

# GREEN BUDGET

Fiscal Year 2009

National Funding Priorities for the Environment







**GREEN BUDGET**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2009**

JANUARY 2008



INTRODUCTION

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# GREEN BUDGET INTRODUCTION

This report, referred to as the *Green Budget*, highlights the environmental communities' Fiscal Year 2009 National Funding Priorities. The Green Budget, prepared annually by a coalition of national environmental and conservation organizations,<sup>1</sup> illustrates how an infusion of federal money can help meet the environmental challenges of climate change and sustain our nation's lands, waters and other natural resources.

Use this document when developing and considering federal budget and appropriations proposals. This report includes a short background on the benefits and challenges for dozens of important environmental programs. Following each program description is a recommended funding level for Fiscal Year 2009. As stewards of our surroundings we have a responsibility to act now and sufficiently fund the programs that help ensure the water we drink is clean, the air we breathe is pure, and the wild landscapes, and wildlife we care about are protected for the enjoyment of countless Americans today and in the future.

ALASKA WILDERNESS LEAGUE - AMERICAN LANDS ALLIANCE - AMERICAN RIVERS  
AUDUBON - CLEAN WATER ACTION - CENTER FOR NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS  
DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE - ENDANGERED SPECIES COALITION - ENVIRONMENT AMERICA  
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH - LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS  
MARINE CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE  
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION - NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION - OCEANA - OCEAN CONSERVANCY  
SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE - THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY  
THE XERCES SOCIETY FOR INVERTEBRATE CONSERVATION - WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

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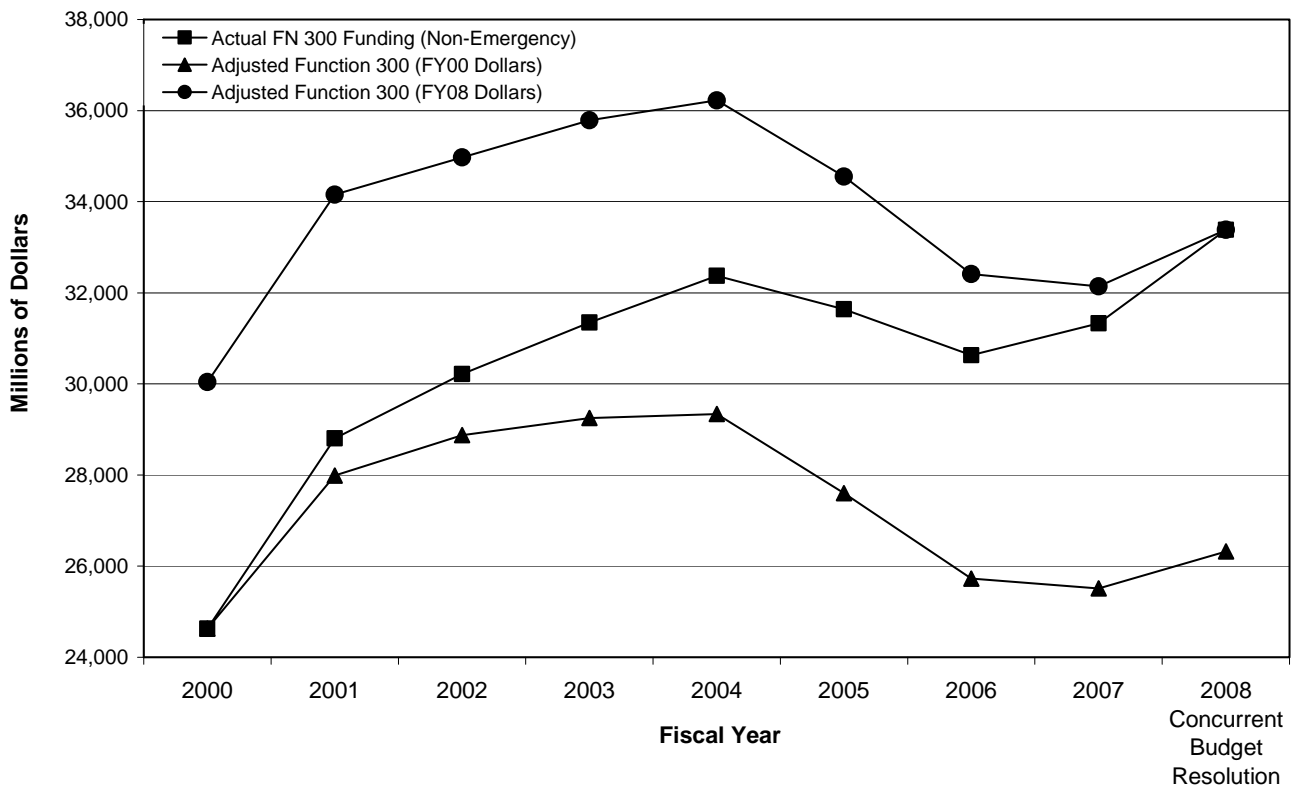
<sup>1</sup> *The organizations listed on the back cover do not necessarily endorse or have expertise on every recommendation in this report. Please refer to the Program Contacts at the end of this document for more information on a particular program.*

# NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING PRIORITIES

The protection and preservation of our environment is a major priority for many Americans. Combating global warming and developing innovative energy technologies to reduce our dependence on oil are repeatedly cited as top issues of concern across the U.S. A serious commitment to tackling the challenges presented by climate change and other factors to our water supply, air quality, public lands, and wildlife needs to be reflected by adequately and consistently funding the programs and agencies charged with addressing these problems.

These important priorities have been sorely neglected through much of the last decade. The more recent budget and appropriations trends have been to allocate monies towards subsidies for logging in our national forests, poorly conceived water projects, and providing development incentives to industry instead of research and conservation efforts. Deep cuts in these budgets have ensured that funding hasn't kept pace with inflation, resulting in significant reductions in staffing, equipment and other vital resources.

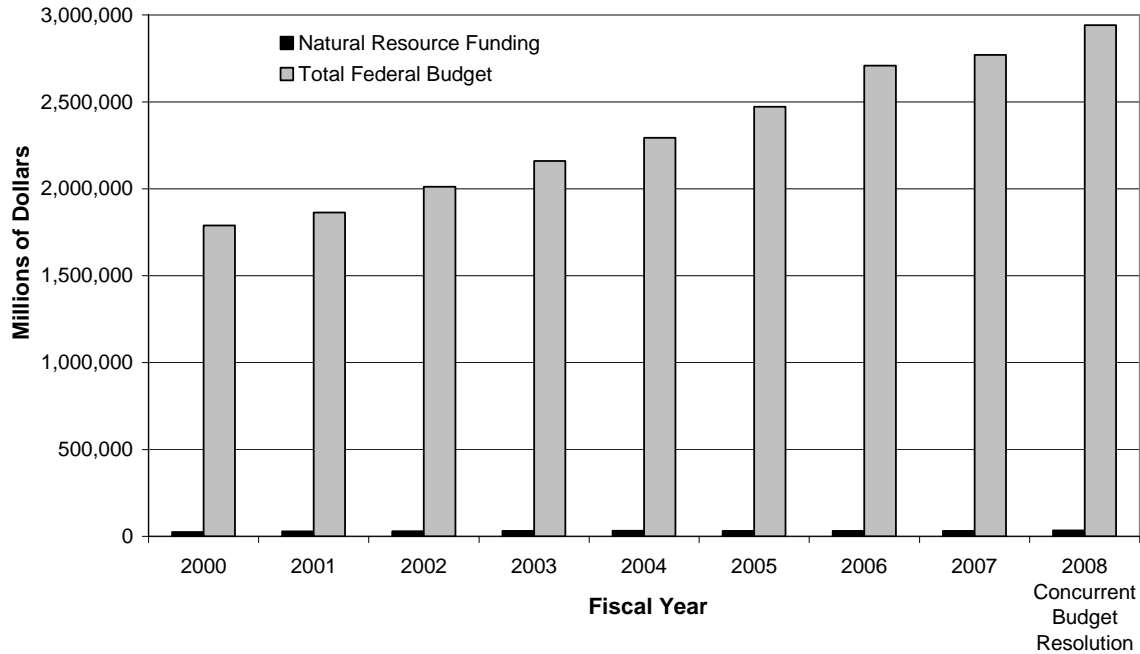
**Function 300 Allocations: Fiscal Years 2000-2008**





This chronic under-funding has severely impeded the abilities of these agencies to effectively carry out their missions of maintaining a healthy environment for present and future generations:

**Natural Resource Budget Compared to Total Federal Budget  
Fiscal Years 2000 to 2008**



The advent of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress began a reversal of these trends. Congress, in response to the public’s demand for greater environmental leadership, attempted to bridge this disparity among priorities by initially reallocating funds to struggling environmental programs. Among these changes were renewed investments in land acquisition projects, increased funding to maintain public lands, and stronger incentives for clean air and water programs. These changes, combined with the passage of the 2007 Energy Bill and the proliferation of proposed legislation to address global warming and energy concerns, demonstrated a reinvigorated commitment to environmental preservation. Unfortunately, much of the increased funding for these priorities did not materialize in the end of the session.

While some environmental priorities received much needed increases in funding, the next budget must go further to repair the damage suffered by many programs over the years. Many did not receive any increases over FY 07 levels, and in some cases funding levels were reduced. These disappointing budget levels threaten to stymie any progress by not providing adequate support to implement changes, and perpetuate the inability of established programs to carry out their most basic duties of protecting and maintaining a sound environment.

This report is intended to serve as a guide towards achieving further progress. It outlines the most critical needs for many environmental programs and agencies, and provides a recommendation of the funding needed to satisfy those needs. The decisions to provide sufficient funding for our important environmental priorities will have significant implications in improving air quality, cleaning up our water resources, enhancing public health levels, protecting our diverse wildlife, and maintaining our unique landscape. Investments in these priorities now can help to halt and reverse the degradation that is happening to our exceptional wildlife and lands. We owe it to the future generations of Americans to make the necessary investments now to preserve our natural heritage, public health, clean air, and water.

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# ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS



# ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

## **Project Modification for Improvement of the Environment**

The Project Modification for Improvement of the Environment program (Section 1135) allows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to restore river systems degraded by existing Corps projects. Under Section 1135, the Corps can modify existing dams and flood control projects to increase habitat for fish and wildlife, and restore areas affected by Corps projects. Non-federal interests must provide for 25 percent of project costs, and modifications must not interfere with a project's original purpose.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Project Modification for Improvement of the Environment- \$25 million

*Fully funded at its authorized level but a decrease of \$4.5 million under the FY 08 enacted level of \$29.5 million*

## **Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration**

A more recent addition to the Corps' environmental restoration arsenal is Section 206, the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration program, established in 1996. Section 206 allows the Corps to undertake small-scale projects to restore aquatic habitat, even in areas not directly harmed by past Corps projects. Projects carried out under this program must improve the quality of the environment, be in the public interest, and be cost-effective. Individual projects may not exceed \$5 million, and non-federal interests must contribute 35 percent of project costs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration- \$25 million

*Fully funded at its authorized level but a decrease of \$4.5 million under the FY 08 enacted level of \$29.5 million*

## **Flood Hazard Mitigation and Riverine Restoration (Challenge 21)**

Escalating flood losses are a national concern. Over the past 25 years, the federal government has spent more than \$140 billion for traditional structural flood control projects and flood damage recovery. Flooded communities are increasingly seeking and implementing non-structural solutions to reduce flooding. In addition to reducing flood losses, non-structural projects help meet many other goals of riverside communities, including improving water quality, increasing opportunities for recreation, and improving and restoring wildlife habitat. Challenge 21, a flood damage reduction program authorized in 1999, is designed to help support non-structural flood control solutions. Challenge 21 allows the Corps to relocate vulnerable homes and businesses in smaller communities, restore floodplain wetlands, increase opportunities for riverside recreation, and improve quality of life in riverside communities. Challenge 21 also authorizes the Corps to work with other federal agencies to help local governments reduce flood damages and conserve, restore, and manage riverine and floodplain resources with local communities providing 35 percent of project costs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Flood Hazard Mitigation and Riverine Restoration Program- \$500,000

*An increase of \$500,000 over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0*

# ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

## **Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program**

The Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) is a long term plan to balance navigation needs and ecological restoration in the Upper Mississippi River System. It will tackle many of the cumulative environmental impacts incurred from operating the river as a navigation system. The Corps will have a wide range of options from flood plain restoration and dam removal to land acquisition through easements to accomplish its restoration goals. Projects developed under this program will undergo independent analysis and will be monitored to assure that project goals are being met and taxpayer dollars are being used wisely. The NESP was authorized as part of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 and works in concert with the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway System.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program- \$44.7 million of which \$10.4 million is for monitoring  
*A new program for FY 09*

