



# FY 2013 FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR WILDLIFE

*Wildlife and its habitat are valuable national assets. Wildlife related recreation is a \$122 billion a year industry.<sup>i</sup> Moreover, protecting wildlife and its habitat also supports healthy natural systems that provide clean air and water, food, medicines and other products. The value of benefits provided by natural habitats in the U.S. is estimated at more than \$2 trillion per year.<sup>ii</sup>*

Despite this importance, wildlife and habitat conservation programs are threatened with draconian cuts. Defenders of Wildlife urges opposition to any further funding cuts in crucial programs that support wildlife and habitat conservation in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey. See the chart on the next page for the list of priority wildlife programs. In addition, we support the following crucial but modest increases in the President's FY 2013 request and have concerns about the Integrated Resources Restoration consolidation as it is proposed.



## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Renewable Energy** – A crucial \$4 million increase associated with renewable energy development that includes \$1.5 million for Endangered Species Program Consultation, \$750,000 for Conservation Planning Assistance, \$750,000 for Migratory Bird Management and \$1 million for the Office of Law Enforcement. This increase will help to ensure siting of renewable energy projects in a way that prevents harm to species such as golden eagles, seabirds, bats and desert tortoise.

**Cooperative Recovery** – A praiseworthy new initiative to implement recovery actions for species listed under the Endangered Species Act on National Wildlife Refuges and surrounding lands. The \$5.4 million increase includes \$2.5 million for Refuges, \$883,000 for Partners for Fish and Wildlife, \$800,000 for Fisheries Population Assessment, \$770,000 for Adaptive Science and \$400,000 in the Endangered Species program. This initiative will support more efficient efforts across landscapes to recover threatened and endangered species.

**Endangered Species** – The request includes several important increases for endangered species and one disappointing cut that Congress should rectify:

- A \$1 million increase for science to support consultations on pesticides that may impact listed species including the development of protocols to determine safe levels of exposure. This increase is vital to facilitate likely needed consultations on several hundred pesticides out of at least 739 pesticide cases identified by the Environmental Protection Agency that are scheduled for review by 2022.
- A \$1.6 million increase for listing species. This funding will support progress in listing more than 250 candidate species, many of which have awaited protection for years.
- A \$12.3 million increase for the Cooperative Endangered Species Fund to provide assistance to states for research, monitoring, recovery actions, and land acquisition to protect threatened and endangered species.
- A \$998,000 reduction for the Wolf Livestock Loss Demonstration Program that assists livestock owners co-existing with wolves. We urge restoration of this funding.

**National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS)** – A net increase of \$9.1 million for NWRS Operations and Maintenance in the request includes not only the \$2.5 million for Cooperative Recovery but also \$3 million for baseline inventory and monitoring of refuge resources, \$3.6 million for Challenge Cost share projects with partners and volunteer groups, \$1 million for law enforcement, and \$1.4 million for priority operations.

**Environmental Contaminants** – A \$1.3 million increase in this program that has been flat since 2001 to help expedite and complete more restoration activities for Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration cases.

## **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Sage Grouse** – A critically needed increase of \$15 million in the Wildlife Management program for sage grouse conservation in 10 western states includes \$10 million for amendments to Resource Management Plans, \$2.5 million for on-the-ground habitat restoration, and \$2.5 million for inventory, monitoring and mapping.

**Renewable Energy** – An increase of \$7.1 million for renewable energy that includes support for regional land use planning studies and environmental reviews of potential wind energy zones. These studies will help to identify future renewable energy zones that will avoid areas with potential natural resource conflicts, including wildlife conflicts (especially sage grouse, golden eagles, desert tortoise or other sensitive species).

**Resource Management Planning** – A \$4.7 million increase for Resource Management Planning in this program that has been cut by nearly 25 percent since FY 2010 needed to help address 47 plans under revision and another 45 that need revision.

## **US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

**Ecosystems** – A \$16.6 million increase that includes \$1 million for research on White Nose Syndrome that is devastating bat populations. The base program also supports crucial scientific efforts needed to avoid harm to birds, bats, desert wildlife, and other species that could be impacted by the development of wind and solar energy.

**Climate and Land Use Change** – A \$500,000 increase for the National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center/DOI Climate Science Centers and a \$6.5 million increase in Science Support for DOI Bureaus to address scientific needs in planning for adaptation to climate change.

## **FOREST SERVICE**

**Integrated Resource Restoration (IRR)** – The budget has again proposed merging a number of accounts, including Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management, into an integrated budget, however Defenders supports continuing IRR as a pilot as directed by Congress in the final FY 2012 Omnibus appropriations bill so that the agency can demonstrate its ability to adequately protect habitat for fish and wildlife under the consolidated program.

## **LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)**

The request includes an increase of \$104.7 million for LWCF. A portion of the LWCF total, about \$108 million, is for an Interior-Forest Service collaborative interagency land acquisition program to protect strategic landscape-scale projects that at the same time meet core agency acquisition priorities. This innovative initiative will help to bring larger conservation benefits and build resilience across landscapes with scarce dollars.

