

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

RIN 1018-AI59

Fiscal Year 2003 Tribal Landowner Incentive Program; Request for Grant Proposals and Final Policy and Implementation Guidelines**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of request for proposals; final policy, and implementation guidelines.**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) are soliciting project proposals for Federal assistance under the Tribal Landowner Incentive Program (TLIP). This document describes how you can apply for funding under the

TLIP and how we will determine which project proposals will be funded. The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2002 allocated \$39,740,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for conservation grants to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Tribes under a Landowner Incentive Program. This notice sets forth guidance for the dissemination of \$3,974,000 which is the amount designated for TLIP.

DATES: Project proposals must be received by the appropriate Regional Office (*see* Table 1 in **ADDRESSES**) no later than September 11, 2003.**ADDRESSES:** For information regarding collection requirements, applicants

should contact the Native American Liaison in the Service's Regional Office for the State in which the proposed project would occur. The contact information for each Regional Office is listed in Table 1 below. Information on the TLIP is also available from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of the Native American Liaison, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 3251, Washington, DC 20240, and electronically at <http://grants.fws.gov/tribal.html>.

Project proposals should be submitted to the Service's Regional Office for the State in which the proposed project would occur (*see* Table 1 under this section). You must submit one original and two copies of the complete proposal. We will not accept facsimile project proposals.

TABLE 1.—WHERE TO SEND PROJECT PROPOSALS AND LIST OF REGIONAL CONTACTS

Service region	States where the project will occur	Where to send your project proposal	Regional Native American liaison and phone No.
Region 1	Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, and California.	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Eastside Federal Complex, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4181.	Scott L. Aikin (503) 231-6123.
Region 2	Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 500 Gold Avenue, SW, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306.	John Antonio (505) 248-6810.
Region 3	Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, MN 55111.	John Leonard (612) 713-5108.
Region 4	Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Boulevard, Rm. 410, Atlanta, GA 30345.	James D. Brown (404) 679-7125.
Region 5	Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA 01035-9589.	D.J. Monette (413) 253-8662.
Region 6	Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, PO Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225-0486.	David Redhorse (303) 236-7905.
Region 7	Alaska	Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503-6199.	Tony DeGange (907) 786-3492.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, contact the Native American Liaison in the appropriate Regional Office (*see* Table 1 under **ADDRESSES**) or Patrick Durham, Office of the Native American Liaison, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C Street, Mail Stop 3012 MIB, Washington, DC 20240, 202/208-4133.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Request for Proposals**

The Service invites submission of grant proposals from federally recognized Indian tribal governments (including Alaska Native Villages) for the protection and management of habitat to benefit federally listed,

proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species. This program supports the efforts of tribal governments in programs that develop or augment the capacity to manage, conserve, or protect fish and wildlife species of concern through the provision of funding and technical support.

II. Definitions

The following definitions apply:

1. *At-Risk Species*—Any plant or animal species recognized as a species of conservation concern, such as species listed or identified by a State or a tribe.

2. *Biological Opinion*—Any document that includes: (1) The opinion of the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service as to

whether or not a Federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat; (2) a summary of the information on which the opinion is based; and (3) a detailed discussion of the effects of the action on listed species or designated critical habitat under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act.

3. *Candidate Species*—Plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species.

4. *Conservation Recommendation*—The Fish and Wildlife Service's non-binding suggestions resulting from