## **Upper Mississippi Environmental Management Program: IL, IA, MN, MO & WI**

More than half of the fish and wildlife habitat created by the Mississippi River's backwaters and side channels could be lost by 2035 if the management of the river does not improve. This would lead to a catastrophic collapse of the nation's most productive and diverse inland fishery. Loss of river habitat also threatens a \$1.2 billion river-recreation industry, which supports 18,000 jobs. The Upper Mississippi River Environmental Management Program (EMP), the primary habitat restoration and monitoring program on the Upper Mississippi, has a goal of restoring more than 97,000 acres of habitat; the Army Corps reports that EMP has restored or created 28,000 acres of habitat.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Environmental Management Program- \$33.5 million  
*An increase of \$16.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$16.8 million*

## **Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment**

For more than 10 years, the states along the lower Mississippi River have joined together through the Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee to work toward cooperative management of the lower Mississippi River. The Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment (LMRRA) was authorized by Congress in section 402 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. Conducting the Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment is the first step in consolidating into one region-wide assessment all information about the current status of aquatic habitat in the 954-mile-long Lower Mississippi River, specific habitat development/enhancement opportunities to restore the river ecosystem, and recreational needs. This stretch of the river has pumped more than \$50 billion cumulatively into the annual economies of Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee through river-related tourism and wildlife-associated recreation. The LMRRA could greatly aid the Corps' congressionally mandated environmental mission in the Lower Mississippi River alluvial valley, and the Department of the Interior's missions related to management of fisheries, national wildlife refuges and parks, migratory birds, and endangered species.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment- \$1.5 million  
*An increase of \$1.25 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$250,000*



# ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

## **Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Project: IA, NE, KS & MO**

The Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Project is the primary habitat restoration program for the lower Missouri River between Sioux City and St. Louis. Congress established it in 1986, primarily to help reverse the long-term impact on habitat due to the federally sponsored channelization and stabilization projects of the Pick-Sloan era. Supporting the Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Project will help reverse the decline of river wildlife by restoring historic chutes, side channels, wetlands, backwaters, and other habitat that fish and wildlife need to survive.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Project- \$85 million

*An increase of \$35 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$50 million*

## **Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration: OR & WA**

Coastal estuaries in the Pacific Northwest play a vital role in supporting healthy stocks of wild salmon and steelhead trout and other species and improving the quality of life of countless communities. They provide critical habitat for other fish and wildlife, offer abundant recreational opportunities, and improve water quality by filtering out toxic contaminants, sediments, and other pollutants. The Northwest Coastal Estuary Program, run by the Corps, is a stakeholder driven program that offers a great opportunity to enhance fish and wildlife habitat on the Lower Columbia River and Tillamook Bay. The program is designed to restore more than 16,000 acres of critical fish and wildlife habitat, augment existing monitoring efforts, and help citizens protect and manage resources by bringing together local governments, state and federal agencies, environmental groups, port officials, and citizens.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration- \$1.7 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

## **Individual Dam Removal River Restoration Projects**

Over the past 110 years, the United States has led the world in dam building for a variety of uses, including hydropower, irrigation, flood control, and water storage. While they can provide benefits to society, numerous dams have outlived their intended purpose and no longer make sense. Many are old, unsafe, and represent a threat to their river ecosystems. Individual dam removal projects initiated by the Corps need federal appropriations to move forward. These projects will restore natural river functions and restore access to migratory fish habitat, and provide economic benefits to neighboring communities. Each of these projects has been endorsed by a wide range of stakeholders and approved for federal action.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Matilija Dam Removal- \$1 million for construction

*An increase of \$0.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0.8 million*

Rindge Dam Removal- \$0.595 million

*An increase of \$0.44 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0.16 million*



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FARM BILL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

Reauthorization of the Farm Bill is expected to be completed in the first half of 2008. While the new law may contain programmatic changes affecting the private lands conservation programs for the next fiscal year, we are still operating under the program and funding levels created or reauthorized in the 2002 Farm Bill. In the FY 08 budget, Congress took the unusual step of funding most of the conservation programs at their authorized levels—a welcome change from its recent habit of sharply shortchanging the conservation programs by up to 50 percent of the amount mandated in the 2002 Farm Bill. However, even this step was of little help to the Grasslands Reserve Program, which has already reached a spending ceiling under the 2002 Farm Bill, or the Conservation Security Program, whose baseline was slashed so deeply over the past five years that it can provide only a fraction of the stewardship assistance that the 2002 Farm Bill intended. The FY 09 budget should anticipate the authorization of new enrollments in the Grasslands Reserve Program, a revamped Conservation Security Program, and should fully fund the remaining programs at their mandatory spending levels. It is anticipated that the conference will report a bill with levels for most programs that will be similar to the FY 07 levels outlined in the 2002 Farm Bill.

The conservation programs within the Farm Bill are more important than ever given longstanding backlogs of qualified applicants for these programs, increased pressure on farmland from the biofuels boom, sprawling development, and the ongoing problems of wildlife habitat decline and water quality. The Farm Bill conservation programs include: the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), which provides farmers with cost-share assistance and easements to restore wetlands that have been degraded by agriculture; the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), which provides assistance to producers to improve and protect wildlife habitat; the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which provides incentives to producers to help address a wide range of natural resource issues and to comply with environmental laws; the Conservation Security Program (CSP), which provides income support to producers who implement and maintain stewardship practices on their working lands; the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), which offers farmers payments for easements to keep their land in agricultural usage; the Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP), intended to restore and protect up to two million acres of grasslands focusing on grazing lands, grasslands threatened with conversion, and native prairies; and the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), which provides farmers with incentives to restore and protect highly erodible farmland, farmed wetlands, and riparian buffers.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Fully fund the Farm Bill conservation programs at the funding levels mandated in the 2002 Farm Bill, until the current Farm Bill reauthorization is completed.

Agriculture Management Assistance Program- \$20 million  
Conservation Reserve Program- 39.2 million acres (\$2.271 billion)  
Conservation Security Program- \$450 million  
Environmental Quality Incentives Program- \$1.3 billion  
Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program- \$97 million  
Grasslands Reserve Program- \$50 million  
Ground and Surface Water Conservation Program- \$60 million  
Wetlands Reserve Program- 250,000 acres (\$400 million)  
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program- \$85 million

**TOTAL: \$4.733 billion**

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

### **Forest Inventory and Analysis Program**

Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) surveys conducted by the Forest Service provide the only consistent nationwide data on the state of U.S. forests. Responding to recommendations from the Second Blue Ribbon Panel on FIA and the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, the FIA system recently underwent a major revision to ensure timely information, a consistent national sampling format, and a uniform system of Forest Health Monitoring to supplement FIA's traditional emphasis on commercial timber supply. Funding has never been adequate to fulfill this mandate. Climate change will both increase stresses on our forests, and increase demands to manage them for carbon sequestration, biomass fuels, and other outputs. Timely, complete, and accurate information about the state of our nation's forests, both private and public, is critically important. A consistent and adequate budget will also support a well-trained and experienced cadre of employees who provide reliable data. The FIA program must receive adequate funding to support the frequent resampling (ideally 20 percent of plots each year nationwide) necessary to track changes in forest health due to climate stresses and changes in management.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Forest Inventory and Analysis Program- \$79.9 million (\$7.5 million increase for field inventory, \$1.5 million increase for information management, and \$6 million for climate-specific research)

*An increase of \$15 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$64.9 million*

### **Forest Legacy Program**

The Forest Service's (FS) Forest Legacy program, authorized in the 1990 Farm Bill, provides matching funds to assist states in conserving private working forests – those that provide an array of environmental services and products. This includes clean air, clean water, carbon sequestration, a variety of fish and wildlife habitats and recreational opportunities, as well as timber and other forest products. Since its inception, the Forest Legacy program has provided over \$339 million in matching funds to conserve nearly 1.57 million acres of forests valued at more than \$713 million.

Currently, 47 states and territories are active in the program and another three are in the final planning stages. In recent years, the identified demand from participating states has been well over \$200 million annually, and growing rapidly as new states have joined the program. In fact, for FY 09 states submitted projects totaling over 388,000 acres, yet at present funding levels only a fraction of those will be conserved. The recent FS "Forests on the Edge," report projected that, due to increased populations and expanding urban center demands on our forests, over 44 million acres of private forests are likely to see increased conversion pressure over the next three decades.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Forest Legacy Programs- \$125 million

*An increase of \$72.8 million over the FY08 enacted level of \$52.2 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

### **Community Forest and Open Space Program**

Over 44 million acres are expected to be converted from forestlands to developments by 2030, and the top 15 watersheds in the nation that are projected for development and will have significant impacts on eastern forests. Unfortunately, few communities have the necessary capacity to conserve forestlands that protect their water supply, support a timber-based economy, or enhance recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and quality of life for local residents. A new program, the Community Forest and Open Space Program,<sup>1</sup> will enable communities to acquire forest areas that are economically, culturally, and environmentally important to that locality and that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Community Forest and Open Space Program- \$75 million

*A new program that would increase the overall Forest Service budget by \$75 million over the FY 08 enacted level*

### **Office of International Programs**

The effective management of forests, including the animals and plants that live there, is a challenge for countries around the world. The mounting impacts of climate change bring a new urgency to effective management of the world's forests, which sequester billions of tons of carbon each year. By utilizing the skills and expertise of the Forest Service, the U.S. government can assist other countries with best practices and lessons learned. The Office of International Programs (IP) has been able to build long-term conservation partnerships around the world to solve priority problems that require sustained efforts on the ground. Drawing on the diverse Forest Service workforce of scientists, resource managers, international specialists, conservation biologists, and experts in forest health and private land assistance, the IP supports projects in protected area management, migratory species conservation, landscape-level forest planning, fire management training, the curbing of invasive species, forest certification, and reduced-impact logging.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Office of International Programs- \$12 million

*An increase of \$4.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$7.5 million*

### **Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness Program**

The Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness program makes up the largest of the forest uses, and demand for outdoor recreation is fast growing. Therefore, it is critical that the Forest Service encourage recreation that is environmentally sound and devote more institutional focus to meeting the challenge of projected increases in recreational use (e.g., emphasize rigorous recreation planning, on-the-ground management, and restoration). Moreover, with the imminent threat of climate change, actions will be necessary to help Americans adapt to a more climate-responsible method of recreation. For instance, the Forest Service should emphasize providing recreational opportunities close to where people live, and emphasize muscle-powered forms of recreation over those that expend fossil fuels.

*Travel Management*, the process of planning and managing dispersed outdoor recreation, is a major priority for the Forest Service. In 2005, the Forest Service promulgated the "travel management rule" and appropriately established a firm deadline for the completion of motorized road and trail designations for all Forest Service

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<sup>1</sup> The Community Forest and Open Space Program passed the Senate 2007 Farm Bill and is expected to succeed through final passage in 2008.

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

administered lands by 2010. The rule required that motorized cross-country driving be generally eliminated from Forest Service lands, thereby requiring the development of a motorized vehicle use map. To develop the map, the Forest Service will have to complete a travel management analysis and plan for most of the 146 units covering 194 million acres. In addition, to ensure that the rule is successful in curtailing environmental damage from cross-country travel, the Forest Service will also have to expend funds to implement the plans over their lifetime (e.g., signage, map distribution, trailhead management, visitor education, enforcement, trail maintenance, restoration of ongoing damage). The Forest Service has not received additional funding in this budget line – despite the enormity and importance of the task – to support the travel planning and implementation efforts mandated by the 2005 regulation. To date, travel management planning funds have primarily come from the Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness program.<sup>2</sup> The Forest Service estimates that it costs a half million to one million dollars to complete each planning process and initial implementation tasks for a FY 09 total of \$74.3 million. We estimate that annual implementation of plans completed before FY 08 will cost \$1.02/acre for a total FY 09 annual implementation cost of \$41.5 million. Hence, the total cost to carry out travel management for FY 09 is \$115.8 million.

*Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers* represent large blocks of protected and connected landscapes, and will play an important role in forests' ability to adapt to and overcome the effects of climate change. Additionally, wilderness areas make up 20 percent of National Forest lands, and therefore deserve a budget line item separate from Recreation and Heritage. Wilderness and management may seem to be contradictory terms, but without some sort of management to monitor and control the use of wilderness, many outstanding areas would lose the very values they were established to preserve. To bring all 410 wilderness areas to standard, as identified in the 10-Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge, the Forest Service will need at least a \$30 million increase funding level to Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers program (allocated to bring 80 wilderness areas and 32 Wild & Scenic Rivers up to the standards).

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Travel management- \$115.8 million (\$74.3 million for planning, \$41.5 million for implementation)

Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers- \$30 million

*An increase of \$145.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$263 million for Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness*

### **Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management Program**

Our national forests and grasslands play an essential role in the conservation of our nation's wildlife and habitat. More than 425 species listed under the Endangered Species Act and an additional 3,250 at-risk species are found on Forest Service lands. These lands encompass an amazing array of habitats, from alpine tundra to tropical rainforest, deciduous and evergreen forests, native grasslands, wetlands, streams, lakes, and marshes. National forests often contain significant headwaters and stream reaches important to freshwater creatures like fish, mussels, and crayfish, a higher percentage of which are considered more at-risk than other species. Many of the larger animals in the U.S. such as grizzly bear, wolverine, elk, Canada lynx, and bighorn sheep persist because of Forest Service lands. Since national forests often represent intact connected habitat, they become obvious places for recovery and reintroduction of rare creatures and form the backbone of many large-scale conservation plans. Fish and wildlife on our national forests are important to people all across the nation – about 40 million visits per year are primarily for hunting, fishing, or wildlife viewing.

