

## Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced Tribal Wildlife Grants awards to Native American tribes in 14 states to fund a wide range of conservation projects.

"The mindful stewardship of fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats is a value that tribal nations share with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service," said Service Director Dan Ashe. "Tribal Wildlife Grants create opportunities for us to work together in a variety of ways, including species restoration, fish passage, protection of migratory birds, and coping with long-term effects of a changing climate."

More than \$60 million has gone to Native American tribes through the Tribal Wildlife Grants program since 2003, providing support for more than 360 conservation projects administered by participating federally recognized tribes. These grants provide technical and financial assistance for development and implementation of projects that benefit fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, including nongame species.

The grants have enabled tribes to develop increased management capacity, improve and enhance relationships with partners (including state agencies), address cultural and environmental priorities, and heighten tribal students' interest in fisheries, wildlife and related fields of study. Some grants have been awarded to support recovery efforts for threatened and endangered species.

The grants are provided exclusively to federally recognized Indian tribal governments and are made possible under the Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2002 through the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program. Proposals for the 2014 grant cycle are due September 3, 2013.

For additional information about Native American conservation projects and the Tribal Wildlife Grants application process, visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html">http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html</a>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <a href="https://www.fws.gov">www.fws.gov</a>. Connect with our Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/usfws">www.facebook.com/usfws</a>, follow our tweets at <a href="https://www.twitter.com/usfwshq">www.twitter.com/usfwshq</a>, watch our YouTube Channel at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/usfws">https://www.youtube.com/usfws</a> and download photos from our Flickr page at <a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq">https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq</a>.

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