

# A Guide to North American Bird Conservation

The four major plans and NABCI



*A Product from the California All-Bird Conservation Workshop*

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## *Introduction*

This document is a reference handbook of information regarding the four “major bird plans:” three international (North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight, North American Waterbird Conservation Plan) and one national (United States Shorebird Conservation Plan) – in addition to the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI), established to stimulate coordination among the plans. Plans are presented chronologically, with the following information: 1) a synopsis; 2) a description of plan implementation at the national, regional, and local levels; and 3) plans, publications, and other products available to land managers and conservation partners. This information will assist California wildlife managers, private landowners, and other wildlife conservation partners to locate California within the context of each of these plans and to apply resources from the plans to the management and conservation of birds in California.

To facilitate the use of this guide, we include the names of current coordinators and contacts, realizing that these will change over time. For help finding current contacts in the future, please consult the appropriate web site listed for the initiative or consult the Bird Conservation Directory served by American Bird Conservancy at: <http://www.abcbirds.org/directory/directory.htm>. We hope to serve this document on the California Partners in Flight web site at <http://www.prbo.org/calpif/>.

Please refer any questions regarding this document to Kim Kreitinger, California Partners in Flight Coordinator ([kkreitinger@prbo.org](mailto:kkreitinger@prbo.org)).

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# *North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP)*

<http://northamerican.fws.gov/NAWMP/nawmphp.htm>

## SUMMARY



The North American Waterfowl Management Plan of 1986 responded to record lows of many waterfowl species in the 1980's and sustained losses of wetland habitat. Recognizing the importance of waterfowl and wetlands to North Americans and the need for international cooperation to help in the recovery of a shared resource, the Canadian and United States governments worked with states, provinces, and private organizations to develop a strategy to restore waterfowl populations through habitat conservation. In 1986, the U.S. and Canada signed the Plan, commonly referred to as "the North American, or NAWMP" and Mexico signed in 1994.

International in scope, the Plan is implemented regionally in Joint Ventures (JVs). Its success is dependent upon the strength of JV partnerships, involving federal, state, provincial, tribal, and local governments, businesses, conservation organizations, and individual citizens. Joint Ventures develop implementation plans for the protection of wetland resources within their regions, and working groups in local communities are often developed to protect more local wetland focus areas. JV actions include protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetland and associated upland habitats. Protection strategies include habitat acquisition, conservation easements, leases, and management agreements with private landowners. Restoration activities take place in all wetlands habitat types and associated uplands across the continent. Habitat enhancement activities include rest/rotational grazing practices, seasonal flooding of active croplands, and construction of nesting islands and structures for waterfowl and songbirds. Partners' conservation projects not only advance waterfowl conservation, but also contribute substantially toward the conservation of all wetland-associated species. Through 2003, Plan partners have marshaled more than \$3 billion for waterfowl habitat and population conservation, including conservation actions on more than 13 million acres of land.

The 1998 Plan update, *1998 Update, Expanding the Vision*, articulated three visions for strengthening delivery of the Plan. First, to strengthen the biological foundation of the Plan, implementation shall be guided by biologically based planning, which in turn is refined through ongoing evaluation. Secondly, a landscape approach to habitat management, balancing conservation and socioeconomic objectives within working landscapes, will be most effective in securing healthy habitats to achieve Plan goals. Finally, broadening the scope of partnerships, particularly with migratory bird initiatives, as well as with sectors beyond the traditional wildlife conservation community, will increase capacity for waterfowl conservation.

The first comprehensive Plan document since 1986, *2004 North American Waterfowl Plan-Strengthening the Biological Foundations*, is awaiting signature in all three countries. The 2004 Plan includes the core elements of the original plan and its updates, and is presented in two separate documents. *Strategic Guidance* is comparable in length and scope to the original Plan and the updates of 1994 and 1998. It is directed at all Plan partners, agency administrators, and policy makers who set the direction and priorities for conservation in the three countries. The companion *Implementation Framework* provides a more detailed discussion of the Plan's themes and includes much supporting technical information for use by biologists and land managers. The 2004 Plan assesses the needs, priorities, and strategies required to guide waterfowl conservation over the next 15 years. Its subtitle, *Strengthening the Biological*

*Foundations*, reflects the Plan committee's continuing belief that a strong scientific base underpins everything the Plan does and is vital to the Plan's continuing success in conservation.

## ***NAWMP at the International Level***

### **ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP**

**The Plan Committee**, comprising six representatives each from Canada, the U.S., and Mexico, oversees the NAWMP. The Committee provides a forum for discussion of major, long-term, international waterfowl issues and makes recommendations to directors of the three national wildlife agencies. It approves the formation of Joint Ventures and reviews and approves Joint Venture implementation and evaluation plans. The Committee updates the Plan, considers new scientific information and policy developments, and identifies the needs for Plan activities.

**United States** - Two representatives from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and one state representative from each of the five flyways. Co-chair is David Smith, Chief, USFWS Division of Bird Habitat Conservation.

**Canada** - Six delegates represent the federal and provincial governments and one non-profit organization. Acting Co-chair is Dr. George H. Finney, Director, Atlantic Region, Environmental Conservation Service, Canadian Wildlife Service.

**Mexico** - Delegates represent the federal government, universities, business, and non-profit organizations. The three federal natural resource agencies' seats are permanent; the others have a 3-year rotation. Co-chair is currently vacant.

### **PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

- *North American Waterfowl Management Plan* (1986)
- *1994 Update, Expanding the Commitment*
- *1998 Update, Expanding the Vision* (1998); available online at <http://northamerican.fws.gov/NAWMP/images/update98.PDF>.
- *2004 North American Waterfowl Management Plan-Strengthening the Biological Foundation* (Publication of Strategic Guidance is being handled by Canada; Implementation Framework will be published via Plan websites)
- *Birdscapes* (formerly *Waterfowl 2000*) is a magazine published three times a year by the USFWS Division of Bird Habitat Conservation and the Canadian Wildlife Service. This is an interesting source about on-the-ground conservation projects and partnerships continent-wide. A free subscription may be requested from Dee Butler, USFWS ([dee\\_butler@fws.gov](mailto:dee_butler@fws.gov)).
- Many reports (regarding adaptive harvest management and population status) are available from the USFWS Division of Migratory Bird Management at: <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/reports/reports.html>.

### **COMPLEMENTARY EFFORTS**

#### **The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA)**

<http://northamerican.fws.gov/NAWCA/act.htm>

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) of 1989 provides matching grants to private or public organizations or to individuals in partnerships for wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. NAWCA was passed largely to support activities under the NAWMP. NAWCA is overseen by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council),

which reviews and recommends project proposals to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC), which, in turn, approves funding for projects. The current Council Chair is Duane Shroufe, AZ Game and Fish Department, and the Coordinator is David Smith, USFWS. The MBCC is led by the Secretary of the Interior and comprised of appointees.

Congress appropriated \$37.5 million for NAWCA projects in Fiscal Year 2004; the President's request for FY 2005 is \$54 million. These NAWCA funds are made available in \$51,000 to \$1 million "standard" grants and "small" grants of up to \$50,000. In California, NAWCA standard and small grant applications should be coordinated with regional Joint Venture coordinators. Rodecia McKnight ([rodecia\\_mcknight@fws.gov](mailto:rodecia_mcknight@fws.gov)) and David Buie ([david\\_buie@fws.gov](mailto:david_buie@fws.gov)) are also available to answer questions. Refer to <http://sfbayjv.org/grants.html#NAWCA> for more information. California has received 46 standard and 203 small NAWCA grants.

## ***NAWMP at the Regional/State/Local Levels***

### **ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP**

California contains five of fourteen geographically-based Joint Ventures in the U.S.: the Central Valley (CVJV), the Intermountain West (IWJV), the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (SFBJV), the Pacific Coast (PCJV), and the Sonoran (SJV), and one habitat-based Riparian Habitat (RHJV). Please see map in Appendix A.