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<sup>2</sup> A 2005 memo from Chief Dale Bosworth to the USFS regions stated that no additional funds were to be allocated for travel management planning. The memo further stated that regions are to use funds from 5 existing line items, including Recreation, Fish and Wildlife, Watershed, Roads, and Trails.



# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

The Forest Service Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management program works with partners to inventory and monitor, manage, and restore habitat on national forests and grasslands in four program areas: 1) Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species; 2) Wildlife; 3) Fisheries; and 4) NatureWatch (wildlife viewing and education). The FY 06 appropriation of \$131.7 million for this program helped to generate an additional \$47 million in partner contributions, and accomplished more than 4,900 projects with and without partners. Each year, however, there is a far greater need than the level of funding provided. For FY 08, although the final appropriation for this account is \$132.4 million, at least an additional \$55 million in needed projects were identified that could be implemented with existing staff, yet the president's budget recommended a damaging 10 percent cut. By FY 09, at least \$210 million will be needed to accomplish critical projects-the recommendation would reach this level over a two-year period.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management- \$176.5 million

*An increase of \$44.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$132.4 million*

### **Roads Maintenance Program**

Ongoing logging and mineral extraction has not only led to the gradual creation of an enormous and unsustainable road system in the national forests but also to forest fragmentation and widespread unmanaged off-road vehicle driving and related damage. The Forest Service reports that it can only maintain about 20 percent of its roads to standard. The Forest Service needs to transform its currently oversized, decaying, and obsolete road system to a streamlined system that will meet the Nation's needs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in a fiscally responsible way. To do this, the Forest Service must accomplish widespread decommissioning and restoration of the roads that are no longer needed, and to properly maintain those roads that are needed. Road decommissioning and maintenance of necessary high clearance and closed roads could significantly decrease the direct impacts on fish and wildlife and recreation, and benefit the health of forest ecosystems, thus aiding in creating a healthier and more resilient forest system, which is all the more important under climate change conditions. The Forest Service requires at least \$649 million to meet its annual road maintenance needs.<sup>3</sup> Over several years, Forest Service funding should gradually increase to \$650 million to keep up with annual maintenance needs. In the first year, 50 percent of that goal, or \$325 million should be allocated to roads maintenance in forests that have completed a roads analysis for *all* roads (maintenance levels 1-5) as required by regulation, thereby identifying the unnecessary and problematic roads that should be decommissioned.<sup>4</sup> Finally, no new taxpayer subsidies should be allocated to build new logging roads.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Roads Maintenance Program- \$325 million

*An increase of \$194 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$131 million*

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<sup>3</sup> FY2008 USDA Forest Service Budget Justification, p. 17-24.

<sup>4</sup> Most forests have completed a roads analysis as required in regulation, but because of fiscal constraints they only looked at roads accommodating passenger vehicles (maintenance level 3-5 roads). In many cases, it is the high clearance backcountry roads (maintenance level 1 and 2 roads) that are problematic in terms of management and environmental impact, and hence should be prioritized for decommissioning.

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

### **Deferred Maintenance**

The Forest Service should address its \$10 billion road maintenance backlog by focusing on roads that are in immediate need of attention and where ecological benefits will be greatest. An increase of \$16.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level would only begin to address the backlog.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Deferred Maintenance Program- \$25 million

*An increase of \$16.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$8.9 million*

*(Funding for deferred maintenance may be reallocated from the timber program, which is the major source and cause of new roads and increasing backlog.)*

### **Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation Program**

Road decommissioning and other remediation activities will significantly improve water quality and fish habitat, reduce fragmentation of wildlife habitat, and aid in restoring stability and resilience to watersheds and large tracts of forests. The Forest Service should first prioritize decommissioning roads that are not in use and/or that are causing the most serious environmental problems, such as stream degradation and forest fragmentation. The new Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program is a vehicle for accomplishing the above priorities and, in FY 09, should receive a funding level of \$75 million, \$10 million over the House requested level of \$65 million.<sup>5</sup>

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Legacy Roads and Trail Remediation Program- \$75 million

*An increase of \$35.6 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$39.4 million*

### **Accounting Program**

For decades, the Forest Service has had a history of fiscal and accountability problems. Although the Forest Service has moved to improve its accounting practices, continued improvements should take place. Funds necessary to maintain an evolving and effective accounting program should include enough monies to maintain an accurate data collection and storage program, especially with regards to the timber program. Accounting activities would provide the Forest Service a better grasp of its funding needs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Forest Products Program- accounting monies should be allocated from the timber program

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<sup>5</sup> H.R. 2643, Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2008.

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

### State and Local Fire Assistance

In 2001, the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior identified over 11,000 communities adjacent to federal lands that are at risk from wildland fire.<sup>6</sup> State Foresters conservatively estimate 45,000 communities at risk.<sup>7</sup> The scope of the problem is clearly enormous – and growing. Experts predict that almost eight million new homes will be built in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) between 2005 and 2010.<sup>8</sup> Increased population in the WUI is one of the primary reasons suppression costs have skyrocketed to over \$1 billion since 2000. In addition, because climate change will increase the length of the fire season, and potentially the number and size of fires that burn any given year, it is more critical than ever to help these communities prepare for inevitable wildland fires. Communities that are “firesafe,” or well-prepared for fire, are key to reducing suppression costs – and ultimately restoring functional, and fire-resilient, wildlands.

State Fire Assistance is the primary federal program that can help communities achieve these goals. It provides funding to help states and communities prepare for and respond to wildland fires, including funding for firefighter training, hazardous fuels reduction near communities, the Firewise program, which provides information on retrofitting homes for fire safety, and Community Wildfire Protection Planning. Communities draft Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) in collaboration with federal, state, and local officials. They are an important mechanism for identifying areas and treatment methods for hazardous fuel reduction, creation of defensible space, and preparing homes for better fire resilience. Congress has directed that State Fire Assistance funds should be used preferentially to support community wildfire protection planning and plan implementation. Many states and communities lack the resources to fully design and implement fire management programs on their own.<sup>9</sup> This can only be off-set through outside assistance, particularly from the federal government. In fact, skyrocketing suppression expenditures suggest that taxpayers already foot the bill for private landowners who have not taken the necessary steps to protect their properties. Taking proactive steps towards fire preparedness by investing in State Fire Assistance will mean a reduction in these fire suppression costs.

Less than 10 percent of the \$14.7 billion appropriated to the National Fire Plan in the last five years has been directed to forest and fire management activities by non-federal partners.<sup>10</sup> To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of fire management, this has to change. No less than 20 percent of the five-year average National Fire Plan appropriations should be allocated to State and Local Assistance Programs generally,<sup>11</sup> and 50 percent of that should be targeted specifically to State Fire Assistance. This should be done through steady increase over three years. The first year should reflect an 80 percent increase of the approximately \$80 million historical average for State Fire Assistance, resulting in a \$144 million appropriation that would meet the State Forester’s projected 2008 needs. In the second year, a 50 percent increase to \$216 million. In the last year, an approximately 30 percent increase would realize the \$285 million target appropriation. Protecting communities threatened by wildland fire is recognized as the highest priority of federal fire policy, but those words simply cannot be matched by action unless

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<sup>6</sup> 66 FR 43384-43435

<sup>7</sup> Southern Group of State Foresters, *Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment Final Report (2006)*, p. 75.

<sup>8</sup> Forest Service and Department of the Interior “Quadrennial Fire and Fuel Report” (2005).

<sup>9</sup> Mall, A. and Matzner, F. (2007). *Safe at Home: Making the Federal Fire Safety Budget Work for Communities*. Natural Resources Defense Council.

<sup>10</sup> Specifically those line items under the National Fire Plan associated with state and local assistance, including Forest Health Management (Coop Lands), State Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance under Wildland Fire Management and Forest Health Management (Coop Lands), State Fire Assistance, Volunteer Fire Assistance and Economic Action Program under State and Private Forestry Appropriations, as well as other State and Private Forestry programs that assist communities in managing forests, including Forest Stewardship, Urban & Community Forestry and Forest Research & Information Analysis (except Forest Legacy, which is also addressed separately in this document). Data source: USFS Budget Justifications 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

<sup>11</sup> This does not include Forest Legacy, which is addressed elsewhere in this document.

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FOREST SERVICE

funding backs intention. Increased and appropriate funding for state and local fire assistance programs will help accomplish that.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

State Fire Assistance Program- \$144 million

*An increase of \$63.4 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$80.6 million*

State and Local Assistance generally- \$288 million

*An increase of \$73.3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$214.7 million*

### **Wildfire Suppression Funding**

Suppression funds are used to suppress wildland fires that occur on or threaten public lands administered by the Department of the Interior and Forest Service or other lands covered by federal fire protection agreements. Federal fire suppression costs have increased significantly in recent years, exceeding \$1 billion every year since 2000. This increase is due to a number of factors, including explosive population growth in the wildland-urban interface, fuels build-up resulting from decades of fire suppression, and changing weather patterns that have left most of the West in a severe drought. In 1991, wildland fire (the biggest portion of which is suppression) accounted for 13 percent of the Forest Service's budget; it now accounts for over 45 percent of the budget. These increased fire suppression costs are therefore beginning to overwhelm the agencies' other mission areas and experts are predicting that a changing climate will only increase the length of the fire season. As suppression activities continue to increase, so does suppression funding since it is based on a rolling average for the previous 10 years. Because the agencies' budgets are essentially flat year to year, to offset these increases funding for critical programs has been significantly reduced. The result is a diminishing capacity to deliver core agency duties and programs, which is actually harmful to long-term prospects for reducing wildfire costs.

Appropriated dollars for suppression have fallen far short in recent years. To make up the difference, the agencies have depended on Congress to provide them additional emergency funding through supplemental appropriations and they have had to borrow money from other programs, often those very programs – like community assistance – that represent the best hope of bringing down the costs associated with wildland fire. Recognizing that past borrowing from other agency programs for wildland fire suppression caused project cancellations, strained relationships with partners, and disruptions in management, Congress has provided funding for a suppression reserve account for both the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior. While this account has helped stave off large transfers from other agency programs, a long-term solution to dealing with this problem is needed.

To address this problem, Congress must do two things: (1) fix the suppression funding structure; and (2) invest in a 21<sup>st</sup> century fire management force. A new suppression funding structure should include the creation of a separate fund for unanticipated large fire events from the already constrained Federal wildland firefighting budgets so the necessary funds are freed up to be invested into the goals of the National Fire Plan and the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy. This fund must be closely tied to appropriate sideboards and cost containment controls. A robust commitment to new fire management strategies, like risk-based suppression<sup>12</sup> and Wildland Fire Use,<sup>13</sup> is also

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<sup>12</sup> Also known as “Appropriate Management Response” or “AMR” - an approach to firefighting that treats each fire individually, accounting for threats to lives and property first, but also weighing factors like ecology and landscape and then applying the appropriate response – which can include the full range of tactical responses from monitoring to aggressive attack.

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE

needed. This change will lead to healthier landscapes and less costly fire seasons in the future. That means investing in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century fire management force – an investment on par with the one made in hazardous fuels reduction. A key aspect of this investment must be funding designated specifically for training and staffing in Wildland Fire Use.

## **FY 09 Recommendation:**

- Implement a new budget funding structure for wildland fire suppression
- Designate at least \$10 million from Suppression specifically for increasing staffing for training in Wildland Fire Use (WFU)

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<sup>13</sup> Managing naturally-ignited fires for ecological benefit in designated areas.



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY





# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

### **Vehicle Technologies Program**

Both to combat global warming and to reduce the U.S.'s dangerous dependence on oil, increasing the fuel economy of motor vehicles is a top priority. Federal research and development on technologies that improve motor vehicle fuel economy are essential to achieving such an increase and are carried out by the Department of Energy (DOE) Vehicle Technologies program. The technologies covered by the program include advanced lightweight materials, advanced batteries, improved power electronics, electric motors, and advanced combustion engines.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Vehicle Technologies Program- \$220.1 million

*An increase of \$8.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$211.6 million*

### **Building Technologies Program**

Energy use, by residential and commercial buildings, accounts for over one-third of the nation's total energy consumption, including two-thirds of the electricity generated in the U.S. Residential and commercial building emissions together make up approximately 38 percent of annual U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and are growing twice as fast as the overall average.

Of all the DOE energy efficiency programs, the Building Technologies program continues to yield perhaps the greatest energy savings. A National Research Council study found that just three small buildings research and development programs – in electronic ballasts for fluorescent lamps, refrigerator compressors, and low-e glass for windows – have already achieved cost savings totaling \$30 billion, at a total federal cost of about \$12 million.

