

BUDGET The United States Department of the Interior **JUSTIFICATIONS**

and Performance Information
Fiscal Year 2021

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.



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

Fiscal Year 2021 President's Budget

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

The Service began as the U.S. Fish Commission, which was established on February 9, 1871 under the Department of Commerce and renamed the Bureau of Fisheries on July 1, 1903. The second predecessor bureau was the Office of Economic Ornithology and Mammalogy established in 1885 under the Department of Agriculture. In 1896, it was renamed the Division of Biological Survey and in 1905 renamed again the Bureau of Biological Survey. The Biological Survey was responsible for the protection of all non-fish species in the U.S. In 1900, the Biological Survey pioneered the Federal role in wildlife law enforcement with the passage of the *Lacey Act*. In 1903, as a result of an executive order by President Theodore Roosevelt, the Biological Survey began to administer the Pelican Island Bird Reservation, the first unit of what has become the modern National Wildlife Refuge System.



Service Employees Work with Partners to Combat Fire at the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge. Credit: Blaine Inglis/USFWS

In 1939 the Bureau of Biological Survey and the Bureau of Fisheries were merged and transferred to the Department of the Interior. One year later, the merged Bureau officially became the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Although at least three departments governed the bureau and many name changes occurred, the Service's mission has remained remarkably consistent for the last 148 years. The Service mission is to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. A wide range of Federal laws and executive orders provide the Service with principal trust responsibility to protect and conserve migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, certain marine mammals, and inter-jurisdictional fisheries. This mission

clearly contemplates fostering access to wildlife refuges in order to educate and inspire the public.

The Service believes connecting Americans directly with the Nation's wildlife heritage is a priority. To accomplish this goal, the Service will continue to make wildlife refuges more welcoming to new and diverse audiences, and offer new hunting and fishing programs which serve the dual purpose of conservation and recreation.

The 2016 *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, indicated that 101.6 million Americans, 38 percent of the U.S. population 16 years old and older, enjoyed some form of fishing, hunting, or wildlife-associated recreation. The report also noted that outdoor recreation is a significant contributor to our Nation's economy, spurring annual expenditures estimated at \$156.3 billion. Spending

on outdoor recreation creates thousands of jobs, supports countless local communities and their economies, and provides vital funding for conservation.

The National Wildlife Refuge System plays an essential role in providing outdoor recreation opportunities to the American public and the associated economic benefits to local communities. In FY 2019, over 59 million visitors to wildlife refuges hunted, fished, observed or photographed wildlife, or participated in environmental education or interpretation. The most popular visitor activities were use of trails, wildlife auto routes, and wildlife observation programs. According to the Service's latest *Banking on Nature* report, FY 2017 spending by recreational visits to wildlife refuges generated \$3.2 billion of economic output in local economies. As this spending flowed through the economy, it supported over 41,000 jobs and generated about \$1.1 billion in employment income. Recreational spending at wildlife refuges generated about \$229 million in tax revenue at the local, county, and State levels.

American sportsmen and sportswomen are the backbone of the North American model of wildlife conservation that is admired around the world. The 2021 budget request sustains this commitment and also emphasizes the recovery of species, land health, and leveraged conservation partnerships. The budget invests in expanding access for sportsmen and sportswomen, supports the Administration's initiative to better protect habitat and research migration corridors for iconic North American big game species, and maintains support for important coastal and wetland restoration programs like the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

Waterfowl hunting provides one important example of a traditional outdoor way of life. The Service provides opportunities for waterfowl hunting experiences across the Nation, and it ensures that this form of recreation can be practiced for years to come through sustainable harvests. Of the 568 wildlife refuges and 38 Wetland Conservation Districts, 381 are open to some type of hunting and 316 are open to fishing. More than 2.4 million hunters and over 7.1 million recreational anglers visited wildlife refuges in 2019.

Of all the wildlife in the United States, birds attract the largest following. According to the *2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, there were 45 million birdwatchers 16 years of age and older in the United States. Wildlife refuges provide wonderful places to observe birds, especially during major bird festivals that coincide with spring or fall migrations.

The Service is also responsible for implementing some of our Nation's most important and foundational environmental laws, such as the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA), *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (MBTA), *Marine Mammal Protection Act*, *Lacey Act*, and international agreements such as the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species* (CITES).



Fishing day at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge
Credit Stan Culling.

While the Service holds the responsibility for conserving trust resources across broad landscapes, its work to conserve natural resources is impossible without partnerships with States, Tribes, and others. One area of particular focus for the Service is its partnerships with landowners. The Service cooperates with landowners to preserve working landscapes for the benefit of plants, wildlife, and agriculture, ranching, timber and other traditional land uses. In many cases, species benefit greatly when private working lands

are managed to also provide healthy habitat. The Service has several tools to help private landowners be good stewards of their lands and has worked with landowners across the Country to preserve open spaces. The Service also provides funding for habitat restoration and species recovery projects, such as the Malpai Borderlands project in Arizona and New Mexico that encourages ranching and other traditional land uses that will sustain the nature of the west for future generations. The group's efforts on behalf of the jaguar, the leopard frog, the long-nosed bat, and the ridge-nosed rattlesnake, among others, have resulted in a more secure future for those species as well as for the landowners whose livelihoods help maintain habitats.

The Service’s Organization

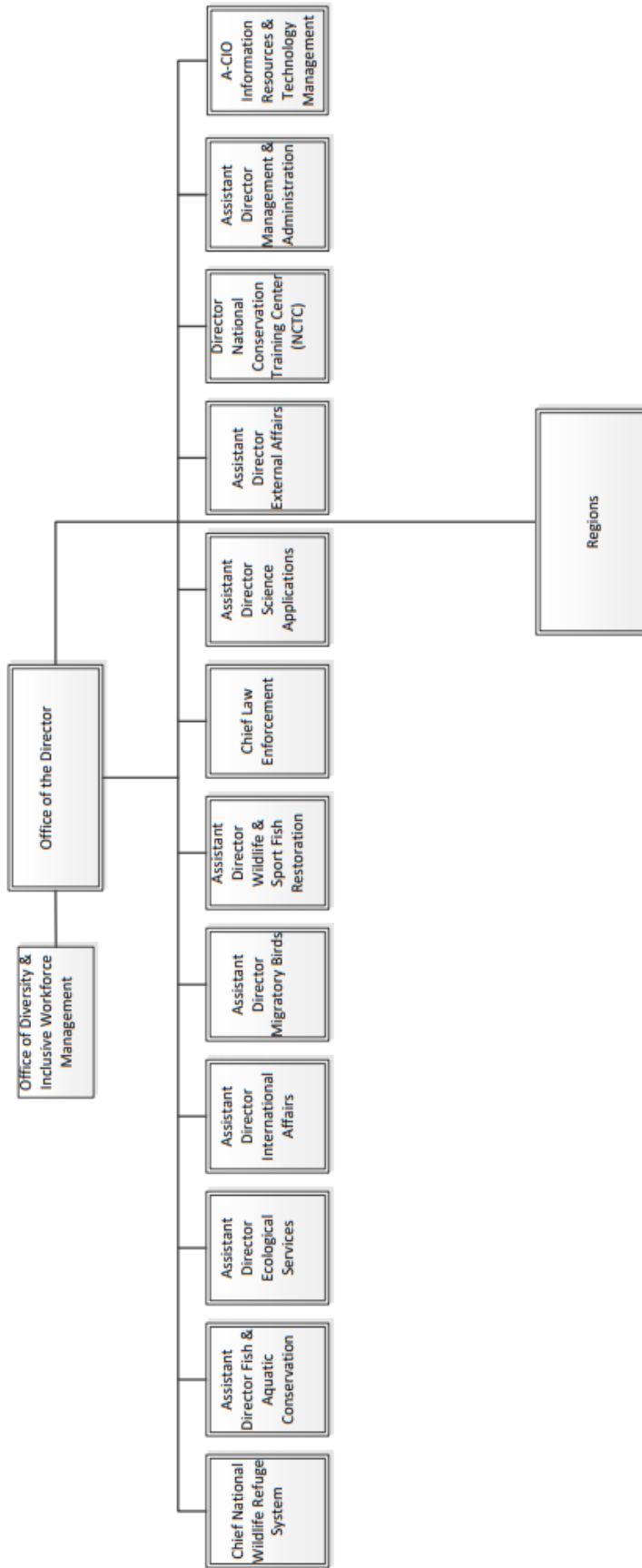
The Service has headquarters in Washington, D.C. and Falls Church, Virginia, with regional offices located across the country and over 700 field stations. These stations include 568 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System; seven National Monuments; 80 Ecological Services Field Stations; 70 National Fish Hatcheries; one historical National Fish Hatchery (D.C. Booth in South Dakota); eight Fish Health Centers; seven Fish Technology Centers; 51 Fisheries Offices; and waterfowl production areas in 209 counties managed within 38 Wetland Management Districts and 50 Coordination Areas. The Service works with diverse partners to accomplish its conservation mission, 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 the 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 units, and coordinating activities with partners. The Service is organized according to the 12 DOI regions.





U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE



Overview of FY 2021 Budget Request

Budget Authority	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021 Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
Discretionary Current Authority	1,601,645	1,665,919	1,388,631	-277,288
Mandatory	1,376,847	1,288,876	1,468,183	+179,307
Sub-total:	2,978,492	2,954,795	2,856,814	-97,981
Supplemental Appropriation - Construction	82,400			
Rescission/Cancellation of Balances ¹	-24,000	-22,399	-10,000	+12,399
Total \$\$\$	3,036,892	2,932,396	2,846,814	-85,582
TOTAL FTEs	8,058	8,309	8,269	-40
¹ FY 2021 proposed cancellation of balances include -\$2.0 million from the Land Acquisition Account and -\$8.0 million from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund.				

Funding tables do not include \$4 million in emergency supplemental appropriations provided to the Resource Management account in the *United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act* (H.R. 5430), signed by the President January 29, 2020. Additional information can be found in the Explanatory Notes section of Appendix A.

Overview

The 2021 President's Budget request for the Service totals \$2.8 billion, including current appropriations of \$1.4 billion. The Budget also includes \$1.5 billion in permanent appropriations, most of which will be provided directly to States for fish and wildlife restoration and conservation. The Service estimates staffing will equal 8,269 full time equivalents (FTE) in 2021.

The Service's priorities reflect those of the Secretary of the Interior, and provide the foundation for the Service's budget request.

1. Create a conservation stewardship legacy by expanding access to DOI lands for hunting and fishing;
2. Sustainably develop our energy & natural resources;
3. Restore trust & be a good neighbor;
4. Ensure Tribal sovereignty means something;
5. Increase revenues to support DOI and national interests;
6. Protect our people and the border;
7. Strike a regulatory balance;
8. Modernize our infrastructure; and
9. Reorganize DOI for the next 100 years.

Create a Conservation Stewardship Legacy

The Service's National Wildlife Refuge System embodies the Department's commitment to conserving our lands and waters and our Nation's commitment to conserving fish and wildlife for all Americans and future generations. With 568 refuges in all U.S. States and Territories, the Refuge System provides lands and waters for thousands of species of wildlife and plants, habitat for hundreds of threatened and endangered

species, and secure spawning areas for economically and recreationally important native fish. Wildlife refuges are home to over 700 migratory bird species, 220 mammal species, 250 reptile and amphibian species, and more than 1,000 fish species, and offer protection to over 380 threatened or endangered plants or animals.



Sea turtle hatchling. Credit: FWS

Another program that supports this Department goal is the Ecological Services Recovery Program, which strives to recover endangered and threatened species. The Service plays a vital role in guiding the recovery planning process, and in facilitating, supporting, and monitoring the implementation of recovery actions by the Service and others. The Service focuses on the ESA mandates that are inherently Federal such as the development of recovery plans. Recovery plans are developed collaboratively with interested partners. Recovery plans may address multiple species and identify specific recovery tasks, establish downlisting and delisting criteria, and provide timetables and cost estimates. The Service works with other DOI bureaus, Federal agencies, States, and other stakeholders to ensure all recovery plans have objective and measurable recovery criteria and address 5-year status review recommendations on the

national workplan over the next three years. With proposed 2021 Recovery funding, the Service anticipates proposing or finalizing 36 delisting or downlisting rules.

Reducing the Regulatory Burden

The Service delivers conservation for imperiled species through its administration of the ESA, which provides a suite of voluntary tools for private landowners to undertake conservation practices for the benefit of species. The Service is committed to strengthening delivery of conservation under the ESA by making it easier to work with the agency on proactive conservation efforts for at-risk and threatened and endangered species.

The Service is committed to providing timely review and recommendations to facilitate decisions on proposed infrastructure, energy, and other development projects that contribute to job creation and economic growth, while ensuring that impacts to fish, wildlife, and their habitats are avoided, minimized or otherwise appropriately mitigated. The Service administers a variety of environmental review processes under various authorities. To ensure that regulations and policies are clear, effective, and do not pose unnecessary regulatory burdens on the public, the Service has updated and continues reviewing ESA regulations.

Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

There are 568 wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management districts in the National Wildlife Refuge System. The 2021 request prioritizes activities that support conservation stewardship in alignment with Secretarial Order 3347, *Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation*, which calls for improving game and habitat management and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities, particularly for hunters, anglers, and other sportsmen and sportswomen. Such activities include opening acres of wildlife refuges to hunting and fishing opportunities while aligning regulations with the States to increase access and strike a regulatory balance.



Birdwatching is an important outdoor recreation activity on many National Wildlife Refuges. Credit: FWS

The Service is working with States, partners, and the outdoor recreation industry to enhance access to hunting, fishing and recreation opportunities; reduce unnecessary regulatory barriers to access; reevaluate habitat management strategies to support healthy game populations; increase access on Service owned lands; ramp up programs that contribute to recruitment, retention, and reactivation of hunters and anglers and engage new audiences, including a focus on urban refuges. In 2019, the Service added new hunting and fishing opportunities on more than 1.4 million acres of FWS-managed

lands nationwide. The public can now access hunting at 381 wildlife refuges and 316 offer high-quality fishing opportunities.

Protecting Our People and the Border

Border security is critically important to the national security of the U.S. As the manager of wildlife refuges along the southern border, the Service coordinates closely with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on border security issues to assure their access and to address resource protection challenges related to border impacts. The Service also works with CBP on infrastructure projects in an effort to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife while meeting their national security mission. The Service will continue these efforts and respond to the Administration's policy and program milestones on the border.

Funding for Refuge Law Enforcement supports safe and secure wildlife refuges where more than 55 million people per year enjoy wildlife-dependent recreation. Refuge System officers help to ensure the safety and security of the visiting public, Service employees, government property, and wildlife and their habitats. This funding will enable Refuge Law Enforcement and the Service's Emergency Management personnel to receive the necessary training, equipment, and supplies to ensure safe public access to wildlife refuges for hunting, fishing, wildlife photography and observation, and other compatible wildlife-dependent recreation.

In addition, the Service's International Wildlife Trade program protects our borders from invasive species and illegal trade of domestic and foreign wildlife and plants. With funding requested in this budget, the Service will modernize its permitting system, including moving toward fully electronic application submission and permit processing. We will also work with our State wildlife agency partners to ensure that trade in commercially valuable native species is legal and sustainable, such as by implementing recommendations of State and Tribal working groups regarding American ginseng management and trade.

Ensure Tribal sovereignty means something

While State fish and wildlife agencies are critically important partners in implementing the North American



*Children from Choctaw Central Schools in Mississippi celebrate.
Credit: Tami A. Heilemann, Department of the Interior*

model of wildlife conservation, arguably the strongest model of conservation in the world, the Department of the Interior has an equally important responsibility to follow through on its commitments to sovereign Indian Nations and territories. In addition to its consultation responsibilities, the Service works with Tribes on a variety of conservation efforts, from black-footed ferret recovery to fisheries management. The Service is committed to enhancing its relationships with Tribal partners and will take a series of actions to enhance government-to-government relationships with Tribes on conservation issues.

Summary of Request

Ecological Services – The budget includes \$244.1 million to conserve, protect, and enhance listed and at-risk fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. This includes \$28.6 million for Conservation and Restoration activities, including the proactive conservation of at-risk species. The budget proposes \$107.8 million to support environmental reviews, consultation services, and permitting that enables economic development and the creation of American jobs. The budget prioritizes funding to promote the recovery of listed species and toward completing recovery actions and five-year species status reviews as required by the ESA. The budget proposes \$9.4 million for the listing of species.

Habitat Conservation – The request for Habitat Conservation includes \$57.2 million for the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, and the Coastal Program request is \$12.9 million. These two programs provide Federal assistance for habitat restoration and conservation work with private landowners and others.

National Wildlife Refuge System – Funding for the operation and maintenance of the National Wildlife Refuge System is requested at \$525.3 million. The request ensures access to high-quality opportunities for all Americans to enjoy wildlife-dependent recreation, including wildlife photography and observation, hunting, and fishing and maintaining habitat and facilities across the Refuge System.

The request for the Refuge System includes \$249.5 million for wildlife and habitat management, and \$86.8 million for Visitor Services. The Refuge System offers a variety of wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities and continues welcoming more visitors each year. The priority for wildlife refuges in FY 2021 is increasing opportunities and access for hunters and anglers. With more than 100 wildlife refuges within 25 miles of most major cities, wildlife refuges offer excellent opportunities for more Americans to enjoy all kinds of wildlife-dependent recreation. The request includes \$5.0 million to expand use of proven Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) invasive species control techniques through additional strike teams, and will continue to pilot an intergovernmental partnership with the State of Alaska and other Federal agencies to control invasive species in that State.

The request includes \$145.0 million for wildlife refuge facility and equipment maintenance. The budget prioritizes maintenance of Service-owned facilities and infrastructure such as water control structures and

maintenance of administrative facilities. Addressing health and human safety deficiencies at existing facilities is the highest priority for maintenance funding.

Migratory Bird Management – To support cooperation with States on migratory bird management, the budget includes \$49.0 million for migratory bird management. In 2016, the most recent year in which the Service conducted the *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, 2.4 million migratory bird hunters generated \$2.3 billion in economic activity, much of it in rural America supporting jobs in the travel, hospitality, and outdoor recreation industries. The 2021 request includes \$7.3 million for monitoring of waterfowl populations, which provides critical data for developing annual migratory bird hunting frameworks that States rely on to establish hunting seasons and maintain this economic activity.

Law Enforcement – The budget provides \$77.5 million for the law enforcement program to investigate wildlife crimes and enforce wildlife laws. The Service continues to cooperate with the Department of State, other Federal agencies, and foreign governments to disrupt transportation routes connected to the illegal wildlife trafficking supply chain. The Service will continue to cooperate with other nations to combat wildlife trafficking to halt the destruction of some of the world's most iconic species, such as elephants and rhinos, by stopping illicit trade; ensuring sustainable legal trade; reducing demand for illegal products; and providing technical assistance and grants to other nations to develop local enforcement capabilities.

International Affairs – The budget includes a total of \$18.9 million for the Service's international program. The Service provides technical and financial assistance to partners to support innovative projects that address wildlife poaching and trafficking by strengthening enforcement, reducing demand for illegally traded wildlife, and expanding international cooperation and commitment to mitigate this threat.

Fish and Aquatic Conservation – The budget includes a total of \$156.1 million for Fish and Aquatic Conservation. The request includes \$56.0 million for operation of the National Fish Hatchery System. The Service will address top priorities such as recovery of federally-listed threatened or endangered species, restoration of imperiled species, and fulfillment of Tribal partnerships and trust responsibilities. The Service will cooperate with Federal agency partners to mitigate impacts of Federal water projects via reimbursable service agreements. Mitigation hatcheries provide sportfish that increase opportunities for recreational fishing and contribute to local economies. The budget includes \$26.1 million for maintenance of infrastructure including pumps and raceways at fish hatcheries.

The budget proposes \$74.0 million for Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation, including \$9.8 million for combating Asian carp and \$14.0 million for fish passage improvements, including dam and culvert removal or replacement to open streams and rivers to native fish restoration. The budget maintains funding for management of subsistence fishing in Alaska and fishery monitoring, management, and restoration nationwide.

General Operations – The Service's General Operations budget totals \$140.1 million to support headquarters and regional functions as well as Service-wide operating expenses. The request also includes \$5.0 million for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to support conservation projects and \$21.9 million for the operation and maintenance of the National Conservation Training Center.

Construction – The Service requests \$13.3 million for construction in FY 2021.

Land Acquisition – The Service's request for the Land Acquisition account is \$12.9 million. The FY 2021 Budget focuses available funds on providing access to public lands for hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities. The Budget does not request funding for line-item land acquisition projects.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants (NAWCA) – The Service is requesting \$40.0 million for grants that provide funding for land acquisition and habitat restoration by non-Federal partners for wetlands conservation.

Multinational Species Conservation Fund – The 2021 request for this international species grant account is \$6.0 million.

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund – The Service proposes \$3.9 million for North American bird conservation grants.

State Wildlife Grants – The request for this program is \$31.3 million. These grants are provided to States for wildlife conservation. Within the total is \$2.0 million for competitive grants for projects helping to protect key migration corridors for iconic western species including elk, mule deer, and pronghorn antelope.

Fixed costs of \$18.1 million are fully funded.

The budget request supports the President’s Management Agenda Workforce Cross-Agency Priority Goal #3, Developing a Workforce for the 21st Century. The Department will support strategic recognition throughout the year, address workforce challenges, and recognize high performing employees and those employees with talent critical to mission achievement. The budget assumes agency pay for performance efforts increase one percentage point for non-Senior Executive Service (SES)/Senior Leader (SL)/Scientific or Professional (ST) salary spending.

The budget request supports the allocated share of operating costs for the GrantSolutions enterprise system to improve the processing and transparency of grants and cooperative agreements across Interior. Cost allocations are based on an algorithm of use factors.

The 2021 budget supports needed reforms to strengthen the culture of ethics within Interior. Over the last two years, Interior has taken several steps to enhance the emphasis on ethics in the Department, including increasing the number of ethics officers and vigilance regarding the obligation of the Department’s leaders and employees to hold themselves and their colleagues accountable for ethical conduct. Ethics is a top priority in all decision making and operations.

This past summer, Secretary Bernhardt advanced his commitment to transform Interior’s ethics program by signing Secretarial Order 3375, which restructures the ethics program by unifying disparate bureau ethics programs into a centrally-managed office under the Solicitor. The Order streamlines the reporting structure for ethics personnel, establishes the Departmental Ethics Office, and clarifies roles and responsibilities for the Department’s employees. The FY 2021 budget implements this reorganization to restructure the ethics program by transferring bureau ethics funding and FTEs to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget.

In addition to the discretionary request for annual funding, the FY 2021 budget proposes legislation for a new Public Lands Infrastructure Fund. The Departments of the Interior and Agriculture manage an infrastructure asset portfolio with over \$18 billion in deferred maintenance, which includes structures, trails, roads, utility systems, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools. To address these needs, the budget includes \$6.5 billion over 5 years for a Public Lands Infrastructure Fund (Fund). The Fund will support infrastructure improvements through an allocation of 70 percent for national parks, 10 percent for national forests, 10 percent for wildlife refuges, five percent for BIE schools, and five percent for lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The Fund will be supported by the deposit of 50 percent of all federal energy development revenue that would otherwise be credited or deposited as miscellaneous receipts to the Treasury over the 2021-2025 period, subject to an annual limit of \$1.3 billion.

Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act Report

The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act (GAO-IG Act, P.L. 115-414) enacted January 3, 2019, requires that Agencies report the status of each open audit recommendation issued more than one year prior to the submission of the Agency's annual budget justification to Congress. The Act requires Agencies to include the current target completion date, implementation status, and any discrepancies on closure determinations.

The Department of the Interior leadership takes audit follow-up very seriously and considers our external auditors, to include the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Office of the Inspector General, valued partners in not only improving the Department's management and compliance obligations but also enhancing its programmatic and administrative operations. As stewards of taxpayer resources, the Department applies cost-benefit analysis and enterprise risk management principles in recommendation implementation decisions. The Department's GAO-IG Act Report is available at the following link: <https://www.doi.gov/cj>.

Strategic Objective Performance Summary

The Service contributes to meeting the Department's performance goals in three of the Department's six mission areas, as discussed below.

Departmental Mission Area: Conserving Our Land and Water**Bureau Contribution**

The Service met or exceeded the FY 2019 targets for the following measures:

- Percent of DOI acres that have achieved desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans
- Percent of DOI riparian (stream/shoreline) miles that have achieved desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans
- Percent of baseline acres infested with invasive plant species that are controlled
- Percent of invasive animal species populations that are controlled

These performance metrics contributed to the Department meeting its strategic objectives for FY 2019 under Strategy #2: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines.

The Service met or exceeded the following five of the seven FY 2019 targets set for Strategy #3: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, and plant species performance metrics, contributing to the Department meeting or exceeding its metrics for FY 2019.

- Percent of Threatened or Endangered species listed for 2.5 years or more with a final recovery plan
- Percent of Threatened or Endangered species 5-year status review recommendations to downlist or delist acted on within five years (prior to next status review)
- Percent of listed species with current five-year reviews (completed in the last five years)

- Percent of migratory bird species that are at healthy and sustainable levels
- 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

Requested funding in FY 2021 would enable the Service to support the National Wildlife Refuge System which 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 requires 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.

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. The FY 2021 request will maintain Service support for work, to the extent possible, with partners on private, State, and other Federal lands to conserve and restore habitat for fish and wildlife and plant species.

As the principal Federal partner responsible for administering the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Service 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. The FY 2021 request will provide funding for the Service to work 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 at-risk species 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 States and Tribes.

The Service 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. The Service 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. The Service 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.

Requested funding in FY 2021 will allow the Service to maintain efforts to oversee its 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.

Implementation Strategy

The Service will continue its efforts in improving land and water health and sustaining fish, wildlife and plant species in FY 2021. 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.

More details on specific actions are included in other parts of this budget request and in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Performance Metrics

The Service contributes to four DOI Strategic Plan measures in the Strategy: Provide stewardship of land, surface water, streams and shorelines; and seven DOI Strategic Plan measures in the Strategy: Provide stewardship of wildlife, bird, fish, 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 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Departmental Mission Area: Expanding Outdoor Recreation and Access

Bureau Contribution

The Service met or exceeded the following FY 2019 performance metric target set for the Strategy: Promote hunting, fishing and other recreation on DOI lands and waters.

- Number of National Wildlife Refuge acres newly opened to hunting and fishing

In response to Secretarial Orders (S.O.) 3347 and 3356, the Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System (Refuge System) has led an effort to assess Service hunting and sport fishing regulatory alignment to State regulations, and support Regional Directors in identifying opportunities to increase access for hunters and anglers. A web-based tool called the Service's Hunt/Fish Opportunity Tool (SHOT) was developed, and a

team of Regional Chiefs of Hunting and Fishing are assessing all Service lands and waters for regulatory alignment to State hunting and fishing regulations. As assessments are completed, this data will support further proposals to increase access for hunters and anglers for the 2020-2021 station-specific rule.

Implementation Strategy

The Service will continue its efforts in promoting hunting, fishing and other recreation on Service lands and waters in FY 2021. More details on specific actions are included in other parts of this budget request and in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Performance Metrics

The Service contributes to two 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 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Bureau Contribution

The Service met its FY 2019 target for the Strategy: Enhance the enjoyment and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage by creating opportunities for play, enlightenment, and inspiration. A visitor survey, conducted at selected, representative National Wildlife Refuge locations showed increased visitor satisfaction over previous years in all facets of their experience. This updated result helped the Department also meet its overall goal for visitor satisfaction.

- Percent of visitors satisfied with the quality of their experience

The National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act of 1997 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 fish hatcheries also provide opportunities for the public to visit and learn more about aquatic wildlife, fish, and fish hatcheries, as well as take advantage of recreational activities on hatchery grounds. The FY 2021 request will enable the Service to maintain opportunities for play, enlightenment, and inspiration at National Wildlife Refuges and National Fish Hatcheries at levels similar to FY 2019.

Implementation Strategy

The Service will continue its visitor service programs at similar levels in FY 2021, compared to FY 2019, and expects to maintain its current high level of visitor satisfaction (90%). More details on specific actions are included in other parts of this budget request and in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Performance Metrics

The Service 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 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Departmental Mission Area: Modernizing Our Organization and Infrastructure for the Next 100 Years

The Service met or exceeded all three FY 2019 targets for the Strategy: Maintain critical DOI infrastructure and facilities to ensure effective operations and service delivery, contributing to the Department meeting its metrics for FY 2019 in this strategic objective.

- Percent of historic structures in DOI inventory in good condition
- Percent of collections in DOI inventory in good condition
- Percent of archaeological sites in DOI inventory in good condition

Bureau Contribution

The Refuge System is the Service's primary organization responsible for identifying, protecting, and sharing historic structures and historic 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. The FY 2021 request will maintain efforts to protect these resources at levels similar to FY 2019.

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

The Service will continue its historic and heritage resource efforts at similar levels in FY 2021, compared to FY 2019. More details on specific actions are included in other parts of this budget request and in the Department of the Interior's Annual Performance and Plan and Report (APP&R) that accompanies the FY 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

Performance Metrics

The Service 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 2021 Budget request and are not repeated here in an effort to reduce redundancy.

For more information about DOI performance measures, the full performance plan can be found at:

<https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/fy2018-2022-strategic-plan.pdf>

Agency Priority Goals

Ensure Clear, Quantitative Criteria for Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Plans Agency Priority Goal

Bureau Contribution

The ESA requires that the Service develop and implement recovery plans for the conservation and survival of endangered and threatened species found in the U.S., which incorporate objective, and measurable criteria for recovering listed species. Strong, defensible criteria for recovering species is critical to inform priorities, engage partners in conservation activities and direct resources towards the most immediate needs.

Implementation Strategy

Recovery plans provide the Service, partners, stakeholders, and the public a road map and goals for achieving recovery of listed species. Clear criteria for delisting a species directs resources to activities and actions that will most benefit the listed species. This measure will report on the number of recovery plans that provide quantitative criteria for delisting a species under the ESA.

The data source for this measure is the Service's Threatened and Endangered Species System database (contained within the Service's Environmental Conservation Online System, ECOS). The database includes information on all listed species, including their recovery plans, and when the species final recovery plan was completed. Determining whether the criteria used in the plan is quantitative will be determined through a review of each plan and tracked in a separate file.

Performance Metrics

For published recovery plans, Ecological Services is the lead component within the Service for reviewing these plans to confirm that each plan provides quantitative criteria. For recovery plans under development or not yet initiated, the Service will require quantitative criteria be developed as part of the drafting and finalizing of the recovery plan.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE							
MAJOR ACCOUNT SUMMARY OF FISCAL YEAR 2021							
Account		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request	
<u>Current Appropriations</u>							
Resource Management	\$000	1,292,078	1,364,289	+17,842	-100,914	1,281,217	-83,072
	FTE	6,401	6,585		-64	6,521	-64
Construction	\$000	55,613	29,704	+145	-16,557	13,292	-16,412
	FTE	48	48		0	48	0
Land Acquisition	\$000	65,189	70,715	+118	-57,897	12,936	-57,779
	FTE	67	67		-35	32	-35
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	\$000	13,228	13,228	0	-13,228	0	-13,228
	FTE	0	0			0	0
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund	\$000	53,495	54,502	0	-54,502	0	-54,502
	FTE	10	10		-10	0	-10
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	\$000	42,000	46,000	0	-6,000	40,000	-6,000
	FTE	5	5		0	5	0
Multinational Species Conservation Fund	\$000	11,561	15,000	0	-9,000	6,000	-9,000
	FTE	3	3		-1	2	-1
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation	\$000	3,910	4,910	0	-1,010	3,900	-1,010
	FTE	1	1		0	1	0
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants	\$000	64,571	67,571	0	-36,285	31,286	-36,285
	FTE	14	14		-7	7	-7
Total, Current Appropriations	\$000	1,601,645	1,665,919	+18,105	-295,393	1,388,631	-277,288
	FTE	6,549	6,733		-117	6,616	-117
Supplemental		82,400					
Total Current Appropriations with Supplemental		1,684,045	1,665,919	+18,105	-295,393	1,388,631	-277,288
Rescissions/Cancellations							
Construction		-1,500	0	0	0	0	0
Land Acquisition			-3,628	0	+1,628	-2,000	+1,628
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund		-7,500	-18,771	0	+10,771	-8,000	+10,771
Subtotal, Rescissions/Cancellations		-9,000	-22,399	0	+12,399	-10,000	+12,399
TOTAL, Current Appropriations with Supplemental/ Rescissions/ Cancellations.		1,675,045	1,643,520	+18,105	-282,994	1,378,631	-264,889
	FTE	6,549	6,733	0	-117	6,616	-117

Funding tables do not include \$4 million in emergency supplemental appropriations provided to the Resource Management account in the *United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act* (H.R. 5430), signed by the President January 29, 2020. Additional information can be found in the Explanatory Notes section of Appendix A.

The 2019 Actual column does not include a \$15.0 million rescission for the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. The rescission was enacted in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-6) as a Change in Mandatory Program (CHIMP), which achieved savings for the Act. The rescission was executed as a reduction in permanent budget authority, and the rescission is included in permanent funding totals.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE							
MAJOR ACCOUNT SUMMARY OF FISCAL YEAR 2021 REQUEST							
Account		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request	
Permanent and Trust Accounts							
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	\$000	7,882	8,007	0	+465	8,472	+465
	FTE	4	4			4	0
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund - Payment to Special Fund	\$000	69,654	66,170	0	+6,740	72,910	+6,740
	FTE	0	0			0	0
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	\$000	15,288	170	0	-70	100	-70
	FTE	1	1			1	0
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration	\$000	451,205	458,332	0	+22,154	480,486	+22,154
	FTE	53	58		0	58	0
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration	\$000	733,682	665,007	0	+145,874	810,881	+145,874
	FTE	51	51		0	51	0
Migratory Bird Conservation Account	\$000	78,532	75,412	0	+4,013	79,425	+4,013
	FTE	68	67		0	67	0
Federal Lands Recreational Enhancement Act	\$000	7,698	6,503	0	+56	6,559	+56
	FTE	27	30		0	30	0
Contributed Funds	\$000	8,508	5,000	0	0	5,000	0
	FTE	19	18		0	18	0
Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations	\$000	4,398	4,275	0	+75	4,350	+75
	FTE	4	4		0	4	0
Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$000	0	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE	1	1		0	1	0
Subtotal, Permanent Appropriations	\$000	1,376,847	1,288,876	0	+179,307	1,468,183	+179,307
	FTE	228	234	0	0	234	0
Rescission: Coastal Impact Assistance Program		-15,000	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL, Permanent Appropriations with Rescissions/ Cancellation of balances. \$000		1,361,847	1,288,876	0	+179,307	1,468,183	+179,307
Reimbursements, Offsetting Collections, Allocations From Others							
RM Reimbursable	FTE	818	858		0	858	0
RM Offsetting Collections 1800 series	FTE	140	134		0	134	0
RM Offsetting Collections 4000 series	FTE	30	34		0	34	0
Wildland Fire Management (incl. reimb)	FTE	366	376		+77	453	+77
Southern Nevada Lands	FTE	2	1		0	1	0
Federal Aid - Highway	FTE	15	19		0	19	0
NRDAR	FTE	53	60		0	60	0
Central HAZMAT	FTE	7	8		0	8	0
Forest Pest	FTE	0	0		0	0	0
Disaster Relief	FTE	8	9		0	9	0
Energy Act - Permit Processing	FTE	12	11		0	11	0
Subtotal, Other		1,451	1,510	0	+77	1,587	+77
TOTAL FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE without Rescissions/ Cancellation	\$000	3,060,892	2,954,795	+18,105	-116,086	2,856,814	-97,981
	FTE	8,058	8,309	0	-40	8,269	-40
Rescissions/ Cancellation	\$000	-24,000	-22,399		+12,399	-10,000	+12,399
TOTAL FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE with Rescissions/Cancellation of Balances	\$000	3,036,892	2,932,396	+18,105	-103,687	2,846,814	-85,582
	FTE	8,058	8,309	0	-40	8,269	-40

Budget at a Glance

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Budget At A Glance						
Dollars in Thousands (\$000)						
	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request
Appropriation: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT						
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES						
LISTING	18,318	20,318	+270	0	-11,213	9,375
DOI Ethics Transfer					-51	
General Program Activities					-11,162	
PLANNING AND CONSULTATION	106,079	109,016	+1,951	0	-3,149	107,818
General Program Activities					+3,618	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-265	
Gulf Coast Restoration					-3,002	
NEPA Permitting					-3,500	
CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION	32,396	33,696	+544	0	-5,654	28,586
At risk Species initiative					+2,000	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-79	
Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem					-1,506	
Environmental Contaminants					-1,785	
Candidate Conservation					-4,284	
RECOVERY	95,032	102,982	+1,377	0	-5,991	98,368
General Program Activities					+10,653	
Florida Grasshopper Sparrow					-100	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-201	
Ecosystem Restoration - Bay Delta					-500	
Wolf Livestock Loss Demonstration Program					-1,000	
Prescott Grant Program					-1,200	
De-listing and Down Listing					-1,393	
White Nose Syndrome					-2,000	
State of the Birds Activities					-3,250	
Recovery Challenge					-7,000	
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES TOTAL	251,825	266,012	+4,142	0	-26,007	244,147
HABITAT CONSERVATION						
PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE	51,633	56,951	+629	0	-339	57,241
General Program Activities					+7,526	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-92	
Environmental Data Quality/Access (WA Salmon Recovery)					-643	
Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication					-713	
WA Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups					-1,285	
Klamath River Habitat Restoration					-5,132	
COASTAL PROGRAM	13,375	13,375	+174	0	-636	12,913
DOI Ethics Transfer					-15	
Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group					-184	
Long Live the Kings					-184	
General Program Activities					-253	
HABITAT CONSERVATION TOTAL	65,008	70,326	+803	0	-975	70,154

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Budget At A Glance						
Dollars in Thousands (\$000)						
	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM						
WILDLIFE AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT						
Refuge Wildlife & Habitat Management	234,467	238,612	+3,393	0	+7,460	249,465
General Program Activities					+7,179	
Invasive Species					+2,500	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-544	
Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication					-1,675	
Refuge Visitor Services	73,319	74,227	+1,271	0	+11,321	86,819
General Program Activities					+12,423	
Volunteer Partnerships					+2,092	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-194	
Urban Wildlife Conservation Program					-1,000	
Youth and Careers in Nature					-2,000	
Refuge Law Enforcement	38,054	41,000	+718	0	+2,349	44,067
General Program Activities					+2,442	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-93	
Refuge Conservation Planning	2,523	2,523	0	0	-2,523	0
Refuge Planning					-2,523	
Refuge Maintenance	139,888	146,042	+1,107	0	-2,179	144,970
Deferred Maintenance					+4,287	
Maintenance Support					+366	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-220	
Youth Conservation Corps					-649	
Annual Maintenance					-1,500	
Equipment and Vehicle Management					-4,463	
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM TOTAL	488,251	502,404	+6,489	0	+16,428	525,321
CONSERVATION AND ENFORCEMENT						
MIGRATORY BIRD MANAGEMENT						
Conservation and Monitoring	29,301	28,837	+426		+2,092	31,355
Monitoring					+988	
General Program Activities					+907	
Bird-Livestock Conflicts					+250	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-53	
Permits	3,424	3,424	+57	0	+282	3,763
General Program Activities					+295	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-13	
Duck Stamp Office	556	556	+11	0	+11	578
General Program Activities					+11	
North American Waterfowl Management Plan	13,140	14,640	+131	0	-1,474	13,297
General Program Activities					-1,456	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-18	
Migratory Bird Management Total	46,421	47,457	+625	0	+911	48,993

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Budget At A Glance						
Dollars in Thousands (\$000)						
	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request
LAW ENFORCEMENT						
Law Enforcement Operations	78,143	81,143	+1,082	-500	-5,157	76,568
Wildlife Trafficking					-14	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-193	
E-Permitting				-500		
General Program Activities					-1,450	
Indian Arts and Crafts Board					-3,500	
Equipment Replacement	910	910	0	0	0	910
Law Enforcement Total	79,053	82,053	+1,082	-500	-5,157	77,478
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS						
International Conservation	8,290	10,810	+87	-500	-2,577	7,820
DOI Ethics Transfer					-16	
Wildlife Trafficking					-89	
E-Permitting				-500		
Arctic Council Support					-550	
General Program Activities					-922	
Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize					-1,000	
International Wildlife Trade	7,526	8,016	+143	+1,000	+1,914	11,073
Permitting Modernization				+1,000	+2,000	
General Program Activities					+132	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-18	
Wildlife Trafficking					-200	
International Affairs Total	15,816	18,826	+230	+500	-663	18,893
CONSERVATION AND ENFORCEMENT TOTAL	141,290	148,336	+1,937	0	-4,909	145,364
FISH AND AQUATIC CONSERVATION						
National Fish Hatchery Operations	59,822	64,272	+763	0	-9,046	55,989
General Program Activities					+1,394	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-115	
Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Program					-400	
Washington State Mass Marking					-1,475	
Klamath Restoration					-3,750	
Pacific Salmon Treaty					-4,700	
Maintenance and Equipment	22,920	25,846	+131	0	+134	26,111
Annual Maintenance					+2,046	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-24	
Deferred Maintenance					-1,888	
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation						
Habitat Assessment and Restoration	31,987	43,037	+207	0	-16,874	26,370
DOI Ethics Transfer					-36	
Chehalis Fisheries Restoration					-268	
General Program Activities					-1,130	
Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement					-1,140	
Fish Passage Improvements					-4,600	
Delaware River Basin Conservation Act					-9,700	

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Budget At A Glance						
Dollars in Thousands (\$000)						
	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request
Population Assessment and Cooperative Mgmt.	30,150	31,840	+458	0	-2,935	29,363
DOI Ethics Transfer					-48	
Pacific Salmon Treaty					-150	
Great Lakes Consent Decree					-332	
Great Lakes F&W Restoration Program					-332	
Lake Champlain Sea Lamprey					-818	
General Program Activities					-1,255	
Aquatic Invasive Species	22,348	40,482	+117	0	-22,318	18,281
Prevention					+93	
DOI Ethics Transfer					-23	
Sea Lamprey Admin Costs					-300	
Contract Fishing (Asian Carp)					-500	
Quagga-Zebra Mussels Control and Prevention					-1,000	
NISA State/Interstate Plans					-1,834	
Lake Tahoe Water Craft Inspections					-4,088	
Asian Carp					-14,666	
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation Subtotal	84,485	115,359	+782	0	-42,127	74,014
FISH AND AQUATIC CONSERVATION TOTAL	167,227	205,477	+1,676	0	-51,039	156,114
COOPERATIVE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION	12,500	12,500	0	0	-12,500	0
SCIENCE SUPPORT						
Adaptive Science	10,517	10,517	0	0	-10,517	0
Service Science	6,750	6,750	0	0	-6,750	0
SCIENCE SUPPORT TOTAL	17,267	17,267	0	0	-17,267	0
GENERAL OPERATIONS						
Central Office Operations	43,049	20,758	+1,116	+5,000	+1,406	28,280
Headquarters and Regional Management Offices				+5,000	+1,406	
Management and Administration	32,860	49,166	+1,376	-5,000	+447	45,989
JAO				-5,000	+447	
Servicewide Bill Paying	36,528	35,770	-22	0	0	35,748
Aviation Management	3,237	3,237	+2	0	+1	3,240
General Program Activities					+1	
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	7,022	7,022	0	0	-2,022	5,000
National Conservation Training Center	26,014	26,014	+323	0	-4,477	21,860
General Program Activities					+2,038	
Annual Maintenance					-2,602	
Youth and Careers in Nature					-3,913	
GENERAL OPERATIONS TOTAL	148,710	141,967	+2,795	0	-4,645	140,117
TOTAL - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	1,292,078	1,364,289	+17,842	0	-100,914	1,281,217

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Budget At A Glance						
Dollars in Thousands (\$000)						
	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2021 Request
Appropriation: CONSTRUCTION						
Nationwide Engineering Services	5,475	5,368	+145	0	-46	5,467
Dam, Bridge and Seismic Safety	1,972	1,232	0	+695	+500	2,427
Construction Projects	48,166	23,104	0	-695	-17,011	5,398
Supplemental Appropriation - Construction	82,400					
TOTAL - CONSTRUCTION	138,013	29,704	+145	0	-16,557	13,292
Appropriation: LAND ACQUISITION						
Land Protection Planning	465	465	0	0	-465	0
Exchanges	1,500	1,500	0	0	-1,500	0
Land Acquisition Management	12,773	13,000	+118	0	-3,520	9,598
Sportsmen and Recreational Access	2,500	8,000	0	0	-5,000	3,000
Inholdings, Emergencies and Hardships	5,351	6,500	0	0	-6,162	338
Highlands Conservation Act	20,000	10,000	0	0	-10,000	0
Land Acquisition	22,600	31,250	0	0	-31,250	0
TOTAL - LAND ACQUISITION	65,189	70,715	+118	0	-57,897	12,936
Appropriation: NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND	13,228	13,228	0	0	-13,228	0
Appropriation: COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND	53,495	54,502	0	0	-54,502	0
Appropriation: NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND	42,000	46,000	0	0	-6,000	40,000
Appropriation: MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND	11,561	15,000	0	0	-9,000	6,000
Appropriation: NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND	3,910	4,910	0	0	-1,010	3,900
Appropriation: STATE & TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS	64,571	67,571	0	0	-36,285	31,286
TOTAL, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (Current Disc.)	1,684,045	1,665,919	+18,105	0	-295,393	1,388,631
RESCISSION / CANCELLATION OF BALANCES						
Account: CONSTRUCTION	-1,500	0	0	0	0	
Account: LAND ACQUISITION	0	-3,628	0	0	+1,628	-2,000
Account: COOPERATIVE END. SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND	-7,500	-18,771	0	0	+10,771	-8,000
TOTAL, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (Discretionary)	1,675,045	1,643,520	+18,105	0	-282,994	1,378,631

Funding tables do not include \$4 million in emergency supplemental appropriations provided to the Resource Management account in the *United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act* (H.R. 5430), signed by the President January 29, 2020. Additional information can be found in the Explanatory Notes section of Appendix A.