**Central Valley JV**—Chair is Fritz Reid; Coordinator is Bob Shaffer ([robert\\_shaffer@fws.gov](mailto:robert_shaffer@fws.gov)).  
[www.cvhjv.org](http://www.cvhjv.org)

**Intermountain West JV**—Chair is Mark Biddlecomb; Coordinator is Jim Cole ([jim@iwjv.org](mailto:jim@iwjv.org)); State Steering Committee Chair for California is Virginia Getz ([vgetz@ducks.org](mailto:vgetz@ducks.org)).  
<http://iwjv.org/about.htm>

**Pacific Coast JV**— U.S. Coordinator is Carey Smith ([carey\\_smith@fws.gov](mailto:carey_smith@fws.gov)); California Coordinator is Ron LeValley ([ron@madriverbio.com](mailto:ron@madriverbio.com)).  
<http://pcjv.org/>  
[www.madriverbio.com/ca-pcjv.html](http://www.madriverbio.com/ca-pcjv.html)

**San Francisco Bay JV**— Chair is Ellie Cohen; Coordinator is Beth Huning ([bhuning@sfbayjv.org](mailto:bhuning@sfbayjv.org)). Management Board is composed of 27 member agencies and there are three Working Committees (Restoration Strategy and Technical (includes a Regional Creeks subcommittee); Legislative; Public Outreach).  
<http://www.sfbayjv.org/>

**Sonoran JV**— Chair and Coordinator is Robert Mesta ([robert\\_mesta@fws.gov](mailto:robert_mesta@fws.gov)). Management Board is comprised of 17 members (Geoff Geupel, PRBO Conservation Science, represents CA) and there are two working committees (Technical and Education and Outreach).  
<http://www.sonoranjv.org/>

**Riparian Habitat JV**— Chair is Greg Golet; Coordinator is Ann Chrisney ([achrisney@prbo.org](mailto:achrisney@prbo.org)). Management Board consists of designees from the six conservation organizations; agencies serve as ex officio advisory members to the Board. There are 19 member agencies and organizations.  
<http://www.prbo.org/calpif/htmldocs/rhjv/>

## PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

### Central Valley JV

- CVJV Implementation Plan (1990)

### Intermountain West JV

- Intermountain Quarterly newsletter
- Implementation Plan (1995)

### Pacific Coast JV

- PCJV California Strategic Plan, Update 2004

### San Francisco Bay JV

- *Restoring the Estuary* (The Implementation Strategy for the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture) <http://www.sfbayjv.org/strategy.html>
- SFBJV newsletter <http://www.sfbayjv.org/news.html>
- SFBJV brochure
- Fact sheet of current projects and needs, updated every 6 months
- Database of region-wide projects (contact: Sandy Scoggin, [sscoggin@sfbayjv.org](mailto:sscoggin@sfbayjv.org)). The JV is currently working with Ducks Unlimited to develop an interactive GIS-based Habitat Project Tracking system which will be available before the end of 2004. Check our website at <http://www.sfbayjv.org/projects.html>

### Sonoran JV

- SJV E-bulletin
- SJV Strategic Plan
- Delta Bird Conservation Plan

### Riparian Habitat JV

- Strategic Plan
- Operating Plan
- Riparian Bird Conservation Plan

## *Partners in Flight (PIF)*

<http://www.partnersinflight.org>

### SUMMARY



Partners in Flight (PIF) is an international effort launched in 1990 in response to growing concerns about continental declines in landbirds. The initial focus was on species that breed in North America and winter in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean, but the scope has increased to include all of the landbirds of the continental United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The Partners in Flight mission is expressed through three related concepts (Rich et al. 2004): 1) helping species at risk; 2) keeping common birds common; and 3) voluntary partnerships for birds, habitat, and people. The top priority work, preventing extinctions, is wholly supported by PIF, but often accomplished by governmental or other entities. Species that are in a precarious status but not yet listed as endangered or threatened are often another top priority for PIF. The “keeping common birds common” task, for which PIF is most well known, is generally expressed in the form of long-term monitoring and focusing responsibility toward regions which should carry the highest responsibility for sustaining those species. The “voluntary partnerships” concept is tied directly to the central premise of PIF - that the resources of public and private organizations throughout the Americas must be combined, coordinated, and increased in order to conserve bird populations. Current PIF partners include government agencies, tribes, philanthropic foundations, professional organizations, conservation groups, industry, the academic community, and private individuals.

PIF has been instrumental in conservation planning; over 52 bird conservation plans have been completed across the continent to date. The planning process entails prioritizing species and habitats most in need of conservation, setting measurable objectives for achieving conservation, establishing local working groups to implement the plan, and evaluating the success of conservation efforts. PIF works simultaneously with species-directed and habitat-oriented conservation efforts.

## *PIF at the National Level*

### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

**PIF Council** – Partners in Flight is coordinated by the PIF Council (formerly the Joint Steering Committee). The Council is composed of 10 members as follows: chairs of the State Agency, Federal Agency, NGO, Industry, Implementation, and Science committees, U.S.-NABCI representative from PIF, a representative from Canada, a representative from Mexico, and the PIF National Coordinator. The current National Coordinator is Terry Rich (USFWS, Division of Migratory Bird Management; located in Boise, ID).

**PIF National Committees** – PIF has four national committees whose roles are to: 1) solicit and synthesize opinions of its members on landbird conservation issues and bring them to the PIF Council for presentation, discussion, and resolution; 2) assign specific tasks and responsibilities to members; and 3) take action to achieve the goals and objectives of PIF.

- **State Agency Committee Chair**– Larry Neel (Nevada Department of Wildlife)
- **Federal Agency Committee Chair**– Paul Schmidt (USFWS Office of Migratory Bird Management).
- **Non-Governmental Organization Committee Chair** – David Pashley (American Bird Conservancy).



- **Industry Committee Chair** – Tony Melchior (Weyerhaeuser).

**PIF Implementation Committee** – The PIF Implementation Committee (formerly Management Steering Committee) is a problem-solving body that produces information, processes, and tools that partners need for implementing landbird conservation actions. The current Chair is Chris Eberly (Department of Defense PIF).

**PIF Science Committee** – The Science Committee (formerly the PIF Technical Committee) is primarily responsible for implementing actions to ensure an active scientifically-based conservation design process. The current Chair is Ken Rosenberg (Cornell Lab of Ornithology).

**Technical Working Groups:** Six national-level technical working groups have been established. Current working group chairs are listed below.

- **International** – George Wallace (American Bird Conservancy) and Megan Hill (RARE Center for Tropical Conservation)
- **Research** – Janet Ruth (USGS)
- **Monitoring and Inventory** – C.J. Ralph (Forest Service) and Jon Bart (USGS)
- **Information (Communication and Outreach)** – vacant
- **Education** – Joni Ellis (Optics for the Tropics)
- **Integration** – Jina Mariani (Forest Service)

#### **PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

- *Bird Conservation Plans* for regions (Physiographic Areas) or states are available at <http://www.partnersinflight.org> (see next section).
- *Partners in Flight North American Landbird Conservation Plan* (2004); Rich, Beardmore, Berlanga, Blancher, Bradstreet, Butcher, Demarest, Dunn, Hunter, Iñigo-Elias, Kennedy, Martell, Panjabi, Pashley, Rosenberg, Rustay, Wendt, and Will. Cornell Lab of Ornithology. For copies of the plan, go to <http://www.partnersinflight.org/cplan.htm>
- *Bird Conservation* is a quarterly magazine about PIF and “bird conservation throughout the Americas,” published by American Bird Conservancy. This presents good technical information in a very readable format, and is an excellent publication for outreach. For a subscription, please call 1(888)BIRD-MAG.
- *Partners in Flight: Conservation of Land Birds of the United States*. (2000); Pashley, Beardmore, Fitzgerald, Ford, Hunter, Morrison, and Rosenberg. American Bird Conservancy. This 92-page publication summarizes the work of PIF and reports conservation priorities for each physiographic area. Copies can be ordered from the American Bird Conservancy (ABC), PO Box 249, 4249 Loudoun Ave., The Plains, VA 20198, or ordered by email at <http://www.abcbirds.org/pif/pif.htm>.
- *La Tangara* is a bi-monthly online newsletter of International Partners in Flight, available at <http://www.latangara.org>.
- A quarterly National PIF newsletter is available at <http://www.partnersinflight.org/pubs/pifnews.HTM>.

## PRODUCTS

### Species Assessment Scores

<http://www.rmbo.org/pif/pifdb.html>

PIF has created a process for assessing the conservation needs of bird species in all regions of North America, incorporating factors such as distribution of species, rarity, threats to breeding and wintering populations, and population trend. The PIF Database is hosted on the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory site from which you can download species assessment scores for either Physiographic Areas or Bird Conservation Regions. A document explaining the assessment process is posted online, as well as an earlier paper explaining the foundations of the assessment process (*Setting conservation priorities for landbirds in the United States: the Partners in Flight approach* (2000); Carter, Hunter, Pashley, Rosenberg. *The Auk* 117(2): 541-548.)

### Research Needs Database

<http://www.partnersinflight.org/pifneeds/searchform.cfm>

A database of research and monitoring needs identified in all the Bird Conservation Plans may be queried at the PIF website. For example, you can type in “wetlands” in the “Western” Region and find out what topics have been prioritized as wetland research needs by all of the western Bird Conservation Plans.

## COMPLEMENTARY EFFORTS

### Species Accounts

<http://www.partnersinflight.org/birdacct.htm>

This site contains species accounts written by a number of sources including The Nature Conservancy and USFWS. The site also gives Birds of North America (BNA) account numbers, by species. Species accounts give comprehensive ecology, conservation, and management information.

## *PIF at the Regional/State/Local Levels*

See Appendix B for map of PIF Planning Regions.

## ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

**Regions** – Four PIF regional working groups have been established in the West, Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast; California is in the Western Region. The mission of each regional working group is to develop strategies for the conservation of landbirds by identifying problems, synthesizing information, and generating solutions to be used by resource professionals and the general public. Chairs are members of the PIF Implementation Committee. Current Western Working Group Chair is Larry Neel, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife ([neel@ndow.state.nv.us](mailto:neel@ndow.state.nv.us)). Californians that participate regularly in the Western Working Group include Geoff Geupel (PRBO Conservation Science), Kim Kreitinger (PRBO Conservation Science), John Robinson (USDA Forest Service), Myrnie Mayville (U.S. Bureau of Reclamation), and Tim Burr (Department of Defense). More information about the regional working groups can be found at <http://www.partnersinflight.org/rwgs.cfm>.

**States** – Most states have formed active working groups. The California chapter of Partners in Flight (CalPIF) was established in 1992. The CalPIF mission is to promote the conservation of resident and migratory landbirds and their habitats in California through research, monitoring, education, and collaboration among public and private landowners and managers, government agencies, non-government organizations, and individuals and other bird conservation efforts. The CalPIF structure consists of two Co-chairs Geoff Geupel (PRBO Conservation Science) and Deb Schlafmann (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), Coordinator Kim Kreitinger ([kkreitinger@prbo.org](mailto:kkreitinger@prbo.org)), an Executive Steering Committee, and Working Committees. CalPIF meets twice a year, and meetings are open to all interested parties. Information about CalPIF can be found online at <http://www.prbo.org/calpif>.

California Partners in Flight has completed one bioregion- and five habitat-based Bird Conservation Plans (BCP's) for Riparian, Oak Woodlands, Coastal Scrub and Chaparral, Grasslands, Coniferous Forests, and the Sierra Nevada Bioregion. A Shrubsteppe Plan is currently in review and a Desert Plan is in development. These BCPs are for every land manager and researcher interested in improving habitat for landbirds. These plans are dynamic documents that will follow a continuous process of developing and updating conservation recommendations for California's habitats based on the latest scientific monitoring and research data. Combined with the associated CalPIF study areas database and focal species breeding status database, these plans provide the foundation for adaptive conservation management in California's habitats.

#### **PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

- *Bird Conservation Plans* have been produced nationwide either for Physiographic Areas (in the east) or by states (in the west); see <http://www.partnersinflight.org>
- *Western Working Group Newsletter* is available quarterly, in hard copy or online at <http://www.partnersinflight.org/pubs/magnews.htm>
- *Flight Log*, the semi-annual newsletter of California Partners in Flight is available in hard copy or online at: <http://www.prbo.org/calpif/flightlog/flightlog.htm>
- *CalPIF Bird Conservation Plans* are great for articulating bird conservation needs and should be used by managers and conservation planners. <http://www.prbo.org/calpif/plans.htm>

#### **PRODUCTS**

##### **The PIF Western Working Group List-Serve**

<http://www.partnersinflight.org/rwgs.cfm>

##### **The CalPIF List-Serve**

<http://www.prbo.org/calpif/listserv.html>

##### **CalPIF Study Areas Database and Focal Species Range Maps**

<http://www.prbo.org/calpif/data.html>

Information on study areas or methods across an entire state or region can provide information on what monitoring efforts and species should be prioritized, and identify knowledge gaps. In partnership with CalPIF, PRBO Conservation Science has developed a database of CalPIF bird monitoring sites and served as a repository for species breeding status information for the entire state: <http://www.prbo.org/calpif/data.html>.

# *United States Shorebird Conservation Plan (USSCP)*

<http://shorebirdplan.fws.gov/>

## SUMMARY



Partners from state and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations across the country pooled their resources and expertise to develop a conservation strategy for migratory shorebirds and the habitats upon which they depend. The United States Shorebird Conservation Plan (USSCP) provides a scientific framework to determine shorebird species, sites, and habitats that most urgently need conservation action. The main goals of the plan, completed in 2000, are to ensure that adequate quantity and quality of shorebird habitat is maintained at the local level and to maintain or restore shorebird populations at the continental and hemispheric levels. Separate technical reports were developed for a conservation assessment, research needs, a comprehensive monitoring strategy, and education and outreach. These national assessments were used to step down goals and objectives into 11 regional conservation plans. Although some outreach, education, research, monitoring, and habitat conservation programs are being implemented, accomplishment of conservation objectives for all shorebird species continues to require a coordinated effort among traditional and new partners. National and regional plans and other plan-related documents are available on the USSCP website (address above), and updates and subsequent documents are posted regularly.

The USSCP addresses three primary objectives: 1) development of a standardized, scientifically-sound system for monitoring shorebird populations that will provide practical information to researchers and land managers for shorebird habitat conservation; 2) identifying the principles and practices upon which local, regional and national management plans can integrate shorebird habitat conservation with multiple species strategies; and c) design of a strategy for increasing public awareness and education about shorebirds and their wetland habitats. Because most species of shorebirds are long-distance migrants, this Plan emphasizes the continued conservation of migratory stop-over sites. In addition, a lack of survey information for most shorebirds indicates an urgent need for continued and/or increased monitoring and research programs.

## *USSCP at the National Level*

### ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

**The U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan Council** serves as the steering committee for the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan and oversees the implementation of the regional, national, and international goals of the Plan. The Council is open to all private and public organizations that support implementation of the goals and objectives developed in the Plan. Current Council members and their contact information can be found at the web site above.

**USSCP Council Chair:** Brian Millsap (Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management, USFWS)-

**USSCP Council Vice-Chair:** Catherine Hickey (PRBO Conservation Science)

**USSCP Council Staff Coordinator:** Brad Andres (USFWS, Division of Migratory Bird Management, National Shorebird Coordinator)

**Monitoring Working Group Chair:** Jon Bart (USGS)

**Research Working Group Chair:** Stephen Brown (Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences)

**US-WHSRN Committee Chair:** John Cecil (Audubon)

**US-WHSRN Committee Vice-Chair:** Catherine Hickey (PRBO Conservation Science)

## PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following documents are available for download from the USFWS web site at:  
<http://shorebirdplan.fws.gov/USShorebird/PlanDocuments.htm>

- *United States Shorebird Conservation Plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* (2001); Brown, Hickey, Harrington, and Gill, eds.
- *A Comprehensive Monitoring Program for North American Shorebirds* (2000); Howe, Bart, Brown, Elphick, Gill, Harrington, Hickey, Morrison, Skagen, and Warnock, eds.
- *National Shorebird Research Needs: A Proposal for a National Research Program and Example High Priority Research Topics* (2000); Oring, Harrington, Brown, and Hickey, eds.
- *National Shorebird Education and Outreach Plan* (2000); Johnson-Shultz, Burton, Cirillo, and Brown, eds.
- *National Shorebird Conservation Assessment: Shorebird Conservation Status, Conservation Units, Population Estimates, Population Targets, and Species Prioritization* (2000) Brown, Hickey, Gill, Gorman, Gratto-Trevor, Haig, Harrington, Hunter, Morrison, Page, Sanzenbacher, Skagen, and Warnock
- *North American Shorebird Assessment and Monitoring Plan* (in preparation); Bart, et al.
- *Bird Conservation Region Area Importance Scores* wherein Species Assessments are provided for prioritization of conservation effort by species, by region. Species are categorized as Highly Imperiled, Species of High Concern, Species of Moderate Concern, Species of Low Concern, or Species Not at Risk.

## *USSCP at the Regional/State/Local Levels*

See Appendix C for a map of USSCP Planning Regions.

### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

**Shorebird Planning Regions** – Of the 11 regional planning working groups, there are three that contain some portion of California. The contacts for those regions are:

- **Intermountain West:** Larry Neel, Nevada Division of Wildlife ([neel@ndow.state.nv.us](mailto:neel@ndow.state.nv.us)).
- **Southern Pacific:** Catherine Hickey ([chickey@prbo.org](mailto:chickey@prbo.org)), Gary Page ([gpage@prbo.org](mailto:gpage@prbo.org)), Dave Shuford ([dshuford@prbo.org](mailto:dshuford@prbo.org)), or Nils Warnock ([nwarnock@prbo.org](mailto:nwarnock@prbo.org)), PRBO Conservation Science.
- **Northern Pacific:** Sue Thomas, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ([Sue\\_Thomas@fws.gov](mailto:Sue_Thomas@fws.gov)).

## PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

- The 11 regional plans can be downloaded from:  
<http://shorebirdplan.fws.gov/RegionalShorebird/RegionalPlans.htm>, and the Southern Pacific regional plan also can be downloaded through its dedicated web site:  
[www.prbo.org/shorebirdconservation](http://www.prbo.org/shorebirdconservation).
- The *Annual Regional Report* (June 2004) is available for download at:  
<http://shorebirdplan.fws.gov/RegionalShorebird/RegionalPlans.htm>

## COMPLEMENTARY EFFORTS

### Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)

<http://www.manomet.org/WHSRN/>

Initiated in 1986, the WHSRN identifies and targets for protection the most important stop-over and wintering sites for shorebirds in North and South America. Run from Manomet Center for Conservation Science, WHSRN is a voluntary, non-regulatory coalition of over 160 private and public organizations in seven countries working together. Their mission is the conservation, restoration, and management of critical shorebird habitats throughout the Americas. WHSRN designates sites of critical importance to shorebirds. WHSRN produces a selection of high quality publications, including manuals for shorebird habitat management and outreach/education materials. Access the Manomet web site for information on ordering publications such as:

- *Shorebird Migrations: Fundamentals for Land Managers in the United States* (1999); Harrington; U.S. Forest Service, Ducks Unlimited. This beautiful water-colored brochure also contains sound scientific information.
- *Shorebirds and Agriculture: Managing Wetlands of the Intermountain West Region to Benefit Shorebirds* (1992); US Prairie Pothole JV. Brief handout appropriate for landowners.
- *Biogeographical Profiles of Shorebird Migration in Midcontinental North America*. (1999); Skagen, Sharpe, Watermire, and Dillon. USGS-BRD BSR-2000-0003. US Gov. Printing Office, Denver, CO. This document gives very detailed information about timing, specific locations, and numbers of shorebirds on migration sites in and around the Central Plains, Playa Lakes and Intermountain West regions.

### The Western Shorebird Survey

<http://wss.wr.usgs.gov/>

The Western Shorebird Survey (WSS) was initiated in 2000 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Survey and the U.S. Geological Survey to enhance shorebird monitoring during the non-breeding period, especially in the western United States. The goal of the WSS is to monitor shorebird concentrations at major stop-over sites, with specific survey areas being chosen to include the most heavily used areas at each site and any areas that are of special interest to local managers. Direct questions or comments about the WSS to Jon Bart (USGS) at [jon\\_bart@usgs.gov](mailto:jon_bart@usgs.gov)

### The Shorebird Sister Schools Program

<http://sssp.fws.gov>

The Shorebird Sister Schools Program is the cornerstone education program for the USSCP. The national coordinator is Sandy Spakoff; regional contact is Sue Thomas ([sue\\_thomas@fws.gov](mailto:sue_thomas@fws.gov)).

# *North American Waterbird Conservation Plan*

<http://www.waterbirdconservation.org>



## SUMMARY

The mission of the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan\* (NAWCP) is to create a cohesive, multi-national partnership for conserving and managing waterbirds, including seabirds, colonial wading birds (i.e., herons and egrets), coastal waterbirds (i.e., gulls, terns, and pelicans), and marshbirds (i.e., rails and bitterns) and their habitats throughout North America. These species rely on aquatic habitats that are under threat across the continent and also compete with humans for the resources contained within these habitats. The colonial nesting habits of many of these species render them particularly vulnerable to disturbance. Disturbances to a limited number of colonial nesting sites can threaten the persistence of species, and even result in extirpation or extinction.

The NAWCP was initiated in 1998. The goal is to produce a plan whose implementation results in maintaining healthy populations, distributions, and habitats of waterbirds in North America, throughout their breeding, migratory, and wintering ranges. Version 1 of the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan (covering seabirds, colonial wading birds, and coastal waterbirds) was completed and published in 2002. Version 2 of the NAWCP, addressing non-colonial waterbirds such as grebes, bitterns, and rails, is under development.

\*Plan was previously known as N.A. Colonial Waterbird Conservation Plan; in October 2000, the “colonial” was dropped, allowing the group to adopt all waterbirds not covered by other plans: mostly, the non-colonial marsh-dwelling birds.

## *NAWCP at the International Level*

### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

**Waterbird Conservation Council** – 34 members from several countries. Current Chair of the Executive Committee is Katherine Parsons (Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, Manomet, Massachusetts).

**Council Committees** – Seven Committees have the responsibility of updating, coordinating, and facilitating implementation of the Plan. They report to the Executive Committee.

**Initiative Coordinator** – Jennifer Wheeler (USFWS, Division of Migratory Bird Management; Arlington, VA)

**International Region Leads** – information on regional planning leads and international cooperators can be found at <http://www.waterbirdconservation.org/regional>.

### PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

All of the following are available for download at <http://www.waterbirdconservation.org>:

- *Northern Prairie and Parkland Waterbird Conservation Plan (2004)*. Beyersbergen, Niemuth, and Norton. Published by Prairie Pothole Joint Venture
- *Wings over Water: Canada's Waterbird Conservation Plan (2003)*. Milko, Dickson, Elliott, and Donaldson.
- *Waterbird Conservation for the Americas: North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, Version 1 (2002)*. Kushlan et al. This version of the plan addresses only colonial nesters.

- *Standardized North American Marshbird Monitoring Protocols* (2002). Conway. These protocols are currently being used and tested at multiple sites across the country in different habitats. Contact Courtney Conway for details (cconway@ag.arizona.edu)
- *Notes from the Marshbird Conservation Workshop* (2001) will serve as a basis for Volume Two of the NAWCP, still under development, addressing non-colonial marshbirds (i.e., loons, grebes, bitterns, cranes, rails, coots). Notes summarize proceedings from a meeting in Denver in August 2001.
- *Colonial Waterbirds and North American Aquaculture* (2000); Werner, King, Glahn, and Huner.
- *Environmental Contaminants and Colonial Waterbirds* (2000); Ratner.
- *[Tern] Colony Site Management Techniques* (2000); Kress.
- *Banding Issues for Colonial Waterbirds in North America* (2000); Tautin.
- *Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries: Guidelines for Colonial Waterbird Conservation Practitioners* (2000) Rivera.
- *Annotated Bibliography for North American Colonial Waterbird Conservation* (1999); Parsons and Wisneski.
- *Breeding Season Population Census Techniques for Seabirds and Colonial Waterbirds throughout North America* (draft)
- *Interdecadal Changes in Indices of Abundance of the Double-crested Cormorant*

## PRODUCTS

### Waterbird Database

<http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/cwb/database/>

A centralized, web-accessible database for waterbird data retrieval and entry. Currently contains data from Maine to Georgia from coastal surveys that were conducted in the mid-1990's. Plans are to eventually include data nationwide. Contact: Bruce Peterjohn at Bruce\_Peterjohn@usgs.gov (USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD).

## COMPLEMENTARY EFFORTS

*Proceedings of the Marsh Bird Monitoring Workshop* (1999) Ribic, Lewis, Melvin, Bart, and Peterjohn, USFWS/USGS, Denver CO. The document gives reports and suggestions about monitoring secretive marsh birds. Additional copies available from David Dolton, USFWS/ MBMO, PO Box 25486 DFC, Denver CO 80225-0486.

## *NAWCP at the Regional/State/Local Levels*

See Appendix D for map of NAWCP Planning Regions.

### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

**NAWCP Regional Coordinator** - Jennifer Wheeler, USFWS (Jennifer\_A\_Wheeler@fws.org)

**Pacific Coast Region:** Tara Zimmerman, USFWS (Tara\_Zimmerman@fws.gov) and Williman J. Sydeman, PRBO Conservation Science

**Intermountain West Region:** Mike Green, USFWS (Michael\_Green@fws.gov).

**California Current Pelagic Seabird Plan:** William J. Sydeman, PRBO Conservation Science ([wjsydeman@prbo.org](mailto:wjsydeman@prbo.org)).



## *North American Bird Conservation Initiative*

<http://www.nabci-us.org/>



### SUMMARY

In November 1998, in Puebla, Mexico, the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) was launched by more than 100 leading conservationists from Mexico, the United States, and Canada. The intent of the initiative is to facilitate the conservation of native North American birds by increasing the effectiveness of existing initiatives, enhancing coordination, and fostering greater cooperation among the nations and peoples of the continent. NABCI is supported by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), (created by the North American Free Trade Agreement to deal with environmental issues affecting Mexico, the U.S., and Canada).

The vision of NABCI is to see populations and habitats of North America's birds protected, restored, and enhanced through coordinated efforts at international, national, regional, state, and local levels, guided by sound science and effective management. NABCI strives to "deliver the full spectrum of bird conservation through regionally based, biologically driven, landscape-oriented partnerships...to take bird conservation to the next level."

The NABCI-U.S. seeks to accomplish this vision by (1) broadening bird conservation partnerships; (2) working to increase the financial resources available for conserving birds in the United States and wherever else they may occur throughout their life cycle; and (3) enhancing the effectiveness of those resources and partnerships by facilitating integrated bird conservation. NABCI will promote the focus and independence of existing programs while providing a forum to address deficiencies in coverage (of species, habitats, monitoring, etc), the integration of objectives within ecosystems, the evaluation of range-wide needs of species, and international consistency and cooperation.

