

**Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge
Georgetown, Horry, and Marion Counties, South Carolina**

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986*
LAPS Rank: No. 34 of 150
Location: Great Pee Dee and Waccamaw Rivers in eastern South Carolina 14 miles southwest of Myrtle Beach and 12 miles northeast of Georgetown
Congressional Districts: 1,6 **Region:** 4
Total Appropriations: \$8,250,000

Acquisition Status:

	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>\$/Acre</u>
Acquired Through FY 2001	68	*7,338	**\$7,005,949	\$ 955
Planned FY 2002	16	750	***\$2,558,575	\$ 3,411
Proposed FY 2003	10	901	\$ 750,000	\$ 832
Remaining	<u>201</u>	<u>40,811</u>	<u>\$ 25,685,476</u>	\$ 629
Totals	295	49,800	\$ 36,000,000	\$ 723

*Includes 871 acres donated via 3 ownerships at no cost

**Includes Title V and Title VIII funds

***Includes Title VIII funds

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve and protect bottomland hardwood forest providing habitat for colonial nesting birds, neotropical birds, wintering waterfowl, and old-growth pine communities supporting populations of endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers.

Project Cooperators: Ducks Unlimited; The Nature Conservancy; Historical Rice Field Association; South Carolina DNR; South Carolina DOT; International Paper; U.S. Corps of Engineers; South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control; South Carolina Ocean and Coastal Resource Management; Audubon Society; League of Women Voters; Sierra Club; Five Rivers Coalition; and South Carolina Coastal Conservation League.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire land among many tracts being considered for purchase, including the Weaver and Causey tracts. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs. The 66-acre Weaver tract features bottomland hardwood forests dominated by cypress and tupelo gum and wetlands. The trees provide abundant natural cavities for wood ducks and other cavity-nesting species. The Causey tract is a multi-phased acquisition. We are currently negotiating the final phase, upon which we have option to purchase the remaining 104 acres. This tract features uplands, midlands, wetlands, and swamp.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$10,000.

**Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge
Sussex County, New Jersey and Orange County, New York**

Acquisition Authority: *Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge Act of 1990*
LAPS Rank: No. 115 of 150
Location: 55 miles northwest of New York City
Congressional Districts: NJ-5 NY-20 **Region:** 5
Total Appropriations: \$17,276,040

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
	<u>S</u>			
<u>Acquired through FY7 2001*</u>	36	4,603	\$18,344,564	\$3,985
<u>Planned FY 2002</u>	1	157	**4,614,056	**N/A
<u>Proposed FY 2003</u>	2	29	200,000	\$6,897
<u>Remaining</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>3,168</u>	<u>***11,091,38</u>	<u>\$3,501</u>
			<u>0</u>	
Total	122	7,957	\$34,250,000	\$ 4,304

*Includes incidental acquisition costs, lands acquired with Migratory Bird Conservation Account funds, and funds from Title V (\$500,000), Title VI (\$250,000) and Title VIII (\$2,000,000).

**Includes fee acquisition of land and mineral rights.

***Cost adjusted to more accurately reflect current land prices

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To provide protection for valuable bottomland forest, wetland, grasslands, and upland forest habitat along a nine-mile stretch of the Wallkill River .

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund; The Nature Conservancy; Trust for Public Land; State of New Jersey Green Acres Program; State of New Jersey Department of Fish and Game; Town of Vernon; Town of Wantage; New Jersey Conservation Foundation; Representative Marge Roukema; Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire two tracts: one tract is primarily a hardwood forest containing a tributary to the Wallkill River and adjacent to a 212-acre parcel purchased last year that contains an Atlantic white cedar swamp. The second tract is a wet meadow surrounded by refuge lands. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

Wallkill River NWR offers unique wildlife habitat. The Wallkill bottomlands support diverse wildlife species unparalleled in northern New Jersey. This acquisition will protect habitat for the cerulean warbler and worm-eating warbler by preventing forest fragmentation and provide a higher degree of protection to the Atlantic white cedar swamp.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,000.

**Western Montana Project
Powell County and Lake County, MT**

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*
LAPS Rank: No. 30 of 150
Location: 50 miles east of Missoula, near Ovando
Congressional District: At-Large Region: 6
Total Appropriations: \$5,447,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres*</u>	<u>Cost**</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	13	7,553	\$2,977,393	\$394
Planned FY 2002	15	10,724	5,469,607	510
Proposed FY 2003	8	1,470	750,000	510
Remaining	<u>Multi.</u>	<u>16,753</u>	<u>11,961,880</u>	714
Total	Multi.	36,500	\$21,158,880	\$580

* Includes components of both the Mission Valley Project and the Blackfoot Valley focus areas.

