

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program

Purpose

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to private or public organizations (including the National Park Service) or to individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. National Park Service projects are eligible for funding if the non-federal matching dollars requirements and other requirements of the program are met.

History

The Act was passed, in part, to support activities under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, an international agreement that provides a strategy for the long-term protection of wetlands and associated uplands needed by waterfowl and other migratory birds in North America. In December 2002, Congress reauthorized appropriations for the Act through Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, reflecting its and the public's support of the Act's goals. Congress increased the appropriation authorization to \$55 million in 2003, with \$5 million appropriation increases to occur annually until FY 2007, when the appropriation cap will be \$75 million.

Grant Proposals

A North American Wetlands Conservation Act standard grant proposal is a 4-year plan of action supported by a NAWCA grant and partner funds to conserve wetlands and wetlands-dependent fish and wildlife through acquisition (including easements and land title donations), restoration and/or enhancement, with a grant request between \$51,000 and \$1,000,000. Small grants (up to \$50,000) are administered separately. Match must be non-Federal and at least equal the grant request (referred to as a 1:1 match). Match is eligible up to 2 years prior to the year the proposal is submitted and grant and match funds are eligible after the proposal is submitted and through the project period.

Detailed Program Information, Proposal Applications, and Deadlines

Information is available on the web at <http://birdhabitat.fws.gov/NAWCA/grants.htm> Select "U.S. Standard Grants" (\$51,000 to \$1,000,000) or "U.S. Small Grants" (up to \$50,000) for more details. The 2003 grant proposal deadlines have passed, but interested park staff should watch the web site or contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service coordinators listed below to find out the schedule for 2004 or later.

Contacts

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