

Potential Funding Sources for Sage-grouse Conservation Projects in Idaho May, 2009



State Programs

Program	Purpose	Land Ownership	Amount or Limits	Cost Share	Deadline
Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation (OSC) http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/hunt/grouse/	Implement sage-grouse conservation efforts in Idaho.	Private, public, tribal		Matching funds are not required, but projects with match will rank higher.	July 1, 2009
Habitat Improvement Program (HIP) http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/hip/	Provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners and public land managers who want to enhance habitat for upland game birds and waterfowl.	Private or public	\$10,000 project limit; \$20,000 lifetime limit	Usually 75% paid for 10-year agreement.	Continuous sign up
Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/lip/	Provide incentives to landowners to protect or enhance habitat for at-risk species.	Private	None	Requires non-federal match at least 35%.	June 1, 2009
State Wildlife Grants Program http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/grants/	Provides third party grants to fund projects which benefit at-risk species with actions that have been identified in Idaho's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy.	Private or public	Up to \$30,000, but usually \$10,000 per year for 3 years	Requires 25–50% non-federal match, depending on type of project.	No enrollment available at this time.

Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs

Program	Purpose	Land Ownership	Amount or Limits	Cost Share	Deadline
Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp/index.html	Seeks to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on private and tribal land. Agreements can be 10-year restoration cost share; 30-year conservation easements; or permanent conservation easements.	Private and tribal	40 contiguous acres desired minimum. Land must have not changed ownership in previous 7 years	Perpetual easement 100%; 30 year easement 75%; 10 year contract 75%.	Continuous sign up.
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html	Emphasizes that agricultural production and environmental quality are compatible. EQIP provides incentives to landowners that implement conservation practices on their land, including wildlife habitat management.	Private and tribal.	Funding is allocated to NRCS Divisions (groups of counties).	Usually 50% on general EQIP projects. Up to 75% paid for species of concern.	Continuous sign-up. Deadline to rank proposals announced periodically.
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/	Provides landowners with technical and financial assistance to protect and enhance wildlife habitat.	Private agriculture, private non-industrial forest, and tribal.	Cooperator can receive maximum of \$50,000 per year.	75% cost share rate	Continuous sign-up. Deadline to rank proposals announced periodically.
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) (New program, rules being developed.)	Rewards good stewardship on private land.	Private and tribal agricultural land.	Payments to landowner based on level of stewardship	Unknown at this time.	Unknown at this time.
Conservation Innovative Grants http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/state.html	Development and adoption of innovative conservation technologies.	Private landowners, NGOs, tribal, state, and local governments	\$75,000 maximum per Idaho grant.	50% federal limit.	Varies based on timing of funding from national office.

NRCS Programs, Continued.

Program	Purpose	Land Ownership	Amount or Limits	Cost Share	Deadline
<p>Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/GRP/</p>	<p>Protects, enhances, and restores grassland, rangeland, pastureland, and shrubland on private lands. GRP supports livestock grazing while protecting important grasslands from conversion to croplands or other uses.</p>	<p>Private and tribal. Expiring CRP is eligible.</p>	<p>Only \$388K allocated to Idaho in 2009</p>	<p>10, 15, or 20-year contract with annual payments ≤75% of the grazing value of the land; up to 75% of restoration reimbursed; also permanent conservation easements. 50% cost-share on restoration. Expired CRP is eligible only for a 20 year agreement or permanent easement.</p>	<p>Sign-up is May 11 to June 5, 2009.</p>
<p>Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=coop&topic=crp</p>	<p>CRP, including Continuous CRP (CCRP), provides annual rental payments to landowners that practice soil conservation, primarily through conversion of highly erodible lands to resource-conserving vegetative covers, such as native vegetation.</p>	<p>Private and tribal.</p>	<p>Dependent upon acres enrolled and conservation practice applied.</p>	<p>Annual payment on contract; cost-sharing on plantings.</p>	<p>General CRP contract extensions to be offered in May 2009. Continuous sign-up for CCRP.</p>

