

## **Summary Table: Federal Conservation and Recreation Funding Programs**

*Prepared by Resources for the Future (May 2009)*

The following table was produced by Resources for the Future in the context of our work with the Outdoor Resources Review Group (see [www.rff.org/orrg](http://www.rff.org/orrg) for more information on this group). The purpose of this summary table is to identify major federal programs that provide funding in support of conservation and recreation objectives. We include the program title, administering agency, year of inception, funding level for 2008 (or most recent available year), acres protected (or in some cases, another measure of program outcome), and a brief program description.

We acknowledge that this table may not be exhaustive of all federal programs which include a land conservation or recreation component, especially if such components represent a relatively minor part of the program's objective. For some programs, we have tried to report funding figures that reflect only the land conservation and restoration activities; in other cases, where differentiating among activities is difficult, we are more inclusive. Judgment calls may lead to some errors of omission or commission. Furthermore, we would offer the caveat that it is challenging to accurately identify the acreage protected under these programs, due to potential double-counting across programs and/or a lack of clarity on whether acreage has been acquired, improved, affected, etc. We encourage readers to take care in reading the notes for each program.

We rely primarily on government agency data sources including published reports and web sites. We also made use of earlier studies that tallied government conservation spending, especially the following: "What's in Noah's Wallet? Land Conservation Spending in the United States" by Jeff Lerner, Janet Mackey, and Frank Casey, *Bioscience*, May 2007. In addition, we are grateful to Christy Plumer (Director of Government Relations, The Conservation Fund) for her suggestions and assistance. Other references are available upon request.

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ABBR.	PROGRAM	AGENCY	INCEPTION	FUNDING (in thousands, FY2008)	ACRES PROTECTED*	Notes
	Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Program	Corps & others	1990	\$90,000	70,616	1
REPI	Readiness and Environmental Protection	DOD	2005	\$46,000	59,129	2
LWCF	LWCF State Side Program	DOI-NPS	1964	\$24,600	2,600,000	3
LWCF	LWCF Federal Land Acquisition	DOI-NPS	1964	\$129,800	4,500,000	3
UPARR	Urban Park and Recreation Recovery	DOI-NPS	1979	\$28,900 in 2002 (now defunct)	1,461 projects	4
	Highlands Conservation Act	DOI & FS	2005	\$1,723	NA	
TE	Transportation Enhancements	DOT	1991	\$800,000	15,878 projects	5
RTP	Recreational Trails Program	DOT	1991	\$79,170		5
FLP	Forest Legacy Program	FS	1990	\$52,317	1,579,348	
	Forest Stewardship	FS	1991	\$20,000	31,000,000	6
	Forestland Enhancement Program	FS	2002	Not renewed	1,700,000	7
	Urban and Community Forestry	FS	1978	\$27,700	6,564 communities	8
CFOSCP	Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program	FS	2008	NA	NA	9
	Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund	FWS	1973	\$66,200	607 species impacted	
	Migratory Bird Conservation Fund	FWS	1929	\$45,144	4,000,000	
	National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants	FWS	1990	\$20,500	244,000	10
NAWCA	North American Wetland Conservation Act Grants	FWS	1989	\$83,484	6,331,999	11
SFR	Sport Fish Restoration Program	FWS	1950	\$398,338	368,909	12
WRP	Wildlife Restoration Program	FWS	1937	\$309,687	100,471,010	13
	State Wildlife Grant Program	FWS	2002	\$61,523	76,865	
LIP	Landowner Incentive Program	FWS	2003	\$20,600 in 2007, not renewed	1,333,619	14
	Platte River Recovery Implementation Program	FWS & BOR	2007	\$9,600	NA	15
	Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Program	FWS & Corps	2005	\$50,200	est. 2,400	
NFHAP	National Fish Habitat Action Plan	FWS & others	2006	\$2,410	NA	16
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant Program	HUD	1974	\$93,071	NA	
NERRS	National Estuarine Research Reserves System	NOAA	1972	\$21,100	1,333,612	17
CELCP	Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program	NOAA	2002	\$7,900	35,000	
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	1985	\$1,860,929	33,879,482	18
GRP	Grassland Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	2002	\$2,330	1,002,588	19
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	USDA-NRCS	1996	\$1,004,926	41,700 contracts	20
FPP	Farmland Protection Program	USDA-NRCS	1996	\$70,159	533,067	21
WRP	Wetlands Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	1985	\$227,631	2,000,169	22
WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	USDA-NRCS	1996	\$57,811	646,491	23
CO	Conservation Technical Assistance	USDA-NRCS	1935	\$627,000	NA	24
	Healthy Forests Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	2003	\$2,055	197,826	25
CSP	Conservation Security Program	USDA-NRCS	2002	\$237,345	2,107,730	26