The Equipment Standards and Analysis subaccount of this program should receive an additional \$25 million. Federal appliance standards already save an estimated 2.5 percent of all U.S. electricity use; existing and draft standards are expected to save consumers and businesses \$186 billion by 2020. However, a number of standards are many years behind schedule and appear stalled. The DOE recently settled a lawsuit brought against it demanding that it issue long-overdue minimum efficiency standards required by federal law for many energy-using products. Developing standards is a costly process and the DOE needs adequate resources to carry out its responsibilities.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Building Technologies- \$137.5 million

*An increase of \$29.3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$108.2 million*

### **Industrial Technologies Program**

The Industrial Technologies Program partners with industry to conduct cost-shared energy saving research and provides technical assistance, tools, and training to improve industrial energy efficiency. One of the most effective Industrial Technologies program initiatives conducts plant-wide energy assessments, develops diagnostic software, conducts training, develops technical references, and demonstrates success stories. Oak Ridge National Laboratory reports that the Industrial Technologies program's Best Practices outreach saved 82 trillion Btu in 2002, worth \$492 million, which corresponds to more than 4 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. University-Based Industrial Assessment Centers have an immediate impact on the competitive performance of hundreds of smaller U.S. factories.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Industrial Technologies Program- \$66.6 million

*An increase of \$2.6 million over the FY 06 enacted level of \$64 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

### **Gateway Deployment Programs**

Even the best research and development will only meet the U.S.'s energy needs if it is commercialized. Energy efficiency deployment programs are especially critical today to addressing the nation's immediate natural gas and oil situations. Key deployment programs including building codes assistance and public education have been cut in recent years. Such cuts are inconsistent with achieving national energy policy goals of reducing energy costs, promoting environmentally sound economic development, and reducing the U.S.'s reliance on imported oil. Additional funds are critical in order to reach more consumers, cities, states, homebuilders, and others.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Gateway Deployment Programs- \$28 million

*An increase of \$28 million over the FY 08 earmarked level of \$0*

### **Federal Energy Management Program**

Federal agencies use one percent of all energy consumed in the DOE's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) has helped cut federal building energy waste by 24 percent from 1985 to 2001 – a reduction that now saves federal taxpayers roughly \$1 billion each year in reduced energy costs. FEMP advances energy efficiency at federal facilities by developing alternative financing options and providing technical assistance and training for federal agencies.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Federal Energy Management Program- \$25 million

*An increase of \$5.3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$19.7 million*

### **Weatherization Assistance Program**

The Weatherization Assistance program enables low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. On average, weatherization reduces heating bills by 31 percent and overall energy bills by \$274 per year. During the last 27 years, the Weatherization Assistance program has provided weatherization services to more than 5.3 million low-income families. In 2005, the goal was to weatherize 92,500 homes. By reducing energy consumption and energy bills of low-income families instead of offering aid, weatherization reduces dependency and liberates these funds for spending on other pressing family issues. Unfortunately, funding for this important program has decreased in recent years by \$21 million.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Weatherization Assistance Program- \$300 million

*An increase of \$78 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$221.2 million*

### **State Energy Program**

The State Energy Program (SEP) provides grants to states to address their energy priorities, implement global warming initiatives and fund energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. States often combine these grants with funding from other sources to support such projects. According to a 2003 study by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, each one dollar of SEP funding results in annual cost savings of \$7.23.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

State Energy Program- \$50 million

*An increase of \$6.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$43.8 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

### **Wind Energy Program**

The Wind Energy program focuses on continuing to develop a next-generation wind turbine capable of operating in areas with lower wind speeds, thus expanding wind development potential by twenty times, as well as allowing placement of turbines closer to existing transmission lines. The program also supports analysis of increased integration of wind energy into the nation's power grid.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Wind Energy Program- \$55 million

*An increase of \$5.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of approximately \$49.2 million*

### **Solar Energy Technologies Program**

The Solar Energy Technologies program supports research and development on technologies such as solar photovoltaics, concentrated solar power and solar heating and lighting. The program's research continues to bring costs down and performance up, fostering a domestic high-tech manufacturing base. DOE's Million Solar Roofs Initiative, which began in 1997 and concluded in 2006, installed the equivalent of more than 377,000 solar water heating, photovoltaics (PV) and solar pool heating systems, and decreased carbon dioxide emissions by 3.3 million tons.

Advances in solar technology through the research, development, and deployment (RD&D) program for electric power generation, absorption cooling and, water and industrial process heating have shown immense promise and should be aggressively pursued. Continued work on solar energy storage for all concentrated solar power technologies, including solar power towers, should receive greater RD&D attention and deployment.

However, the U.S. is losing market share to Japan and the European Union in this rapidly growing technology area. Solar heating and lighting technologies are utilized around the world in quantities far exceeding those in the U.S. Such systems have significantly reduced the consumption of electricity and natural gas in many countries.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Solar Energy Technologies Program- \$174 million

*An increase of \$6.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of approximately \$167.3 million*

### **Biomass and Biorefinery Systems R&D Program**

Biomass power funding should support cleaner combustion, gasification, pyrolyzation, and digestion technologies for electric generation with biomass. A variety of feedstocks should be tested for emissions within these technologies with an emphasis on distributed generation with small biomass systems. The power and fuels programs should work together to develop a biorefinery plant that can be operated in the U.S. to produce clean fuel, power, and chemicals. The biofuels program should add to the existing biomass options (e.g., corn fiber) with an expanded focus on cellulosic biomass for ethanol as well as biodiesel, but not municipal solid waste. The biofuels program should focus on cost reductions in the production of ethanol through the fermentation of sugars and the gasification or pyrolyzation of cellulosic biomass and biomass waste streams for the production of synfuels and their conversion into biofuels and biopower. The biomass power program should become less line-itemed and directed more towards industry commercialization partnerships.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Biomass and Biorefinery Systems R&D Program- \$204.7 million

*An increase of \$7.9 million over the FY 08 enacted level of approximately \$196.8 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

### **Geothermal Technology Program**

Geothermal energy holds the promise to produce vast quantities of high quality baseload power. The U.S. urgently needs to develop the technology and resource knowledge necessary to tap its extensive geothermal resources base. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates the accessible geothermal resource base to be at least 95,000 megawatts; only two percent of this potential is currently utilized. At one time the geothermal research budget was over \$150 million, but today the program struggles to maintain a bare-bones research program. The DOE research program lacks funding to support cost-shared research into advanced technologies, cannot support or undertake critical resource assessments, and fails to take the other measures needed to tap the huge identified potential of this resource.

In addition to continuing the base program funding, the following investments are needed: an additional \$1.5 million to update a 25-year-old geothermal resource assessment; \$3 million to expand the utilization of geothermal energy for agricultural, commercial, and other uses; \$5 million for an advanced power technology development solicitation, with industry partners, to develop the geothermal power system of the future; \$7.5 million for "enhanced geothermal systems" technology development, that could potentially increase the geothermal resource base ten-fold.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Geothermal Technology Program- \$28 million

*An increase of \$8.3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of approximately \$19.7 million*

### **Hydropower Program**

Funding for the hydropower program should be directed primarily to DOE's Advanced Hydropower Turbine System (AHTS) program and related activities. The funding should also support broadening the DOE's hydropower program to study other operational and environmental issues related to hydropower production, including the potential of hydrokinetic hydropower (dam-less hydropower) technologies. Funding should also be made available to conduct research and development that will improve the environmental, technical, and societal benefits of hydropower.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Hydropower Program- \$10.2 million

*An increase of \$0.4 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$9.8 million*

### **Hydrogen Technology Program**

While hydrogen is not a fuel, it is an important energy carrier. The hydrogen program RD&D should focus on utilizing renewable resources, waste heat, and related clean processes to generate hydrogen rather than on fossil fuels (i.e. coal) and nuclear energy for this purpose. Hydrogen RD&D should focus in three prime areas: 1) infrastructure – to transport, store and safely utilize hydrogen – \$40 million, 2) the creation of hydrogen from renewable energy and waste heat utilizing the many options including novel concepts – \$60 million, and 3) the unique conversion of hydrogen to electricity including primarily fuel cells, but also heat engines and storage systems – \$20 million.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Hydrogen Technology Program- \$120 million

*A decrease of \$89.6 million from the FY 08 enacted level of approximately \$209.6 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

### **Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund**

The uranium enrichment decommissioning and decontamination fund (the Fund) was established in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to clean up three uranium enrichment facilities located at Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Paducah, Kentucky; and Portsmouth, Ohio; and old mill tailings sites. Revenue for the Fund is generated by taxpayers and previously, by the nuclear industry, which used the plants starting in 1964 to enrich uranium for commercial reactor fuel at electric utility power plants. In 2007, the authorization for the taxpayer and industry fee expired, despite a \$12 billion shortfall in the estimated fund amount required to complete the cleanup. While Congress considers reauthorization of the fee, it is imperative that expenditures from the fund continue so that these sites can be cleaned up and the surrounding communities protected.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund- \$642.6 million (in addition to the existing \$4.1 billion balance)

*An increase of \$24.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$617.9 million*

### **Defense Environmental Cleanup**

The Defense Environmental Cleanup (DEC) budget provides for the cleanup and risk reduction of former nuclear weapons production complex sites including all closure sites, Idaho National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Office of River Protection-Tank Farm Activities, Office of River Protection-Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant, Hanford Site-2012 Completion Projects, Hanford Site-2035 Completion Projects, Savannah River Site-2012 Completion Projects, Savannah River Site-2035 Completion Projects, Savannah River Site-Tank Farm Activities, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, NNSA Sites, Federal Contribution to the Uranium Enrichment D&D Fund, Program Direction, Program Support, Technology Development and Deployment, and Safeguards and Security.

The DEC program is the world's largest and most expensive cleanup program at \$5.3 billion this year. The DEC program has the responsibility to clean up the toxic and radioactive legacy of Cold War nuclear weapons production at more than 130 sites around the country. The Administration has claimed that "accelerating cleanup" at some sites would still result in adequate funding for cleanup up of the most contaminated sites. It seems that this will not be the case. At dozens of sites around the country, DOE's "accelerated cleanup plan" consists of "isolating" radioactive and toxic waste from the environment by simply piling dirt on top of it. Radioactive materials also continue to be dumped into unlined soil ditches that do not even meet the basic requirements for municipal landfills. DOE is attempting to shirk its responsibility to clean up the 239 underground tanks containing approximately 90 million gallons of high-level waste. Over the last two years the DOE recommended withholding millions of cleanup dollars until affected states agree to accept lower cleanup standards for high-level waste-standards that would be inadequate to protect important water resources, such as the Snake River Aquifer, the Tuscaloosa Aquifer, and the Columbia River. Additionally, much of DEC's budget does not go to real clean-up work. The DOE has used the cover of environmental programs to fund billions of dollars of maintenance for the weapons complex. For example, DEC pays for reprocessing at the Savannah River site, even though that activity increases the stockpile of separated plutonium while generating even more highly radioactive liquid wastes.

Congress must ensure adequate funding to meet all health, safety and environmental requirements and to comply with legal mandates. Money for work unrelated to cleanup, such as reprocessing, should be stripped from the budget.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Defense Environmental Cleanup Program- \$ 5.9 billion

*An increase of \$648.9 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$5.3 billion*

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

### **Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup**

Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup appropriation provides funding to complete the safe cleanup and risk reduction of the environmental legacy at sites contaminated as a result of civilian nuclear research and fuel production/reprocessing activities. Specifically, money from this account is spent on four programs: (1) Gaseous Diffusion Plants; (2) Fast Flux Test Reactor Facility Decontamination and Decommissioning; (3) West Valley Demonstration Project; and (4) Small Sites including the Argonne National Laboratory, Atlas (Moab) Site, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Closure Sites Administration and Program Support, Energy Technology Engineering Center, Idaho National Laboratory, Inhalation Toxicology Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research, Oakland Sites, and Stanford Linear Accelerator Center. As the cleanup of these sites progresses, the risk and hazard to human health and the environment is greatly reduced.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup Program- \$ 363.7 million

*An increase of \$182.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$181million*

### **Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve**

The increase in oil prices should heighten the emphasis be placed on the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve Program. The Northeast is particularly vulnerable to the effects of oil supply disruptions and price volatility given its reliance upon imported fuels for both residential and commercial heating. A disruption along the delivery infrastructure anywhere in the supply line of heating oil negatively affects this Region. The Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve Program provides an important buffer to ensure that the states will have access to immediate supplies in the event of a supply disruptions and emergencies.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve Program- \$12.8 million

*An increase of \$0.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$12.3 million*

### **Loan Guarantee Authority**

In the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008, Congress directed the DOE to provide loan guarantees to the energy industry for nuclear power, coal, and renewables, including transmission and distribution. Subsidies to polluting, and financially risky technologies runs counter to the goal of reducing global warming emissions.