The 2019 Actual column does not include a \$15.0 million rescission for the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. The rescission was enacted in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-6) as a Change in Mandatory Program (CHIMP), which achieved savings for the Act. The rescission was executed as a reduction in permanent budget authority, and the rescission is included in permanent funding totals.

FY 2021 Summary of Fixed Cost Changes by Appropriation

Dollars in Thousands (\$000)

Fixed Cost Component	Resource Management	Construction	Land Acq.	TOTAL
Change in Pay Days	-3,158	-27	-22	-3,207
CY 2020 Pay Raise - One Quarter	6,626	56	46	6,728
CY 2021 Pay Raise - Three Quarters	6,081	51	42	6,174
FERS Employer Contribution Increase	7,522	65	52	7,639
Departmental Working Capital Fund	-383	0	0	-383
Workers' Compensation Payments	514	0	0	514
Unemployment Compensation Payments	-180	0	0	-180
GSA and non-GSA Space Rental Payments	816	0	0	816
Net O&M Baseline Adjustment	4	0	0	4
TOTAL, Fixed Costs	17,842	145	118	18,105

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, [\$1,364,289,000] \$1,281,217,000 to remain available until September 30, [2021]2022: *Provided*, That not to exceed [\$20,318,000] \$9,375,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) (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)); *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading for central office operations, \$1,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives report is received by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in accordance with the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)]. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.*)

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.

Agricultural Credit Act, (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, (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). Provides 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, (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, (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.

Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act, (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, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Every two years, the Services are required to produce an Atlantic Striped Bass Biennial Report to Congress on the status and health of Atlantic Coast Striped Bass Stocks.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, (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.

Brown Tree Snake Eradication and Control Act, (P.L. 108-384). Through this Act, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture support a multi-agency and partner effort to eradicate brown tree snakes in Guam and to prevent introduction or establishment of this invasive species on other Pacific islands or the U.S. mainland.

Billy Frank Jr. Tell Your Story Act, (P.L. 114-101). Establishes the Medicine Creek Treaty National Memorial within the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge. The Department of the Interior must: (1) establish the boundaries of the Medicine Creek Treaty National Memorial and to provide for its administration and interpretation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and (2) coordinate with representatives of the Muckleshoot, Nisqually, Puyallup, and Squaxin Island Indian Tribes in providing for that interpretation.

Chehalis River Basin Fishery Resources Study and Restoration Act, (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, 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 five 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.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, (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.

Coastal Zone Management Act, (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).

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

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, (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, (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.

Delaware River Basin Restoration Act, (P.L. 114-322). Establishes a Delaware River Basin restoration program and directs the Secretary to produce a basin-wide strategy that draws on existing conservation efforts, involves partners, and provides for the implementation of a shared set of science-based restoration and protection activities, including cost-effective projects with measurable results that maximize conservation outcomes with no net gain of Federal employees. Establishes a voluntary grant and technical assistance program. Sunsets on September 30, 2023. Enacted as part of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016.

Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2016, (P.L. 114-231). Sets forth a national policy on wildlife trafficking and several directions for the U.S. Secretary of State. Creates a Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking, the co-chairs of which include the Secretary of the Interior. Authorizes anti-poaching and anti-trafficking programs. Amends the Pelly Amendment to the Fisherman's Protection Act to require that Pelly certifications made to the President by the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior be reported to Congress.

Emergency Wetlands Resources Act, (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 of the Interior 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, 1998, to update the report on wetlands status and trends by September 30, 1990, and at 10-year intervals thereafter.

Endangered Species Act, (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 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 Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA), (16 U.S.C. 6801-6814). Through this Act, Congress authorized Federal collection of fees for recreational use of public lands managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.

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.

Federal Power Act, (16 U.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), (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, (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 Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 2901-2911). Directs the Secretary of the Interior 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.

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, (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, (16 U.S.C. 777 note; P.L. 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.

Fishery Conservation and Management Act, (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, (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, (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.

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

Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, (P.L. 109-326). 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..

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

Highlands Conservation Act, (P.L. 108-421). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the States of Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania (Highland States) to preserve and protect high priority conservation land in the Highlands region, an area depicted on a National Forest Service map entitled "The Highlands Region" dated June 2004.

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.

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.

Lacey Act Amendments of 1981, (18 U.S.C. 42; 16 U.S.C. 3371-3378). Provides that the Secretary of the Interior 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.

Marine Mammal Protection Act, (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). Establishes 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.

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

Marine Turtle Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 6601-6607). Establishes 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.

Migratory Bird Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 715-715d). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior 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, (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 of the Interior 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, (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.

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

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, (NEPA), (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.

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

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

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, (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.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act, (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.

National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act, (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.

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, (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.

New England Fishery Resources Restoration Act, (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, as amended by the National Invasive species Act, (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.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act, (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.

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.

Oil Pollution Act, (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.

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.

Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act, (P.L. 113-239). Authorizes the Service to permanently allow any State to provide hunting and conservation stamps for migratory birds (referred to as Federal Duck Stamps) electronically. The electronic stamps would remain valid for 45 days to allow for the physical stamps to arrive in the mail.

Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act, (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 of the Interior 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 P.L. 92-534, approved October 23, 1972, (86 Stat. 1063). Authorizes 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, (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.

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, (16 U.S.C. 670a-670o). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior 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.

Strategic Response to Asian Carp Invasion Act, (P.L. 113-121). Requires the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey, to lead a multiagency effort to slow the spread of Asian Carp in the Upper Mississippi and Ohio River basins and tributaries by providing high-level technical assistance, coordination, best practices, and support to State and local government strategies, to slow, and eventually eliminate, the threat posed by such Carp. Enacted in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014.

Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior 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, (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, (16 U.S.C. 4901-4916). Requires that all trade in wild birds 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.

Youth Conservation Corps Act, (16 USC 1701-1706) as amended by P.L. 93-408, September 3, 1974. Expands and makes 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 Executive Orders 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 of the Interior 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.

Combating Wildlife Trafficking, (Executive Order 13648). Directs agencies to combat the illegal poaching and wildlife trade of protected species, both domestically and internationally. Wildlife trafficking not only endangers the survival of wildlife species, but also contributes to global instability and undermines security. The Secretary of the Interior will co-chair a Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking with the Secretary of State and Attorney General, or their designees.

Improving Performance of Federal Permitting and Review of Infrastructure Projects, (Executive Order 13604). Directs agencies to make the Federal permitting and review process of infrastructure projects efficient and effective to support economic growth while ensuring the health, safety, and security of the environment and communities. Agencies are to provide transparency, consistency, and predictability in the process for both project sponsors and affected communities.

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 shared by or of importance to all countries of the globe.

Summary of Requirements Appropriation: Resource Management <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>														
	2019 Actual		2020 Enacted		Fixed Costs (+/-)		Internal Transfers		Program Changes (+/-)		2021 Request		Change from 2020 (+/-)	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	(+/-)	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	
Ecological Services														
Listing	95	18,318	104	20,318	+270	0	0	-71	-11,213	33	9,375	-71	-10,943	
Planning and Consultation	622	106,079	629	109,016	+1,951	0	0	-10	-3,149	619	107,818	-10	-1,198	
Conservation and Restoration	176	32,396	183	33,696	+544	0	0	-39	-5,654	144	28,586	-39	-5,110	
Recovery	449	95,032	488	102,982	+1,377	0	0	+55	-5,991	543	98,368	+55	-4,614	
Subtotal, Ecological Services	1,342	251,825	1,404	266,012	+4,142	0	0	-65	-26,007	1,339	244,147	-65	-21,865	
Habitat Conservation														
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	216	51,633	216	56,951	+629	0	0	+6	-339	222	57,241	+6	+290	
Coastal Program	47	13,375	47	13,375	+174	0	0	0	-636	47	12,913	0	-462	
Subtotal, Habitat Conservation	263	65,008	263	70,326	+803	0	0	+6	-975	269	70,154	+6	-172	
National Wildlife Refuge System														
Wildlife and Habitat Management	1,207	234,467	1,235	238,612	+3,393	0	0	+53	+7,460	1,288	249,465	+53	+10,853	
Visitor Services	491	73,319	493	74,227	+1,271	0	0	+66	+11,321	559	86,819	+66	+12,592	
Refuge Law Enforcement	226	38,054	242	41,000	+718	0	0	+15	+2,349	257	44,067	+15	+3,067	
Conservation Planning	18	2,523	18	2,523	0	0	0	-18	-2,523	0	0	-18	-2,523	
Refuge Maintenance	525	139,888	537	146,042	+1,107	0	0	+6	-2,179	543	144,970	+6	-1,072	
Subtotal, National Wildlife Refuge System	2,467	488,251	2,525	502,404	+6,489	0	0	+122	+16,428	2,647	525,321	+122	+22,917	
Conservation and Enforcement														
Migratory Bird Management	197	46,421	197	47,457	+625	0	0	0	+911	197	48,993	0	+1,536	
Law Enforcement	303	79,053	311	82,053	+1,082	0	-500	0	-5,157	311	77,478	0	-4,575	
International Affairs	79	15,816	87	18,826	+230	0	+500	-4	-663	83	18,893	-4	+67	
Subtotal, Conservation and Enforcement	579	141,290	595	148,336	+1,937	0	0	-4	-4,909	591	145,364	-4	-2,972	
Fish and Aquatic Conservation														
National Fish Hatchery System Operations	319	59,822	336	64,272	+763	0	0	-17	-9,046	319	55,989	-17	-8,283	
Maintenance and Equipment	64	22,920	67	25,846	+131	0	0	0	+134	67	26,111	0	+265	
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation	291	84,485	321	115,359	+782	0	0	-29	-42,127	292	74,014	-29	-41,345	
Subtotal, Fish and Aquatic Conservation	674	167,227	724	205,477	+1,676	0	0	-46	-51,039	678	156,114	-46	-49,363	
Cooperative Landscape Conservation														
Science Support	55	12,500	55	12,500	0	0	0	-55	-12,500	0	0	-55	-12,500	
Adaptive Science	5	10,517	5	10,517	0	0	0	-5	-10,517	0	0	-5	-10,517	
Service Science	12	6,750	12	6,750	0	0	0	-12	-6,750	0	0	-12	-6,750	
Subtotal, Science Support	17	17,267	17	17,267	0	0	0	-17	-17,267	0	0	-17	-17,267	
General Operations														
Central Office Operations	292	43,049	316	20,758	+1,116	0	5,000	0	+1,406	316	28,280	0	+7,522	
Management and Administration	423	32,860	415	49,166	+1,376	0	-5,000	0	+447	415	45,989	0	-3,177	
Service-wide Bill Paying	20	36,528	0	35,770	-22	0	0	0	0	0	35,748	0	-22	
Aviation Management	1	3,237	5	3,237	+2	0	0	0	+1	5	3,240	0	+3	
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	1	7,022	1	7,022	0	0	0	0	-2,022	1	5,000	0	-2,022	
National Conservation Training Center	97	26,014	97	26,014	+323	0	0	-5	-4,477	92	21,860	-5	-4,154	
Subtotal, General Operations	834	148,710	834	141,987	+2,795	0	0	-5	-4,645	829	140,117	-5	-1,850	
Total, Resource Management	6,231	1,292,078	6,417	1,364,289	+17,842	0	0	-64	-100,914	6,353	1,281,217	-64	-83,072	

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Resource Management
Justification of Fixed Costs and Internal Realignments
(Dollars In Thousands)

Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	2020 Total or Change	2020 to 2021 Change
Change in Number of Paid Days This column reflects changes in pay associated with the change in the number of paid days (-1 day) between FY 2020 and FY 2021, from 2,096 hours in 2020 to 2,088 hours in 2021.	+2,766	-3,158
Pay Raise The President's Budget for FY 2021 includes one quarter of a planned 3.1% pay raise and three quarters of a planned 1% pay raise.	+0	+12,707
Employer Share of Federal Employee Retirement System The change reflects the directed 1.3% increase in the employer contribution to the Federal Employee Retirement System.	+1,705	+7,522
Departmental Working Capital Fund The change reflects the final BY Central Bill approved by the Working Capital Fund Consortium.	+453	-383
Worker's Compensation Payments The amounts reflects final chargeback 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.	-627	+514
Unemployment Compensation Payments The amounts reflect 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.	+0	-180
Rental Payments The amounts reflect changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration (GSA) and others 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.	+3,158	+816
Baseline Adjustments for O&M Increases In accordance with space maximization efforts across the Federal Government, this adjustment captures the associated increase to baseline operations and maintenance requirements resulting from movement out of GSA or direct-leased (commercial) space and into Bureau-owned space. While the GSA portion of fixed costs will go down as a result of these moves, Bureaus often encounter an increase to baseline O&M costs not otherwise captured in fixed costs. This category of funding properly adjusts the baseline fixed cost amount to maintain steady-state funding for these requirements.	+0	+4

Internal Realignments and Non-Policy/Program Changes (Net-Zero)	2021 (+/-)
<p>General Operations: Management and Administration</p> <p>This moves funds from Management and Administration to Central Office Operations to fund the Regional Directors offices who are responsible for overseeing the Service’s regional and field operations and their immediate staff.</p>	-5,000
<p>General Operations: Central Office Operations</p> <p>This moves funds from Management and Administration to Central Office Operations to fund the Regional Directors offices who are responsible for overseeing the Service’s regional and field operations and their immediate staff.</p>	+5,000
<p>Law Enforcement Operations: E-Permitting</p> <p>This moves funds from Law Enforcement Operations to International Trade to consolidate funding to support the Service’s effort to upgrade its permit processing infrastructure.</p>	-500
<p>International Conservation: E-permitting</p> <p>This moves funds from International Conservation to International Trade to consolidate funding to support the Service’s effort to upgrade its permit processing infrastructure.</p>	-500
<p>International Wildlife Trade: Permitting Modernization</p> <p>This moves funds from Law Enforcement Operations and International Conservation to International Trade to consolidate funding to support the Service’s effort to upgrade its permit processing infrastructure.</p>	+1,000

Ecological Services



Activity: Ecological Services

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Listing	(\$000)	18,318	20,318	270	0	-11,213	9,375	-10,943
	FTE	95	104	0	0	-71	33	-71
Planning and Consultation	(\$000)	106,079	109,016	1,951	0	-3,149	107,818	-1,198
	FTE	622	629	0	0	-10	619	-10
Conservation and Restoration	(\$000)	32,396	33,696	544	0	-5,654	28,586	-5,110
	FTE	176	183	0	0	-39	144	-39
Recovery	(\$000)	95,032	102,982	1,377	0	-5,991	98,368	-4,614
	FTE	449	488	0	0	+55	543	+55
Total, Ecological Services	(\$000)	251,825	266,012	4,142	0	-26,007	244,147	-21,865
	FTE	1,342	1,404	0	0	-65	1,339	-65

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Ecological Services

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Recovery Activities	+10,653	+67
• Planning and Consultation Activities	+3,618	+10
• At-Risk Species Initiative	+2,000	+13
• Florida Grasshopper Sparrow	-100	0
• Ecosystem Restoration – Bay Delta	-500	-3
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-596	0
• Wolf-Livestock Demonstration Program	-1,000	0
• Prescott Grant Program	-1,200	0
• De-Listing & Down-Listing	-1,393	-9
• Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem	-1,506	-10
• Environmental Contaminants	-1,785	-12
• White Nose Syndrome	-2,000	0
• NEPA Permitting	-3,500	0
• Candidate Conservation	-4,284	-30
• State of the Birds	-3,250	0
• Gulf Coast Restoration	-3,002	-20
• Recovery Challenge	-7,000	0
• Listing	-11,162	-71
Program Changes	-26,007	-65

Program Mission

The Ecological Services Program contributes to the Secretary’s priority of creating a conservation stewardship legacy, sustainably developing our energy and natural resources, restoring trust with our neighbors and communities, supporting Tribal sovereignty, protecting our southern border, striking a

regulatory balance between sustainable economic development and providing for conservation into the future.

Ecological Services Field Offices provide leadership in environmental response and restoration and assist communities in balancing economic growth and conservation through their work to conduct timely environmental reviews of Federal permits and projects, conserve and recover species listed under the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA), and permit take of listed species.

Program Elements

The Ecological Services program is comprised of the following program elements:

- **Listing** – Uses the best scientific and commercial information available to identify plant and animal species that are in danger of extinction or likely to become in danger of extinction within the foreseeable future and thus need protection under the ESA.
- **Planning and Consultation** – Provides integrated advanced project planning, environmental review, and permitting assistance to proactively address environmental concerns in support of economic growth, demand for new infrastructure, and community development.
- **Conservation and Restoration** – Delivers proactive species conservation efforts in partnership with States, Tribes, local governments, and landowners to prevent the need to list a species when possible; protects and restores habitat important to Federal trust species; and provides databases and mapping products that are essential tools for conservation and restoration of species and habitats by landowners, other Federal and State agencies, and the public.
- **Recovery** – Works with communities and stakeholders to recover endangered and threatened species, with the goal to minimize or reduce threats to a listed species and improve their status so the species can be removed from Federal protection.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

Under various statutes and authorities, the Ecological Services Program is charged with providing technical solutions and compliance with a variety of conservation laws, including the *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act* (FWCA); *ESA*; *Marine Mammal Protection Act* (MMPA); *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA); *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act*; *Clean Water Act*; *Coastal Barrier Resources Act* (CBRA); *Oil Pollution Act* (OPA); *Federal Power Act*, *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act* (CERCLA); and multiple Executive Orders. Through these operating authorities, the Service identifies potential impacts and provides solutions that prevent species and their habitats from becoming more imperiled and support the Secretary's priority of Conserving Our Land and Water.

Subactivity: Ecological Services

Program Element: Listing

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Listing	(\$000)	18,318	20,318	+270	0	-11,213	9,375	-10,943
	FTE	95	104	0	0	-71	33	-71

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Listing

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-51	0
• Listing Activities	-11,162	-71
Program Changes	-11,213	-71

Program Overview

The purpose of the ESA is to conserve endangered and threatened species and the ecosystems on which they depend. Before a plant or animal species can receive the protection provided by the ESA, it must first be added to the Federal lists of threatened and endangered wildlife and plants. Placing a species on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife (50 CFR 17.11) or the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants (50 CFR 17.12), and designating critical habitat as required under the ESA, focuses resources and efforts by the Service and its partners on recovering the species. Through the Listing subactivity, the Service uses the best scientific and commercial information available to identify species that are in danger of extinction or likely to become so within the foreseeable future and thus need protection under the ESA.

The Service works closely with States and Tribes during the listing process, which often includes the development of a species status assessment (SSA) that reflects the best available scientific and commercial information regarding life history, biology, and the factors affecting the viability of a species. The Service maintains a National Listing Workplan to encourage States, Tribes and the public to undertake conservation activities now for species on the workplan so that the species does not need the protection of the ESA.¹

To improve our implementation of the ESA, in keeping with the Secretary’s priority to provide regulatory certainty to all parties to the maximum degree possible, the Service finalized revisions to regulations governing our listing process in 2019.² The revised final regulations clarify requirements that are considered in listing and delisting species, designating critical habitat, and rescinded the “blanket rules” that applied protections for species listed as threatened with protections similar to species listed as endangered under section 4(d) of the ESA. When species are listed as threatened in the future, the Service will promulgate species-specific 4(d) rules to provide the regulations necessary and advisable for the conservation of the species, as has been common practice for many species listed as threatened in recent years.

2021 Program Activities

¹ <https://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/listing-workplan.html>

² 50 CFR 17

The 2021 budget will:

- Support implementation of the approved National Listing Workplan. This plan identifies and prioritizes 90-day and 12-month findings, listing rules, and critical habitat rules that are required by law. Listing determinations will be based on Species Status Assessments.
- Support staff work on SSAs, petition findings, rules, public hearings, printing, and economic analyses for critical habitat.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Listing is \$9,375,000 and 33 FTE, which includes:

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$51,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Listing (-\$11,162,000/-71 FTE) - The 2021 request will be used by the Service to implement the highest priority actions in the National Listing Workplan. This subactivity funds 90-day and 12-month petition findings, and listing, 4(d), and critical habitat rules that are required by law. The funds will support staff working on SSAs, petition findings, rules, public hearings, printing, and economic analyses associated with critical habitat designations.

Subactivity: Ecological Services
Program Element: Planning and Consultation

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Planning and Consultation	(\$000) FTE	106,079 622	109,016 629	1,951 0	0 0	-3,149 -10	107,818 619	-1,198 -10

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Planning and Consultation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Planning and Consultation Activities	+3,618	+10
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-265	0
• Gulf Coast Restoration	-3,002	-20
• NEPA Streamlining	-3,500	0
Program Changes	-3,149	-10

Program Overview

Planning and Consultation is the primary customer service component of the Ecological Services program. Service staff advance the Secretary’s priorities of sustainably developing our Nation’s energy and natural resources, coordinating with Tribes, protecting our people and our border, striking a regulatory balance, and modernizing our Nation’s infrastructure. With this funding, the Service works collaboratively with industry, 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 projects—from highway expansions to energy development—to ensure that development has minimal impact on wildlife and habitats. By engaging in project development and planning processes early, the Service can save taxpayers and developers money by minimizing environmental impacts of development projects, reducing threats to species in a way that helps prevent the need to list them as endangered or threatened in the future, streamlining the permitting process so that benefits are realized sooner, and reducing paperwork.



*Osprey Nest overlooking Atlantic City coastline.
 Photo Credit: Chelsi Burns/USFWS*

Early coordination and involvement in the project siting and design process can minimize the impacts of a project on wildlife. Engaging through the NEPA process, Ecological Services works closely with the lead Federal agency to streamline the review process for their Federal infrastructure projects. Through authority for interagency consultation under Section 7 of the ESA, the Service collaborates with its partners to identify opportunities to reduce adverse impacts of development activities with a Federal nexus. If an agency action is likely to adversely affect a listed species or critical habitat, the Federal agency must initiate consultation with the Service. This requirement may affect private entities and individuals when their action requires Federal authorization, including permits or funding. Service biologists provide technical

assistance that identifies and explains ways to modify or reduce adverse effects of proposed projects on listed species and issue incidental take authorization for listed species, where appropriate, so that projects can proceed on schedule and in compliance with the ESA.

Environmental review functions constitute a significant workload for the Service, and we are continuously looking for ways to improve the efficiency, consistency, transparency, and effectiveness of environmental reviews for infrastructure and other development projects. The Service is enhancing our Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) decision support system to streamline the environmental review process. For example, IPaC assists in rapid identification of potential projects that will not affect listed species, expedites review of ESA section 7 consultations, and provides early information helpful to crafting section 10 HCPs, and other environmental review processes. In FY 2019, the IPaC program had more than 28,000 users, delivered more than 7,889 automated consultation documents and generated more than 79,816 Official Species Lists in response to user requests. In addition, the Service is undertaking a process to update species range maps in a way that is transparent and repeatable. Improving range maps for listed species will further streamline the environmental review process, by helping ensure environmental reviews focus on where species are most likely to be affected by potential actions.

Using the incidental take permit authority under section 10 of the ESA, the Service provides technical assistance to non-Federal entities in the development of incidental take permit applications, including Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs), and issues incidental take permits. The Service's incidental take permit program is a flexible process for addressing situations in which a property owner's otherwise lawful activities might result in incidental take of a listed species. Under section 10, the Service facilitates private and other non-Federal land development with proactive species and conservation planning that strike a regulatory balance for development while addressing threats to species and fulfilling species recovery needs. The section 10 programs encourage applicants to explore different methods to achieve compliance with the ESA and choose an approach that best suits their needs.

In FY 2019, the Service published the final revised interagency regulations for consultation with other Federal agencies under section 7(a)(2) of the ESA. The revisions codify alternative consultation mechanisms, which allow for more efficient ESA consultation. The revisions also establish a deadline for concurrence with "not likely to adversely affect" determinations to provide greater certainty for Federal agencies and applicants of timely decisions, without compromising conservation of ESA-listed species. Lastly, revisions to the definitions of "destruction or adverse modification," "effects of the action" and "environmental baseline" will further improve the consultation process by providing clarity and consistency, in support of Secretarial and Administration Priorities.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Provide integrated advanced project planning, environmental review, and permitting assistance to address environmental concerns in support of energy production, infrastructure, and other development activities.

- Support development and population of data in IPaC, our web-based application, to streamline the ESA consultation process, and provide transparency and predictability for Federal agencies and applicants.
- Collaborate with many internal and external partners by providing technical assistance in evaluating the impacts of proposed Federal activities on fish, wildlife, and plants.
- Focus our consultation and permitting efforts on Administration and Departmental priorities, particularly priority infrastructure and energy projects.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Planning and Consultation is \$107,818,000 and 619 FTE, which includes:

Planning and Consultation Activities (+\$3,618,000/+10 FTE) - The 2021 request enables the Service to build field capacity for consultation and technical assistance to Federal agencies and project proponents and continue to streamline the consultation and project review process through the development of web-based tools, reducing the regulatory burden and time commitments on project proponents, industries and other Federal agencies. Funding will support population of data in IPaC to streamline consultations for some projects and to maintain and enhance the scope and capability of existing web-based applications to meet increased demand. In addition, the Service will continue to invest in refined range maps for listed species to reduce the areas of consideration for consultation to those areas where development activities are most likely to affect a listed species.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$265,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Gulf Coast Restoration (-\$3,002,000/-20 FTE) - Through this funding, the Service works closely with the States and local communities in the Gulf Coast to provide timely environmental reviews of projects funded as part of the restoration from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The requested funding will allow the Service to provide technical assistance to those activities that are critically important to the health and vitality of the Gulf Coast's natural and economic resources.

NEPA Streamlining (-\$3,500,000/0 FTE) - In FY 2020, Congress provided unrequested funding to support streamlining the permitting process and achieve compliance with permitting and other statutes. The Service can continue streamlining efforts within the requested funding level.

Subactivity: Ecological Services
Program Element: Conservation and Restoration

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Conservation and Restoration	(\$000)	32,396	33,696	+544	0	-5,654	28,586	-5,110
	FTE	176	183	0	0	-39	144	-39

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Conservation and Restoration

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• At-Risk Species Initiative	+2,000	+13
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-79	0
• Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem	-1,506	-10
• Environmental Contaminants	-1,785	-12
• Candidate Conservation	-4,284	-30
Program Changes	-5,654	-39

Program Overview

The Service supports collaborative species conservation efforts, works to protect and restore habitats that are important to Federal trust species, and provides mapping products and databases that are essential tools for conservation and restoration of species and habitats by other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, and the public.

Candidate Conservation

Identification of candidate species can assist environmental planning efforts by providing advance notice of potential listings, and by allowing landowners and resource managers to alleviate threats and possibly remove the need to list species as endangered or threatened. Funding through this subactivity focuses on conducting species status assessments and facilitating voluntary conservation efforts. The Service publishes an annual Candidate Notice of Review, which is a list of plant and animal species that have been evaluated for listing under the ESA and that warrant a listing proposal, but listing is precluded by higher priority activities. The Service also works with landowners to address threats to candidate and other at-risk species and provide regulatory assurances through Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAAs). By reducing threats to species and their habitats before they become critically imperiled, conservation efforts are likely to be less costly, more flexible, and more likely to result in successful conservation over time. Even if we subsequently list a candidate species, the early notice provided can result in more options for species management and recovery by prompting earlier candidate conservation measures to alleviate threats to the species.

Marine Mammals

Also funded under this subactivity is the Service’s work to conserve marine mammals. While NOAA is responsible for porpoises, dolphins and whales under the MMPA, the Service oversees protections for walrus, manatees, sea otters, and polar bears. Marine mammals are a resource of great cultural, aesthetic, economic, and recreational significance. The MMPA provides protection by prohibiting (with certain exceptions): (1) “take” of marine mammals in the U.S. 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.

Meeting the Service's mandate for the conservation of marine mammal species requires communication and cooperation with other Federal agencies, State governments, Alaska Native Organizations, scientists from numerous institutions and organizations, industry groups, and nongovernmental organizations.

The Service was appropriated funding in FY 2019 and 2020 to implement the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program (Prescott Grant Program). The Service is working collaboratively with the Marine Mammal Commission, NOAA and other stakeholders to establish the program to provide financial assistance to eligible marine mammal stranding participants to support all aspects of response to the stranding of certain marine mammals and for related scientific research. Species to be covered under these grants will include manatees, sea otters, Pacific walruses, and polar bears.

National Wetlands Inventory

The Service is the principal Federal agency tasked with providing information to the public and partners on the distribution as well as the status and trends of our Nation's wetlands. The National Wetlands Inventory provides a publicly available online mapping resource that gives detailed information on the abundance, characteristic, and distribution of America's wetlands. The wetland data layer underlying the mapper provides the best available data to the Nation. The Service works extensively with other Federal and State partners to continually update the data. These maps expedite conservation and business decisions on, for instance, siting of development projects near a wetland. In FY 2021, the Service will be completing the collection of data for the sixth decadal report to Congress on the status and trends of the Nation's wetlands. As required by law, the next report will provide an assessment of the health, quality, and quantity of America's wetlands that informs policy and management decisions across the Federal Government.

Coastal Barrier Resources Act

In the early 1980s, Congress recognized that certain Federal actions and programs have historically subsidized and encouraged development on coastal barriers, resulting in the loss of natural resources; threats to human life, health, and property; and the expenditure of millions of tax dollars each year. To remove the Federal incentive to develop these areas, CBRA designated relatively undeveloped coastal barriers along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts as part of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS), and made these areas ineligible for most new Federal expenditures and financial assistance. CBRA does not prohibit or restrict development conducted with non-Federal funds.

Implementing CBRA relies on mapping capabilities and the Service continues to take significant steps to improve efficiencies and effectiveness of CBRA administration including: (1) upgrades to the online CBRS Mappers that make CBRS data more accessible to property owners, project proponents, and other interested stakeholders; (2) preparing final recommended maps for the CBRS along the Atlantic coast from New Hampshire to Virginia (covering 42 percent of the total units representing 16 percent of the total CBRS acreage) and an accompanying report to Congress; and (3) reviewing and remapping additional CBRS areas, as appropriate, on a case-by-case basis.

Environmental Response and Restoration

Our coasts, rivers, estuaries, wetlands and other natural places are home to spectacular native wildlife and provide Americans with unrivaled places to fish, hunt, and experience the great outdoors. They also play a critical role in our economy, generating revenues from tourism and recreational activities, while providing us with clean water and performing countless other important ecological functions. The Service's Environmental Response and Restoration Program protects and restores fish and wildlife populations, and habitats that have been injured by the release of oil or hazardous substances. To be effective in responding to emergency spills, the Service must maintain a cadre of trained responders. Funding in this subactivity is critical to maintain the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's required training certificates or medical monitoring, to supply responders and Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) practitioners with the equipment and supplies to prevent exposure and/or minimize injuries to spilled oil or environmental contaminants, and to conduct associated pre-assessment investigations. Trained responders increases the Service's capacity to provide technical support and expertise to the U.S. Coast Guard and Environmental Protection Agency during spill events.

The Environmental Response and Restoration program oversees the NRDAR activities nationwide, managing over 92% of the 420 active Departmental NRDAR cases. To achieve restoration, the Service uses its technical expertise to convert damage assessment recoveries to on-the-ground restoration. The Service uses this funding to support ongoing cases and conduct early investigations that could potentially lead to restoration projects worth millions of dollars. The program has a commitment to the public in restoring injured natural resources and supporting local communities, rural economies, States, and Tribes. For example, through ongoing cases in FY 2019, the Service, in coordination with co-trustees, put more than \$95 million on the ground to restore habitat, fish and wildlife for the American people; enhancing or restoring 37,465 acres and 131 stream miles. As a result, 23 restoration projects with direct benefits to threatened and endangered species were completed and more than 6,000 acres were made available for recreational use through the use of NRDAR funds. In FY 2018, the NRDAR program managed more than \$50 million in funds recovered from responsible parties to implement restoration projects for the benefit of the American people and in FY 2017 NRDAR projects generated approximately \$46 million for the economy and 480 year-long jobs.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Review and process section 10 enhancement of survival permit applications for candidate and other at-risk species.
- Update the national wetlands layer data by working extensively with other Federal and State partners; and complete the collection of data for the sixth decadal report to Congress on the status and trends of the Nation's wetlands.
- Prioritize NRDAR restoration work so as to complete, or make substantial progress towards completing, priority NRDAR restoration projects.
- Prepare the final recommended maps of the CBRS from Maine to Virginia, and the accompanying report to Congress.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Conservation and Restoration is \$28,586,000 and 144 FTE, which includes:

At-Risk Species Initiative (+\$2,000,000/+13 FTE) - The requested funding will support reviewing and processing Candidate Conservation Agreements developed to support ESA section 10 enhancement of survival (CCAA) permit applications, for candidate and at-risk species. These permits provide regulatory relief to landowners that enter into voluntary conservation agreements if the species is added to the threatened or endangered species lists.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$79,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem (-\$1,506,000/-10 FTE) - This request reprioritizes funding to allow the Service to implement on-the-ground conservation efforts with Federal and State partners supported elsewhere in the request.

Environmental Contaminants (-\$1,785,000/-12 FTE) - The Service will focus funding on investigating the highest priority contaminant assessments and engagements with NRDAR trustees.

Candidate Conservation (-\$4,284,000/-30 FTE) - Priority will be given to administering the Candidate Notice of Review process. The Service will focus on improving the ability of State agencies to provide technical assistance for some Candidate Conservation Agreements and CCAAs. Guided by the National Listing Workplan, the States can leverage their localized expertise and relationships to provide landowners with technical assistance to achieve specific conservation goals for candidate and petitioned species and thus potentially eliminate the need to list a species.

Subactivity: Ecological Services
Program Element: Recovery

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Recovery	(\$000)	95,032	102,982	+1,377	0	-5,991	98,368	-4,614
	FTE	449	488	0	0	+55	543	+55

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Recovery

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Recovery Activities	+10,653	+67
• Florida Grasshopper Sparrow	-100	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-201	0
• Ecosystem Restoration – Bay Delta	-500	-3
• Wolf Livestock Demonstration Program	-1,000	0
• Prescott Grant Program	-1,200	0
• De-Listing & Down Listing	-1,393	-9
• White Nose	-2,000	0
• State of the Birds	-3,250	0
• Recovery Challenge	-7,000	0
Program Changes	-5,991	+55

Program Overview

Preventing extinction and achieving recovery of listed species has always been, and will continue to be, one of the Service’s highest priorities. It serves the Secretary’s objective of conserving our land and water by managing its fish and wildlife. The goal of the Recovery program is to minimize or remove the threats that led to the species’ listing and to work toward reclassifying the species from endangered to threatened, and toward delisting the species altogether. This process requires technical leadership, monitoring, planning, and management together with close coordination with Service partners. The Service plays a vital role in guiding the recovery planning process, and in facilitating, supporting, and monitoring the implementation of recovery actions by the Service and others.



Black-footed Ferret are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Photo Credit: Ryan Hagerty

Recovery plans, non-regulatory blueprints for the work that needs to be done to achieve downlisting or delisting a species, are required under the ESA. Recovery plans are developed collaboratively with interested partners. Recovery plans may address multiple species, identify specific recovery tasks, establish downlisting and delisting criteria, and provide timetables and cost estimates. There is a public review process for each draft recovery plan. In support of an Agency Priority Goal in the Interior FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, the Service implemented criteria revisions to recovery plans to ensure that all recovery plans have objective, measurable criteria for what constitutes a recovered species. Recovery criteria provide specific targets to measure delisting and downlisting objectives in recovery plans ensuring that funding and other resources are directed towards

those actions that will have the most benefit for the species and regulated communities. As of the end of FY 2019, 91% of listed species with recovery plans have objective, measurable criteria for what constitutes a recovered species. By the end of FY 2020, all Service recovery plans should have objective, measurable criteria. The Service advances the Secretary's priorities of creating a conservation stewardship legacy and striking a regulatory balance by enhancing and increasing partnerships with agencies and organizations to implement highest priority recovery actions identified in recovery plans for endangered and threatened species under the trusteeship of the Service in the United States and its Territories, such that known threats to the species may be reduced or eliminated.

To improve our implementation of the ESA so that it is clear and consistent and provide the maximum degree of certainty possible to all parties, the Service finalized revisions to regulations governing our delisting process in 2019. The revisions to the regulations clarify that the standards for delisting a species consider the same five statutory factors as the listing of a species. This requirement ensures that all species proposed for delisting receive the same careful analysis to determine whether or not they meet the statutory definitions of a threatened or endangered species as is done for determining whether to add a species to the list.

The Service maintains a national downlisting and delisting workplan to enable our partners including Federal agencies, State agencies, industry, and the public to collaborate in a substantive way to ensure that species ready for delisting or downlisting meet their recovery plan objectives in order to support the deregulatory actions. By recovering species, the Service removes administrative, regulatory burdens imposed on industry and the public.

The ESA requires the Service to review the status of listed species once every five years to determine whether the current listing status, as endangered or threatened, is still appropriate. This assessment includes a notice to the public requesting information on the species under review. These documents are important tools to gather new information, assess threats to the species, and validate whether protection under the ESA is still necessary.

Service biologists support the implementation of the ESA via collaborative conservation actions that are advantageous, feasible, and practicable for all parties. Staff provide technical assistance to our partners to champion recovery projects on the ground. Recovery projects can range from habitat restoration to captive rearing and reintroduction to landowner agreements that provide habitat for one or more listed species for a set period of time. Known as Safe Harbor Agreements, they provide assurances that landowner conservation actions (e.g., habitat restoration, reintroduction), will not result in additional regulation on the landowner.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Support work to complete the recovery responsibilities required by statute - preparing recovery plans for newly listed species within two and a half years of the final listing, working through recovery plan backlog, completing five-year reviews for approximately 20% of the species annually, acting on the recommendations to reclassify or delist species, and encouraging collaborative partnerships with others for recovery implementation.

- At the requested FY 2021 funding level, the Service expects to propose or finalize 32 delisting or downlisting rules.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Recovery of Listed Species is \$98,368,000 and 543 FTE, which includes:

Recovery Activities (+\$10,653,000/+67 FTE) - The Service is focused on the ESA mandates that are inherently Federal, including development of recovery plans, five-year status reviews, and has prioritized rulemakings to downlist or delist species whose status has improved. In FY 2020, the Service anticipates proposing or finalizing 28 delisting and downlisting actions. At the requested FY 2021 funding level, the Service expects to propose or finalize 32 delisting or downlisting rules, initiate 5-year reviews for 20% of the listed species, and prepare draft or final recovery plans with objective, measureable recovery criteria for more than 100 species.

Florida Grasshopper Sparrow (-\$100,000/0 FTE) - The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other recovery activities.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$201,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Ecosystem Restoration – Bay Delta (-\$500,000/-3 FTE) - This work supports the Service’s Partnership with State and Federal agencies and stakeholder groups with interests in Bay Delta management and water supply. The Service will prioritize work with San Francisco Bay-Delta habitat restoration actions to focus on the necessary activities to recover endangered and sensitive species and their habitats.

Prescott Grant Program (-\$1,200,000/0 FTE) - The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other recovery activities.

Wolf Livestock Demonstration Program (-\$1,000,000/0 FTE) - The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other recovery activities.

De-listing & Down Listing (-\$1,393,000/-9 FTE) - The Service remains committed to implement the delisting and downlisting workplan. At the requested FY 2021 funding level, the Service expects to propose or finalize 32 delisting or downlisting rules.

White Nose Syndrome (-\$2,000,000/0 FTE) - The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other recovery activities.

State of the Birds (-\$3,250,000/0 FTE) - The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other recovery activities.

Recovery Challenge (-\$7,000,000/0 FTE) - The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other recovery activities.

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Habitat Conservation



Activity: Habitat Conservation

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	(\$000)	51,633	56,951	+629	0	-339	57,241	+290
	FTE	216	216			+6	222	+6
Coastal Program	(\$000)	13,375	13,375	+174	0	-636	12,913	-462
	FTE	47	47			0	47	0
Total, Habitat Conservation	(\$000)	65,008	70,326	803	0	-975	70,154	-172
	FTE	263	263			+6	269	+6

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Habitat Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Partners for Fish and Wildlife	-339	+6
• Coastal Program	-636	0
Program Changes	-975	+6

Program Overview

Habitat Conservation, which includes the Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program and the Coastal Program, provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners and other conservation partners to voluntarily protect, conserve, and restore their lands. By working together, the Service helps landowners keep their working lands in traditional uses while implementing habitat improvement and conservation projects.

Program Elements

The PFW and Coastal Programs take a cooperative approach to deliver on-the-ground conservation in targeted geographic areas. Locally-based field biologists have an intimate knowledge of the natural resource concerns and conservation challenges in their communities. Field staff work with local communities, private landowners, and other stakeholders to leverage partners’ resources and Federal dollars to support conservation strategies on public and private lands. These efforts help conserve America’s traditional land uses for future generations, support robust fish and wildlife populations for recreational use by the American public, address conservation challenges such as invasive species and habitat fragmentation, and buffer important infrastructure from storm damages.

A large part of PFW work includes coordinating with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide technical assistance in the development, implementation, and evaluation of Farm Bill conservation programs and initiatives to meet shared conservation goals. This work includes delivery of fish and wildlife technical assistance associated with implementation of any new programs, rules, or policies resulting from

passage of the 2018 Farm Bill, as well as the continuation of effective partnerships with USDA that help sustain wildlife populations and agricultural production.

Activity: Habitat Conservation

Subactivity: Partners for Fish and Wildlife

		2019 Actual	2020 Baseline	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	(\$000) FTE	51,633 216	56,951 216	+629	0	-339 +6	57,241 222	+290 +6

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Partners for Fish and Wildlife

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Partners for Fish and Wildlife	+7,526	+6
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-92	0
• Environmental Data Quality and Access (WA Salmon Recovery)	-643	0
• Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication	-713	0
• WA Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups	-1,285	0
• Klamath River Habitat Restoration	-5,132	0
Program Changes	-339	+6

Program Overview

The PFW Program is a voluntary, citizen, and community-based stewardship program for fish and wildlife conservation on private land. Through the PFW Program, the Service and private landowners work collaboratively to implement local conservation strategies. In turn, these restored areas provide valuable benefits to the surrounding communities by supporting tourism and recreation, protecting infrastructure from flood damage, and supporting America’s agricultural production by conserving soil, controlling pests, and benefitting pollinators. Funds spent in support of restoration projects create jobs, generate tax revenues, and economic activity as wages and purchases flow through the economy. A Service report found that for every dollar the program contributed to a project, \$15.70 was generated in economic returns.¹

The Program is expected to restore and enhance approximately 36,104 wetland acres, 220,902 upland acres, 649 river miles, and 120 fish passage structures in FY 2020. In total, the PFW Program has restored approximately 6.7 million acres of habitat while leveraging program dollars at a ratio of 4:1 or greater. These acres, coupled with over 13,500 miles of enhanced stream habitat, provide valuable habitat for Federal trust species while allowing outdoor enjoyment by the American people and their families for generations to come.

2021 Program Activities

The FY 2021 budget will:

- Focus on implementing DOI priorities, including restoring trust and being a good neighbor by delivering voluntary restoration and enhancement projects. At the requested FY 2021 funding level, PFW will restore and enhance approximately 36,287 wetland acres, 222,027 upland acres, 653 riparian miles, and 121 fish passage structures.
- Continue to pursue solutions for public access on private lands to enhance recreational opportunities and support Secretarial Order 3362, *Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-*

¹ <https://www.fws.gov/home/pdfs/restoration-returns.pdf> p. 7

Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors along with Secretarial Order 3356, Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Partners for Fish and Wildlife is \$57,241,000 and 222 FTE, which includes:

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Activities +\$7,526,000/+6 FTE)

At the requested funding level, the Service will increase the ability to restore and enhance an additional 184 wetland acres, 1,125 upland acres, three riparian miles, and one fish passage structure. These accomplishments will advance voluntary conservation on private lands and support a number of high-priority DOI and Service efforts. The public-private partnerships forged through these agreements will enhance relationships and build trust with local communities.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$92,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Environmental Data Quality and Access (WA Salmon Recovery) (-\$643,000/0 FTE) - Funding for this program is not requested in order to support higher priorities.

Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication (-\$713,000/0 FTE) - At the requested funding level, the Service will continue the bio-security phase of the nutria eradication project.

WA Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (-\$1,285,000/0 FTE) - Funding for this program is not requested in order to support higher priorities.

Klamath River Habitat Restoration (-\$5,132,000/0 FTE) - Funding for this program is not requested in order to support higher priorities.

Activity: Habitat Conservation
Subactivity: Coastal Program

		2019 Actual	2020 Baseline	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Coastal Program	(\$000)	13,375	13,375	+174	0	-636	12,913	-462
	FTE	47	47	0	0	0	47	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Habitat Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-15	0
• Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	-184	0
• Long Live the Kings	-184	0
• Coastal Program Activities	-253	0
Program Changes	- 636	0

Program Overview

The Coastal Program is a voluntary, partnership-based program that delivers technical and financial assistance for habitat conservation in coastal watersheds. Locally-based field staff work with diverse partners, including private landowners, to improve and protect habitat on both public and private lands.

Coastal habitats are highly dynamic and diverse regions of great complexity and significance. Coastal areas are home to 40 percent of the U.S. population, and coastal tourism and recreation contribute approximately \$116 billion to the U.S. GDP annually.

The Coastal Program provides value to the public by leveraging partners’ resources at a ratio of 8:1, effectively maximizing the Service’s impact. This investment stimulates local economies by supporting jobs necessary to deliver habitat conservation, including environmental consultants, engineers, construction workers, surveyors, assessors, and nursery and landscape workers. These jobs also generate indirect economic activities that benefit local hotels, restaurants, stores, and gas stations. The Service estimates that the average Coastal Program project directly supports 12 jobs and eight businesses.

2021 Program Performance

The FY 2021 budget will:

- Focus on priority geographic areas, delivering on-the-ground conservation in coordination with local communities to support resilient habitats for the benefit of wildlife and people. The program’s strategic landscape design, capacity building, and other technical assistance will continue to support Departmental priorities, Service programs, Federal and State agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and coastal communities.
- Deliver on-the-ground projects in priority areas such as the Gulf of Mexico, Florida Everglades, Great Lakes, and Chesapeake Bay. The Coastal Program typically achieves a ratio of at least 8:1 partner dollars for every Coastal Program dollar invested in a coastal enhancement project.
- Restore or protect about 16 miles of stream/shoreline, 9,028 wetland acres, 7,357 upland acres, and improve 23 fish passage barriers.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Coastal Program is \$12,913,000 and 47 FTE, which includes:

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$15,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (-\$184,000/0 FTE) - Funding for this program is not requested in order to fund higher priorities.