\* NA = not available; see the individual program notes for clarification on what is included as "acres protected." If no additional information is provided in the program notes, the acres protected represent acres acquired over the life of the program.

**Notes:**

1)	Acres protected represents net acres of wetlands re-established or protected by projects which have been completed, are under construction, or approved for construction. This data was reported to Congress in 2006 (the most recent year of a Congressional report on the program).
2)	Acres protected represents acres preserved FY2005 - FY2007.
3)	Acres protected in federal program as of 2005. Acres protected in state program includes only acquisitions and not land statutorily protected through park development projects. Total LWCF appropriations in 2008 also included \$101 million for other programs.
4)	Projects carried out in 380 local jurisdictions.
5)	Number of projects funded are bike-ped & rail-trail projects in TE and Recreational Trails Program. TE funding of \$800 million is total TE budget.
6)	Acres protected represents acres under management plans.
7)	Acres protected represents acres improved through cost-sharing and technical assistance.
8)	These 6,564 communities are actively developing or sustaining an urban forestry strategy, including a forestry management plan, staffing, convening an advisory group, and enacting policy.
9)	New program established by Congress as part of the 2008 Farm Bill. The U.S. Forest Service in process of developing program guidelines.
10)	Acres protected represents acres of habitat protected, restored, or enhanced.
11)	Acres protected represents acres restored, enhanced, protected, or managed in the United States.
12)	Funding allocated to the Sport Fish Restoration Program represents 57% of the receipts of the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (after annual deductions).
13)	Acres protected includes lands acquired as well as the development and improvement of habitat and waterfowl impoundments.
14)	Acres protected includes lands protected and habitat improved.
15)	Agreement signed in 1997 but program did not begin until 2007. During the first increment of the program, the goal is to maintain, restore and protect 10,000 acres of habitat.
16)	Funding for this program must be directed toward restoration activities; land acquisition authority has not yet been granted.
17)	Funding is for FY2006.
18)	Funding is for FY2007; acres protected represents acres enrolled as of December 2008.
19)	Funding is for FY2007; acres protected represents acres enrolled through FY2006.
20)	The "accomplishment measure" (acres protected) represents 41,700 EQIP contracts signed in FY2007.
21)	Funding represents the federal funding obligated for cooperative agreements signed in FY2007; acres protected represents the cumulative acres enrolled FY1996 through FY2007.
22)	Funding represents funds distributed for program operation in FY2007; acres protected represents cumulative acres enrolled as of 2008.
23)	Funding is the federal dollars allocated to states in FY2008; acres protected represents acres enrolled in FY2008.
24)	Funding is for FY2007; a measure of "acres protected" is not applicable (NA).
25)	Funding represents the federal funding obligated for FY2007; acres protected represents acres enrolled in FY2007.
26)	Funding is the amount distributed to states to operate CSP in FY2007; acres protected represents total acres under approved contracts in FY2008.

