

British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories (One Multi-Province Project)

Project: Canadian Prairie/Parkland and Western Boreal Habitat Program

Location: Canadian Prairie, Aspen Parkland (including Peace Parkland) and Western Boreal Forest Regions of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC).

Contact: Pat Kehoe, p_kehoe@ducks.ca, (780) 489-2002

Funding Partners: Ducks Unlimited Inc. (includes other agencies, industries and foundations), USDA Forest Service, Environment Canada, Environment Canada Natural Areas Conservation Program, Provincial & Territorial Governments, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, Nature Conservancy of Canada, and other Canadian contributors.

Approved: June 2009

NAWCA Grant: \$17,985,615

Matching Funds: \$17,985,615

Other Contributions: \$12,907,000

Joint Venture Region: Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV)

BCR: 6 & 11.

Ducks Unlimited Canada's (DUC) Canadian Prairie/Parkland and Western Boreal Habitat Program will conserve wetlands and associated upland habitats throughout Canada's Prairie/Parkland and Western Boreal Forest to maximize benefits for breeding, moulting and staging waterfowl and other associated migratory birds. This project is the next step in a long-term, multi-year commitment to achieve waterfowl population and habitat objectives of the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP). Specific habitat objectives are outlined in the PHJV 2007 – 2012 Implementation Plan.

DUC's wetland habitat programs continue to be built upon the continent's leading scientific knowledge and with exciting new partnerships. This proposal elaborates on a new partnership between the Canadian federal government (Environment Canada) and Environmental Non-Government Organizations to conserve existing habitats and restore lost habitats most critical to Canadian wildlife. The Natural Areas Conservation (NAC) Program involves a federal government pledge of \$225 million over five years and specifically earmarks DUC as one of the recipients. This proposal reports that 36,952 acres have been secured through NAC Program funding in DUC priority landscapes. Also new in this proposal is a status report on the Alberta Wetland Policy. This progressive wetland policy proposes to protect all wetlands in Alberta regardless of size or permanence and to institute a sequential wetland mitigation framework. This proposal also describes a new price discovery pilot program in Saskatchewan to establish the value of wetland restoration in PHJV target landscapes. The \$17,985,615 in NAWCA grant funds together with \$17,985,615 in matching funds and \$12,907,000 in other contributions will be primarily expended in the Canadian Prairie/Parkland. These funds will enable securement of approximately 186,444 new acres, with enhancements to occur on 104,174 recently secured habitat acres, and management of 3,610,239 habitat acres.

Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador (One Multi-Province Project)

Project: Ducks Unlimited Canada/Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Wetlands Conservation

Location: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited Canada

Contact: Deanne Meadus, d_meadus@ducks.ca, (902) 667-8726

Funding Partners: Ducks Unlimited Inc. (includes other agencies, industries and foundations), Environment Canada, Environment Canada Natural Areas Conservation Program, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Quebec Natural Resources and Wildlife, Quebec Environment and Sustainable Development, Quebec Wildlife Foundation, Province of New Brunswick, Province of Prince Edward Island, Province of Nova Scotia, Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Private Landowners, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Iron Ore of Canada, and New Brunswick Nature Trust.

Approved: June 2009

NAWCA Grant: \$4,188,418

Matching Funds: \$4,188,418

Other Contributions: \$5,995,100

Joint Venture Region: Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV)

BCR: 7, 8, 12, 13 and 14

The EHJV supports a diversity of waterfowl species throughout the year. As such, a range of conservation actions will be delivered with the goal of creating habitat conditions that will overtime create landscapes capable of supporting 1.81 million indicated breeding pairs (IBP) of waterfowl. The 2009-3 proposal is a continuation of the multi-year commitment by EHJV partners to deliver waterfowl habitat conservation actions across the six eastern Canadian provinces. Provincial EHJV implementation plans (PIPs) provide quantitative waterfowl, habitat and resource goals and are guided by the NAWMP assessment recommendations. This proposal targets securement and enhancement of critical habitats in priority landscapes, where landscapes were prioritized on the basis of waterfowl abundance and distribution, existing habitat base, risk to habitat and relations of habitat base to key waterfowl vital rates (i.e. duckling survival and settling rates for breeding waterfowl). Private land stewardship, communication and ongoing program evaluation and monitoring will optimize the overall impacts of conservation actions. Conservation actions resulting from this proposal will improve and maintain the quality and quantity of habitat for breeding, staging and wintering waterfowl.

The \$4,188,418 in grant funds together with the \$4,188,418 in matching funds and \$5,995,100 in other contributions will be primarily expended in inland key program areas in the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador. These funds will enable securement of approximately 9,385 new acres, with enhancement to occur on 5,908 recently secured habitat acres, and management of 544,293 habitat acres.

British Columbia (one Project)

Project: Conservation of Critical Wetlands and Associated Upland Habitats in British Columbia

Location: British Columbia, Canada

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited Canada

Contact: Brad Arner, b_arn@ducks.ca, (250) 374-8307 ext. 223

Partners: Ducks Unlimited Inc., Environment Canada, Environment Canada Natural Areas Conservation Program, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, BC Ministry of Environment, BC Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, various local governments, various other non-governmental organizations and partnerships, corporations, and private landowners.

Approved: June, 2009

NAWCA Grant: \$2,463,781

Matching Funds: \$2,463,781

Other Contributions: \$2,193,000

Joint Venture Region: Pacific Coast (PCJV) and Canadian Intermountain (CIJV) Joint Ventures

BCR: 5, 9 and 10

Ducks Unlimited's waterfowl conservation programs in British Columbia's Pacific Coast Joint Venture will focus on securing and enhancing habitat that provides food for migrating and overwintering waterfowl. Estuaries which provide natural food and specific crops in low elevation agricultural lands to which waterfowl have adapted, are also the most threatened habitats in the PCJV priority areas. Key purchases and covenants on agricultural lands with other NAWMP partners along with purchases and Crown designation of estuaries will be the securement emphasis. Enhancement efforts will increase eel grass beds in estuaries. Projects that promote cover crops and root crops will be the focus on farm land.

