



ConocoPhillips SPIRIT of Conservation Migratory Bird Program

About the Program

Thanks to ConocoPhillips, migratory birds will have an easier flight this season. They'll find newly restored grassland and sagebrush habitat in Colorado, more protected white-sand forest in Peru, and improved grasslands and wetlands across three Texas ecoregions. This good news for birds—and for America's 50 million birders—is courtesy of the ConocoPhillips SPIRIT of Conservation Migratory Bird Program. Launched in 2005, the SPIRIT of Conservation is a focused and strategic initiative to conserve threatened birds and their habitats around the world.

ConocoPhillips and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation annually provide approximately \$600,000 for competitive grants in support of this partnership. Non-profits, government agencies, and others may apply for these funds using the Foundation's electronic application process (www.nfwf.org/spirit).

Grants are awarded to support projects that: 1) protect, restore, and or manage habitats for migratory birds; 2) benefit declining, threatened or endangered birds; and 3) generate measurable outcomes. Special emphasis is given to projects that generate significant conservation outcomes for high-priority bird species in the vicinity of ConocoPhillips' facilities and operating areas.

SPIRIT of Conservation Accomplishments

- ✓ \$4.7 million in ConocoPhillips/National Fish and Wildlife Foundation funds dedicated
- ✓ \$6.4 million in grantee match dedicated
- ✓ \$11.1 million total conservation investment
- ✓ 39 grants awarded to 25 different conservation organizations and agencies
- ✓ Projects funded in 10 states and China, Peru, Columbia, and Canada
- ✓ Protection, enhancement and restoration of more than 84,000 acres of bird habitat
- ✓ Benefits to numerous bird species, including red knot, American oystercatcher, Gunnison sage-grouse, greater sage grouse, lesser prairie chicken, Attwater's prairie chicken, surf scoter, mottled duck, red-cockaded woodpecker, cerulean warbler, and Siberian, red-crowned and whooping cranes
- ✓ Support for implementation of State Wildlife Action Plans, Joint Ventures, US Shorebird Conservation Plan, and Endangered Species Act Recovery Plans



Photo Credits: US Fish and Wildlife Service

2010 SPIRIT of Conservation Migratory Bird Program Awards

- ✓ Manomet received \$314,713 to help recover red knot populations by building local conservation capacity and minimizing habitat degradation and disturbance at migratory stopover and wintering habitats along the Atlantic Coast.
- ✓ The Delaware Department of Natural Resources received \$36,460 to benefit red knot populations by developing and implementing an adaptive resource management plan for coastal impoundments that will improve migratory roosting habitat in Delaware.
- ✓ The Delaware Department of Natural Resources received \$25,000 to enhance American oystercatcher populations in Delaware by gathering population data, identifying threats, and monitoring and protecting nesting sites.
- ✓ The Gulf Coast Bird Observatory received \$100,000 to reduce gaps in the knowledge of American oystercatcher population and identify and implement conservation strategies to increase breeding success along the western Gulf Coast in Texas.
- ✓ The Colorado Division of Wildlife received \$400,140 to increase the viability of Gunnison sage-grouse populations in Colorado in Utah by protecting and restoring 20,000 acres of habitat, improving management techniques through research, and augmenting populations through transplanting.
- ✓ The Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory received \$150,000 to assist private landowners with projects that will enhance more than 10,000 acres of habitat for lesser prairie chicken, Gunnison sage-grouse and many other grassland and sagebrush birds in Colorado and Utah..
- ✓ The San Francisco Bay Joint Venture received \$198,232 to identify and promote conservation of critical foraging areas for surf scoter and other sea ducks in San Francisco Bay and document the importance of restoring eelgrass beds.

2009 SPIRIT of Conservation Migratory Bird Program Awards

- ✓ National Audubon Society received \$44,230 to restore native Texas grasslands and savannas to conserve threatened populations of bobwhite quail, grassland birds, and shrub-obligate birds.
- ✓ American Bird Conservancy received \$226,446 to acquire inholdings in the Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve, Peru to prevent the extinction of the critically endangered Iquitos gnatcatcher and other forest birds.
- ✓ Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory received \$150,000 to provide technical assistance and cost-share programs that will enhance at least 7,000 acres of grassland and sagebrush bird habitat in Colorado.
- ✓ Katy Prairie Land Conservancy received \$75,000 to increase mottled duck numbers and nesting success by restoring wetland and prairie habitat on 550 acres of the Katy Prairie in Texas.
- ✓ Environment for the Americas received \$53,215 to coordinate a nationwide program designed to secure commitments from organizations and individuals to implement bird conservation actions.

Conservation is Our Business: A nonprofit established by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation sustains, restores and enhances the Nation's fish, wildlife, plants, and habitats. The Foundation creates partnerships between the public and private sectors to strategically invest in conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources. Since its establishment, the Foundation has awarded more than 10,800 grants to 3,500 organizations in the United States and abroad and leveraged more than \$635 million in federal and private funds into more than \$1.5 billion for on-the-ground conservation.

For additional information on the SPIRIT of Conservation grant program, please contact Todd Hogrefe at todd.hogrefe@nfwf.org or visit www.nfwf.org/spirit.