

## **State Wildlife Grants (SWG) ([CFDA No. 15.634](#))**

### *Eligible Recipients:*

Any U.S. State or Insular Territory which submits to the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) or commits to develop by October 1, 2005, a comprehensive wildlife conservation plan.

These plans must include: (1) information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife, including low and declining populations as the State fish and wildlife agency deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the State's wildlife; (2) descriptions of locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types essential to conservation of species identified in (1); (3) descriptions of problems which may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, and priority research and survey efforts needed to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats; (4) descriptions of conservation actions proposed to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions; (5) proposed plans for monitoring species identified in (1) and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of the conservation actions proposed in (4), and for adapting these conservation actions to respond appropriately to new information or changing conditions; (6) descriptions of procedures to review the State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan at intervals not to exceed ten years; and (7) plans for coordinating the development, implementation, review, and revision of the State comprehensive wildlife conservation plan with Federal, State, and local agencies and Indian tribes that manage significant land and water areas within the State or administer programs that significantly affect the conservation of identified species and habitats.

### *Purpose:*

For the development and implementation of programs for the benefits of fish and wildlife and their habitat, including species (fauna not flora) that are not hunted or fished. Priority funding shall be for species of the greatest conservation need as defined by the State which may include currently listed Federal and State wildlife species and other species of concern.

### *Funding:*

An appropriation through the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2000 provided \$80 million in FY2002 for wildlife conservation grants to States and Territories and \$5 million to Tribes and in FY2003 another \$60 million for States and \$5 million for Tribes. The Service's Washington Office distributes the funds to the States and Insular Territories on a formula basis. States must provide a minimum match of 25% non-federal funds for planning grants and a minimum match of 50% non-federal funds for implementation grants. Funds are available for obligation by the State for 2 years, after which unobligated balances are returned to the Service for reappropriation.

### *Eligible Activities:*

- ✓ Planning activities, that contribute directly and specifically to development or modification of a specific plan, including, but not limited to, literature reviews; responsive management type surveys; scientific research to identify, document, or

understand biological, social, or economic problems or issues; field and other types of surveys to establish baseline information; database development and use; population habitat viability and population viability analyses; stakeholder processes, including public input efforts, participation workshops, and public or internal workgroup meetings; plan writing, publication, and distribution,; plan adoption and approval processes; and studies conducted to measure, monitor, evaluate, or modify existing plans or parts of plans;

- ✓ Implementation activities intended to execute a specific plan or plans identified in an implementation grant proposal, including, but not limited to, ongoing, continuing, or new “on-the-ground management actions; laboratory and field research; natural history studies; habitat mapping; field surveys and population monitoring; standard field, museum, or public surveys; land acquisition; facility design and construction; and technical guidance. Issue analysis, evaluations, progress monitoring, and some outreach activities (including education and information) may also be considered implementation activities on a case by case basis.

*Ineligible Activities:*

- χ Wildlife education or wildlife law enforcement activities unless the law enforcement or education component is a minor or incidental activity which is considered critical to the success of a project which directly contributes to the conservation of wildlife species and their habitats with the greatest conservation need and is consistent with the development or implementation of the State’s comprehensive wildlife conservation plan. The Service would entertain the State making a specific case for use of these funds in this regard on its grant proposal.

*Project Application and Selection Process:*

The state submits project proposals to the [Federal Assistance Regional Office](#) (Anchorage). These are reviewed for eligibility, substantiality in character and design (addressing a legitimate need in a reasonable way at a reasonable cost), and compliance with Federal regulations. If the proposal and grant agreement are approved, the federal share of the project funding is obligated from the State’s apportionment. The State may then begin the project(s) and be reimbursed for the federal share as costs are incurred. Projects are monitored to ensure that they are completed as proposed and funds are spent on activities approved in the grant documents.

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