One risky technology set to receive this subsidy is nuclear power, which would receive \$18.5 billion in FY 08 and FY 09 to guarantee the private debt component of new nuclear reactors (each likely to cost in the range of \$6 billion), and another \$2 billion for a new centrifuge enrichment technology of uncertain reliability at commercial scale. This represents a huge contingent liability on future U.S. taxpayers.

Congress specified loan guarantees of \$6 billion for coal-based power generation and industrial gasification activities at retrofitted and new facilities that incorporate carbon capture and sequestration and \$2 billion for advanced coal gasification. The language would also allow “other beneficial uses of carbon” without specifying permanent sequestration. Loan guarantees should go to real global warming solutions such as renewables and efficiency, and not to fossil fuels.

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Congress also allocated \$10 billion for: (1) renewables; (2) energy efficient systems and manufacturing; (3) distributed energy generation; and (4) transmission and distribution. In order to decrease global warming emissions, \$10 billion in loan guarantees should be earmarked just for clean, renewable energy projects. Other project-types (2-4 of above list) specified in this loan guarantee should receive another \$10 billion. Further, transmission and distribution projects should only receive loan guarantees on the condition that they restrict the loan guarantees to transmission lines delivering zero-emission or low-carbon emission power.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Nuclear Power Facilities and “Front-End Activities”- \$0

*A decrease of \$20.5 billion under the FY 08 authorized level of \$20.5 billion*

Coal-Based Power Generation & Industrial Gasification Activities- \$0

*A decrease of \$6 billion under the FY 08 authorized level of \$6 billion*

Advanced Coal Gasification- \$0

*A decrease of \$2 billion under the FY 08 authorized level of \$2 billion*

Renewables and Efficiency- \$20 billion

*An increase of \$10 billion over the FY 08 authorized level of \$10 billion*





DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

## FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

### **Flood Mitigation Assistance Program**

Although few real reforms to flood plain management were implemented after the Great Midwest Flood of 1993, one positive change was the creation of the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA). Enacted as part of the 1994 Flood Insurance Reform Act, this program aims to reduce or eliminate insurance claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Funding through this program is targeted at nonstructural pre-disaster flood reduction solutions that save lives and taxpayer money, including elevation, acquisition, and relocation of NFIP-insured structures. The program can also assist communities through technical assistance and aiding them in the updating of Flood Mitigation Plans. Funding is provided at a 75 percent federal cost share; participating communities must be NFIP-participating communities.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program- \$35 million

*An increase of \$1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$34 million*

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

Authorized under the 1988 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance Act, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants to state and local governments, or communities on behalf of individuals, to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a presidential disaster declaration. The HMGP enables mitigation measures to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. Projects are required to provide long-term and cost-effective solutions to a problem. Funding is provided at a 75 percent federal cost share. Funds under this program are a primary source of financing for voluntary buy-outs of flood-prone properties—particularly repetitive loss properties—and relocations out of the floodplain to higher ground. To date the program has provided more than \$1.1 billion in mitigation funding for projects including acquisition and relocation of structures from hazard-prone areas, drainage improvement projects, and elevation of flood-prone structures.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program- \$125 million

*An increase of \$26 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$99 million*

### **National Dam Safety Program**

There are more than 78,000 dams in the U.S., many of which were built more than 50 years ago and are reaching the end of their expected lifespan. The National Dam Safety Program was established to improve safety and security around dams. About 95 percent of the nation's dams are monitored and inspected by state dam safety officials, including over 10,000 high hazard dams (meaning that failure will likely result in loss of life) and over 3,000 dams that are considered "unsafe." The national program provides funding to states to run their regulatory program, research funding to enhance technical expertise, and training sessions for dam safety inspectors. Often the costs of maintaining safe dams outweigh the benefits the dams provide and communities will choose to remove their obsolete dams. Additionally, the National Dam Safety Program is charged with educating the public, including dam owners, about their responsibility to maintain safe dams and therefore keep their communities out of harm's way.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Dam Safety Program- \$11.7 million

*An increase of \$6.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$5.9 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

## FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

### **Repetitive Flood Claims & Severe Repetitive Loss Program**

The Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) grant program and the Severe Repetitive Loss Program (SRL) were established in 2004 to reduce or eliminate recurring flood insurance claims from NFIP-insured structures. The Repetitive Flood Claims program serves as a backstop for communities that cannot raise the non-Federal cost-share requirement of the Flood Mitigation Assistance program. Properties qualifying for the SRL program are structures with: four or more flood insurance claims payments that each exceeded \$5,000, with at least two of those payments occurring in a 10-year period, and with the total claims paid exceeding \$20,000 or two or more flood insurance claims payments that together exceeded the value of the property. Under these programs, priority has been given to cost-saving approaches such as relocating flood-prone structures and deed-restricting vacated land for open space uses in perpetuity.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Repetitive Flood Claims- \$10 million

Severe Repetitive Loss Program- \$40 million

*(The Repetitive Flood Claims program and the Severe Repetitive Loss program are included in larger program requests and do not have separate line requests in the President's Budget.)*

### **National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund**

Poorly planned floodplain development has put countless people in danger and eroded natural flood protections. The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM), run by FEMA and administered by each state, helps communities dramatically reduce disruption and loss caused by floods and other natural disasters. The goal of the program is to reduce risks to people and structures, thereby minimizing reliance on federal relief in the event of a catastrophe. Under the program, priority should be given to those projects that provide funding for relocation and acquisition of flood-prone properties to move communities out flood zones. Communities applying for PDM funding for the purpose of flood damage mitigation must be participating members of the National Flood Insurance Program.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund & Grant Programs- \$150 million

*An increase of \$36 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$114 million*

### **Flood Hazard Identification Map Modernization**

Obsolete, almost antiquated, maps pose one of the greatest challenges to protecting communities from repeated flooding and maintaining solvency of the National Flood Insurance Program. Recently, FEMA has been engaged in a multiyear initiative to modernize the nation's flood hazard identification maps in cooperation with local, regional, or State agencies. These maps are critical as they are used to assign flood insurance rates. They are also now widely recognized as an essential tool for keeping people out of harms way and management of natural resources.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Map Modernization- \$220 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

# DEPARTMENT OF STATE

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS (IO&P)

### **International Conservation Programs**

Through the International Organizations and Programs (IO&P) account, the U.S. government provides core financial support to international organizations and programs that address global challenges through international cooperation. Within this account, the International Conservation Programs support the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the International Tropical Timber Organization, and the Convention to Combat Desertification. U.S. contributions to these agreements and organizations support efforts to curb illegal trade in rare and threatened wildlife, preserve globally significant wetlands, promote the conservation and sustainable management of the world's forests, and provide forums for international debate and discussion on key conservation topics. Additionally, the IO&P account includes funding for the U.N. Environment Programme and the World Heritage Convention, both of which have mandates that emphasize nature conservation in developing countries.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

International Conservation Programs- \$12 million

*An increase of \$5.45 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$6.55 million*

### **Global Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation (The Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005)**

President Bush signed the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 in December 2005. This was a bipartisan success, supported by unanimous consent in Senate and by an overwhelming majority in the House. The Act aims to address the most serious environmental health challenge on the planet—lack of access to safe water for more than one billion people and lack of sanitation for over two billion people in the developing world. The Act also recognizes that meeting human needs for safe drinking water in a sustainable way is an essential component of protecting watersheds and freshwater biodiversity, and that improper disposal of human waste by more than one-third of the world's population threatens surface and ground water quality. Furthermore, there is growing recognition that changes in climate will exacerbate the existing safe water crisis, and this Act represents a way for the U.S. to show leadership on assisting developing countries in adapting to these changes.

It was not until FY 08 that specific monies were appropriated to implement this Act. However, there is concern that the State Department in their 2008 Report to Congress may double count certain monies and include monies that do not further the intent of the Act, in order to exaggerate the Administrations compliance with the Act. Therefore, greater accountability and transparency should be provided in this year's Report to Congress.

Given the gravity of the safe water and sanitation crises, \$500 million per year should be directed toward the USAID Development Assistance Account to effectively implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act, to help extend water, sanitation, and hygiene to an average of ten million people per year between 2008 and 2015.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005- \$500 million

*An increase of \$200 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$300 million*

# U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

## **Biodiversity Conservation Programs**

U.S. foreign assistance helps to build and sustain democratic, well-governed states that act responsibly and serve the needs of their people. For more than 20 years, the USAID Biodiversity Conservation program, implemented through U.S. missions with guidance from headquarters, has provided expertise on the development and conservation needs of local communities around the world. USAID is the single largest U.S. government contributor to biodiversity conservation in developing countries.

Biodiversity funding has been used successfully as part of a larger diplomatic and development strategy to stabilize and bolster states vulnerable to political, economic, or social upheaval. Countries that have difficulty reaching agreement on political issues have successfully come together to deal with water shortages, human/wildlife conflicts, trans-boundary natural resource management, and ecotourism. Biodiversity conservation and natural resource management programs are well situated to serve many aspects of a country's development: promoting peace, security, and good governance; investing in people; securing economic growth; and supplementing humanitarian assistance.

As the new U.S. Foreign Assistance Framework is developed and implemented, it is important to remember that biodiversity conservation and natural resource management assist in rebuilding, stabilizing, and transforming countries by ensuring that rich natural resources will endure and prosper for generations to come.

## **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Biodiversity Conservation Programs- \$250 million

*An increase of \$55 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$195 million*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR





# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

### **National Landscape Conservation System**

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 26 million acres of congressionally and presidentially designated lands and waters, including National Monuments and National Scenic and Historic Trails, represent some of the last places where one can experience the history and wild beauty of the West. The BLM's Conservation System provides innumerable recreational opportunities, critical wildlife habitat, clean water, wilderness, and open space near fast-growing cities. It also provides countless research opportunities, thanks to its staggering cultural, historic, and paleontological resources – the largest and most important collection managed by any federal land agency.

Since the Conservation System's inception in 2000, insufficient funding has undermined the BLM's ability to steward these lands effectively. Pressures include growing numbers of visitors and irresponsible, reckless off-road vehicle use. The BLM struggles to complete essential resource protection work, such as signing trails, monitoring permittees, closing illegal and unnecessary roads, and stabilizing cultural sites. Since the Conservation System's inception, funding for non-wilderness units (wilderness funding is provided by a separate budget activity) has averaged only \$41 million. Funding of \$50 million in FY 09 would enable the BLM to hire archaeologists and essential law enforcement rangers, apprehend vandals and illegal off-road vehicle users, monitor natural resources, expand volunteer programs, educate visitors, and undertake much-needed habitat restoration projects.

To ensure needed transparency and accountability, the DOI must clarify the System's budget. A line item or separate activities for the System would allow the BLM to better plan for management of the System units and track how those monies are spent. At the very least, the DOI should provide a cross-cut budget table for the System in the BLM's budget, with funding identified by System unit and major subactivity.

### *Conservation System Wilderness*

These lands are funded separately from the rest of the Conservation System. The FY 08 enacted budget for the BLM wilderness was \$17.44 million. Funding of \$20 million in FY 09 will address the planning and management needs of new wilderness areas in California and Nevada designated in recent years, as well as restoration, inventory and monitoring needs and increased operating costs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Landscape Conservation System (non-Wilderness)- \$50 million

National Landscape Conservation System Wilderness- \$20 million

*An increase of \$14.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$55.3 million*

### **Wildlife, Fisheries, and Threatened and Endangered Species Management**

The BLM manages more land, and more wildlife and fish habitat, than any other federal agency including half of the remaining habitat for the imperiled sage grouse and almost 15 million acres of prairie grasslands vital to many declining grassland-dependent species. The diverse habitat managed by the BLM supports over 3,000 species of wildlife, more than 300 federally proposed or listed species, and more than 800 special status plant species. The Wildlife and Fisheries Management (WFM) and the Threatened and Endangered Species Management (TESM) programs fund inventory and monitoring, habitat restoration, endangered species recovery, and other proactive conservation activities vital to maintaining healthy, functioning ecosystems and fish, wildlife, and plant populations.

Inappropriately, the WFM program and the TESSM program have been forced to pay for the compliance activities of the BLM's energy, grazing, and other non-wildlife related programs. Traditionally, funding for compliance work has come from benefiting programs. However, in recent years, at least 30 percent of WFM and TESSM resources have been routinely diverted to other programs, eroding their ability to conduct proactive species and habitat

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

conservation activities and efforts to recover listed species. In FY 06, more than 50 percent of the WFM and TESM program funds went to other programs. While this practice has undergone increased scrutiny in the last year, no information has emerged to suggest that the situation has been rectified. This diversion of funding must be stopped. Alternatively, additional funding must be provided to these two programs to make up for the deficiency. Increases recommended for FY 09 include the amount necessary to restore this loss. However, stopping this improper funding diversion would make far better budgetary sense.