*Acquisition consists predominantly of conservation easements.

** Includes FY 1999 Title V money (\$1,000,000) and FY 2000 Title VI money (\$500,000)

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect wetlands and habitat diversity for a variety of wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy; Montana Land Reliance; Powell County; Bureau of Land Management; Trout Unlimited; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and congressional delegation.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire lands within two focus areas, the Blackfoot Valley containing 23,500 acres and the Mission Valley containing 13,000 acres. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The habitat is composed of native grassland, coniferous forest, and wetlands. The project will focus on tracts considered vulnerable to development and having the greatest ecosystem values. The area is spring/fall foraging habitat for grizzly bears as well as habitat for four other federally listed species including the bull trout, bald eagle, gray wolf and Canada lynx. Development of ranchettes is the major threat to the habitat.

The total approved acquisition boundary of 36,500 acres is targeted exclusively for conservation easements. Very little, if any, fee title interests would be acquired. The Service has been contacted by numerous landowners regarding the acquisition of conservation easements, particularly in the Blackfoot Valley, where large tracts of land remain. Support for the project continues to be very strong among landowners and non-landowners alike.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,400.

**White River National Wildlife Refuge
Phillips, Monroe, Arkansas, Desha Counties, Arkansas**

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetlands Act of 1986, Migratory Bird Conservation Act*
LAPS Rank: No. 9 of 150
Congressional District: 1 **Region:** 4
Location: 75 miles east-southeast of Little Rock
Total Appropriations: \$136,545

Acquisition Status:

	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>\$/Acre</u>
Acquired Through FY 2001	182	157,942	*\$4,714,193	\$30
Planned FY 2002	0	0	\$0	0
Proposed FY 2003	1	250	500,000	2,000
Remaining	<u>42</u>	<u>10,747</u>	<u>20,865,900</u>	1,942
Totals	225	168,939	\$26,080,093	\$154

*Includes MBCA funding.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve and protect wintering areas vital to the long-term conservation of migratory waterfowl.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy; State of Arkansas; Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation; U.S. Corps of Engineers; Ducks Unlimited; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Spratlin; Audubon Society; Arkansas Heritage Commission; Clarendon Chamber of Commerce; and T and S Sawmill.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire a portion of the 221-acre A & K Farms tract, and part of the 264-acre Robert Stimson, Jr. property. Both tracts are bottomland hardwood forest that adjoin existing refuge lands. If possible, the funds would be combined with timber-for-land or land-for-land opportunities to accomplish the transactions. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The White River NWR is one of the largest expanses of bottomland hardwood forest in the U.S., consisting of approximately 169,000 acres with coverage of about 100 river miles of riparian habitat.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$2,500.

**Willapa National Wildlife Refuge
Pacific County, Washington**

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Migratory Bird Conservation Act*
LAPS Rank: No. 21 of 150
Location: Approximately 28 miles northeast of South Bend
Congressional District: 3 **Region:** 1
Total Appropriations: \$10,518,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost*</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	34	15,120	\$15,165,010	\$1,003
Planned FY 2002	4	633	1,500,000	2,370
Proposed FY 2003	2	340	750,000	2,206
Remaining	<u>6</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>780,000</u>	3,000
Total	46	16,353	\$18,195,010	\$1,113

*Includes \$6,322,011 of MBCA and NAWCA grant funds

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect areas of unique old-growth forest, freshwater streams, river and tidal habitats; provide refuge for breeding and migrating waterfowl and shorebirds; contribute to the conservation and recovery of threatened and endangered species; and provide increased opportunities for wildlife/wildland-dependent recreation, education and research.

Project Cooperators: Columbia Land Trust; USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service; local, county and state governments.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire a portion of four tracts of late-successional forested land and tidal flats totaling approximately 465 acres, all owned by willing sellers. Appraisals are underway. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs. Local, county and state governments are frequently consulted and have shown great support for the refuge, both for the protection of the oyster beds in the tidelands and the protection of the successional forests in the uplands.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$18,000.

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska

Acquisition Authority: *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*
LAPS Rank: No. 24 of 150
Location: Southwestern Alaska, approximately 350 air miles west of Anchorage.
Congressional District: Alaska At-Large **Region:** 7
Total Appropriations: None.

