.

Authorizing Statutes

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, now referred to as *The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act,* as amended (16 U.S.C. 669-669k), provides federal assistance to the 50 States, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for projects to restore, enhance, and manage wildlife resources, and to conduct state hunter education programs. The Act authorizes the collection of receipts for permanent-indefinite appropriation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for use in the fiscal year following collection. Funds not used by the states within two years revert to the Service for carrying out the provisions of the *Migratory Bird Conservation Act*. The Act also requires the Secretary of the Treasury to invest the portion of the fund not required for current year spending in interest-bearing obligations. The interest must be used for the North American Wetlands Conservations Act.

The Appropriations Act of August 31, 1951, (P.L. 82-136, 64 Stat. 693*)* authorizes receipts from excise taxes on selected hunting and sporting equipment to be deposited in the Wildlife Restoration Account, as a permanent, indefinite appropriation. Receipts and interest distributed to the Wildlife Restoration Account are made available for use by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the fiscal year following collection.

The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000, (P.L. 106-408) amends The *Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act* and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to develop and implement a Multistate Conservation Grant Program and a Firearm and Bow Hunter Education and Safety Program that provide grants to states.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, (16 U.S.C. 4407) amends the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and requires the Secretary of the Treasury to invest the portion of the Wildlife Restoration fund not required for current year spending in interest-bearing obligations to be available for wetlands conservation projects.

Appropriation: Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration

		2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Payments to States	($000)	362,761	534,271	0	+39,022	573,293
Hunter Education & Safety Grants	($000)	8,000	8,000	0	0	8,000
Multistate Conservation Grants	($000)	3,000	3,000	0	0	3,000
Administration	($000)	10,293	10,498	0	+209	10,707
Total	**($000)**	**384,054**	**555,769**		**+39,231**	**595,000**
	FTE	**52**	**52**		**0**	**52**
Interest – NAWCF	($000)	13,573	14,875	0	+777	15,652
	FTE	1	1		0	1
TOTAL, Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration	**($000)**	**397,627**	**570,644**	**0**	**+40,008**	**610,652**
	FTE	**53**	**53**	**0**	**0**	**53**

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Payments to States	+39,022	0
• Administration	+209	0
• Interest	+777	0
Program Changes	**+40,008**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration program is $610,652,000 and 53 FTE; a net program increase of $40,008,000 and +0 FTE from the 2013 estimated receipts. Program changes are based on current law estimates provided by Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis.

Payments to States (+$39,022,000 /+0 FTE) - For 2014, an estimated $573 million is available to states; an increase of $39 million from the 2013 estimated receipts. The Service anticipates an increase in receipts from pistols, revolvers, firearms, shells and cartridges sales based on current law estimates.

Administration (+$209,000 /+0 FTE) - Yearly administration funds for this program are based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the prior fiscal year, as published by the Bureau of Labor statistics.

Interest (+$777,000/+0 FTE) – The Service anticipates an increase in interest income as a result of updated economic assumptions.

Program Overview

In 1937, Congress passed the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act. The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration grant programs, including Section 4(c) Hunter Education and Safety program (Basic Hunter Education), and Section 10 Enhanced Firearm and Bow Hunter Education and Safety Program (Enhanced Hunter Education), are key components of the nation's cooperative conservation efforts for wildlife and their habitats. These programs not only help to meet hunter education, safety and shooting sports goals, but also support the Department's Resource Protection Strategy to "sustain biological

communities on managed and influenced lands and waters" by providing financial and technical assistance to states, commonwealths, and territories (States) for:

- Restoration, conservation, management, and enhancement of wild bird and mammal populations;
- Acquiring and managing wildlife habitats;
- Providing public uses that benefit from wildlife resources;
- Educating hunters on conservation ethics and safety; and
- Constructing, operating, and managing recreational firearm shooting and archery ranges.

The Wildlife Restoration program has been a stable funding source for wildlife conservation efforts for 75 years. States have developed comprehensive wildlife management strategies using a wide range of state-of-the-art techniques. Furthermore, States increase on-the-ground achievements by matching grant funds with at least one dollar for every three Federal dollars received. States use approximately 60% of Wildlife Restoration funds to purchase, lease, develop, maintain, and operate wildlife management areas. Since the program began, States have acquired about five million acres of land with these Federal funds through fee-simple acquisitions, leases, and easements. States use about 26% of Wildlife Restoration funds annually for wildlife surveys and research; enabling biologists and other managers to put science foremost in restoring and managing wildlife populations. Many States have been successful in restoring numerous species to their native ranges, including the Eastern and Rio Grande turkey, white-tailed deer, pronghorn antelope, wood duck, beaver, black bear, giant Canada goose, American elk, desert and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, bobcat, mountain lion, and many species of birds.

Since the start of the program, States have provided fish and wildlife management assistance to over 9.3 million landowners and have enhanced or improved over 38.6 million acres of habitat for wildlife species. Additionally, States have operated and maintained over 33 million acres of wildlife management areas for recreational purposes each year. Since the late 1930s, States have acquired or leased over 4.8 million acres for wildlife habitat and recreational purposes. The conservation efforts associated with the Wildlife Restoration program provide a wide range of outdoor opportunities for firearm users (recreational shooters and hunters), archery enthusiasts, birdwatchers, nature photographers, wildlife artists, and other users.

America's wildlife continues to face a wide variety of challenges, and the Wildlife Restoration program is essential to meeting ever-changing conservation needs. States continue to respond to these challenges with unique programs designed to benefit wildlife across State boundaries and across the nation. An excellent example of this cooperation is the Southeastern Wildlife Disease Study. This project allows the University of Georgia School of Veterinary Medicine to complete investigations and diagnosis of disease and parasite infestations of wild animals with emphasis on identifying implications to wildlife populations, humans and livestock. Fourteen states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are involved in this project. Investigations provide data used to manage wildlife populations and isolate disease and parasites, alleviating negative impacts on wildlife, humans, and livestock. Across the nation, there are similar studies supported by groups of States and concerned partners. The Service and States continue to adapt the program to the changing needs of America's wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation demands. For example, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has used program funds to improve trail access for individuals with physical disabilities. These trails are highly used by physically disabled hunters to participate in and enjoy America's rich hunting heritage. Other States are using this example to guide the development of similar programs.

The Atlantic Flyway Cooperative Waterfowl Banding project is another example. This cooperative project, among the Atlantic Flyway States and Provinces, the Service, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Wildlife Management Institute, bands waterfowl in Eastern Canada pre-season concentration areas.

Recovery data gathered as part of this multinational effort provides information on waterfowl populations and harvest data for North America.

Educational efforts are also an essential component of the Wildlife Restoration program. Approximately $70 million in FY 2014 is available to assist States in providing hunter education, shooting and archery ranges and young hunter programs. States' hunter education programs have trained more than ten million students in hunter safety and had over 3.9 million students participating in live-fire exercises over a span of 43 years. This effort has resulted in a significant decline in hunting-related accidents and has increased the awareness of outdoor enthusiasts on the importance of individual stewardship and conserving America's resources.

In 2000, the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act authorized the Enhanced Firearm and Bow Hunter Education and Safety Program (Enhanced Hunter Education). This funding provides enhancements to the Basic Hunter Education activities provided under the Wildlife Restoration Act. Enhanced Hunter Education provides $8 million to enhance interstate coordination and development of hunter education and shooting range programs; promote bow hunter and archery education, safety, and development programs; and provide for construction or development of firearm and archery ranges.

The Improvement Act of 2000 also authorized the development and implementation of a Multistate Conservation Grant Program (MSCGP). In FY 2014, $6 million ($3 million each from Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs) will be provided to the MSCGP for conservation grants arising from a cooperative effort between the Service and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. These grants support conservation projects designed to solve high priority problems affecting States on a regional or national level. Project types generally selected for funding are: biological research/training, species population status, outreach, data collection regarding hunter/angler participation, hunter/aquatic education, economic value of fishing/hunting and regional or multistate habitat needs assessments.

Since the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration program began, the program has collected more than $7.15 billion in manufacturers' excise taxes and awarded this to States for wildlife conservation efforts. States have provided their required match of over $1.78 billion. The National Shooting Sports Foundation estimates that through excise taxes and license fees, sportsmen and women contribute about $3.5 million each day to wildlife conservation. It is critical to the restoration of many species of wildlife, including the most recognizable symbol of our American heritage, the bald eagle. These funds also benefit songbirds, peregrine falcons, sea otters, prairie dogs, and other nongame species.

The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration program is one of the most successful programs administered by the Service. It has also served as a model for a companion program, the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, which uses excise-tax funds derived from anglers and boaters to safeguard the nation's sport fish resources and provide recreational opportunity. Together these two programs are the cornerstones of fish and wildlife management and recreational use in the United States.