The CIJV is a breeding landscape for waterfowl of the Pacific Flyway. Securing wetland complexes within grasslands and valley bottom floodplain wetlands will be the focus. Enhancement efforts will address key limiting factors such as pair and brood densities and nest success. Working with the ranching industry to secure and enhance rangeland wetlands will be the main activity of this area.

New elements in this proposal include the second phase of analysis of the pintail/American wigeon energetic study in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited, Inc., implementing coastal waterbird inventories, and initiating a nesting study to provide information on waterfowl vital rates for the CIJV.

The \$2,463,781 in NAWCA grant funds together with \$2,463,781 in matching funds and \$2,193,000 in other contributions will be primarily expended in the Fraser Delta, East Coast Vancouver Island, Okanagan and Cariboo-Chilcotin landscapes. These funds will enable securement of approximately 2,255 new acres, enhancements to occur on 2,800 recently secured habitat acres, and management of 190,742 habitat acres.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec (One Multi-Province Project)

Project: NCC Quebec & Atlantic: Protecting Wetland & Upland Habitat 2009-3

Location: Selected sites in provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy of Canada

Contacts: John Foley, (506) 450-6010; Joel Bonin, (514) 876-1606 ext. 224

Funding Partners: Friends of the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Inc., Province of New Brunswick, Province of Nova Scotia, Province of Prince Edward Island, Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec Government, Environment Canada, Environment Canada Natural Areas Conservation Program.

Approved: June 2009

Grant: \$500,000

Matching Funds: \$500,000

Other Contributions: \$712,500

Joint Venture Region: Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV)

BCR: 8, 12, 13 and 14

Wetlands and associated uplands, representative of Quebec and the Atlantic Province's (AT) ecoregions, are subject to escalating development (residential, tourism, industrial), unsustainable recreational pressures and degradation from agriculture and urban land use. The Nature Conservancy of Canada specializes in the direct protection of private lands, including those with critical wetlands and associated upland habitat. Through a combination of land donation and fee simple acquisition, lands are protected from wetland drainage and degradation as well as cultivation and land clearing. The project builds on previously approved NAWCA grant agreements in QC and AT. Work plan activities align with the most recent EHJV 5-Year Implementation Plan (IP) (2007-2012) and NAWMP goals. Activities will focus on preserving: 1) important breeding and migratory habitat, 2) staging and moulting habitat, and 3) wintering habitat for waterfowl, shorebird, grassland and colonial bird species as well as native flora and fauna. In addition, this proposal will help educate landowners and recreational users on the importance of wetlands to wildlife and healthy ecosystems.

The \$500,000 in grant funds together with the \$500,000 in matching funds and \$712,500 in other contributions will be primarily expended in the Saint Lawrence Lowlands, Appalachian/Nordic and Acadia and Southern Laurentians ecoregions; New Brunswick and Nova Scotia's Northumberland/Bras D'Or Lowlands, Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy/Minas Basin, and Atlantic Coast ecoregions; Prince Edward Island ecoregion; and Newfoundland and Labrador's Southwestern Newfoundland and South-Avalon Burin Oceanic Barrens ecoregions.. These funds will enable securement of 1,500 new acres, 700 acres of habitat in Quebec and 800 acres in the Atlantic Provinces. This corresponds to 1.42% of the Quebec 2007-2012 IP habitat securement goal (49,297 acres), and to 14.1% the Atlantic Province's securement goal (5,653 acres). Enhancement activities will occur on 100 recently secured acres and management activities will be undertaken on 9,800 of acres of land secured under this and prior agreements.

Manitoba (One Project)**Project:** Potholes Plus Project**Location:** Manitoba, Canada**Grantee:** The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation**Contact:** Tim Sopuck, tsopuck@mhhc.mb.ca, (204) 784-4357**Partners:** Delta Waterfowl Foundation, Environment Canada, Turtle Mountain Conservation District, Province of Manitoba**Approved:** June 2009**NAWCA Grant:** \$400,000**Matching Funds:** \$400,000**Other Contributions:** \$573,250**Joint Venture Region:** Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV)**BCR:** 11

Potholes Plus partners focus on conservation of wetland and associated upland habitats for waterfowl and other migratory birds in NAWMP Target Landscapes in the Canadian Prairie Pothole Region. This region is the continental heartland for North America's waterfowl and other wetland-dependant wildlife. Project partners focus on delivering incentives to conserve, restore and enhance wetland and associated habitats.

This proposal emphasizes perpetual protection of ecologically high-value wetlands and adjacent native habitats. Complementary wetland restoration and other enhancement activities on a portion of secured habitats will augment waterfowl production. Secured habitats will be managed to ensure that essential habitat functions and benefits continue to be realized.

Stewardship activities are delivered through the Alternate Land Use Services initiative (ALUS), a pilot project that is demonstrating the "ecological goods and services" approach to supporting landowners' decisions to conserve, enhance and restore habitat. All activities are consistent with the 2005 PHJV Strategic Plan and directly support direct retention and restoration objectives in the Manitoba NAWMP Implementation Plan: 2007 - 2012 and the PHJV Implementation Plan: 2007- 2012.

The \$400,000 in grant funds together with the \$400,000 in matching funds and \$573,250 in other contributions will be primarily expended in Manitoba. These funds will enable securement of approximately 8,200 acres of wetland and upland habitat with enhancement and restoration activities to occur on 280 acres and management of 37,900 habitat acres.