## *NABCI at the International Level*

### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

**The Tri-national Committee** leads NABCI, composed of the following members:

- **Mexico** - Coro Arizmendi, Jorge Soberón, and Eduardo Iñigo-Elias; Coordinator is Humberto Berlanga
- **Canada** - Steve Wendt, George Finney, Cameron Mac; Coordinator is Silke Neve
- **United States** - Gary Myers, Paul Schmidt, and David Pashley; Coordinator is Bob Ford

**The U.S. NABCI Committee** is comprised of 12 members, including representatives from the sub-committees and other bird plans.

- **U.S. Federal Agency Sub-committee** – 13 agencies and an NGO representative. Co-chaired by Bob Ford (USFWS) and Jack Capp (USFS).
- **U.S. Non-governmental Organization Sub-committee** – Co-chaired by Scott Yaich (Ducks Unlimited) and David Pashley (American Bird Conservancy).

## PLANS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

- *NABCI: BCR Descriptions – A supplement to the NABCI BCR map* (2000); US NABCI Committee. This is an outreach brochure and large fold-out map, available from USFWS at (703) 358-1784 and online at <http://www.nabci-us.org/aboutnabci/bcrdescrip.pdf>
- NABCI: Bird Conservation Regions (map) – This is available for download at <http://www.nabci-us.org/aboutnabci/map.pdf>
- *NABCI: Bringing It All Together* (2000); NABCI's full color outreach document. Available for download at <http://www.nabci-us.org/aboutnabci/fwsbroch.pdf>
- *The All-Bird Bulletin* is a news and information-sharing publication of NABCI. It is available for download at <http://www.nabci-us.org/news.html>
- *NBII Bird Conservation Node* – This National Biological Information Infrastructure site is maintained by USGS and USFWS at <http://birdcon.nbi.gov/>

## COMPLEMENTARY EFFORTS

<http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/index.html>

### Important Bird Area (IBA) Programs

Important Bird Areas (IBA) programs have been created worldwide to identify and conserve key sites for birds, addressing the most serious threat of habitat loss and degradation. An IBA is broadly defined as a place that provides essential habitat for one or more species of bird, whether in breeding season, winter, or during migration. Originated by BirdLife International in Europe, IBA programs are now implemented at the local, regional, and national level; in the U.S., American Bird Conservancy and The Audubon Society are both involved with administering IBA programs. The American Bird Conservancy has published a book entitled *The 500 Most Important Bird Areas in the United States*. You can order this book at <http://www.abcbirds.org>. California contains 64 Global IBAs. Information about these sites and the Important Bird Areas of California (2004) publication can be found at <http://www.abcbirds.org/iba/california.htm>.

## *NABCI at the Regional/State/Local Levels*

See Appendix E for a map of NABCI Bird Conservation Regions

### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

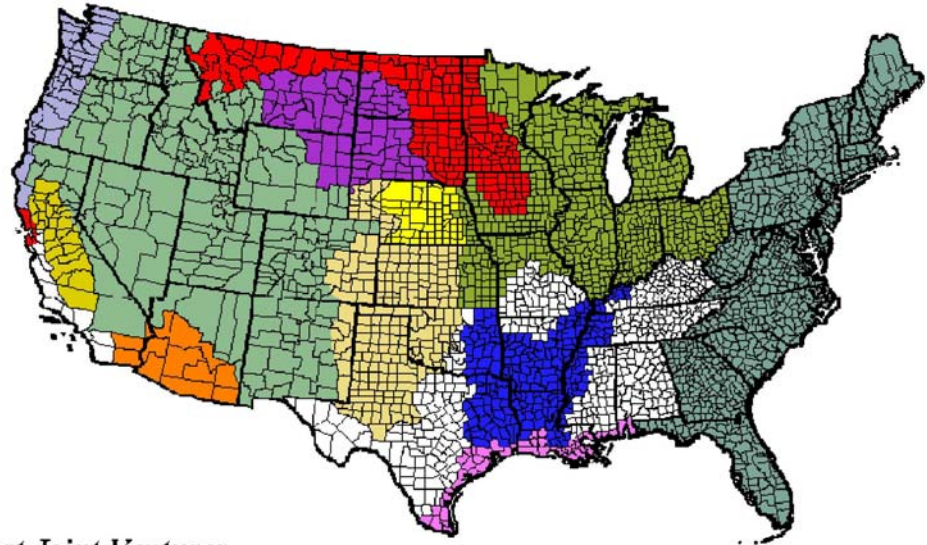
**Bird Conservation Regions** – North America is partitioned into 67 Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs), of which California is primarily located in three: Coastal California (32) the Sonoran and Mojave Deserts (33), and the Sierra Nevada (15). A small portion of California also lies within the Northern Pacific Rainforest (5) and the Great Basin (9). For more information for each BCR within California, go to <http://www.abcbirds.org/nabci/bcrs.htm>.

- **BCR 5 – Northern Pacific Rainforest:** Bob Altman, American Bird Conservancy ([baltman@abcbirds.org](mailto:baltman@abcbirds.org))
- **BCRs 15 and 32 – Sierra Nevadas and Coastal California:** Ann Chrisney, PRBO Conservation Science ([achrisney@prbo.org](mailto:achrisney@prbo.org))
- **BCR 33 – Sonoran and Mojave deserts:** Carole Beardmore, Sonoran Joint Venture ([Carol\\_Beardmore@FWS.GOV](mailto:Carol_Beardmore@FWS.GOV))
- **BCR 9 – Great Basin,** Don Paul, Great Basin Bird Conservation Region Coordinator ([avocet@qwest.net](mailto:avocet@qwest.net))



**APPENDIX A**  
*North American Waterfowl Management  
 Plan (NAWMP) Habitat Joint Ventures*



**North American Waterfowl  
 Management Plan**  
 Plan nord-américain de  
 gestion de la sauvagine  
 Plan de Manejo de Aves  
 Acuáticas de Norteamérica



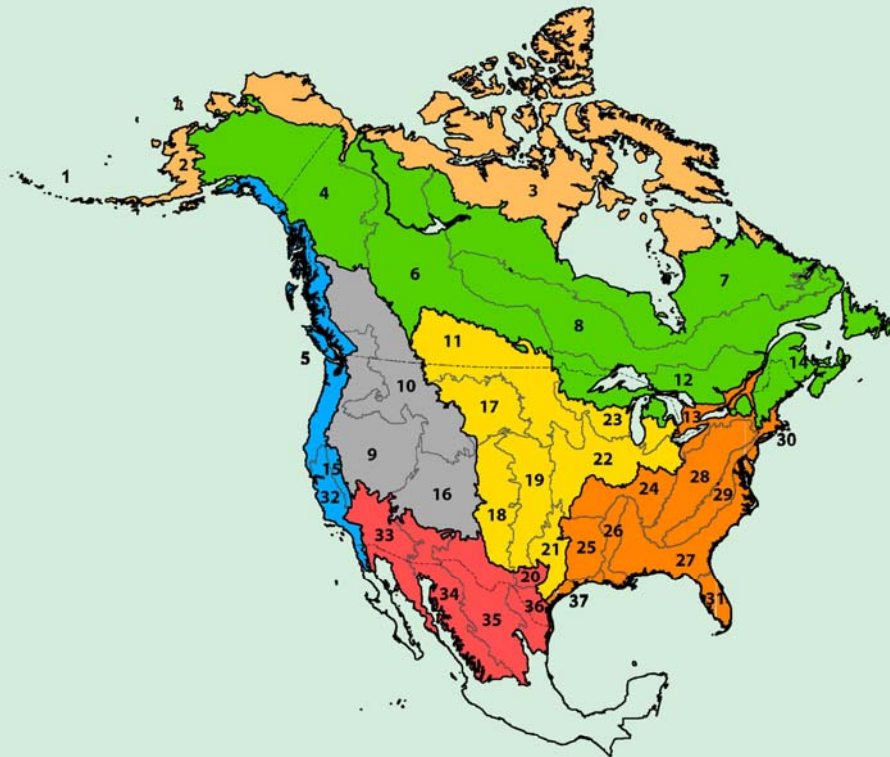
*Habitat Joint Ventures*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  ATLANTIC COAST           |  PACIFIC COAST                        |
|  CENTRAL VALLEY           |  PLAYA LAKES                          |
|  GULF COAST               |  PRAIRIE POTHOLE                      |
|  INTERMOUNTAIN WEST       |  UPPER MISSISSIPPI/GREAT LAKES REGION |
|  LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY |  SAN FRANCISCO BAY                    |
|  NEBRASKA RAINWATER BASIN |  SONORAN                              |
|  NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS    |  |