Types of State Wildlife Restoration Projects – All 50 States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands participate in this program through their respective fish and wildlife agencies. Each fish and wildlife agency develops and selects projects for funding based on the agencies' assessment of problems and needs for management of wildlife resources. The following are eligible activities under the Wildlife Restoration program:

- Conduct surveys and inventories of wildlife populations;
- Acquire, manage, and improve habitat;
- Introduce wildlife into suitable habitat to help stabilize species populations;

- Improve public access and facilities for their use and enjoyment of wildlife resources;
- Operate and maintain wildlife management areas;
- Acquire land through fee title, leases, or agreement for wildlife conservation and public hunting purposes;
- Conduct research on wildlife and monitor wildlife status;
- Develop and improve hunter education and safety programs and facilities; and
- Develop and manage shooting or archery ranges.

Law enforcement and fish and wildlife agency public relations are ineligible for funding.

Funding Source for the Wildlife Restoration Program – Wildlife Restoration program funds come from manufacturer excise taxes collected by the U.S. Treasury and deposited in the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund. The Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) administers the Trust Fund. Once collected, the funds are distributed to State fish and wildlife agencies for eligible wildlife restoration activities. The manufacturer excise taxes include:

- 10% tax on pistols, handguns, and revolvers;
- 11% tax on other firearms and ammunition; and
- 11% tax on bows, quivers, broadheads, and points.

The Basic Hunter Education program funds come from one-half of the manufacturer excise taxes on pistols, revolvers, bows, quivers, broadheads, and shafts. The Enhanced Hunter Education funding is a set-aside of $8 million from the Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund.

State Apportionment Program – Through a permanent-indefinite appropriation, States (including commonwealths and territories) receive funds, provided they pass legislation to ensure that hunting license fees are used only for administration of the State fish and wildlife agency (assent legislation). The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act includes an apportionment formula that distributes program funds to States based on the area of the State (50%) and the number of paid hunting license holders (50%). No state may receive more than 5 percent, or less than one-half of one percent of the total apportionment. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico receives one-half of one percent, and the Territories of Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands each receive one-sixth of one percent of the total funds apportioned.

Both the Basic and Enhanced Hunter Education funds are a formula-driven apportionment based on State population compared to the total U.S. populations using the latest census figures. No state may receive more than three percent or less than one percent of the total hunter safety funds apportioned. The Commonwealths of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are each apportioned up to one-sixth of one percent of the total apportioned. Estimated apportionments for FY 2013 and FY 2014 are included in subsequent pages.

Matching Requirements – The 50 States must provide at least 25 percent of the project costs from a non-Federal source. The non-Federal share often comes from State revenues derived from license fees paid by hunters. The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program can waive the 25 percent non-Federal matching requirement for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and American Samoa, up to $200,000 (48 U.S.C. 1469a (d)). The non-Federal share may not include any Federal funds or Federal in-kind contributions unless legislation specifically allows it.

Obligation Requirements – Wildlife Restoration Program funds (including Basic Hunter Education) are available for a period of two years. Under the Act, funds that are not obligated within two years revert to the Service to carry out the provisions of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. The Wildlife Restoration Act stipulates that the interest from the Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund go to the North American Wetlands Conservation program. Enhanced Hunter Education funds are available for a period of one year.

2014 Program Performance

For 75 years, the Wildlife Restoration program has provided a stable federal funding source for state fish and wildlife agencies. This funding stability is critical to the recovery of many of the nation's wildlife species. An example of activities planned by state fish and wildlife agencies in FY 2014 includes:

- Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS): The SCWDS was founded in 1957 by the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to determine the cause of widespread die-offs of white-tailed deer. Headquarters and support facilities were made available through an agreement with The University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine in Athens, Georgia. This project became the first diagnostic and research service established for the specific purpose of investigating wildlife diseases. The SCWDS is an example of a cooperative project between states that was formed to enhance Wildlife Management. It serves as common ground where wildlife experts work hand-in-hand with private, state, and federal authorities toward a common goal. The SCWDS has helped detect causes of sickness and death in wildlife; define the impact of diseases and parasites upon wild animal populations; delineate disease interrelationships between wildlife and domestic livestock; and determine the role of wildlife in the transmission of human diseases. The SCWDS has now grown from a small project, with one mission, to a versatile, multipurpose wildlife disease research and service organization. Fifteen States and Puerto Rico will continue to cooperatively fund the SCWDS.

In 2014, the Service will continue to improve performance information available for the Wildlife Restoration Act program. The program has a long history of conservation successes. Support for reporting will be provided by a geo-database system named "Tracking and Reporting Actions for the Conservation of Species" (TRACS). With this system, the Service expects to continue improving its programmatic accomplishment reporting capabilities. This will result in more refined performance information and better documentation of progress made in meeting performance goals identified in the Conservation Heritage Strategic Plan.

In September 2008, after a two-year effort, the Service, in cooperation with States, developed a Conservation Heritage Strategic Plan that includes goals and performance measures for the Pittman-Robertson Restoration program. Data collection to assess progress on the Conservation Heritage Strategic Plan began in FY 2009. The Conservation Heritage Measures demonstrate long-term national outcomes as well as annual output performance goals through data provided by the individual States and collected in national surveys. Below are the targeted measures for FY 2014 under the Pittman-Robertson Restoration program.

Wildlife Restoration - Performance Change and Overview Table

Performance Goal	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Plan	2014 PB	Change from 2012 to 2014 PB	Long Term Target 2016
4.5.6 # of Acres of terrestrial habitat acquired and protected through fee title (GPRA)	n/a	n/a	35,048	70,917	12,512	16,000	-54,917	4,500
Comments:	2012 Actual is an outlier that may be the result of reduced land costs due to falling prices; with recovery of real estate values, we expect results in 2014 to be more in line with the longer-term trend.							
7.19.4 # of acres achieving habitat/biological community goals through voluntary agreements	115,055	470,610	258,418	718,898	80,488	140,000	-578,898	69,306
Comments:	2012 Actual was an outlier; 2014 goal represents an increase over 2011, which is closer to the longer-term trend.							
15.8.14 # of resident and nonresident hunting license holders	n/a	n/a	14,974,534	14,960,522	14,250,000	14,250,000	-710,522	14,250,000
Comments:	It is difficult to predict how the number of hunting license holders will change with time, but we expect a very slight decrease compared to 2012 since the number of hunters is declining.							
15.8.15 Number of Days of participation in hunting	n/a	n/a	219,925,000	281,884,000	281,884,000	281,884,000	0	198,200,000
15.8.17 Number of Days of participation in wildlife watching (away from home)	n/a	n/a	352,070,000	335,625,000	335,625,000	335,625,000	0	352,070,000
15.8.18 # of around the home wildlife watching participants	n/a	n/a	67,756,000	68,598,000	68,598,000	68,598,000	0	67,756,000
15.8.19 # of shooting ranges constructed, renovated, or maintained that support recreational shooting	n/a	n/a	371	342	309	309	-33	200
Comments:	We expect a slight decrease in shooting range construction, renovation, and management, as the numbers tend to be trending downward.							
15.8.20 # of certified students that completed a Hunter Education program	n/a	n/a	1,048,318	810,306	751,399	650,000	-160,306	350,000
Comments:	We expect a slight decrease in the number of hunter education students compared with 2012, as the numbers seem to be trending downward.							

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF PITTMAN-ROBERTSON
WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS (CFDA # 15.611) FOR 2013