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001*	0	0	\$0	\$0
Planned FY 2002	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2003	4	640	500,000	781
Remaining	<u>309</u>	<u>48,160</u>	<u>39,540,000</u>	821
Total	313	48,800	\$40,040,000	\$820

*Refuge established by ANILCA legislation at no initial purchase cost.
 Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To manage and protect important coastal waterfowl nesting habitat.

Project Cooperators: Southwest Alaska Conservation Coalition; State of Alaska; native corporations; and other local interests.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire numerous small tracts located inside the Yukon Delta NWR. More than 25% of the land within the refuge is privately owned. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The incredible productivity of this coastal nesting habitat lends national and international significance to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Consequently, the area was designated a *Waterfowl Habitat of Major Concern* in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. Countless wetlands and coastal estuaries provide habitat for waterfowl from all four North American flyways. Half of Alaska's waterfowl are produced here, including one million ducks, geese, swans and other birds. This coastal zone is the most important nesting area in the world for tundra swans, spectacled eiders, Pacific brant, emperor geese, and cackling Canada geese. Arctic nesting geese depend upon the coastal zone's habitats for survival during most or all of their life cycle. The area is also excellent nesting and molting habitat for other species, including white-fronted geese, lesser sandhill cranes, and a multitude of shorebirds.

The Service is currently working with the state, native corporations, and other local interests to develop the Yukon Delta Land Protection Plan. The Service is a partner of the Southwest Alaska Conservation Coalition, a grassroots coalition of organizations, individuals, state, and local entities interested in conserving area resources through easements and fee acquisitions. The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$0.

LAND ACQUISITION

Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge Tillamook County, Oregon

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Endangered Species Act of 1973*
LAPS Rank: No. 59 of 150
Location: Central Oregon coast, 27 miles south of Tillamook
Congressional Districts: 1,5 **Region:** 1
Total Appropriations: \$1,866,903

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	8	539	1,585,165	2,941
Planned FY 2002	4	50	128,835	2,577
Proposed FY 2003	2	19	110,000	5,789
Remaining	<u>49</u>	<u>2,828</u>	<u>8,484,000</u>	3,000
Total	63	3,436	\$10,308,000	\$3,000

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and restore anadromous fish and coastal wetlands, migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds, and protect endangered and threatened species.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy. In addition, the refuge has the overall support of most local landowners, special interest groups, local governmental agencies and congressional delegations.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire two ownerships totaling 19 acres. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

Nestucca Bay NWR contains some of the last remaining examples of estuary and freshwater wetlands, tidal marshes and upland area which support a diverse variety of waterfowl, shorebirds, marine mammals, endangered species, raptors, songbirds, anadromous fish and other wildlife. Development pressures have increased exponentially recently along coastal Oregon with home building and increases in tourism. Remaining wetland habitats are threatened by commercial and residential encroachment and associated impacts such as increased pollution and degraded water quality.

Easement acquisition is a viable and available alternative to fee acquisition and has been used for some acquisitions within the refuge complex. However, this owner and the vast majority of willing sellers have requested full fee acquisition, though we continue to offer other alternatives.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$10,000.

**North Dakota Wildlife Management Area
Various Counties, North Dakota**

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*
LAPS Rank: No. 55 of 150
Location: The Missouri Coteau north and east of the Missouri River
Congressional District: At large **Region:** 6
Total Appropriations : \$2,300,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	85	20,160	1,233,724	\$61
Planned FY 2002	Multi	10,000	1,066,276	107
Proposed FY 2003	Multi	4,700	500,000	106
Remaining	<u>Multi</u>	<u>265,140</u>	<u>12,650,000</u>	<u>48</u>
Total	Multi	300,000	\$15,450,000	\$50

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: Protect the North Dakota Prairie Ecosystem and associated wildlife species through acquisition of perpetual conservation easements.

Project Cooperators: Ducks Unlimited, and North Dakota Congressional Delegation. The Service uses weekly coordination meetings with North Dakota Game and Fish Department to discuss acquisition and management issues in the State. In addition, the Service met with former Governor Shafer, Ducks Unlimited and North Dakota State agency staff in the summer of 2000 to specifically discuss the grassland easement acquisition program in North Dakota.. Landowner interest continues to be strong.