Long Live the Kings (-\$184,000/0 FTE) - Funding for this program is not requested in order to fund higher priorities.

Coastal Program Activities (-\$253,000/0 FTE) - The requested funding level will enable the Service to protect and restore 9,028 acres of wetlands and 7,357 acres of uplands in coastal watersheds. The Service will continue to support recovery of threatened and endangered species and conservation partnerships at the local level. The Service will also continue to support priorities, including urban conservation, being a good conservation partner, and building a conservation legacy by increasing public access for recreation.

National Wildlife Refuge System



Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Wildlife and Habitat Management	(\$000) FTE	234,467 1,207	238,612 1,235	+3,393 0	0 0	+7,460 +53	249,465 1,288	+10,853 +53
Refuge Visitor Services	(\$000) FTE	73,319 491	74,227 493	+1,271 0	0 0	+11,321 +66	86,819 559	+12,592 +66
Refuge Law Enforcement	(\$000) FTE	38,054 226	41,000 242	+718 0	0 0	+2,349 +15	44,067 257	+3,067 +15
Conservation Planning	(\$000) FTE	2,523 18	2,523 18	0 0	0 0	-2,523 -18	0 0	-2,523 -18
Refuge Operations	(\$000) FTE	348,363 1,942	356,362 1,988	+5,382 0	0 0	+18,607 +116	380,351 2,104	+23,989 +116
Refuge Maintenance	(\$000) FTE	139,888 525	146,042 537	+1,107 0	0 0	-2,179 +6	144,970 543	-1,072 +6
Total NWRS	(\$000) FTE	488,251 2,467	502,404 2,525	+6,489 0	0 0	+16,428 +122	525,321 2,647	+22,917 +122

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for the National Wildlife Refuge System

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Refuge Visitor Services	+11,321	+66
• Wildlife & Habitat Management	+7,460	+53
• Refuge Law Enforcement	+2,349	+15
• Refuge Maintenance	-2,179	+6
• Conservation Planning	-2,523	-18
Program Changes	+16,428	+122

Program Overview

The National Wildlife Refuge System’s mission is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and restoration of fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

Program Elements

With wildlife refuges in every State and many territories, the Refuge System is the front door of the Service. Refuges are accessible to nearly all Americans, from rural communities and suburbs to urban centers, and from the mainland to far away Pacific and Arctic islands. Over 59 million visitors are welcomed each year and provided opportunities for hunting, fishing, environmental education and interpretation, photography,

wildlife viewing, and other recreational activities. Refuges are the world's most extensive network of public lands and waters and are dedicated to maintaining our Nation's legacy of stewardship and conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants.

The Refuge System manages 855.6 million acres of lands and waters and includes 568 National Wildlife Refuges, 38 wetland management districts, 49 coordination areas, seven National Monuments, and 19.1 million acres in Marine National Monuments under other authorities. National Wildlife Refuges include all the lands, waters, and interests administered by the Service as wildlife refuges, wildlife ranges, wildlife management areas, game preserves, and conservation areas.

The Service's 38 wetland management districts administer four million acres of waterfowl production areas (WPAs). WPAs are small natural wetlands and associated grasslands located primarily in the upper Midwest, which the Service acquires under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act.

The Refuge System's 49 coordination areas are Federal lands that States manage as wildlife habitat under cooperative agreements with the Service, furthering the Secretary's priority of restoring trust with local communities and building relationships with neighbors bordering our lands.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

The National Wildlife Refuge System is implemented under the following authorities:

- The *Fish and Wildlife Act* (16 U.S.C. 742a-742j) 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;
- The *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act* (16 U.S.C. 661-666e) 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;
- The *National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act* (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) provides authority, guidelines, and directives for the Service in administering the lands and waters of the National Wildlife Refuge System, including establishing six wildlife-dependent recreation activities as priority uses;
- The *National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act* (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 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;

- The *National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act* (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 promotes volunteer, outreach, and education programs;
- The *Refuge Recreation Act* (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to administer refuges, hatcheries, and other conservation areas for recreational use, when such uses do not interfere with the area's primary purposes;
- The *National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act* (P.L. 106-408) reinforces National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act provisions to raise public understanding and appreciation for the Refuge System;
- The *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act* (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 Refuge System, and for the continuing subsistence needs of Alaska Natives;
- The *Migratory Bird Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 715-715d, 715e, 715f-715r) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct investigations and publish documents related to North American birds, and establishes a Migratory Bird Conservation Commission to approve areas recommended by the Secretary for acquisition;
- The *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act* (16 U.S.C. 718a-718k) requires waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older to possess a valid Federal Duck Stamp;
- The *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (16 U.S.C. 703-712) establishes Federal responsibility for protecting and managing migratory birds; and
- The *Wilderness Act* (16 U.S.C. 1131-1136) establishes a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people.

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

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfer s (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Wildlife and Habitat Management	(\$000)	234,467	238,612	+3,393	0	+7,460	249,465	+10,853
	FTE	1,207	1,235	0	0	+53	1,288	+53

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Wildlife and Habitat Management

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Wildlife & Habitat Management Activities	+7,179	+25
• Invasive Species	+2,500	+28
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-544	0
• Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication	-1,675	0
Program Changes	+7,460	+53

Program Description

This subactivity provides the basic operating funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System, which works collaboratively to leverage resources to provide public access and achieve effective conservation. Improving dialogue and relationships with stakeholders and entities bordering our lands fosters partnerships for balanced stewardship and allows individual refuges to respond more effectively to resource challenges and to expand public use of refuge lands. These partnerships help restore trust in Federal management of resources through consulting with our neighbors and recognizing their concerns.

Wildlife and Habitat Management funds vital refuge operations that identify best practices to manage land and water resources. This helps the Refuge System achieve its dual mission of conservation and wildlife-dependent recreation, which contributes to the Departmental priority of creating a conservation stewardship legacy.

These activities include:

- Monitoring plant and animal populations;
- Restoring wetland, forest, grassland, and marine habitats;
- Managing habitats through manipulation of water levels, prescribed burning, haying, grazing, timber harvest, and planting vegetation;
- Controlling the spread of invasive species;
- Assessing water quality and quantity;
- Monitoring air quality;
- Preventing and controlling wildlife disease outbreaks;
- Investigating and cleaning contaminants;
- Ensuring the exercise of oil and gas rights on wildlife refuges occurs efficiently, consistently, and without undue burden on operators or the public;
- Inventory and monitoring of the biological resources, ecological processes, physical environment, and human interactions to provide the information necessary to implement the Service’s adaptive management framework; and

- Managing five Marine National Monuments, which support healthy fisheries and can act as sources for fish and wildlife populations outside of the monuments, including commercially fished populations.

2021 Program Activities

The FY 2021 budget will:

- Enable the Service to focus on wildlife and habitat management activities in support of Secretarial priorities, including conservation stewardship, utilizing natural resources, expanding access for outdoor recreation, and using science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources. This includes using traditional approaches, such as water level manipulation, prescriptive grazing, and selective timber harvesting, to achieve desired habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. Healthy habitats are vital to ensure sustainable wildlife populations, whether they are imperiled or game species. In 2021, the Service expects to actively manage more than 3 million acres of habitat.
- Support the recovery and delisting of threatened and endangered species, which reduces regulatory burdens of the Endangered Species Act on communities and industries.
- Help sustain robust populations of game fish and wildlife species in support of Secretarial Orders (S.O) 3356 *Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories* and 3366 *Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by Department of the Interior*.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Wildlife and Habitat Management is \$249,465,000 and 1,288 FTE, which includes:

Wildlife & Habitat Management Activities (+\$7,179,000/+25 FTE) - The request will support implementing Secretarial Order (SO) 3347, *Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation*; SO 3356, *Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories*; and SO 3366, *Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters* to expand increased hunting, fishing, and other recreational opportunities, improve public access by facilitating the management of big game, migratory waterfowl, and other species enjoyed by the visiting public, and streamline regulatory processes. Funding will, in part, be used to hire 25 Wildlife Refuge Specialists who will have the natural resources expertise necessary to manage wildlife and habitat to provide robust fish and wildlife populations for premium hunting, fishing, and recreational experiences in the greatest number of areas possible. These biologists will be critical links in the streamlining of regulatory efforts as they relate to energy independence, while ensuring best-available science is used in the decision making process. Funds will also be used for on-the-ground habitat restoration and improvement projects necessary for the successful conservation and management of wildlife.

Invasive Species (+\$2,500,000/+28 FTE) – Invasive species are one of the most serious threats to native wildlife, fish, and plants in the Refuge System and across the country. These threats are expected to grow due to increasing trade of goods and services as well as increased mobility and travel of people. Invasive species are the second greatest threat to biodiversity and Federally-listed threatened and endangered species, second only to habitat loss. Invasive species negatively affect native species through habitat

modification, disruption of vital ecosystem functions, competition, predation, herbivory, transmission of pathogens, and by hybridizing with natives. Invasive species can also significantly affect infrastructure such as transportation and power generation systems, dams, levees, and structures.

Because invasive species ignore human jurisdictional boundaries, a multi-stakeholder approach is optimal in combatting this threat. The most cost-effective strategies to manage invasive species are prevention, early detection and rapid response (EDRR), and complete eradications of small, incipient populations. EDRR aims to limit the establishment or range expansion of invasive species and prevent the need for the more costly ongoing treatments often required once they are established (e.g., Asian Carp). In the Refuge System, prevention and EDRR activities are delivered through Invasive Species Strike Teams.

The FY 2021 request builds on the success of the five original Strike Teams in combating invasive species to apply proven EDRR techniques. The request will support up to five additional Strike Teams and provide EDRR activities in prioritized geographies, including continuing the FY 2020 pilot of an intergovernmental EDRR effort with the State of Alaska and the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service in Alaska.



Established in 2004, the Upper Missouri / Yellowstone / Upper Colombia River (MOYOCO) Strike Team covers NWRS lands within watersheds in Montana and northwest portion of Wyoming. In 2016, the MOYOCO team conducted 73 projects to manage 22 invasive species on 10 National Wildlife Refuges, 13 Waterfowl Production Areas, and 3 Wetland Management Districts. Service strike teams prioritize early detection and rapid response treatments, which are less costly than control and eradication after a species is established.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$544,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication (-\$1,675,000/0 FTE) - At the requested funding level, personnel will continue bio-monitoring to ensure eradication efforts have been successful.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Refuge Visitor Services

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfer s (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Refuge Visitor Services	(\$000)	73,319	74,227	+1,271	+0	+11,321	86,819	+12,592
	FTE	491	493			+66	559	+66

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Refuge Visitor Services

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Refuge Visitor Services Activities	+12,423	+54
• Volunteer Partnerships	+2,092	+12
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-194	0
• Urban Wildlife Conservation Programs	-1,000	0
• Youth and Careers in Nature	-2,000	0
Program Changes	+11,321	+66

Program Description

Refuge Visitor Services provides essential public access and high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities on National Wildlife Refuges to more than 59 million visitors each year. This program is on the front line of implementing a number of Secretarial priorities including ensuring a thriving wildlife conservation legacy by working with partners to foster outdoor skills and recreation for future generations. Refuges are places where wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities are a priority, such as hunting, fishing, wildlife observation; along with biking, photography, boating, environmental education, and interpretive programs. With units and staff across the country from rural communities to large cities, Visitor Services are central to advancing the Secretarial priority to restore trust and engage with local communities. Through a community-centered approach, Visitor Services professionals work closely with neighboring communities to develop partnerships, build a volunteer cadre, and inspire the next generation of hunters, anglers, and wildlife enthusiasts in communities across the Nation.

Economic Benefits to Local Communities

Opportunities for outdoor recreation draw more than 59 million people each year to wildlife refuges, boosting local economies. Many visitors take part in heritage sports such as hunting and fishing. Others enjoy hiking, paddling, and wildlife viewing or nature photography. The public services delivered by the Visitor Services program strategically advance the Secretarial priority to generate economic benefits to local communities. Of the Refuge System’s \$483.9 million spending in FY 2017, final demand—the economic impact on local communities from recreation visits—totaled \$3.2 billion of spending in local economies, according to the *Banking on Nature 2017* report,¹ which looked at 162 national wildlife refuges across the country. This final demand generated \$1.1 billion in job income and over 41,000 jobs nationally.

The Refuge System provides an additional benefit to landowners and residents in nearby communities due to the positive financial impact that its open-space amenities has on property values. Property values surrounding refuges are higher than equivalent properties elsewhere.² The study found that homes within 0.5 miles of a refuge and within eight miles of an urban center were valued at three to nine percent higher than other homes, depending on the region of the country.

¹ <https://www.fws.gov/economics/divisionpublications/bankingOnNature/BoN2017/Banking-on-Nature-2017v4.pdf>

² *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

Urban Wildlife Conservation Program

The Urban Wildlife Conservation Program delivers an innovative model for increasing awareness and outdoor engagement with the 80% of Americans that live in or near cities. SO 3370, *Improving Conservation Stewardship of and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges*, directs the FWS to encourage and assist Americans, particularly those who live in urban areas, to experience the outdoors within their local communities.

With more than 100 refuges within 25 miles of a population center of 250,000 or more people, these refuges provide strategic opportunities to promote wildlife conservation and enjoyment of hunting, fishing and other recreational activities in the heart of where people live. Additionally, several Service programs, especially Migratory Birds, Fish and Aquatic Conservation, and Ecological Services, have joined efforts with the Refuge System to improve access to new audiences through 30 partnerships in local communities around the country. In 2019, the Service formed a new partnership in Oahu, Hawaii.

2021 Program Activities

The FY 2021 budget will:

- Direct funds to implement Secretarial priorities by increasing access to FWS managed lands and waters; introducing new users to hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation; improving our digital infrastructure and offering new technologies; and aligning our regulations and efforts with the States. The Service will continue to strategically balance the expected increases in public demand for services while sustaining high rates of visitor satisfaction (90 percent) and ensuring the continued conservation of plants, animals, and habitat.
- Maintain and improve visitor facilities; expand interpretive and educational programs; construct and maintain trails and boardwalks; improve hunting, angling, and other outdoor access; and design outreach materials to better inform and educate the public about recreational opportunities on national wildlife refuges. In FY 2021, we expect to host over 2,900 special events with over one million participants. We also expect to host more than 2.4 million hunting visits and over 7.1 million fishing visits.
- Direct efforts to the Secretarial priority to restore trust with local communities through community-centered conservation efforts. Service staff will train and supervise approximately 38,000 volunteers who contribute over 1.3 million hours annually, to deliver programs for the public. The Service will continue support for refuges working with Friends organizations. In addition, continued engagement with local communities and industry partners by developing private/public partnerships will increase opportunities for outdoor recreation awareness and skill building activities for youth and their families.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Refuge Visitor Services is \$86,819,000 and 559 FTE, which includes:

Refuge Visitor Services Activities (+\$12,423,000/+54 FTE) – The requested funds will allow the Service to hire more than 50 visitor services staff to develop and maintain quality public services that foster a conservation legacy in nearby communities. The Visitor Services program welcomes and orients the public to national wildlife refuges and delivers positive outdoor experiences through quality programming and well-maintained facilities. This funding will support Departmental priorities related to hunting, fishing, outdoor recreation and urban wildlife refuges. The Visitor Services program develops and maintains positive relationships with refuge neighbors and local communities through active volunteer programs and dynamic Friends organizations.

Volunteer Partnerships (+\$2,092,000/+12 FTE) – With this funding, the program will increase staff to work closely with neighbors and local communities and expand opportunities for volunteers and local partnerships. Staff will identify volunteer opportunities, recruit local and non-local volunteers, provide training and supervise and recognize volunteer accomplishments. The funding will also provide volunteer infrastructure, especially RV pads for non-local volunteers.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$194,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Urban Wildlife Conservation Programs (-\$1,000,000/0 FTE) - Requested funding will be used to support Departmental priorities, specifically SO 3370, to provide safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for outdoor recreational opportunities on national wildlife refuges in urban areas. Programs will focus on cultivating partnerships in urban communities, addressing barriers to public access and working with States to introduce new and non-traditional audiences to hunting, fishing and other recreational activities.

Youth and Careers in Nature (-\$2,000,000/0 FTE) – Funding is not requested for this program to support higher priorities.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Refuge Law Enforcement

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfer s (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Refuge Law Enforcement	(\$000)	38,054	41,000	+718	0	+2,349	44,067	+3,067
	FTE	226	242	0	0	+15	+257	+15

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Refuge Law Enforcement

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Refuge Law Enforcement Activities	+2,442	+15
• Ethics Transfer	-93	0
Program Changes	+2,349	+15

Program Description

The Refuge Law Enforcement program supports the Department of the Interior priority of protecting our people and the border by funding salaries, training, equipment, supplies, management of the Refuge System’s Federal Wildlife Officers, and Regional and Headquarters management support staff.

Refuge Law Enforcement

Federal Wildlife Officers are often the first and most recognizable employees that the public sees. They serve as ambassadors for the Refuge System and the Service by providing important public services above and beyond law enforcement, such as information and guidance to visitors on fishing, hunting, hiking, and wildlife viewing opportunities.

Federal Wildlife Officers provide safety and security for the visiting public and Service staff; protect fish, wildlife, cultural, and archaeological resources on refuges; educate the public about the Service’s mission; contribute to environmental education and outreach; assist local communities with law enforcement and disaster recovery; and help protect subsistence rights.

In 2019, Federal Wildlife Officers provided protection services for more than 59 million visitors and participated in over 7,500 education encounters, such as school programs, scout programs, game warden camps, and community organizations, or otherwise educated visitors about hunting, trapping, rules, and regulations. They serve the public as hunter safety instructors, coordinate with veterans and disabled sportsman’s groups to create hunting opportunities, and lead youth shooting, hunting and fishing events on refuges. They are routinely involved with local and other Federal law enforcement agencies in cooperative efforts to combat the Nation’s drug problems, address border security issues, and aid in other security challenges.

Since May 2018, the Service deployed over 221 Federal Wildlife Officers on a rotating basis to supplement staffing levels at South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex (TX) and Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (AZ) in support of the Department of the Interior Priority #6 “Protecting our people and the border.” During this time, nearly 95% of Federal Wildlife Officers have deployed to the southern border to protect refuge habitat and cooperate with the Customs and Border Protection.

Emergency Management and Physical Security

The Service's Emergency Management and Physical Security (EMPS) program supports the Secretary's priority of protecting our people by providing expertise and leadership for the Service's emergency management and physical security responsibilities nationwide. We participate in activities described in Homeland Security's National Response Framework, the guide to how the Nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. Through this effort, the Service supports activities to prevent, protect against, prepare for, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from all hazards that may affect any part of the Service and the people and communities we serve.

2021 Program Activities

In FY 2021 the budget will:

- Continue to ensure the safety and security of the visiting public, Service employees, government property, and wildlife habitats. New Refuge Law Enforcement personnel will receive the necessary training, equipment, and supplies to ensure safe public access to refuges for hunting, fishing, wildlife photography and observation, and other compatible wildlife-dependent recreation. The annual national hires will help support the continued expansion of hunting and fishing opportunities.
- Continue to support the Administration's priority of securing the southern border by building partnerships with Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, including Customs and Border Protection, and State agencies. Rotational deployments of officers to Service lands in Texas and Arizona will continue. The program will also work to provide career development for new and existing employees. Providing career ladder opportunities for lower and mid-grade positions will increase retention and limit instabilities to both the field and the Refuge System's mission.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Refuge Law Enforcement is \$44,067,000 and 257 FTE, which includes:

Refuge Law Enforcement Activities (+\$2,442,000/+15 FTE) – With this funding, the Service will recruit, hire, train, and deploy additional Federal Wildlife Officers to provide public safety and resource protection while promoting wildlife-dependent recreation on Service-managed public lands.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$93,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Conservation Planning

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfer s (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Conservation Planning	(\$000)	2,523	2,523	0	0	-2,523	0	-2,523
	FTE	18	18			-18	0	-18

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Conservation Planning

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Refuge Planning	-2,523	-18
Program Changes	-2,523	-18

Program Description

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act requires the Service to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for every unit of the Refuge System and revise each CCP every 15 years, as may be necessary. The Refuge Planning subactivity funds development of CCPs and associated step-down plans, such as Habitat Management Plans and Visitor Services Plans, which “step down” the CCP and guide the management of a specific refuge to inform local conservation action. Refuge System planning processes are administered to include public input, engage stakeholders and local communities, and with aim to enhance public access while reducing potential regulatory burdens on the public.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Conservation Planning is \$0 and 0 FTE, which includes:

Refuge Planning (- \$2,523,000/-18 FTE) – No funding is requested for this program in order to support higher priorities.

Activity: National Wildlife Refuge System
Subactivity: Refuge Maintenance

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Maintenance Support	(\$000)	55,000	61,763	+1,107	0	+146	63,016	+1,253
Youth Conservation Corps	(\$000)	649	649	0	0	-649	0	-649
Annual Maintenance	(\$000)	26,350	26,350	0	0	-1,500	24,850	-1,500
Deferred Maintenance	(\$000)	42,901	42,292	0	0	+4,287	46,579	+4,287
Equipment and Vehicle Management	(\$000)	14,988	14,988	0	0	-4,463	10,525	-4,463
Refuge Maintenance	(\$000)	139,888	146,042	+1,107	0	-2,179	144,970	-1,072
	FTE	525	537	0	0	+0	543	+6

Summary of 2020 Program Changes for Refuge Maintenance

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Deferred Maintenance	+4,287	+6
• Maintenance Support	+366	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-220	0
• Youth Conservation Corps	-649	0
• Annual Maintenance	-1,500	0
• Equipment and Vehicle Management	-4,463	0
Program Changes	-2,179	+6

Program Description

The Refuge Maintenance subactivity underpins every management activity that occurs in the Refuge System, including wildlife and habitat management, fire management, law enforcement, and public access and outdoor recreation.

Nationwide Portfolio of Refuge System Constructed Facility Assets
As of September 30, 2019

Asset Grouping	Asset Count		Replacement Value		Deferred Maintenance	
	Quantity	% of Total	\$ (Millions)	% of Total	\$ (Millions)	% of Total
Buildings	5,204	13.96%	\$4,424	11.45%	\$267	25.70%
Water Management Structures	8,407	22.55%	\$15,720	40.70%	\$344	33.11%
Roads, Bridges, and Trails	15,257	40.92%	\$14,792	38.30%	\$242	23.29%
Other Structures	8,414	22.57%	\$3,687	9.55%	\$186	17.19%
Total	37,282	100%	\$38,623	100%	\$1,039	100%

At a Glance: Maintenance of Facilities, Fleet, and Equipment

The Refuge System maintenance program optimizes the alignment between infrastructure investments and mission delivery. Enabling activities include repairing and replacing:

Roads, trails, and visitor facilities that allow over 59 million people to enjoy refuge lands and wildlife and allow access for management purposes including fire prevention, law enforcement, and fish and wildlife management;

On- and off-road vehicles needed to carry out everyday field activities of approximately 2,700 FTE and 40,000 volunteers;

An extensive fleet of agricultural and construction equipment needed to actively manage habitat and to maintain constructed real property assets; and

A portfolio of constructed assets valued at \$3.9 billion that provides the base of operations for all refuge programs and enables all fish and wildlife management on Refuge System lands and waters that occur throughout the U.S. and its various island territories.

The Refuge Maintenance budget consists of four program elements:

Refuge Maintenance Support

Refuge Maintenance Support includes supplies, materials and salaries for maintenance and facilities management. Maintenance employees are critical in properly maintaining facility and equipment assets, which enable the Service to accomplish habitat management and refuge operations goals and provide the public safe and reliable recreational and educational opportunities. Maintenance employees spend about half their time maintaining infrastructure and equipment and the other half maintaining habitat and supporting public recreational activities.

Annual Maintenance

Annual Maintenance encompasses all non-staff expenditures for preventative maintenance needed to keep the Service's infrastructure and mobile equipment fleet functioning for its intended purpose. It is required to achieve the expected life of infrastructure and equipment. Annual maintenance includes: utilities, custodial care, and snow removal for offices, administrative, and public buildings; repair of system failures before they are deferred; and preventive maintenance—including scheduled servicing, repairs, and parts replacement—required to achieve the expected life of facilities and equipment.

Industry research³⁴ supports an estimate that proactively maintaining facilities through Maintenance Support and Annual Maintenance is 40 percent more cost effective on average than waiting until maintenance is deferred. These funds are critical in providing the American taxpayers the maximum return on investment.

³ Geason, D. T. (2003) 'The disastrous effects of deferring maintenance'. *Coal age*, Volume 108 (6), pp. 32-33.

⁴ CBRE Business Analytics. (2018). *The Impact of Underfunding Preventative Maintenance on Total Cost of Ownership*. Available at: <https://www.cbre.us/-/media/cbre/global-shared/business%20analytics%20media%20files/2018-ifma-underfunding-pm-20190206.pdf?la=en>

Deferred Maintenance

Deferred Maintenance projects repair, rehabilitate, dispose of, or replace constructed real property assets. Available funds are directed to the highest priority mission critical projects based upon facilities condition, asset priority, consequences of failure to act, and return on investment (in reducing Deferred Maintenance, operations costs and obtaining outside funding) in accordance with Departmental guidance. Prioritization of projects is completed by utilizing the DOI priority scoring and by the front line field, operations, and facilities managers that know firsthand the field based mission impacts, return on investment, and outside funding opportunities available and are reported to DOI and OMB in the five-year deferred maintenance plans annually.

6-Year History of Deferred Maintenance Backlog by Four Major Categories of Assets

Category	Refuge System Deferred Maintenance (beginning of FY) (\$ millions)					
	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Buildings	315	316	302	306	292	285
Water Management	343	299	286	286	335	303
Roads/Bridges/Trails	849	383	296	305	255	252
Other	240	286	281	279	276	239
Total	1,747	1,284	1,165	1,176	1,158	1,079

The Service uses a strategic, portfolio-based approach to manage assets in a manner that informs decision-making and maximizes efficient and effective mission delivery with an emphasis on mission-critical assets and the protection of investments through long-term life cycle management.

Modernizing Infrastructure by Reducing the Deferred Maintenance Backlog

The Refuge System has worked to reduce the deferred maintenance backlog through the use of Maintenance Action Teams, proactive investments, improved policies, improved data quality and increased focus on preventative and routine maintenance investments. This improved focus and investment of resources in areas with the largest return has resulted in reducing the Refuge System’s deferred maintenance backlog by about 50 percent. From FY 2019 through FY 2023, 60 percent of Refuge System Deferred Maintenance funding will be dedicated to retaining, restoring and enhancing outdoor recreational opportunities and the supporting habitats.

Equipment and Vehicle Management

The Refuge System requires an extensive fleet of vehicles and equipment to successfully carry out the conservation mission and provide safe and reliable public recreation and education opportunities. The Refuge System employs rental and leasing options to provide a cost-effective, efficient program. Equipment and Vehicle Management funds optimize the management of fleets to meet mission needs and serve as an example for the efficient use of public assets. The Refuge System is actively focusing on modernizing our equipment and vehicle fleet, implementing utilization and age standards, and investing in a smaller, more agile, and modernized fleet.

Fleet Management

The majority of the 3,400 vehicles used on refuges are four wheel-drive trucks and utility vehicles for transporting personnel, equipment, materials, and tools to remote sites for firefighting, wildlife and habitat

management, and law enforcement. The vehicles must be capable of operation under on-road and off-road conditions, which limits the ability to utilize two-wheel drive vehicles, vans, or sedans and limits the applicability of recommended annual vehicle mileage use typical of non-natural resource agencies.

Small Equipment

Specialized equipment such as all-terrain vehicles, small aircraft, boats, small tractors, snowmobiles, trailers, agricultural implements, and similar equipment is needed to access, maintain, and restore habitats in remote or rugged areas. In total, the Refuge System's small equipment fleet consists of about 5,000 assets.

Heavy Equipment

Heavy equipment management includes acquisition, rental, and repair of heavy equipment. Agricultural, earthmoving, and construction equipment are used to maintain wetland impoundments and roads; construct and maintain wildlife habitat; control invasive plants; and maintain and construct visitor facilities such as boardwalks, observation platforms, fishing piers, hunt blinds, tour routes, and trails. The Service owns nearly 4,000 heavy equipment assets with a combined replacement value of about \$423 million.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Support maintenance staffing for field stations to carry out a wide variety of activities that provide safe and reliable outdoor access and habitat management.
- Support the replacement of mobile equipment and fleet assets, further implementing an initiative to improve management and modernize the vehicle and equipment fleet.
- Allow the Service to continue supporting refuge programs and prioritize projects that maintain wildlife habitats that expand and improve safe and reliable outdoor recreation for the American public.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Refuge Maintenance is \$144,900,000 and 543 FTE, which includes:

Deferred Maintenance (+\$4,287,000/+6 FTE) - This request will allow the Service to complete high priority deferred maintenance projects which will generate an estimated \$190 million and nearly 1,000 jobs in local and State economies. This funding will allow the Service to expand public-private partnership opportunities while reducing deferred maintenance backlog and, ultimately, saving taxpayer dollars.

Maintenance Support (+\$366,000/0 FTE) – The budget reflects anticipated increases in program operations including implementation of the Administration's management objective to incentivize and recognize high levels of performance.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$220,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Youth Conservation Corps (-\$649,000/0 FTE) – Funding is not requested for this activity in order to support higher priorities.

Annual Maintenance (-1,500,000/0 FTE) – This funding will allow the Service to invest in proactive preventative maintenance and repairs.

Equipment and Vehicle Replacement (-\$4,463,000/0 FTE) – Maintenance personnel will focus on modernizing our equipment and vehicle fleet, implementing utilization and age standards, and investing in a smaller, more agile, and modernized fleet.

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Migratory Bird Management



Activity: Conservation and Enforcement

Program Element: Migratory Bird Management

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Conservation and Monitoring	(\$000)	29,301	28,837	+426	0	+2,092	31,355	+2,518
	FTE	126	126	0	0	0	126	0
Permits	(\$000)	3,424	3,424	+57	0	+282	3,763	+339
	FTE	26	26	0	0	0	26	0
Federal Duck Stamp	(\$000)	556	556	+11	0	+11	578	+22
	FTE	3	3	0	0	0	3	0
North American Waterfowl Management/ Joint Ventures	(\$000)	13,140	14,640	+131	0	-1,474	13,297	-1,343
	FTE	42	42	0	0	0	42	0
Total, Migratory Bird Management	(\$000)	46,421	47,457	+625	0	+911	48,993	1,536
	FTE	197	197	0	0	0	197	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Migratory Bird Management

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Monitoring	+988	0
• Conservation and Monitoring Activities	+907	0
• Permits	+295	0
• Bird-Livestock Conflicts	+250	0
• Federal Duck Stamp Program	+11	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-84	0
• North American Waterfowl Management Plan/Joint Venture Activities	-1,456	0
Program Changes	+911	0

Program Overview

The Service has the legal mandate and trust responsibility to ensure the continued existence of healthy migratory bird populations for the benefit of the American public. Migratory birds are enjoyed by millions of Americans for hunting, birding, and viewing around their homes and in their communities. Migratory

birds also provide important ecosystem services to people, including insect and rodent control, plant pollination, and seed dispersal.

The Migratory Bird Program works to conserve birds and to preserve traditional outdoor recreational pursuits involving birds. The Program works with partners such as national sportsmen's groups, conservation organizations, Tribes, State wildlife agencies, and others to monitor bird status and conserve habitats needed to support these populations for future generations of Americans to enjoy. According to the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, Americans spent \$2.3 billion on migratory bird-related trips and equipment in 2016; of which, \$1.3 billion was spent on hunting trips.

Program Elements

Four elements comprise the Migratory Bird Management program:

- Conservation and Monitoring – Conducts surveys and other monitoring activities to determine the status and health of migratory birds, using the results to develop bird harvest and other regulations that secure healthy wild bird populations. These actions provide recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women and other users while promoting bird conservation and sustainable use.
- Permits – Provides a means to balance hunting harvest and other take of protected migratory bird species with their conservation, enabling the public to engage in legitimate take-related activities through a permit or other authorization. The permit program assists biologists to track the impact of these activities, and permits ensure that such activities are conducted in a manner that safeguards migratory bird populations and promotes conservation efforts.
- Federal Duck Stamp Program – Produces the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp), which is required for anyone 16 years of age and older to hunt waterfowl. Proceeds from the sale of the stamp are deposited into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, and expended to conserve wetland habitats within the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- North American Waterfowl Management Plan and Migratory Bird Joint Venture Partnerships – Employs a tripartite agreement among North American nations as a basis for supporting and promoting collaborative, voluntary partnerships that restore or protect waterfowl habitat and identify, develop, and apply regionally prioritized science needed for migratory bird conservation through the Migratory Bird Joint Venture Partnerships.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

More than 25 laws, treaties, and conventions mandate that the Service sustain over 1,000 species of migratory birds and their habitats. Primary among these is the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (MBTA) (16 U.S.C. 703-712), which establishes Federal responsibility for protecting and managing migratory birds. Other important laws that directly and significantly impact program activities include the *Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 668-668d), the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 4401-4412) and the *Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 6101-6109), which promote habitat and bird conservation across North America and throughout the western hemisphere through competitive grants. Additionally, the *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act* (U.S.C. 718-718j) requires waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older to possess a valid Federal Duck Stamp.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management

Program Element: Conservation and Monitoring

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Conservation and Monitoring	(\$000)	29,301	28,837	+426	0	+2,092	31,355	+2,518
	FTE	126	126	0	0	0	126	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Conservation and Monitoring

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Monitoring	+988	0
• Conservation and Monitoring Activities	+907	0
• Bird-Livestock Conflicts	+250	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-53	0
Program Changes	+2,092	0

Program Description



Waterfowl banding in Manitoba. Credit: USFWS

The Migratory Bird Program works with partners to conserve and monitor birds to ensure they can be enjoyed by hunters, birders, and other outdoor enthusiasts. Our success in working with others to conserve birds throughout the hemisphere provides a model for wildlife conservation that others in the world can follow.

Conservation

The Service’s Migratory Bird Program coordinates and supports a number of multi-partner conservation efforts, including the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, the Migratory Bird Joint Ventures, Partners in Flight, the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, and Waterbird Conservation for the Americas. The Migratory Bird program serves as a hub for many conservation partners and is uniquely positioned to help collect and share information, identify complementary activities, eliminate duplicative efforts, and provide technical assistance across this diverse network of partnerships. These multi-stakeholder efforts contribute significantly to the identification of bird species that need

increased attention across jurisdictional boundaries. The Service works with individuals committed to the conservation of birds throughout their range to provide access for hunting and birding, and protect the habitats that make these activities possible.

Promoting Migratory Bird Conservation

The Service continues to work with partners by providing technical assistance and developing guidance and recommendations to empower the public, Federal and State agencies, and industries to seek voluntary, non-regulatory solutions to address both direct and indirect impacts to migratory birds. Recent guidance includes recommendations for reducing bird collisions with building glass and developing a national list of suggested conservation measures. These resources are available from the Migratory Bird program's webpage² to anyone seeking to reduce impacts to migratory birds.

The Service is committed to working with our stakeholders to address bird/human activity conflicts while ensuring the continued conservation of migratory bird species. The Migratory Bird Program is currently working with partners, stakeholders, and Tribes to address conflicts with Black Vultures, Double-crested Cormorants, and Common Ravens. Multi-agency teams (i.e., State and Federal) are engaging stakeholders and Tribes to develop actions directed at resolving these issues. Identified solutions may include both lethal and non-lethal activities at appropriate scales and may require new regulatory actions by the Service.

Monitoring

Monitoring is essential to the science-based conservation approach used by the Service to ensure the sustainability of migratory bird populations and, where necessary, take actions to address declines that may lead to their listing under the Endangered Species Act. For example, each year, the Service conducts extensive migratory game bird population, habitat, and harvest surveys across North America, and produces reports that assess the status of these species. These reports include the most current data on breeding populations, production, and harvest information available for waterfowl, sandhill cranes, woodcock, dove, rail and other migratory game birds in North America. These reports are necessary for developing annual hunting seasons and bag limits that can optimize hunter opportunity while ensuring bird conservation. These surveys and the migratory bird hunting regulatory frameworks are the result of cooperative efforts with the States, the Canadian Wildlife Service and provincial agencies, Tribes, and private conservation partners. Monitoring bird populations also allows the Service to determine the need for species management, to identify conservation actions that will be effective, and to evaluate the success of actions taken to conserve species.

² <https://www.fws.gov/birds/index.php>



Left: Parts Collection Survey collects over 100,000 migratory bird wings each year from hunters. The species, age and sex of birds harvested are determined by expert biologists who come together for a week each year at four flyway "wingbees," to provide critical information about species-specific bird harvest in the US. Right: A wood duck wing sent in by a hunter.
Credit: USFWS

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Monitor migratory game bird species and establish annual migratory bird hunting seasons.
- Continue implementing a comprehensive cormorant management strategy, as informed by activities conducted in FY 2020.
- Continue to work with stakeholders and other conservation partners to reduce conflicts caused by species such as common ravens and black vultures.
- Support efficient permitting of infrastructure and energy projects for the take of bald and golden eagles.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Conservation and Monitoring is \$31,355,000 and 126 FTE, which includes:

Monitoring (+\$988,000/0 FTE) – The FY 2021 request will allow the Service to continue data collection modernization efforts, management, and sharing procedures for the survey data from our monitoring programs. These monitoring activities that support the establishment of annual migratory bird hunting seasons that, in turn, provide hunting opportunities and preserve the Nation's hunting heritage. Specific investments include further integration of remote sensing capabilities into our operational monitoring programs and web-based data collection and sharing capabilities. These investments increase pilot safety, increase efficiency, and increase data quality.

Conservation and Monitoring Activities (+\$907,000/0 FTE) – The FY 2021 request will allow the Service to continue to support or expand monitoring efforts which serve as the basis for sound conservation and management decisions. These activities not only support the establishment of annual migratory bird hunting seasons, but also serve as the biological basis to support lethal removal of species that can cause conflicts with humans. In addition, the Service will continue to work with conservation and industry partners who voluntarily wish to reduce negative effects of human activities on migratory birds by developing guidance and providing technical assistance and recommendations that address both direct and indirect impacts to migratory birds. This collaboration will allow best practices to be widely disseminated and implemented with ultimate goals to address anthropogenic sources of mortality on a hemispheric scale.

Bird-Livestock Conflicts (+\$250,000/0 FTE) – The request reflects ongoing efforts to develop solutions to reduce the economic impacts to producers stemming from black vultures, double-crested cormorants, and common ravens. This increase will allow the Service to continue to work cooperatively with state and federal agencies, livestock and aquaculture producers, the public, and Tribes to seek common sense solutions. Through these efforts, the Service is developing comprehensive strategies, both lethal removal and nonlethal, to provide relief to those affected as well as long-term solutions to minimize future impacts.

Department of the Interior Ethics Transfer (-\$53,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.



New, online interface for Hunter Activity and Harvest Survey. The new design of the survey will reduce the time and effort expended by hunters responding to the survey and improve overall data quality.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management

Program Element: Permits

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Permits	(\$000)	3,424	3,424	+57	0	+282	3,763	+339
	FTE	26	26	0	0	0	26	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Permits

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Permits	+295	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-13	0
Program Changes	+282	0

Program Description

The mission of the Migratory Bird Permits program is to promote 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 Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA).

Permits authorizing take and possession of migratory birds are issued for scientific study, depredation control, falconry, raptor propagation, rehabilitation of injured birds, educational use, taxidermy, waterfowl sale, and Native American religious use. The Service processes more than 11,000 such permit applications annually.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Continue to issue permits efficiently for the use of birds protected under the MBTA and BGEPA.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Permits Program is \$3,763,000 and 26 FTE, which includes:

Permits (+\$295,000/0 FTE) – The FY 2021 request supports the Service’s continued focus on streamlining permitting procedures and requirements to improve the permit applicant’s experience, while at the same time ensuring that the Service delivers on its trust responsibilities related to migratory birds. In 2021, the Service will continue to improve and modernize the Service’s permitting system to an electronic system, which will reduce the processing time for permits, provide a more user-friendly interface for the public, and provide electronic payment methods for permittees.

Department of the Interior Ethics Transfer (-\$13,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management

Program Element: Federal Duck Stamp Program

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Federal Duck Stamp	(\$000)	556	556	+11	0	+11	578	+22
	FTE	3	3	0	0	0	3	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Federal Duck Stamp Program

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Federal Duck Stamp	+11	0
Program Changes	+11	0



Federal Duck Stamp with art by Scot Storm, of Minnesota



Junior Duck Stamp with art by student Nicole Jeon, of New York

Program Description

The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (commonly known as the Duck Stamp) is required for waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older. The Federal Duck Stamp program supports conservation of important migratory bird habitat through the purchase of wetland and associated upland habitats within the National Wildlife Refuge System. Many non-hunters also buy Federal Duck Stamps to support habitat conservation in the Refuge System. In 2017, the most recent year with complete information, Duck Stamp sales totaled more than \$38 million. Since 1934, the stamps have raised over \$1 billion for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF). These monies, along with other contributions to the MBCF, have enabled the conservation of 14 million acres of prime waterfowl habitat within the National Wildlife Refuge System. In addition to places for waterfowl to breed, stopover on migration, and overwinter, these lands also provide Americans with opportunities to enjoy the outdoors by engaging in activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, photography, and wildlife viewing. Increasing the amount of wildlife habitat held in trust for Americans provides compatible public use of natural resources, increases opportunities for and access to outdoor recreation, and provides private landowners and local communities with economic and environmental benefits.

The Service also attracts youth to the outdoors through the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program (Junior Duck Stamp Program) and its associated art contest. The Junior Duck Stamp

Program employs a science-based curriculum with an art focus to teach students about wildlife conservation, waterfowl, and the importance of wetlands. Students in the program are encouraged to submit artwork for their State's Junior Duck Stamp art competition. Each year the individual State winners compete in the national contest for the honor of having their artwork featured on that year's Junior Duck Stamp. Annually, over 20,000 students participate in these competitions and share their knowledge and experience with their communities. This engagement with the natural world will help create future conservation stewards that value that protection of our natural resources for future generations.

Electronic Duck Stamp Program

The issuance of the 2019-2020 Federal Duck Stamp marked the 12th year of the Electronic Duck Stamp (E-Stamp) program. The E-Stamp program provides a valuable customer service, making Duck Stamps available quickly and conveniently from anywhere in the U.S. This popular program enables someone to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp through a participating State's website at any time, and receive an immediate certification of purchase that is valid for waterfowl hunting anywhere in the United States. Interest in this program remains high, with 27 States now providing E-Stamp certification. Sales of E-Stamps have continued to grow with each successive year—from over 58,000 in 2008, to more than 832,000 in 2018-2019. In just the first four months of availability of the 2019-2020 Duck Stamp, from July through October 2019, E-Stamp sales exceeded 317,000. The Service plans to add up to six additional States over the next three years, expanding access to the stamp and associated outdoor recreation opportunities. The growth of the E-Stamp program has allowed the Service to modernize stamp dispersal through partnerships with States and to deploy technology appropriately to attract new and retain existing hunters.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Manage the production and sale of the Federal Duck Stamp.
- Promote and diversify participation in the Junior Duck Stamp Program.
- Investigate new and emerging methods to promote the Duck Stamp to increase revenues for habitat conservation.
- Expand the Electronic Stamp program to facilitate hunter access and improve satisfaction.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Federal Duck Stamp Program is \$578,000 and 3 FTE, which includes:

Federal Duck Stamp Program (+\$11,000/0 FTE) – The FY 2021 request further supports the production and sale of the Federal Duck Stamp, allowing the Service to acquire wetland habitat and purchase easements with sale proceeds. This increases opportunities for access to outdoor recreation, and provides private landowners and local communities with economic and environmental benefits.