BLM Programs

Program	Purpose	Land Ownership	Amount or Limits	Cost Share	Deadline
BLM Challenge Cost-Share Grants (web site in development)	Provides funding for a wide array of projects on BLM-managed public lands and adjacent private lands. Examples of activities funded through the CCS program: monitoring and inventorying resources; implementing habitat improvement projects; small research projects, sage-grouse conservation planning support, and developing threatening and endangered species recovery plans.	Federal/ adjacent private/state	Up to \$40,000	Recommended 50% non-federal match. State total must meet 50% non-federal match (across all projects).	For Federal FY 2011 – Dec. 31, 2009
BLM Minerals, Lands and Resources Program (MLR; e.g. wildlife, range) and Other Funding Programs (e.g. Fire/Fuels) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sage-grouse / sagebrush funds • Healthy Landscapes (Formerly Healthy Lands Initiative) • National Landscape Conservation System • Fuels program 	Provides funding for a wide array of inventory, monitoring and habitat improvement/ restoration projects on BLM-managed public lands and in some cases, non-BLM lands. Projects can also include easements / acquisitions. Coordination should be through BLM's LWG representative.	Federal	Variable	Recommended but not required.	Generally need to incorporate into out-year planning two years in advance.
Land and Water Conservation Fund (NLCS)	The program is divided into two distinct funding pots: State grants and Federal acquisition funds. With a Federal acquisition, a project generally should be located within or adjacent to an	BLM, NPS, FWS, FS	Variable	Recommended but not required.	Generally need to incorporate into out-year planning two years in advance.

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	established or proposed federal unit - park, refuge, forest, or federally-managed area - and be considered a priority by the administering agency. Coordination should be through BLM's LWG representative.				
Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA)	FLTFA directs revenues generated from sale or disposal of certain public lands to an acquisition account. The account can be used to purchase lands located within federally designated areas from willing sellers. Generally used for conservation purposes. Coordination should be through BLM's LWG representative.	BLM, FS, NPS, FWS	Variable	Recommended but not required.	Generally need to incorporate into out-year planning two years in advance.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Programs

Program	Purpose	Land Ownership	Amount or Limits	Cost Share	Deadline
Partners for Wildlife http://www.fws.gov/idaho/Landowners.htm Contact: Dennis Mackey 208-378-5267	Provides technical and financial assistance for habitat conservation projects on private land, especially those that benefit migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, and other sensitive species.	Private and triblal	Up to \$25,000 per project	Requires 50% state, private, or other federal match. Can be flexible and can include in-kind or material match.	No deadline- projects can be submitted at any time.
Species Recovery Funds Contact: Kendra Womack 208-685-6951	These funds are available for various on the ground projects in Idaho. Interested parties with specific projects should contact your local FWS staff for more information.	Any	Varies	None necessary, but projects with multiple partners are considered more favorably.	To compete for FY 2010 funds contact should be made during the Fall 2009.

Other Programs

Program	Source	Purpose	Land Ownership	Amount or Limits	Cost Share	Deadline
Intermountain West Joint Venture (IWJV) http://www.iwJV.org/about.htm	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited	<p>Long-term conservation of bird habitat through partnerships; provide project "seed" money to applicants developing conservation partnerships for "on-the-ground" bird habitat conservation.</p> <p>Note: the IWJV mission statement includes, "...fosters the protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands, riparian habitats, and the widely diverse <i>uplands</i> characteristic of the region..."</p>	Public or private	\$15,000 for capacity grants. Larger amounts for restoration projects.	None required, but partnerships are emphasized.	<p>April 3, 2009 for capacity grants.</p> <p>RFP for restoration projects has not been announced.</p>
Cooperative Sagebrush Initiative http://www.sandcounty.net/programs/cbcn/sagewise/	Fund established by investors and leveraged with private and public funds	A regionwide program to provide, leadership, coordination, and funding for sagebrush conservation and recovery.	Public or private	In 2007 accepted proposals requesting funding of <\$500,000, \$500,000-\$1 million and >\$1 million.	None, but collaborative efforts are preferred.	RFP not announced for 2009.