Project Description: Today, less than 25% percent of the native grassland in North Dakota is left, and grasslands continue to be converted to other uses. In response to this trend, the Service has targeted 300,000 acres of native grassland along the Missouri Coteau for protection. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The Missouri Coteau is a rolling, hilly landscape stretching from northwest to south-central North Dakota containing native mixed-grass prairie, intermingled with high densities of temporary, semi-permanent and permanent wetlands. The project area is known for its highly productive waterfowl habitat, but also contains unique habitat used by many migrant shorebirds and grassland birds, as well as numerous resident species. Grassland easements focus on these key areas of native prairie associated with high densities of wetlands that support many species of nesting birds such as marbled godwits, willets, Baird’s sparrows, ferruginous hawks, and several waterfowl species.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,000.

LAND ACQUISITION

**Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge
85 Counties, Minnesota and Iowa**

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*
LAPS Rank: No.5 of 150
Location: Eighty-five counties in western Minnesota and northwestern Iowa
Congressional Districts: 1,2,7 (Minnesota); 2,3,4,5 (Iowa) **Region:** 3
Total Appropriations: \$1,500,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	5	279	699,955	2,509
Planned FY 2002	10	1,227	800,045	652
Proposed FY 2003	21	1,000	1,000,000	1,000
Remaining	<u>814</u>	<u>74,494</u>	<u>22,500,000</u>	302
Total	850	77,000	\$25,000,000	\$325

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: Protect and restore northern tallgrass prairie and aspen parklands ecosystems and associated wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Iowa Department of Natural Resources; Ducks Unlimited; Pheasants Forever; The Nature Conservancy; and Minnesota Waterfowl Association.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire 1,000 acres within the 77,000-acre acquisition area located in 48 counties of western Minnesota and 37 counties in northwestern Iowa.. The majority of the tracts involve easement acquisition. There are \$256,569 in options and \$2,117,270 in appraisals underway. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The Northern Tallgrass Prairie NWR was established on September 18, 2000 through the conveyance of the 65-acre Hoff conservation easement in Minnesota. The northern tallgrass prairie has been reduced by agricultural expansion, overgrazing, gravel extraction, and woody plant encroachment. This area contains some of the last remnants of northern tallgrass prairie and more than 300 vascular plant species and 1,500 insect species. Wildlife associated with this area includes upland sandpiper, marbled godwit, sandhill crane, 12 species of waterfowl, and prairie chicken.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$75,000. Costs associated with this acquisition are higher due to more intensive management, including burning, law enforcement costs, control of noxious weeds, and determination of specific boundaries for each easement acquired.

LAND ACQUISITION

**Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge
Gibson and Pike Counties, Indiana**

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986*
LAPS Rank: No. 49 of 150
Location: Southern Indiana, 35 miles from Evansville
Congressional District: 8 **Region:** 3
Total Appropriations: \$3,550,000

	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>*Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquisition Status:				
Acquired through FY 2001	37	5,494	\$3,417,091	\$ 622
Planned FY 2002	2	101	132,909	1,316
Proposed FY 2003	3	190	250,000	1,316
Remaining	<u>219</u>	<u>16,298</u>	<u>16,200,000</u>	994
Total	261	22,083	\$20,000,000	\$ 906

* Includes NAWCA Grant and donation

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and manage a nationally significant wetland complex for diverse wildlife and plant species.

Project Cooperators: Ducks Unlimited; Patoka South Fork Watershed Steering Committee of the Appalachian Clean Stream Initiative; and The Conservation Fund.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire lands within the 206-acre Spitler tract. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

This tract supports a wide variety of habitats and diverse wildlife populations, with a variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes and mollusks expected to occur here. At least 20 plant species classified by Indiana as threatened or endangered have also been found nearby. The Patoka River and associated wetlands provides some of the most productive wood duck nesting and brood-rearing habitat in the state, and supports several active nesting colonies of great blue herons. Paddlefish feed in the rich flooded bottoms every spring to build up body fats for successful egg laying downstream in the Wabash River.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$10,000.

LAND ACQUISITION

Pond Creek National Wildlife Refuge Sevier County, Arkansas

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986*
LAPS Rank: No.4 of 150
Location: 25 miles northwest of Texarkana
Congressional District: 4 **Region:** 4
Total Appropriations: None to date

Acquisition Status:

	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>\$/Acre</u>
Acquired Through FY 2001	3	*26,878	\$ 0	\$ 0
Planned FY 2002	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2003	2	840	1,000,000	1,190
Remaining	<u>61</u>	<u>8,621</u>	<u>11,520,776</u>	1,336
Totals	66	36,339	\$12,520,776	\$ 345