In addition, the programs are substantially understaffed: for example, the BLM has only one biologist per 591,000 acres of land, and more than \$60 million is needed annually just to implement actions assigned to BLM in recovery plans for listed species. Moreover, recent court action overturning a Fish and Wildlife Service decision that failed to list the declining sage grouse under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) will lead to a need for more resources for its protection that will likely exceed \$50 million annually, regardless of whether it ultimately receives ESA protection. Finally, the BLM is already seeing changes out on the ground from climate change and must have the ability to address its impacts on wildlife and habitat. WFM and TESM will need additional funding in future years to address these and other crucial needs. In addition to restoring the diverted resources, increases recommended for FY 09 include full funding of fixed costs and a modest down payment for sage grouse conservation.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Wildlife and Fisheries Management- \$65.4 million

Threatened and Endangered Species Management-\$29.9 million

*An increase of \$28.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$66.6 million*

### **Challenge Cost Share**

The BLM's Challenge Cost Share (CCS) program allows the BLM to partner with state and local governments, private individuals and companies, and nongovernmental organizations to restore habitat, monitor species, maintain archeological sites, and repair trails, along with other activities. The program, which requires a dollar-for-dollar match, averages a two-to-one match – and for some projects, upwards of three-to-one match – providing tremendous leverage of federal funds. Given the ongoing diversion of resources from the wildlife programs, much of the proactive conservation work being accomplished in field offices is through CCS partnerships. Annually, the agency turns away on average \$20 million of potential projects that could be leveraged into \$60 million for the total program. Additional funding in FY 09 will allow the BLM to meet the public's demand for CCS partnerships and dramatically increase the number of proactive conservation projects. There are gaping needs for projects relating to sage grouse conservation, off-highway vehicle management, invasive species control, and, in the near future, for addressing impacts from climate change.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Challenge Cost Share- \$19.3 million

*An increase of \$10 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$9.3 million*

### **Plant Conservation**

The BLM is responsible for managing more than 800 special status plant species, including plants protected under the Endangered Species Act. It has become increasingly apparent that a specific new budget activity or subactivity is needed for plant conservation in the Management of Lands and Resources account. As part of the Burned Area Rehabilitation account, the BLM has been designating \$4 million to \$5 million annually to the Native Plant Materials Development program. Providing native seeds and seedlings for restoration projects after wildfires and other disturbances is vital to preventing the colonization of invasive plant species that degrade habitat and

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## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

ecosystem functioning, and ultimately cost more to control than preventive measures. The large-scale development of native seed stock is still in its infancy, and often federal agencies are not able to acquire enough plant materials to meet their demands. In addition, extensive conservation actions are needed to maintain and restore native plant communities on the BLM lands. Moreover, the ability to collect and store native seed stock in the face of the looming climate change threat is more important than ever before – these precious resources will be a crucial tool in ecosystem restoration. The FY 09 recommendation would move \$4.6 million in funding previously provided under the Burned Area Rehabilitation account and increase funding to \$15.8 million to establish this new budget activity or subactivity under Management of Lands and Resources. The request includes funding for an additional 22 plant ecologists to work in the program, two for each BLM state office. Significant additional resources will be needed in the coming years.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Plant Conservation- \$15.8 million

*An increase of \$11.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$4.6 million (that had previously been devoted to Native Plant Materials Development only)*

### **Landscape-Scale Habitat Conservation**

The President's FY 08 budget recommended a new \$15 million cross-cutting "so-called" Healthy Lands Initiative (HLI) for the BLM that ostensibly was to be targeted to protecting wildlife and restoring habitat in energy interface areas. While extensive restoration will be needed to reverse the damaging impacts of massive recent energy development on BLM lands, conservation organizations had concerns about the FY 08 HLI proposal for various reasons, including: the lack of detail on how the money would be spent; the inclusion of only six geographical areas in the program; and the relatively small amount of funding proposed, given that energy development and other extractive industries on BLM land were expected to generate \$4.8 billion in 2008 – more of that money should be used for mitigation activities. Proposals to revamp the administration's misguided energy policies would be far more effective in conserving wildlife and habitat than HLI as it was proposed in FY 08.

However, the BLM would significantly benefit from a larger, institutionalized cross-cutting program with a defined structure that gives the agency the capability to address large-scale regional work at the landscape level. Rather than being a reactive effort to mitigate the administration's disastrous energy policies on BLM lands, such a program should be proactive, strategic, and forward looking to aid the agency in properly managing the unique sagebrush, grassland, and other ecosystems it administers; conserving wide-ranging species such as the sage grouse; and preparing to meet the threat of global warming which already is a major cause in the spread of noxious exotic weeds, unnaturally severe wildfires, severe drought, and desertification on BLM lands.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Landscape Scale Habitat Conservation- \$30 million

*An increase of \$25 million over the FY 08 Healthy Lands Initiative enacted level of \$5 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

### **Savage Rapids Dam Removal and Pump Replacement**

The Savage Rapids Dam, built in 1921, is the single largest killer of salmon on the Rogue River in Oregon, including Coho salmon, which are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. Removing Savage Rapids dam will provide an enormous boost to the Rogue River's imperiled salmon and steelhead populations. In July 2001, the U.S. District Court in Oregon issued a consent decree that calls for the dam to be removed and a pumping system to be installed to better serve the Grants Pass Irrigation District's water diversion needs. Construction on the pumping system is almost complete and funds need to be appropriated to remove the dam.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Savage Rapids Dam Removal and Pump Replacement- \$15 million

*An increase of \$0.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$14.8 million*

### **Yakima River Basin Enhancement Project**

The Yakima River Basin is home to Washington's largest Native American tribe and contains one of the largest Bureau of Reclamation projects in the West. The various Reclamation projects in the basin have depleted and polluted river flows, and water rights conflicts in this basin are legendary. Partly as a result, Yakima River bull trout and steelhead are now listed under the Endangered Species Act. Phase II of the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, authorized by Congress in 1994, was designed to ameliorate these conditions for both fish and farmers. The Project aims to restore the river and make better use of the existing water supplies. This legislation was a compromise agreed to by the Basin's disparate stakeholders and the program it created is a model for water conservation and water rights acquisition.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Yakima River Enhancement Project- \$10 million

*An increase of \$1.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$8.3 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

### **Deschutes Resources Conservancy**

The Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC) is focused on restoring streamflow and improving water quality in the Deschutes Basin of Central Oregon. The DRC accomplishes these goals through water conservation projects, water leasing projects, water purchases, and habitat restoration projects. Projects are done in close collaboration with numerous stakeholders, including farmers, recreation enthusiasts, ranchers, conservationists, and tribal communities. The DRC brings together groups working to restore the Deschutes River through its restoration grants program, enterprise programs creating markets for environmental services, and community development work aimed at developing a shared vision for basinwide restoration. Past federal funds appropriated for the Deschutes Ecosystem Restoration Project have been leveraged more than three-to-one with non-federal and in-kind contributions by the DRC.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Deschutes Resources Conservancy- \$0.75 million

*An increase of \$0.32 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0.43 million*

### **California-Federal Bay Delta Program**

The California-Federal Bay Delta Program (CalFed) is a partnership between federal and California agencies to provide a balanced, collaborative approach to the water resource demands on the San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay watersheds. The CalFed Ecosystem Restoration and Watershed program works to restore and improve wildlife habitat throughout the watershed, improve fish passage, integrate flood control and ecosystem restoration, and implement specific watershed restoration projects in conjunction with watershed plans. The Ecosystem Restoration program has funded over 460 projects restoring 100,000 acres of fish habitat, screening 68 water intake points, and initiating 23 comprehensive watershed programs. The Watersheds program has awarded 116 grants totaling about \$50 million to community-based organizations for projects addressing watershed health, drinking water quality, non-point sources of pollution, and watershed protection.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

CalFed Ecosystem Restoration and Watershed Program- \$40 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

### **Endangered Species Program**

For more than 30 years, the Endangered Species Act has helped prevent the extinction of the U.S.'s wildlife treasures including beloved symbols of America such as the bald eagle, the Florida manatee, and the California condor. Only nine of the more than 1900 plants and animals currently protected by the Act worldwide have been declared extinct, an astonishing success rate. The Endangered Species Act provides added benefits to people by maintaining healthy natural systems that provide clean air and water, food, medicines, and other products necessary to live healthy lives. This generation has a responsibility to future generations to be good stewards of the environment and leave behind a legacy of protecting endangered species and the special places they call home.

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is responsible for managing the Endangered Species program through four main accounts: Candidate Conservation, Listing, Consultation, and Recovery. The Endangered Species Act's outstanding successes have been achieved despite severe and chronic funding shortfalls that plague the Service's program. All four program areas are currently experiencing at least a 30 percent staffing shortage due to budget constraints, an unacceptable vacancy rate. The Listing account, which supports the protection of new plants and animals under the Endangered Species Act and designation of their critical habitat, faces a backlog of \$160 million, far in excess of available funding, with 280 candidates awaiting proposal for protection. Addressing the listing backlog will require increasing funding well over current levels, as well as more efficient use of funds, given that the FWS currently lists far fewer species per dollar today than in 2000. Despite the staff shortage, estimates are that more than 90 percent of the insufficient recovery funding goes to salaries leaving almost nothing for projects to facilitate recovery actions. The number of projects reviewed under the consultation program has increased dramatically, from 40,000 in 1999 to more than 67,000 in 2006. The development and implementation of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs), intended to allow non-federal activities to proceed while still protecting listed plants and animals, continues to grow, with funding critically needed to help ensure timely and effective development and monitoring of more than 500 existing and over 350 new HCPs. In addition, the FWS must begin to take into account the staggering impacts of climate change in all aspects of the Endangered Species program. To adequately implement the Endangered Species Program funding must gradually increase for the four main accounts to at least \$305.8 million by 2013, an increase of \$155.3 million over FY 08.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Endangered Species program- \$185.2 million  
    \$12 million for Candidate Conservation  
    \$25.2 million for Listing  
    \$63.2 million for Consultation  
    \$84.8 million for Recovery

*An increase of \$34.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$150.5 million*

### **National Wildlife Refuge System**

The National Wildlife Refuge System is the U.S.'s only public lands system dedicated to wildlife conservation. The Refuge System, with its 548 refuges on nearly 100 million acres across the country, is the key to protecting the nation's wildlife and ensuring that there are lands where wildlife protection is a priority. There is a refuge in every state and within an hour's drive of most American cities. In addition, our national wildlife refuges serve as economic engines for many local communities. The FWS estimates that, in 2006 alone, nearly 40 million people visited refuges generating nearly \$1.7 billion for local economies supporting almost 27,000 private sector jobs and producing about \$543 million in employment income.

Despite its crucial role in conserving the nation's wildlife heritage, the Refuge System has been crippled for years by severe funding shortfalls. The most recent information indicates that the operations and maintenance backlog

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## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

totals more than \$3 billion. Since 2004, annual appropriations have consistently failed to keep pace with even the \$15 million annual increase needed to address rising fixed costs, pushing the Refuge System to a crisis point. As a result, the FWS announced plans for a massive restructuring of the Refuge System that would lead to a devastating 20 percent cut in staff. If the restructuring were implemented, refuge visitors would find roads and visitor centers closed, viewing platforms and trails in disrepair, increased crime due to scarcity of law enforcement officers, and biological, education, hunting, and fishing programs eliminated. The Refuge System is a unique and irreplaceable treasure and should not be forced to face such a choice. Moreover, in the coming years, the Refuge System will become even more important as our nation fights to protect our wildlife heritage from the ravages of global warming.

The final FY 08 Interior appropriations bill provided a desperately needed infusion of funding that will likely provide the FWS with breathing room to avert the most damaging of the restructuring measures in the coming year. However, significant funding increases are needed in the coming years to eliminate the need for restructuring and to ensure that the Refuge System envisioned in the landmark bipartisan 1997 National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act will be realized. The Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE), a diverse coalition of 22 conservation, recreation, and scientific organizations representing a national constituency of five million Americans, recently updated its long-term funding recommendations with a focus on addressing the crisis facing the Refuge System and providing it with the resources it needs to meet its mission in the coming years. *“Restoring America’s Wildlife Legacy 2007”* is a carefully researched analysis that found the annual operations and maintenance budget for refuges should total \$765 million by FY 13, a conservative request that provides funding for operations and routine maintenance but still does not address the full backlog.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Wildlife Refuge System- \$514 million

*An increase of \$79.9 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$434.1 million*

### **Migratory Bird Management**

Migratory birds are integral to healthy natural systems in many ways, including as predators, prey, seed dispersers and pollinators, and are actively appreciated and enjoyed by millions of people across the country. In 2006 alone, 71 million U.S. residents spent more than \$45 billion to watch wildlife and the majority of these, 47.7 million people or 67 percent, observed birds. Yet despite their vital importance to the U.S., about 25 percent of the nation’s migratory bird species are in serious need of conservation to assure their long-term survival. As the global warming crisis worsens, increasing numbers of bird species, along with their habitats, will become vulnerable.

