

**Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund  
Midwest Region  
FY 2012**

Notice of Availability for Federal Assistance and Application Instructions

**Program Overview Information**

**Federal Agency Name:**

Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

**Announcement Type:**

Notice of Funding Availability – Fiscal Year 2012.

**Funding Opportunity Title:** Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Grant Program (Traditional)

**Funding Opportunity Number:** F12AS00143

**Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:** 15.615

**Dates:** Grant application packages are due to the Midwest Regional Office, c/o Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR), no later than August 31, 2012. Applications must be submitted via Grants.gov.

**Additional Information:**

The Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund grant program (Traditional Section 6) provides financial assistance to States and Territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and at-risk species. Funded activities include habitat restoration, species status surveys, public education and outreach, captive propagation and reintroduction, nesting surveys, genetic studies, habitat use assessments, and development of management plans. This grant program was established by the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Additional Information about the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund and the grants that are administered under the authority of the Act may be found on the web at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html>.

**I. Funding Opportunity Description:**

The Endangered Species Program provides Federal grant funding to the 50 States, Commonwealths, and Territories (State(s)) for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and for species that are at risk of being threatened (i.e.,

candidates for listing under the ESA). The ESA describes this cooperative funding arrangement in Section 6 of the ESA, thus the term Section 6 grant funding. Furthermore, this funding opportunity is for the “traditional” Section 6 grant funding, not the competitive grant process that is administered by the Washington Endangered Species office.

This funding opportunity is for Region 3, the Midwest Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Funds allocated to endangered species conservation through this opportunity are for the conservation of species under the jurisdiction of the state, including activities such as surveys, population assessment, habitat evaluation, research, and other activities that conserve species and/or contribute to recovery.

**II. Award Information:**

Fiscal Year 2012 Funding is available to states according to the number of federal listed and candidate species that are located within the state. The Midwest Region received \$437,719.71 which is allocated as follows:

	Illinois	Indiana	Iowa	Michigan	Minnesota	Missouri	Ohio	Wisconsin
Species Listed*	30	25	18	25	19	37	26	20
Species/Total	15.0%	12.5%	9.0%	12.5%	9.5%	18.5%	13.0%	10.0%
Allocation	\$65,658	\$54,715	\$39,395	\$54,715	\$41,583	\$80,978	\$56,904	\$43,772

**III. Eligibility Information:**

**A. Eligible Applicants:**

Participation in the program is limited to State agencies that have a current cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. That is, only State agencies that have a current Section 6 Cooperative Agreement with the Service may apply directly for CESCOF grant funding. However, individuals or groups (for example land conservancies, community organizations, or conservation organizations) may work with a State agency that has a cooperative agreement, on conservation efforts that are mutually beneficial, as a subgrantee.

**B. Matching Requirements:**

The program is a cost-reimbursement program: the State covers the full amount of an approved project then applies for reimbursement through the WSFR (U.S. Treasury – ASAP) and can be reimbursed up to 75 percent of project costs through the program. The State must provide at least 25 percent of the project costs from a non-Federal source. Matching and cost-sharing requirements are discussed in 50 CFR 80, 43 CFR 12.64 and 43 CFR 12.923. In addition, 43 CFR 12.62 identifies Federal cost principles for determining allowable costs.

#### IV. Application and Submission Instructions

- A. A complete grant application package needs to include the following:
1. SF 424 Application for Federal Assistance – signed by an authorized representative of the agency.
  2. One of the following depending on the type of project conducted:
    - a. SF 424B Standard Assurances – Non-Construction Projects; or
    - b. SF 424D Standard Assurances – Construction Projects.
  3. Project Narrative that identifies and describes:
    - a. The need for the proposed project(s) within the purpose of the Act;
    - b. Discrete, quantifiable, and verifiable objectives to be accomplished during a specific time period;
    - c. Expected results or benefits from accomplishing the objectives;
    - d. The approach to be used in meeting the objectives, including specific procedures, schedules, key personnel, and cooperators;
    - e. Description of the activity, so WSFR and Endangered Species staff are able to determine compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 7 of Endangered Species Act (ESA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA); and
    - f. Project location – Maps or other geographic aids may be attached.
  4. Budget Narrative:
    - a. Estimated costs to attain the objectives – The various activities or components of each project should be broken down by cost and by cooperator;
    - b. In-Kind Match – Include the source, the amount, and the valuation methodology used to arrive at the total; and
    - c. Program Income, if any – Include the source, amount, and the requested method of crediting the program income (i.e. deductive or additive).
  5. Optional Supplemental Forms can include:
    - a. SF 424A Budget Information – Non-Construction Projects; or
    - b. SF 424C Budget Information – Construction Projects.