*Donations

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect, enhance, and manage a valuable bottomland hardwood wetland ecosystem for the benefit of migratory and resident waterfowl, wading birds, and other wildlife.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund; The Nature Conservancy; State of Arkansas; Sevier County Judge Tallman; Weyerhaeuser; U. S. Corps of Engineers; USDA Forest Service; Audubon Society; Little River County Judge; Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism; and John Hendrix Corporation.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire a portion of the Garner, Hall, Williams, Kennedy, Harrison and Plum Creek (Georgia-Pacific) tracts. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

Encompassing approximately 1,600 acres, the tracts comprise a diverse selection of habitat types ranging from bottomland hardwood forest, prior converted farmland, beaver ponds, and clear-cut and managed forest land. The potential for commercial mining of the underlying gravel resources is the primary threat to the wildlife values in this area. Land acquisition funding will be used in addition to timber-for-land exchanges to begin acquisition of the available tracts. This request will purchase approximately 10-15% of the available land with the balance of the acquisition contingent upon future funding and available timber for exchange.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

Each tract will require approximately \$2,500 per year in additional management cost. The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$5,000.

**Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge
Sussex County, Delaware**

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986, Refuge Recreation Act of 1962*
LAPS Rank: No. 74 of 150
Congressional District: At Large **Region:** 5
Location: Sussex County
Total Appropriations: \$2,325,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001*	76	10,060	\$6,335,733	\$632
Planned FY 2002	0	0	32,636	0
Proposed FY 2003	4	35	400,000	\$11,429
Remaining	<u>13</u>	<u>339</u>	<u>2,995,656</u>	\$8,837
Total	93	10,434	\$9,764,025	\$936

*Includes incidental acquisitions costs, areas acquired with MBCA funds, and funds from Title VI (\$325,000) and Title VIII (\$700,000).

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect important waterfowl habitat and shorebird resting and feeding areas.

Project Cooperators: Senator Joseph Biden; Representative Michael Castle; and The Nature Conservancy.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire four tracts (known as tracts 106,a,b,c), consisting of approximately 35 acres of beachfront and shrub land within the approved refuge boundary. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The Nature Conservancy acquired the properties several years ago with the intention of holding these lands for the Service until funding became available. Prime Hook NWR was established primarily to preserve coastal wetlands as wintering and breeding habitat for migratory waterfowl. Delmarva fox squirrels were reintroduced to the refuge in 1986 to expand the population of this federally listed, threatened species.

Freshwater marsh and salt marsh are the primary habitat types found on the refuge. Upland crop lands, grasslands, brush and forest lands aid in maintaining habitat and species diversity. Much of the coastal beach and barrier dunes have been developed for permanent and seasonal homes. The remaining undeveloped portions provide significant feeding and resting habitat for up to 100,000 shorebirds during their northern migration in May-June.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

Estimated start up costs would be \$2,000 for posting the property. The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,000.

**North Boundary Area of the Quinault Indian Reservation
Grays Harbor County, Washington**

Acquisition Authority : *Endangered Species Act of 1973*
LAPS Rank: Not Ranked
Location: Southwest corner of the Olympic Peninsula approximately 90 miles west of Olympia
Congressional District: 6 **Region:** 1
Total Appropriations: None

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	0	0	\$0	\$0
Planned FY 2002	1	65	*996,196	15,326
Proposed FY 2003	1	420	5,000,000	**11,905
Remaining	<u>0</u>	<u>3,722</u>	<u>44,000,000</u>	***11,822
Total	2	***4,207	***\$49,996,196	\$11,884

*Landowner Incentive Grant funds; unit purchase price based on Quinault Indian Nation’s appraisal figures
 **This unit’s value is based on average figure for value of Conservation Blocks 1 & 2. Actual acreage will vary greatly.

***These figures are derived from the Agreement signed July 2000 (and updated 2001) and are an overall total value of timber in Conservation Blocks 1 & 2.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect and preserve high-quality old-growth forest occupied by marbled murrelets and northern spotted owls through the purchase of an easement that does not allow cutting of certain old growth timber blocks.

Project Cooperators: The Trust for Public Land, Quinault Indian Nation.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire a 420-acre easement from the tribe to protect old growth forest occupied by marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl. In 1988, Congress enacted an amendment to the boundary of the National Forest, returning the North Boundary Area to the Quinault Indian Nation (tribe), primarily to generate timber harvest revenue for the tribe.

