



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Federal Funding for Land Acquisition Projects



Sharon Marino, Project Leader

Southern New England – New York Bight Coastal Program



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Southern New England – New York Bight Coastal Program



We work collaboratively with our partners to identify, restore and protect regionally important habitat in our program area.



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National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program (NAWCA)

- Passed in 1989 in part to support activities of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.
- Provides matching grants to organizations and individuals to carry out wetland conservation (protection, restoration, and/or enhancement) for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife.
- On the Atlantic Coast, nearly 2 million acres of habitat have been protected or restored through NAWCA.



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NAWCA Cont.

- There is a competitive Standard Grant (\$1 million) and Small Grant (\$75,000) Program.
- They require a partner match of 1-to-1 ratio. Federal sources may contribute on a project but are not eligible as match.
- To be competitive, most projects need to have 2:1 match, though only 1:1 is required.
- Match does not necessarily mean cash/funds. Most NAWCA match is in the form of other parcels protected or restored, during the lookback (2+ calendar years) or in the near future (2+ next years).



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NAWCA Cont.

- U.S. Standard Grant
Deadlines: March 5 and July 30, 2010
- U.S. Small Grant Deadline:
October 28, 2010
- Work with Mitch Hartley
from the Atlantic Coast Joint
Venture to develop a
proposal.





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Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)

- Established in 2002 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
- Gives priority to lands that can be effectively managed and protected and that have significant ecological value.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) administers this program.



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CELCP Cont.

- To date, the program has protected more than 45,000 acres of land through projects funded between 2002 and 2008.
- Grants can't exceed \$3 million.
- Applicants must be a state and local governments and partners are encouraged to support these projects.
- The program 1:1 matching funds to purchase from willing sellers either lands in fee or conservation easements.



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CELCP Cont.

- Request for Responses (RFR) will be due the end of March 2010. It will be announced soon.
- Each state nominates up to 3 projects.

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The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

- The Coastal Grants Program was established in 1990.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been working with coastal States to acquire, restore, manage or enhance coastal wetlands through this matching grant program.
- To date, \$183 million have been awarded to protect more than 240,000 acres of coastal wetlands.



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Coastal Grants Program Cont.

- Land Trusts may participate as partners and/or subgrantees in the program, but a State Agency must be the grant applicant.
- States must provide the match and grants cannot exceed \$1 Million.
- Projects are supported that benefit threatened and endangered species, encourage cooperative efforts, and support other ongoing projects.



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Coastal Grants Program Cont.

- Contact Vanessa Johnson with DCR immediately if you have a project identified.
- They will work with you to evaluate your project and determine if the state will support it.
- FWS can assist with the proposal development.
- Proposal deadline June 25, 2010





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Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Mission: To efficiently achieve voluntary habitat restoration on private lands, through financial and technical assistance, for the benefit of Federal Trust Species





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Partners Program Cont.

- Provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners and Tribes to help meet the habitat needs of our Federal Trust Species.
- Can assist with projects in all habitat types which conserve or restore imperiled ecosystems.
- Locally-based field biologists work one-on-one with private landowners and other partners to plan, implement, and monitor their projects.



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Partners Program Contact

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Southern New England – New York Bight Coastal Program

- SNEP provides technical assistance and in some cases, funding to partners, to achieve on the ground protection, conservation and restoration.
- Our areas of expertise include: river restoration, fish passage, invasive species control and removal, acquisition assistance and surveying, and monitoring of fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats.



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Accomplishments

- From 2005 to 2009, this office worked with many partners on over 50 projects.
- This work contributed to the protection, enhancement or restoration of nearly 5,400 acres of habitat and 15 river miles supporting dozens of migratory and federally protected species.





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