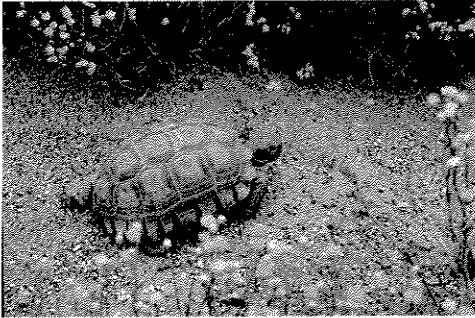




U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Desert Tortoise Recovery Office



Desert Tortoise



Desert tortoise research and recovery activities have been underway since the 1970's. The entire Mojave population was emergency listed as Endangered in 1989. The population was listed as Threatened in 1990 through normal procedures. Critical habitat was designated and a recovery plan published in 1994. In 2002, the GAO completed a Congressionally-requested audit of the desert tortoise recovery program that documented deficiencies in effectiveness of recovery actions and adequacy of status-and-trends monitoring.

The primary recommendation of the GAO report was to "develop and implement a coordinated research strategy that would link land management decisions with research results." This recommendation was reiterated in the October 2004 Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan Assessment, which called for the establishment of a Desert Tortoise Recovery Office (DTRO) to facilitate such coordination. In December 2004, the Service formally established the DTRO with the hiring of a rangewide Desert Tortoise Recovery Coordinator.

In 2005, three regional coordinators were hired to support the range-wide Recovery Coordinator, and a seven-member Science Advisory Committee (SAC) was empaneled. Recovery planning efforts focus on developing a process that incorporates land manager, stakeholder, and SAC input and coordination, with neutral third-party facilitation. In 2006, the DTRO will complete a range-wide monitoring program review including a summary report of monitoring results from 2001-2005.

The Service has secured the independent assistance and impartial expertise of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (Institute) to engage affected and interested stakeholders in the collaborative process to revise the Recovery Plan for the Mojave Population of the Desert Tortoise. The Institute will assess the feasibility of a collaborative approach to recovery planning using the structure of Regional Working Groups, and then if appropriate, designing, convening, and facilitating a process aimed at reaching agreement on regional recovery action plans and achieving broad stakeholder support for a scientifically credible recovery plan.

EXHIBIT K - LANDS
Document consists of 4 pages.
Entire Exhibit Provided
Meeting Date: 04-28-06

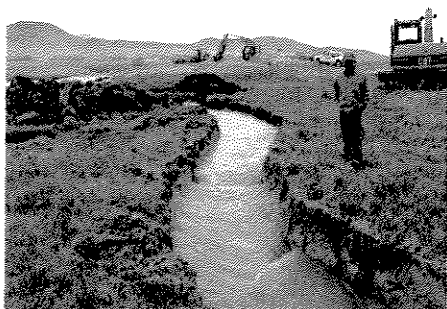


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Partners Restore Threatened Railroad Valley Spring Fish At The Duckwater Shoshone Reservation



Partners At The Duckwater Project Site



Stream Channel Reconstruction



Big Warm Springs

Work is underway to restore habitat of the threatened Railroad Valley springfish at the Duckwater Shoshone Reservation by partners that have come together for the first time. The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe (Tribe), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), U. S. Geological Service's Water Resource and Biological Resources Divisions (USGS), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) began restoration efforts in November 2006.

The partners are working to improve recreational opportunities, improve tribal cultural resources, and restore critical habitat for the species. They have already completed the removal of a catfish farm, reconstruction of the stream channel, and removal of non-native fish species. Future plans include returning the springfish to its native habitat, the seeding of native upland and riparian plants, planting of native trees, refurbishing of the irrigation ditch and pipeline, fencing, and building boardwalk and an interpretive display.

Once the restoration is complete, the Service and the Tribe will pursue a Safe Harbor Agreement for the Railroad Valley springfish. These agreements give assurances to landowners who are good stewards of the land and agree to restore, enhance, or create habitat for endangered or threatened species. Under this type of agreement, private landowners may pursue the conservation ethic that comes naturally to them, without concern about future restrictions on the use of their property.