Subactivity: Migratory Bird Management

Program Element: North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP)/

Joint Ventures

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
North American Waterfowl Management/	(\$000)	13,140	14,640	+131	0	-1,474	13,297	-1,343
Joint Ventures	FTE	42	42	0	0	0	42	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for North American Waterfowl Management / Joint Ventures

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-18	0
• North American Waterfowl Management Plan/Joint Venture Activities	-1,456	0
Program Changes	-1,474	0

Program Description

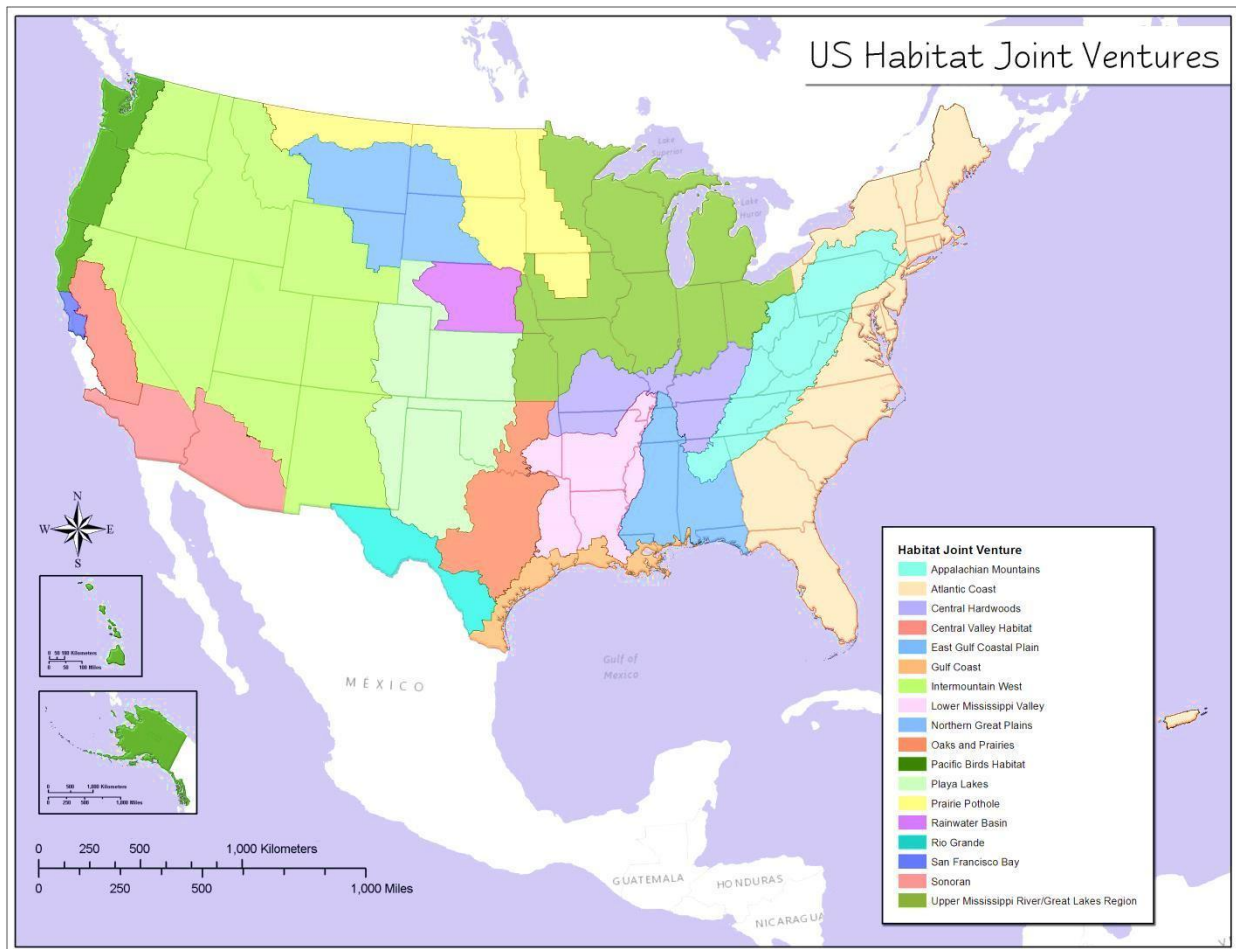
The North American Waterfowl Management Plan (Waterfowl Management Plan) is an international accord signed by the U.S. and Canada in 1986 and, in 1994, by Mexico. It is the foundational, international bird conservation partnership upon which many others have been modeled. For the past three decades, the Waterfowl Management Plan has guided efforts to sustain abundant waterfowl and other wetland dependent bird populations across North America through voluntary partnerships driven by sound science. The Plan is updated regularly by the three countries - most recently in 2018 - adapting strategies and objectives to lessons learned through the application of science to waterfowl, population management, and habitat conservation.

The Waterfowl Management Plan goals and objectives, as well as the conservation and management priorities of national and international shorebird, waterbird, and landbird conservation plans, are primarily implemented by 21 Migratory Bird Joint Ventures (JVs). These regional, self-directed partnerships include Federal, State, and local governments; corporations; individuals; and non-government conservation groups. Together, they form a network for habitat conservation that benefits waterfowl, other wildlife, and people.

The JVs leverage Federal contributions with non-Federal funds and in-kind contributions, and foster collaboration from local to international scales, thereby improving the effectiveness of bird conservation.

One of the most significant responsibilities of the JV partnerships is the development of regional, landscape-scale implementation plans that address priorities and step-down objectives of the national and international bird conservation plans. The JVs utilize science to support decisions and identify activities that address the habitat conservation priorities identified in the implementation plans. Along with the targeted habitat

projects that come from them, the regional implementation plans bring a broad population-based perspective to local conservation delivery. The JVs work closely with their stakeholders/partners in a collaborative manner, incorporating their input to plan and carry out strategically targeted bird conservation projects.



2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Continue to implement the 2018 Waterfowl Management Plan update via partners and the JVs to achieve waterfowl population, habitat, and human dimension objectives.
- Design and develop habitat strategies that work with landowners and other partners to conserve migratory bird resources across the landscape; and collect and analyze data on Black Duck, Arctic Geese, and Sea Duck species to inform harvest strategies that lead to hunter opportunities.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan is \$13,297,000 and 42 FTE, which includes:

Department of the Interior Ethics Transfer (-\$18,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

North American Waterfowl Management Plan/Joint Ventures (-\$1,456,000/0 FTE) – At the requested 2021 level, the NAWMP/JV program will ensure that all 21 Migratory Bird Joint Ventures receive funding to step-down large landscape-scale plan priorities into effective, locally delivered conservation activities.

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Law Enforcement



Activity: Conservation and Enforcement
Subactivity: Law Enforcement

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Operations	(\$000)	78,143	81,143	+1,082	-500	-5,157	76,568	-4,575
Equipment Replacement	(\$000)	910	910	0	0	0	910	0
Total, Law Enforcement	(\$000)	79,053	82,053	+1,082	-500	-5,157	77,478	-4,575
	FTE	303	311	0	0	0	311	0

Funding tables do not include \$4 million in emergency supplemental appropriations provided to the Resource Management account in the *United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act* (H.R. 5430), signed by the President January 29, 2020. Additional information can be found in the Explanatory Notes section of Appendix A.

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Law Enforcement

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Wildlife Trafficking	-14	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-193	0
• Law Enforcement Activities	-1,450	0
• Indian Arts and Crafts Board	-3,500	0
Program Changes	-5,157	0

Program Mission

The mission of the Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is to protect wildlife and plant resources through the effective enforcement of Federal laws. By working with Federal, State, Tribal, and foreign enforcement agencies and other conservation partners, we help recover endangered species, conserve migratory birds, preserve wildlife habitat, safeguard fisheries, combat invasive species, and promote international wildlife conservation.

Program Overview

The OLE fulfills its mission by facilitating a multi-billion dollar legal wildlife trade, while simultaneously interdicting illegal wildlife and wildlife products and investigating wildlife trafficking crimes. Service special agents, wildlife inspectors, intelligence analysts, forensic scientists, and support staff provide critical work in the fight against wildlife trafficking and the successful prosecution of criminals who break Federal and international wildlife laws.

Transnational criminal organizations are largely responsible for the growing illegal wildlife trade. Addressing this illegal trade requires strong and effective law enforcement, both in the U.S. and abroad.

The OLE works with INTERPOL, the State Department, and other agencies to reduce criminal activity involving wildlife worldwide.

The U.S. remains one of the world's largest markets for legal and illegal wildlife and wildlife products. The Service upholds the Nation's responsibility to facilitate the legal wildlife trade, stop the illegal activity in protected species, provide assistance to improve wildlife enforcement in other countries, detect and deter the illegal import and export of wildlife, and protect our Nation's borders by preventing invasive species and potential diseases from entering the U.S.

Through law enforcement efforts, the Service disrupts criminal networks, apprehends violators, refers wildlife trafficking cases for prosecution, seizes and forfeits property of the crimes, and applies penalties to deter and prevent others from committing such wildlife crimes. Effective enforcement is critical to the Service's conservation mission.

Law Enforcement Investigations

The Service's investigation of wildlife trafficking disrupts and dismantles highly organized transnational smuggling networks engaged in the illegal wildlife trade around the world. OLE special agents are plainclothes criminal investigators who enforce Federal wildlife laws. Agents investigate crimes by collecting evidence, interviewing witnesses and subjects, conducting surveillance, executing Federal search warrants, making arrests, preparing cases for Federal court, and assisting local, Tribal, State, Federal, and international counterparts with wildlife crime investigations. Agents often work undercover to infiltrate wildlife trafficking syndicates, and other criminal groups, to document violations from the "inside." Covert and complex investigations often are multi-year operations. To provide additional operational and investigative field support, the Service hires and trains new agents.

In 2012, the Service began working with the Indian Arts and Crafts Board (IACB) to conduct criminal investigations of alleged violations of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act (IACA) and combat international trafficking of counterfeit arts and crafts. By enforcing the IACA we are restoring trust with our local communities, American Indians, and Alaska Natives and protecting their sovereign rights.

After years of investigation, four cactus traffickers have been sentenced for their role in the illegal harvest, sale, and/or transportation of the protected living rock, a thornless cactus found only in the Big Bend region of Texas and northeastern Mexico.

The defendants were sentenced to a combined total of nine years of probation, one year of unsupervised probation, ordered to pay a total of \$118,804 in fines and restitution, and forfeit 17 firearms. There are several more defendants in this case. The fight to stop the illegal harvest of the living rock cactus is ongoing. The joint investigation was made possible by partnerships with Texas Parks and Wildlife, Big Bend National Park, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Justice Environmental Crimes Unit, and others.



The living rock cactus is soft and plushy and has been subject to poaching and smuggling. This specimen is estimated to be over 30 years old. Photo Credit: Al Barrus, USFWS.

Inspection and Facilitation of Wildlife Trade

The Service's trade monitoring activities at U.S. ports provide a front-line defense against global wildlife trafficking, as well as facilitate robust legal wildlife trade. The work of Service wildlife inspectors significantly influences our Nation's public health, safety, economy, and natural resources. Service wildlife inspectors process declared shipments, intercept wildlife contraband, conduct proactive enforcement operations to interdict smuggled wildlife and wildlife products, ensure the humane transport of live wildlife, and work with special agents to investigate businesses and individuals engaged in wildlife trafficking. Their work also prevents the introduction of invasive species, which if established, would contribute to an estimated \$120 billion in annual economic damage to the U.S. and ecological impacts caused by these damaging species.

The Service has strategically placed wildlife inspector canine teams at five critical ports of entry and is working towards placing an additional four teams at currently unstaffed ports. Since the program began in 2013, trained canines and wildlife inspectors have enhanced the interdiction of smuggled plants, wildlife, and wildlife parts and products by being able to examine a greater volume of international cargo and mail. Wildlife inspector canine teams have alerted to and intercepted many illegally transported items. As a result of their work, domestic and international investigations were initiated that led to the arrest and successful criminal prosecutions of wildlife traffickers. In addition, potential diseases and invasive species were prevented from being introduced and spread to the U.S. population, native wildlife, and wildlife habitats, which could have negatively affected U.S. domestic agriculture industries such as fruits, vegetables, wine, poultry, cattle, and swine.

International Collaboration and Capacity Building through the International Operations Unit and the Branch of Training and Inspections

In support of the *Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act* and President Trump's Executive Order 13773 on Enforcing Federal Law with Respect to Transnational Criminal Organizations and Preventing International Trafficking, the International Operations Unit has stationed Service special agent attachés throughout the world in areas that are considered high-risk for wildlife crimes. At present, one attaché is posted at each of the following eight U.S. embassies: Brazil (Brasilia), China (Beijing), Gabon (Libreville), Mexico (Mexico City), Lima (Peru), South Africa (Pretoria), Tanzania (Dar es Salaam), and Thailand (Bangkok). In 2020, the Service will have 12 attachés posted by staffing the following four additional locations: Germany (Stuttgart), Kenya (Nairobi), United Kingdom (London), and Vietnam (Hanoi). Service attachés are vital members of "country teams" and participate with partners in broader enforcement working groups. They function on a regional basis to create, maintain, and use government-to-government relationships to combat wildlife crime and build wildlife crime enforcement capacity. Through the program, the Service is positioned to assist in investigations, as well as provide technical assistance and training to international counterparts. Attachés are the main conduit between our foreign partners and the advanced technical assistance the Service provides. They also coordinate U.S. and other government agencies, and provide support to wildlife enforcement networks throughout their areas of responsibility.

To further build international capacity, OLE's Branch of Training and Inspections (BTI) partnered with the National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs and created the International Conservation Chiefs Academy (ICCA). The first cohort of U.S. State conservation law enforcement officers and African

officials trained together in 2016. Since then, the ICCA has grown from one cohort per year to two and has expanded the geographic range of attendees to include Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. This in-person training is critical to form global alliances, create collaborative law enforcement initiatives, open the flow of communication, and strengthen law enforcement at a local, State, Federal, and international level.

OLE is also building international capacity through outreach and expansion of training programs. BTI conducts an Executive Symposium on Wildlife Trafficking at the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA). This symposium brings together executive level agency delegates from Africa and Southeast Asia

Together with the Drug Enforcement Agency, Special Agents in OLE's International Operations Unit Special Operations Division initiated an investigation in 2016 focused on transnational criminal organizations involved with wildlife trafficking in Eastern Africa. In June of 2019, the investigation resulted in four individuals being charged with multiple counts of wildlife trafficking, money laundering, and distribution of heroin. These individuals allegedly trafficked over 10 tons of ivory poached from more than 100 elephants and over 400 pounds of horn poached from approximately 35 rhinoceros with a combined street value of approximately \$7.4 million.

Regarding the arrest and indictment, Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt said, "Wildlife trafficking will not be tolerated. It is often intertwined with other major types of criminal activity including conspiracy, smuggling, money laundering and narcotics – all of which are included in the indictment today. The U.S. Department of the Interior remains committed to combating the illegal wildlife trade through the END Wildlife Trafficking Act and the President's Executive Order on Transnational Organized Crime. I would like to thank the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement, U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Department of Justice, and others who help bring wildlife traffickers, and other criminals, to justice. Together, we can protect some of the world's most iconic species while ensuring the safety and livelihood of the American people."



African elephant and black rhinoceros. Public domain images.

and develops model law and policy that is taken back to their respective countries for action. The ICCA conducts alumni events to bring together prior attendees to further collaborate and continue the fight against wildlife trafficking on a global scale. Additional training missions focus on wildlife crime scene investigation, crime scene management, seizures, cybercrime, and inspection.

Wildlife Intelligence Unit

The Service's Wildlife Intelligence Unit is responsible for the collection and analysis of information on all aspects of wildlife trafficking to support Service investigations, inspections, and smuggling interdiction efforts. Through this unit, Service investigators have access to a multitude of law enforcement tools and resources, which assist them to identify and disrupt wildlife trafficking networks. The unit also coordinates information sharing with other law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and abroad. In addition, it has established and maintains a broad network of domestic and international contacts with conservation groups, trade associations, and other entities involved in, or concerned with, wildlife trade.

Digital Evidence Recovery and Technical Support Unit

The Digital Evidence Recovery and Technical Support Unit (DERTSU) is based in Jacksonville, Florida, and supports the OLE globally by providing digital evidence seizure and analysis as well as technical surveillance equipment and support. The DERTSU is staffed with experienced senior special agents and digital evidence specialists. This expertise in analyzing seized digital evidence from computers, smart phones, GPS units, and many other types of devices is an important asset for the field agent in furthering their investigative and prosecutorial efforts to combat wildlife trafficking. Digital evidence services include on-scene search warrant operations, lab based data extraction, and detailed investigative analysis. Additionally, the DERTSU equips and trains field agents with the latest technical surveillance technology, to include audio and video surveillance platforms, GPS based trackers, and custom-built solutions for the unique situations faced by our field agents.

National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory

The National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory (NFWFL) in Ashland, Oregon is vital to the Service's efforts to fight wildlife trafficking. It is the world's only full-service, highly accredited, crime laboratory devoted exclusively to supporting wildlife law enforcement investigations.

The NFWFL forensic scientists provide the physical evidence analysis and supporting expert witness testimony for officials to successfully investigate and prosecute serious violations of wildlife law. These scientists identify the source species of mammal, bird, reptile, fish, plant, and wood parts and products, which is a function needed by Service special agents, wildlife inspectors, and Department of Justice prosecutors. Conclusive evidence of criminal activity in wildlife investigations often hinges on the investigators' and prosecutors' ability to establish flora and fauna parts to the species level, making the NFWFL's capabilities integral to Service enforcement efforts.

Laboratory scientists conduct research to develop new analytical techniques needed in wildlife forensics and build databases to help spot trafficking trends of protected species. To support successful law enforcement operations and criminal prosecutions, they continuously evolve their research and analytical methods to ensure accuracy and maintain efficiency throughout the necessary scientific identification process. Identification of evidence items is done by comparison against known reference specimens. To continue advancing the role as a world leader in wildlife forensic science, the NFWFL is building a center to store, curate, and maintain the collection of reference specimens. Many of the specimens are one-of-a kind, and this modern day "Noah's Ark" of preserved wildlife specimens needs vigilant protection so it endures for the benefit of the American people.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

The Service has the statutory mandate and trust responsibility to fulfill its mission derived from the Nation's wildlife and plant protection laws. Brief descriptions of these various laws follow:

- *The Lacey Act* (18 U.S.C. 42; 16 U.S.C. 3371-3378) prohibits the importation, exportation, transportation, sale, or purchase of fish, wildlife, or plants taken or possessed in violation of Federal, State, Tribal, or foreign laws.
- *The Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (16 U.S.C. 703-712) makes it unlawful to pursue, hunt, kill, capture, possess, buy, sell, purchase, or barter any migratory bird including their parts and products.
- *The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 668-668C) prohibits import, export, or take of bald or golden eagles including their parts and products without permits, and prohibits the sale, purchase, or barter of their parts or products.
- *The Endangered Species Act (ESA)* (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) prohibits the importation, exportation, taking, and interstate or foreign commerce of fish, wildlife, and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered species.
 - *The Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)* is an international treaty to which 183 countries are parties, including the United States. CITES is implemented in the United States under the ESA and provides a set of universal protections and controls involving the international movement of plant and animal species engaged in significant global trade.
- *The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act* (16 U.S.C. 718) requires waterfowl hunters to purchase and possess a valid Federal waterfowl hunting stamp before take of migratory waterfowl.
- *The Marine Mammal Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407) establishes a moratorium on the take and importation of marine mammals, including parts and products.
- *The Airborne Hunting Act* (16 U.S.C. 742j-1) prohibits taking or harassing wildlife from aircraft.
- *The National Refuge System Administration Act* (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) provides guidelines for administration and management of all areas in the refuge system.
- *The African Elephant Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 4201-4245) places a moratorium on the importation of raw or worked ivory from African elephant-producing countries that do not meet certain criteria.
- *The Wild Bird Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 4901) limits or prohibits the importation of exotic bird species as necessary to ensure that their populations are not harmed by international trade.
- *The Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 5301-5306) prohibits the import, export, or sale of any product, item, or substance containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, any substance derived from tiger or rhinoceros.
- *The Antarctic Conservation Act* (16 U.S.C. 2401) makes unlawful for any citizen to take, possess, or sell any native bird or mammal from Antarctica.
- *The Archeological Resources Protection Act* (16 U.S.C. 470aa) prohibits excavation, removal, damage, or alteration to any archaeological resource located on public or Indian lands without a permit.
- *The Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990* (P.L. 101-644) is a truth-in-advertising law that prohibits misrepresentation in marketing of Indian arts and crafts products within the United States.

- In conducting investigations of wildlife crimes, the OLE frequently encounters and investigates violations of other Federal laws to include conspiracy, smuggling, money laundering, narcotics, cybercrimes, unlawful possession and trafficking of firearms, mail fraud, tax evasion, wire fraud, corruption, and bribery.
- The *Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act* (P.L. 114-231) authorizes support for law enforcement training, investigative capacity building, range state conservation programs, and other important tools to protect and sustain wild populations of imperiled species in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and other critical locations.
- The *Presidential Executive Order on Enforcing Federal Law with Respect to Transnational Criminal Organizations and Preventing International Trafficking* (issued February 9, 2017) strengthens enforcement of Federal law in order to thwart transnational criminal organizations and subsidiary organizations, including criminal gangs, cartels, racketeering organizations, and other groups engaged in illicit activities. This Executive Order specifically lists wildlife trafficking as a targeted transnational crime that presents a threat to public safety and national security.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- The program will continue to fully utilize its network of special agent/international attachés and build on past successes in combating global wildlife trafficking. Investigations will continue to 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.
- The Service will hire new agents in 2021 to continue efforts to address staffing shortfalls due to attrition and mandatory retirements that affect the program's ability to perform its ongoing enforcement work. Federal law enforcement officers and firefighters are subject to mandatory retirement at age 57 if they have 20 years of service.
- The program will continue to strengthen forensic capabilities to address wildlife trafficking and expand the capacity of the Special Investigations Unit so that it can maximize the scope and effectiveness of Service efforts to respond to the poaching crisis and shutdown trafficking.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Office of Law Enforcement is \$77,478,000 and 311 FTE, which includes:

Wildlife Trafficking (-\$14,000/0 FTE) – The OLE will continue to focus on curtailing wildlife trafficking, facilitating legal trade, and combatting organized crime through collaboration with the intelligence community and partner nations.

Department of the Interior Ethics Transfer (-\$193,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Law Enforcement Operations (-\$1,450,000/0 FTE) – The OLE will continue to collaborate with Federal agencies and foreign governments to enforce wildlife laws, halt the poaching of some of the world’s most iconic species, such as elephants by stopping illicit trade, ensure sustainable legal trade, and reduce demand for illegal products.

Indian Arts and Crafts Board (-\$3,500,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission will focus on other priorities.

International Affairs



Activity: Conservation and Enforcement
Subactivity: International Affairs

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
International Conservation	(\$000)	8,290	10,810	+87	-500	-2,577	7,820	-2,990
International Wildlife Trade	(\$000)	7,526	8,016	+143	+1,000	+1,914	11,073	+3,057
Total, International Affairs	(\$000)	15,816	18,826	+230	+500	-663	18,893	+67
	FTE	79	87	0	0	-4	83	-4

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for International Affairs

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Permitting Modernization	+2,000	+1
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-34	0
• Combating Wildlife Trafficking	-289	0
• Arctic Council Support	-550	0
• International Affairs Activities	-790	-5
• Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize	-1,000	0
Program Changes	-163	-4

Program Mission

The International Affairs Program leads domestic and international efforts to protect, restore, and enhance the world’s diverse wildlife and their habitats with a focus on species of concern to the American people. The Service works to ensure that wildlife trade is both legal and sustainable to benefit the survival of species and domestic economies through the implementation of the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora* (CITES) and domestic wildlife laws.

Program Elements

The International Affairs Program is comprised of the following elements:

- **International Conservation** – Species and regional programs provide technical and financial assistance to partners around the globe to conserve high-priority species and habitats.
- **International Wildlife Trade** – This program is responsible for implementing CITES and domestic laws of the United States to ensure international wildlife trade is legal and does not

threaten the survival of listed animals and plants in the wild. Through international cooperation and technical and financial assistance, this program strengthens global implementation of CITES and combats wildlife trafficking.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

The Service has the legal mandate and responsibility to engage in the conservation of wildlife species both within and beyond our borders in the context of several long-standing commitments. These obligations are contained in domestic laws, international treaties, and other multilateral agreements, such as CITES, the *Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act*, the *Presidential Executive Order on Enforcing Federal Law with Respect to Transnational Criminal Organizations and Preventing International Trafficking* (signed February 2017), the Canada/Mexico/U.S. Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management, the *Endangered Species Act (ESA)*, the *Lacey Act*, the *Wild Bird Conservation Act*, the *Marine Mammal Protection Act*, the *Western Hemisphere Convention*, the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act*, the Cartagena Convention and its Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife, and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention).

Program Overview

The International Affairs Program leads 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 works to ensure international wildlife trade results in sustained plant and animal populations and thus, supports livelihoods of people who depend on such trade through implementation of CITES and domestic conservation laws. The Service plays a leadership role in the U.S. Government's efforts to combat wildlife trafficking, addressing urgent conservation and global security threats posed by poaching and illegal trade in wildlife. Through technical and financial assistance, the Service works with partners to prevent poaching, combat trafficking and reduce demand for illegal wildlife and wildlife products, and expand international cooperation and commitment to address the growing threat.



Galapagos tortoises rescued from wildlife trafficking in Peru Credit: SERFOR

Elephants, rhinos, tigers, marine turtles, and apes are just a few of the species of foreign origin that captivate the hearts and minds of the American public. The number of U.S. citizens traveling abroad reached a record 93 million in 2018, with many visiting a national park or monument or engaging in other nature-based activities while abroad. These visitors choose to spend their free time with wildlife, sharing these experiences with family and friends, and educating their children about conservation. In addition, Americans purchased nearly 51 million Save Vanishing Species semi-postal stamps since 2011, raising funds to support the international conservation efforts of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund.

The Service works closely with State agencies and Tribes to ensure legal and sustainable wildlife use and provides technical and financial assistance to strengthen the capacity of other countries to address

conservation of species that are important to the U.S. economy and the American people. The Service works with partners to find innovative solutions to address the most urgent threats to species survival including transnational wildlife trafficking, wildlife disease, habitat loss, illegal and unsustainable killing and removal of live plants and animals from the wild, and inadequate law enforcement capacity and resources. Through these efforts, the Service's work supports sustainable use and conservation of plants and animals, from helping to establish protected areas and supporting protected area and wildlife management to leading high-level international trade negotiations.

The Service funds, facilitates, and supports vital efforts to conserve wildlife and high-value landscapes that provide economic, geopolitical, and other benefits to the American people. From 1989 through 2018, the Service has provided more than 4,200 grants for international conservation totaling more than \$322 million. The Service has worked with more than 700 partners in developing countries who have contributed more than \$470 million in additional non-Federal matching support for grant projects, more than doubling the impact of Service funding. In FY 2018 alone, the Service awarded a total of \$37 million to projects through Species, Regional, and Combating Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) Programs, which leveraged \$41 million in additional critical support for wildlife conservation. In total, these funds supported 268 projects in 73 countries, including numerous projects spanning multiple countries or entire regions.

Sustainable Use of Wildlife

The U.S. is one of the world's largest importers and exporters of wildlife and wildlife products and plays a significant role in the global legal wildlife trade, currently valued in billions of dollars annually. To facilitate legal and sustainable trade between the U.S. and the CITES members – currently 182 countries and the European Union – and to ensure that this international trade does not threaten the survival of animals and plants in the wild, the Service is responsible for implementation of CITES in the United States. Each Party to the agreement designates Management and Scientific Authorities to issue permits, make legal and scientific findings, and monitor trade. For the U.S., these authorities reside in the Service's International Affairs Program.

Through implementation of CITES, the Service facilitates more than \$675 million in legal wildlife trade



Confiscated rosewood that was destined for illegal non-permitted shipment. Credit: Wildlife Conservation Society

per year. In addition, the Service compiles and maintains trade records for U.S. imports and exports. In conjunction with reports from other CITES Parties, the Service uses these data to monitor trade levels, determine trends over time and help ensure that international plant and animal trade is sustainable. The Service works with importers and exporters of wildlife and wildlife products to ensure compliance with the law and to facilitate and streamline the permitting process. The Service aims to strike a regulatory balance that minimizes the

burden on the public and U.S. companies, while also conserving wildlife for generations to come.

Native Species Support Local Economies

The international trade in CITES-listed native animal species such as bobcats, freshwater turtles, alligators and plant species such as cacti and American ginseng, provides livelihoods for rural communities in the United States. As an example of the value of this trade, from 2013 to 2018 the declared value of U.S. exports of skins from American alligators, bobcats, and river otters totaled more than \$790 million. The Service works to restore trust and reduce regulatory burden by working directly and closely with its partner State agencies to implement CITES for species of economic importance. Examples of this collaboration include assessing the status of native species impacted by trade, seeking input on CITES permit findings, facilitating participation on U.S. delegations to CITES meetings, and coordinating CITES export programs. Through the CITES Coordination Committee, the Service also works closely with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) to facilitate communication between State wildlife agencies and the Service's CITES authorities.



Alligator hatchlings at a captive breeding facility in Florida. Credit: C. Watts/Creative Commons

The recovery of the American alligator, together with the transformation of U.S. industry practices, is a success story that illustrates how conservation and sustainable use can go hand-in-hand. Once hunted to near extinction, the American alligator made a full recovery due to collaboration between the Federal government, State wildlife agencies, and the leather industry. Today, the management program for American alligators includes a sustainable harvest, supporting industry while also conserving the species. This is a model of collaboration and cooperation that the Service aims to replicate with other native species.

Creating a Responsive and Efficient Permitting Process

In 2019, the Service received more than 5,000 applications and issued more than 40,000 permits to authorize a wide variety of international 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, or whether the trade will enhance the survival and not jeopardize the continued existence of species listed under the ESA. Decisions on whether to issue permits frequently must be made in close consultation with foreign CITES authorities, State wildlife agencies, other Federal agencies, the CITES Secretariat, other relevant experts, and applicants.

The Service strives to achieve a responsive and efficient system for the American public and businesses through a combination of staffing adjustments, technological improvements, and prioritization efforts. We are focusing our efforts where we can achieve the greatest conservation impact, while reducing regulatory burden associated with legal, sustainable trade. The Service is working to increase the use of electronic applications to facilitate a more efficient transfer of data between applicants and the Service. We have



Clouded leopard cubs born as part of a breeding program at the Smithsonian –Conservation Biology Institute. Zoos and captive breeding facilities are some of the stakeholders who will benefit from a modernized permitting system. Credit: Meghan Murphy/ Smithsonian's National Zoo

updated our existing permitting system, the Service-wide Permit Issuance and Tracking System (SPITS), to provide an interim improvement while we progress in developing a modern electronic permitting system. The new electronic permitting system, once fully implemented, will revolutionize the permitting process. It will automatically integrate data submitted electronically into the permit database. It will also allow for the development of “expert” systems that will automate portions of the application review, permit issuance, and reporting, thereby allowing permit processors to harness the power of the data for decision-making. It will provide opportunity for refocusing personnel from administrative record keeping to processing additional permits.

Conserving Priority Species

Multinational Species Conservation Fund

The Service has developed an international network of key projects and trusted implementing partners as a result of its 30-year Congressional mandate to conserve elephants, great apes, rhinos, tigers, and marine turtles; iconic species that a majority of the American public wants to see roam the Earth for hundreds of years to come. Service staff have decades of expertise on wildlife management in the U.S. and in developing countries and are the ideal partners to assist staff in national parks and protected areas overseas in their efforts to conserve species loved by the American people.

Species Threatened by Wildlife Trafficking

Conserving species impacted by wildlife trafficking is vitally important to wildlife as well as people. Wildlife trafficking is a serious transnational crime that involves the unlawful harvest of and international trade in live animals and plants or parts and products derived from these species. As a result, these activities and threaten conservation, security, economic prosperity, and the rule of law. Organized crime syndicates are well structured, often violent, and capable of moving large volumes of poached wildlife and wildlife products. Combating this illicit trade takes a significant human toll; worldwide it is estimated that a ranger is killed in the line of duty every three days. The illegal trade is a multi-billion-dollar business that depletes natural resource assets and revenues by driving numerous species of economic value to the brink of extinction. The cross-border smuggling of live wildlife leaves countries at risk to the spread of wildlife-borne diseases and the introduction of invasive species, which, once established, cause \$120 billion in economic impacts annually in the U.S alone.¹ Invasive species also are at least partially responsible for more than 40 percent of all listings under the ESA. The Service provides technical and financial assistance to counter wildlife trafficking worldwide through several programs. Through CITES, the Service advances global policy that supports legal and sustainable trade and combats illegal trade. Financial and technical assistance from Service programs provide resources for on-the-ground conservation actions for species

¹ <https://www.fws.gov/verobeach/PythonPDF/CostofInvasivesFactSheet.pdf>

targeted by the illegal trade and for building capacity of other countries to combat wildlife trafficking.

In FY 2016, the Service launched the Combating Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) Program to support innovative projects that aim to halt wildlife poaching and trafficking. Through the financial and technical



The Sunda pangolin is the most widely distributed pangolin species in Southeast Asia, but unfortunately and is also the mammal most frequently found in illegal wildlife trade in Asia. Credit: Budak/ CreativeCommons

assistance program, the Service is focusing its efforts on species threatened by illegal trade that have not typically received international attention or significant resources, and for which the Service can make a demonstrable impact. The Service provides an opportunity to develop projects and cutting-edge technologies, which benefit many species at once. For example, a project based on the island of Sumatra to strengthen efforts to combat wildlife trafficking is intended to conserve Sumatran tigers, the helmeted hornbill, and the Malay pangolin, since the same poaching syndicates and “kingpins” are believed to be closely linked with the illegal trade in each of these species. Asiatic black bears, pangolins, sturgeon, saiga antelope, snow leopards, ploughshare tortoises,

African grey parrots, flying foxes, and precious timber species such as ebony and rosewood are among the many and varied species that have benefited from the support of the CWT Program.

In FY 2020, the Service is refining its focus on fewer species and countries to increase its impact.

Wildlife Trafficking: Global Solutions for a Global Problem

The Service works in a collaborative, whole-of-government approach to combat wildlife trafficking, as outlined in the National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking and codified by the Eliminate Neutralize and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act and Executive Order 13773 on Enforcing Federal Law with Respect to Transnational Criminal Organizations and Preventing International Trafficking (signed February 2017). To address the serious and urgent threats posed by illegal trade in wildlife, the Strategy outlines three key priorities: strengthening enforcement, reducing demand for illegally traded wildlife, and expanding international cooperation and commitment to combat illegal trade. The Service coordinates and implements the U.S. Government and non-Federal partner efforts to address this growing threat to imperiled species and U.S. economic and security interests. The Service is investing to strengthen



After participating in the Service's MENTOR-POP Fellowship Program to protect Central Africa's pangolins, Carla Mousset of Gabon completed the prestigious CITES Master's Course in Spain, and now works on CITES for the Gabonese Government.

At the most recent Conference of the Parties to CITES, she advocated successfully for the conservation of pangolins and other threatened species. Credit: Yula Kapetanakos/USFWS

the implementation of CITES, which provides the global framework for legal and sustainable trade, to enhance enforcement of wildlife laws and regulations and to combat wildlife trafficking. Implementation of CITES is complex and highly technical. It requires dedicated and knowledgeable staff to guide political governments to engage in the global dialog and make wise decisions about international trade in wildlife resources. In 2018, the Service supported the completion of coursework of up-and-coming professionals of foreign CITES authorities in the prestigious Master's Degree Program on the Management and Conservation of Species in Trade: the International Framework (CITES Master's Course) at the Universidad Internacional de Andalucía, in Spain. By supporting self-sufficiency of other governments to implement CITES, the Service is not only contributing to wildlife conservation and thwarting illegal wildlife trade, but also working to level the playing field for U.S. businesses trading in wildlife by ensuring requirements are being applied consistently among CITES Parties.

Species of Economic Importance

Wildlife trafficking undercuts legal trade and reduces populations of in-demand domestic species that are of significant economic value, threatening livelihoods for American communities. The Service's coordination of American ginseng conservation exemplifies how the Service works with States and Tribes to ensure sustainable use of America's natural resources. In 2018, the harvest of wild and wild simulated American ginseng roots exceeded 42,000 dried pounds, with most of this ginseng exported to Asia.

Harvesters ('diggers'), the first tier in the economic chain for the sale and export of American ginseng, received \$600 to \$1,000 a pound for dried wild American ginseng roots. Conservative estimates have placed the wholesale value of wild American ginseng roots at roughly \$26.9 million per year.² The Service is working with the State and Tribal ginseng program officials in four American ginseng Working Groups (enforcement, biology, regulatory, and outreach) to address issues and challenges associated with a legal and sustainable trade in American ginseng. Each Working Group has identified needed steps to improve the sustainability of wild ginseng. In 2020-2021, in coordination with the States and Tribes, the Service will work to support and implement measures that these Working Groups recommended.



An American ginseng-growing operation. Ginseng root is exported from the U.S. in larger volumes than any other native CITES-listed plant species. The majority of American ginseng harvested is exported to China. Credit: Wisconsin DNR

Partnerships to Advance Shared Conservation Goals

Working with others towards shared conservation goals is a theme that runs throughout the Service's international work. Whether it is assisting the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation to develop a paddlefish sport fishing program that supports conservation; collaborating with officials from the

² <https://www.fws.gov/international/pdf/factsheet-american-ginseng-harvesters-dealers-exporters.pdf>



A nesting green turtle returns to sea from its nesting beach in Oman. Credit: Earl Possardt/USFWS

Government of Oman and colleagues from the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to achieve conservation goals for shared marine turtle species; coordinating with Canada and Mexico to manage shared wildlife species; engaging with zoo staff to strategize how captive rhinos and outreach programs in America can contribute to the survival of wild rhinos; or working with JetBlue Airlines to preserve the beauty of the Caribbean – the Service’s past and current partnerships increase the impact and reach of our work and establish the Service as a trusted and respected partner in wildlife conservation around the globe.

A Strategic, Results-Based Vision for Central Africa

The Service benefits from more than three decades of experience working in Central Africa with foreign governments, multi-donor agencies, other U.S. government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and civil society. Building on this experience, the Service established a strategic, results-based vision for wildlife conservation in Central Africa, which emphasizes immediate impacts in the field and strengthening individual and institutional capacity for long-term results. The Service’s expertise is critical in the face of the urgent conservation needs of the region. As an example of these pressures, the region has experienced a loss of an estimated two-thirds of its forest elephants due to poaching for ivory and bushmeat. Through grants and cooperative agreements, the Service provides direct technical expertise in wildlife conservation, protected area management, and capacity development in order to implement sustainable and results-driven conservation. This has resulted in long-term partnerships with regional training institutions, the development of innovative and locally driven campaigns to tackle the unsustainable bushmeat trade, and a new interagency initiative to address the impacts of nomadic pastoralism on wildlife conservation.

In 2019, the Department became aware of multiple allegations of human rights violations by partner organizations supported by international conservation grants and awarded by the U.S. government, including the Service. Stories highlighting these allegations cited multiple sources, including official reports, studies, and partner-funded findings, spanning more than a decade, that appeared to support many of these allegations. The congressional response included an oversight investigation initiated by the House Natural Resources Committee Chairman and Ranking Member, as well as an independent investigation by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). Report language in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94) acknowledged these concerns by recommending additional policies and conditions be attached to future funding of activities under review.

The Department of the Interior has consulted with Federal partners, cooperated with the multiple investigations, and sought to acquire additional information of its own from select partners subject to existing and pending grants and cooperative agreements. Information obtained throughout this process appears to validate some of the concerns surrounding partner behavior and the inadequacy of current policies to properly and consistently monitor certain activities provided for under the international

conservation program. As a result, the Department is conducting an ongoing review of the program to determine what new or additional safeguards, oversight procedures, and possible statutory changes might be pursued while furthering the Administration priorities to fight international wildlife trafficking and support conservation goals.

The Importance of Conserving the Western Hemisphere's Biodiversity

A stable and secure Western Hemisphere is critical to the safety and economy of the American people. To that aim, the Service provides technical and financial support for conservation in Mexico and Central and South America that helps support American business and recreation in the region. This work helps protect shared species that provide important economic benefits, such as migratory bats that contribute an estimated \$3.7 billion to North American agriculture in pest control.

Through the "Trilateral Committee," the Service collaborates with the wildlife agencies of Mexico and Canada to implement a joint regional agenda including topics such as monarch butterfly conservation; wildlife law enforcement; CITES implementation; and the conservation of shared ecosystems, species of conservation concern, and migratory birds.



Scarlet macaw. Credit: Ben Lunsford/Creative Commons

In Mexico, the Service is working with local communities to protect jaguars and their habitat along three important corridors (U.S.-Mexico border, Pacific coast, and the Yucatan Peninsula). Since 2017, these projects have reduced jaguar mortality through environmental education; training road ecology and engineering experts to monitor, prevent, and reduce the impact of highways on wildlife; and livestock management practices that encourage species survival and provide sustainable livelihoods.

In Central America, the Service worked with partners to develop and implement a regional strategy to conserve the five largest remaining intact forests. These are wildlife strongholds for wide-ranging species like jaguars and tapirs and are essential to maintaining connectivity from South to North America. The Service has been a recent pioneer in funding efforts by indigenous communities to successfully combat wildlife trafficking on their lands. For example, the Service supports a community-led project to protect scarlet macaws in the Moskitia region of Honduras from trafficking, making it the largest community-based parrot conservation area in Latin America (approximately the same size as the Grand Canyon National Park).

In the Tropical Andes region of South America, the Service is working with key partners and the Government of Peru to curb illegal wildlife trade. As a result of the support provided by the Service for this effort, in October 2019 the Government of Peru hosted the First High Level Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in the Americas. The support from the Service helped establish Peru as a leader and model in the region to combat illegal wildlife trade and resulted in the adoption of the Lima Declaration, signed by 20 countries. The Lima Declaration aims to reverse the underlying statement: "Tens of millions of wild animals

are marketed illegally in and from Latin America every year. The high demand for live species or parts thereof contributes to the extinction of species, instability in communities and their livelihoods, and to the progressive loss and degradation of ecosystems essential for human well-being.” In the Southern Cone region of South America, the Service is also supporting key partners and the governments of Argentina and Chile to conserve Patagonia’s priority landscapes and unique species. This includes supporting efforts to provide sustainable alternatives to traditional livestock management techniques in order to reduce human-wildlife conflict and recover the critical ecological services once provided by the endemic migratory guanaco that provides food web stability for carnivores, herbivores, and scavengers over a one million square kilometer range (38,610 square miles). In the Gran Chaco of Paraguay, the Service has supported projects that significantly reduce human-jaguar conflict and retaliatory killings of jaguars. For example, support by the Service has resulted in cattle mortality by jaguar attacks reduced by 80-100 percent in 12 intervened sites, covering more than 200,000 hectares (772 square miles) of land now under improved management, with monitoring and/or predator-mitigation techniques to address human-wildlife conflict.

A stable and secure Latin America/Caribbean Region is critical to the safety and economy of the American people. In Latin America, the Service supports efforts to reduce threats to key wildlife populations from wildlife trafficking, unsustainable resource use, and human-wildlife conflict. The Service provides technical and financial support to reduce removal of wildlife and plants (including timber) from natural ecosystems for illegal and/or unsustainable consumption, commercial sale, or trade. The objectives are: Combat poaching, resource extraction, and habitat degradation in high value conservation areas;

- Increase local and national political will and capacity to improve compliance with wildlife and protected area laws;
- Raise public awareness to change behaviors to combat wildlife trafficking and associated illegal wildlife pet trade; and
- Reduce the availability of and markets for wild animals and plants (including timber) illegally and/or unsustainably harvested.

These objectives are achieved by:

- Supporting implementation of wildlife law compliance and enforcement in the region;
- Strengthening the capacity of Latin American governments to address the wildlife crime chain at any critical stage of enforcement in range, transit and consumer countries;
- Assisting indigenous people and rural communities affected by illegal clearing of wildlife habitat, poaching and/or wildlife trafficking activities by strengthening their capacity to monitor and control illegal activities within community managed lands;
- Working with local communities to promote rural stability and greater security for people and wildlife in order to prevent wildlife poaching and trafficking; Supporting public outreach campaigns to influence behavior change in recognition of wildlife poaching and trafficking and its negative impacts.

Decades of Dialogue with China and Russia

The U.S. has shared conservation interests with countries across Europe and Asia, and the Service has been a conduit for conservation information exchange. The U.S. shares populations of wildlife species that migrate between the U.S. and northeast Asia and partners with those countries to share information and improve wildlife management. For example, the Service maintains a decades-long dialogue with wildlife managers in Russia to ensure that populations of polar bears, walrus, and migratory birds will be maintained for future generations. In China, the Service encourages improved capacity to manage wetlands and natural areas that provide habitat to rare species of concern to the American people.



Polar bear with cubs. Credit: Susanne Miller/USFWS

Good for Wildlife, Good for Business

To engage a broader public beyond the traditional conservation community, the Service is spearheading private-public partnerships that significantly increase the reach of our messages. Consumers, particularly international travelers, can unknowingly fuel the illegal wildlife trade by purchasing souvenirs or trinkets that are illegal to bring into the U.S. Since 2015, the Service has participated at the largest Asia business conference in the U.S. and gained valuable insight from business leaders traveling abroad to and from Asia. In 2017, JetBlue aired a short in-flight video, produced in partnership with the Service, to inform their customers about responsible travel and shopping practices that help to protect the beauty and wildlife of the Caribbean. JetBlue and the Service expanded this partnership in 2018 through a campaign to educate travelers to the Dominican Republic about illegal wildlife products that they may encounter during their trip. In January 2017, the Service, in coordination with the U.S. Wildlife Trafficking Alliance and its members, released a digital toolkit that provides travel and tourism industry leaders with resources they can use to engage travelers in the fight to stop wildlife trafficking. The toolkit was distributed to members of the Adventure Travel Trade Association (ATTA), American Society for Travel Agents (ASTA), and Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), which together serve more than 25 million travelers annually.



The Caribbean “Be Informed. Buy Informed.” Traveler’s Guide uses photos of confiscated wildlife items, like the sea turtle items pictured here, to educate travelers about items to avoid purchasing. Credit: Sarah Metzger/USFWS

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Work with partners around the world to increase transparency and accountability in technical and

financial assistance programs for the conservation of species of international concern and their habitats.

- Combat wildlife trafficking through international cooperation, technical and financial assistance programs that focus on species conservation, and successful implementation of CITES.
- Support the Service's work to implement CITES and other U.S. wildlife laws in the U.S. and to ensure international wildlife trade does not threaten the survival of animals and plants in the wild.
- Improve oversight of international grants.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for International Affairs is \$18,893,000 and 83 FTE, which includes:

Permitting Modernization (+\$2,000,000/+1 FTE) – The Service is replacing its out-of-date permit processing infrastructure to bring online a modernized Service-wide electronic permit application and processing system. The requested funding will support development of the new database and applicant interface which will improve applicant experience, increase fiscal accountability, streamline processing, and improve decision-making.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$34,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Wildlife Trafficking (-\$289,000/0 FTE) – The program will focus resources on priority grant proposals to develop innovative projects to limit wildlife tracking for species not otherwise captured by the other programs.

Arctic Council Support (-\$550,000/0 FTE) – The request does not request funding for Arctic Council Support as the U.S. chairmanship of the Arctic Council has ended.

International Affairs Activities (-\$790,000/-5 FTE) – In 2021, International Affairs will focus efforts on supporting legal and sustainable international trade in wildlife and wildlife products and combating wildlife trafficking. The Program will continue to support conservation of animals and plants in their native habitats by focusing on efforts to ensure that they are not poached and do not enter international wildlife trade illegally, undercutting legitimate wildlife traders.

Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize (-\$1,000,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission does not request funding for the Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize in order to focus available resources on higher priorities.