STATE	Wildlife Restoration - 5220 (2013)	Section 4c - 5210 (2013)	Section 10 - 5230 (2013)	TOTAL
ALABAMA	$10,786,875	$2,319,740	$181,554.00	$13,288,169
ALASKA	$21,610,569	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$22,712,742
AMERICAN SAMOA	$720,352	$170,362	$13,333.00	$904,047
ARIZONA	$10,399,573	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$13,706,089
ARKANSAS	$8,967,349	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$10,069,522
CALIFORNIA	$14,596,895	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$17,903,411
COLORADO	$10,977,687	$2,440,810	$191,030.00	$13,609,527
CONNECTICUT	$2,161,057	$1,734,611	$135,759.00	$4,031,427
DELAWARE	$2,161,057	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$3,263,230
DC	$0	$0	$0.00	$0
FLORIDA	$6,417,195	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$9,723,711
GEORGIA	$8,984,627	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$12,291,143
GUAM	$720,352	$170,362	$13,333.00	$904,047
HAWAII	$2,161,057	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$3,263,230
IDAHO	$9,072,030	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$10,174,203
ILLINOIS	$8,235,683	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$11,542,199
INDIANA	$6,214,169	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$9,520,685
IOWA	$6,932,919	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$8,035,092
KANSAS	$8,679,764	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$9,781,937
KENTUCKY	$7,274,411	$2,106,017	$164,827.00	$9,545,255
LOUISIANA	$7,972,969	$2,200,173	$172,196.00	$10,345,338
MAINE	$4,840,832	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$5,943,005
MARYLAND	$2,360,792	$2,802,067	$219,303.00	$5,382,162
MASSACHUSETTS	$2,161,057	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$5,467,573
MICHIGAN	$14,438,422	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$17,744,938
MINNESOTA	$13,682,059	$2,574,144	$201,465.00	$16,457,668
MISSISSIPPI	$6,254,404	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$7,356,577
MISSOURI	$11,405,776	$2,906,595	$227,484.00	$14,539,855
MONTANA	$13,183,970	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$14,286,143
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	$720,352	$170,362	$13,333.00	$904,047
NEBRASKA	$7,673,528	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$8,775,701
NEVADA	$8,362,247	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$9,464,420
NEW HAMPSHIRE	$2,161,057	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$3,263,230
NEW JERSEY	$2,161,057	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$5,467,573
NEW MEXICO	$9,568,865	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$10,671,038
NEW YORK	$11,316,464	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$14,622,980
NORTH CAROLINA	$10,736,272	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$14,042,788
NORTH DAKOTA	$6,927,095	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$8,029,268
OHIO	$8,376,294	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$11,682,810
OKLAHOMA	$9,967,331	$1,820,637	$142,492.00	$11,930,460
OREGON	$10,151,624	$1,859,328	$145,520.00	$12,156,472
PENNSYLVANIA	$16,386,359	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$19,692,875
PUERTO RICO	$2,161,056	$170,362	$13,333.00	$2,344,751
RHODE ISLAND	$2,161,057	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$3,263,230
SOUTH CAROLINA	$4,852,454	$2,244,819	$175,690.00	$7,272,963
SOUTH DAKOTA	$8,701,434	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$9,803,607
TENNESSEE	$12,477,468	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$15,783,984
TEXAS	$21,610,569	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$24,917,085
UTAH	$8,654,851	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$9,757,024
VERMONT	$2,161,057	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$3,263,230
VIRGIN ISLANDS	$720,352	$170,362	$13,333.00	$904,047
VIRGINIA	$6,881,784	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$10,188,300
WASHINGTON	$7,191,545	$3,066,516	$240,000.00	$10,498,061
WEST VIRGINIA	$4,688,952	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$5,791,125
WISCONSIN	$13,483,025	$2,760,054	$216,015.00	$16,459,094
WYOMING	$8,583,329	$1,022,173	$80,000.00	$9,685,502
TOTAL	**$432,211,380**	**$102,217,210**	**$8,000,000**	**$542,428,590**

<Note> FY 2013 apportioned amount includes reverted funds of $157,537.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF PITTMAN-ROBERTSON
WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS (CFDA # 15.611) FOR 2014

	Wildlife Restoration - 5220 (2014)	Section 4c - 5210 (2014))	Section 10 - 5230 (2014)	TOTAL
STATE				
ALABAMA	$11,712,336	$2,360,201	$181,554.00	$14,254,091
ALASKA	$23,464,650	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$24,584,650
AMERICAN SAMOA	$782,154	$173,333	$13,333.00	$968,820
ARIZONA	$11,291,805	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$14,651,805
ARKANSAS	$9,736,704	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,856,704
CALIFORNIA	$15,849,237	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$19,209,237
COLORADO	$11,919,519	$2,483,382	$191,030.00	$14,593,931
CONNECTICUT	$2,346,465	$1,764,865	$135,759.00	$4,247,089
DELAWARE	$2,346,465	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$3,466,465
DC	$0	$0	$0.00	$0
FLORIDA	$6,967,759	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$10,327,759
GEORGIA	$9,755,464	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$13,115,464
GUAM	$782,154	$173,333	$13,333.00	$968,820
HAWAII	$2,346,465	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$3,466,465
IDAHO	$9,850,366	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,970,366
ILLINOIS	$8,942,264	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$12,302,264
INDIANA	$6,747,314	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$10,107,314
IOWA	$7,527,730	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$8,647,730
KANSAS	$9,424,445	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,544,445
KENTUCKY	$7,898,520	$2,142,750	$164,827.00	$10,206,097
LOUISIANA	$8,657,011	$2,238,548	$172,196.00	$11,067,755
MAINE	$5,256,152	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$6,376,152
MARYLAND	$2,563,336	$2,850,940	$219,303.00	$5,633,579
MASSACHUSETTS	$2,346,465	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$5,706,465
MICHIGAN	$15,677,169	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$19,037,169
MINNESOTA	$14,855,913	$2,619,042	$201,465.00	$17,676,420
MISSISSIPPI	$6,791,001	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$7,911,001
MISSOURI	$12,384,335	$2,957,290	$227,484.00	$15,569,109
MONTANA	$14,315,091	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$15,435,091
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	$782,154	$173,333	$13,333.00	$968,820
NEBRASKA	$8,331,879	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$9,451,879
NEVADA	$9,079,686	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,199,686
NEW HAMPSHIRE	$2,346,465	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$3,466,465
NEW JERSEY	$2,346,465	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$5,706,465
NEW MEXICO	$10,389,827	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$11,509,827
NEW YORK	$12,287,361	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$15,647,361
NORTH CAROLINA	$11,657,392	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$15,017,392
NORTH DAKOTA	$7,521,406	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$8,641,406
OHIO	$9,094,939	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$12,454,939
OKLAHOMA	$10,822,480	$1,852,391	$142,492.00	$12,817,363
OREGON	$11,022,584	$1,891,758	$145,520.00	$13,059,862
PENNSYLVANIA	$17,792,229	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$21,152,229
PUERTO RICO	$2,346,465	$173,333	$13,333.00	$2,533,131
RHODE ISLAND	$2,346,465	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$3,466,465
SOUTH CAROLINA	$5,268,771	$2,283,973	$175,690.00	$7,728,434
SOUTH DAKOTA	$9,447,974	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,567,974
TENNESSEE	$13,547,973	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$16,907,973
TEXAS	$23,464,650	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$26,824,650
UTAH	$9,397,395	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,517,395
VERMONT	$2,346,465	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$3,466,465
VIRGIN ISLANDS	$782,154	$173,333	$13,333.00	$968,820
VIRGINIA	$7,472,207	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$10,832,207
WASHINGTON	$7,808,544	$3,120,000	$240,000.00	$11,168,544
WEST VIRGINIA	$5,091,241	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$6,211,241
WISCONSIN	$14,639,803	$2,808,195	$216,015.00	$17,664,013
WYOMING	$9,319,737	$1,040,000	$80,000.00	$10,439,737
TOTAL	**$469,293,000**	**$104,000,000**	**$8,000,000**	**$581,293,000**

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION

Unavailable Collections (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5029-0-303**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Special and Trust Fund Receipts:			
0199 Balance, start of year	**384**	**556**	**595**
Receipts:			
0200 Excise taxes, Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund	556	595	559
0240 Earnings on Investments, Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Fund	14	15	16
0299 Total Receipts	**570**	**610**	**575**
0400 Total Balances and Collections	**954**	**1166**	**1170**
Appropriations:			
0500 Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration	-398	-571	-611
0799 Total Balance, end of year	**556**	**595**	**559**
Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5029-0-303**			
Obligations by program activity:			
0003 Multi-State Conservation Grant Program	4	3	3
0004 Administration	10	10	11
0005 Wildlife Restoration Grants	371	518	573
0006 North American Conservation Fund (NAWCF) - Interest for Grants	17	14	15
0007 Section 10 Hunter Education	8	8	8
0900 Total New Obligations	**410**	**553**	**610**
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
Unobligated Balance:			
1000 Unobligated balance brought forward, Oct 1	147	167	205
1021 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	32	20	20
1050 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	179	187	225
New budget authority (Mandatory):			
1260 Appropriation, Total Mandatory	398	571	611
1930 Total Budgetary Resources Available	**577**	**758**	**836**
Change in Obligated Balance:			
3000 Obligated balance, start of year	394	395	461
3010 Total new obligations	410	553	610
3020 Total outlays, gross (-)	-377	-467	-544
3040 Recoveries of prior year unpaid obligations	-32	-20	-20
3050 Obligated balance, end of year	**395**	**461**	**507**
Outlays (gross), detail:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	118	171	183
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	259	296	361
4110 Total Outlays (gross)	**377**	**467**	**544**

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) Identification code 14-5029-0-2-303	2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	2014 Estimate
Net budget authority and outlays:			
4180 Budget authority, net	398	571	611
4190 Outlays, net	377	467	544
Memorandum (Non-Add) Entries			
Total investments, start of year:			
5000 U.S. Securities: Par value	913	735	839
Total investments, end of year:			
5001 U.S. Securities: Par value	735	839	906
Direct Obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.11 Full-time permanent	5	5	5
11.21 Civilian personnel benefits	2	2	2
12.31 Rental payments to GSA	1	1	1
12.51 Advisory and assistance services	1		
12.53 Other goods and services from Federal sources	4	2	2
12.57 Operation and maintenance of equipment		1	1
13.20 Land and structures	1		
14.10 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	396	540	597
19.90 Subtotal, Direct Obligations	410	551	608
99.95 Below reporting threshold		2	2
99.99 Total obligations	**410**	**553**	**610**
Personnel Summary			
Direct:			
Total compensable workyears:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	**53**	**53**	**53**

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Migratory Bird Conservation Account

Migratory Bird Conservation Account

Appropriations Language

This activity does not require appropriations language, except for advances, which are not requested, as there is permanent authority to use the receipts.

