

## Department of the Interior Receives Five Federal Energy and Water Management Awards

Every year, the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) presents the Federal Energy and Water Management Awards. These awards recognize outstanding achievements in the conservation and efficient use of energy and water. The winning projects and individuals help strengthen the nation's energy security and reliability, increase its use of renewable energy sources, and improve the energy-efficient mobility in the Federal Government. The winning projects are not only energy and/or water efficient but receive a high level of non-Federal visitation, showcasing efficiency features that are replicable, and offering visitors the opportunity to learn from site displays and implement similar projects.

Award recipients were honored at a noon luncheon on Thursday, October 13, 2011, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. This year the Department of the Interior has four award recipients:

- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** – Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge in Sudbury, Massachusetts received a Project Award for their Visitor Center. Using passive solar architecture, a cool roof, daylighting, low-e glazed windows, energy-efficient fluorescent and LED lighting, occupancy sensors, a 12.5-ton geothermal ground source heat pump, and a 6.3-kW grid-tied solar photovoltaic (PV) array, the Visitor Center's energy performance is 30% better than an average building and saves 13.1 metric tons of greenhouse gases (GHG) annually. Indoor features include low-VOC carpets, paints, and adhesives, recycled materials such as 100% recycled paper countertops, a solar-powered trash compactor, and low flow water fixtures and waterless urinals. Outside, the use of wildlife-friendly native plants, a "no mow" lawn, stormwater containment with drainage swales, and porous pavement maximize water conservation. The total energy cost saved in 2010 was \$2,662.



**Assabet National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center**

- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** – Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Great Falls, Montana received a Project Award for their Hybrid Solar PV and Wind Energy System. Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Refuge installed 15.4 kW of grid-tied solar PV panels and a 10 kW grid-tied wind turbine in 2009 to power its headquarters building. The building is super insulated, completely weatherized, has operable low-e windows, T-8 fluorescent lights with electronic ballasts, occupancy sensors, and LED exit lights, and employs passive solar energy strategies. In FY 2010, these integrated renewable energy systems accomplished a 93% decrease in electricity consumption and a 33% reduction in energy intensity from the field station’s FY 2003 baseline, with a cost savings of approximately \$4,000 per year, an energy savings of 121 million BTUs, and 25 metric tons of GHGs avoided.



**Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge Solar PV and Wind Energy System**

- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** – San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex in Fremont, California received a Project Award for their Headquarters Office Renovation. Energy conservation features include passive solar technologies such as double-glazed light-bronze tinted low-e windows and doors with innovative thermal-break frames, expansive spray foam wall and ceiling insulation, LED and T-8 fluorescent lighting with electronic ballasts, occupancy sensors, daylighting, ENERGY STAR® appliances, and Water Sense low-water-use plumbing fixtures that save 5,000 gallons per year. Renewable energy features include a solar-thermal collector with an interior heat reservoir that provides 100% of the domestic hot water. After renovation, the building consumes 52% (104 MWH) less energy and indirectly offsets approximately 72 metric tons of GHGs annually.



### **San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Headquarters Office**

- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** – Mr. David Guthrie, Energy Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, received two awards: an Exceptional Service Award and a Program Manager's Award.

For more than ten years, Mr. Guthrie has turned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Energy Management Program into a Federal leader, saving millions of BTUs of energy and millions of gallons of water. Mr. Guthrie's work has been vital to the Service's ability to maintain a GREEN OMB Energy Management Scorecard rating. He developed and maintained a unique Energy Database, drafted the Service's Carbon Mitigation Plan, and helped obtain millions of dollars in Green Energy and Recovery Act funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation projects. Through these and other accomplishments, Mr. Guthrie fulfills a critical role in enabling the Service to meet its goal of carbon neutrality in 2020, and for these efforts, Mr. Guthrie was selected for an Exceptional Service Award.

The prestigious Program Manager's Award is given to only one recipient each year, selected at the discretion of the FEMP Program Manager, for unique contributions to Federal energy management, water efficiency, fleet management, sustainable design, and/or use of renewable energy. The winner is chosen based on their strong commitment to energy management as well as the enormous, cross-cutting scope of work performed over many years. Mr. Guthrie's hard work, creativity, perseverance, and enthusiasm set an example for all Federal employees. His success is obvious from the 30 nominations he has submitted for FWS since 1998 that have won awards from FEMP. He is extremely active in promoting the

Service's accomplishments through Federal recognition programs, helping to institutionalize best practices across the Service through outreach and education.