In January 1998, the Service issued a jeopardy biological opinion on a plan proposed by the tribe to harvest nearly all of its high-quality, old-growth forest, most of which is occupied by marbled murrelets and northern spotted owls. The plan jeopardized the murrelet due to impacts to its reproduction, numbers, and distribution. The Reasonable and Prudent Alternative allows harvest of low-quality old growth forest, and protection of the highest quality old growth forest. A second alternative created Conservation Blocks 1 and 2.

In July 2000, the Department of the Interior, the tribe, and the Trust for Public Land (TPL) signed an agreement to appraise the timber and ultimately seek federal money to buy future perpetual easements on the Conservation Blocks. The agreement stated that the Department and the TPL would seek and support funding of up to \$50 million from federal appropriations and outside funding sources to purchase the easements. The tribe recently filed a lawsuit asserting a claim to an amount in excess of \$92,354,000.

The estimates O & M costs associated with the acquisition are \$0.

**Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Richmond and Prince George's Counties, Virginia**

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986*
LAPS Rank: No. 78 of 150
Location: 50 miles SE of Richmond and 100 miles SE of Washington, D.C.
Congressional District: At-Large **Region: 5**
Total Appropriations: \$10,100,000

	Ownerships	Acres	Cost	Cost Per Acre
Acquisition Status:				
Acquired through FY 2001*	12	4,856	\$8,540,061	\$1,759
Planned FY 2002	5	2,200	4,229,939	\$1,923
Proposed FY 2003	1	70	180,000	\$2,571
Remaining	6	11,924	6,440,000	\$540
Total	24	19,050	\$19,390,000	\$ 1,018

*Includes incidental acquisitions costs, areas acquired with MBCA funds, funds from Title V (\$2,000,000) and Title VIII (\$2,000,000), and a 1,339-acre donation.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect wetlands and bald eagle nesting and roosting habitat and enhance migratory bird populations.

Project Cooperators: Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Virginia Outdoor Foundation; Senator John Warner; Representative Jo Ann Davis; The Conservation Fund; The Nature Conservancy; The Trust for Public Land.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire approximately 70 acres on Pee Dee Creek, a priority Resource Conservation Area identified in the refuge's establishing documents. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The Rappahannock River is recognized as one of the most important waterfowl migration and feeding areas on the Atlantic Coast. It is the site of the largest winter bald eagle roost in Virginia. Most of the ducks common to the Atlantic Flyway use this area during the winter and during spring and fall migration periods. The tract is currently in agriculture and offers excellent restoration potential, which will create habitat for nesting and wintering migratory birds, and enhance water quality in the Creek and the Rappahannock River.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

Estimated start up costs would be \$1,000 for posting the property. The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,200.

Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge

LAND ACQUISITION

Colusa, Glenn, Butte and Tehama Counties, California

Acquisition Authority: *Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Endangered Species Act of 1973*
LAPS Rank: No. 28 of 150
Location: One hundred mile stretch along the Sacramento River between Colusa and Red Bluff
Congressional Districts: 2,3 **Region:** 1
Total Appropriations: \$28,992,392
Acquisition Status:

	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost*</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	27	10,322	**\$29,171,616	\$2,826
Planned FY 2002	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2003	3	372	500,000	1,344
Remaining	<u>87</u>	<u>7,306</u>	<u>41,328,384</u>	<u>5,657</u>
Total	117	18,000	\$71,000,000	\$3,944

*\$3,000,000 allocated from NAWLA.**Includes CalFed, flood funds, and emergency funds.
 Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To preserve riparian habitat for four federally listed endangered or threatened species and six candidate species.

Project Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy; Sacramento River Partners; California State Department of Fish and Game; Sacramento Valley Waterfowl Habitat Management Committee; and Sacramento River Preservation Trust; local congressional delegation; and state, local and private sector cooperators.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire three tracts totaling 372 acres. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs. The project protects more than 18,000 acres of extremely rare riparian forest habitat. This riparian wetland community, consisting of woodlands and wetlands adjacent to and dependent upon the water of streams, sloughs, rivers and lakes, is considered one of the most important wildlife habitats in North America..

Historically, most of the lands acquired for this project have been purchased in fee ownership. The Service and partners are exploring ways to protect these riparian and river corridor lands by means of perpetual conservation easements rather than fee acquisition. The proposed acquisitions are primarily riparian with some upland acreage, and would require no to minimal long-term management costs to the refuge.

The Service’s land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$8,500.

Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties, California

Acquisition Authority: *Endangered Species Act of 1973*
Laps Rank: No. 17 of 150
Location: Approximately 10 miles west of Modesto, north and south of Highway 132
Congressional Districts: 11,18 **Region:** 1
Total Appropriations: \$10,500,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost*</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	9	8,512	\$26,340,508	\$3,095
Planned FY 2002	1	110	408,044	3,710
Proposed FY 2003	1	500	2,500,000	5,000
Remaining	<u>2</u>	<u>3,995</u>	<u>16,251,488</u>	4,068
Total	13	13,117	\$45,500,040	\$3,469

* Includes MBCA, CALFED, and Flood Money funding sources.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect native grasslands and wetlands that are essential for long-term survival of the Aleutian Canada goose as well as a large piece of riparian habitat valuable to many wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; CalFed Bay Delta Program; Bureau of Reclamation; California Resource Agency; various nonprofits; State of California; local government; and, Representative Condit.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire 500 acres of the remaining 4,040-acre Mapes ranches within the 13,117-acre project boundary. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

This area features sloughs, lakes, seasonally flooded wetlands, grasslands, pasture, cropland, and riparian habitat currently managed as cattle ranches. The San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne rivers flow through or are adjacent to the project. The State of California has appropriated \$5,000,000 toward acquisition of the Mapes Ranch, and provided \$2,000,000 through the state side of the CALFED Bay-Delta grant program for the acquisition.

These lands will be protected primarily by the purchase of perpetual conservation easements. The landowners are willing sellers, negotiations are currently underway, and appraisals are being completed. Purchase of the Mapes Ranch will predominantly complete the protection of the lands comprising the approved refuge boundary. The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,000.

**Siletz Bay National Wildlife Refuge
Lincoln County, Oregon**

**Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut**

Acquisition Authority: *Silvio E. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge Act*
LAPS Rank: No. 13 of 150
Location: Segments of the Connecticut River and its watershed in four states
Congressional Districts: MA- 1,2, CT-1,2,3,6, VT- At Large, NH- 2 **Region:** 5

Total Appropriations: \$5,569,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001*	10	27,250	\$7,640,840	\$280
Planned FY 2002**	5	324	2,624,280	8,100
Proposed FY 2003***	3	400	1,000,000	2,500
Remaining	<u>1,982</u>	<u>50,424</u>	<u>18,734,880</u>	372
Total	<u>2,000</u>	<u>78,398</u>	<u>\$30,000,000</u>	\$ 389

*Includes incidental acquisitions costs, areas acquired with MBCA funds, Title VIII (\$755,000), and three donations.

**Includes 16 tenant-owned improvements (camps) at Nulhegan Basin Division.

***Includes 15 tenant-owned improvements (camps) at Nulhegan Basin Division.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To conserve, protect, and enhance the natural diversity of plants and animals of the Connecticut River watershed, including the main stem of the river and its tributaries, from its source at Fourth Connecticut Lake to Long Island Sound.

Project Cooperators: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management; University of Massachusetts; The Nature Conservancy; state and local governments; communities; and congressional delegations.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire lands within the 6,220-acre Mt. Toby Special Focus Area (SFA). Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs. This is primarily a large forested site with trap rock ridges and small wetlands including calcareous fens, seepage marshes and wooded swamps.

The Service is currently working with partners to develop a land protection strategy for the remaining 4,220 acres using both conservation easements and fee title acquisition. The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,500.

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska

Acquisition Authority: *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*
LAPS Rank: No. 29 of 150
Location: Southwestern Alaska, 350 air miles west of Anchorage
Congressional District: At-Large **Region:** 7
Total Appropriations: \$1,827,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001*	10	1,390	\$1,827,000	\$1,314
Planned FY 2002	0	0	0	0
Proposed FY 2003	5	800	1,000,000	1,250
Remaining	<u>107</u>	<u>17,330</u>	<u>24,501,000</u>	1,414
Total	122	19,520	\$27,328,000	\$1,400

*Refuge established by ANILCA.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: To protect fish and wildlife resources in the Togiak Wilderness.

Project Cooperators: Southwestern Alaska Conservation Coalition. Region-wide support for land conservation efforts is clearly growing. Local governments have passed resolutions that advocate Service acquisitions. Native corporations, the major landowners within the refuge, initiated a letter writing campaign to urge congressional support for Togiak acquisitions. National conservation organizations have expressed support for an active acquisition program. The Nature Conservancy will soon finalize its Bristol Bay/Alaska Peninsula Ecoregional Plan—an analysis of conservation opportunities throughout the region.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire tracts among more than 400 small, private inholdings scattered across the Togiak refuge, many within a designated wilderness area. Most of these inholdings are native allotments located in prime habitats bordering major salmon streams, coastal bays, or lagoons. Pristine waters support world-renowned fishery resources. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The Service has involved both state and local entities in developing the Togiak Land Protection Plan. We are currently revising the Togiak Comprehensive Conservation Plan, working closely with the state, native corporations, tribal organizations, and local governments. Through partnership with the grassroots Southwest Alaska Conservation Coalition, the Service is working to conserve area resources with easements and fee acquisitions. Participants include local governments, tribal organizations, village and regional native corporations, conservation organizations, commercial fishermen, guides, tour operators, private individuals, and state agencies.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resources.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$0.