Partners and Budget for Restoration Project:

Tribal Cost Share	\$72,000
USFWS PFW	\$25,000
USGS Water Resources	\$20,000
USFWS TLIP	\$200,000
USFWS TWG	\$250,000
NRCS	\$135,000
NDOW	Staff Time
USGS BRD	Staff and Camp Trailer
Catfish Farmer - Donated equipment and assumed cost of dismantling catfish farm	



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Comparison of the Partners for Fish & Wildlife and the Private Stewardship Grant Programs

Voluntary Cost-Share Programs to Help Private Landowners and Others Restore Habitat on their Land

Program	Projects Emphasis	Eligible Landowners	Matching Cost-share	Funding Amounts	Total Amount Available	Agreement Duration	When to Apply
Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program	On the ground voluntary habitat restoration for migratory birds, anadromous fish, and listed and declining species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private • corporate • non-profits • tribes • cities • counties • schools 	50% non-federal match. Can be from in-kind goods and services.	<\$1,000 to \$25,000	If project is located in the Carson and Walker River Focus Area (75,000).	Minimum 10 years, maximum 30 years	<p>On-going, contact NFWO Partners Program Biologist Bridget Nielsen 775-861-6346 bridget_nielsen@fws.gov</p> <p>For more information, or for contacts for projects outside of the Carson and Walker Program Focus Area, contact appropriate USFWS field office (www.fws.gov/capartners) Proposals for projects outside a Focus Area are submitted annually, usu. Jan/Feb.</p>
Private Stewardship Grant Program	On the ground voluntary habitat restoration for listed and declining species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private • corporate • non-profits 	10% non-federal match. Can be from in-kind goods and services.	No cap, but most of the approved funding requests are \$50,000-100,000	\$6.5 million nationally	No minimum, but 10 years or longer are more competitive	<p>Proposal deadline to Sacramento Fish & Wildlife Office - January 23, 2006</p> <p>For questions about submitting a proposal for a project throughout Nevada, contact Bridget Nielsen at the number above.</p> <p>http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/private_stewardship/index.html</p>

USFWS Program Contact for Conservation Partnerships Program in Nevada, Bridget Nielsen, 775-861-6346, bridget_nielsen@fws.gov

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Grant Programs Summary

Name of Program Available 2004	Funding Methodology	Level of Competition	Cost Share And Criteria	Final Decision-maker	Administration (% and by whom)	Authorizing Legislation	Eligible Entities ¹ (e.g. states, tribes, private landowners)	Purpose of Program
Private Lands and Tribal Grant Programs:								
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Proposals Due: Early 2006 for FY 2006 funding. http://partners.fws.gov/ Amount Implemented since 2002: \$365,000	Competitive Funds to be obligated through WEA's, Coop Agmts	Regional	50% match of cash and/or in kind goods and services; \$25,000 max per project	NV State Office		Activities are for authorized activities of programs funded through the Resource Management account, and include a broad range of statutory authorities to carry out Fish and Wildlife Service programs.	Eligible projects will be nominated by Service Field units and must include a minimum 50% partner match in new cash and/or in-kind Services. Partners include private landowners, tribes, conservation organizations, agricultural interests (such as farmers and ranchers), sportsmens' groups, corporations, small businesses, NGOs, educational institutions	The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, by working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Since 1987, the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program helps accomplish this mission by offering technical and financial assistance to private (non-federal) landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitats on their land.
Landowner Incentive Program Due Date: Mid April 2006 NDOW funded since 2003	Competitive	National	75% Federal 25% Non-federal	Director with concurrence of AS-FWP	3% - Migratory Birds and State Programs for State programs; External Affairs has lead on tribal program	Endangered Species Act of 1973 Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act	States, Tribes	Establish or supplement existing landowner incentive programs that provide technical or financial assistance, including habitat protection and restoration, to private landowners to benefit species at risk
Private Stewardship Grants Due Date 01/23/2006 Amount Funded Since Program Began: \$210,000	Competitive	Regional	10% non-Federal - Financial or in-kind	Director with concurrence of AS-FWP	5% Program Admin -- Endangered Sp. Grants Mgmt -- Federal Aid	Endangered Species Act of 1973 Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act	Groups and individuals engaged in conservation activities on private lands	Provide financial assistance for on-the-ground conservation projects on private lands to benefit at-risk species.
Tribal-Landowner Incentive Program Due date: 01/31/06	Competitive	National	75%/25%	Director	3% Program Admin External Affairs Grants Mgmt Federal Aid	Endangered Species Act of 1973 Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act	Federally Recognized Tribes	For actions and activities that protect and restore habitats that benefit Federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species on tribal lands
Tribal Wildlife Grants Due date 01/31/06 Amount Funded to TWG and TLIP In NV Since 2003: \$750,000	Competitive	National	90%/10%	Director	3% Program Admin -- External Affairs Grants Mgmt -- Federal Aid	Endangered Species Act of 1973 Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act	Federally recognized Tribes	Develop wildlife conservation plans and on-the-ground conservation projects benefiting at-risk species.

¹ Definition of state includes U.S. territories and District of Columbia