The FWS Migratory Bird Management program is multi-faceted and encompasses survey and monitoring, management of permits and hunting regulations, efforts on international treaties, habitat restoration, coordination of work to reduce direct bird mortalities, and implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, as well as other efforts to conserve bird habitat through the Joint Ventures program. In an effort to make more demonstrable progress in on-the-ground conservation to restore bird species to healthy levels, the FWS has developed a list of 139 focal species to receive greater attention in the coming years through development and implementation of specific action plans on each species. The first nine action plans have either been completed or are near completion and plans for additional species are under development. Increases should be directed toward: 1) completion and implementation of the first nine action plans; 2) initiation of work on the next set of focal species plans; 3) science and science support; 4) the Joint Ventures program; and 5) full funding of fixed costs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Migratory Bird Management- \$53 million

*An increase of \$12.6 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$40.4 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

### **International Affairs**

Conservation of the Earth's wildlife and habitat is a global priority and requires nations to work together cooperatively – wildlife recognizes no political borders. With the development pressures and desperate economic situations in many foreign countries, international conservation efforts face a unique set of challenges. By the same token, the relative wealth of the U.S.'s means that modest investments of U.S. conservation dollars can reap significant returns when invested in the developing world, especially when leveraged as matching contributions from private and non-governmental partners. In recent years, international conservation programs have mobilized three dollars for every dollar invested by the U.S. government.

The FWS International Affairs program works to meet our international treaty obligations, including, importantly, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, and to protect and restore sustainable wildlife populations around the globe through its International Wildlife Trade and International Conservation programs. International Affairs also administers the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. More than 20 years ago, the International Conservation program began to initiate a series of highly successful regional Wildlife Without Borders initiatives with a mission to work with resident peoples and develop locally adapted and long-term wildlife management and conservation programs supported through broad partnerships. Efforts use a small amount of funding to leverage commitments of financial and human resources in order to make significant strides in wildlife conservation. Wildlife Without Borders regional programs currently focus on five areas: Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico, Russia, China, and Africa. Funding increases within this program should be focused on: 1) boosts to the regional Wildlife Without Borders programs; 2) implementation of the Convention for the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative, and the Wild Bird Conservation Act; 3) listing and permitting actions to address a backlog of more than 50 foreign species awaiting Endangered Species Act protection; 4) replacing key Service personnel; and full funding of fixed costs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

International Affairs program- \$20.4 million

*An increase of \$8.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$11.6 million*

### **Law Enforcement**

As our world grows increasingly more complex, the protection of wildlife faces escalating criminal threats, including illicit trade, unlawful commercial exploitation, illegal destruction of habitat, and environmental hazards. Growing populations and accompanying development pressure; expansion of international communication, shipping and travel; rising global commerce; and broadly proliferating access to computer technology along with the evolution of the internet and "e-commerce" all combine to create mounting challenges to enforcement of U.S. and international wildlife laws. The U.S. supports one of the largest markets for both legal and illegal wildlife and wildlife products, and intercepted contraband includes caviar, coral, elephant ivory, sea turtle eggs, and live birds.

The FWS Law Enforcement program investigates wildlife crimes, regulates wildlife trade, helps citizens comply with the law, and works with other international and U.S. government entities to carry out its mission. The program's wildlife inspectors and special agents, supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory and a new wildlife law enforcement data system, have achieved important successes in many arenas, including reduction of illegal harvest and trade in caviar and cases involving wolves, manatees, and endangered migratory birds. Despite these successes, the program is severely understaffed to meet the rapidly proliferating threats and in recent years has been starved of needed personnel and resources, slashing its effectiveness in enforcing both federal wildlife laws and international treaties. The numbers of all-important special agents have declined from a high of 238 in 2002 to below 200, and another 20 to 25 are expected to leave through retirement in the next year. There



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should be a total of 260 special agents. In addition, while the numbers of wildlife inspectors at ports have increased, they still fall far below the need. Increases for FY 09 should be focused on: 1) the hiring and training of at least 25 replacement special agents; 2) 12 additional port inspectors; 3) four critically needed scientists for the forensics laboratory; and 4) full funding of fixed costs. Additional special agents, port inspectors and scientists will be needed in the coming years to replace those lost and to meet the growing law enforcement workload. In addition to these increases, the FWS should raise user fees for animal importers and exporters to cover the major costs of inspection.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Law Enforcement program- \$69.5 million

*An increase of \$9.9 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$59.6 million*

### **National Fish Passage Program**

The National Fish Passage Program currently benefits 16 federally endangered and threatened fish species and is helping to prevent numerous other species from being listed as endangered. Since its inception in 1999, working with local, state, tribal, and federal partners, the Fish Passage Program has leveraged federal dollars nearly three-to-one. Through this work, the program has opened more than 3,750 miles of river and restored 69,000 acres of wetlands for fish spawning and rearing habitat. Restoring fish migration enhances entire watersheds and benefits birds and mammals, such as eagles, ospreys, herons, kingfishers, brown bears, otters, and mink. In FY 08, the Open Rivers Initiative was expanded to supplement the work of the Fish Passage Program by adding \$6 million to its base funding specifically for small barrier removal.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Fish Passage program- \$12 million

*An increase of \$1.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$10.8 million*

### **Coastal Program**

Healthy coastal wetlands provide many benefits to wildlife and people by supporting recreation, tourism, and fishing industries. Thousands of acres already have been lost or degraded by commercial and residential development, polluted runoff and waste disposal, shoreline modification, and over-harvesting of resources. The FWS Coastal Program is an effective partnership that brings together FWS scientists, land trusts, biologists, and other conservation partners to protect and restore habitat in coastal regions and coastal rivers. These partnerships allow the Coastal Program's dollars to be matched at least two-to-one for on-the-ground work. In 2006, the Coastal Program completed 242 projects in 19 states, restored 21,262 acres of wetlands and 24 miles of riverine habitat.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Coastal program- \$15 million

*An increase of \$1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$14 million*

### **National Fish Habitat Initiative**

The goal of the National Fish Habitat Initiative is to harness the expertise of existing efforts to create a coordinated approach to improving fishery habitat. The FWS has been the lead federal agency in the initiative, but it is a public/private partnership that includes other federal agencies, such as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Agriculture, and Department of the Interior agencies, state and local governments, and conservation groups. This combined force will leverage federal dollars

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## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

with both private and non-profit resources in order to maximize funding for fish habitat conservation projects across the nation. The initiative partners created an 'action plan' in 2006 that will foster geographically-focused, locally-driven, and scientifically-based partnerships to protect, restore, and enhance aquatic habitats. The plan is non-regulatory and will succeed only through its collaborative nature.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Fish Habitat Initiative- \$5 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

### **State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Program**

The State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program is an important program that gives states funding to develop and implement comprehensive conservation plans to protect declining wildlife and habitats *before* protection under the Endangered Species Act is necessary. More than 1,300 U.S. plants and animals currently are under the Act's protection. Without proactive efforts to reverse declines, scientists estimate that an additional 10,000 wildlife and plant species are at risk. The State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program is particularly important to future efforts to prevent habitat loss. To ensure program implementation would be strategic and cost-effective, states were required to develop State Wildlife Action Plans, which are now completed and being implemented. The Plans document that most wildlife is declining in the U.S. because of habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation. As the effects of global warming grow, this program and its action plans will be on the front line of States' efforts to help wildlife and habitat adapt to and survive its impacts. The State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program has emerged through the work of a broad national bipartisan wildlife coalition called Teaming With Wildlife which includes more than 5,000 organizations.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program- \$100 million

*An increase of \$26.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$73.8 million*

### **Cooperative Endangered Species Fund**

Non-federal lands are crucial to the conservation of rare species. At least 65 percent of federally listed plants and animals are found on non-federal lands, with many absolutely dependent upon these lands for their survival. The Cooperative Endangered Species Fund provides grants to states for wildlife and habitat conservation activities on non-federal lands for listed and candidate species. Without the proposed increases, states will fall further behind in their ability to independently work to protect imperiled species. Crucial conservation activities funded by these grants include: research, species status surveys, habitat restoration, captive propagation and reintroduction, planning assistance, and land acquisition by states for Habitat Conservation Plans and recovery. In 2007, twenty-one states and one territory received funding under this program to benefit species ranging from butterflies and bull trout to songbirds and Canada lynx. To adequately fund state endangered species conservation activities, gradually increasing funds to at least \$160 million annually by FY 12 (an increase of \$80 million over FY 06) is critical.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Cooperative Endangered Species Fund- \$96.2 million

*An increase of \$22.4 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$73.8 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

### **Landowner Incentive Grants and Private Stewardship Grants**

Endangered and other at-risk wildlife depend upon private lands for their survival. Thus, the help of private landowners is essential for the conservation of these species. Landowner Incentive Grants and Private Stewardship Grants provide funding for voluntary conservation actions taken by landowners to conserve plants and animals at risk on private lands. The Landowner Incentive program awards competitive grants to state and tribal conservation agencies for their work with private landowners and tribal lands, while the Private Stewardship program provides funding directly to individuals and groups implementing private land conservation actions. In 2007, funding was awarded to efforts in 46 states. The need for these programs far outstrips available funding – the amount requested for worthy projects on average totals two to three times the yearly available funding. Unfortunately, neither program was funded in the FY 08 Interior appropriations bill due to budget constraints; these important programs should be re-started in FY 09. To support private landowners in their voluntary conservation efforts, a gradual increase to \$77 million is needed by FY 13 in these two incentive programs.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Landowner Incentive and Private Stewardship programs- \$31 million (same as the FY 07 enacted level)  
\$23.7 million for Landowner Incentive  
\$7.3 million for Private Stewardship

*An increase of \$31 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0 million*

### **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program**

With two-thirds of U.S.'s land privately owned, private landowners play an important role in maintaining diverse ecosystems and wildlife for future generations. Through the voluntary Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, the FWS provides financial and technical assistance to landowners to restore degraded habitat on their property. The need for Partners for Fish and Wildlife is great. Our nation has lost approximately 70 percent of the nation's streamside habitat, 53 percent of wetlands in the continental U.S., and 90 percent of the tallgrass prairie in the Midwest and Great Plains. Not only has important habitat for fish and wildlife been lost, but so has the multitude of other essential functions these habitats provide – reduced floods, decreased sediment and nutrient loads, and protection and improvement of water quality. In 2006, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program completed 2,100 projects in 45 states, restored 149,935 acres of wetlands, and 320 miles of riverine habitat.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Partners for Fish and Wildlife program- \$50 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

### **Multinational Species Conservation Fund (MNSCF)**

Since 1990, Congress has recognized the threat to large mammals and reptiles and has authorized grant programs for the conservation of African elephants, Asian elephants, rhinos and tigers, great apes, and marine turtles. The Multinational Species Conservation Fund provides grants for anti-poaching patrols, habitat protection, population surveys, public education, disease control, and efforts to resolve human-animal conflicts. Between 1990 and 2005, the total appropriation of less than \$37 million has leveraged more than \$100 million in non-federal support. These public/private partnerships help to conserve threatened species and have made a substantial difference to their prospects for survival. The species are greatly admired by millions of Americans who adopt them as symbols of corporate strength, political gravitas, and sporting proficiency, and who flock to accredited zoos and aquariums to

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

see them. Without increased support for this program these rare creatures could be lost to future generations. In addition, while not currently reflected in the recommendation below, should the Great Cats and Rare Canids Act of 2007 and the Crane Conservation Act of 2007 pass in time for the FY 09 appropriations process, \$1.5 million is recommended for each.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Multinational Species Conservation Fund- \$12 million

*An increase of \$4.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$7.9 million*

### **North American Wetlands Conservation Fund**

More than half of the original wetlands in the U.S. have been lost. This has contributed to the steady decline of migratory birds as well as other fish and wildlife species dependent on wetlands. With fewer wetlands, millions have been spent on erosion control, water treatment, and flood protection that natural wetlands used to provide for free. Restoring and protecting wetlands is vital to conserving fish and wildlife species dependent upon such habitat and maintaining healthy watersheds. These areas protect our safety and welfare without having to invest in costly projects, and provide innumerable opportunities for outdoor recreation for people across the nation. Through 2007, this grant program has helped to fund more than 1,600 wetland conservation projects in all 50 U.S. states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, 13 Canadian provinces and 31 Mexican states and leveraged more than \$2.5 billion in matching and non-matching funds. The program continues to play a major role in conserving North American wetlands, migratory birds, and other species of fish and wildlife that depend upon such ecosystems.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund- \$50 million

*An increase of \$8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$42 million*

### **Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund**

Since 2000, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (NMBCA) has functioned as a matching grant program to fund projects that conserve neotropical migratory birds – those that breed in or migrate through the United States and Canada and spend the non-breeding season in Latin America and the Caribbean. Monies support partnership programs to conserve birds in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean, where approximately five billion birds representing over 500 species spend their winters, including some of the most endangered birds in North America. These funds provide an upland complement to the wetland bird conservation work accomplished under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. Projects may include bird habitat conservation, research and monitoring, law enforcement, and outreach and education. All grant requests must be matched by non-federal funds at least three-to-one. By law, 75 percent of the funds must be spent internationally. From 2002 through 2007, partners in 44 U.S. states and 34 other countries have been involved in 225 NMBCA-supported projects. More than \$21 million in grants has leveraged some \$97 million in total partner contributions to support activities that bring long-term benefits to neotropical migratory birds including conservation of three million acres of habitat. While more than 100 worthy proposals are received each year, with the current funding provided, only 40 can be funded.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund- \$6 million