**APPENDIX B**  
*Partners in Flight North American Conservation Plan*  
*Planning Regions*

**Avifaunal Biomes and Bird Conservation Regions covered by this Plan**



<p><b>Arctic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aleutian/Bering Sea Islands</li> <li>2. Western Alaska</li> <li>3. Arctic Plains and Mountains</li> </ul>	<p><b>Intermountain West</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Great Basin</li> <li>10. Northern Rockies</li> <li>16. Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19. Central Mixed-grass Prairie</li> <li>21. Oaks and Prairies</li> <li>22. Eastern Tallgrass Prairie</li> <li>23. Prairie Hardwood Transition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Northern Forest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Northwestern Interior Forest</li> <li>6. Boreal Taiga Plains</li> <li>7. Taiga Shield and Hudson Plains</li> <li>8. Boreal Softwood Shield</li> <li>12. Boreal Hardwood Transition</li> <li>14. Atlantic Northern Forest</li> </ul>	<p><b>Southwest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20. Edwards Plateau</li> <li>33. Sonoran and Mojave Deserts</li> <li>34. Sierra Madre Occidental</li> <li>35. Chihuahuan Desert</li> <li>36. Tamaulipan Brushlands</li> </ul>	<p><b>Eastern</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Plain</li> <li>24. Central Hardwoods</li> <li>25. West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas</li> <li>26. Mississippi Alluvial Valley</li> <li>27. Southeastern Coastal Plain</li> <li>28. Appalachian Mountains</li> <li>29. Piedmont</li> <li>30. New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast</li> <li>31. Peninsular Florida</li> <li>37. Gulf Coastal Prairie</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pacific</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Northern Pacific Rainforest</li> <li>15. Sierra Nevada</li> <li>32. Coastal California</li> </ul>	<p><b>Prairie</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Prairie Potholes</li> <li>17. Badlands and Prairies</li> <li>18. Shortgrass Prairie</li> </ul>	

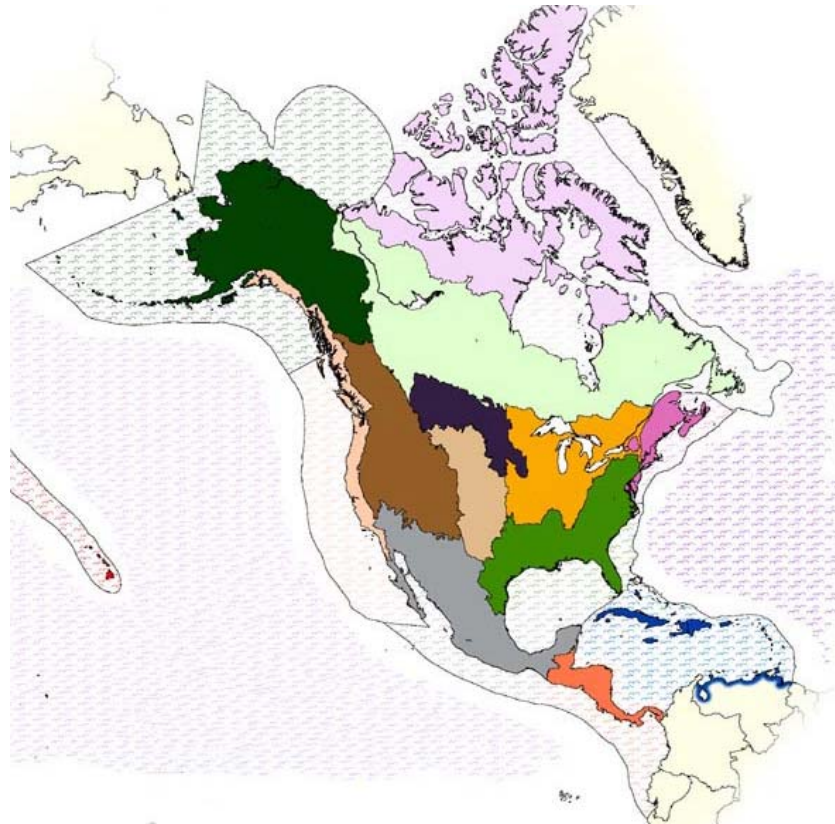
*APPENDIX C*  
*U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan Planning Regions*











**Shorebird Planning Regions and Bird Conservation Regions**



**APPENDIX D**  
**North American Waterbird Conservation Plan**  
**Planning Regions**

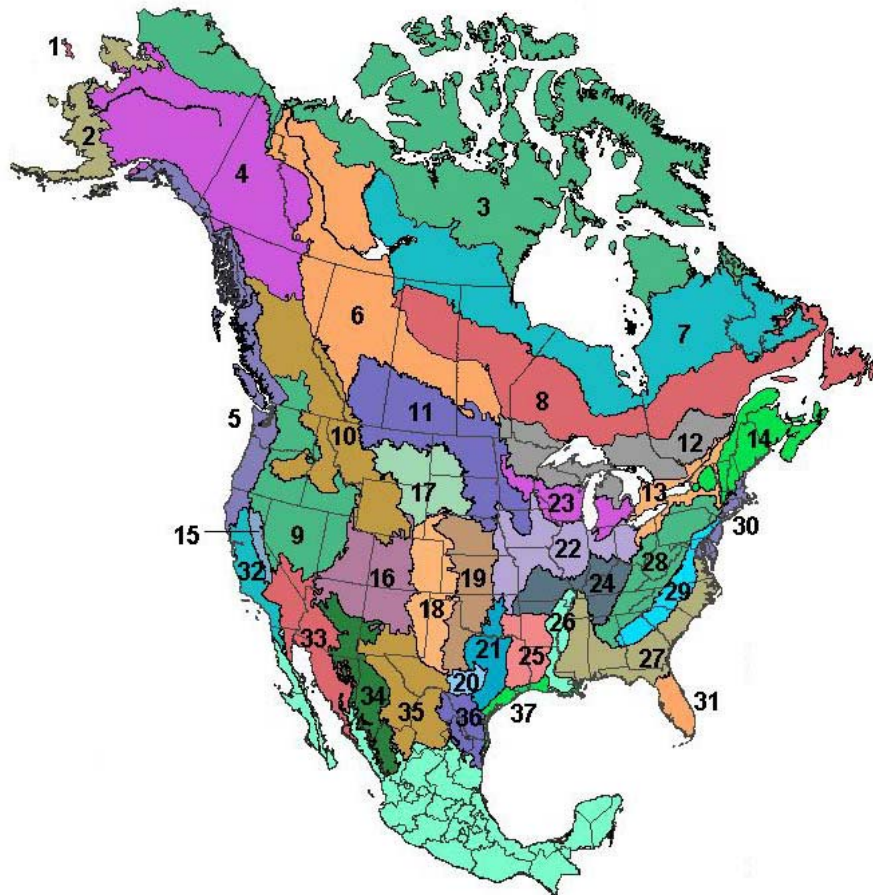


**Waterbird Conservation Planning Regions**

-  Alaska /Bering /Yukon
-  Pacific Coast
-  Upper Mississippi Valley /Great Lakes
-  Mexico- Southwest U.S.
-  Southeast U.S.
-  Intermountain West
-  Mid Atlantic /New England /Maritime
-  Boreal
-  Pacific Islands
-  Arctic Canada
-  Caribbean
-  Central Prairies
-  Northern Prairie and Parkland
-  Central America

Plan area also includes the open waters of the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

*APPENDIX E*  
*North American Bird Conservation Initiative*  
*Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs)*



- |     |                                      |     |                                   |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 1.  | Aleutian/Bering Sea Islands          | 20. | Edwards Plateau                   |
| 2.  | Western Alaska                       | 21. | Oaks and Prairies                 |
| 3.  | Arctic Plains and Mountains          | 22. | Eastern Tallgrass Prairie         |
| 4.  | Northwestern Interior Forest         | 23. | Prairie Hardwood Transition       |
| 5.  | Northern Pacific Rainforest          | 24. | Central Hardwoods                 |
| 6.  | Boreal Taiga Plains                  | 25. | West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas |
| 7.  | Taiga Shield and Hudson Plains       | 26. | Mississippi Alluvial Valley       |
| 8.  | Boreal Softwood Shield               | 27. | Southeastern Coastal Plain        |
| 9.  | Great Basin                          | 28. | Appalachian Mountains             |
| 10. | Northern Rockies                     | 29. | Piedmont                          |
| 11. | Prairie Potholes                     | 30. | New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast    |
| 12. | Boreal Hardwood Transition           | 31. | Peninsular Florida                |
| 13. | Lower Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Plain | 32. | Coastal California                |
| 14. | Atlantic Northern Forest             | 33. | Sonoran and Mohave Deserts        |
| 15. | Sierra Nevada                        | 34. | Sierra Madre Occidental           |
| 16. | Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau    | 35. | Chihuahuan Desert                 |
| 17. | Badlands and Prairies                | 36. | Tamaulipan Brushlands             |
| 18. | Shortgrass Prairie                   | 37. | Gulf Coastal Prairie              |
| 19. | Central Mixed-grass Prairie          |     |                                   |

## ***APPENDIX F***

### ***Funding Sources***

#### ***Federal Funding:***

**Army Corps of Engineers - Sections 1135 & 206:** Section 1135 funds are available for the restoration and acquisition of wetlands previously affected by an Army Corps project. For more information, contact the Army Corps of Engineers at 415-977-8703. Section 206 funds provide for the restoration of aquatic ecosystem structure and function. Projects usually include the manipulation of the hydrology in and along bodies of water, including wetlands and riparian areas. No relationship to an existing Corps project is required. Contact Jay Kinberger 415 977- 8773.