B. Submission Dates and Times:

Grant application packages are due to the Midwest Region Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Office (applications submitted via Grants.gov) no later than August 31, 2012.

C. Submit applications to Grants.gov electronically, as described below:

1. Application Package Submission:
  - a. Go to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
  - b. Click the “Apply for Grants” tab and read the instructions provided by grants.gov.

- c. The following are items that need to be done before a grant application package can be submitted electronically through grants.gov:
    - i. Applicants must register as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and have a user id and password. The applicant can register on the web at [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\\_registered.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp);
    - ii. Applicants must have Adobe Acrobat Reader to view files on the web. You can download Adobe Acrobat Reader at [http://www07.grants.gov/resources/download\\_software.jsp#adobe811](http://www07.grants.gov/resources/download_software.jsp#adobe811).
  - d. Standard forms such as SF 424, SF 424A, SF 424B, SF 424 C, and SF 424D are fillable forms on grants.gov. The project narrative and budget narrative must be attachments in the following formats: MS Word, Adobe PDF, or MS Excel.
  - e. All forms and attachments mentioned above must be submitted with the grant application package.
2. Email confirmation of grant application submission to the following email box: [R3FedAid@fws.gov](mailto:R3FedAid@fws.gov). This will assure that the appropriate program staff has been alerted to the submission in order to process the application and award the grant through the new DOI Financial Business Management System.

#### D. Intergovernmental Review:

The Wildlife Restoration program is subject to EO 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs". States that choose to participate in the Executive Order process have established Single Points of Contact (SPOCs). Applicants should alert their SPOCs early in the application process. If the applicant is required to submit materials to a SPOC, indicate the date of this submittal (or the date of contact if requested by the SPOC not to submit) on the Standard Form 424. Applicants from jurisdictions that have not chosen to participate do not need to take any action regarding E.O. 12372.

#### E. Funding Restrictions

Ineligible activities include activities that do not provide public benefits, enforcement activities, and public relation activities.

### V. Award Administration Information:

#### A. Award Notices:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Director or his/her designee approves or disapproves grant proposals. Regional Offices are responsible for notification of grant approval to the applicant.

#### B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements:

1. Compliance with environmental laws such as the ESA, NEPA, and NHPA must be satisfied before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can approve a grant proposal.
2. On June 27, 2003, the Office of Management and Budget published a Federal Register notice (68 FR 38402) that announced its final policy on the use of a universal identifier by financial assistance applicants. The policy requires applicants applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements to obtain a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number. All organizations must obtain a DUNS number, a unique identifying number, before applying for Federal funds. Only private individual landowners are exempted. Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at 1-866-706-5711 or on-line at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.
3. States need an active registration in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). If you are receiving funds as an individual not operating as a business or a foreign entity not already registered and applying for or receiving an award for less than \$25,000 for activities to be performed outside the United States, you are not required to register in CCR. You can register in CCR or obtain additional CCR information online at <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx>.
4. States must complete and submit an Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system Participation Form. You can find the form at [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). If you have an existing account with another Federal agency, please indicate your ASAP ID on the form. You will receive further instructions as soon as we initiate your ASAP enrollment.
5. Acceptance of a Federal Financial Assistance awards from the Department of the Interior carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions of the grant award. For more information on the Standard Award Terms and Conditions see: <http://www.doi.gov/pam/TermsandConditions.html>

#### C. Reporting:

- A. Financial and Performance reporting requirements are specified in 43 CFR 12.80 and 12.81 and in the [Interim Guidance for Financial Status and Performance Reporting, dated May 15, 2009](#); and
- B. Retention and access requirements for records are specified in 43 CFR 12.82. Regulations and guidelines follow 50 CFR 80 and the WSFR toolkit.

#### VI. Agency Contacts:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund. Additional program information can be found by contacting the Midwest Regional Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Attn: Lisa Mandell, Regional Coordinator for Endangered Species Grants, 612-713-5343; [lisa\\_mandell@fws.gov](mailto:lisa_mandell@fws.gov)).

**VII. Other Information:**

The Federal government is not bound to financially support any project until an official U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service financial officer has signed off on the grant award.

OMB Control Number 1018-0109

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:** The Paperwork Reduction Act requires us to tell you why we are collecting this information, how we will use it, and whether or not you have to respond. We will use the information that we collect to evaluate applications submitted to acquire funding for Boating Infrastructure Grant Program funds. Your response is required to receive funding. A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. We estimate that it will take an average of 50 hours to complete the application. The average estimated annual burden associated with writing and submitting required performance reports is 6 hours. You may send comments concerning the burden estimates or any aspect of this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM, Arlington, VA 22203.