Fish and Aquatic Conservation



Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change From 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
National Fish Hatchery Operations	(\$000)	59,822	64,272	+763	0	-9,046	55,989	-8,283
	FTE	319	336	0	0	-17	319	-17
Maintenance and Equipment	(\$000)	22,920	25,846	+131	0	+134	26,111	+265
	FTE	64	67	0	0	0	67	0
Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation	(\$000)	84,485	115,359	+782	0	-42,127	74,014	-41,345
	FTE	291	321	0	0	-29	292	-29
Total, Fish and Aquatic Conservation	(\$000)	167,227	205,477	+1,676	0	-51,039	156,114	-49,363
	FTE	674	724	0	0	-46	678	-46

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Fish and Aquatic Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Annual Maintenance	+2,046	0
• Hatchery System Operations Activities	+1,394	+4
• Prevention	+93	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-246	0
• Chehalis Fisheries Restoration	-268	0
• Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership	-400	0
• Great Lakes Consent Decree and F&W Restoration Program	-664	0
• Lake Champlain Sea Lamprey and Sea Lamprey Administration Costs	-1,118	-1
• Habitat Assessment and Restoration	-1,130	-3
• Population Assessment and Cooperative Management	-1,255	-2
• Washington State Mass Marking	-1,475	-8
• NISA State/Interstate Plans	-1,834	0
• Deferred Maintenance	-1,888	0
• Fish Passage Improvements	-4,600	-8
• Pacific Salmon Treaty	-4,850	-8
• Klamath Restoration and Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement	-4,890	-7
• Lake Tahoe Water Craft Inspections and Quagga-Zebra Mussels	-5,088	0
• Delaware River Basin Conservation Act	-9,700	0
• Asian Carp and Contract Fishing	-15,166	-13
Program Changes	-51,039	-46

Program Mission

The Fish and Aquatic Conservation program works with partners and the public to manage fish and other aquatic resources for the continuing benefit of the American people. For over 148 years, the Service has fostered outdoor recreational opportunities and provided economic and ecological benefits through the conservation of aquatic species and habitats. Since its inception as the United States Commission on Fish and Fisheries in 1871, the Service's Fisheries Program has worked collaboratively with Native American Tribes, States, landowners, partners and stakeholders to achieve the goals of healthy, self-sustaining populations of fish and other aquatic species, and the conservation or restoration of their habitats.

Program Elements

The program elements for the Fish and Aquatic Conservation program include:

- National Fish Hatchery System – propagates healthy, genetically diverse aquatic species to help support wild populations and fulfill tribal obligations while ensuring access to angling opportunities.
- Maintenance and Equipment – maintains property and equipment, including the repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of constructed assets, for 84 National Fish Hatchery System facilities and a National network of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (Fisheries Offices). The Service's ability to accomplish its mission and ensure the safety of employees and visitors is dependent upon the condition of key assets associated with water delivery, aquatic species propagation, and effluent management.

- Population Assessment and Cooperative Management – Fisheries Offices are the “boots on-the-ground” fish conservation facet of the Service, where field staff work in close cooperation with Tribal, State, non-government, and Federal partners to analyze the status and trends of our Nation’s aquatic resources and proactively manage these complex systems. Due to restructuring of individual facilities, the Service currently maintains a national network of 51 Fisheries Offices.
- Habitat Assessment and Restoration – coordinated through a nationwide network of Fisheries Offices—works to improve riparian and water habitats for aquatic species, utilizing programs such as the National Fish Passage Program and the National Fish Habitat Partnership.
- Aquatic Invasive Species – prevents the introduction and reduces the spread of invasive species, which is a primary threat to the Nation’s natural resources and economy. This is accomplished through leadership of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, injurious wildlife listings, risk assessments, and voluntary efforts with industry, States, Tribes, and other stakeholders to educate and engage the public.

Economic Benefits

The economic value of fisheries conservation is substantial and well documented. The Service’s 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation¹ reported that 35.8 million Americans went fishing that year. They took 383 million fishing trips, spent a total of 459 million days fishing, and spent an estimated \$46.1 billion for the fishing trips and to purchase equipment and other supplies. Fishing and other aquatic-based recreational opportunities are also multi-cultural, multi-generational experiences that bring substantial economic returns to local communities, provide jobs, and lead to improved quality of life for the American people.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

The Service’s Fish and Aquatic Conservation program is authorized by a wide range of statutes, treaties, compacts, court orders, mitigation agreements, and cooperative agreements. Relevant statutes include:

- *The Fish and Wildlife Act* (16 U.S.C. 742a-742j)—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 and wildlife resources through research, acquisition of refuge lands, development of existing facilities, and other means.
- *The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act* (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.
- *The Endangered Species Act (ESA)* (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.
- *The Mitchell Act* (16 U.S.C. 755-757)—authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to carry on activities for conservation of fishery resources in the Columbia River Basin.
- *The 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 Project.

¹ https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/nationalsurvey/national_survey.htm

- *The Sikes Act* (16 U.S.C. 670a-670o)—authorizes the Secretary of the Interior 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.
- *The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species Prevention and Control Act*, as amended by the *National Invasive Species Act*, (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.
- *The Lacey Act Amendment*, (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.

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation

Subactivity: National Fish Hatchery System Operations

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted Baseline	2021			Change From 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
National Fish Hatchery Operations	(\$000)	59,822	64,272	+763	0	-9,046	55,989	-8,283
	FTE	319	336	0	0	-17	319	-17

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for National Fish Hatchery System Operations

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Hatchery Operations	+1,394	+4
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-115	0
• Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership	-400	0
• Washington State Mass Marking	-1,475	-8
• Klamath Restoration	-3,750	-5
• Pacific Salmon Treaty	-4,700	-8
Program Changes	-9,046	-17

Program Overview

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) consists of 70 National Fish Hatcheries, one historic National Fish Hatchery, six Fish Health Centers, seven Fish Technology Centers, and the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership Program. The NFHS operates facilities across the Country under the authority of numerous treaties and consent decrees, statutes, and recovery and restoration plans.

Hatcheries propagate fish to bolster or re-establish self-sustaining populations in the wild, to fulfill Tribal responsibilities, and to mitigate impacts to fish populations associated with Federal water projects. In 2019, 72 fish species and 38 other aquatic species (amphibians, mollusks, plants, and reptiles) were propagated and distributed by the Hatchery System. These facilities also provided refugia for 30 listed species facing catastrophic events such as wildfires, droughts, or floods. The Hatchery System implemented 256 recovery actions in approved Recovery Plans and Biological Opinions, benefitting 87 federally-listed species. In addition to helping preclude further ESA listings, NFHS facilities implemented over 492 tasks in Fisheries Management Plans and other agreements, benefitting at least 25 at-risk species.

Fish Health Centers

Aquatic animal health biologists operating at six Fish Health Centers (FHCs) detect, monitor, and mitigate disease-causing pathogens that threaten aquatic species. Their findings inform decisions that improve the health of captive fishes at both Federal and partner hatcheries and of fish populations in the wild. Fish health professionals also investigate emerging health issues, such as invasive species that can be vectors for disease, to help prevent the introduction or spread of dangerous aquatic pathogens.

Fish Technology Centers

Fish Technology Centers (FTCs) provide the scientific foundation for recovery and restoration programs and enable fisheries professionals to more effectively carry out their work. The seven FTCs conduct

practical research in animal culture biology, genetics, ecological physiology, nutrition, biometrics and modeling, and cryopreservation for application in aquatic resource management. The knowledge gained through FTC studies informs conservation and benefits the aquaculture industry and other fish propagation efforts. The FTCs fisheries experts have published more than 1,000 papers in peer-reviewed journals over the last 30 years, covering a broad range of scientific fish conservation challenges and findings to support the conservation of aquatic resources across the Nation.

Aquatic Animal Health

The Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) program works with other Federal agencies, as well as State, Tribal, university and industry partners, to obtain U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of safe and effective new treatments for aquaculture and fisheries management. In addition to Federal appropriations, the program receives financial support generated by the National Investigational New Animal Drug (INAD) Program. The INAD Program provides fishery managers and aquaculture facilities across the Country with legal access to experimental fish medications for which AADAP is pursuing FDA approval. In addition to Service programs, over 200 non-Service facilities in 45 States receive direct benefits through participation in this unique program.

Mitigation

The Service conducts mitigation programs under the broad authorities of the *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*, the *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act*, as well as authorities for specific Federal water development projects. The Service propagates fish for Federal agencies to mitigate the impacts of Federal water development projects on fisheries that are important for recreation and for Tribal sustenance. These mitigation propagation programs are funded by the water development agencies and conducted at Service hatcheries. The National Fish Hatchery System conducts mitigation fish production for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tennessee Valley Authority, Bureau of Reclamation, National Marine Fisheries Service and the Bonneville Power Administration.

Recreation and Education

The NFHS provides opportunities for the public to visit hatcheries to learn about the Service's work to propagate and conserve fish and their habitats. The NFHS contributes annually to the enjoyment of tens of millions of recreational anglers and encourages the public to take advantage of recreational activities on hatchery grounds.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Support work to propagate healthy, genetically diverse aquatic species to help sustain wild populations, fulfill Tribal obligations, and ensure continued access to quality angling opportunities; and
- Continue to implement Secretarial Order 3347 - *Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation* and Secretarial Order 3356 - *Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories* by providing more educational opportunities, expanding annual events, and recruiting more anglers.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for National Fish Hatcheries Operations is \$55,989,000 and 319 FTE, which includes:

Hatchery System Operations Activities (+\$1,394,000/+4 FTE) – At the requested 2021 level, Hatchery System Operations activities will support a network of highly skilled biologists in our National Fish Hatchery System that work with States, Tribes, industry, non-government organizations, and private citizens to enhance recreational fishing opportunities, fulfill our Tribal trust responsibilities, and conserve and restore aquatic species. This request will focus on propagating fish and other aquatic species to sustain wild populations, carry out Tribal obligations, and increase fishing opportunities. In addition, these funds will allow the Service to provide public angling, outreach, and education activities throughout the Hatchery System.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$115,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (-\$400,000/0 FTE) – The Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership will prioritize work with other Federal agencies, along with State and industry partners, to obtain U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of safe and effective new drugs needed for aquaculture and fisheries management.

Washington State Mass Marking (-\$1,475,000/-8 FTE) – The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other fishery conservation activities.

Klamath Restoration (-\$3,750,000/-5 FTE) – The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other fishery conservation activities.

Pacific Salmon Treaty (-\$4,700,000/-8 FTE) – The budget does not include this unrequested funding appropriated in FY 2020 in order to focus on other fishery conservation activities.



Let's Go Fishing and Catch the Fun!

The Service is working in partnership with State fish and wildlife agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to bring the fun of fishing to anglers of all ages. In 2019, nearly 1.4 million people, individually and through over 1,000 fishing and educational events, visited National Fish Hatcheries and other Service FAC facilities to fish, picnic, or learn about the Nation's fisheries resources. To increase fishing opportunities on all public lands, the Service has joined the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) in placing a "widget" on RBFF and Service websites that connects web-page visitors to fishing license and boating registration outlets in all 50 States. To continue to implement Secretarial Orders 3347 (Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation) and 3356 (Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories) the Service's goal for FY 2021 is to continue to encourage more people to go fishing and "Catch the Fun!" This initiative will include new, improved fishing opportunities on Service-managed waters that are supported by outreach and educational tools to help beginners and experienced anglers. To find out more, visit: <https://www.fws.gov/fisheries/fishing.html>

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation
Subactivity: Maintenance and Equipment

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted Baseline	2021			Change From 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
National Fish Hatchery Maintenance and Equipment	(\$000)	22,402	25,328	+129	0	+134	25,591	+263
	FTE	64	67	0	0	0	67	0
FWCO Maintenance and Equipment	(\$000)	518	518	+2	0	0	520	+2
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Maintenance and Equipment	(\$000)	22,920	25,846	+131	0	+134	26,111	+265
	FTE	64	67	0	0	0	67	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Maintenance and Equipment

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Annual Maintenance	+2,046	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-24	0
• Deferred Maintenance	-1,888	0
Program Changes	+134	0

Program Overview

Hatcheries produce fish and other aquatic species to meet management needs and provide public access to hatchery facilities for recreation and education. Properly functioning infrastructure is essential to fish production and to the safety of Service employees and visitors. Hatcheries employ tanks, ponds, and raceways for propagation and boats and trucks for transport. The propagation process requires a consistent, well-oxygenated water supply that is heated or cooled to the correct temperature. Hatchery System assets, such as water wells, pumps, pipelines, and heating/cooling equipment must be well-maintained to prevent mortality and meet production goals. Similarly, public access areas must be maintained to provide safe recreational use. A proactive asset management system helps to ensure safe, efficient, and successful hatchery operations.

National Fish Hatchery System Maintenance and Equipment

Maintenance and equipment funding supports annual and cyclical maintenance of Hatchery System facilities and other assets, fulfilling the Service’s mission and ensuring the safety of employees and visitors. The Service’s ability to accomplish its mission is largely determined by the condition of key assets associated with water delivery, aquatic species culture, and effluent management. The reliability of these assets is especially important with respect to threatened and endangered species and three-fourths of the Hatchery System’s \$3.3 billion of real property assets are mission-critical water management assets.

In alignment with the Secretary of the Interior’s priority to modernize our infrastructure, the Service has developed asset performance measures and a strategy to ensure effective operations and service delivery.

The Department measures real property asset conditions using a Facility Condition Index (FCI), a ratio of repair cost to replacement cost. A rigorous condition assessment process ensures that repair needs are determined objectively and associated costs are appropriately estimated, using industry standards. 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.

Annual maintenance funds ensure timely upkeep of the Hatchery System's real property and equipment. These funds are used for salaries of our maintenance staff, to purchase maintenance-related supplies, and to replace small equipment costing less than \$5,000. Deferred maintenance funds are directed at the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of constructed assets within the Hatchery System. The Service has identified \$260 million in current deferred maintenance needs for the Hatchery System, of which \$68 million are maintained with non-Service funds. A portion of the Hatchery System's appropriations pay for maintenance, repair, and replacement of equipment. Fisheries Office maintenance and equipment funds are used to purchase and maintain over \$34 million in assets such as boats, vehicles, and specialized fisheries equipment.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Support maintenance of property and equipment, including the repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of constructed assets, for 84 Hatchery System facilities and 51 Fisheries Offices;
- Ensure safety of employees and visitors; and,
- Maintain the condition of key assets associated with water delivery, aquatic species culture, and effluent management.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Maintenance and Equipment is \$26,111,000 and 67 FTE, which includes:

Annual Maintenance (+\$2,046,000/0 FTE) – This request will ensure the health and safety of employees and visitors while allowing the Hatchery System to maintain complex water system capabilities for production of fish.

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$36,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Deferred Maintenance (-\$1,888,000/0 FTE) – This request will be used to maintain the Hatchery System's real property assets nationwide including the repair of critical water management and effluent control equipment and facilities.

Service Asset & Maintenance Management System



Under the auspices of the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* and DOI standards, the Service developed an Asset Management Plan that guides management of the National Fish Hatchery System's \$3.3 billion in essential real and personal property inventories, including systematic and objective tracking, evaluation, reporting of asset condition, and prioritization of asset management. Using the Service Asset Maintenance Management System (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 analyzes annual operating and maintenance expenditures.

Activity: Fish and Aquatic Conservation**Subactivity: Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation**

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted Baseline	2021				Change From 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Habitat Assessment and Restoration	(\$000)	31,987	43,037	+207	0	-16,874	26,370	-16,667
	FTE	88	103	0	0	-13	90	-13
Population Assessment and Cooperative Management	(\$000)	30,150	31,840	+458	0	-2,935	29,363	-2,477
	FTE	147	139	0	0	-3	136	-3
Aquatic Invasive Species	(\$000)	22,348	40,482	+117	0	-22,318	18,281	-22,201
	FTE	56	79	0	0	-13	66	-13
Total, Aquatic Habitat & Species Conservation	(\$000)	84,485	115,359	+782	0	-42,127	74,014	-41,345
	FTE	291	321	0	0	-29	292	-29

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Prevention	+93	0
• DOI Ethics Transfer	-107	0
• Pacific Salmon Treaty	-150	0
• Chehalis Fisheries Restoration	-268	0
• Great Lakes Consent Decree and F&W Restoration Program	-664	0
• Lake Champlain Sea Lamprey and Sea Lamprey Admin Costs	-1,118	-1
• Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement	-1,140	-2
• Habitat Assessment and Restoration	-1,130	-3
• Population Assessment and Cooperative Management	-1,255	-2
• NISA State/Interstate Plans	-1,834	0
• Fish Passage Improvements	-4,600	-8
• Lake Tahoe Water Craft Inspections and Quagga-Zebra Mussels	-5,088	0
• Delaware River Basin Conservation Act	-9,700	0
• Asian Carp and Contract Fishing	-15,166	-13
Program Changes	-42,127	-29

Program Overview

The Fisheries Offices are strategically located across the Nation and play an important role in implementing the Service's fisheries and aquatic resource programs. Fisheries Office personnel work with a broad range of partners and utilize non-regulatory conservation tools to protect, enhance, and restore aquatic resources. Fisheries Offices are under increasing demand for their services, because they provide important technical and biological information to partners on the condition of aquatic habitats and populations of fish and other species. This information is used to inform decisions under the ESA and for determining frameworks for

management of recreational fisheries. It also informs resource management decisions that lead to on-the-ground conservation actions conducted by Fisheries Offices in collaboration with private landowners, non-profit organizations and local, State, and Federal agencies. Additionally, Fisheries Office staff work closely with Tribes to fulfill trust responsibilities associated with fisheries and aquatic resources. The work of Fisheries Offices is essential to the understanding and collaborative management of anadromous and other migratory and inter-jurisdictional species, such as Pacific salmon, striped bass, lake trout, and American shad.

Habitat Assessment and Restoration Program Overview

This program funds habitat restoration for aquatic organisms through initiatives such as the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (Action Plan) and the National Fish Passage Program. Utilizing its National network of Fisheries Offices, the Service organizes projects with partners, provides technical expertise, enlists voluntary efforts of landowners and local communities, and delivers cost-shared resources to complete habitat conservation projects. This work improves environmental conditions and restores ecological connectivity to strengthen the resiliency of our Nation's aquatic resources.

The Action Plan is supported by 20 Fish Habitat Partnerships (Partnerships) that are geographically located across the Nation. These Partnerships marshal funds, knowledge, and other resources for conservation projects that enlist landowners, fishing clubs, school groups, and businesses to restore stream banks, plant vegetation, renovate oyster reefs, and otherwise improve fish habitat. In addition to restoring aquatic connectivity by removing or bypassing barriers that prevent fish from accessing vital habitat, the National Fish Passage Program's infrastructure investments help protect local communities from flooding.

Population Assessment and Cooperative Management Program Overview

Fishery Offices focus on management, restoration, inventory and monitoring to maintain self-sustaining, healthy, and diverse populations of fish and other aquatic species. The Service's Fisheries Offices evaluate the causes of species decline, determine the limiting factors for aquatic populations, and implement actions to restore those populations across habitat types and jurisdictional boundaries.

The Service works with partners to develop and implement resource management plans for Federal trust species on Federal, State, and local lands and waters. Service biologists collect and evaluate population data and develop models to estimate population trends and inform management actions such as harvest limits. Restoration activities on large, connected natural areas and the monitoring and assessment of the Service's propagation programs provide an important component in developing and maintaining self-sustaining aquatic populations.

As part of the Service's trust responsibilities, Fisheries Offices work with Tribal resource agencies to manage fish and wildlife on 56 million acres of Tribal trust lands and 44 million acres of Alaska Native lands. The Service also works closely with the Department of Defense and the military services, stewards of millions of acres of land, to protect and enhance natural areas on military installations.

Aquatic Invasive Species Overview

Invasive species are a significant threat to natural resources, human and animal health, infrastructure, the economy, and cultural resources. Aquatic invasive species (AIS) such as Asian carp, quagga mussel, giant salvinia, and lionfish cause tens of billions of dollars of economic and ecological impacts each year² in diminished fish and wildlife resources, recreational opportunities, agricultural productivity, personal property values, human health and safety, and public utility capacity. The negative impacts of invasive species are a significant cause of global biodiversity loss, with invasive species threatening nearly half of the imperiled species in the United States³ and implicated in more than 40 percent of current listings under the Endangered Species Act. The threat of invasive species continues to grow as the globalization of trade and transport continue to increase the number of new species introduced into U.S. ecosystems.

The Service works to prevent or reduce the introduction and spread of AIS through its Aquatic Invasive Species Program and leadership of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANS Task Force). The ANS Task Force, which the Service co-chairs with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), provides a national forum for collaborative discussion and decision-making. The Service supports the funding and implementation of 43 State and Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans that address State and Tribal priorities through cost-sharing and technical assistance. State AIS programs rely on this support to coordinate with partners to prevent the introduction and spread of unwanted organisms and have planned, directed, and accomplished significant regional and landscape-level AIS prevention and management resource outcomes. The ANS Task Force has recently completed a new Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 to accomplish a set of priority actions by its members, in collaboration with partners.

The AIS Program targets high priority species, leveraging prevention, containment, control, and outreach resources among partners and coordinating across Federal, State, and local agencies to control the spread of these species. The Program also serves on the front line of prevention for the U.S. through implementation of the injurious wildlife provisions of the Lacey Act. Species listed as injurious are prohibited from importation and transport across the enumerated jurisdictions in the statute.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Utilize partnership programs such as the National Fish Passage Program and the National Fish Habitat Partnership to implement numerous local fish habitat restoration projects to improve riparian and aquatic habitats;
- Work with partners to inventory, monitor, manage and restore fish and other aquatic species to maintain self-sustaining, healthy and diverse populations;
- Work to prevent the introduction and reduce the spread of AIS; a primary threat to the Nation's natural resources, infrastructure, economy and cultural resources;
- Continue to target quagga and zebra mussels and Asian carp as high-priority species, leveraging containment, prevention, control, and outreach resources among partners.

² <https://fws.gov/verobeach/PythonPDF/CostofInvasivesFactSheet.pdf>

³ Wilcove, D.W., Rothstein, D., Bubow, J., Phillips, A., Losos, E., 1998. Quantifying threats to imperiled species in the United States. *Bioscience* 48(8): 607-615.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation is \$74,014,000 and 292 FTE, which includes:

DOI Ethics Transfer (-\$115,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget fully implements the Secretarial Order by proposing to consolidate staffing and funds from across Interior to the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor budget. The 2021 budget shifts funding from the Bureaus to the Office of Solicitor to fully support the Departmental Ethics Office.

Prevention (+\$93,000/0 FTE) – Prevention funds will support work by the Service and its partners to prevent the introduction, establishment and spread of aquatic invasive species, and to help avoid and minimize their ecological and economic impacts.

Pacific Salmon Treaty (-\$150,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission does not request funding for the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Chehalis Fisheries Restoration (-\$268,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission does not request funding for Chehalis Fisheries Restoration.

Great Lakes Consent Decree and Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program (-\$664,000/0 FTE) – Funding at requested levels for Consent Decree will enable Service personnel to provide technical assistance in assessing the status of fish stocks, establishing harvest limits, increasing fish stocking levels, and controlling sea lamprey. Funding for the Great Lakes Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program will provide financial assistance to States, Tribes, and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes Basin.

Lake Champlain Sea Lamprey and Sea Lamprey Admin Costs (-\$1,118,000/-1 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission does not request funding for Lake Champlain Sea Lamprey control activities. Funding for Sea Lamprey Admin Costs will support coordination with local, State, Tribal, and other Federal agencies to conduct ecologically sound sea lamprey controls in the Great Lakes.

Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (-\$1,140,000/-2 FTE) – The Service will continue to support priority habitat improvements benefitting salmon, steelhead, and other native fish in the Klamath Basin.

Habitat Assessment and Restoration Activities (-\$1,130,000/-3 FTE) – These activities will provide the operational support for the Habitat Assessment and Restoration program, providing funding for on-the-ground fish and aquatic species conservation. Funds will be used for habitat assessment and restoration initiatives, such as fish population surveys and stream restoration.

Population and Assessment and Cooperative Management Activities (-\$1,255,000/-2 FTE) – Funding will enable field staff to work in close cooperation with Tribal, State, and Federal partners to analyze the status and trends of aquatic resources and manage these complex systems.

NISA State/Interstate Plans (-\$1,834,000/0 FTE) – Funding will be used for the implementation of State/Interstate ANS Management Plans. States use this funding to implement high priority prevention, early detection, rapid response, containment, and control efforts.

Fish Passage Improvements (-\$4,600,000/-8 FTE) – This request will support priority fish passage projects to benefit fish, other aquatic species, and communities through enhanced flood resiliency, improved road conditions, and increased angling opportunities.

Lake Tahoe Watercraft Inspections and Quagga-Zebra Mussels (-\$5,088,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission does not request funding for implementing the Lake Tahoe Watercraft inspections. Funding for Quagga-Zebra Mussels at the requested levels will support early-detection monitoring programs for these mussels, implement plans to stop their introduction and spread into new waters, and fund State/Interstate ANS Management Plans.

Delaware River Basin Conservation Act (-\$9,700,000/0 FTE) – The 2021 budget submission does not request funding for the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act.

Asian Carp and Contract Fishing (-\$15,166,000/-13 FTE) – The requested funding for Asian carp will be used to continue the implementation of the *Management and Control Plan for Bighead, Black, Grass, and Silver Carps in the United States* and the associated collaborative multi-State Asian Carp Control Strategy Frameworks. The Service, along with State and Federal partners, have been working to detect and track the leading edges of the Asian carp invasion in the Illinois, Ohio, and Upper Mississippi Rivers, and to develop and implement technologies to deter upstream movement and control populations. Funding for contract fishing will allow the Service to continue to utilize contracted commercial fishing to detect and remove Asian carp populations.

Cooperative Landscape Conservation



Activity: Cooperative Landscape Conservation

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Cooperative Landscape Conservation	(\$000)	12,500	12,500	0	0	-12,500	0	-12,500
	FTE	55	55	0	0	-55	0	-55

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Cooperative Landscape Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
Landscape Conservation Cooperatives	-12,500	-55
Program Changes	-12,500	-55

Program Overview

The Cooperative Landscape Conservation program, implemented by the Service’s Science Applications Office, works with States to deliver conservation on a landscape scale and build collaborative approaches to conservation through coalitions with States and other partners.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

- *Fish and Wildlife Act*, (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.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Cooperative Landscape Conservation is \$0 and 0 FTE, which includes:

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (-\$12,500,000/-55 FTE) – The budget does not request funding for the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives program. Service programs will continue to coordinate with State resource management agencies and other partners.

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Science Support



Activity: Science Support

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted Baseline	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Adaptive Science	(\$000)	10,517	10,517	0	0	-10,517	0	-10,517
	FTE	5	5	0	0	-5	0	-5
Service Science	(\$000)	6,750	6,750	0	0	-6,750	0	-6,750
	FTE	12	12	0	0	-12	0	-12
Total, Science Support	(\$000)	17,267	17,267	0	0	-17,267	0	-17,267
	FTE	17	17	0	0	-17	0	-17

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Science Support

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Adaptive Science	-10,517	-5
• Service Science Activities	-6,750	-12
Program Changes	-17,267	-17

Program Overview

The Service’s programs continue improving the use of science in conservation and management, including the generation, sharing, and application of scientific processes and products. The Service’s operational programs including Ecological Services, Refuges, Fisheries, and Migratory Birds devote considerable resources to the practical application of science every day. These programs also leverage resources with other entities on shared science partnership priorities.

The Service's goal for its science activities is to strengthen the agency's tradition of scientific excellence in the conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitat. This is accomplished by:

- Working with Service programs and partners to develop shared priorities across landscapes;
- Promoting scientific integrity and active involvement of the Service and its employees in the larger scientific community; and
- Strengthening conservation partnerships to build shared science capacity to address conservation challenges.

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

- *Fish and Wildlife Act*, (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.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Science Support is \$0 and 0 FTE, which includes:

Adaptive Science (-\$10,517,000/-5 FTE) – The budget does not request funding for this activity as science needs will be addressed by each Service program.

Service Science (-\$6,750,000/-12 FTE) – The budget does not request funding for this activity as science needs will be addressed by each Service program.

General Operations



Activity: General Operations

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Central Office Operations	(\$000) FTE	43,049 292	20,758 316	1,116 0	5,000 0	+1,406 0	28,280 316	+7,522 0
Management and Administration	(\$000) FTE	32,860 423	49,166 415	1,376 0	-5,000 0	+447 0	45,989 415	-3,177 0
Servicewide Bill Paying	(\$000) FTE	36,528 20	35,770 0	-22 0	0 0	-0 0	35,748 0	-22 0
Aviation Management	(\$000) FTE	3,237 1	3,237 5	+2 0	0 0	+1 0	3,240 5	3 0
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	(\$000) FTE	7,022 1	7,022 1	0 0	0 0	-2,022 0	5,000 1	-2,022 0
National Conservation Training Center	(\$000) FTE	26,014 97	26,014 97	434 0	0 0	-4,645 -5	21,860 92	-4,154 -5
Total, General Operations	(\$000) FTE	148,710 834	141,967 834	+2,795 0	0 0	-4,645 -5	140,117 829	-1,850 -5

Program Mission

The General Operations Program provides the management and support that allows the Service’s programmatic activities and organizations to accomplish their goals and mission. Primarily, it provides headquarters, regions, and field offices with the resources (e.g., people, funding, facilities, access to data, etc.) they need to carry out the work of the Service to benefit the American people. General Operations also ensures that the Service is in compliance with legal, regulatory, and Departmental policies for all administrative areas and functions.

To further the reorganization approved by Congress in FY 2019, the Service is proposing to realign funding within the General Operations Activity to reflect the changes in its organizational structure. Central Office Operations will fund leadership positions and related programs within the Service and Management and Administration will fund Joint Administrative Operations and Information Resources and Technology Management. The reorganization will enable the Service to maximize available resources for mission delivery.

Program Elements

Five subactivities comprise the General Operations Program:

- Central Office Operations – Headquarters offices provide the Service with the leadership, strategic direction, and necessary resources to accomplish mission priorities and goals. These functions include: policy development and implementation led by Senate-confirmed and Administration-appointed officials; implementation of equal employment opportunity and diversity programs; coordination of Service contact with Native American Tribes; and communications and outreach.
- Management and Administration –The Assistant Director for Management and Administration encompasses Budget and Performance, Human Resources, Business Management Operation. The ACIO supervises Information Resources and Technology Management.
- Servicewide Bill Paying – This subactivity provides a means to centrally budget and pay for nationwide operational support and infrastructure costs that the Service incurs in the course of accomplishing its mission. A non-exhaustive list of expenses paid from this subactivity include Information Technology (IT) and communication needs, payments to the DOI Working Capital Fund (WCF), mail delivery and distribution, and some printing.
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) – NFWF operates a competitive grant program with a statutory non-Federal matching requirement of 1:1 for all awards of federally-appropriated funds. However, in recent years the non-Federal match has been closer to 3:1, greatly multiplying the impact of the Service’s funding for on-the-ground conservation projects.
- National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) – Opened in 1997 and located on 533 acres along the Potomac River in Shepherdstown, WV, NCTC is the Service’s primary training facility. In addition to training Service employees, NCTC provides training on a reimbursable basis to conservation professionals from DOI, other Federal, State and local governments, non-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.

Activity: General Operations

Subactivity: Central Office Operations

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Central Office (\$000)		43,049	20,758	+1,116	+5,000	+1,406	28,280	+7,522
Operations FTE		292	316	0	0	0	316	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Central Office Operations

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Central Office Operations	+1,406	0
Program Changes	+1,406	0

Program Overview

The Service’s Central Office Operations provide leadership, strategic direction, and organizational management required to accomplish mission priorities and goals. These functions include: policy provision from Administration-appointed officials; implementation of equal employment opportunity; coordination of Service contact with Native American Tribes; and communications and outreach.

Headquarters and Regional Management, which includes the Office of the Director and the offices of the Regional Directors. This funds key Service leadership positions and their immediate staff.

Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management supports the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program for the Service. The Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management provides direction, policy formulation, and oversight of the Service’s Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Plan with regard to applicable civil rights laws and directives.

Native American Programs Coordination serves as a key point of contact for Native American Tribes and works to expand the Service’s capacity to work cooperatively with Tribes to further the Service’s conservation mission.

External Affairs (EA) oversees and coordinates the communications activities of the Service, including internal communications, public affairs, media services, congressional and legislative affairs, partnerships, webpage development, policy and compliance, printing and publishing, and other multimedia communications.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Central Office Operations is \$28,280,000 and 316 FTE, which includes:

Central Office Operations (+1,406,000/0 FTE) – The budget will allow the Service to provide leadership, strategic direction, and necessary resources to support the mission, and will continue to focus on consolidating administrative functions, eliminating duplication, and implementing process efficiencies across the organization.

2021 Program Activities

- Provide the Service with the leadership, strategic direction, and necessary resources to accomplish mission priorities and goals. Specifically, this subactivity:
 - Provides policy direction and implementation at Headquarters and regional levels.
 - Supports implementation of equal employment opportunity.
 - Coordinates Service consultation with Native American Tribes.
 - Provides communications and outreach Servicewide.

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: Management and Administration

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Management and Administration	(\$000)	32,860	49,166	+1,376	-5,000	+447	45,989	-3,177
	FTE	423	416	0	0	0	416	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Management and Administration

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Management and Administration Activities	+447	0
Program Changes	+447	0

Program Overview

Management and Administration is responsible for most administrative functions including human resources, budget and performance, finance, contracting, and other functions. In 2020, the Service continues to implement enterprise shared services and consolidate resources into the Joint Administrative Operations (JAO) to deliver shared services to regional and field station managers. The new organization is expected to be fully implemented by June 2020.

This organization also works with Service programs and the Directorate to formulate budget proposals and conduct workforce and succession planning to support its mission and goals. This function provides essential oversight to ensure the agency is following appropriations law and congressional direction, as well as managing the Federal Register publication process, and directives management. Staff also coordinate programmatic Internal Controls under OMB Circular A-123 and serve as the liaison with the Government Accountability Office and the Office of the Inspector General. Management and Administration staff also provide direction, policy formulation, oversight and management in the areas of finance, contracting, asset management, safety, economic analyses, and other support functions.

Information Resources and Technology Management: The Service’s Associate Chief Information Officer (ACIO) provides secure, efficient and effective management of information resources and technology that allows the Service to accomplish its mission. This office provides reliable mission essential connectivity for email, internet, network applications, records and the Freedom of Information Act across the Service. The Service’s cyber security program maintains and monitors network security subsystems to ensure a stable and dependable environment for the network and its users. The ACIO also plays a pivotal role ensuring that the Service is in compliance with all Federal IT laws, regulations, and requirements.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Management and Administration is \$45,989,000 and 416 FTE, which includes:

Management and Administration Activities (+447,000/0 FTE) – The budget reflects anticipated increases in program operations including implementation of the Administration’s management objective to incentivize and recognize high levels of performance.

2021 Program Activities

- Provide human resources support for Headquarters and the regions.
- Coordinate budget formulation, presentation, and execution.
- Provide finance, acquisition, and contracting management.
- Provide management of IT throughout the Service.

Activity: General Operations
Subactivity: Servicewide Bill Paying

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Servicewide Bill	(\$000)	36,528	35,770	-22	0	0	35,748	-22
Paying	FTE	20	0	0	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Servicewide Bill Paying subactivity covers bills received by the Service for charges by the Department or other outside entities. These are fixed costs that the Service must cover.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

The 2020 budget request for Servicewide Bill Paying is \$35,748,000 and 0 FTE.

2021 Program Activities

- Funding to centrally budget and pay for nationwide operational support and infrastructure costs that the Service incurs in the course of accomplishing its mission. Specifically, this subactivity:
 - Pays expenses for Information Technology and communication needs.
 - Supports worker’s compensation and unemployment compensation payments.
 - Manages payments for DOI Working Capital Fund and other DOI bills.
 - Manages payments for mail delivery and distribution and printing.

Activity: General Operations**Subactivity: Aviation Management**

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021				Change from 2019 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Aviation (\$000)		3,237	3,237	+2	0	+1	3,240	+3
Management FTE		1	5	0	0	0	5	0

Summary of 2020 Program Changes for Aviation Management

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Aviation Management Activities	+1	0
Program Changes	+1	0

Program Overview

The safety and training oversight of the Service's fleet of planes and pilots is the responsibility of the National Aviation Management Branch, previously managed within the Migratory Bird program. The Assistant Director of the Migratory Bird Program serves the agency's Aviation Executive overseeing this Branch and representing the Service as a voting member of the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Executive Aviation Committee, which is responsible for promulgating all DOI Aviation policy. Additionally, the National Aviation Management Branch is responsible for the Service's Aviation Fire program, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, and Service Emergency Management related to aviation. The National Aviation Management Branch administers all Service aircraft acquisitions and vendor contracts. The Service has identified and is implementing six priorities that will immediately improve the Service's Aviation Enterprise: Automated Flight Following, Crew Resource Management, Improved Pilot Training program, Standardized Risk assessment processes, Aviation Management Communications, and a Kodiak Aircraft Training Plan.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Aviation Management is \$3,240,000 and 5 FTE, which includes:

Aviation Management Activities (+\$1,000/0 FTE) – The budget reflects anticipated increases in program operations including implementation of the Administration's management objective to incentivize and recognize high levels of performance.

2021 Program Activities

Aviation Management – The 2021 request for the Service-wide Aviation Management Program supports the Service's continued efforts to improve aviation safety, training for pilots and aerial observers, and provides critical oversight of aviation operations at the national level. Funding enables Service Fleet Pilots to transport staff and materials to remote sites in the National Wildlife Refuge System, conduct biological

monitoring and surveys critical to informing conservation efforts, and participate in prescribed fires that help prevent or mitigate wildland fires on Federal land.

Activity: General Operations**Subactivity: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	(\$000)	7,022	7,022	0	0	-2,022	5,000	-2,022
	FTE	1	1	0	0	0	1	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	-2,022	0
Program Changes	-2,022	0

Program Overview

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) runs a competitive challenge grant program with a statutory non-Federal matching requirement of 1:1 for all federally-appropriated dollars that NFWF awards. In recent years NFWF has averaged a 3:1 match. All grantee matching funds are non-Federal funds provided in cash or as in-kind services. The funds are invested through outcome-focused grant programs guided by conservation business plans developed in partnership with the Service. Individual projects are reviewed by diverse outside reviewers (e.g., Federal, State, non-profit, educational and private sector), NFWF, and the Service.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is \$5,000,000 and 1 FTE, which includes:

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (-\$2,022,000/0 FTE) – The requested funding will provide competitive grants to State, local, non-profit, and private organizations to leverage additional resources for natural resource conservation.

2021 Program Activities

- Provide funding to State, local, non-profit, and private organizations for conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and plant resources through NFWF's competitive grant program.

Activity: General Operations

Subactivity: National Conservation Training Center

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
National Conservation Training Center	(\$000)	26,014	26,014	+323	0	-4,477	21,860	-4,154
	FTE	97	97	0		0	92	-5

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for National Conservation Training Center

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• NCTC Operations	-1,875	-5
• NCTC Annual Maintenance	-2,602	0
Program Changes	-4,477	-5

Program Overview

Opened in 1997 and located on 533 acres along the Potomac River in Shepherdstown, WV, the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) is the Service’s primary training facility. 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 to help Service professionals build collaborative partnerships for conservation.

NCTC will deliver approximately 180 annual onsite training sessions and provide over 1,500 on-line courses and training modules to employees. NCTC supports the FWS with approximately 1,500 inter-library loan requests and over 300,000 scientific journal searches. NCTC also preserves the heritage of the Service by collecting, interpreting, and disseminating the history of the Service and American conservation. The NCTC Museum and Archives helps the public, researchers, and professional conservationists to better understand the rich history of American wildlife conservation by managing over 500,000 objects. NCTC serves as a place where the Service and our partners come together to help solve the urgent conservation challenges facing our Nation.

The Service is currently working with State, Federal, and NGO partners under Secretarial Order 3356 to recruit, retain and reactivate sportsmen through the Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) initiative, which seeks to create new participants or increase participation rates of current or lapsed outdoor recreationists. The Service is using the NCTC facility and staff to grow and support the R3 initiative that is designed to restore American’s connection with the outdoors through collaborative workshops, symposia, and training. The Service, working closely with the Association of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, States, and other partners serves as the basis for the nationwide expansion of the R3 effort.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the National Conservation Training Center is \$21,860,000 and 92 FTE.

Operations – General Program Activities (-\$1,875,000/-5 FTE) – This funding will allow the Service to continue to provide training opportunities to internal as well as external partners.

Maintenance (-\$2,602,000/0 FTE) – The requested funding will allow the Service to maintain day-to-day operational maintenance.

2021 Program Activities

- Provides training opportunities for the Service, DOI and other Federal and non-Federal partners in conservation, applied landscape, leadership and communication.
- Provides collections management and stewardship to care for and preserve artifacts, films, photographs, and documents.

Construction



Appropriations Language

For construction, improvement, acquisition, or removal of buildings and other facilities required in the conservation, management, investigation, protection, and utilization of fish and wildlife resources, and the acquisition of lands and interests therein; [~~\$29,704,000~~]~~\$13,292,000~~, to remain available until expended. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.*)

Applicable Laws, Acts, and Orders

The Service has the legal mandate and responsibility to ensure its inventory of assets, facilities, and infrastructure is safe and adequate to accomplish its conservation mission and that operations are conducted in compliance with applicable regulations. More than 19 laws, statutes, and executive orders govern what the Construction program must do with the funding it receives from Congress. Governing authorities are discussed below.

Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460k-460k-4). Authorizes development of fish and wildlife areas for recreational use, including land acquisition and facilities construction and management.

National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, 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.

Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715-715d, 715e, 715f-715r). Provides for land acquisition, construction, maintenance, development, and administration for migratory bird reservations.

Fish and Wildlife Act (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. 9601-9675). Authorizes Federal agencies to conduct cleanup and/or recover costs associated with hazardous materials removal, remediation, cleanup, or containment activities from responsible parties.

Federal Facilities Compliance Act (42 U.S.C. 6961). 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, (42 U.S.C. 13101, 13101 note, 13102-13109), as amended by P.L. 101-508. Requires pollution that cannot be prevented at the source to be recycled in an environmentally sound manner and disposal as a last resort.

Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act (42 U.S.C. 7701 -7706). Establishes an earthquake hazards reduction program.

National Dam Safety Program Act (33 U.S.C. 467). 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 (42 U.S.C. 8152-8259). 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.

Energy Policy Act (EPAct) (P.L. 109-58). 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 (EISA) (P.L. 110-140). 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.

(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, Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards (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 13717, Establishing a Federal Earthquake Risk Management Standard (February 2016). Updates performance goals to strengthen the security and resilience of the Nation against earthquakes, to promote public safety, economic strength, and national security. New Implementation Guidelines (January 2017) provide Federal agencies with clarifying guidance for implementing Executive Order 13717.

Executive Order 13834, Efficient Federal Operations (May 17, 2018). Directs Federal agencies to manage their buildings, vehicles, and overall operations to meet statutory requirements related to energy and environmental performance. Agencies shall meet such statutory requirements in a manner that increases efficiency, optimizes performance, eliminates unnecessary use of resources, and protects the environment. In implementing this policy, each agency shall prioritize actions that reduce waste, cut costs, enhance the resilience of Federal infrastructure and operations, and enable more effective accomplishment of its mission.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		
Construction		
Justification of Fixed Costs and Internal Realignments		
<i>(Dollars In Thousands)</i>		
Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	2020 Total or Change	2020 to 2021 Change
Change in Number of Paid Days <i>This column reflects changes in pay associated with the change in the number of paid days (-1 day) between FY 2020 and FY 2021, from 2,096 hours in 2020 to 2,088 hours in 2021.</i>	+15	-27
Pay Raise <i>The President's Budget for FY 2021 includes one quarter of a planned 3.1% pay raise and three quarters of a planned 1% pay raise.</i>	+0	+107
Employer Share of Federal Employee Retirement System <i>The change reflects the directed 1.3% increase in the employer contribution to the Federal Employee Retirement System.</i>	+8	+65

Internal Realignments and Non-Policy/Program Changes (Net-Zero)	2021 (+/-)
Construction: Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety <i>This transfers Line-Item Construction Projects funding to Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety to provide funds for engineers to assess the safety and security of Service-owned dams, bridges, and buildings.</i>	+695
Construction: Projects <i>This transfers Line-Item Construction Projects funding to Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety to provide funds for engineers to assess the safety and security of Service-owned dams, bridges, and buildings.</i>	-695

Appropriation: Construction

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Nationwide Engineering Services	(\$000) FTE	5,475 48	5,368 48	+145 0	0 0	-46 0	5,467 48	99 0
Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety	(\$000)	1,972	1,232	0	+695	+500	2,427	1,195
Line-Item Construction Projects	(\$000)	48,166	23,104	0	-695	-17,011	5,398	-17,706
Total, Construction	(\$000) FTE	55,613 48	29,704 48	+145 0	0 0	-16,557 0	13,292 48	-16,412 0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Construction

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety	+500	0
• Nationwide Engineering Services	-46	0
• Line-Item Construction Projects	-17,011	0
Program Changes	-16,412	0

Program Overview

The Service's infrastructure projects help millions of visitors experience our national treasures, provide water to the West, and support American jobs. The Construction program delivers exceptional engineering design and construction, facility maintenance, and regulatory compliance to provide these benefits and deliver the Service mission to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The program performs this wide range of functions for the Service's entire inventory of assets, including 568 National Wildlife Refuges, 70 National Fish Hatcheries and one historic fish hatchery, and 51 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices. The program accomplishes its mission in accordance with more than 19 applicable laws, statutes, and executive orders, in addition to Departmental and Service priorities.