**Central Valley Project Improvement Act/Bureau of Reclamation:** A variety of funding programs are available for the acquisition, restoration, and study of wetlands and other water resources in the Central Valley. Contact Chuck Solomon at the Bureau of Reclamation at 916-978-5052. The Bureau of Reclamation also has a wetlands program with grant funding. Contact Bob Shaffer at 916-414-6459. [<http://www.usbr.gov/dataweb/html/cvpintro.html>]

**Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program:** The Secretary of Commerce has approved final guidelines for the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP), which was created by the FY 2002 Appropriations Act. A Federal Register notice containing the final guidelines was published on June 17, 2003. The CELCP was created "for the purpose of protecting important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values, or that are threatened by conversion from their natural or recreational state to other uses". The Federal Register notice and final guidelines can be found at [[www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/landconservation.html](http://www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/landconservation.html)].

**Coastal Program:** The FWS Coastal Program funds an operation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin estuary. Almost \$200,000 is available each year to obligate to projects that effect on-the-ground projects, provide essential information for decision makers, or performs advocacy and outreach. The emphasis is for on-the-ground projects. Contact Richard Morat, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way W-2605, Sacramento, CA 095825 916/414-6571 or [Richard\\_Morat@fws.gov](mailto:Richard_Morat@fws.gov).

**Environmental Protection Agency:** Various grants in the range of \$25,000-\$350,000 are available through the EPA for watershed planning, restoration and stewardship studies for state, tribal and local governments. Grants are also available for Environmental justice issues, Pollution prevention, Brownfields assessment, Community/Economic development and Environmental education. Their public information line is 415-947-8000 and may be reached at Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9; 75 Hawthorne Street; San Francisco, CA 94105.

**Assessment and Watershed Protection Program Grants:** AWPPGs provide eligible applicants an opportunity to conduct projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. States and local governments, federally recognized Indian Tribes, territories and



possessions of the U.S., including the District of Columbia, interstate associations or intertribal consortia, public or private nonprofit, nongovernmental institutions and individuals are eligible to apply. [<http://www.epa.gov/owow/funding.html>]

- **Watershed Grants:** The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has announced the availability of up to \$21 million in federal funds for watershed grants. This is a nationally competitive grant program to encourage community-based approaches to watershed management. See the state program section for details.
- **Wetlands Protection - Program Development Grants:** The purpose and special emphasis of this grant program is to provide funding for projects which develop: 1) comprehensive wetland monitoring programs using environmental indicators, assess biological health, estimate wetland losses, gains, and functions; 2) ecologically effective compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts; 3) protection for isolated wetlands and other sensitive aquatic resources; and 4) tribal wetland conservation plans. Development of Habitat Conservation Plans, projects set forth by other federal agencies, or long-term planning projects not connected to near-term implementation are a low priority. For additional information, please contact Cheryl McGovern at (415) 972-3415.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF):** The Land and Water Conservation Fund is the largest source of federal money for parks, wildlife, and open space land acquisition. Its funding comes primarily from offshore oil and gas drilling receipts, with an authorized expenditure of \$900 million each year. Contact your Congressional representative or regional office of any of the federal agencies for more specific information. [<http://www.ahrinfo.org/>]

**Land Exchange Program:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) seeks to preserve wildlife habitat and provide improved public access through this exchange program. The BLM exchanges public land for prime private wildlife habitat based on fair market value of lands. Private landholders and land trusts are eligible applicants. Contact: Howard Stark, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite West-1834, Sacramento, CA 95825-1886, 916-978-4630. [<http://www.blm.gov/nhp/index.htm>]

**Landowner Incentive Program Grant Proposals:** The Fish and Wildlife Service requests proposals under the Landowner Incentive Program pending a Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act 2004 allocation of funds for conservation grants to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa (hereafter referred to collectively as States), and Tribes. These grants are available for conservation efforts to be carried out on private lands, to provide technical or financial assistance to private landowners for the purpose of benefiting federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species on private lands. For any further information about Landowner Incentive Program, contact: The Division of Federal Aid [FederalAid@fws.gov](mailto:FederalAid@fws.gov). [<http://federalaid.fws.gov/lip/lip.html>]

**National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Act:** Funds generated from excise taxes on sport fishing equipment and boat gasoline taxes are set aside in the Sport Fish and Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Fund for the acquisition, restoration, and enhancement of coastal wetlands systems. This program funds only state agencies, i.e., State Coastal Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board. Grants are available to coastal states and require either a 25% or 50% match.

Contact: Verlyn Ebert, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4181, 503-231-6128.

- National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program Notice of Availability of Federal Assistance Grant - DOI, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Migratory Birds and State Programs.

<http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/DOI/FWS/FA/CWG-05/listing.html> and

<http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/DOI/FWS/FA/CWG-05/Grant.html>

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries):** The NOAA Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) provides funding to catalyze the implementation of locally-driven, grass-roots habitat restoration projects that will benefit living marine resources, including anadromous fish. Funding of up to \$3,000,000 is expected to be available for community-based habitat restoration projects in FY 2005. The NOAA Restoration Center (RC) anticipates that typical awards will range from \$50,000 to \$200,000. [<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/>]

**Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act Grants Program Grants:** The FY 2005 Request for Proposals under the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act is now available at [<http://birdhabitat.fws.gov>]. The Act establishes a matching grants program to fund projects that promote the conservation of these birds in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Please refer to <http://birdhabitat.fws.gov>, and click on Neotropical Birds Grants Program for additional information and application materials.

**North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA):** NAWCA provides federal funds specifically to "conserve North American wetland ecosystems and waterfowl and the other migratory birds and fish and wildlife that depend on such habitats." (PL 101-233) Eligible projects include acquisition and restoration of wetlands, among other activities. Proposals require a 50/50 nonfederal match.

- NAWCA Standard Grants: New application instructions are available on the NAWCA web site at <http://birdhabitat.fws.gov>. Click on Wetlands Grants Program and then click on U.S. Standard Grants. For additional information, contact Rodicia McKnight at 703-358-2266/ [rodecia\\_mcknight@fws.gov](mailto:rodecia_mcknight@fws.gov) or David Buie at [david\\_buie@fws.gov](mailto:david_buie@fws.gov).
- NAWCA Small Grants In conjunction with the Standard Grants program, the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) has created a Small Grants program. The objective is to promote long-term wetlands conservation activities through encouraging participation by new grantees and partners who may not otherwise be able to compete in the Standard Grants program. Please contact Beth Huning at [bhuning@sfbayjv.org](mailto:bhuning@sfbayjv.org) or 415-883-3854 for additional guidelines and assistance. [<http://birdhabitat.fws.gov/NAWCA/USsmallgrants.html>]

**NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program** This program helps to fulfill the National Park Service's mission of preserving the nation's natural and cultural resources by cooperating with partners to extend the benefits of NPS expertise beyond the boundaries of the national parks to benefit conservation and outdoor recreation throughout the country. RTCA staff can assist in a variety of ways from a one time telephone consultation to longer term project involvement. For more information call Barbara Rice at 510-817-1449. Deadline is July 1st each year

although NPS likes to work with project proponents prior to the deadline.

[<http://www.nps.gov/pwro/rtca/>]

**Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program:** The USFWS Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program works in voluntary partnership with private landowners to restore ecological habitat. The Program provides advice on the design and location of potential restoration as well as financial assistance to implement the projects. A dollar-for-dollar cost share is sought. Contact Deb Schlafmann, Partners for Fish and Wildlife & Habitat Conservation, California/Nevada Operations Office, 916/414-6464,

[<http://pacific.fws.gov/capartners/>]

**Private Stewardship Grant Program:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking proposals for the Private Stewardship Grant Program which supports on-the-ground conservation projects on private land that benefit federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species. For more information on how to apply, visit:

[[http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private\\_stewardship/index.html](http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship/index.html)]

**Restore America's Estuaries** *Funding for Habitat Restoration Projects: A Citizen's Guide*. 80 federal programs are authorized to fund habitat restoration in FY2003. The guide is available online as a printable PDF document and as an interactive database at <http://www.estuaries.org>.

**San Francisco Estuary Project:** The San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) is pleased to announce a Small Grants Program for projects committed to improving water quality and natural habitat of the Bay Delta estuary. They invite any Bay Area resident, organization, school, business, or public agency to apply for funds. Grants range from \$3,000 to \$10,000. To request a copy of the RFP, contact Carol Thornton at SFEP (510) 622-2419 or [ct@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:ct@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov).