<sup>i</sup> The Economics Associated with Outdoor Recreation, Natural Resources Conservation and Historic Preservation in the United States  
[www.nfwf.org/Content/ContentFolders/NationalFishandWildlifeFoundation/HomePage/ConservationSpotlights/TheEconomicValueofOutdoorRecreation.pdf](http://www.nfwf.org/Content/ContentFolders/NationalFishandWildlifeFoundation/HomePage/ConservationSpotlights/TheEconomicValueofOutdoorRecreation.pdf)

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid

## Key Wildlife Funding in Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bills

Program	FY10 Enacted (in millions)	FY11 Enacted (in millions)	FY12 Enacted <sup>i</sup> (in millions)	FY13 Request (in millions)	% Change (FY13 from FY12)
<b>Department of the Interior</b>					
<b>US Fish &amp; Wildlife Service</b>					
Endangered Species	179.3	175.5	176.0	179.7	+2.1
National Wildlife Refuges	502.8	491.1	485.7	494.8	+1.9
Migratory Bird	54.5	52.2	51.5	51.1	-0.8
Office of Law Enforcement	65.8	62.9	62.1	63.9	+2.9
International Affairs	14.4	13.1	13.0	13.1	+0.8
Cooperative Landscape Conservation & Adaptive Science	20.0	31.0	32.2	33.1	+2.8
Partners for Fish & Wildlife	60.1	55.3	54.8	55.9	+2.0
Environmental Contaminants	14.0	13.3	13.1	14.4	+9.9
Conservation Planning Assistance	36.0	36.8	35.8	36.7	+2.5
Coastal	15.9	15.1	14.9	14.2	-3.9
Fisheries & Aquatic Resource Conservation	148.2	138.9	135.3	131.6	-2.7
<b>Total Resource Management (Operations)<sup>ii</sup></b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>+1.7</b>
Cooperative Endangered Species Fund	85.0	28.9	47.7	60.0	+25.8
State & Tribal Wildlife Grants	90.0	61.9	61.3	61.3	0.0
Neotropical Migratory Bird Fund	5.0	4.0	3.8	3.8	0.0
Multinational Species Conservation Fund	11.5	10.0	9.5	10.0	+5.3
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	47.6	37.4	35.5	39.4	+11.0
<b>Total USFWS<sup>ii</sup></b>	<b>1,647</b>	<b>1,506</b>	<b>1,476</b>	<b>1,548</b>	<b>+4.9</b>
<b>US Geological Survey</b>					
Climate Science Centers <sup>iii</sup>	15.0	20.9	25.5	26.2	+2.7
Science Support for DOI Bureaus <sup>iii</sup>	5.0	5.0	2.4	9	+275
Ecosystems <sup>iii</sup>	165.5	160.8	161.3	177.9	+10.3
<b>Bureau of Land Management</b>					
Wildlife and Fisheries Management	50.4	51.0	50.2	65.6	+30.7
Threatened and Endangered Species Management	22.6	22.2	21.6	21.8	+0.9
Renewable Energy <sup>iii</sup>	16.7	21.7	19.7	26.8	+36.0
Resource Management Planning	50.0	42.4	38.1	42.7	+12.1
Challenge Cost Share	9.5	1.2	7.5	7.5	0.0
<b>Department of Interior Total<sup>iv</sup></b>	<b>11,031</b>	<b>10,627</b>	<b>10,301</b>	<b>10,496</b>	<b>+1.9</b>
<b>Forest Service</b>					
Research and Development	245.1	239.8	231.0	226	-2.2
Land Management Planning <sup>v</sup>	45.9	45.0	39.9	—	—
Inventory and Monitoring <sup>v</sup>	170.5	167.2	161.7	—	—
Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management <sup>v</sup>	143.0	140.3	140.0	—	—
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund	10.0	25.0	39.9	40	+0.2
<b>Department of the Interior and US Forest Service</b>					
Land & Water Conservation Fund <sup>vi</sup>	450.6	301	322.4	450	+39.6
<b>Overall Funding Level in FY12 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bills<sup>vii</sup></b>					
<b>Total Funding in Appropriations Bill</b>	<b>32,240</b>	<b>29,559</b>	<b>29,175</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

<sup>i</sup> Totals reflect 0.16% across-the-board cut.

<sup>ii</sup> Only selected programs included above. Total reflects both listed and non-listed programs.

<sup>iii</sup> Accounts were reorganized in FY11 (USGS) and FY12 (BLM Renewable Energy). Corresponding FY10 and FY11 totals reflect crosswalks from the prior accounts.

<sup>iv</sup> Overall amount for Department of the Interior in chart reflects only those DOI accounts in the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies appropriations bill. FY 2013 amount is estimate of bill DOI level based on President's request.

<sup>v</sup> The President's request proposes to move these into 2 consolidated accounts: Integrated Resource Restoration and Land Management Planning Assessment and Monitoring

<sup>vi</sup> Includes both Department of the Interior and Forest Service LWCF funding.

<sup>vii</sup> Includes all funding for Department of the Interior, US Forest Service, Environmental Protection Agency, and other programs.