Legislative Proposal

Concurrent with this budget request, the Service is proposing to amend the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, to increase the sales price for Duck Stamps from $15 to $25 beginning in 2014. Increasing the cost of Duck Stamps in 2014 will bring the annual estimate for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) to approximately $66.0 million.

Authorizing Statutes

The Migratory Bird Conservation Act of February 18, 1929, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715), established the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC) to approve migratory bird areas that the Secretary of the Interior recommends for acquisition. The Act also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire MBCC-approved migratory bird areas.

The Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act of March 16, 1934, as amended (16 U.S.C. 718), requires all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older to possess a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, commonly known as a Duck Stamp, while waterfowl hunting. Funds from the sale of Duck Stamps are deposited in a special treasury account known as the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund established by this Act. The Act also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to use funds from the MBCF to acquire waterfowl production areas.

The Wetlands Loan Act of October 4, 1961, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715k-3 through 715k-5), authorizes the appropriation of advances (not to exceed $200 million, available until expended) to accelerate acquisition of migratory waterfowl habitat. To date, $197,439,000 has been appropriated under this authority. Funds appropriated under the *Wetlands Loan Act* are merged with receipts from sales of Duck Stamps and other sources and made available for acquisition of migratory bird habitat under provisions of the *Migratory Bird Conservation Act, as amended*, or the *Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, as amended*.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee), requires payment of fair market value for any right-of-way easement or reservation granted within the Refuge System. These funds are deposited into the MBCF.

The Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3901), provides for: (1) an amount equal to the amount of all import duties collected on arms and ammunition to be paid quarterly into the MBCF; (2) removal of the repayment provision of the wetlands loan; and (3) the graduated increase in the price of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp over a five year period to $15.00.

Appropriation: Migratory Bird Conservation Account

		2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	Fixed Costs	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Duck Stamp Receipts	($000)	22,130	22,000	0	+14,000	36,000
Import Duties on Arms and Ammunition	($000)	34,365	30,000	0	0	30,000
Total, Migratory Bird Conservation Account	**($000)**	**56,495**	**52,000**	**0**	**+14,000**	**66,000**
	FTE	**63**	**65**		**+10**	**75**

Summary of FY 2014 Program Changes for Migratory Bird Conservation Account

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Legislative Proposal to Increase Duck Stamp Price	+14,000	+10
Program Changes	**+14,000**	**+10**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes

The 2014 budget request for the MBCF is $66,000,000 and 75 FTEs, a program change of +$14,000,000 and +10 FTE from the 2013 estimate. This amount includes the requested Duck Stamp price increase. The Service would hire additional staff of realty specialists, land surveyors, realty assistants, cartographers, and program managers at the regional level based on workload and acquisition opportunities. Their duties will include boundary surveys, mapping, landowner negotiations, title curative work, case closures, and post-acquisition tracking associated with land acquisition at National Wildlife Refuge System lands and Waterfowl Production Areas.

Legislative Proposal

Concurrent with this budget request the Administration is proposing to amend the ***Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act,*** to increase the sales price for Duck Stamps from $15 to $25 beginning in 2014. Increasing the cost of Duck Stamps in 2014 will bring the annual estimate for the MBCF to approximately $66.0 million. With the additional receipts, the Service anticipates additional acquisition of approximately 7,000 acres in fee and approximately 10,000 acres in conservation easements. Total acres acquired for 2014 would then be approximately 33,500 acres in fee title and 46,000 acres in perpetual conservation easements. After 2014, the legislation also proposes that the price of the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp can be increased by the Secretary of the Interior, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

Program Overview

The Migratory Bird Conservation Fund allows the Service to acquire important migratory bird breeding areas, resting areas, and wintering areas. Service policy is to acquire land and water interests including, but not limited to, fee title, easements, leases, and other interests. We encourage donations of desired lands or interests. The Service acquires land and waters for the conservation, management, and, where appropriate, restoration of ecosystems, fish, wildlife, plants, and related habitat. Acquired lands and waters also provide compatible wildlife-dependent educational and recreational opportunities. Areas acquired become units of the National Wildlife Refuge System. These acquisitions, with State-level review and approval, contribute to the Secretary of the Interior's goal to conserve important migratory bird habitat.

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC), under authority of the *Migratory Bird*

Conservation Act, considers and acts on recommendations by the Secretary of the Interior for purchase or rental of land, water, or land and water for the conservation of migratory birds. Further, under the Act, the MBCC can fix the price or prices at which such area may be purchased or rented by the Service; and any changes must be by the MBCC. Congress also has authorized the Secretary to approve the use of the MBCF for the purchase of waterfowl production areas. The MBCC:

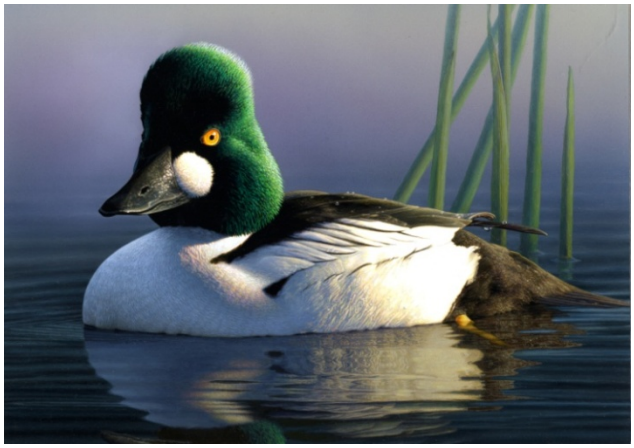
- is composed of representatives from the Legislative and Executive Branches of government,
- is represented by State government officials when specific migratory bird areas are recommended to the MBCC, and
- meets three times per year, typically in March, June, and September.

In 2012, the MBCC expressed support for the Service's plan that future land protection efforts be focused on vital habitat in the Prairie Pothole Region (PPR). The accelerated conversion of waterfowl habitat to cropland in the PPR spurred the need for conservation and acquisition efforts. The PPR consists of shallow wetlands surrounded by native prairie and is known as America's "duck factory" since this region serves as the breeding ground for millions of waterfowl and other migratory birds It includes parts of Iowa, the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Montana. The North American Waterfowl Management Plan identified the PPR as the continent's top priority for waterfowl conservation. Under this initiative, FWS, Ducks Unlimited and other partners are working with the commission to expend more than 70 percent of the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund to help secure the future for waterfowl and grassland species on the prairies. In 2012, the Service acquired nearly 49,000 acres in fee and easement for just over $33 million.

The Service considers many factors before seeking approval from the MBCC for acquisitions from willing sellers, including:

- the value of the habitat to the waterfowl resource (in general or for specific species),
- the degree of threat to these values due to potential land use changes,
- the possibility of preserving habitat values through means other than Service acquisition, and
- the long-term operation and maintenance costs associated with acquisition.

The Service focuses its acquisition efforts, with state-level review and input, to benefit waterfowl species most in need of habitat protection. The Service's *Migratory Bird Conservation Act* habitat acquisition program supports the Service's emphasis on nine waterfowl National Resource Species (American black duck, cackling Canada goose, canvasback, mallard, Pacific brant, Pacific white-fronted goose, pintail, redhead, and wood duck).



This Common Goldeneye drake, painted by Robert Steiner, won the 2012 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest.

To carry out these approved projects, the MBCF supports a staff of realty specialists, land surveyors, realty assistants, cartographers, and program managers, as well as indirect and direct program costs. This staff performs detailed, technical duties including boundary surveys, mapping, landowner negotiations, title curative work, case closures, and post-acquisition tracking, associated with land acquisition at national wildlife refuges and waterfowl production areas using the MBCF.

From 1935 to 2012, the Migratory Bird land acquisition program has received $1.17 billion for the acquisition of wetlands and other habitat important to waterfowl. The *Migratory Bird Conservation Act, as amended,* requires these funds, along with proceeds from import duties on certain firearms and

ammunition, payments from rights-of-way on refuges, sale of refuge lands, and reverted Federal Aid funds, to be deposited in the MBCF. The Service has used these funds, including some appropriations received in the early years of the program, to purchase over 3 million acres in fee title and 2.5 million acres in easements or leases.

The mix of acreage available for protection by conservation easement or fee title acquisition varies from year to year, depending, in part, on the wishes of the landowners involved. Conservation easements are legal agreements that allow the private landowner to retain ownership of the land with certain binding restrictions on specified activities within that portion of the property that is under the conservation easement. For example, draining or filling the wetland or burning the associated grassland may be prohibited in the area covered by the conservation easement. These perpetual easements typically cost a fraction of what it would cost to acquire the fee interest in the land, although the actual percentage varies depending on the market value and the restrictions imposed. Another benefit of conservation easements to local communities is that landowners continue to pay the taxes on their easement property. The Service's easement program benefits taxpayers, landowners, and conservationists alike, and is a prime example of a federal program that works cooperatively on multiple levels.