**Program Descriptions: Federal Conservation and Recreation Funding Programs** (prepared by Resources for the Future, May 2009)

ABBR.	PROGRAM	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION
	Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Program	Corps & others	As authorized by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act of 1990 (also known as the Breaux Act), an interagency task force was established to restore and prevent the loss of coastal Louisiana wetlands. The Task Force is required to identify and prepare an annual list of priority projects. As the chair of the Task Force, the US Army Corps of Engineers allocates funding according to these priorities; a non-federal contribution is required. Other Task Force members include representatives of the EPA, the Departments of Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce, and the Governor of Louisiana. Funding for the program comes from the Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund.
REPI	Readiness and Environmental Protection	DOD	Cost-sharing program for the acquisition of easements from willing sellers as a way to preserve high-value habitat and limit incompatible development around military ranges and installations.
LWCF	LWCF State Side Program	DOI-NPS	State matching grant program. States request funds from the National Park Service for specific projects and provide at least 50% of their funding.
	LWCF Federal Land Acquisition	DOI-NPS	Grants, totaling more than \$5.5 billion to-date, to acquire new federal recreation lands.
UPARR	Urban Park and Recreation Recovery	DOI-NPS	Grants to urban communities for rehabilitation of facilities, parks planning, and innovative programs. FY2002 is the last year that grants were awarded.
	Highlands Conservation Act	DOI & FS	Grants to Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania for conserving land and natural resources in the Highlands region.
TE	Transportation Enhancements	DOT	The TE program represents 10% of total Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. STP is a formula apportionment to the states through the federal aid highway program. TE projects include construction, but not maintenance, of sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bicycle lane striping, bicycle parking, bus racks, off-road trails, and pedestrian bridges and underpasses. The rail-trail program within Transportation Enhancements is funded through the Highway Trust Fund (excise taxes collected on non-highway recreational fuel use). Projects involve conversion of abandoned railroad corridors into multiuse trails available for recreation. The maximum federal project funding share is 80%.
RTP	Recreational Trails Program	DOT	Apportionments to the states to benefit outdoor recreation, including hiking, biking, in-line skating, equestrian use, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, off-road vehicles. The maximum federal project funding share is 80%.
FLP	Forest Legacy Program	FS	Competitive grant program and direct payments to support land acquisition (fee purchase and easement) to protect important scenic, cultural, fish, wildlife and recreation resources as well as riparian areas.
	Forest Stewardship	FS	Provides technical and educational assistance to nonindustrial private forest owners to develop forest management plans.
	Forestland Enhancement Program	FS	Complements Forest Legacy with additional technical, educational and cost-share assistance to nonindustrial private forest owners to implement management plans. While \$100M was initially authorized for the program, \$60M was diverted for other federal government needs, leaving \$40M which was exhausted by FY2006. The program was not renewed in the 2008 Farm Bill.

ABBR.	PROGRAM	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION
	Urban and Community Forestry	FS	Forest-related technical, financial, research and educational services to local government, non-profits, community groups, and educational institutions.
CFOSCP	Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program	FS	Matching grants (50/50) for local governments, tribes and non-profit organizations for full fee purchase of forestlands; differs from Forest Legacy in its community focus and the requirement of fee purchase + public access. The program is part of the 2008 Farm Bill; no appropriations yet.
	Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund	FWS	Grants to private landowners and groups to implement conservation projects for listed species and at-risk species. Funded activities include developing Habitat Conservation Plans, land acquisition, habitat restoration, research, and wildlife management.
	Migratory Bird Conservation Fund	FWS	Land & water acquisition or rental as recommended by the Secretary of Interior for the protection of migratory bird species. Funding comes from Duck Stamp revenues, appropriations authorized by the Wetlands Loan Act of 1961, import duties on arms & ammunition, and refuge admission fees.
	National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants	FWS	Matching grants to states for acquisition, restoration and enhancement of coastal wetlands. Funding comes from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, which is supported by excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, and import duties.
NAWCA	North American Wetland Conservation Act Grants	FWS	Matching grants to organizations and individuals to implement wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Funding comes from Congressional appropriations as well as fines & penalties collected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, and interest accrued on the Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund.
SFR	Sport Fish Restoration Program	FWS	Apportionments to the states for fishery projects, boating access and aquatic education. This program is funded by the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, which is supported by excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels and by import duties. The annual allocation to the Sport Fish Restoration Program is equal to 57% of the trust fund's receipts (after annual deductions). Note that the authorizing legislation for the program - the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act - is commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson Act or the Wallop-Breaux Act (for the 1984 amendment).
WRP	Wildlife Restoration Program	FWS	Apportionments to the states to restore, conserve and manage wild birds and mammals and their habitat. This program is funded by the Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund, which is supported by excise taxes on hunting equipment. Note that the authorizing legislation for the program - the Wildlife Restoration Act - is commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act.
	State Wildlife Grant Program	FWS	Grants to plan and implement programs that benefit wildlife and habitats, including species not hunted or fished. Funding comes through appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
LIP	Landowner Incentive Program	FWS	State grants to protect and restore habitats on private lands to benefit at-risk species (including federally listed, proposed or candidate species). The program was discontinued after FY2007.
	Platte River Recovery Implementation Program	FWS & BOR	Partnership between Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and the Department of the Interior (FWS/Bureau of Reclamation). The focus is on enhancing, restoring and protecting least tern, piping plover, and whooping crane habitat; improving stream flows; and adaptive management.