Program Elements

Three activities comprise the Construction appropriation:

- Nationwide Engineering Services (NES) – This activity manages the numerous construction and maintenance projects undertaken each year; protects employees, visitors, and volunteers by ensuring operations comply with safety and environmental laws and regulations; supports access to Service lands; guides energy conservation; and maintains Service facilities that are structurally and environmentally safe, require minimal resources to operate, and maximize resources efficiency.
- Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety – This activity supports the safety and security of the Service's dams, bridges, and buildings. This primarily is accomplished for the most critical structures through inspections, assessments, and monitoring. Many of the functions carried out in this activity are prescribed by law. Rehabilitation, repair, and mitigation to help assure public safety, contribute to recreational and other public access, are accomplished through Line-Item construction.
- Line-Item Construction – This activity contains the specific construction projects requesting funding in a given year. These projects reconstruct, repair, rehabilitate, and replace existing buildings or other structures/facilities, including dams and bridges. New buildings and structures/facilities also may be

included. Funding may be used for project-specific planning, design, and construction management; construction, demolition, site work, and land acquisition; and the purchase of associated furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Completed individual projects from Line-Item Construction with authority remaining may transfer unspent balances of less than \$1,000,000 for unforeseen reconstruction, replacement, or repair of facilities or equipment damaged or destroyed by storms, floods, fires, and similarly unanticipated events.

Appropriation: Construction**Activity: Nationwide Engineering Services**

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Nationwide	(\$000)	5,475	5,368	+145		-46	5,467	+99
Engineering Services	FTE	48	48			0	48	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Construction

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Environmental Compliance	-46	0
Program Changes	-46	0

Program Overview

The Nationwide Engineering Services activity supports implementation of safe construction and maintenance projects, regardless of funding source, and provides guidance to comply with environmental and energy laws. The three program elements that comprise this activity are discussed below.

Core Engineering Services – This program element provides technical oversight for construction and maintenance projects throughout the Service, regardless of funding source. Engineers provide technical expertise and assistance to the field for the entire construction life cycle for Line-Item projects, deferred maintenance, and Federal highways projects. Accomplishing these varied projects requires Headquarters policy development, budget formulation and execution, coordination for efficiency, and national technical consistency, as well as day-to-day supervision and technical guidance from regional managers.

Environmental Compliance – This program supports resource stewardship and protects the health and safety of employees, visitors, and volunteers. On-site environmental compliance audits help ensure safe drinking water, acceptable wastewater discharge to rivers and streams and proper management of hazardous waste and hazardous materials. The program provides oversight, technical assistance, and training for more than 700 field stations to help field staff comply with complex environmental laws and regulations at the Federal, State, local, and Tribal levels. The program also provides project oversight and technical assistance for the clean-up of large-scale environmental contamination of air, water and soil pollution that may adversely affect human health and the environment. Recently completed clean-ups demonstrate the positive impact on wildlife and benefit to the local community associated with beneficial reuse of formerly contaminated areas. For example, at a refuge in Illinois, hundreds of acres of land contaminated by previous industrial use have been cleaned up, with the restored land supporting an active agricultural program that includes haying, row crop production, and cattle grazing. These historical agricultural lands are still farmed through cooperative agreements with the refuge.

Waste Prevention, Recycling and Environmental Management Systems – This program element supports implementation of Service-wide sustainable practices to help facilities minimize energy and water use, improve efficiencies in program areas such as fleet management and pollution prevention, and adopt work practices that advance sustainable acquisition of goods and services.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Nationwide Engineering Services activity is \$5,467,000 and 48 FTE.

Environmental Compliance (-\$46,000/0 FTE)

At the requested funding level, staff will provide technical expertise and assistance for compliance throughout the Service.

Appropriation: Construction
Activity: Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020(+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Dam Safety and Security	(\$000)	1,113	695		+418		1,113	+418
Bridge Safety	(\$000)	739	462		+277	+500	1,239	+777
Seismic Safety	(\$000)	120	75				75	0
Total, Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety	(\$000) FTE	1,972	1,232		+695		2,427	+1,195

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Construction

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Bridge Safety Inspections	+500	0
Program Changes	+500	0

Program Overview

The Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety activity provides the information needed for engineers to assess the safety and security of the Service's dams, bridges, and buildings. The three program elements that comprise this activity are discussed below.

Dam Safety and Security – This program element supports the safety and security of 18 high hazard dams of the Service's 300 inventory dams. Located on refuges and hatcheries for the purpose of resource or facility management, these dams provide vital benefits such as recreation, habitat, flood risk reduction, irrigation, wetland creation, water supply for hatcheries, nesting habitat for waterfowl, and fishing. Funding supports the most critical activities to ensure existing dams are maintained, identified for rehabilitation, and properly operated to protect human life, property, and the valuable natural resources on Service lands.

The Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) provide site-specific guidance for on-site detection and mitigation of conditions that may cause dam failures; communication protocols for notifying and evacuating downstream populations also are provided in the EAPs. Periodic Safety Evaluation of Existing Dams (SEED) inspections identify dam deficiencies at the earliest stages and, when addressed, may stave off more serious repairs, consequences, or interventions, and avoid increasing the maintenance backlog.

SEED inspections include performing and reassessing hazard classifications — which are based upon estimates of loss of life and property damage should a dam fail. This program element also funds engineering analyses of the response and safety impacts of a dam as a result of increased magnitude of flood and earthquake predictions. The Service uses the hazard classification, a risk assessment, and the overall condition of the dam to identify and prioritize dam repair and rehabilitation projects.

The Service requests funding to complete needed dam safety repair projects separately in its Line-Item Construction activity. Management of major rehabilitation or construction work is accomplished under the supervision of the Service's Dam Safety Officer. Consistent with practice from past years, unobligated funds from dam safety projects may be used to address ongoing Dam Safety and Security needs (e.g.,

additional SEED inspections, minor dam safety repairs, low hazard dam inspections) or used for emergency construction projects. The inspection of low hazard dams are the lowest priority, through conducting these inspections would help ensure compliance with State dam safety programs.

Bridge Safety – This funding supports work towards the safety and integrity of the Service’s approximately 700 bridges through the application of technically current design guidelines and a comprehensive inspection, appraisal, and inventory program. Bridge inspections are conducted at time intervals required by statute. During bridge inspections, Service staff determine and verify safe load-carrying capacity; identify and recommend mitigation of unsafe conditions; and identify maintenance, rehabilitation, or reconstruction needs. Similar to dam safety projects, funding for bridge safety projects is requested as part of the Line-Item Construction activity.

During FY 2021, the Bridge Safety Program will pursue completion of bridge inspections required by law. The inspections will prioritize in the following order: public use bridges in less than satisfactory condition; non-public use bridges in less than satisfactory condition; public use bridges in satisfactory condition or better; and non-public use bridges in satisfactory condition or better. Consideration also will be given, on a case-by-case basis, to approximately 30 bridges recommended for scour inspection, as a result of a 2015 Program Review recommendation.

By prioritizing inspections as described, the Service will maximize staff and public safety and access. Safety remains the top priority for the Service; if safe conditions cannot be verified, the Service will remove a bridge from service to preserve safety.

Seismic Safety – This program element funds planning and analysis of the seismic safety of the Service’s approximately 6,500 buildings. The work fulfills the requirements of Executive Order 13717 (Establishing a Federal Earthquake Risk Management Standard, February 2016) and allows the Service to identify buildings that present a substantial risk to the safety of Service personnel, volunteers, and visitors in the event of a significant earthquake. Program staff screens Service-owned buildings to identify those that are *exceptionally high risk* (EHR). Any building found to meet EHR criteria undergoes a rigorous engineering analysis, which includes development of a cost estimate to mitigate seismic deficiencies. Engineering analysis has identified 73 seismically deficient Service-owned buildings that would sustain life-threatening damage in a seismic event. Preliminary screening has identified an additional 125 EHR buildings that pose a similar life-safety risk. Engineering analysis and mitigation projects are funded via the Line-Item Construction activity.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Dam, Bridge, and Seismic Safety activity is \$2,427,000 and 0 FTE.

Bridge Safety Inspections (+\$500,000/ 0 FTE)

The Bridge Safety Program will pursue completion of bridge inspections required by law.

Appropriation: Construction
Activity: Line-Item Construction

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Line-Item (\$000)		48,166	23,104	0	-695	-17,011	5,398	-17,706
Construction FTE		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Construction

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Line-Item Construction Projects	-17,011	0
Program Changes	-17,011	0

Program Overview

A list of the proposed Line-Item projects for FY 2021 follows. A Project Data Sheet (PDS) for each project is provided that includes key information about the purpose, justification, cost, and schedule. Additionally, after the individual PDSs, a Summary PDS for FYs 2020-2024 presents the Service’s five-year construction plan and reflects funding directed to the most critical needs (i.e., health, safety, natural resources, and access). The Service selects and ranks projects in accordance with Department of Interior and Service guidance and priorities.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Line-Item Construction activity is \$5,398,000 and 0 FTE.

Line-Item Construction (-\$17,011,000/0 FTE)

At the requested funding level, the Service will fund the projects shown in the project list below.

2021 Construction Project Listing by Program						
Program	DOI Rank Score	Interior Region	Station	State	Project Title/Description	Request (\$000)
National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS)	90	Arkansas-Rio Grande-Texas-Gulf	Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge	TX	Repair Umbarger Dam	1,800
National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS)	80	South Atlantic-Gulf	Bears Bluff National Fish Hatchery	SC	Replace and Relocate Laboratory [p/d/ic]	1,000
National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS)	80	Columbia-Pacific Northwest	Makah National Fish Hatchery	WA	Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier Phase II of IV [ic]	1,000
Other	70	Headquarters	Branch of Dam Safety	N/A	Dam Safety – Evaluation of Newly Acquired Dams Phase V of V	250
Other	70	Headquarters	Branch of Dam Safety	N/A	Nationwide Seismic Investigations and Mitigations Phase II of V	200
Other	70	Headquarters	Information Resources & Technology Management	N/A	Nationwide Radio Site Safety Investigations Phase IV of V	250
National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS)	55	Upper Colorado Basin	Saratoga National Fish Hatchery	WY	Rehabilitate Water Treatment Facilities [cc]	458
National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS)	40	Alaska	Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge	AK	Remediate and Demolish Bureau of Indian Affairs Infrastructure Phase II of VI	380
National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS)	36	Lower Colorado Basin	Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery	AZ	Demolish Residence 6	60
Subtotal, NWRS						2,180
Subtotal, NFHS						2,518
Subtotal, Other						700
TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS						5,398

U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	90
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Umbarger Dam Repairs	
Project No: 2013228936	Unit/FacilityName: Buffalo Lake NWR
Region: ARKANSAS-RIO GRANDE-TEXAS GULF	State: TX
Congressional District: 19	

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
40162000	10007933	100	0.00	0.00

Project Description (PD):
 Repair the Umbarger dam spillway. The Umbarger Dam is a 43 feet tall embankment dam which was repaired in 1993 by removing the spillway and placing Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) over the entire dam to act as a large spillway. This dam has a population at risk of over 4000 people and provides significant downstream flood control benefits. The top several layers of the RCC have deteriorated over time and make the dam susceptible to a potential failure during a modest flood event by unraveling the RCC lifts. In addition, the design in the early 1990s typically did not have a cutoff wall protecting the RCC overlay from uplifts pressures. The condition of the RCC overtopping protection increases the risk of a potential dam failure. Project funds will design and complete construction of necessary repairs to the RCC overtopping protection.

Scope of Benefits (SB):
 The condition of the roller compacted concrete overtopping protection increases the risk of a potential dam failure, and the funding will correct these deficiencies. The Umbarger Dam provides flood control for the downstream community of Canyon City.

Investment Strategy (IS):
 This project will not affect annual operation and maintenance costs (\$359), but it will provide net savings when including the potential loss of valuable resources and costs of a failure of the dam.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):
 This dam has a population at risk of over 4,000 people, and provides significant downstream flood control benefits.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API <u>100</u>	FCI <u>1.00</u>	Score = (.40 x 75) = <u>30</u>
SB (20%)		Actual FCI <u>0.00</u>	Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
IS (20%)			Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
CFA (20%)			Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>

Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning	Exhibit 300 Analysis Required: No	Total Project Score 90
VE Study: D	Scheduled Completed (YY) (YY)	

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$0	0	Appropriated to Date:	\$300,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$1,800,000	100	Requested in FY: <u>2021</u> Budget:	\$1,800,000
Total:	\$1,800,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$0
			Total:	\$2,100,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C B	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):	Planning Funds Received in \$0
	Design Funds Received in \$0

Dates:	Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY) <u>1/21</u>		Prepared/Last Updated 01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY) <u>04/23</u>			

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current: 359	Projected: 359	Net Change: 0
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U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	80
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier Phase II of IV [ic]		
Project No: 201525921 7	Unit/FacilityName: Makah NFH	
Region: COLUMBIA-PACIFIC NORTHWEST	Congressional District: 0	State: WA

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
40500100	10067303	100	0.00	0.00

Project Description (PD):

This is a phased project at Makah NFH for planning, design, permitting, construction of a fish passage system, and repairs to the damaged dam skirt of the existing barrier. The existing diversion dam and electric fish barrier is starting to deteriorate and is considered unsafe. The diversion dam has deteriorated and has loose boards/parts that can be washed away if large debris comes down river. The project will repair the dam, modify the existing fish ladder and modify river bank lines, and in the final phase will construct a new barrier. The new barrier will be a physical barrier and will eliminate the use of electricity. Modification of the ladder includes extending the entrance further out into the Tsoo-Yes River. The current ladder entrance location does not allow for good fish attraction and can result in poor adult returns into the hatchery. FY22 – Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier - Phase III [cc] \$2.062M; FY25 – Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier - Phase IV [cc] \$458K.

Scope of Benefits (SB):

Makah National Fish Hatchery raises salmon and steelhead for release into rivers. The hatchery works cooperatively with the Makah Nation and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to ensure a balanced and sustainable harvest of these fish.

Investment Strategy (IS):

O&M costs of the existing asset are minimal since the large concrete structure requires little maintenance. The current condition of the concrete structure requires repair/replacement to ensure structural stability. The new barrier will be a physical barrier and will not use electricity. Some operational maintenance will be required to ensure large debris does not get caught on the barrier.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):

This project will eliminate a major safety finding by decommissioning the hanging probe electric weir. If the current dam or electric barrier fails, fish may bypass the hatchery and result in a broodstock failure for the program. The project will address all safety concerns and also meet all environmental requirements.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API <u>100</u>	FCI <u>0.00</u>	Score = (.40 x 75) = <u>30</u>
SB (20%)		Actual FCI <u>0.00</u>	Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
IS (20%)			Score = (.20 x 0) = <u>0</u>
CFA (20%)			Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>

Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning

Exhibit 300 Analysis Required: No		Total Project Score	70
VE Study: D	Scheduled (YY) Completed (YY)		

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$1,000,000	100	Appropriated to Date:	\$1,687,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$0	0	Requested in FY: <u>2021</u> Budget:	\$1,000,000
Total:	\$1,000,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$2,521,000
			Total:	\$5,208,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C

B	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):	Planning Funds Received in \$0
	Design Funds Received in \$0

Dates:

Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY) <u>1/21</u>	Prepared/Last Updated 01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY) <u>04/23</u>		

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current: 0	Projected: 0	Net Change: 0
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U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	70
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Dam Safety Program - Evaluations of Newly Acquired Dams - Phase V of V		
Project No: 2014246842	Unit/FacilityName: Dam Bridge and Seismic Safety Branch	
Region: NORTH ATLANTIC-APPALACHIAN	Congressional District:	State:

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
	98510	100	0.00	0.00

Project Description (PD):

The Service Dam Inventory is growing as more dams are identified through field investigations at Service facilities and cross checks with the real property inventory. Many of these dams have not been evaluated for hazard classification potential, dam failure consequences, or compliance with Service dam safety standards. This program will provide needed engineering evaluations of dams added to the Service inventory in order to identify any unsafe structures and to assess the hazard classification potential, structural deficiencies, and response to potential dam failure modes. This information will enable the USFWS Division of Engineering to categorize the new dams, prioritize additional remedial actions, prepare Emergency Action Plans and Standing Operating Procedures and estimate future funding needs for operation and maintenance and inspections.

Scope of Benefits (SB):

This project provides required evaluations and risk analyses of dams added to the inventory to identify any unsafe structures and to assess the hazard classification potential, structural deficiencies, and response to potential dam failure modes. This information will be used to categorize the new dam, prioritize remedial actions, prepare emergency action plans and standard operating procedures, and estimate future needs for operation and maintenance and inspections.

Investment Strategy (IS):

This project will not reduce annual O&M costs or leverage non-DOI funds. However, it is a necessary investment that provides net savings when including the potential loss of valuable resources, costs of dam failures, and more expensive repairs if work is delayed.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):

People in local communities are at risk when dams deteriorate and repair. Dams also provide significant downstream flood control benefits.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API <u>100</u>	FCI	<u>0.00</u>	Score = (.40 x 75) = <u>30</u>
SB (20%)		Actual FCI	<u>0.00</u>	Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
IS (20%)				Score = (.20 x 0) = <u>0</u>
CFA (20%)				Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)				

Capital Asset Planning

Exhibit 300 Analysis Required: No		Total Project Score	70
VE Study: D	Scheduled Completed (YY) (YY)		

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$250,000	100	Appropriated to Date:	\$1,000,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$0	0	Requested in FY: <u>2021</u>	Budget: \$250,000
Total:	\$250,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$0
			Total:	\$1,250,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C

Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy): C	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s
	Planning Funds Received in \$0
	Design Funds Received in \$0

Dates:

Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY) <u>1/21</u>	Prepared/Last Updated 01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY) <u>04/23</u>		

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current: 0	Projected: 0	Net Change: 0
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**U.S Fish and Wildlife Service
PROJECT DATA SHEET**

Total Project Score/Ranking:	70
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Nationwide Seismic Safety Investigations 2021		
Project No: 2017293670	Unit/FacilityName: Dam Bridge and Seismic Safety Branch	
Region: NORTH ATLANTIC-APPALACHIAN	Congressional District:	State:

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
	98510	100	0.00	0.00

Project Description (PD):
 These funds will be used to perform seismic engineering evaluations of select Service buildings. Preliminary screening level assessments have 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 may also provide technical evidence, not available through the simplified screening process that the seismic risk is low and no mitigation efforts are required. 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.

Scope of Benefits (SB):
 This project supports necessary efforts to identify buildings that are at risk of collapse due to an earthquake, and identify mitigation options and preliminary cost estimates to reduce the risk. The project supports Service policy 363 FW 1 and Executive Order 13717 ("Establishing a Federal Earthquake Risk Management Standard") by conducting evaluations and recommending investment options that seek to enhance resilience by reducing risk to the lives of building occupants and improving continued performance of essential functions following future earthquakes.

Investment Strategy (IS):
 The project will evaluate risk from earthquakes and identify retrofit strategies that will result in earthquake-resistant buildings that withstand small earthquakes with reduced damage.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):
 The project will evaluate risk from earthquakes and identify retrofit strategies that will result in earthquake-resistant buildings that withstand small earthquakes with reduced damage.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API <u>100</u>	FCI	<u>0.00</u>	Score = (.40 x 75) = <u>30</u>
SB (20%)		Actual FCI	<u>0.00</u>	Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
IS (20%)				Score = (.20 x 0) = <u>0</u>
CFA (20%)				Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>

Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning	Exhibit 300 Analysis Required:	No	
VE Study:	D	Scheduled	Completed (YY)
			Total Project Score 70

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$200,000	100	Appropriated to Date:	\$200,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$0	0	Requested in FY: <u>2021</u> Budget:	\$200,000
Total:	\$200,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$600,000
			Total:	\$1,000,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C	C	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s	\$'s
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):		Planning Funds Received in	\$0
		Design Funds Received in	\$0

Dates:	Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY)	<u>1/21</u>	Prepared/Last Updated	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY)	<u>04/23</u>	01/20	

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0
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U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	70
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Nationwide Radio Tower Safety Investigations Phase IV of V		
Project No: 2016278918	Unit/FacilityName: Assistant Director-Information Resources and Technology Management	
Region: NORTH ATLANTIC-APPALACHIAN	Congressional District:	State:

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
	90200		0.00	0.00

Project Description (PD):
 These funds will be used to perform required radio tower evaluations of USFWS buildings per DOI policy. Preliminary screening has identified over 150 USFWS owned and leased radio system that lack sufficient initial safety and structural inspection. Detailed investigations are necessary and the engineering evaluations are the next required analysis to confirm the systems are safe for operational use, develop a comprehensive maintenance and repair plan and to expand options for shared use of USFWS and other federal agency or bureau tower sites. The engineering evaluations will provide technical evidence to determine risk, mitigation efforts are required and locations where towers should be removed from operations and demolished.

Scope of Benefits (SB):
 The project supports Department strategic goal 4.1 (Protect Lives, Resources, and Property) by identifying radio facilities conditions, risks, mitigation options, and preliminary cost estimates to reduce the risk or remove the systems from operations.

Investment Strategy (IS):
 The project will evaluate risk and identify retrofit strategies that will result in expanded opportunities to share radio related facilities. It will not change annual operations and maintenance costs or leverage non-DOI resources.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):
 The USFWS has not yet evaluated radio facilities as required by DOI policy, leaving unknown levels of risk associated with current operations. Failure to fulfill our responsibilities could endanger the life and health of USFWS employees and visitors.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)
 FCI/API (40%) API FCI 0.00 Score = (.40 x 75) = 30
 SB (20%) Actual FCI 0.00 Score = (.20 x 100) = 20
 IS (20%) Score = (.20 x 0) = 0
 CFA (20%) Score = (.20 x 100) = 20
 Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning		Exhibit 300 Analysis Required:	Yes	Total Project Score 70
VE Study:	D	Scheduled (YY)	Completed (YY)	

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$250,000	100	Appropriated to Date:	\$750,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$0	0	Requested in FY: 2021 Budget:	\$250,000
Total:	\$250,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$250,000
			Total:	\$1,250,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C	C	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):		Planning Funds Received in \$0
		Design Funds Received in \$0

Dates:	Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY)	<u>1/21</u>	Prepared/Last Updated 01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY)	<u>04/23</u>		

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0
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U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	55
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Rehabilitate Water Treatment Facilities [cc]		
Project No: 201932219 8	Unit/FacilityName: Saratoga NFH	
Region: UPPER COLORADO BASIN	Congressional District: 00	State: WY

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
40710300	10024803	100	0.36	0.00

Project Description (PD):

Rehabilitate the water treatment system (approximately 1230 sq.ft. and 1500 Capacity in Gallons X 36,000 Capacity in Gallons per Day) that was constructed in 1995, by replacing old drum filters, ultra violet system, water pumps, piping, packed columns, and associated items. Most of the equipment was manufactured in another country and replacement parts are difficult to obtain and expensive. The UV system is worn out and constantly needs new parts. The hatchery is in the process of filing water rights on a new spring. The added water from this spring cannot be used because the current drum filter and UV system is undersized for this additional water. The water treatment system is needed to provide water free of disease to the trout being reared at the hatchery. These deficiencies were identified during the 2016 Comprehensive Condition Assessment (CCA), via inspection work order, INCA #2017283978.

Scope of Benefits (SB):

Saratoga National Fish Hatchery produces trout and trout eggs for production hatcheries to fill needs for Federal, State, and Tribal waters across the Nation. The broodstock trout species being reared at the hatchery are lake, brown, and rainbow trout. These trout help to replenish and encourage sustainable fish populations and provide angling opportunities for recreational users. This project is vital to ensure the health and safety of the most important broodstock populations; directly supports modernization and sport fishing.

Investment Strategy (IS):

Fully utilizing new water rights for the production of fish and utilizing up to date water reuse equipment should reduce Maintenance costs but will increase Operations costs for utilities since a higher flow rate will be required.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):

Protection and utilization of water rights is essential for current lake trout egg production and any other aquatic species production in the future. Without water rights the mission of the station will be compromised and without proper filtration capacity, the broodstock health and wellness will continue to be at increased risk.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API	<u>100</u>	FCI	<u>1.00</u>	Score = (.40 x 100) = <u>40</u>
SB (20%)			Actual FCI	<u>0.36</u>	Score = (.20 x 50) = <u>10</u>
IS (20%)					Score = (.20 x -25) = <u>-5</u>
CFA (20%)					Score = (.20 x 50) = <u>10</u>

Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning

Exhibit 300 Analysis Required: No		Total Project Score 55
VE Study: D	Scheduled Completed (YY) (YY)	

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$458,000	100	Appropriated to Date:	\$644,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$0	0	Requested in FY: 2021	Budget: \$458,000
Total:	\$458,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$0
			Total:	\$1,102,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C

C	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s	\$'s
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):	Planning Funds Received in 2017	\$64,639
	Design Funds Received in 2018	\$84,640

Dates:

Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY) 1/21	Prepared/Last Updated 01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY) 04/23		

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$)

Current: 824	Projected: 1,200	Net Change: 376
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U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	40
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Remediate and Demolish Bureau of Indian Affairs Infrastructure, Phase II of IV		
Project No: 2017291132	Unit/FacilityName: Yukon Delta NWR	
Region: ALASKA	Congressional District: 00	State: AK

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
	74540	100	0.00	0.00

Project Description (PD): This project is Phase II of IV and will perform a site investigation of the 27-acre old Bureau of Indian Affairs site composed of at least 7 abandoned facilities. This site investigation will characterize contaminants present and will create a comprehensive demolition and disposal plan that will meet or exceed all local, State, and Federal environmental compliance requirements. Components of this plan will explore the use of recycling technologies in order to reuse some of the thousands of tons of concrete and hundreds of tons of lumber. Once all phases of the project are completed, these vintage 1957 abandoned buildings, which currently pose a life-safety hazard to the remote community of Bethel, Alaska, will be safely removed. The facilities are not currently maintained, their structural integrity is compromised, and they contain friable asbestos. The City of Bethel has notified the Refuge that solid waste from this project will not be allowed in the community landfill which is almost full. This limitation will significantly increase demolition costs if a landfill has to be developed or solid waste must be barged to another site. Addressing this limitation will comprise a major component of the site investigation plan, which is, to develop an economically feasible disposal method including cost estimates with calculated alternatives. This effort will help ensure the best value for the dollar to the U.S. taxpayer. The completed project will enable the refuge to transfer critically-needed lands to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC) in order to build hospital housing for that entity. The land was due to be transferred to this organization since the 1990s, but YKHC refuses to accept the land until the buildings are demolished. Public Law 102-497 Sec 13.(b)(1) holds that the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Air Force will equally share the cost of the environmental response. The total project without overhead is expected to cost \$26 million. Previous Phase: Phase 1, \$400,000. Future Phases: Phase III, \$6,050,000; Phase IV, 3,000,000. Total \$13,525,000

Scope of Benefits (SB): This project will make a major contribution to DOI and USFWS goals and objectives by removing 7 asbestos contaminated buildings that pose a serious health and safety risk to the community, helping to protect lives, resources, and property. It will also reduce the building footprint by more than 76,711 square feet, including 60,072 square feet of office space and 2,930 square feet of warehouse space. The 27-acre site will be restored and remediated, benefiting wildlife and habitat near the 19-million acre Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. Project will also meet the Federal government's legal responsibility under H.R. 5676 Sec.13.(b) to clean up the site before conveying the land to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

Investment Strategy (IS): No operations and maintenance costs are being captured for these abandoned buildings. After completion of the project, a minor reduction in program costs is expected overall because the current assets will no longer be inspected or accumulate repair costs.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA): From a health and safety standpoint, these building demolitions will prevent unauthorized access to the buildings, one of which has already been vandalized, and will clean-up a potentially massive amount of friable asbestos-containing material, ensuring that staff and the public safety is safeguarded at all times.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API <u>100</u>	FCI	<u>0.00</u>	Score = (.40 x 75) = <u>30</u>
SB (20%)		Actual FCI	<u>0.00</u>	Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>
IS (20%)				Score = (.20 x 0) = <u>0</u>
CFA (20%)				Score = (.20 x 100) = <u>20</u>

Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning	Exhibit 300 Analysis Required:	Yes	Total Project Score	40
VE Study: D	Scheduled(YY)	Completed (YY)		

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$0	0	Appropriated to Date:	\$400,000
Capital Improvement Work:	\$380,000	100	Requested in FY: <u>2021</u>	Budget: \$380,000
Total:	\$380,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$12,345,000
			Total:	\$13,125,000

Class of Estimate: A,B,C	B	Planning and Design Funds: \$'s
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):		Planning Funds Received in 2019: \$400,000
		Design Funds Received in: \$0

Dates:	Sch'd	Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY)	<u>1/21</u>	Prepared/Last Updated 01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY)	<u>04/23</u>		

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current:	0	Projected:	0	Net Change:	0
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U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Total Project Score/Ranking:	36
Planned Funding FY:	2021
Funding Source:	CONSTRUCT

Project Identification

Project Title: Demolish Residence 6		
Project No: 200649784 5	Unit/FacilityName: Williams Creek NFH	
Region: LOWER COLORADO BASIN	Congressional District: 01	State: AZ

Project Justification

DOI Asset Code	FRPP Unique Id #	API	Actual FCI	FCI-Projected
35300200	10008636	80	1.00	0.00

Project Description (PD):

This project will demolish Residence 6. This building needs a major renovation which includes replacing the entire electrical system, HVAC system, windows, doors, flooring, kitchen cabinets and countertops, plumbing and plumbing fixtures, and appliances. Project Need/Benefit: The renovation cost exceeds its replacement value. Due to the high cost of rent, it has been vacant for some time and will likely remain vacant in the future. This asset is not critical to the mission of Williams Creek NFH. Therefore, this asset is a great candidate for disposal.

Scope of Benefits (SB):

Demolition of this building will greatly reduce the O&M cost. Safe, comfortable and energy efficient housing for the Service employee and his family will be provided.

Investment Strategy (IS):

This building needs a major renovation. The entire electrical system, HVAC system, windows, doors, flooring, kitchen cabinets and countertops, plumbing and plumbing fixtures, and appliances need to be replaced. The renovation cost exceeds its replacement value.

Consequences of Failure to Act (CFA):

Station will need to make the smaller and necessary repairs which do not correct the entire breadth of the deferred maintenance on this building. This is an inefficient use of the scarce quarters funds.

Ranking Categories: Scores should be equal to the scores on the Project Scoring Sheet (Exhibit 1A)

FCI/API (40%)	API	<u>80</u>	FCI	<u>0.99</u>	Score = (.40 x 40) =	<u>16</u>
SB (20%)			Actual FCI	<u>1.00</u>	Score = (.20 x 50) =	<u>10</u>
IS (20%)					Score = (.20 x 50) =	<u>10</u>
CFA (20%)					Score = (.20 x 0) =	<u>0</u>

Combined ranking factors = (.40 x API/FCI score) + (.20 x SB score) + (.20 x IS score) + (.20 x CFA score)

Capital Asset Planning

Exhibit 300 Analysis Required: No		Total Project Score	36
VE Study: N	Scheduled Completed (YY) (YY)		

Project Costs and Status

Project Cost Estimate (this PDS):	\$'s	%	Project Funding History (entire project):	\$'s	
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$60,000	100	Appropriated to Date:	\$0	
Capital Improvement Work:	\$0	0	Requested in FY: <u>2021</u> Budget:	\$60,000	
Total:	\$60,000	100	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$0	
			Total:	\$60,000	
Class of Estimate: A,B,C	C		Planning and Design Funds: \$'s	\$'s	
Estimate Escalated to FY: (yy):			Planning Funds Received in		
			Design Funds Received in		
Dates:	Sch'd		Project Data Sheet (mm/yy)	DOI Approved:	
Construction Start/Award: (QTR/YY)	<u>1/21</u>		Prepared/Last Updated	01/20	Yes
Project Complete: (QTR/YY)	<u>04/23</u>				

Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs (\$s)

Current:	4,627	Projected:	0	Net Change:	-4,627
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Plan Fund Year	Priority	Facility or Unit Name	Project Title	State	Cong. District	DOI Score	Project Cost Information (\$000)				Remaining to be Funded	Future Years of Funding for Other Phases	Change in Annual O&M (actual \$/yr)	
							Total Project	Funded to Date	DM	CI				Total
2021	1	Buffalo Lake NWR	Repair Umbarger Dam	TX	19	90	\$2,100	\$300	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,800	\$0	\$358	
2021	2	Bears Bluff NFW	Replace and Relocate Laboratory [p/d/ic]	SC	06	80	\$1,464	\$0	\$800	\$200	\$1,000	\$464	\$0	
2021	3	Makah NFH	Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier Phase II of IV [ic]	WA	06	80	\$5,208	\$1,687	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$2,521	2022, 2025	-\$4,456
2021	4	Branch of Dam Safety	Dam Safety Program - Evaluations of Newly Acquired Dams Phase V of V	*	*	70	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$0	
2021	5	Branch of Dam Safety	Nationwide Seismic Safety Investigations and Mitigation Phase II of V	*	*	70	\$1,000	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$600	2022-2024	\$0
2021	6	Information Resources & Technology Management	Nationwide Radio Site Safety Investigations Phase IV of V	*	*	70	\$1,250	\$750	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250	2022	\$0
2021	7	Saratoga National Fish Hatchery	Rehabilitate Water Treatment Facilities [cc]	WY	AL	55	\$1,102	\$644	\$458	\$0	\$458	\$0		
2021	8	Yukon Delta NWR	Remediate and Demolish Bureau of Indian Affairs Infrastructure Phase II of VI	AK	AL	40	\$13,000	\$400	\$380	\$0	\$380	\$12,220	2022-2024, Outside of scope	\$0
2021	9	Williams Creek NFH	Demolish Residence 6	AZ	01	36	\$60	\$0	\$60	\$0	\$60	\$0		-\$56
							Total for Fiscal Year 2021							
											\$5,398			

p = planning; d = Design; ic = Initiate construction; cc = Complete construction; * = Located in multiple Congressional Districts that are to be determined.

Plan Fund Year	Priority	Facility or Unit Name	Project Title	State	Cong. District	DOI Score	Project Cost Information (\$000)				Remaining to be Funded	Future Years of Funding for Other Phases	Change in Annual O&M (actual \$/yr)
							Total Project	Funded to Date	DM	CI			
2022	10	Neosho NFH	Replace Feed Storage and Vehicle Storage Building	MO	07	90	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	-\$1,483
2022	11	Makah NFH	Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier Phase III of IV [cc]	WA	06	80	\$5,208	\$2,687	\$2,063	\$0	\$2,063	\$458	-\$4,456
2022	12	Branch of Dam Safety	Nationwide Seismic Safety Investigations Phase III of V	*	*	70	\$1,000	\$400	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$400	\$0
2022	13	Information Resources & Technology Management	Nationwide Radio Site Safety Investigations Phase V of V	*	*	70	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$0
2022	14	Yukon Delta NWR	Remediate and Demolish Bureau of Indian Affairs Infrastructure Phase III of VI	AK	AL	40	\$13,000	\$780	\$5,355	\$0	\$5,355	\$6,865	\$0
2022	15	Iron River NFH	Demolish Dilapidated Milking Barn	WI	07	40	\$30	\$0	\$30	\$0	\$30	\$0	\$0
Total for Fiscal Year 2022											\$8,398		

p = planning, d = Design, ic = Initiate construction; cc = Complete construction; * = Located in multiple Congressional Districts that are to be determined.

Plan Fund Year	Priority	Facility or Unit Name	Project Title	State	Cong. District	DOI Score	Project Cost Information (\$000)				Remaining to be Funded	Future Years of Funding for Other Phases	Change in Annual O&M (actual \$/yr)	
							Total Project	Funded to Date	DM	CI				Total
2023	16	Bears Bluff NPH	Replace and Relocate Laboratory [cc]	SC	06	90	\$1,464	\$1,000	\$464	\$0	\$464	\$0	\$0	
2023	17	Crab Orchard NWR	Replace Water Lines Supporting Outdoor Recreation, Industry and Refuge Operations Phase I [p/d/ic]	IL	12	90	\$6,950	\$450	\$3,225	\$0	\$3,225	\$3,275	\$0	
2023	18	Genoa NPH	Construct Aeration Tower and Head Box	WI	03	80	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	
2023	19	Craig Brook NPH	Update Waste Water Treatment Plant For NPDES Compliance	ME	02	80	\$442	\$0	\$442	\$0	\$442	\$0	-\$28,929	
2023	20	Branch of Dam Safety	Nationwide Seismic Safety Investigations and Mitigation Phase IV of V	*	*	70	\$1,000	\$600	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$0	
2023	21	Alchesay NPH	Effluent Treatment System [ic]	AZ	01	65	\$912	\$150	\$0	\$762	\$762	\$0	\$0	
2023	22	Yukon Delta NWR	Remediate and Demolish Bureau of Indian Affairs Infrastructure Phase IV of VI	AK	AL	40	\$13,000	\$6,135	\$2,305	\$0	\$2,305	\$4,560	\$0	
							Total for Fiscal Year 2023				\$8,398			

[p = planning; d = Design; ic = Initiate construction; cc = Complete construction; * = Located in multiple Congressional Districts that are to be determined.]

Plan Fund Year	Priority	Facility or Unit Name	Project Title	State	Cong. District	DOI Score	Project Cost Information (\$000)					Remaining to be Funded	Future Years of Funding for Other Phases	Change in Annual O&M (actual \$/yr)
							Total Project	Funded to Date	DM	CI	Total			
2024	23	Crab Orchard NWR	Replace Water Lines Supporting Outdoor Recreation, Industry and Refuge Operations Phase II [cc]	IL	12	90	\$6,950	\$3,675	\$3,275	\$0	\$3,275	\$0	\$0	
2024	24	Creston NFH	Replace Raceways 12-29	MT	AL	80	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	\$0	
2024	25	Wichita Mountains Refuge	Modernize Infrastructure by Replacing Dilapidated Headquarters and Supporting Infrastructure Phase I [p/d]	OK	04	80	\$19,750	\$400	\$570	\$0	\$570	\$18,780	2019, 2025- Outside of scope	\$2,500
2024	26	Branch of Dam Safety	Nationwide Seismic Safety Investigations and Mitigation Phase V of V	*	*	70	\$1,000	\$800	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$0	
2024	27	D.D. Eisenhower NFH	Construct Wildlife Water Production System - Treatment Building	VT	AL	70	\$850	\$0	\$15	\$835	\$850	\$0	\$0	\$0
2024	28	Ernis NFH	Construct Water intake By-Pass	MT	AL	60	\$418	\$0	\$0	\$418	\$418	\$0	\$0	\$0
2024	29	Yukon Delta NWR	Remediate and Demolish Bureau of Indian Affairs Infrastructure Phase V of VI	AK	AL	40	\$13,000	\$8,440	\$1,685	\$0	\$1,685	\$2,875	Outside of scope	\$0
							Total for Fiscal Year 2024					\$8,398		

p= planning; d = Design; ic = Initiate construction; cc = Complete construction; * = Located in multiple Congressional Districts that are to be determined.

Plan Fund Year	Priority	Facility or Unit Name	Project Title	State	Cong. District	DOI Score	Project Cost Information (\$000)					Remaining to be Funded	Future Years of Funding for Other Phases	Change in Annual O&M (actual \$/yr)
							Total Project	Funded to Date	DM	CI	Total			
2025	30	Wichita Mountains Refuge	Modernize Infrastructure by Replacing Dilapidated Headquarters and Supporting Infrastructure Phase II	OK	04	80	\$19,750	\$970	\$5,670	\$0	\$5,670	\$13,110	2019, 2024, Outside of scope	\$2,500
2025	31	Makah National Fish Hatchery	Replace Diversion Dam and Fish Barrier IV of IV [cc]	WA	06	80	\$5,208	\$4,750	\$458	\$0	\$458	\$0		
2025	32	Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery	Rehabilitate Water Intake System and Screens [cc]	OR	02	70	\$1,921	\$921	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0		
2025	33	North Attleboro National Fish Hatchery	Construct New Equipment and Vehicle Storage Building	MA	4	62	\$900	\$0	\$681	\$219	\$900	\$0		
2025	34	Richard Cronin National Salmon Station	Construct Cooperative Research Lab Building - [p/d/ic]	MA	1	42	\$500	\$0	\$345	\$25	\$370	\$130	Outside of scope	
							Total for Fiscal Year 2025					\$8,398		

[p = planning; d = Design; ic = Initiate construction; cc = Complete construction; * = Located in multiple Congressional Districts that are to be determined.]

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Land Acquisition



Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out chapter 2003 of title 54, United States Code, 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, [\$70,715,000]\$12,936,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended[, of which, not more than \$10,000,000 shall be for land conservation partnerships authorized by the Highlands Conservation Act of 2004, including not to exceed \$320,000 for administrative expenses]: *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. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available for the Fish and Wildlife Service and derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, [\$3,628,000]\$2,000,000 is hereby permanently [rescinded from projects with cost savings or failed or partially failed projects] *cancelled*: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be [rescinded]*cancelled* from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.)

Authorizing Statutes

The Fish and Wildlife Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 742a-742j). 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, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460-460k-4). 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, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-4608). Authorizes appropriations to the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for National Wildlife Refuges as otherwise authorized by law.

National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee). Establishes overall policy guidance, places restrictions on the transfer, exchange, or other disposal of refuge lands, and authorizes the Secretary to accept donations of land.

Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1534-1544). 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 (P.L. 99-645; 100 Stat. 3582). Authorizes the purchase of wetlands, or interests in wetlands, consistent with the wetlands priority conservation plan established under the Act.

Highlands Conservation Act (P.L. 108-421). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to work in partnership with the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance to the Highlands States to preserve and protect high priority conservation land in the Highland region.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land Acquisition Justification of Fixed Costs and Internal Realignments <i>(Dollars In Thousands)</i>		
Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	2020 Total or Change	2020 to 2021 Change
Change in Number of Paid Days This column reflects changes in pay associated with the change in the number of paid days (-1 day) between FY 2020 and FY 2021, from 2,096 hours in 2020 to 2,088 hours in 2021.	+25	-22
Pay Raise The President's Budget for FY 2021 includes one quarter of a planned 3.1% pay raise and three quarters of a planned 1% pay raise.	+0	+88
Employer Share of Federal Employee Retirement System The change reflects the directed 1.3% increase in the employer contribution to the Federal Employee Retirement System.	+14	+52

Appropriation: Land Acquisition

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021 Request				Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Land Acquisition Management	(\$000)	12,773	13,000	+118	0	-3,520	9,598	-3,402
Land Protection Planning	(\$000)	465	465	0	0	-465	0	-465
Exchanges	(\$000)	1,500	1,500	0	0	-1,500	0	-1,500
Inholdings / Emergencies and Hardships	(\$000)	5,351	6,500	0	0	-6,162	338	-6,162
Highlands Conservation Act	(\$000)	20,000	10,000	0	0	-10,000	0	-10,000
Sportsmen and Recreational Access	(\$000)	2,500	8,000	0	0	-5,000	3,000	-5,000
Federal Refuges/Projects	(\$000)	22,600	31,250	0	0	-31,250	0	-31,250
Total, Land Acquisition	(\$000)	65,189	70,715	+118	0	-57,897	12,936	-57,779
	FTE	67	67	0	0	-35	32	-35
Rescission/ Cancellation of Balances	(\$000)	0	-3,628	0	0	+1,628	-2,000	+1,628
Total, Current and Prior Year	(\$000)	65,189	67,087	+110	0	-56,269	10,936	-56,151
	FTE	67	67	0	0	-35	32	-35

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Land Acquisition

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Land Protection Planning	-465	-3
• Exchanges	-1,500	-12
• Land Acquisition Management	-3,520	-19
• Sportsmen and Recreational Access	-5,000	0
• Inholdings / Emergencies and Hardships	-6,162	0
• Highlands Conservation Act	-10,000	-1
• Federal Refuges/Projects	-31,250	0
Program Changes	-57,897	-35

Program Overview

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was established by Congress in 1964 to fulfill a bipartisan commitment to safeguard our natural areas, water resources, and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans. The fund invests revenues from offshore oil and gas leasing to help strengthen communities, preserve our history, and protect important fish, wildlife, and plant habitats. Acquired lands and waters become part of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) or National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS). When acquired in fee title, these lands and waters provide the public opportunities to hunt, fish, observe and photograph wildlife, and enjoy environmental education and interpretation.

The Service purchases the minimum interest in land that is necessary to meet the Service's conservation mission. Therefore, if conservation easements will meet biological objectives, then typically the Service will pursue those rather than buying the land in fee.

Each new refuge in the NWRS is strategically planned to give migrating birds safe havens on their journeys, provide fish with clean waters, and ensure that our children and grandchildren have wild places to explore. The Service's Strategic Growth Policy directs the Service to focus on acquiring lands and waters that support three conservation priorities: 1) Recovery of threatened and endangered species; 2) Implementing the North American Waterfowl Management Plan; and 3) Conserving migratory birds of conservation concern.

Using these three priorities, a Service interdisciplinary team developed the Targeted Resource Acquisition Comparison Tool (TRACT). The TRACT provides a biological, science-based, transparent process for evaluating proposed NWRS land acquisitions based on each of these three conservation priorities. The TRACT does not assign weights to the three priorities and does not produce a single numerical ranking that combines all of the Service's priorities. The TRACT's rankings are instead intended to provide decision makers with an objective analysis that is grounded in the best available science; it is a decision support tool to inform the decision maker, but does not make the decision. Consideration is also given to how an acquisition supports DOI and Service goals and priorities to provide connectivity for wildlife corridors and to increase public recreational opportunities, especially near urban areas.



In 2019, the Service acquired 328 acres for Grays Lake NWR, ID, as part of a collaboration among the Service, private landowners, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State of Idaho, and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes.

Along with protecting the headwaters that feeds into Grays Lake, the wooded hillside parcel provides connectivity for game species from the forested lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to the Service owned wetlands. The property adjoins the only county road in the valley and acquisition improved public access for hunting and wildlife viewing. Credit: Jonathan Bloomfield, USFWS.

The Service acquires land and interests in land from willing sellers only. For every project for which the Service requests LWCF funding, the Service has an approved Land Protection Plan (LPP) and has completed the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process. The LPP and NEPA processes include opportunities for public input from local communities, businesses, landowners, non-governmental organizations, local governments, and other interested parties.

Land Acquisition Management

This activity supports efforts directly related to the acquisition of lands within approved acquisition boundaries of the NWRS. The funding supports all costs for staff and the administration, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of the Service's Federal land acquisition program in our Headquarters,

Regional, and field offices. The land acquisition staff maintains the maps and property records for Service-managed lands, and prepares right-of-way permits for oil, gas, and other pipelines, electrical transmission lines, and other infrastructure. This budget activity also includes approximately \$2 million for the land acquisition program's share of Service-wide infrastructure needs and assessments, including leased space and information technology investments. Land acquisition management also funds contract boundary surveys, title work, and appraisals when the specific project appropriation is insufficient to fund these costs in addition to land costs.