Delivering Conservation for Migratory Birds

Since its creation, the MBCF has contributed to the successful conservation of wetland birds, and this program continues to expand conservation for waterfowl and other birds that all use imperiled habitats within our Nation, including coastlines, grasslands, and forests. In addition to PPR acquisition, the following are examples of the quality waterfowl habitats that the Fund supports.

Red Rock Creek with the Centennial Mountains at Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, Montana

- President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge in 1935 as "a breeding ground for wild birds and animals." Located in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem of Montana, this Refuge supports a great many breeding pairs of lesser scaup and trumpeter swans in addition to other wildlife. Swans in this area produce more cygnets than any other area in the western United States. In 2012, the MBCC approved the acquisition of 810 fee acres and 5,834 lease acres at Red Rock Lakes NWR.
- Cache River National Wildlife Refuge, in Arkansas, encompasses large tracts of bottomland hardwood forest that contain forested wetlands. A series of chain lakes and sloughs hold water year round, enhancing the area for waterfowl and other migratory birds. During winter months, the Refuge hosts one of the largest concentrations of mallards in North America. Since 1986, the MBCF has purchased nearly 50,000 acres of waterfowl habitat at Cache River NWR.

2014 Program Performance

The Service reports MBCA and LWCF land acquisitions for the National Wildlife Refuge System, in two annual reports, the Annual Report of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, and the Annual Report of Lands Under the Control of the USFWS. The combined acquisitions support the Resource Protection goal to sustain biological communities on DOI-managed lands and waters.

With the legislatively proposed increase in the price of the Federal Duck Stamp, we anticipate an increase in the number of dollars and protected acres in 2014, as shown in the Workload Indicators table.

Workload Indicators

Subactivity	FY 2013 Est. ($000)	FY 2013 Est. Acres	FY 2014 Estimated ($000)	FY 2014 Estimated Acres	Change from 2013 ($000)	Change from 2013 Acres
Refuge Acquisition	15,450	9,400	19,450	16,400	+4,000	+7,000
Waterfowl Production Areas	35,800	53,160	45,800	63,160	+10,000	+10,000
Duck Stamp Printing and Distribution Costs	750	n/a	750	n/a	-	n/a
Total	52,000	62,560	66,000	79,560	+14,000	+17,000

Acres Acquired By Fee and Easement
FY 2002 - FY 2012

FY	Fee	Easement	Total
2012	14,747	48,144	62,891
2011	16,719	23,160	39,879
2010	6,398	25,297	31,695
2009	13,870	27,504	41,374
2008	7,716	32,073	39,789
2007	8,041	29,147	37,188
2006	9,634	31,964	41,598
2005	13,768	49,103	62,871
2004	10,098	38,819	48,917
2003	36,164	41,706	77,870
2002	21,274	48,931	70,205
Totals	158,429	395,848	554,277

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACCOUNT

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) Identification code 14-5137-0	2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	2014 Estimate
Receipts:			
0200 Migratory bird hunting and conservation stamps	22	22	22
0201 Migratory bird hunting and conservation stamps - Legislative Proposal subject to PAYGO	0	0	14
0202 Custom duties on arms and ammunition	34	30	30
0299 Total Receipts	**56**	**52**	**66**
Appropriations:			
0500 Migratory Bird Conservation Account (-)	-56	-52	-52
0501 Migratory bird hunting and conservation stamps - Legislative Proposal subject to PAYGO			-14
0599 Total Appropriations	**-56**	**-52**	**-66**
0799 Balance, end of year	**0**	**0**	**0**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 Printing and sale of duck stamps	1	1	2
0003 Acquisition of refuges and other areas	55	51	64
0900 Total obligations	**56**	**52**	**66**
Budgetary resources:			
1000 Unobligated balance available, start of year	9	9	9
1201 (01) Appropriations (special fund)	56	52	66
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**65**	**61**	**75**
1941 Unobligated balance available, end of year	**9**	**9**	**9**
Change in obligated balance:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	21	18	14
3010 Obligaitons incurred, unexpired accounts	56	52	66
3020 Outlays (gross)	-59	-56	-64
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**18**	**14**	**16**
Budget authority and outlays, net:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	56	52	66
Outlays, gross:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	29	36	46
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	30	20	18
4110 Outlays, gross (total)	**59**	**56**	**64**
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	**56**	**52**	**66**
4190 Outlays, net (total)	**59**	**56**	**64**

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACCOUNT

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5137-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Object Classification:			
Direct Obligations:			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	5	5	6
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	2	2	2
25.2 Other Services from non-Federal Services	1	1	1
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	2	2	2
32.0 Land and structures	45	41	54
99.0 Subtotal, obligations, Direct obligations	**55**	**51**	**65**
99.5 Below reporting threshold	1	1	1
99.9 Total obligations	**56**	**52**	**66**

Personnel Summary:			
1001 Direct Civilian full-time equivalent employment	**63**	**65**	**75**

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Recreation Fee Program

Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program

Appropriations Language

Congress passed the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) on December 8, 2004, as part of the Omnibus Appropriations bill for 2005. Approximately 164 Fish and Wildlife Service sites collect entrance fees and other receipts. Collection sites deposit all receipts into a Recreation Fee Account.

The Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program (FLREA) demonstrates the feasibility of user generated cost recovery for the operation and maintenance of recreation areas, visitor services improvements, and habitat enhancement projects on Federal lands. Refuges use fees primarily to improve visitor access; to enhance public safety and security; to address backlogged maintenance needs; to enhance resource protection; and to cover the costs of collection. The FLREA authorizes the Recreation Fee Program through December 8, 2014.

Authorizing Statutes

Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801-6814). The FLREA provides the authority to establish, modify, charge, and collect recreation fees at Federal recreation land and waters over 10 years. The Act seeks to improve recreational facilities and visitor opportunities and services on Federal recreational lands by reinvesting receipts from fair and consistent recreational fees and pass sales.

Appropriation: Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program

		2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Recreation Fee Enhancement	($000)	5,085	5,100	0	0	5,100
Total, Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program	**($000)**	**5,085**	**5,100**	**0**	**0**	**5,100**
	FTE	**35**	**32**	**0**	**0**	**32**

Program Overview

The FLREA authorizes the Recreation Fee Program (Program) through FY 2014 to collect entrance and expand amenity fees on Federal lands and waters. The Administration proposes to permanently reauthorize the Department of the Interior's and the Department of Agriculture's recreation fee programs under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which is set to expire on December 8, 2014. The Fish and Wildlife Service returns at least 80 percent of the collections to the specific refuge site of collection to offset program costs and enhance visitor facilities and programs. The Service has more than 141 refuges enrolled in the program. An additional 23 National Fish Hatchery, Ecological Services, or other sites also sell passes. The program expects to collect approximately $5,100,000 in FY 2013 and in FY 2014 under FLREA authority.

The FLREA did not change the Federal Duck Stamp program, which provides current stamp holders with free entry to Service entrance fee sites.

The Service is one of five bureaus, including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation, participating in the Recreation Fee Program. The Service continues to cooperate with these bureaus to update and re-issue program implementation guidance to ensure compatibility and consistency across the Recreation Fee Program. In FY 2012, entrance fees at 35 different field sites collected more than $3 million for the Service. The Service used revenues to hire temporary park ranger and volunteer coordinators, pay law enforcement overtime, and support visitor services interns. These extra employees provide for increased safety, interpretive programs, and educational activities for the public. Other direct benefits include securing educational supplies such as spotting scopes and binoculars for visitor use, informational brochures and maps, updated refuge signs, routine maintenance of trails and roads, and the "greening" of visitor facilities.

Preparing the gun barrel for transport.

A sample of what the gun barrel will look like after restoration.

In FY 2012, Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge collected $1 million and spent $544,000 on recreation enhancements. The balance will be spent at Chincoteague NWR in 2013. One of the main projects funded was the transportation of a 16"/50 Mark VII gun barrel to the Eastern Shore of Virginia NWR (managed by Chincoteague NWR). This barrel is similar to what was once in the Winslow Bunker

when these refuge lands were part of Ft. John Custis during World War II. The Navy has transferred the barrel to the Service, where the public will benefit from learning about the former military presence on the lower Eastern Shore in protecting the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay during World War II.

In FY 2012, the Service collected nearly $1 million for hunting permits at 95 refuges across the United States. These fee dollars help support hunting program administration, habitat restoration, routine maintenance and enhancements for hunting facilities, the hiring of temporary check station operators and park rangers, gate and road repairs, the printing of hunting brochures, creating or expanding youth hunts, and supporting hunting and fishing special events.

From the more than $410,000 from fishing permits, boat ramp, and boat launching fees collected in FY 2012, the Service was able to support over 10 million fishing and boat launch visits at refuges.

Sales from the Interagency America the Beautiful - The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass generated nearly $400,000. The Annual ($80) and Senior ($10) passes provide visitors an affordable and convenient way to access Federal recreation lands. Up to 100% of the program's proceeds are used to improve and enhance visitor recreation services.

