

| Project title | Applicant | Wildlife funds (in dollars) | Sport fish funds (in dollars) |
|--|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| "The Northern Bobwhite Conservation Initiative: Moving the Plan Forward" | Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. | 225,000 | |
| Chronic Wasting Disease Prevention and Management Planning | IAFWA Wildlife Health Task Force | 357,500 | |
| Fish & Wildlife Reference Service: Managing and Providing Information to State Wildlife and Natural Resources Agencies. | KRA Corporation | 249,779 | 249,779 |
| * Evaluation of the Fish and Wildlife Reference Service | Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. | 20,356 | 20,356 |
| Data Management Support for the Chronic Wasting Disease Initiative | Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. | 92,154 | |
| Unwanted Aquatic Species: A Two-Year Project to Address State, Regional and National Aquatic Invasive Species Issues. | IAFWA Fisheries & Water Resources Policy Committee. | | 391,840 |
| Conservation Communication Team | IAFWA Education, Outreach & Diversity Committee and Point to Point Communications. | 114,000 | 114,000 |
| National 4-H Sportfishing Initiative | National 4-H Sportfishing Committee of the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation. | | 150,623 |
| Creating Master Naturalist programs | Texas Parks & Wildlife Department ... | 97,325 | 97,325 |
| National Housing Incident Clearinghouse | International Hunter Education Association. | 66,800 | |
| Wildlife Law News Weekly Alert and Online Services | Center for Wildlife Law at the University of New Mexico Institute of Public Law. | 40,500 | 40,500 |
| Management Assistance Team | IAFWA | 408,272 | 408,272 |
| Sage Grouse Data Management: Making States' Data Available to Conservation Planning Teams. | WAFWA Sage Grouse and Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Technical Committee. | 27,800 | |
| Bird Conservation for the Nation: Support for State All-Bird Conservation Efforts. | IAFWA Bird Conservation Committee | 214,520 | |
| Assessing Ownership, Use and Modifications of Trapping Systems, and Familiarity of Trapping BMPs by Trappers in the United States. | IAFWA Furbearer Resources Task Force; Education, Outreach & Diversity Committee; and Wildlife Resources Policy Committee. | 118,800 | |
| Development of a Detailed National Conservation Need for a National Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation Survey. | IAFWA National Grants Committee ... | 125,000 | 125,000 |
| Totals | | 3,025,757 | 2,473,146 |

* Denotes project submitted pending a final decision of the IAFWA Executive Committee, which is expected December 13, 2002.

The total cost of the proposed Wildlife Restoration projects is more than the amount allocated by Congress for this program. If we were to fund all of these projects, funds allocated, but not spent, from Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 would be used to make up the difference for FY 2003. The rest of the funding would come from FY 2004 and FY 2005 allocations because six of these projects are multi-year projects.

We expect to decide by January 10, 2003, which of the listed projects will be awarded a FY 2003 Multistate Conservation Grant. We will also publish the list of the awards in the **Federal Register** immediately afterwards.

Dated: November 27, 2002.

Steve Williams,
Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Guidance on Streamlining Section 7 Consultation on Hazardous Fuels Treatment Projects

AGENCIES: Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Interior; National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (Services) announce the availability of guidance on alternative approaches for streamlining section 7 consultation on hazardous fuels treatment projects. This guidance presents options for land management agencies and the Services

for streamlining consultation conducted under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The guidance encourages early coordination and cooperation at the project planning stage, "batching" of similar projects, and use of design criteria or screens to streamline the consultation process while minimizing the potential for adverse effects to listed species and their habitats at both the landscape and site-specific levels. All procedures identified in this document are consistent with the requirements of section 7(a)(2) of the ESA and its implementing regulations (50 CFR part 402).

ADDRESSES: Electronic copies of this guidance may be obtained from the USFWS World Wide Web consultation home page at <http://endangered.fws.gov/consultations/streamlining.pdf>. Written copies of this guidance may be obtained from the Chief of the Division of Consultation, Habitat Conservation Planning, Recovery, and State Grants, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401