[<http://www.abag.ca.gov/bayarea/sfep/sfep.html>]

**Tribal Wildlife Grants:** Wildlife conservation grants to States and to the District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, and tribes under 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.

[<http://grants.fws.gov/tribal.html>]

**U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP):** Funds are available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture,

Natural Resource Conservation Service for the acquisition of conservation easements on agricultural lands. Contact: Alan Forkey, Wetlands Biologist, 530-792-5653 or your local NRCS field office.

**USDA Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program:**

CSREES and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are seeking applications to evaluate the effects of watershed conservation practices, with a focus on understanding how the suite of conservation practices, the timing of these activities, and the spatial distribution of these practices throughout a watershed influence their effectiveness for achieving locally defined water quality goals.

[<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1160>]

**Watershed Assistance Grants (WAG):** The River Network allocated funding to build capacity of existing or new watershed partnerships to protect and restore their watersheds.

[<http://www.nfwf.org/>]

## *State Funding*

**CALFED Bay-Delta Program:** This program is comprised of both state and federal agencies that have been charged with finding a solution to the long-standing water wars in the Delta. Ecosystem restoration is a major component of the program and over \$100 million has been allocated to date. Call Rebecca Fauver at 916-654-1334 for more information.

[<http://calfed.ca.gov/>]

- **The California Bay-Delta Authority's Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP)** is seeking applications for projects that will monitor and evaluate ecosystem restoration actions, or groups of restoration actions, previously funded through ERP solicitation processes or by directed actions. The geographic area of interest is California's Sacramento and San Joaquin watersheds and the San Francisco Estuary. A notice of the public workshops at which the PSP will be discussed and questions about it answered is available at:

[[http://calwater.ca.gov/Programs/EcosystemRestoration/adobe\\_pdf/ERP\\_Proposal\\_Solicitation\\_Workshop\\_9-23-04.pdf](http://calwater.ca.gov/Programs/EcosystemRestoration/adobe_pdf/ERP_Proposal_Solicitation_Workshop_9-23-04.pdf)]

The proposal solicitation package can be viewed and downloaded from:

<http://calwater.ca.gov/Solicitation/>.

**California Coastal Commission Whale Tail Grants,** The Whale Tail Grants Program distributes funds from sales of the Whale Tail License Plate. The grants support programs that teach California's children and the general public to value and take action to improve the health of the state's marine and coastal resources. This grants program focuses on reaching communities that are currently poorly served in terms of marine and coastal education. Available Funding: Applicants may request any amount up to \$50,000, and 25-50% of the funding will be allocated in small grants under \$10,000. \$413,500 is available for FY2004/05. For more information, visit [<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/plate/plgrant.html>] or contact: [COAST4U@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:COAST4U@coastal.ca.gov).

**California Coastal Conservancy:** The Conservancy has grant funding for the acquisition, restoration and enhancement of significant coastal and San Francisco Bay resources and habitats through the Bay Area Conservancy Program. Grants are also available for the preparation of plans for the enhancement and restoration of wetlands, dunes, rivers, streams, and watersheds. State and local agencies and non-profits may apply. Contact the State Coastal Conservancy at 510-286-1015. [<http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/>]

**Cal/EPA** is now accepting applications for the new Targeted Site Investigation program (TSI). TSI program funds average \$50,000 - \$75,000 per project and are intended to assist local municipalities, school districts and non-profit organizations with such site assessment activities as Preparing a sampling plan, Field work, Preparation of a follow-up report, Conducting a Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA). [<http://www.cclr.org/new.html#TSI>]

**California Farmlands Conservancy Program:** The CA Farmlands Conservancy Program (formerly the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program) within the State Department of Conservation provides long-term protection of farmland through grants to for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements, fee title acquisition projects, policy/planning projects and land improvement projects. Local agencies and non-profits are eligible to apply. Contact: Charles Tyson,

Program Coordinator, Office of Land Conservation, 801 K Street, MS 13-71, Sacramento CA 95814. 916-324-0862. [<http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/CFCP/>]

**Caltrans Mitigation:** Caltrans frequently looks for wetlands projects that can be used to mitigate approved highway projects. Contact your local Caltrans office. [<http://www.dot.ca.gov/>]

**Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Grant Program** The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Watershed Coordinator Grant Program is now available on the Department's website. The Grant Program is open to locally based nonprofit groups with 501(c)(3) status, special districts and local governments. The Program is not open to federal or state agencies. To receive a hard copy of the RFP, please send a request to [rcd@consrv.ca.gov](mailto:rcd@consrv.ca.gov).

**Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Fines:** DFG collects fine monies for fish and game code violations. County fish and game committees typically administer these funds. Contact your local Fish and Game office for information. [<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/>]

**Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEM):** Grants are available for projects that mitigate, directly or indirectly, the environmental impacts of transportation facilities. This program awards funds in the following three categories: Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry, Resource Lands, and Roadside Recreation. Local, state, or federal agency, non-profit organizations, or public/private partnership are eligible to apply. Requests are generally limited to \$250,000. No matching funds are required, although matching funds greatly strengthen your application. Contact: Bill Borden, California Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1311, Sacramento, 95814, 916-653-5656. [<http://resources.ca.gov/eem/>]

**Habitat Conservation Fund:** The California Department of Parks and Recreation administers this grant program for local public agencies for the acquisition and restoration of wildlife habitats and significant natural areas. Eligible projects include acquisition/restoration of deer/mountain lion, rare, threatened and endangered species, wetlands, riparian, anadromous fish and trout habitat and urban trail/wildlife corridor projects. Contact Odel King at 916-653-8758, California Department of Parks and Recreation; PO Box 942896; Sacramento, 94296-0007. [<http://www.parks.ca.gov/>]

**State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB):** [<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/nps/grants.html>]

**Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Inland Wetlands and Riparian Habitat Conservation Programs:** WCB acquires and restores wildlife habitat throughout California. WCB also manages the Inland Wetlands Program for the acquisition and restoration of wetlands in the Central Valley and the Riparian Habitat Conservation Program that focuses on protecting and restoring riparian systems throughout the state. For more information on available funding, contact Marilyn Cundiff-Gee (Inland Wetlands) or Scott Clemons (Riparian) at 916-445-8448. [<http://www.wcb.ca.gov/>]

### ***Private Organization Funding***

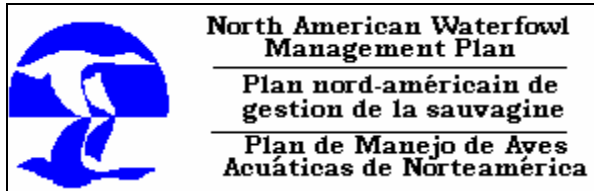
**Ducks Unlimited:** Ducks Unlimited (DU) provides technical assistance, matching funds and help in securing grants for the completion of wetland habitat restoration projects on both public and private land. Call the Western Regional Office of DU at 916-852-2000.

**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF):** Funds are available for acquiring significant resource lands for the protection and restoration of sensitive fish, wildlife and plant species within NFWF's Wetlands and Private Lands and Wildlife and Habitat Initiatives. Other NFWF programs provide funds for projects that include Conservation Management and Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation. Eligible Applicants: Federal, state and local governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations. Deadlines, request amount and matching requirements vary from program to program. Contact: David Brunner, NFWF, 28 2nd Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; 415-778-0999.

**The National Wildlife Federation's Species Recovery Fund** seeks to encourage habitat restorations, species reintroductions, private land conservation activities, and other creative endeavors that directly improve conditions for species listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. The Species Recovery Fund invites applications from any organization, agency, tribe, university, or individual working to improve on-the-ground conditions for imperiled species. Grant awards will range from \$3,000 to \$7,000. For more information about SRF, including complete guidelines, please visit us online at: <http://www.nwf.org/keepthewildalive/speciesrecoveryfund.cfm> or contact Colleen Fahey at: (202) 797-6621 email: [fahey@nwf.org](mailto:fahey@nwf.org) or Ron Ohrel at: (202) 797-6639 email: [ohrel@nwf.org](mailto:ohrel@nwf.org)

**Packard Foundation:** The foundation's Conserving California Landscapes Initiatives funds habitat protection and watershed projects in the Central Valley, Sierra, and Central Coast. For more information and grant guidelines, call 650-948-7658. [<http://www.packard.org/>]

**The Tiffany and Co. Foundation Environmental Conservation:** The Foundation supports organizations dedicated to conservation of natural resources, an area of vital concern because it is from the natural world that the company draws the raw materials and the inspiration that are at the heart of Tiffany. [[http://www.tiffanyandcofoundation.org/index\\_home.html](http://www.tiffanyandcofoundation.org/index_home.html)]



<http://northamerican.fws.gov/NAWMP/nawmphp.htm>



<http://www.partnersinflight.org>  
<http://www.prbo.org/calpif>



<http://shorebirdplan.fws.gov/USShorebird.htm>



<http://www.waterbirdconservation.org>