2013 Program Performance

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($000)	2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	2014 Estimate
Recreation Fee Revenues	5,085	5,100	5,100
America the Beautiful pass	[390]	[400]	[440]
Unobligated Balance Brought Forward & Recoveries	4,535	4,730	4,499
Total Funds Available	**9,620**	**9,830**	**9,818**
Obligations by Type of Project			
Facilities Routine/Annual Maintenance	802	998	1004
Facilities Capital Improvements	404	513	448
Facilities Deferred Maintenance	177	154	142
Subtotal, asset repairs and maintenance	1,383	1,665	1594
Visitor Services	1,765	1,808	1,810
Habitat Restoration (directly related to wildlife dependent recreation)	210	210	204
Direct Operation Costs	665	734	734
Law Enforcement (for public use and recreation)	342	387	352
Fee Management Agreement and Reservation Services	78	78	78
Administration, Overhead and Indirect Costs	447	449	449
Total Obligations	4,890	5,331	5,221

Program Performance Summary

The Recreation Fee Program directly supports the DOI Recreation Goal to provide for a quality recreation experience, including access to and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources. Each collaborating bureau also has a goal concerning costs associated with fee collections. The Service's goal is to limit collection costs to less than 20 percent of total collections.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

The Service monitors the Recreation Fee Program's costs of collection to ensure they remain below 20% of total fees collected.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
RECREATION FEE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-5252-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Receipts:			
0220 Recreation Fee Program	5	5	5
0500 Appropriation	-5	-5	-5
0799 Total Balance	**0**	**0**	**0**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 Direct Program Activity	5	5	5
0900 Total obligations	**5**	**5**	**5**
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
1000 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	4	4	4
1260 New budget authority (gross)	5	5	5
1930 Total budgetary resources available	**9**	**9**	**9**
1941 Unobligated balance carried forward, end of year	**4**	**4**	**4**
Change in obligated balances:			
3000 Unpaid obligations brought forward, Oct 1	3	3	2
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accont	5	5	5
3020 Outlays (gross)	-5	-6	-7
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**3**	**2**	**0**
Budget authority and outlays, net:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	5	5	5
Outlays, gross:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	4	4	4
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	1	2	3
4110 Outlays, gross (total)	**5**	**6**	**7**
4180 Budget authority , net (total)	**5**	**5**	**5**
4190 Outlays, net (total)	**5**	**6**	**7**

Object Classification:			
11.1 Full-time Permanent	1	1	1
11.3 Other than full-time permenant	1	1	1
11.9 Total personnel compensation	**2**	**2**	**2**
25.2 Other services from non-Federal services	1	2	2
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	1	0	0
99.0 Subtotal, obligations, Direct obligations	**4**	**4**	**4**
99.5 Below reporting threshold	1	1	1
99.9 Total new obligations	**5**	**5**	**5**

Personnel Summary:			
1001 Direct Civilian Full-time equivalent employment	**35**	**32**	**32**

Contributed Funds

Contributed Funds

Appropriations Language

Activities funded from this account do not require appropriation language since there is permanent authority to use the receipts.

Authorizing Statutes

Fish and Wildlife Service Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-668). This Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to accept donations of land and contributed funds in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended (16 U.S.C. 743b-7421). This Act authorizes loans for commercial fishing vessels; investigations of fish and wildlife resources; and cooperation with other agencies. The Service is also authorized to accept donations of real and personal property. P.L. 105-242 amended this act to authorize cooperative agreements with nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, or State and local governments to construct, operate, maintain, or improve refuge facilities and services, and to promote volunteer outreach and education programs. Funds contributed by partners from sales and gifts must be deposited in a separate account in the treasury.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-1h). This Act authorizes donations of fund, property, and personal services or facilities for the purposes of the Act.

National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742). Authorizes cooperative agreements with nonprofit partner organizations, academic institutions, or State and local governments to construct, operate, maintain, or improve refuge facilities and services, and to promote volunteer, outreach, and education programs.

National Fish Hatchery System Volunteer Act (120 STAT 2058-2061). Authorizes cooperative agreements with nonprofit partner organizations, academic institutions, or State and local governments to promote the stewardship of resources through biological monitoring or research; to construct, operate, maintain, or improve hatchery facilities, habitat and services, and to promote volunteer, outreach, and education programs.

Appropriation: Contributed Funds

	2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	Fixed Costs and Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Contributed Funds ($000)	2,585	3,000	0	0	3,000
FTE	*16*	*18*	*0*	*+2*	*18*

Program Overview

The Service accepts unsolicited contributions from other governments, private organizations, and individuals. Once collected, the funds are used to support a variety of fish and wildlife conservation projects that contribute to fulfillment of DOI goals and the Service's mission.

Contributions are difficult to accurately forecast due to external events. Annual contributions typically range from approximately $1.2 to $5.6 million. In FY 2012, the receipts totaled $2.6 million.

A young visitor learns more about the environment at Big Stone NWR.

2014 Program Performance

The Service uses contributed funds to address its highest priority needs in concert with other types of funding. The funds in 2014 will be used for projects similar to those planned and completed in previous fiscal years. For example, the Service used contributed funds for the following activities in 2012:

Big Stone NWR (MN): Contributed funds were used to develop and deliver school curriculum-based programs at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

National Elk Refuge (WY): The National Elk Refuge used about $5,000 in contributed funds for visitor services at the Historic Miller House. In FY 2012, a one-page interpretive tear sheet recognized the 150th Anniversary of the Homestead Act of 1862. The reverse side described the Miller Ranch Homestead and celebrated the National Elk Refuge Centennial (1912-2012).

Miller House

Migratory Birds (TN and UT): The Service used $150,000 to award two grants for wetlands and habitat restoration. The Mingo Swamp Project Area, located in Franklin County, Tennessee acquired 84 acres of wetland and associated upland habitat, an important resting and wintering habitat for waterfowl and other wetland species, and a nesting habitat for many species of forest bird species.

The Bicknell Bottoms project located in Utah will connect important wildlife habitat to those existing on the Wildlife Management Area (WMA), and will protect valuable wetland habitat in perpetuity. The acquisition will protect a vital property that will increase the size of an existing WMA and will improve access by sportsmen and wildlife watchers alike.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
CONTRIBUTED FUNDS

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-8216-0**	**2012 Actual**	**2013 Estimate**	**2014 Estimate**
Receipts:			
0220 Deposits, Contributed Funds	3	3	3
0400 Total: Balances and collections	**3**	**3**	**3**
Appropriations:			
0500 Contributed Funds	-3	-3	-3
0799 Balance, end of year	**0**	**0**	**0**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 Direct program activity	3	5	5
0009 Total new obligations	**3**	**5**	**5**
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
1000 Unobligated balance available, start of year	6	6	4
1201 Appropriation (trust fund)	3	3	3
1930 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	9	9	7
0900 New obligations (-)	-3	-5	-5
1941 Unobligated balance available, end of year	**6**	**4**	**2**
Change in obligated balance:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	2	1	1
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	3	5	5
3020 Outlays (gross)	-4	-5	-4
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**1**	**1**	**2**
Budget authority and outlays, net:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	**3**	**3**	**3**
Outlays, gross:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	0	1	1
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	4	4	3
4110 Outlays, gross (total)	**4**	**5**	**4**
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	**3**	**3**	**3**
4190 Outlays, net (total)	**4**	**5**	**4**

Object Classification:			
Direct Obligations:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	0	1	1
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	1	0	0

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
CONTRIBUTED FUNDS

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) **Identification code 14-8216-0**	**2012** **Actual**	**2013** **Estimate**	**2014** **Estimate**
11.9 Total personnel compensation	**1**	**1**	**1**
25.2 Other Services from non-Federal sources	0	1	1
26.0 Supplies and materials	0	1	1
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	1	1
99.0 Subtotal, obligations, Direct obligations	**1**	**4**	**4**
99.5 Reporting below threshold	2	1	1
99.9 Total obligations	**3**	**5**	**5**

Personnel Summary:			
1001 Civilian full-time equivalent employment	**16**	**18**	**18**

Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations

Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations

Appropriations Language

Activities funded from these mandatory spending accounts do not require appropriation language since they were authorized in previous years.