Land acquisition staff provides specialized support for several realty-based functions, including:

- Working with willing sellers, from initial explanations of Federal acquisition options to the final acquisition, including processing and accepting donations;
- Preparing right-of-way permits for oil and gas and other pipelines, electrical transmission lines, telecommunications, and other infrastructure that crosses Service-managed lands;
- Developing and maintaining tools that inform the decision-making process;
- Working collaboratively with States, local governments, landowners, non-governmental organizations, and other land management agencies to acquire land for wildlife corridors and public recreation;
- Creating, maintaining, and updating geospatial data, and property records for Service-managed lands. This information supports the Service's GIS/mapping capacity for land use and the Service's contributions to the Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US), which is a single, continuously updated geospatial database/official national inventory of Federal and State protected areas. PAD-US includes all conservation areas managed by Federal and State agencies; conservation areas owned by nonprofits; and private lands protected by conservation easements. PAD-US serves many users, and is developed through partnerships with States, Federal agencies, and non-profit organizations;
- Preparing responses to information requests from a variety of sources; and
- Providing land surveying services to resolve encroachment and other boundary issues.



In 2019, The Nature Conservancy donated three tracts totaling 6,265 acres for the South Padre Island Unit of Laguna Atascosa NWR, TX. Conservation of the natural barrier island protects the mainland and the Laguna Madre, which supports the largest concentration of wintering redhead duck population in the U.S. The acquisitions also offer long-term habitat protection for the federally endangered Kemp's ridley (pictured), hawksbill, green, and loggerhead sea turtle.

Credit: Kenny Braun, The Nature Conservancy.

Inholdings / Emergencies and Hardships

The Service uses funding in this activity to expedite purchases of smaller tracts of land from willing sellers for three categories: inholdings, emergencies, and hardships. The Service defines any land within an approved acquisition boundary as an inholding. The Service frequently uses funding for inholdings to purchase lands that connect with private- or State-conserved lands, to create larger contiguous blocks of protected wildlife habitat, and to expand public recreational opportunities. The Service also uses funding for inholdings to acquire small tracts of land when doing so will improve refuge management effectiveness or efficiency, eliminate a costly management problem, or provide or expand public access to existing refuge lands for hunting, fishing, and other compatible wildlife-dependent recreation. An emergency that may be best addressed with land acquisition from a willing seller could be a proposed development or a conversion to other uses that would result in the permanent loss of wildlife habitat. Funding is also used to purchase lands when the owner is experiencing financial hardship and must quickly sell his or her land that is within an approved refuge acquisition boundary. This funding allows the Service to capitalize on emergent opportunities to conserve fish and wildlife habitat and to be a good neighbor to local landowners.

Use of Residual LWCF Funds

Federal land acquisition projects sometimes have small amounts of funds remaining after land has been acquired. These residual funds are insufficient to acquire additional land. The Service reallocates residual project funds of less than \$50,000 to the Inholdings/Emergencies and Hardships line item to be used to protect other lands that do not have project funding. This shift enables the Service to acquire valuable wildlife habitat within approved refuge acquisition boundaries that becomes available for acquisition between appropriations cycles.

Sportsmen and Recreational Access

This activity provides funding for acquisition of small parcels of land to conserve important wildlife habitats that provide public recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing. Refuges that have willing sellers may request funds to acquire lands to provide public access for wildlife-dependent recreation, such as hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation. The criteria for proposed acquisitions are, in priority order:

- Provide access to refuge areas previously inaccessible for hunting and/or fishing;
- Acquire areas that can be readily opened to hunting and/or fishing;
- Acquire areas that expand existing hunting and/or fishing opportunities; and
- Acquire areas that create or expand wildlife viewing, interpretation, environmental education, and photography opportunities.



*In 2019, the Service used Sportsmen and Recreational Access funding to acquire a 125-acre tract, providing public hunting, fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing access to the previously inaccessible Sawyers Marsh Division of Petit Manan NWR, ME.
Credit: USFWS.*

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for Land Acquisition is \$12,936,000 and 32 FTE. The budget request proposes cancelling \$2,000,000 of prior year Land Acquisition unobligated balances.

Land Protection Planning (-\$465,000/-3 FTE) - No funding is being proposed for this program in FY 2021, so that the Service can support higher priorities.

Exchanges (-\$1,500,000/-12 FTE) - No funding is being proposed for this program in FY 2021, so that the Service can support higher priorities.

Land Acquisition Management (-\$3,520,000/-19 FTE) - The Service will continue to prioritize land acquisition activities such as acquiring inholdings that provide connectivity for public recreation and wildlife corridors and previously funded acquisitions; streamlining the process for obtaining right-of-way permits; updating maps and geospatial data; and resolving encroachment and other boundary issues.

Sportsmen and Recreational Access (-\$5,000,000/0 FTE)

The Service will use the requested funding to acquire tracts that provide or improve public access to Service lands for wildlife dependent recreation, including hunting and fishing.

Inholdings, Emergencies, and Hardships (-\$6,162,000/0 FTE)

The Service will use the requested funding to acquire tracts that provide connectivity for public access and for wildlife corridors.

Highlands Conservation Act (-\$10,000,000/-1 FTE)

No funding is being requested for this program in FY 2021, so that the Service can support higher priorities.

Land Acquisition Projects (-\$31,250,000/0 FTE)

No funding is being requested for this program in FY 2021, so that the Service can support higher priorities.

In 2019, the Service acquired a 188-acre tract for Cache River NWR, AR. The tract borders county roads, which will improve public access to existing Refuge lands for hunting and wildlife viewing. The tract provides habitat for a wide variety of wildlife including, wintering waterfowl, nesting Wood Ducks, wading birds, shore birds, grassland nesting birds including Northern Bobwhite, forest nesting songbirds, raptors, and upland game and big game species. Credit: Keith Weaver, USFWS.



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National Wildlife Refuge Fund



Appropriations Language

The budget proposes to eliminate discretionary funding for this program. Therefore, appropriations language is not necessary.

Authorizing Statutes

Refuge Revenue Sharing Act (16 U.S.C. 715s). 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) Sections 1002 and 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

		2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
Appropriations	(\$000)	13,228	13,228	0	0	-13,228	0	-13,228
Receipts*	(\$000)	7,882	8,007	0	0	+465	8,472	+465
Total, National Wildlife Refuge Fund	(\$000)	21,110	21,235	0	0	-12,763	8,472	+12,763
	FTE	4	4			-0	4	-0

*The amount presented in 2019 and 2020 includes the sequestration in accordance with Sec. 251(a) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, 2 U.S.C 901(a). In addition, the amounts in 2019, 2020, and 2021 include amounts previously sequestered, which are now available in accordance with said Act.

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for National Wildlife Refuge Fund

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Appropriations	-13,228	0
TOTAL Program Changes	-13,228	0

Program Overview

The purpose of the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act is to share revenues derived from refuge lands with counties and other units of local government to compensate for lost tax revenues from Federal land acquisitions. The Act 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 for fish and wildlife purposes, minus any associated costs. These revenues are typically between \$6-\$8 million each year, and are derived from the sale or disposition of products (e.g., timber and gravel); other privileges (e.g., rights-of-way and grazing permits); and/or leases for public accommodations or facilities (e.g., oil and gas exploration and development) incidental to, and not in conflict with, refuge purposes.



*Oil and gas revenues from reserved lands are deposited into the U.S. General Treasury. Oil and gas revenues from fee lands are deposited in the National Wildlife Refuge Fund to be shared with counties and other units of local government.
Credit: Pedro Ramirez, Jr., USFWS.*

The Act authorizes payments for Service-managed fee lands based on a formula that entitles counties to whichever 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.

The refuge revenue sharing payments made on lands reserved from the public domain and administered by the Service 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 of the Interior makes Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) (31 U.S.C. 6901-6907) on all public domain lands, including Service-

reserved lands. The Service reports to the Department annually on all Service reserved land acres and the revenue sharing amounts already paid on those acres. The Department then calculates the PILT amounts, subtracts the amounts the Service has already paid, and makes the PILT payments to the local governments.

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) addresses procedures for oil and gas leasing on non-North Slope Federal lands in Alaska and for transportation and utility systems in and across the Alaska conservation system units. Applicants pay the costs to process applications or administer permits relating to utility and transportation systems or seismic exploration. These payments directly reimburse the Service for its management costs.

Justification of 2021 Program Changes

Discretionary Appropriations (-\$13,228/ +0 FTE)

The Service is not requesting funding for the appropriated (discretionary) portion of the National Wildlife Refuge Fund in order to support higher priorities.

Mandatory Receipts: The 2021 estimate for National Wildlife Refuge Fund revenue is \$8,472,000 with revenue producing activities. The table below shows how the Service derives the funding amount available for payments to counties and other units of local government. This Fund was intended to compensate communities for lost tax revenue from Federal land acquisitions, but fails to take into account the economic benefits refuges provide to communities.

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>				
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021 Estimate	Program Change (+/-)
Receipts / Expenses				
Receipts Collected	7,733	8,000	8,000	0
Sequestration*	-479	-472	0	+472
Recoveries	0	100	100	0
Expenses for Sales	-2,584	-2,514	-2,514	0
ANILCA Expenses	0	-60	-60	0
Estimated User-Pay Cost Share	-50	-60	-60	0
Net Receipts				
Available during the following year	4,620	4,994	5,466	+472
Payments to Counties				
Receipts Available - collected previous year		4,620	4,994	+374
Sequestration Restored		479	472	-7
Appropriations		13,228	0	-13,228
Total Available for Payments to Counties		18,327	5,466	-12,861

*2021 amount assumes no sequestration.

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Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund



Appropriations Language

[For expenses necessary to carry out section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1535), \$54,502,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$23,702,000 is to be derived from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund; and of which \$30,800,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.] Of the unobligated balances made available [from] to the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund[, \$18,771,000] *from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, \$8,000,000* is permanently [rescinded]*cancelled: Provided, That no amounts may be [rescinded] cancelled* from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.*)

Authorizing Statute

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)*.



Whooping cranes at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. Photo Credit: Dan Severson

Appropriation: Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Conservation Grants	(\$000)	12,508	13,000	0	0	-13,000	0	-13,000
Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants	(\$000)	7,485	8,000	0	0	-8,000	0	-8,000
Species Recovery Land Acquisition	(\$000)	11,162	11,162	0	0	-11,162	0	-11,162
HCP Land Acquisition Grants to States	(\$000)	19,638	19,638	0	0	-19,638	0	-19,638
Administration	(\$000)	2,702	2,702	0	0	-2,702	0	-2,702
Total Current Year Appropriated Funds	(\$000)	53,495	54,502	0	0	-54,502	0	-54,502
	<i>FTE</i>	10		0	0	-10	0	-10
Rescission/ Cancellation of Balances	(\$000)	-7,500	-18,771	0	0	+10,771	-8,000	+10,771
Total Current Year and Prior Year	(\$000)	45,995	35,731	0	0	-43,731	-8,000	-43,731
		10	10	0	0	-10	0	-10
Mandatory – Unavailable Receipts**	(\$000)	69,654	66,170	0	0	+6,740	72,910	+6,740

** Amounts shown reflect an annual deposit of an amount equal to 5 percent 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 CESCOF.

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Conservation Grants	-13,000	0
• HCP Planning Assistance Grants	-8,000	0
• Species Recovery Land Acquisition Grants	-11,162	0
• HCP Land Acquisition Grants	-19,638	0
• Administration	-2,702	-10
Program Changes	-54,502	-10

Program Overview

The Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF; Section 6 of the ESA), administered by the Service’s Ecological Services 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.

Proposed Program Changes

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (-\$54,502,000/ -10 FTE)

The Service is not requesting funding for these activities in order to support higher priorities. The budget request proposes cancelling \$8,000,000 of prior year appropriations to CESCOF that were derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund



Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.), [\$46,000,000]\$40,000,000 to remain available until expended.

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.)

Authorizing Statutes

North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, (16 U.S.C. 4401-4414). 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. Such amounts have been permanently appropriated as provided in Public Law 103-138. 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.

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

Activity: North American Wetlands Conservation Fund

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted Baseline	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfer s (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
<u>Appropriations:</u>								
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	(\$000)	42,000	46,000	0	0	-6,000	40,000	-6,000
<u>Receipts (Mandatory):</u>								
Migratory Bird Treaty Act Fines	(\$000)	15,288	170	0	0	-70	100	-70
Total, North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	(\$000)	57,288	46,170	0	0	-6,070	40,100	-6,070
FTE		6	6	0	0	0	6	0

* The amounts presented in 2019 and 2020 include the sequestration in accordance with Sec. 251A of the BBDECA, 2 U.S.C 901a. In addition, the amounts in 2019, 2020, and 2021 include amounts previously sequestered which are now available in accordance with said Act.

Program Overview

Since 1990, the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act* (NAWCA) has supported partnerships that protect, enhance, and restore habitat for wetland-dependent birds and other wildlife—from the boreal forest of Canada, to the Mississippi delta, to the mangroves of Mexico, and from coast to coast. Through NAWCA, Federal funds are typically leveraged at twice the legally required 1:1 non-Federal match-to-grant ratio, supporting projects that not only provide significant conservation of North America’s highly-valued waterfowl resource, but also:

- Sustain hunting and fishing by increasing both the quality and quantity of opportunities for outdoor recreation.
- Promote flood control, recharge groundwater stores, and improve water quality for local communities.
- Support the recovery of endangered and threatened species.
- Help implement the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and other national and international bird conservation plans.
- Achieve the Department’s and Service’s long-term goal of supporting healthy and sustainable migratory bird populations.

Partners in NAWCA projects include private landowners, States, local governments, conservation organizations, national and local sportsmen’s groups, Tribes, trusts, and corporations.

Investments that Matter

NAWCA funds are invested in thousands of public-private partnerships that protect and improve the health and integrity of wetland-dominated landscapes across North America. These habitats are critically important for sustaining North American waterfowl populations and a diversity of native fish and wildlife species. NAWCA-funded projects also improve hydrologic functions in and around project areas, benefiting nearby human communities and industry.

Project proposals and grantees undergo a rigorous review process to ensure they comply with the purposes of the Act and financial assistance requirements. Once grant funding is awarded, the Service monitors projects to confirm that objectives are met and to ensure regulatory compliance. This oversight promotes the successful implementation of strategic, long-term habitat conservation and ensures program accountability.

Through FY 2019, the NAWCA program supported over 2,900 projects in 50 U.S. States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, 13 Canadian provinces and territories, and 31 Mexican States. The Service has helped nearly 6,200 partners conserve 31.3 million acres.

NAWCA GRANT PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1991-2019

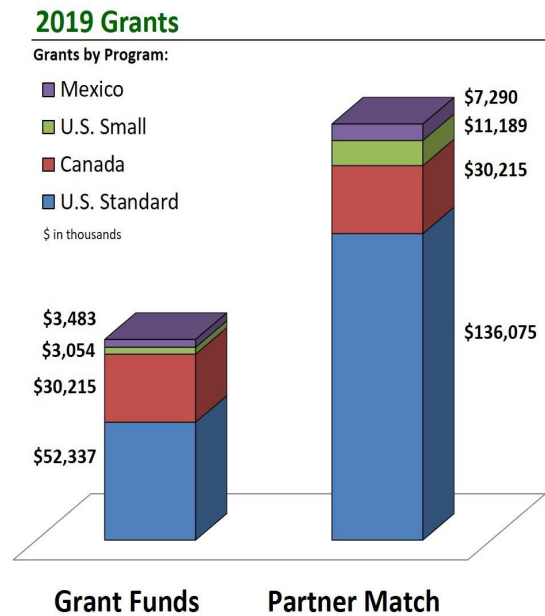
Country	Protected Acres	Enhanced, Restored, and Created Acres	Number of Projects
Canada	14,963,715	*3,376,448	571
Mexico	2,386,496	1,725,885	320
U.S.	4,961,173	4,422,076	2,031
All Countries	22,311,384	9,524,409	2,922

Acreages represent total proposed acres approved for funding in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico through FY 2019. Some acres are included in both "Protected" and "Enhanced, Restored, and Created" due to multiple activities occurring on the same properties. Additionally, some protection is not perpetual. Therefore, the two categories should not be added to demonstrate total acres affected over the life of the program.

* This figure includes 413,910 acres of moist soil management completed prior to 1998.

Supporting Service-Wide Priorities

- NAWCA is a critical funding source for migratory bird habitat conservation; additionally, these funds contribute to the conservation of other wetland-dependent species and support national and international conservation priorities. NAWCA-supported projects complement Service conservation efforts through the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Endangered Species Act, National Wildlife Refuge System, and other programs.
- NAWCA supports the Service’s mission to ensure the conservation of wildlife for the benefit and enjoyment of all Americans, providing funding to projects that enrich and increase outdoor recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, and bird-watching.
- NAWCA depends on partnerships with public and private stakeholders to design and execute wetlands conservation projects.
- The NAWCA grant program also complements conservation actions of other Federal agencies, including the National Park Service, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Defense.



2021 Program Activities

- Process and issue NAWCA grants that support waterfowl and wetland habitat conservation.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund is \$40,000,000 and 6 FTE, which includes:

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund (\$-6,000,000/ 0 FTE) – At the requested level, the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund will protect, enhance, and restore habitat, and increase opportunities for outdoor recreation in FY 2021.

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 2021 estimate is \$100,000 for this account.



Upper San Luis Valley Wetlands, Saguache Creek Ranch by Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust

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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.), [\$15,000,000]\$6,000,000, to remain available until expended.

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.)

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, and combating ivory trafficking. The Act authorizes prohibitions against the sale, importation, and exportation of illegally obtained ivory derived from African elephants. Authorization of Appropriations: Reauthorized through 2023.

Asian Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4261-4266, 1538). Authorizes financial assistance for the conservation and protection of wild Asian elephants and their habitats. Authorization of Appropriations: Reauthorized through 2023.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 5301-5306, 1538). Authorizes funding to assist in the conservation of rhinoceroses and tigers in Asia and Africa, and combating trafficking of parts. Prohibits the sale, importation, and exportation of products derived from any species of rhinoceros or tiger. Authorization of Appropriations: Reauthorized through 2023.

Great Ape Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 6301-6305, 1538). Authorizes financial assistance for the conservation of great apes within their ranges in Africa and Asia. Authorization of Appropriations: Reauthorized through 2023.

Marine Turtle Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 6601-6607). Authorizes financial assistance for the conservation of marine turtles, freshwater turtles, tortoises, and the habitats of marine turtles and tortoises in foreign countries and territories of the United States as amended (S. 47—205), and addresses other threats to the survival of marine turtles, freshwater turtles, and tortoises, including habitat loss, poaching of turtles or their eggs, and wildlife trafficking. Authorization of Appropriations: Reauthorized through 2023.

Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act, (39 U.S.C. 416 note) as amended. Requires the United States Postal Service to issue and sell a Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Semipostal Stamp. The stamp was to be made available to the public for at least six years, a period which has since expired. The proceeds from stamp sales are divided equally among the existing Multinational Species Conservation Funds and are used to help fund priority activities supported by those Funds. By law, the proceeds cannot affect or influence the disposition of discretionary appropriations.

Appropriation: Multinational Species Conservation Fund

	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
African Elephant Conservation Fund (\$000)	2,682	3,450	0	0	-2,049	1,401	-2,049
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,657	2,110	0	0	-1,265	845	-1,265
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund (\$000)	3,540	4,650	0	0	-2,785	1,865	-2,785
Great Ape Conservation Fund (\$000)	2,075	2,700	0	0	-1,629	1,071	-1,629
Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (\$000)	1,607	2,090	0	0	-1,272	818	-1,272
Total, Multinational Species Conservation Fund (\$000)	11,561	15,000	0	0	-9,000	6,000	-9,000
<i>FTE</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-1</i>

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Multinational Species Conservation Fund	-9,000	-1
Program Changes	-9,000	-1

Program Mission

To provide technical and financial assistance to local communities, wildlife authorities, and non-governmental organizations in developing countries for on-the-ground conservation work to protect elephants, rhinoceroses, tigers, great apes, and marine turtles.

Program Description

Elephants, rhinoceroses, tigers, great apes, and marine turtles are among the world’s most recognized and beloved animals. Yet, these iconic species face severe threats and some even teeter on the brink of extinction due to poaching, habitat loss, and wildlife trafficking. Key populations of these species are found in developing countries where these threats are compounded by political instability, expanding human populations, and a severe lack of funding and capacity for conservation.

The Multinational Species Conservation Funds (MSCFs) were authorized through five Congressional Acts to provide critical technical and financial assistance to local communities, government agencies, and non- government organizations working to protect and safeguard the future of wildlife. Through this support, the Service assists foreign countries to manage their wildlife populations and attract substantial leveraged or matched funding, while also building considerable good will toward the United States. From

2013 to 2018, the MSCFs provided more than \$58 million in appropriated funds through grants and cooperative agreements for on-the-ground conservation and leveraged more than \$118 million in additional matching dollars. Since their inception, the MSCFs have engaged nearly 600 domestic and foreign partners in over 54 countries. The provision of financial assistance to protect these priority species helps to ensure the U.S. restores trust outside our borders and creates a conservation stewardship legacy on behalf of the American people.

The MSCF project selection is highly competitive and enables the Service to provide direct assistance to key wildlife populations and the most urgently needed activities. Priority activities include establishing protected areas; monitoring wildlife populations; combating wildlife trafficking; reducing consumer demand for illegal wildlife products; and providing vital infrastructure, training, and equipment to effectively manage protected areas and wildlife populations. Several of the species covered by the MSCFs, including rhinoceroses, tigers, and African elephants, are under unprecedented pressure due to poaching and trafficking. These programs provide emergency support to ensure effective and strategic responses.



*Big tusker in Kenya's greater Tsavo ecosystem.
Credit: Richard Moller/Tsavo Trust*

African Elephant Conservation Fund

Poaching of African elephants has reached crisis levels, with a decline in the African elephant population by more than 100,000 from 2007 to 2016.¹ The African Elephant Conservation Fund provides critical support to curb this poaching epidemic; to combat trafficking of ivory, elephant meat, and other illegal elephant products; and to reduce the demand for these products. In 2019, these funds supported essential frontline protection in elephant habitat in West, Central, East, and Southern Africa; sponsored technological innovations to better detect and intercept ivory in transit and to more reliably and economically

identify the geographic origin of confiscated ivory samples; and supported the installation of modern management systems for seized ivory in range states.

¹ <https://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/african-elephant-conservation-fund.html>



*Amur tiger in the Russian Far East.
Credit: Julie Larsen Maher/Wildlife
Conservation Society*

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund

Rhinoceros poaching has skyrocketed in less than a decade, from 13 animals poached in South Africa in 2007 to more than 1,000 poached per year between 2013 and 2017.² In 2018, poaching numbers declined but still at least two rhinos were killed per day. In Asia, the status of both rhinos and tigers is also bleak. In the last 100 years, Asia's wild tiger populations have been reduced by 97 percent due to poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict.³ The Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, which supports conservation in both Asia and Africa, has been essential in responding to the poaching and trafficking crisis while also addressing other critical

threats facing rhinos and tigers. Program activities aim to protect existing rhino and tiger populations; to restore animals to their original habitat; and to combat trafficking of tiger skins, bones, live animals, and rhino horn and other rhino products.



*Elephants in tea estates in the Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong
landscape in Assam, Northeast India.
Credit: Bhavendu Joshi*

Asian Elephant Conservation Fund

Large herds of elephants once roamed freely throughout Asia's forests and grasslands. Today, wild population estimates range from 30,000 to 50,000 individuals, with continued declines caused primarily by habitat loss, human-elephant conflict, and poaching.⁴ The Asian Elephant Conservation Fund is the key source of funding for activities addressing the major threats to wild Asian elephant populations within range states. Program activities include law enforcement training and monitoring, public education campaigns via radio and television, research on population dynamics, human-elephant conflict

mitigation, strengthening efforts to combat wildlife trafficking, improving wildlife veterinary capacity, and promotion of land-use planning.

² <https://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/rhino-and-tiger-conservation-fund.html>

³ <https://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/rhino-and-tiger-conservation-fund.html>

⁴ <https://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/asian-elephant-conservation-fund.html>

Great Ape Conservation Fund

The great apes, highly intelligent beings and humans' closest living relatives, are under extreme threat. Their slow rate of reproduction makes their populations less resilient to losses, and all are at risk of extinction. The Great Ape Conservation Fund supports efforts to conserve all apes, including chimpanzees, gorillas, and bonobos in Africa and orangutans and gibbons in Asia. The Fund supports combating poaching and trafficking in great apes, enhancing habitat protection, establishing protected areas, strengthening ape range country capacity to address conservation threats, and creating long-term buy-in and stewardship for great ape conservation among local communities.



Mountain gorillas have experienced a dramatic recovery over the past decade and are no longer considered critically endangered. Credit: Dirck Byler/USFWS



This Kemp's ridley arribada is a testament to the successful binational effort between U.S. and Mexico over several decades to bring this species back from the brink of extinction after the population had crashed to only 850 nests on Mexico's main nesting beaches. Credit: Gladys Porter Zoo

Marine Turtle Conservation Fund

Marine turtles are truly the ancient mariners of the world's oceans, with ancestors dating back more than 100 million years. Marine turtles are important components of the ocean ecosystem; as flagship species, what we do for their conservation helps to ensure the overall health of the ocean and many other marine species upon which humans depend. Marine turtles are often referred to as "ocean ambassadors" as their long migrations and complex life cycles that often extend across oceans bring countries together to work towards their conservation. Once abundant, populations are now at only a fraction of their historic levels. This Fund helps organizations and countries protect and

recover their marine turtle populations through community-based efforts to protect nesting females and eggs, collaborate with fishermen to reduce mortality and injuries from accidental captures, and conduct educational activities and scientific research.



Save Vanishing Species Stamp

Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp

The Save Vanishing Species semipostal stamp was first issued in September 2011 to raise public awareness and garner support for critically important global conservation work. The intent was to give the public an easy and inexpensive way to help contribute to the conservation of tigers, rhinos, elephants, great apes, and marine turtles around the world. The stamp, which featured the image of an Amur tiger cub, sold just slightly above the cost of first-class postage with proceeds directed to the MSCFs. Since issuance, nearly 51 million stamps were sold, raising more than \$5.7 million in direct funding for international wildlife conservation.

In 2019, the Department became aware of multiple allegations of human rights violations by partner organizations supported by international conservation grants and awarded by the U.S. government, including the Service. Stories highlighting these allegations cited multiple sources, including official reports, studies, and partner-funded findings, spanning more than a decade, appeared to support many of these allegations. The congressional response included an oversight investigation initiated by the House Natural Resources Committee Chairman and Ranking Member, as well as an independent investigation by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). Report language in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 acknowledged these concerns by recommending additional policies and conditions be attached to future funding of activities under review.

The Department of the Interior has consulted with Federal partners, cooperated with the multiple investigations, and sought to acquire additional information of its own from select partners subject to existing and pending grants and cooperative agreements. Information obtained throughout this process appears to validate some of the concerns surrounding partner behavior and the inadequacy of current policies to properly and consistently monitor certain activities provided for under the international conservation program. As a result, the Department is conducting an ongoing review of the program to determine what new or additional safeguards, oversight procedures, and possible statutory changes might be pursued while furthering the Administration priorities to fight international wildlife trafficking and support conservation goals.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Support the Service's work with partners around the world to improve the conservation of elephants, rhinoceroses, tigers, great apes, and marine turtles and their habitats through technical and financial assistance programs.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Multinational Species Conservation Fund is \$6,000,000 and 2 FTE, which includes:

Multinational Species Conservation Fund (-\$9,000,000/1 FTE)

The Service anticipates funding approximately 50 conservation projects that mitigate the threats to these iconic, imperiled species primarily within their range states. MSCF grants fund conservation projects that address immediate threats such as habitat loss, poaching, illegal trade, and disease. Several of the species covered by the MSCFs, including rhinoceroses and African elephants, are under unprecedented pressure due to poaching and wildlife trafficking. Therefore, each project supports strategic actions to address these threats. For example, without these efforts, habitat encroachment or fragmentation as well as gaps in management capacity may continue to threaten a subspecies on the brink of extinction.

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation



Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), [\$9,000,000]\$3,900,000 to remain available until expended.

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.)

Authorizing Statute

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2006, (16 U.S.C. 6101-6109). 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, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Appropriation: Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund	(\$000)	3,910	4,910	0	0	-1,010	3,900	-1,010
	FTE	1	1	0	0	0	1	0

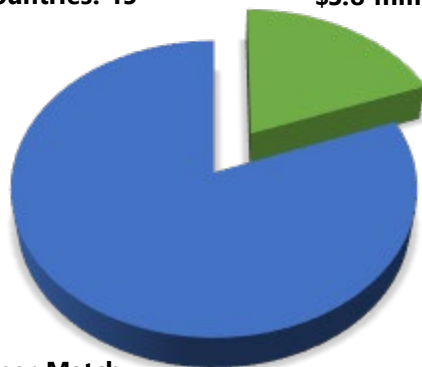
Program Mission

The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA or the Act) 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.

2019 Grants

Projects: 24
Countries: 15

Grant Funds: \$3.8 million



Partner Match: \$16.3 million

Program Overview

Over 380 species of Neotropical migratory birds breed in the United States and Canada and winter in Latin America and the Caribbean, including warblers, thrushes, sparrows, sandpipers, and raptors. Although many of these species travel tens of thousands of miles on their annual journeys, they also appear close to home in backyards, parks and local natural areas, making them an integral part of the resources that the Service seeks to conserve for the American people. As a result of habitat loss, predation, collisions with man-made structures and other sources of mortality, populations of many of these birds are declining. Eleven of these neotropical species are currently listed as threatened or endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA), and sixty-two such species are on the Service’s list of birds of conservation concern. Conservation actions funded through this program help to keep more of these

species from being listed under the ESA by supporting projects on their breeding and wintering grounds.

NMBCA grants help achieve the Department’s and Service’s long-term goal of promoting healthy and sustainable migratory bird populations by supporting conservation projects that leverage nearly four dollars of non-Federal match for every Federal grant dollar invested—even in Latin America and the Caribbean, where resources for migratory bird conservation are scarce. The Act directs that at least 75 percent of the funds available each year go to projects in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada; the remaining funds go to projects in the United States. NMBCA grants are highly competitive with project demand greatly exceeding available funds, so only the highest quality proposals receive funding.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Process and issue NMBCA grants that support the conservation of Neotropical migratory birds in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund is \$3,900,000 and 1 FTE, which includes:

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (\$-1,010,000 /0 FTE) – At the requested level, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund will fund matching grants in the Western Hemisphere that exemplify and promote the purposes of the Act and contribute to achieving the Department’s long-term goals.



Measuring culmen size of Magellanic Oystercatcher in Bahia Lomas, Chile by Yann Rouchepault

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State and Tribal Wildlife Grants



STATE AND TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANT PROGRAM

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 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, [\$67,571,000]\$31,286,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, [That of the amount provided herein, \$5,209,000 is for a competitive grant program for Indian tribes not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*,] That [\$7,362,000]\$2,000,000 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, not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, after deducting [\$12,571,000]\$2,000,000 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 [2020]2021 to any State, territory, or other jurisdiction that remains unobligated as of September 30, [2021]2022, shall be reapportioned, together with funds appropriated in [2022]2023, in the manner provided herein.

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020.)

Authorizing Statutes

Endangered Species Act (ESA) (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 (16 U.S.C. 742(a)-742j). 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 (16 U.S.C. 661-666(e)). 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.

Activity: State and Tribal Wildlife Grants

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Request
State Wildlife Grants (Formula) (\$000)		54,000	55,000	0	0	-25,714	29,286	-25,714
State Wildlife Grants (Competitive) (\$000)		6,362	7,362	0	0	-5,362	2,000	-5,362
Tribal Wildlife Grants (\$000)		4,209	5,209	0	0	-5,209	0	-5,209
Total, State and Tribal Wildlife	(\$000)	64,571	67,571	0	0	-36,285	31,286	-36,285
	FTE	14	14	0	0	0	7	-7

Summary of 2021 Program Changes for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• State Wildlife Grants (Formula)	-25,714	-5
• State Wildlife Grants (Competitive)	-5,362	-1
• Tribal Wildlife Grants	-5,209	-1
Program Changes	-36,285	-7

Program Overview

The State and Tribal Wildlife Grant (STWG) Program provides Federal grant funds to States, the District of Columbia, Commonwealths, Territories (States), and federally-recognized Tribes, to develop and implement programs for the benefit of fish and wildlife and their habitats, including species that are not hunted or fished. The Program was first funded through the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 2002 (Public Law 107-63).



Blanding's Turtle. Credit: USFWS



Bobwhite Quail. Credit: USFWS

The State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program, including the formula and competitive subprograms, is the primary Federal funding source for States seeking to implement proactive conservation actions that target many of America's most celebrated wildlife species. The SWG Program is unique in that it helps to conserve our Nation's wildlife heritage before species decline to levels that require listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). It is also unique in its foundation of partnership with State fish and wildlife agencies, which are responsible for selecting and adding species of conservation need to their Wildlife Action Plans (Plans). When a State fish and wildlife agency identifies and adds a species to a Plan, the agency is eligible to receive SWG Program grants that benefit a species of any conservation status. Often through preventative measures, such as captive rearing and release, the SWG Program helps to prevent imperiled species from

becoming listed under the ESA. Many other States also choose to dedicate SWG Program funds to help de-list and down-list threatened or endangered species.

The SWG Program leverages additional resources provided by State fish and wildlife agencies and their many conservation partners. Working with interested stakeholders, these grantee agencies translate State-identified conservation needs into practical actions and on-the-ground results. The SWG Program has played a crucial and indispensable role in reducing or preventing Service listings involving species such as Greater Sage Grouse, Columbia spotted frog, New England cottontail rabbit, and many others.

The Tribal Wildlife Grants (TWG) Program supports federally recognized Tribes in the development and implementation of conservation programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitats and species of Tribal cultural or traditional importance, including species that are not hunted or fished. The TWG Program is competitive both regionally and nationally and is not subject to provisions of the Formula or Competitive SWG subprograms.



*Kirtland's Warbler. Credit:
USFWS*

An example of a recent SWG Program conservation success story involves a bright yellow songbird that inhabits the jack pine forests of Michigan and Wisconsin. In October, the Service announced the de-listing of this beloved species. When the ESA was passed into law in 1973, the Kirtland's warbler was included on the initial list of endangered and threatened species. The Kirtland's warbler was listed as an endangered species in 1967 under the Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966. Recovery has long been a common goal of the Service and State fish and wildlife agencies. Since 2002, the Michigan and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources have utilized SWG Program funds to conduct planning and monitoring activities, and to restore the warbler's habitat through prescribed burning, invasive species control, and related actions. Combined with other Service conservation efforts—and those of local and regional conservation organizations—populations of the species have continued to increase, leading to the Service's determination of recovery in 2019. State fish and wildlife agencies play an important role in species recovery, and the SWG Program enables them to actively engage in the process, with positive results.

2021 Program Activities

The 2021 budget will:

- Administer financial assistance to States, awarding formula-based and nationally-competitive grant funds to their fish and wildlife or other natural resource agencies. These grantee agencies continue to coordinate effectively with the Service and other Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities, private landowners, and industry representatives in revising, updating, and implementing the Wildlife Action Plans. Involving many stakeholders with different perspectives helps ensure that the Plans are strategic, thoroughly vetted, and leveraged with resources from many partners. Implementation activities include a wide range of strategies from research and monitoring to direct species and habitat management.

- Make strategic investments focused on at-risk species that have the potential to be listed under the ESA. Between 2001 and 2015, States played an important role in helping to preclude listing of 19 Candidate species and in helping de-list or down-list seven threatened and endangered species using SWG Program funds. The Service provides incentives to encourage State fish and wildlife agencies to focus efforts on Service Candidate or listed species, when doing so is consistent with priorities expressed in States’ Plans. For example, the Chihuahua Chub is a small fish native only to the Mimbres River in New Mexico. The species is currently listed as threatened under the ESA. New Mexico Fish and Game has recently used SWG Program funds along with other State funding to restore eight miles of habitat for the Chub in the Mimbres River, which resulted in a tripling of the number of the Chub captured at monitoring locations after completion of the river restoration activities. The Chihuahua Chub has also increased its range in the river since project completion, a preliminary success that could lead to eventual removal of the species from listing under the ESA.



Chihuahua Chub. Credit: David Stang

- Review the Monarch for possible listing. In the past five years, the SWG Program has helped these northern Midwest States create and improve thousands of acres of Monarch and other butterfly habitats. These and other efforts of States and their partners help maintain State authority for Monarch butterfly management, while keeping butterfly populations stable and off the endangered species list. Early signs of success are evident in a significant increase in the Monarch’s occupied wintering habitat in Mexico in 2019.



Tagged Monarch Butterfly. Credit: USFWS

- Fund conservation of native mussels and other aquatic organisms. In previous years, SWG Program funds were used to support the Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center. Since then, Alabama biologists have raised and released over 59,000 mussels including 12 species listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA. Fish and wildlife agencies in Kansas and Kentucky have made similar investments, planning and building facilities for captive rearing and release of at-risk and listed mussels. Not only do these facilities result in timely actions that help prevent and recover listed species, they also result in water quality benefits to our Nation’s families and communities. Although recovery of a species can sometimes take decades, these and other States are making great strides toward protection of this vulnerable class of freshwater species.

Proposed Program Changes

The 2021 budget request for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants is \$31,286,000 and 7 FTE, which includes:

State Wildlife Grants (Formula) (-\$25,714,000/-5 FTE) – At the requested 2021 level, Formula State Wildlife Grants will support State fish and wildlife agencies to implement timely conservation actions that aid in preventing and removing species listings under the ESA. State agencies use these grants to update and improve their State Wildlife Action Plans, which identify common priorities for fish and wildlife conservation across the Nation. State agencies also use grant funding to study and conserve species in decline before they require listing under the ESA, often helping ensure sufficient data and information is available for use by the Service in the listing review process. Many potential species listings have been averted, in large part due to States' efforts funded through Formula grants. Ongoing work targeting Candidate and other Service Listing Workplan species will mean new conservation projects.

State Wildlife Grants (Competitive) (-\$5,362,000/-1 FTE) – Competitive State Wildlife Grants will fund big game research and science-supported conservation activities within 11 western State-identified priority corridors in support of Secretarial Order 3362.

Tribal Wildlife Grants (-\$5,209,000/-1 FTE) – The 2021 budget does not include funding for Tribal Wildlife Grants.

Table 1
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF STATE WILDLIFE GRANTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019
CFDA: 15.634

STATE	State Wildlife - 5620 (65/35 Match)
ALABAMA	\$791,462
ALASKA	\$2,574,670
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$128,733
ARIZONA	\$1,296,207
ARKANSAS	\$597,556
CALIFORNIA	\$2,574,670
COLORADO	\$1,096,236
CONNECTICUT	\$514,934
DELAWARE	\$514,934
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$257,467
FLORIDA	\$2,345,896
GEORGIA	\$1,360,951
GUAM	\$128,733
HAWAII	\$514,934
IDAHO	\$612,751
ILLINOIS	\$1,687,408
INDIANA	\$893,626
IOWA	\$628,078
KANSAS	\$745,043
KENTUCKY	\$683,907
LOUISIANA	\$743,918
MAINE	\$514,934
MARYLAND	\$680,427
MASSACHUSETTS	\$752,596
MICHIGAN	\$1,380,117
MINNESOTA	\$1,021,499
MISSISSIPPI	\$574,030
MISSOURI	\$1,017,789

STATE	State Wildlife - 5620 (65/35 Match)
NEBRASKA	\$607,773
NEVADA	\$878,546
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$514,934
NEW JERSEY	\$992,874
NEW MEXICO	\$867,547
NEW YORK	\$2,357,758
NORTH CAROLINA	\$1,311,312
NORTH DAKOTA	\$514,934
OHIO	\$1,467,789
OKLAHOMA	\$776,627
OREGON	\$929,244
PENNSYLVANIA	\$1,615,030
PUERTO RICO	\$257,467
RHODE ISLAND	\$514,934
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$665,637
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$514,934
TENNESSEE	\$910,307
TEXAS	\$2,574,670
UTAH	\$749,270
VERMONT	\$514,934
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$128,733
VIRGINIA	\$1,082,149
WASHINGTON	\$1,089,257
WEST VIRGINIA	\$514,934
WISCONSIN	\$913,250
WYOMING	\$579,612
TOTAL	\$51,493,395

Table 2
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF STATE WILDLIFE GRANTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020
CFDA: 15.634

STATE	State Wildlife - 5620 (65/35 Match)
ALABAMA	\$807,854
ALASKA	\$2,627,994
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$131,400
ARIZONA	\$1,323,052
ARKANSAS	\$609,932
CALIFORNIA	\$2,627,994
COLORADO	\$1,118,940
CONNECTICUT	\$525,599
DELAWARE	\$525,599
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$262,799
FLORIDA	\$2,394,482
GEORGIA	\$1,389,138
GUAM	\$131,400
HAWAII	\$525,599
IDAHO	\$625,441
ILLINOIS	\$1,722,356
INDIANA	\$912,134
IOWA	\$641,086
KANSAS	\$760,474
KENTUCKY	\$698,072
LOUISIANA	\$759,325
MAINE	\$525,599
MARYLAND	\$694,520
MASSACHUSETTS	\$768,183
MICHIGAN	\$1,408,700
MINNESOTA	\$1,042,655
MISSISSIPPI	\$585,918
MISSOURI	\$1,038,868

STATE	State Wildlife - 5620 (65/35 Match)
NEBRASKA	\$620,360
NEVADA	\$896,742
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$525,599
NEW JERSEY	\$1,013,439
NEW MEXICO	\$885,510
NEW YORK	\$2,406,590
NORTH CAROLINA	\$1,338,470
NORTH DAKOTA	\$525,599
OHIO	\$1,498,189
OKLAHOMA	\$792,712
OREGON	\$948,489
PENNSYLVANIA	\$1,648,479
PUERTO RICO	\$262,799
RHODE ISLAND	\$525,599
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$679,423
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$525,599
TENNESSEE	\$929,160
TEXAS	\$2,627,994
UTAH	\$764,789
VERMONT	\$525,599
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$131,400
VIRGINIA	\$1,104,561
WASHINGTON	\$1,111,817
WEST VIRGINIA	\$525,599
WISCONSIN	\$932,164
WYOMING	\$591,616
TOTAL	\$52,559,875

Table 3
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF STATE WILDLIFE GRANTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021
CFDA: 15.634

STATE	State Wildlife - 5620 (65/35 Match)
ALABAMA	\$450,130
ALASKA	\$1,464,300
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$73,215
ARIZONA	\$737,196
ARKANSAS	\$339,850
CALIFORNIA	\$1,464,300
COLORADO	\$623,466
CONNECTICUT	\$292,860
DELAWARE	\$292,860
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$146,430
FLORIDA	\$1,334,189
GEORGIA	\$774,018
GUAM	\$73,215
HAWAII	\$292,860
IDAHO	\$348,492
ILLINOIS	\$959,685
INDIANA	\$508,235
IOWA	\$357,209
KANSAS	\$423,731
KENTUCKY	\$388,961
LOUISIANA	\$423,091
MAINE	\$292,860
MARYLAND	\$386,981
MASSACHUSETTS	\$428,026
MICHIGAN	\$784,918
MINNESOTA	\$580,960
MISSISSIPPI	\$326,470
MISSOURI	\$578,850

STATE	State Wildlife - 5620 (65/35 Match)
NEBRASKA	\$345,661
NEVADA	\$499,658
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$292,860
NEW JERSEY	\$564,681
NEW MEXICO	\$493,403
NEW YORK	\$1,340,933
NORTH CAROLINA	\$745,786
NORTH DAKOTA	\$292,860
OHIO	\$834,780
OKLAHOMA	\$441,694
OREGON	\$528,492
PENNSYLVANIA	\$918,521
PUERTO RICO	\$146,430
RHODE ISLAND	\$292,860
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$378,570
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$292,860
TENNESSEE	\$517,722
TEXAS	\$1,464,300
UTAH	\$426,135
VERMONT	\$292,860
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$73,215
VIRGINIA	\$615,454
WASHINGTON	\$619,496
WEST VIRGINIA	\$292,860
WISCONSIN	\$519,396
WYOMING	\$329,644
TOTAL	\$29,286,000

Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration



Appropriation Language

The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration account does not require appropriations language because there is permanent authority, established August 31, 1951 (65 Stat. 262), to use the receipts deposited into the Trust Fund in the fiscal year following their collection.

Applicable 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 *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act* (P.L. 114-94), which expires in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, 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 (States) 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, 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 that this Act provides funding for, 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. The *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act* (P.L. 114-94), authorizes funding for the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act through FY 2021.

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. The *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act* (P.L. 114-94) authorizes funding for the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 and boating infrastructure improvement through Fiscal Year 2021.

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. The *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act* (P.L. 114-94) authorizes funding for boating infrastructure improvement through FY 2021.

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.

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 extends program authorizations for the Clean Vessel Act Program, the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program, and the National Outreach and Communications Program through FY 2009, and it extends 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 authorizes 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 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (P.L. 114-94, December 4, 2015) changes several sections of the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act. It amends Sections 3 and 4 of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777b and 16 U.S.C. 777c), changing the funding distribution percentages and extends funding authorizations for Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, Boating Infrastructure Improvement (combining funding for the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 and the Boating Infrastructure Grant Programs), and the National Outreach and Communications program through FY 2021.