ABBR.	PROGRAM	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION
	Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Program	FWS & Corps	Habitat acquisition, creation, and restoration (emergent sandbar habitat, shallow water habitat, cottonwoods), as well as monitoring, fish restoration, and adaptive management programs to protect native species harmed by damming of river.
NFHAP	National Fish Habitat Action Plan	FWS & others	Currently includes restoration activities only but upon Congressional approval of National Fish Habitat Conservation Act, it will include land acquisition.
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant Program	HUD	Provides annual grants on a formula basis to 1,180 general units of local government and states. The majority of funding is for the "entitlement communities" program area which allocates grants to larger cities and urban counties; a significant portion of funding is allocated to smaller cities through a state-administered program. HUD determines the amount of each block grant by using a formula comprised of several measures of community need, including the extent of poverty, population, housing overcrowding, age of housing, and population growth lag in relationship to other metropolitan areas. Grants can be used in the following ways to impact parks & recreation: property acquisition, facility improvements, and provision of public services. Note that local governments administer the program and decide which projects receive funding.
NERRS	National Estuarine Research Reserves System	NOAA	Grants to coastal states to acquire lands and waters necessary to ensure long-term management of an area as a national estuarine reserve and for operations, construction, and education programs.
CELCP	Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program	NOAA	Competitive state and local grants to acquire property or conservation easements from willing sellers within a state's coastal zone or coastal watershed boundary.
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	Pays farmers to take environmentally sensitive cropland out of production and plant long-term resource-conserving covers (e.g., grasses and trees).
GRP	Grassland Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	Long-term rental agreements or easements on private lands to restore & protect grassland while maintaining areas for livestock grazing & hay production. The program was initially authorized at \$254M for FY2003-FY2007; \$30M of this was reappropriated for the Wetland Reserve Program and the Conservation Reserve Program in 2003.
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	USDA-NRCS	Technical assistance, cost-share payments, and incentive payments to assist crop & livestock producers with environmental & conservation improvements.
FPP	Farmland Protection Program	USDA-NRCS	State & local grants to help purchase easements that would preclude nonfarm development of productive farmland.
WRP	Wetlands Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	Acquire long-term or permanent easements and provide cost-sharing to producers who agree to restore wetland on agricultural land.
WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	USDA-NRCS	Technical assistance and cost-sharing for development and improvement of wildlife habitat.
CO	Conservation Technical Assistance	USDA-NRCS	Provides technical assistance to help private landowners conserve, maintain, and improve their natural resources, including direct conservation planning, design, and implementation assistance.
	Healthy Forests Reserve Program	USDA-NRCS	Restores private forest ecosystems to: 1) promote the recovery of threatened species, 2) improve biodiversity; and 3) enhance carbon sequestration.
CSP	Conservation Security Program	USDA-NRCS	Financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life on private working lands. Replaced by the Conservation Stewardship Program in the 2008 Farm Bill.