Authorizing Statutes

Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1985, as amended (P.L. 98-473, section 320; 98 Stat. 1874). Provides that all rents and charges collected for quarters of agencies funded by the Act shall be deposited and remain available until expended for the maintenance and operation of quarters of that agency. Authorizing language is:

> *"Notwithstanding title 5 of the United States Code or any other provision of law, after September 30, 1984, rents and charges collected by payroll deduction or otherwise for the use or occupancy of quarters of agencies funded by this Act shall thereafter be deposited in a special fund in each agency, to remain available until expended, for the maintenance and operation of the quarters of that agency…"*

Flood Control Act of 1944, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460(d)). Provides that receipts collected from the sales of timber and crops produced on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land leased by another Federal agency for natural resources conservation may be used to cover expenses of producing these products and for managing the land for natural resource purposes. Authorizing language is:

> *"The Secretary of the Army is also authorized to grant leases of lands, including structures or facilities thereon, at water resource development projects for such periods, and upon such terms and for such purposes as he may deem reasonable in the public interest… [P]rovided further, that in any such lease or license to a Federal, State, or local governmental agency which involves lands to be utilized for the development and conservation of fish and wildlife, forests, and other natural resources, the licensee or lessee may be authorized to cut timber and harvest crops as may be necessary to further such beneficial uses and to collect and utilize the proceeds of any sales of timber and crops in the development, conservation, maintenance, and utilization of such lands."*

Truckee-Carson Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act (P.L. 101-618, section 206(f)), **as amended by *Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 1998*** (P.L. 105-83). Authorizes certain revenues and donations from non-federal entities to be deposited into the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund to support restoration and enhancement of wetlands in the Lahontan Valley and to restore and protect the Pyramid Lake fishery, including the recovery of two endangered or threatened species of fish. Payments to the Bureau of Reclamation for storage in Northern Nevada's Washoe Project that exceed the operation and maintenance costs of Stampede Reservoir are deposited into the Fund and are available without further appropriation, starting in FY 1996. Beginning in FY 1998, P.L. 105-83 provides that receipts from the sales of certain lands by the Secretary of the Interior are to be deposited into the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund. Authorizing language is:

> *"Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund – (1) There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States the 'Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund' which shall be available for deposit of donations from any source and funds provided under subsections 205(a) and (b), 206(d), and subparagraph*

208(a)(2)(C), if any, of this title; (2) Moneys deposited into this fund shall be available for appropriation to the Secretary for fish and wildlife programs for Lahontan Valley consistent with this section and for protection and restoration of the Pyramid Lake fishery consistent with plans prepared under subsection 207(a) of this title. The Secretary shall endeavor to distribute benefits from this fund on an equal basis between the Pyramid Lake fishery and the Lahontan Valley wetlands, except that moneys deposited into the fund by the State of Nevada or donated by non-Federal entities or individuals for express purposes shall be available only for such purposes and may be expended without further appropriation, and funds deposited under subparagraph 208(a)(2)(C) shall only be available for the benefit of the Pyramid Lake fishery and may be expended without further appropriation."

P.L. 105-83 – "Provided further, that the Secretary may sell land and interests in land, other than surface water rights, acquired in conformance with subsection 206(a) and 207(c) of Public Law 101-618, the receipts of which shall be deposited to the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund and used exclusively for the purposes of such subsections, without regard to the limitation on the distribution of benefits in subsection 206(f)(2) of such law."

Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-242**,** section 5, Section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C.742f), **as amended by *Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 1998*** (H.R. 1856). This act authorizes the cooperative agreements with nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, or State and Local governments to construct, operate, maintain, or improve refuge facilities and services, and to promote volunteer outreach and education programs. Authorizing language is:

"Amounts received by the Secretary of the Interior as a result of projects and programs under subparagraph (B) shall be deposited in a separate account in the Treasury. Amounts in the account that are attributable to activities at a particular refuge or complex of geographically related refuges shall be available to the Secretary of the Interior, without further appropriation, to pay the cost of incidental expenses related to volunteer activities, and to carry out cooperative agreements for the refuge or complex of refuges."

Appropriation: Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations

		2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2014 President's Budget
Operations and Maintenance of Quarters	($000)	3,300	3,400	0	0	3,400
	FTE	5	4	0	0	4
Proceeds from Sales	($000)	447	200	0	0	200
	FTE	0	1	0	0	1
Lahontan Valley & Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund	($000)	151	160	0	0	160
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0
Community Partnership Enhancement	($000)	0	438	0	-438	0
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations	**($000)**	**3,898**	**4,198**	**0**	**0**	**3,760**
	FTE	**5**	**5**	**0**	**0**	**5**

Summary of 2014 Program Changes for Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations

Request Component	($000)	FTE
• Community Partnership Enhancement	-438	0
TOTAL Program Changes	**-438**	**0**

Justification of 2014 Program Changes for Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations

The 2014 budget request for Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations is $3,760,000 and 5 FTE, a net program change of -$438,000 and +0 FTE from the 2013 Estimate.

Community Partnership Enhancement (-$438,000/+0 FTE)
The Community Partnership fund was established to encourage volunteer programs, donations, and other contributions by persons or organizations for the benefit of a particular wildlife refuge or complex. The estimate for 2013 reflects current agreements. There are no current agreements that extend beyond 2013 and therefore the estimate for 2014 is zero.

Program Overview

Operations and Maintenance of Quarters - The Operations and Maintenance of Quarters Account (O & M Quarters) uses receipts from the rental of Service quarters to pay for maintenance and operation of those quarters. Certain circumstances, including a lack of off-site residences and site isolation, require Service personnel to occupy government-owned quarters. Such work includes protecting fish hatchery stock (ex. maintaining water flow to fish rearing ponds during freezing temperatures), monitoring water management facilities, ensuring the health and welfare of visitors, responding to fires and floods, and protecting government property. To provide for these needs, the Service manages 1,082 units comprised of 876 quarters on 227 refuges, 205 quarters on 62 hatchery facilities, and 1 quarters at an Ecological Services facility.

Quarters require routine operational maintenance, periodic rehabilitation, and upgrades to maintain safe and healthy conditions for occupants. Rental receipts are used for general maintenance and repair of quarters buildings; code and regulatory improvements; retrofitting for energy efficiency; correction of safety deficiencies, repairs to roofs and plumbing; utilities upgrades; access road repair and maintenance;

This new Refuge bunkhouse (4 bedrooms/2 baths) meets housing needs at Lostwood National Wildlife Refuge Complex in North Dakota where oil and gas production creates a shortage of available off-site residences.

grounds and other site maintenance services; and the purchase of replacement equipment such as household appliances, air conditioners, and furnaces. Funds are used to address the highest priority maintenance. For example, in FY 2012, the National Elk Refuge used Quarters Funds to replace a leaking wooden shake roof with a metal roof on a single-family residence. This replacement will decrease snow loading and provide more fire protection near forested lands.

Rental rates for Service quarters are based upon comparability with private sector housing. Quarters rental rates are surveyed on a rotating basis every five years using statistical analysis of comparable rentals from 16 areas nationwide. Between surveys, rents are adjusted using the Consumer Price Index-Rent Series annual adjustment from the end of the fiscal year. Volunteers who must travel a great distance to work at a Service facility are permitted to stay in Service housing units at no cost if vacant housing units are available.

Proceeds From Sales, Water Resources Development Projects - Receipts collected from the sale of timber and crops from Refuge System lands leased or licensed from the Department of the Army may be used to pay the costs of production of the timber and crops and for managing wildlife habitat, 16 U.S.C. 460(d). Thirty national wildlife refuges and one Wetland Management District were established as overlay projects on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land and are administered in accordance with cooperative agreements. The agreements provide that timber and grain may be harvested and sold with the receipts returned for development, conservation, maintenance, and utilization of such lands. These expenses cannot exceed the receipt amounts deposited as proceeds from sales.

Examples of some of the projects undertaken using Proceeds from Sales receipts are: soil amendments; road construction and repairs; ditch and fence construction and maintenance. The agreements with the Corps of Engineers specify that the receipts collected on refuges must be spent within five years. This agreement structure provides for carryover balances from year to year which allows the receipts to accumulate until sufficient funds are available to support some of the larger development projects on these refuges.

Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund - Pursuant to the Truckee-Carson Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act of 1990, as amended, the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund receives revenues and donations from non-federal parties to support the restoration and enhancement of wetlands in the Lahontan Valley and to restore and protect the Pyramid Lake fishery. Payments in excess of operation and maintenance costs of Stampede Reservoir are available without further appropriation. Donations made for express purposes and State cost-sharing funds are available without further appropriation. The Secretary is also authorized to deposit proceeds from the sale of certain lands, interests in lands, and water rights into the Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund**.**

Wetlands in Northern Nevada's Lahontan Valley, including those at Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge and Carson Lake, are a key migration and wintering area for up to 1,000,000 waterfowl, shorebirds, and raptors traveling on the eastern edge of the Pacific Flyway. More than 250,000 ducks, 28,000 geese and 12,000 swans have been observed in the area during wet years. In addition to migratory populations, the wetlands support about 4,500 breeding pairs producing 35,000 waterfowl annually. Up to 70 bald eagles, Nevada's largest concentration, have wintered in the valley.

In 1996, the Service completed a Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision which described, analyzed and implemented a program to purchase up to 75,000 acre-feet of water from the Carson Division of the Newlands Project for Lahontan Valley wetlands. In partnership with the State of Nevada, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the Bureau of Reclamation, 43,200 acre-feet of Newlands Project water rights have been acquired for Lahontan Valley wetlands to date. Of the acquired water rights; approximately 35,200 acre-feet were acquired by the Service, 1,800 acre-feet were acquired by BIA and 8,900 acre-feet were acquired by the State. Water rights have been purchased from willing sellers at appraised market value. In addition to acquiring water, the Service is authorized to pay customary operations and maintenance charges to the local irrigation district for delivering the acquired water.