Appropriation: Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration

		2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Estimate	
Payments to States	(\$000)	362,424	368,209	0	0	17,522	385,731	17,522
Administration	(\$000)	11,480	11,669	0	0	862	12,531	862
Clean Vessel	(\$000)	12,599	12,798	0	0	609	13,407	609
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program	(\$000)	12,599	12,797	0	0	611	13,408	611
National Outreach	(\$000)	12,599	12,798	0	0	609	13,407	609
Multistate Conservation Grant Program	(\$000)	3,012	3,009	0	0	168	3,177	168
Coastal Wetlands	(\$000)	17,644	17,924	0	0	853	18,777	853
Fishery Commissions	(\$000)	803	803	0	0	44	847	44
Sport Fishing & Boating Partnership Council	(\$000)	402	401	0	0	23	424	23
Subtotal	(\$000)	433,561	440,408	0	0	21,303	461,709	21,303
Subtotal	FTE	51	53	0	0	0	53	0
North American Wetlands	(\$000)	17,644	17,924	0	0	851	18,777	851
North American Wetlands	FTE	2	5	0	0	0	5	0
TOTAL, Sport Fish	(\$000)	451,205	458,332	0	0	22,154	480,486	22,154
TOTAL, Sport Fish	FTE	53	58	0	0	0	58	0
Payments to States	(\$000)	362,424	368,209	0	0	17,522	385,731	17,522

The 2019 and 2020 amounts include sequestration in accordance with section 251A of the BBDECA, 2 U.S.C. 901a. In addition, the amounts in 2019, 2020, and 2021 include amounts previously sequestered, which are now available in accordance with said Act.

The Sport Fish Restoration Program provides Federal aid to State fish, wildlife, and boating agencies for the management and restoration of fish having material value in connection with sport or recreation. Since 1950, this stable source of funding has been critical to the recovery of many of the Nation's sport fish species, and has provided over \$9.7 billion. 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, Commonwealths, and territorial governments. Partner agencies, within set program boundaries, determine the best use of these Federal funds to meet these needs. The various programs enhance the Nation'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. Through administering these programs, the Service helps to create and maintain strong conservation stewardship by supporting local communities in sustainably utilizing natural resources.



*Northern pike research in Alaska.
Photo credit: Alaska Department of
Fish and Game*

The economic impacts of boating and sport fishing in the United States are considerable. According to the *2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, 35.8 million people participated in fishing and generated over \$46.1 billion in retail sales. According to the American Sportfishing Association's 2018 report *Sportfishing in America: An Economic Force for Conservation*, anglers supported over 800,000 jobs in 2016.

The Sport Fish Restoration Program funds many important projects across the United States including removing cobble from the Swan River and restore aquatic habitat in Colorado; implanting Northern Pike with radio tags for research in Alaska, making improvements at marinas and docks to improve boating access in places like the Wharf Marina in Washington, DC and the Charleston City Marina in South Carolina; innovating the use of solar/electric powered pumpout boats in Connecticut (which were locally made and support the State's boat-building industry); and acquiring land such as a parcel along the Wequiock Creek in Wisconsin to restore emergent wetlands, conserve fish and wildlife species, and offer opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Budget Estimate

The FY 2021 budget estimate for the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act programs is \$480,487,971 and 58 FTE. The estimate is based on current law projections provided by the Department of the Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis.

Table 1

**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF DINGELL-JOHNSON
SPORT FISH RESTORATION FUNDS**

<u>STATE</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2021</u>
ALABAMA	\$6,449,952	\$6,253,684	\$6,512,095
ALASKA	\$18,519,837	\$18,486,258	\$19,286,546
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$1,234,656	\$1,232,417	\$1,285,770
ARIZONA	\$7,581,530	\$7,577,237	\$7,905,599
ARKANSAS	\$5,463,072	\$5,393,228	\$5,623,454
CALIFORNIA	\$17,646,041	\$17,673,044	\$18,440,788
COLORADO	\$9,452,832	\$9,953,517	\$10,420,137
CONNECTICUT	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
DELAWARE	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$1,234,656	\$1,232,417	\$1,285,770
FLORIDA	\$13,014,034	\$12,920,824	\$13,474,882
GEORGIA	\$8,714,385	\$8,539,853	\$8,897,776
GUAM	\$1,234,656	\$1,232,417	\$1,285,770
HAWAII	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
IDAHO	\$6,914,144	\$6,803,630	\$7,090,907
ILLINOIS	\$6,699,617	\$6,851,126	\$7,159,829
INDIANA	\$4,915,942	\$4,940,458	\$5,156,096
IOWA	\$4,828,342	\$4,823,485	\$5,032,219
KANSAS	\$5,188,942	\$5,092,160	\$5,306,956
KENTUCKY	\$5,520,234	\$5,447,253	\$5,678,557
LOUISIANA	\$7,216,656	\$7,065,371	\$7,362,287
MAINE	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
MARYLAND	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
MASSACHUSETTS	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
MICHIGAN	\$11,369,601	\$11,435,316	\$11,935,629
MINNESOTA	\$13,233,604	\$13,303,483	\$13,885,355
MISSISSIPPI	\$4,173,668	\$4,132,300	\$4,309,133
MISSOURI	\$8,228,401	\$8,079,510	\$8,419,487
MONTANA	\$9,061,517	\$8,950,154	\$9,331,447
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	\$1,234,656	\$1,232,417	\$1,285,770
NEBRASKA	\$4,793,795	\$4,792,815	\$5,000,478
NEVADA	\$5,270,842	\$5,264,617	\$5,492,558
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
NEW JERSEY	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
NEW MEXICO	\$6,656,832	\$6,690,601	\$6,982,962
NEW YORK	\$8,131,501	\$8,184,181	\$8,543,480
NORTH CAROLINA	\$11,019,057	\$11,122,557	\$11,611,773
NORTH DAKOTA	\$4,328,251	\$4,343,323	\$4,532,978
OHIO	\$7,497,536	\$7,450,207	\$7,769,287

<u>STATE</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2021</u>
OKLAHOMA	\$8,012,337	\$8,222,528	\$8,594,218
OREGON	\$8,390,306	\$8,243,617	\$8,590,848
PENNSYLVANIA	\$9,011,057	\$8,896,659	\$9,275,261
PUERTO RICO	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
RHODE ISLAND	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$4,893,499	\$4,852,694	\$5,061,806
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$4,770,094	\$4,737,636	\$4,940,923
TENNESSEE	\$7,582,495	\$7,506,679	\$7,828,678
TEXAS	\$18,519,837	\$18,486,258	\$19,286,546
UTAH	\$6,816,587	\$6,817,847	\$7,113,556
VERMONT	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$1,234,656	\$1,232,417	\$1,285,770
VIRGINIA	\$5,359,649	\$5,342,517	\$5,573,874
WASHINGTON	\$7,028,776	\$7,221,823	\$7,550,445
WEST VIRGINIA	\$3,703,967	\$3,697,251	\$3,857,309
WISCONSIN	\$11,863,299	\$11,693,398	\$12,190,370
WYOMING	\$5,637,755	\$5,604,219	\$5,845,149
TOTAL	\$351,917,385	\$369,725,164	\$385,730,927

Table 2

FY 2019 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program Awards

State	Coastal or Inland	Federal Share
Alabama	Coastal	\$ 213,135.00
Alabama	Inland	\$ 90,974.00
Alaska	Coastal	\$ 258,543.75
Arizona	Inland	\$ 249,000.00
Arkansas	Inland	\$ 1,488,402.80
California	Coastal	\$ 1,013,252.00
California	Inland	\$ 1,299,501.00
Colorado	Inland	\$ 42,978.75
Connecticut	Coastal	\$ 1,471,206.00
Connecticut	Inland	\$ 57,555.80
Florida	Coastal	\$ 1,449,134.00
Florida	Inland	\$ 823,610.00
Iowa	Inland	\$ 11,925.00
Kansas	Inland	\$ 12,000.00
Kentucky	Inland	\$ 131,250.00
Maine	Coastal	\$ 525,910.00
Maryland	Coastal	\$ 961,195.00
Massachusetts	Coastal	\$ 1,421,328.00
Missouri	Inland	\$ 60,325.04
New Hampshire	Coastal	\$ 117,937.87
New Hampshire	Inland	\$ 52,687.87
New York	Coastal	\$ 414,000.00
New York	Inland	\$ 86,000.00
North Carolina	Inland	\$ 240,750.00
Ohio	Coastal	\$ 526,898.58
Ohio	Inland	\$ 21,895.42
Oklahoma	Inland	\$ 489,703.55
Rhode Island	Coastal	\$ 265,125.00
South Carolina	Coastal	\$ 128,693.00
South Carolina	Inland	\$ 34,029.00
Tennessee	Inland	\$ 900,000.00
Texas	Coastal	\$ 202,500.00
Texas	Inland	\$ 285,000.00
Vermont	Inland	\$ 352,650.00
Virginia	Coastal	\$ 550,000.00
Virginia	Inland	\$ 130,000.00
Washington	Coastal	\$ 973,500.00
Washington	Inland	\$ 496,000.00
	Total	\$ 17,848,596.43

Table 3

FY 2019 Boating Infrastructure Grant Program – Tier 1 Awards

State/Territory	Federal Share
Alabama	\$ 200,000.00
Arizona	\$ 200,000.00
Arkansas	\$ 197,632.53
California	\$ 130,000.00
Connecticut	\$ 189,156.00
Florida	\$ 136,750.00
Georgia	\$ 98,839.00
Guam	\$ 200,000.00
Maine	\$ 199,996.50
Maryland	\$ 200,000.00
Massachusetts	\$ 52,271.00
Michigan	\$ 200,000.00
Missouri	\$ 153,874.60
New Hampshire	\$ 200,000.00
New Jersey	\$ 197,775.00
New York	\$ 26,500.00
North Carolina	\$ 196,213.05
Oregon	\$ 200,000.00
South Carolina	\$ 200,000.00
Tennessee	\$ 200,000.00
Utah	\$ 200,000.00
Virginia	\$ 196,852.50
Washington	\$ 166,176.00
Wisconsin	\$ 189,510.00
Total	\$ 4,131,546.18

Table 4

FY 2019 Boating Infrastructure Grant Program – Tier 2 Awards

State	Project Title	Federal Share
Florida	Las Olas Marina	\$ 1,114,354.00
Florida	West Shore Marina District	\$ 323,951.00
Georgia	Morningstar Marinas	\$ 442,513.58
Georgia	St. Marys	\$ 1,181,246.00
Maine	DiMillo's Old Port Marina	\$ 1,500,000.00
Maine	Lyman-Morse Marina	\$ 1,500,000.00
Maryland	Lighthouse Point West Marina	\$ 1,500,000.00
New Jersey	Port AC Marina	\$ 1,474,300.00
New Jersey	Wiggins Marina	\$ 1,042,401.00
New York	Cedar Point State Park Marina	\$ 282,477.22
New York	Port Chester	\$ 691,250.00
New York	Seneca Lake Marina	\$ 649,732.00
Ohio	Heritage Park	\$ 1,146,314.00
Ohio	Rivergate Park	\$ 482,770.00
South Carolina	Dolphin Cove Marina	\$ 312,121.00
South Carolina	Reserve Harbor Yacht Club	\$ 163,632.00
Texas	Laguna Harbor	\$ 1,494,199.00
Virginia	Garrett's Marina	\$ 298,908.00
Virginia	Norton's Marina	\$ 386,618.00
Washington	Port Angeles Fuel Float	\$ 517,810.00
	Total	\$ 16,504,596.80

Table 5

FY 2019 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program Awards

Application #		State	Total Project Cost
R4-19-5	Shellbine Acquisition	GA	\$ 4,948,300.00
R4-19-3	Floyd's Neck and Grover Island Acquisition	GA	\$ 8,451,741.00
R4-19-4	Oatlands Plantation Acquisition	GA	\$ 1,400,000.00
R1-19-6	Skookum Valley Acquisition and Restoration	WA	\$ 800,000.00
R8-19-2	Eel River Estuary Preserve Enhancement Project Phase 2	CA	\$ 1,504,891.21
R8-19-3	Elkhorn Slough Phase 2	CA	\$ 1,510,000.00
R3-19-1	Point Au Sable Wequiock Creek Protection Project	WI	\$ 976,615.00
R1-19-5	Lower Hood Canal Estuarine Wetlands Reconstruction	WA	\$ 1,922,280.00
R4-19-6	Meter Point Tract Acquisition Dare County	NC	\$ 1,239,250.00
R1-19-2	Baird Cove Acquisition	WA	\$ 1,426,667.00
R5-19-1	Clark Island Wetlands Conservation Project	ME	\$ 3,929,525.00
R1-19-8	West Oakland Bay Restoration Phase 2	WA	\$ 1,420,000.00
R1-19-4	Elwha Estuary Place Acquisition and Restoration	WA	\$ 1,420,000.00
R5-19-3	Cuttyhunk Land Conservation Project	MA	\$ 1,750,000.00
R4-19-2	Tarpon Cove Estuarine Habitat Restoration Project - Phase 1	FL	\$ 1,417,334.00
R8-19-1	Big Canyon Wetlands Restoration Phase 2A	CA	\$ 1,641,854.00
R5-19-5	Tidmarsh Restoration Project - Phase 3	MA	\$ 2,274,000.00
R5-19-4	Cold Brook Eco-Restoration Project	MA	\$ 3,937,224.00
R2-19-1	Settegast Coastal Heritage Preserve at Anchor Bay #5	TX	\$ 1,333,335.00
R1-19-7	Sound View Conservation Easement	WA	\$ 1,366,667.00
R5-19-2	Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center Resiliency Project	MD	\$ 1,424,000.00
R4-19-1	D'Olive Bay Coastal Wetlands Land Acquisition Proposal	AL	\$ 951,000.00
Total			\$ 47,044,683.21

Table 6

FY 2019 North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Awards

PROJECT TYPE	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	NAWCA GRANT	MATCHING AMOUNT	TOTAL PARTNER AMOUNT	TOTAL ACRES
CANADA STD GRANT	9	\$30,215,066	\$30,215,066	\$30,215,066	54,362.0
MEXICO STD GRANT	8	\$3,482,682	\$7,289,954	\$7,289,954	110,316.6
U.S. SMALL GRANT	31	\$3,054,127	\$11,188,591	\$11,188,591	10,189.1
U.S. STD GRANT	54	\$53,336,889	\$138,172,146	\$138,172,146	339,725.0
TOTAL	102	\$90,088,764	\$186,865,757	\$186,865,757	514,592.7

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Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration



Appropriations Language

The Wildlife Restoration Account does not require appropriations language because there is permanent authority, established September 6, 1950 (64 Stat. 693), 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 (States) 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 *Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration 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 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 authorizes a Bow Hunter Education and Safety Program that provides 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 Account not required for current year spending in interest-bearing obligations to be available for States to implement wetlands conservation projects.

Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act of 2019 (Pub. L. 116-17) amends the *Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act* (16 U.S.C. 669) to define a public target range and offers States alternatives for funding specific activities related to public target ranges under the Basic Hunter Education subprogram (BHE), the Enhanced Hunter Education Program (EHE), and the Wildlife Restoration Program (WR).

Appropriation: Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration

		2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021			Budget Estimate	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Payments to States	(\$000)	663,371	596,883	0	0	+144,163	741,046	+144,165
Hunter Education & Safety Grants	(\$000)	8,032	8,024	0	0	+448	8,472	+448
Multistate Conservation Grants	(\$000)	3,012	3,009	0	0	+168	3,177	+168
Administration	(\$000)	11,480	11,669	0	0	+862	12,531	+862
Subtotal (\$000)	(\$000)	685,895	619,585	0	0	+145,641	765,226	+145,641
	<i>FTE</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>0</i>
Interest – NAWCF	(\$000)	47,787	45,422	0	0	+233	45,655	+233
	<i>FTE</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
TOTAL, Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration	(\$000)	733,682	665,007	0	0	+145,874	810,881	+145,874
	<i>FTE</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>0</i>

The 2019 and 2020 amounts include sequestration in accordance with section 251A of the BBDECA, 2 U.S.C. 901a. In addition, the amounts in 2019, 2020, and 2021 include amounts previously sequestered, which are now available in accordance with said Act.

In 1937, Congress passed the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act, authorizing the appropriation of funds from an excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition to the Secretary of the Interior for apportionment to States on a formula basis. It provided a much-needed, stable source of funding for wildlife conservation programs across the country and today is considered by many to be the single most productive wildlife undertaking on record. Interestingly enough, the legislation’s most vocal supporters were sportsmen and hunters – the very group that would be most affected by the tax. Many hunters made it clear they willingly would accept a permanent tax if it meant the government would use the funds to work with the States to ensure the sustainability of popular game animals. The accompanying Service-administered grant programs, including the Section 4(c) Hunter Education and Safety Program (Basic Hunter Education) and the 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. Through administering these programs, the Service helps to create and maintain strong conservation stewardship, supporting local communities in sustainably utilizing natural resources. Since 1937, the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Program has contributed \$12.2 billion to restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild bird and mammal populations, acquire and manage wildlife habitats, provide public uses that benefit from wildlife resources, educate hunters on conservation ethics and safety, and construct, operate, and manage recreational firearm shooting and archery ranges.



*Young hunters at Frog Bayou Wildlife Management Area
Photo: Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*

The economic impacts of hunting and recreational shooting in the United States are considerable. The Service’s 2016 *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation* estimates the total

number of hunters in the United States to be 11.5 million, and total hunting expenditures to be \$26.2 billion. An estimated total of 32 million people went target shooting with firearms, and 12.4 million engaged in archery activities. According to the 2018 National Shooting Sports Foundation's report, *Hunting in America: An Economic Force for Conservation*, hunter spending generates \$185 million per day for the United States economy, and supports as many as 525,000 jobs. The 2018 National Shooting Sports Foundation's report, *Target Shooting in America: An Economic Force for Conservation*, reports that target shooters spent \$16.9 billion in 2016 on equipment and travel, and supported 329,000 jobs.

The Wildlife Restoration Program funds many important projects across the United States including: acquiring more acres for the Frog Bayou Wildlife Management Area in Arkansas to improve wildlife management, habitat, and expand recreational opportunities; conducting research in Oregon on the Sierra Nevada Red Fox, a species that could be at risk and may be in need of conservation; conducting a prescribed fire in Massachusetts to benefit native wildlife and plants such as the New England cottontail, barren's buckmoth, American woodcock, white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and wild lupine; constructing a state-of-the-art shooting range facility and administration building in Kansas at the El Dorado State Park; and managing Tule elk populations in California - what was once a single surviving herd on a private ranch has been nurtured to more than 6,000 elk distributed among 22 herds.

Budget Estimate

The FY 2021 budget estimate for the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Program is \$810,881,710 and 51 FTE. The estimate is based on current law projections provided by the Department of the Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020				
	WILDLIFE	HUNTER EDUCATION		
	FUNDS-5220	SEC 4(c) FUNDS-5210	ENHANCED FUNDS-5230	
<u>STATE</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.626</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ALABAMA	\$10,594,325	\$2,541,890	\$192,810	\$13,329,025
ALASKA	\$10,594,325	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$11,799,345
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$10,594,325	\$186,677	\$14,160	\$10,795,162
ARIZONA	\$10,594,325	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$14,209,384
ARKANSAS	\$10,594,325	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$11,799,345
CALIFORNIA	\$10,594,325	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$14,209,384
COLORADO	\$10,594,325	\$2,674,554	\$202,873	\$13,471,752
CONNECTICUT	\$2,230,466	\$1,900,725	\$144,176	\$4,275,367
DELAWARE	\$2,230,466	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$3,435,486
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FLORIDA	\$6,727,556	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$10,342,615
GEORGIA	\$12,792,194	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$16,407,253
GUAM	\$743,489	\$186,677	\$14,160	\$944,326
HAWAII	\$2,230,466	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$3,435,486
IDAHO	\$9,839,886	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$11,044,906
ILLINOIS	\$8,059,141	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$11,674,200
INDIANA	\$6,046,820	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$9,661,879
IOWA	\$6,961,044	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$8,166,064
KANSAS	\$9,191,885	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$10,396,905
KENTUCKY	\$7,462,286	\$2,307,699	\$175,046	\$9,945,031
LOUISIANA	\$8,840,520	\$2,410,872	\$182,872	\$11,434,264
MAINE	\$4,460,338	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$5,665,358
MARYLAND	\$2,386,099	\$3,070,407	\$232,900	\$5,689,406
MASSACHUSETTS	\$2,230,466	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$5,845,525
MICHIGAN	\$13,324,618	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$16,939,677
MINNESOTA	\$13,527,446	\$2,820,657	\$213,956	\$16,562,059
MISSISSIPPI	\$7,331,335	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$8,536,355
MISSOURI	\$11,613,197	\$3,184,945	\$241,588	\$15,039,730
MONTANA	\$13,376,316	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$14,581,336
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	\$743,489	\$186,677	\$14,160	\$944,326

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020				
	WILDLIFE	HUNTER EDUCATION		
	FUNDS-5220	SEC 4(c) FUNDS-5210	ENHANCED FUNDS-5230	
<u>STATE</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.626</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NEBRASKA	\$7,946,533	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$9,151,553
NEVADA	\$8,684,992	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$9,890,012
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$2,230,466	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$3,435,486
NEW JERSEY	\$2,230,466	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$5,845,525
NEW MEXICO	\$10,016,487	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$11,221,507
NEW YORK	\$11,159,918	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$14,774,977
NORTH CAROLINA	\$12,061,945	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$15,677,004
NORTH DAKOTA	\$6,753,860	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$7,958,880
OHIO	\$7,898,754	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$11,513,813
OKLAHOMA	\$12,631,078	\$1,994,989	\$151,326	\$14,777,393
OREGON	\$11,309,512	\$2,037,386	\$154,542	\$13,501,440
PENNSYLVANIA	\$16,085,472	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$19,700,531
PUERTO RICO	\$2,230,466	\$186,677	\$14,160	\$2,431,303
RHODE ISLAND	\$2,230,466	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$3,435,486
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$4,696,706	\$2,459,791	\$186,583	\$7,343,080
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$8,336,026	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$9,541,046
TENNESSEE	\$12,443,095	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$16,058,154
TEXAS	\$22,304,659	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$25,919,718
UTAH	\$9,393,215	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$10,598,235
VERMONT	\$2,230,466	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$3,435,486
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$743,489	\$186,677	\$14,160	\$944,326
VIRGINIA	\$6,475,201	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$10,090,260
WASHINGTON	\$7,182,985	\$3,360,179	\$254,880	\$10,798,044
WEST VIRGINIA	\$4,608,177	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$5,813,197
WISCONSIN	\$13,370,533	\$3,024,371	\$229,408	\$16,624,312
WYOMING	\$8,650,214	\$1,120,060	\$84,960	\$9,855,234
TOTAL	\$440,414,979	\$112,005,974	\$8,496,000	\$560,916,953

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021				
	WILDLIFE	HUNTER EDUCATION		
	FUNDS-5220	SEC 4(c) FUNDS-5210	ENHANCED FUNDS-5230	
<u>STATE</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.626</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ALABAMA	\$13,906,223	\$3,347,400	\$181,554	\$17,435,177
ALASKA	\$29,277,330	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$30,832,330
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$975,911	\$245,833	\$13,333	\$1,235,077
ARIZONA	\$16,097,842	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$20,762,842
ARKANSAS	\$10,218,170	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$11,773,170
CALIFORNIA	\$19,400,376	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$24,065,376
COLORADO	\$14,920,968	\$3,522,105	\$191,029	\$18,634,102
CONNECTICUT	\$2,927,733	\$2,503,053	\$135,759	\$5,566,545
DELAWARE	\$2,927,733	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$4,482,733
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FLORIDA	\$8,830,661	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$13,495,661
GEORGIA	\$16,791,169	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$21,456,169
GUAM	\$975,911	\$245,833	\$13,333	\$1,235,077
HAWAII	\$2,927,733	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$4,482,733
IDAHO	\$12,915,938	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$14,470,938
ILLINOIS	\$10,578,513	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$15,243,513
INDIANA	\$7,937,119	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$12,602,119
IOWA	\$9,137,140	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$10,692,140
KANSAS	\$12,065,365	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$13,620,365
KENTUCKY	\$9,795,075	\$3,038,996	\$164,827	\$12,998,898
LOUISIANA	\$11,604,160	\$3,174,863	\$172,196	\$14,951,219
MAINE	\$5,854,687	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$7,409,687
MARYLAND	\$3,132,018	\$4,043,401	\$219,303	\$7,394,722
MASSACHUSETTS	\$2,927,733	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$7,592,733
MICHIGAN	\$17,490,034	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$22,155,034
MINNESOTA	\$17,756,268	\$3,714,506	\$201,465	\$21,672,239
MISSISSIPPI	\$9,623,188	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$11,178,188
MISSOURI	\$15,243,604	\$4,194,235	\$227,484	\$19,665,323
MONTANA	\$17,557,894	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$19,112,894
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	\$975,911	\$245,833	\$13,333	\$1,235,077

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ESTIMATED APPORTIONMENT OF PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021				
	WILDLIFE	HUNTER EDUCATION		
	FUNDS-5220	SEC 4(c) FUNDS-5210	ENHANCED FUNDS-5230	
STATE	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.611</u>	<u>CFDA: 15.626</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NEBRASKA	\$10,430,703	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$11,985,703
NEVADA	\$11,400,013	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$12,955,013
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$2,927,733	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$4,482,733
NEW JERSEY	\$2,927,733	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$7,592,733
NEW MEXICO	\$13,147,746	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$14,702,746
NEW YORK	\$14,648,626	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$19,313,626
NORTH CAROLINA	\$15,832,637	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$20,497,637
NORTH DAKOTA	\$8,865,188	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$10,420,188
OHIO	\$10,367,988	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$15,032,988
OKLAHOMA	\$16,579,686	\$2,627,189	\$142,492	\$19,349,367
OREGON	\$14,844,985	\$2,683,022	\$145,520	\$17,673,527
PENNSYLVANIA	\$21,113,960	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$25,778,960
PUERTO RICO	\$2,927,733	\$245,833	\$13,333	\$3,186,899
RHODE ISLAND	\$2,927,733	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$4,482,733
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$6,164,946	\$3,239,288	\$175,690	\$9,579,924
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$10,941,955	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$12,496,955
TENNESSEE	\$16,332,937	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$20,997,937
TEXAS	\$29,277,330	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$33,942,330
UTAH	\$12,329,636	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$13,884,636
VERMONT	\$2,927,733	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$4,482,733
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$975,911	\$245,833	\$13,333	\$1,235,077
VIRGINIA	\$8,499,417	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$13,164,417
WASHINGTON	\$9,428,461	\$4,425,000	\$240,000	\$14,093,461
WEST VIRGINIA	\$6,048,741	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$7,603,741
WISCONSIN	\$17,550,301	\$3,982,777	\$216,016	\$21,749,094
WYOMING	\$11,354,362	\$1,475,000	\$80,000	\$12,909,362
TOTAL	\$585,546,601	\$147,500,000	\$8,000,000	\$741,046,601

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 as provided in the 81st Congress, Second Session—Chapter 896, Interior Appropriations Act, 1951, September 6, 1951 (64 Stat. 697) to use the receipts.

Authorizing Statutes

The Migratory Bird Conservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715-715d, 715e, 715f-715r), 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 and Conservation Stamp Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 718a-718k), 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 (MBCF) 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 2014 amendment to the Act (Pub. L. 113-264) increased the price of the Federal Duck Stamp from \$15 to \$25, with the \$10 increase dedicated to the acquisition of conservation easements.

The Wetlands Loan Act, (16 U.S.C. 715k-3 - 715k-5), requires the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Service Director, to obtain the approval of the State's Governor or the appropriate State agency to acquire land in the State with MBCF monies.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), requires payment of fair market value for any right-of-way granted over, across, through, or under National Wildlife Refuge System lands. These payments are deposited into the MBCF.

The Emergency Wetlands Resources Act, as amended (P. L. 99-645; 100 Stat. 3582), 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, and (2) removal of the repayment provision of the Wetlands Loan Act (P. L. 87-383).

Appropriation: Migratory Bird Conservation Account

	2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021				Change from 2020 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Estimate	
Land Acquisition: Fee, Easements, and Leases (\$000)	78,011	74,812	0	0	+4,013	78,825	+4,013
U.S. Postal Service Duck Stamp Printing and Sales Costs (\$000)	521	600	0	0	0	600	0
Total, Migratory Bird Conservation Account (\$000)	78,532	75,412	0	0	+4,013	79,425	+4,013
FTE	68	67	0	0	0	67	0

*The amounts presented in 2019 and 2020 include sequestration in accordance with section 251(a) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, 2 U.S.C. 901(a). In addition, the amounts in 2019, 2020, and 2021 include amounts previously sequestered, which are now available in accordance with said Act.

Program Overview

The Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) supports America's conservation legacy and its tradition of migratory bird hunting. The MBCF is a sportsmen and waterfowl enthusiast-funded account that provides the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) with monies to acquire important waterfowl habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System under the authority of the *Migratory Bird Conservation Act* and the *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act*.

The *Migratory Bird Conservation Act* established the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC), which oversees MBCF expenditures. The MBCC is chaired by the Secretary and includes four members of Congress. Over its 80-year history, the MBCC has approved acquisition of key wetland habitats to sustain migratory bird populations, while establishing or enhancing many of our Nation's most popular destinations for public waterfowl hunting and bird watching. Since 1935, the MBCC has approved proposals to establish or expand more than 240 national wildlife refuges using the MBCF. These national wildlife refuges now account for 75% of all public refuge visits for waterfowl and migratory bird hunting and 52% of all public refuge visits for fishing. By protecting more wetlands, these refuges also improve water quality and groundwater recharge, and moderate flooding events.



Military veterans celebrated Veterans Day with their first waterfowl hunt at the inaugural Ridgefield NWR Veterans' Waterfowl Hunt. Nearly all of the Refuge was purchased with Migratory Bird Conservation Act funds. Credit: USFWS.

All proposed MBCF land acquisitions for national wildlife refuges must be approved by the MBCC, and the MBCC only considers such proposals in a State after:

- The State's legislature has consented by law to acquisition by the United States (16 U.S.C. 715f);
- The Secretary, acting through the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has consulted with

the affected county or other unit of local government and with the State's Governor or the appropriate State agency, about the proposed land acquisition (16 U.S.C. 715c); and

- The State's Governor or his/her designee has approved the acquisition (16 U.S.C. 715k-5).

Additionally, the State official that administers the State's game laws, or his/her representative, serves as an ex officio member of the MBCC and considers and votes on all proposed acquisitions in their State.

There are two major sources of funds deposited into the MBCF account. The best-known source is the revenue received from the sale of Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, commonly known as Duck Stamps, as provided for under the *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act*. In accordance with the *Federal Duck Stamp Act of 2014*, all amounts in excess of \$15 received from the sale of each Duck Stamp can be used only for conservation easement acquisition. The other major funding source is import duties collected on arms and ammunition, as provided for under the *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act*. The MBCF is further supplemented by payments for rights-of-way granted across refuge lands, and any proceeds from refuge land disposals. State-reverted funds in the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration account are also used for MBCF purposes.

Delivering Conservation for Migratory Birds

Since its creation, the MBCF has contributed significantly to the successful conservation of wetland-dependent migratory birds and continues to support habitat conservation for waterfowl and other birds, including coastlines, grasslands, and forests. From 1935 to 2019, the Service expended more than \$1.5 billion from the MBCF to purchase 3.1 million acres in fee title and 2.8 million acres in conservation easements.

Blackwater NWR and its adjacent marshes and waters are one of the Chesapeake Bay's most important and productive estuarine assets. Acquisition of these 2,614 acres will help ensure that the Refuge continues to contain the types of habitats necessary to benefit waterfowl into the future and will expand public hunting opportunities.

Credit: USFWS.



Budget Estimate

The 2021 budget estimate for the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund is \$79,425,000 and 67 FTE.

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Recreation Fee Program



Appropriations Language

The budget proposes to permanently reauthorize the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which expires October 1, 2021. As a precaution, the budget also proposes appropriations language to provide a two-year extension of FLREA through September 2023.

Authorizing Statutes

Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801-6814). The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) provides the authority to establish, modify, charge, and collect recreation fees at Federal recreation land and waters. 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. The budget proposes legislation to permanently authorize the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which will expire on October 1, 2021. Permanent authorization of FLREA will further the Secretary's priority of generating additional revenues to support DOI and National interests by ensuring that recreation fees collected on national wildlife refuges are reasonable and targeted to achieve cost recovery.

These specified allowable purposes for the expenditure of FLREA funds include terms that are broad and have commonly understood, or ordinary, meanings. They include:

- **Repair:** Which generally means to fix or mend a thing suffering from damage or a fault; make good by fixing or repairing it; put right;
- **Maintenance:** Which generally means the process of maintaining or preserving someone or something, or the state of being maintained; the process of keeping something in good condition;
- **Facility Enhancement (related directly to visitor enjoyment):** This is generally understood to be an intensification, increase, or further improvement of the quality or value of a facility;
- **Visitor Access:** Which generally means approaching or entering a place; the right or opportunity to use or benefit from something; the condition of being able to be reached or obtained;
- **Health:** Which generally means the state of being free from illness or injury;
- **Safety:** Which generally means the condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury;
- **Interpretation:** Which is generally understood to be the action of explaining the meaning of something; an explanation or way of explaining;

- Visitor Information: Which is generally understood to be providing visitors with facts about something or someone related to the visit;
- Visitor Service: Which is generally understood to be the action of helping or doing work for someone; assistance or advice given to a visitor;
- Signs: Which is generally understood to mean a notice that is publicly displayed giving information or instructions in a written or symbolic form; and
- Law enforcement related to public use and recreation.

Appropriation: Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program

		2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021			Change from 2020 Estimate (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)*	Budget Estimate	
Federal Lands Recreation Fee (\$000)		7,698	6,503	0	+56	6,559	+56
Program	FTE	27	30	0	0	30	0

*The amount presented in 2019 and 2020 includes the sequestration in accordance with Sec. 251A of the BBDECA, 2 U.S.C 901a. In addition, the amounts in 2019, 2020, and 2021 include amounts previously sequestered, which are now available in accordance with said Act.

Program Mission

The intent of the Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program is to provide an additional revenue source for “repair, maintenance, and facility enhancement related directly to visitor enjoyment, visitor access, and health and safety; interpretation, visitor information, visitor service, visitor needs assessments, and signs; habitat restoration directly related to wildlife-dependent recreation that is limited to hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, or photography; law enforcement related to public use and recreation; direct operating or capital costs associated with the Recreation Fee Program; and a fee management agreement established under section 6(a) or a visitor reservation service.” [From FLREA, 16 U.S.C. 6803(c)].

Program Overview

The Recreation Fee Program, authorized through September 30, 2020, allows the collection of entrance, expanded amenity, and special recreation permit fees on Federal lands and waters managed by the Department of the Interior, such as National Wildlife Refuges. The 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 166 approved Recreation Fee Program sites. An additional 28 National Fish Hatchery, Ecological Service offices, or other refuge sites also sell the National Parks & Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass to improve pass availability for the public in certain regions. The Service’s Recreation Fee Program expects to collect approximately \$6,503,000 in FY 2020 and \$6,559,000 in FY 2021 under FLREA authority. If needed, the Service may exercise the Secretary’s statutory authority to use fees collected pursuant to the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) to pay for basic visitor services and related expenses, such as salary costs, in a manner consistent with the law.



At Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge in Indiana, over 150 people participate in the annual youth hunt. Recreation fees from the hunt help fund the operations of the hunt program.

Budget Estimate

The 2021 budget estimate for the Federal Lands Recreation Fee Program is \$6,559,000 and 30 FTE.

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 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 (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 Department of the Treasury.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (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 (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

		2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021			Change from 2020 (+/-)	
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		Budget Estimate
Contributed Funds	(\$000)	8,508	5,000	0	0	0	5,000	0
	FTE	19	18	0	0	0	18	0

Program Overview

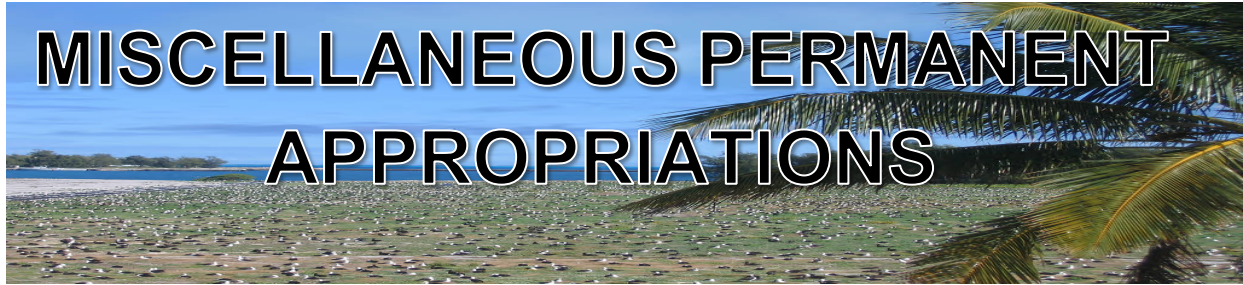
The Service accepts unsolicited contributions from other governments, private organizations, and individuals. Once collected, the funds are used to support a variety of fish and wildlife conservation projects that contribute to fulfillment of DOI goals and the Service’s mission.

Contributions are difficult to accurately forecast due to external events. In recent years, annual contributions have ranged from approximately \$3.7 million in FY 2014 to \$8.5 million in FY 2019.

Budget Estimate

The 2021 budget estimate for Contributed Funds is \$5,000,000 and 18 FTE.

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, 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.

Flood Control Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 460d). 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.

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.

Commercial Filming Fee, (P.L. 113-287). This law authorizes a fee system for commercial filming activities on Federal land and to use the fees for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation.

Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998, (16 U.S.C.742f). 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.

Appropriation: Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations

		2019 Actual	2020 Estimate	2021			Budget Request	Change from 2020 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)		
Operations and Maintenance of Quarters	(\$000)	3,191	3,350	0	0	+50	3,400	+50
	<i>FTE</i>	3	3	0	0	0	3	0
Proceeds from Sales	(\$000)	182	250	0	0	+25	275	+25
	<i>FTE</i>	1		0	0	0	1	0
Lahontan Valley & Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund	(\$000)	1,025	500	0	0	0	500	0
	<i>FTE</i>	0		0	0	0	0	0
Film and Photography Fee Program	(\$000)	0	75	0	0	0	75	0
	<i>FTE</i>	0		0	0	0	0	0
Community Partnership Enhancement	(\$000)	.280	100	0	0	0	100	0
	<i>FTE</i>	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total, Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations	(\$000)	4,398	4,275	0	0	+75	4,350	+75
	<i>FTE</i>	4	4	0	0	0	4	0

Program Overview**Operations and Maintenance of Quarters**

The Operations and Maintenance of Quarters (Quarters) Account uses receipts from the rental of Service quarters to pay for maintenance 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 (e.g. 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.

Proceeds From Sales, Water Resources Development Projects

As described in 16 U.S.C. 460(d), 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. Twenty-three National Wildlife Refuges were established as overlay projects on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land, and they 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. The Service has used these funds in the past for soil amendments; road construction and repairs; and ditch and fence construction and maintenance. These expenses cannot exceed the receipt amounts deposited as proceeds from sales.

Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund

Pursuant to the Truckee-Carson Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act of 1990, 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 received from the Bureau of Reclamation's Washoe and Truckee Storage Projects in excess of operation and maintenance costs for Stampede Reservoir are available without further appropriation, as are donations made for express purposes and State cost-sharing funds. In addition, the Secretary is authorized to deposit proceeds from the sale of certain lands and interests in lands into the Fund.

Land sales proceeds are used primarily to pay annual water delivery costs for Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, Northern Nevada's premier waterfowl hunting destination and part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network.

Film and Photography Fee Program

Congress provided authority for the Service to require permits and establish reasonable fees for commercial filming activities and certain still photography activities under Service jurisdiction. It requires all four bureaus involved—the Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service—to develop and implement a consistent fee schedule. To date, the four bureaus have revised the draft fee schedule after a public comment period. The final fee schedule is awaiting publication. Once finalized, all costs recovered under this Act shall be available for expenditures by the Secretary, without further appropriation, at the site where collected, and shall remain available until expended.

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 refuge complex.

Funds may be used to promote education and the conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and cultural and historical resources on a refuge or refuge complex.

2021 Budget Estimate

The 2021 budget estimate for Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations is \$4,350,000 and 4 FTE.

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Administrative Provisions and Legislative Proposals

Legislative Proposals

Public Lands Infrastructure Fund

Interior manages an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding \$300 billion, ranging from elementary and secondary schools serving Indian children in the West, to highways and bridges serving the daily commuting needs of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Most well-known, are Interior's iconic and unique national treasures that have priceless historical significance. Many of these assets are deteriorating, with older assets becoming more expensive to repair and maintain in good condition.

Interior and Agriculture manage an infrastructure asset portfolio with over \$18 billion in deferred maintenance, which includes structures, trails, roads, utility systems, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools. To address these needs, the budget includes \$6.5 billion over 5 years for a Public Lands Infrastructure Fund. The Fund will support infrastructure improvements through an allocation of 70 percent for national parks, 10 percent for national forests, 10 percent for wildlife refuges, five percent for BIE schools, and five percent for lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The Fund will be supported by the deposit of 50 percent of all Federal energy development revenue that would otherwise be credited or deposited as miscellaneous receipts to the Treasury over the 2021–2025 period, subject to an annual limit of \$1.3 billion. Interior and Agriculture would prioritize projects, monitor implementation, and measure results. This investment will significantly improve many of America's most visible, visited, and treasured places.

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Appendices

Section 403 Compliance

Purpose: To fulfill legislative requirements for disclosure of program assessments used to support Government-wide, departmental, or agency initiatives or general operations. Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94):

SEC. 403. The amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves or holdbacks, including working capital fund and cost pool charges, 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 of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations for approval.

Pursuant to the *Section 403* directive, the Service fully discloses its administrative costs as follows:

NATIONAL COMMON PROGRAM SERVICES: With the Administrative reorganization, the Service has consolidated all regional shared costs and national shared costs into a common program services charge. These charges account for specific administrative services for facilities management, procurement, human resources, financial and other services. With the JAO reorganization, the Service has striven to keep these assessments at prior levels.

NON-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT USER-PAY COST SHARE: Non-Resource Management Programs continue to pay annually for the administrative services they consume. The funding received from Non-Resource Management Programs supplements central, regional and Servicewide support operations. Specifically, the Non-Resource Management Programs pay for their actual use of communication services and Workers' Compensation. Other costs, such as Washington and Regional office administration and Service-wide costs, such as Unemployment Compensation are measured through FTE usage.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION: The Service has historically paid workers' compensation costs centrally through the Servicewide bill paying account. As a result, programs were not aware of the costs that result from employee injuries. Since FY 2015, workers' compensation costs have been charged to the applicable programs. The Service made this change to address an audit finding and provide incentive for programs to participate in the Department's Return to Work initiative.

ENTERPRISE-WIDE SERVICES: In order to provide the necessary level of funding for Enterprise-wide and Working Capital Fund Direct Bill services, the Service assesses its resource management programs for costs that can be directly tracked back to users. This includes software licenses, cell phone costs, personnel system costs, employee badges and the like.

RESERVES: The Service Director may manage a deferred allocation fund 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 requirements and are applied consistently 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 or user-pay cost share.

Below shows administrative cost estimates for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020:

	Fiscal Year 2019
External Administrative Costs	
WCF Centralized Billings	\$23,253,700
WCF Direct Billings/Fee for Service	\$17,086,100
Program Assessments	
Holdbacks, Reserves, and Deductions	\$6,395,010
Bureau Administrative Costs/Central and Regional Operations	
National Common Program Services	\$25,500,000
Non-Resource Management User-Pay Cost Share	\$9,157,807
Workers' Compensation	\$832,000
Enterprise-Wide Services	\$21,479,500
One-Time Security and IT Investments	\$2,856,700

	Fiscal Year 2020
External Administrative Costs	
WCF Centralized Billings	\$23,392,000
WCF Direct Billings/Fee for Service	\$18,000,000
Program Assessments	
Holdbacks, Reserves, and Deductions	\$6,500,000
Bureau Administrative Costs/Central and Regional Operations	
Regional Common Program Services	\$31,998,399
Non-Resource Management User-Pay Cost Share	\$9,142,421
Workers' Compensation	\$627,000
Enterprise-Wide Services	\$21,506,000

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Employee Count by Grade (Total Employment)

	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Estimate	FY 2021 Estimate
Executive Level V	0	1	1
SES	18	18	18
Subtotal	18	19	19
SL - 00	1	1	1
ST - 00	0	0	0
Subtotal	1	1	1
GS/GM -15	125	113	113
GS/GM -14	540	530	525
GS/GM -13	1,390	1,395	1,395
GS -12	1,690	1,680	1,675
GS -11	1,544	1,535	1,535
GS -10	8	8	8
GS - 9	930	980	960
GS - 8	113	105	100
GS - 7	567	590	575
GS - 6	190	190	190
GS - 5	450	460	465
GS - 4	165	164	164
GS - 3	75	75	75
GS - 2	10	15	15
GS - 1	1	2	2
Subtotal	7,798	7,842	7,797
Other Pay Schedule Systems	648	678	678
Total employment (actuals & estimates)	8,287	8,540	8,495

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Allocations Received from Other Accounts						
Department Program	FY 2019 Actual		FY 2020 Estimate		FY 2021 Estimate	
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays
Department of Agriculture:						
Forest Pest Management 8550	0	9,605	0	0	0	0
Forest Pest Management 8874	171,220	165,345	200,000	191,366	200,000	200,000
Department of the Interior:						
<i>Office of Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration</i>						
Damage Assessment 8300	1,578,704	1,511,559	2,000,000	1,873,611	2,000,000	2,000,000
Restoration 9800	98,069,265	18,651,968	75,000,000	81,920,780	75,000,000	75,000,000
<i>Office of Wildland Fire Coordination</i>						
Wildland Fire Management	74,779,719	65,081,200	73,500,000	73,883,916	84,300,000	81,060,000
Disaster Relief - Hurricane Sandy	0	3,752,468	698,000	2,200,000	0	1,600,000
<i>Bureau of Land Management</i>						
Central Hazardous Materials Fund	2,244,816	2,565,752	2,000,000	2,073,445	2,000,000	2,000,000
So. Nevada Public Lands Management	495,170	1,861,153	698,000	600,000	698,000	900,000
Energy Act - Permit Improvement	700,000	1,699,316	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000
Department of Transportation:						
Federal Highway Administration-Discretionary 0500	0	628,701	0	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
Federal Highway Administration- Mandatory 8083	15,154,803	8,913,362	10,000,000	11,546,441	8,000,000	8,600,000
TOTAL	193,193,697	104,840,429	164,796,000	175,989,558	172,898,000	173,060,000