LAND ACQUISITION

Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge Liberty County, Texas

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986*
LAPS Rank: No.23 of 150
Location: Approximately 50 miles northeast of Houston
Congressional District: 2 **Region:** 2
Total Appropriations: \$7,056,000

Acquisition Status:	<u>Ownership</u>	<u>*Acres</u>	<u>***Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquired through FY 2001	13	11,442	8,250,455	721
Planned FY 2002**	4	2,188	2,001,839	915
Proposed FY 2003	2	589	500,000	849
Remaining	<u>103</u>	<u>65,381</u>	<u>52,304,800</u>	800
Total	122	79,600	\$63,057,094	\$792

*Includes lands acquired with *Migratory Bird Conservation Act* funds.

** Includes MBCAF, NAWCA, and Mitigation Funds.

***Includes incidental acquisition costs.

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: Protection of rapidly declining bottomland hardwood forest and other associated wetland types for migratory waterfowl and other fish and wildlife species.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund; The Nature Conservancy; The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; Environmental synergy, Inc.; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; and Senators Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire two key tracts totaling 589 acres at the Trinity River NWR. The tracts are dominated by bottomland hardwood forest, a wetland type that has experienced dramatic and damaging declines in the past decade. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs. Fee-title acquisition is the only method of protection supported by the current landowners.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$15,000.

**Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
Portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois**

Acquisition Authority: *Emergency Wetland Resources Act of 1986*
LAPS Rank: No.1 of 150
Location: 260 miles along the Mississippi River between Wabasha, MN and Rock Island IL
Congressional Districts: MN-1, WI-3, IL-16,17, IA-1,2,3 **Region:** 3
Total Appropriations: \$ 1,012,127 (includes inholdings)

	<u>Ownerships</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>*Cost</u>	<u>Cost Per Acre</u>
Acquisition Status:				
Acquired through FY 2001	880	197,263	\$1,531,812	\$ 8
Planned FY 2002	3	111	119,500	1,077
Proposed FY 2003	3	190	250,000	1,316
Remaining	<u>656</u>	<u>33,850</u>	<u>33,850,000</u>	1,000
Total	1,542	231,414	\$35,751,312	\$ 154

* Includes MBCA funds

Total cost per acre is an average of total costs divided by total acres for the estimated life of the project.

Purpose of Acquisition: Protect, restore and manage grassland and wetland habitat for migratory birds including waterfowl, resident wildlife, and public recreation.

Project Cooperators: The Conservation Fund; Minnesota DNR; Iowa DNR; Wisconsin DNR; and U.S. Corps of Engineers. There is strong state, local and congressional support of the project.

Project Description: Funds would be used to acquire four tracts, including the 83-acre Peterson tract in Wabash Co., MN, the 40-acre Newt tract in Houston Co., MN, the 54-acre Diocese of LaCrosse tract in LaCrosse County, WI, and the 100-acre Biggine tract in Crawford Co., WI. Actual acquisition acreage and costs will not be available until purchase agreements have been secured from the landowner, therefore project descriptions are preliminary general estimates of acres and costs.

The Upper Mississippi valley provides habitat for some 270 species of birds, 57 species of mammals, 45 species of amphibians and reptiles, and 113 species of fish. The river's importance to species such as bald eagles, canvasbacks, tundra swans, sturgeon and Higgins'-eye pearly mussels is increasing with reduction of habitat elsewhere throughout the Midwest. The Upper Mississippi is becoming an oasis in America's heartland where natural lakes are scarce, bottomland forests are vanishing, many streams have been adversely affected by channelization, and more than half of the wetlands have been lost.

The Service's land protection plan for the refuge identifies the minimum interest necessary to accomplish habitat protection goals. The Service has the potential and ability to acquire easements on all refuges identified by the plan as the minimum interest necessary to protect the resource.

The estimated annual O & M costs associated with this acquisition are \$10,000.