The Service's Lahontan National Fish Hatchery Complex is pursuing various activities to protect and restore the Pyramid Lake fishery, including operation and maintenance of Marble Bluff Fish Passage Facility, Lahontan cutthroat trout incubation operations at Marble Bluff Fish Passage Facility, and other ongoing conservation efforts for the fishes of Pyramid Lake.

Expenditures from the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund continue to support the Service's water rights acquisition and land sales programs at Stillwater NWR.

Community Partnership Enhancement – The Community Partnership fund was established to encourage volunteer programs, donations, and other contributions by persons or organizations for the benefit of a particular wildlife refuge or complex. The partnership between a refuge or complex and non-federal organizations may promote public awareness of the resources of the Refuge System and public participation in the conservation of resources. Partnerships may be in the form of a non-profit organization (as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code), academic institution, or State or local government agency to carry out projects or programs for a refuge or complex.

Funds may be used to promote the education and conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and cultural and historical resources on a refuge or complex. Projects may be approved to:

- promote stewardship of resources of the refuge through habitat maintenance, restoration and improvement, biological monitoring, or research;
- support the operation and maintenance of the refuge through constructing, operating, maintaining or improving the facilities and services of the refuge;

- increase awareness and understanding of the refuge and the Refuge System through the development, publication, or distribution of educational materials and products;
- advance education concerning the purposes of the refuge and the mission of the Refuge System through the use of the refuge as an outdoor classroom and development of other educational programs; and
- subject to the availability of funds, matching funds may be provided or in the case of property or in-kind services, the fair market value may be matched.

National Elk Refuge fence removal decreases risk to wildlife. Volunteers from the refuge are joined by the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation and students from AmeriCorps to remove barbed wire fencing that is 30-40 years old. Fences block daily movements of animals, make them more susceptible to predation, and interrupt seasonal migrations.

2014 Program Performance

Operation and Maintenance of Quarters

Estimated receipts in 2013 and 2014 are expected to be approximately $3,400,000 each year. Revisions continue to be made in the management of the program to reduce the operating balance of the account and target the highest priority repairs and improvements.

Proceeds From Sales, Water Resources Development Projects

Estimated receipts in 2013 and 2014 are expected to be approximately $200,000 each year for timber and grain harvest. Receipts depend on the amount of the commodity harvested, current market value, and the amount of the commodity that the Service uses for wildlife habitat management purposes. Annual receipts may also vary from year to year due to the influence of natural events such as flood or drought.

Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund

In 2014, receipts from land sales are estimated at $160,000. The anticipated receipts have dropped from prior years because of adverse regional real estate market conditions.

Community Partnership Enhancement

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation agreed to provide the Service $900,000. In FY2011 the Service received $462,000. Estimated receipts in 2013 are expected to be approximately $438,000. Anticipated receipts for 2014 are zero due to the expiration of the agreement with NFWF; however, annual receipts may vary from year to year due to individual donations or activities of partners to generate donations.

Program and financing (in millions of dollars) Identification code 14-9927-0	2012 Actual	2013 Estimate	2014 Estimate
Receipts:			
0220 Rents and Charges for Operation and Maintenance of Quarters	3	3	3
0221 Gifts, Community Partnership Enhancement	0	1	0
0240 Transfer from Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake	0	0	1
0290 Adjustments - receipts rounding issue	1	0	0
0500 Appropriations, Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations	-4	-4	-4
0799 Balance, end of year	**0**	**0**	**0**
Obligations by program activity:			
0001 Operations and Maintenance of Quarters	2	2	2
0002 Proceeds from Sales	0	0	0
0003 Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake	1	1	1
0004 Community Partnership Enhancement	0	1	1
0900 Total new obligations	**3**	**4**	**4**
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
1000 Unobligated balance carried forward, start of year	5	6	6
1260 New budget authority (gross)	4	4	4
2210 Resources available from recoveries of prior year obligations	0	0	0
1930 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	**9**	**10**	**10**
1941 Unobligated balance carried forward, end of year	6	6	6
Budget authority (gross), detail:			
Mandatory:			
1201 Appropriation (special fund)	4	4	4
1900 Total budget authority (gross):	**4**	**4**	**4**
Change in obligated balances:			
3000 Unpaid obligations, brought forward, Oct 1	1	0	0
3010 Obligations incurred, unexpired accounts	3	4	4
3020 Outlays (gross)	-4	-4	-4
3050 Unpaid obligations, end of year	**0**	**0**	**0**
Budget Authority and outlays, net:			
Mandatory:			
4090 Budget authority, gross	**4**	**4**	**4**
Outlays, gross:			
4100 Outlays from new mandatory authority	1	1	1
4101 Outlays from mandatory balances	3	3	3
4110 Outlays, gross (total)	**4**	**4**	**4**
4160 Budget authority, net (mandatory)	4	4	4
4170 Outlays, net (mandatory)	4	4	4
4180 Budget authority, net (total)	**4**	**4**	**4**
4190 Outlays, net (total)	**4**	**4**	**4**

Object Classification:			
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	1	1	1
25.4 Operation and maintenance of facilities	1	2	2
26.0 Supplies and materials	1	1	1
99.9 Total obligations	**3**	**4**	**4**

Personnel Summary:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	**5**	**5**	**5**

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Appendices

Appendix A: Section 405 Compliance

The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2011, included the following requirement for disclosure of overhead, administrative and other types of spending:

> *"SEC. 405. Estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves or holdbacks from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional or central operations shall be presented in annual budget justifications and subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations for approval."*

Pursuant to the *Section 405* directive, the Service fully discloses its administrative costs as follows:

REGIONAL COMMON PROGRAM SERVICES: Each region has reported on common program services (shared costs) and direct charges. A summary of these regional costs appears at the end of this section. The regions assess programs to support such items as contracting and personnel officers to provide service as programs request. Regions also centrally pay costs such as postage, and charge those costs back to the programs that incur the costs.

NON-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT USER-PAY COST SHARE: Non-Resource Management Programs continue to pay annually for the administrative services used. The funding received from Non-Resource Management Programs supplements central, regional and service-wide support operations. Specifically, they pay for their actual use of communication services and Workers Compensation. Other costs, such as Headquarters and Regional office administration and service-wide costs, such as Unemployment Compensation are measured through FTE usage.

ENTERPRISE-WIDE SERVICES: The Service assesses its resource management programs for costs that can be directly tracked back to users. This includes such items as software licenses, cell phone costs, ID cards and the like.

RESERVES: The Service Director manages a deferred allocation fund in the amount of up to one-half of one percent of the current year Resource Management appropriation for each subactivity in excess of three million dollars. These management reserve funds are used for unanticipated emergencies and are applied consistent with the original appropriation. The Service strictly adheres to the policy that Congressional priorities must be funded in their entirety and are not subject to the deferred allocation.

Below shows administrative cost estimates for FY 2013 and FY 2014:

	Fiscal Year 2013
External Administrative Costs	
WCF Centralized Billings	$23,975,100
WCF Direct Billings/Fee for Service	$12,292,200
Program Assessments	
National Program Support	
Regional/State Program Support	
Holdbacks, Reserves, and Deductions	$2,602,684
Bureau Administrative Costs/Central and Regional Operations	
Regional Common Program Services	$12,316,486
Non-Resource Management User Pay Cost Share	$10,207,225
Enterprise-Wide Services	$14,064,103

	Fiscal Year 2014
External Administrative Costs	
WCF Centralized Billings	$25,280,500
WCF Direct Billings/Fee for Service	$12,803,600
Program Assessments	
National Program Support	
Regional/State Program Support	
Holdbacks, Reserves, and Deductions	$2,787,698
Bureau Administrative Costs/Central and Regional Operations	
Regional Common Program Services	$12, 685,981
Non-Resource Management User-Pay Cost Share	$10,295,673
Enterprise-Wide Services	$14,486,026

APPENDIX B

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PER-4 Exhibit: Employee Count by Grade

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

EMPLOYEE COUNT BY GRADE
(Total Employment)

	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Estimate	Budget Year Estimate
Executive Level V	1	1	1
Subtotal	**1**	**1**	**1**
SES	20	20	22
SL	1	1	2
Subtotal	**21**	**21**	**24**
GS/GM-15	141	141	140
GS/GM-14	564	565	560
GS/GM-13	1,440	1,442	1,437
GS-12	1,935	1,933	1,930
GS-11	1,530	1,532	1,527
GS-10	11	11	11
GS-9	1,011	1,014	1,027
GS-8	127	125	125
GS-7	794	796	821
GS-6	273	272	272
GS-5	677	652	675
GS-4	397	370	380
GS-3	223	213	213
GS-2	37	38	38
GS-1	15	14	14
Subtotal	**9,175**	**9,118**	**9,170**
Other Pay Schedule Systems*	824	806	802
Total employment (actuals & estimates)	**10,021**	**9,946**	**9,997**

*Other pay schedule systems includes wage system employees (WG/WL/WS/WB).

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