*An increase of \$1.6 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$4.4 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

### **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is a private, non-profit organization founded by Congress in 1984 to conserve fish, wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend. Protecting these resources brings communities improved quality of life through promotion of healthier lifestyles and generations of outdoor recreation revenues. Each year the NFWF undertakes significant river and watershed conservation projects. Every Congressionally appropriated dollar translates into an average of three dollars in on-the-ground conservation. The NFWF has made thousands of grants committing hundreds of millions of federal funds for on the ground restoration. Matched with non-federal dollars, NFWF funds have delivered more than \$1 billion for conservation.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation- \$7.5 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

### **Spotted Owl Recovery Plan**

The draft Spotted Owl Recovery Plan proposes to significantly reduce habitat protection for the threatened Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet. Peer reviews by three scientific societies concluded that the draft plan was not based on the best available science and should be completely redone. Despite these critical peer reviews and tens of thousands of public comments opposed to reducing old growth habitat protection for the Spotted Owl, FWS announced that it will continue the development of a final Spotted Owl Recovery Plan. There is evidence that the work of the Owl Recovery Team was undermined by political appointees who ordered that the draft plan reduce habitat protection, disregarding the best available science. This planning process is being investigated by the Interior Department's Inspector General. The FWS should be prohibited from spending monies on completing the draft Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, and additionally, be directed to convene an independent team of scientists to develop a new recovery plan is recommended.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Spotted Owl Recovery Plan- \$0.4 million (to initiate a new planning process)

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

### **The Land and Water Conservation Fund**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) creates parks and open spaces, protects wilderness, wetlands and refuges, preserves wildlife habitat, and enhances recreational opportunities from two complementary programs: a federal program and a state matching grants program. The federal program provides funds to purchase land and water resources for national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands while the state matching grants program provides federal funds to states to assist in the acquisition of more urban open space and creation of local recreation facilities. The success of the LWCF has helped create parks for people to enjoy in 98 percent of counties in the U.S. and has provided protection for more than five million acres of land and water areas across the country. From Denali National Park to the Grand Canyon and from the Everglades to the Appalachian Trail, LWCF has been the critical source of funding available to federal agencies for protecting our most treasured lands.

Increasing population and expanding commercial and residential development threaten to undo the U.S.'s conservation accomplishments. According to the U.S. Forest Service's recently released report, "Cooperating Across Boundaries – Partnerships to Conserve Open Space in Rural America," 6,000 acres of open space are lost each day, which translates to four acres every minute. The report also warns that not only is the ability to manage public lands to maintain healthy forests and public recreation being lost, but also critical ecosystem services, such as wildlife habitat, clean drinking water, natural-resources-based jobs, and a sustainable output of forest products. Additional findings of the report include:

- 34 million acres of open space (the size of Illinois) have been lost to development between 1982 and 2001;
- 100,000 square miles of open space (the size of California) are projected to be developed by 2020;
- 10 million acres of forests have been lost to development from 1982 to 1997;
- 26 million more acres of forests are expected to be developed by 2030 (close to the size of Georgia);
- 57 percent of U.S. forest lands are privately owned and unprotected from development.

Conservation of these places, whether private or public, is critical to maintaining the health of our public lands, our quality of life, and our recreational and economic opportunities. Unfortunately, LWCF is seriously under-funded, having seen its funding shrink. LWCF reached a low when the President's FY 06 budget zeroed out the stateside LWCF. The final FY 06 appropriation was the lowest funding level for LWCF in a decade. From 2001 to 2006, funding for LWCF was cut 75 percent.

Congress took a step in the right direction in the FY 08 appropriations bill to reverse this downward funding trend. Congress must continue to increase funding for this important land conservation program and make a commitment to return to full funding of the LWCF program at its authorized level of \$900 million. An incremental funding increase over five years, until full funding, would achieve this goal. Congress must begin this process in FY 09 by providing \$278 million to the LWCF federal program and \$125 million for the LWCF stateside program. Restoring funding to the LWCF program will help preserve U.S.'s natural places and create valuable public recreation areas and facilities for all Americans.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Land and Water Conservation Fund- \$403 million (\$278 million for federal and \$125 for stateside)

*An increase of \$248.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$154.3 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### **Operations of the National Park Service**

The National Park Service (NPS) protects and manages the nation's most treasured natural and cultural resources, representing the U.S.'s national heritage. Providing the NPS with a strong operating budget is critical to enabling the NPS to protect these resources, and provide visitor services to the 391 units of the National Park System.

Congress took an important step toward addressing the operating shortfall facing the parks by providing a healthy increase in the NPS's operating budget in FY 08. This momentum and work must continue toward eliminating the operating shortfall plaguing American treasures as the parks prepare for the Centennial of the National Park System in 2016.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Operations of the National Park System- \$2.12 billion,  
*An increase of \$150 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.97 billion*

### **International Park Affairs Program**

The NPS has a proud history working beyond U.S. borders to assist other nations in establishing and managing park systems. The NPS established its Office of International Affairs (OIA) in 1962, and the agency's international work has helped protect some of the world's most spectacular places, preserve cultural heritage, create opportunities for poorer countries to benefit from conservation, and generate goodwill toward the U.S. Part of the mission of the NPS is to "cooperate with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resources conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world." OIA advances this mission by facilitating technical assistance and exchange projects with counterpart national park agencies. Recent NPS international projects have served nations such as Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, China, Gabon, and Qatar. OIA also serves as the staff office for the U.S. World Heritage program; manages the International Volunteers-in-Parks Program, which brings individuals to the U.S. for training in park management and wildlife research; coordinates "sister park" relationships between U.S. parks and counterpart sites abroad; and supports the Park Flight Migratory Bird Program, a public-private partnership to protect neotropical migratory birds and their habitat.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

International Park Affairs Program- \$2 million  
*An increase of \$0.41 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.59 million*

### **Dam Safety Program**

Of the 541 dams in the Park System, more than 300 are in poor or fair condition. These dams have outlived their average life expectancy and now threaten the health of rivers inside the National Park System. Since its formation, the Dam Safety program has removed close to 200 hazardous dams. This has not only eliminated safety hazards but also restored rivers and streams. Unfortunately, many dams within the National Park System still pose a risk and are in need of removal or repair.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Dam Safety Program- \$3 million  
*An increase of \$0.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$2.5 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### **Elwha River Restoration**

The Glines Canyon and Elwha dams located inside Olympic National Park in Washington State have nearly wiped out once abundant salmon and steelhead trout populations in the Elwha River, fisheries to which the Elwha Klallam Tribe are guaranteed rights in perpetuity through an 1855 treaty agreement. In 1992, Congress approved federal purchase of the dams and directed the DOI to study how the river and native fisheries could be completely restored. DOI reported that only dam removal could fully restore the ecosystem. Removal of the two Elwha dams will restore salmon access to the Elwha River's wilderness heart in the Olympic National Park for the first time in 100 years.

This dam removal will produce a landmark in river restoration for our national parks and an unprecedented opportunity to study a large dam removal and its impact on the river and wild salmon populations. Work has started on the down stream improvements, but time is running critically thin for the ecosystem. The federal government must uphold its portion of the agreement by providing the bulk of money in the next two years. This will allow engineers and scientist to design and plan the implementation, which will allow the removal to start in 2010.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Elwha River Ecosystem Restoration- \$20 million

*An increase of \$0.3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$19.7 million*

### **Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program**

The NPS Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program has helped produce some of the best examples of conservation based on local-federal partnerships by providing communities with assistance to help revitalize riverfronts, protect open space, and build trails and greenways. The RTCA is a good taxpayer value because its projects help leverage substantial local funding. On average, RTCA partners protect more than 700 miles of rivers, create over 1,400 miles of trails, and conserve more than 63,700 acres of open space each year. If funded at \$15 million, RTCA could expand to assist approximately 250 additional projects in some 25 new and currently underserved locations.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance- \$10 million

*An increase of \$1.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$8.5 million*



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

### **Water Resources Investigations**

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) water resource programs provide a strong and unbiased source of information for those making decisions that affect our water resources, including Congress; federal, state, and local agencies; conservation groups; and industry. The National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) program provides historical and current water quality conditions and identifies water quality trends in representative river basins and aquifers nationwide. The NAWQA program's unique design provides a consistent record of information on water resources in 42 important river basins and aquifer systems across the nation.

The Toxic Substances Hydrology Program carries out long-term research to improve scientific understanding of river and groundwater contamination. Toxic contamination, whether from radioactive waste, petroleum products, sewage, or other sources, can cause considerable damage to rivers, groundwater, people, and wildlife. The program has led to improvements in the ability of the government and private sector to clean up existing toxic contamination and protect against future contamination.

Information regarding the quantity and timing of streamflow is of critical importance to protecting, restoring, and safely enjoying our nation's rivers. The nation's stream gauging network, primarily operated through the USGS National Streamflow Information Program, provides essential data for habitat preservation, water quality, recreational safety and quality, agriculture, industry, municipal water supplies, navigation, and flood hazard identification. If stream gauging stations are discontinued, the consequences of inaccurate hydraulic data could result in a drastic loss of life during an unanticipated flood or bridge collapse. Stream gauges become more valuable as their data records become longer and those that also record sediment loads and water quality are especially valuable.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Water Quality Assessment Program- \$70 million

*An increase of \$6.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$63.9 million*

Toxic Substances Hydrology Program- \$15 million

*An increase of \$1.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$13.5 million*

National Streamflow Information Program- \$21 million

*An increase of \$1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$20 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

### **Biological Information Management and Delivery**

The Biological Informatics program of the Biological Resources Discipline makes data and information available for use by decision-makers from all levels of government, the education community, and other non-governmental entities. This program provides the backbone for communication of vital information on climate change and other significant impacts to biological resources.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Biological Information Management and Delivery program- \$24 million

*An increase of \$1.6 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$22.4 million*

### **Biological Research and Monitoring**

The Biological Research and Monitoring program of the Biological Research Discipline generates research and monitoring information needed to manage and conserve biological resources. However, when adjusted for inflation, funding for this program has declined 12 percent since FY 99, though demands to address declining or stressed biological resources have increased dramatically. Erosion of funding has had particularly negative consequences for the wildlife and ecosystems research programs. Restoration of funding and staff for the Wildlife Resources program is needed to: (1) identify factors that contribute to or limit conservation and recovery efforts for terrestrial plant and wildlife species-at-risk; (2) to institute an adaptive science approach to support the management of terrestrial plants and wildlife and; (3) to provide technical assistance to natural resource managers. Restoration of funding and staff also is needed for the Ecosystems Resources program, which is the focal point for research on the effects of wildland fire outside of forested areas and for restoration and rehabilitation of these fire-impacted, non-forest ecosystems and watersheds.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Biological Research and Monitoring program- \$152 million

*An increase of \$10.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$141.3 million*

### **Cooperative Research Units**

Each of the 40 Biological Research Division Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units (CRUs) in 38 states is a true federal-state-university-private partnership. The CRUs build on these partner contributions to leverage more than three dollars for every dollar appropriated to the program by Congress to address key joint needs regarding adaptive management, threatened and endangered species conservation, climate change, and invasive species. Approximately one-fifth of all CRU scientist positions (23) are vacant due to erosion of funding since FY 01.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Cooperative Research Units- \$19.4 million

*An increase of \$3.2 million over the FY 08 appropriated level of \$16.2 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

### **National Global Warming and Wildlife Science Center and High Priority Global Climate Change Research**

The FY 08 appropriation provided USGS approximately \$7.4 million for high priority global climate change research, including up to \$2.5 million for establishment of a National Global Warming and Wildlife Science Center. Funding is needed in FY 09 to continue establishment of the Center and ensure that it is responsive to the research needs of federal and state agencies in conducting scientific research on national issues relating to the impact of global warming on wildlife and wildlife habitat and mechanisms to address those impacts through adaptation, mitigation, or prevention. Funding also is needed for the Center to support, based on a competitive review process, high priority global climate change research projects and the development of decision support tools in relation to: (1) identification of species and ecosystems at greatest risk; (2) identification and ranking, based on effectiveness, the best responses to assist species and ecosystems at greatest risk; (3) research related to wildlife adaptation; (4) refinement of climate change models to regional and local scales relevant for fish, wildlife, and land management; and (5) development of robust monitoring programs to detect changes in wildlife abundance, abundance, distribution, and behavior related to global warming for use in federal and state programs, including land management.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Global Warming and Wildlife Science Center- \$10 million

*An increase of \$7.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$2.5 million*

High Priority Global Climate Change Research- \$10 million

*An increase of \$5.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$4.9 million*



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

### **Surface Transportation Program**

The Surface Transportation Program provides flexible funding to states and localities for highway, bridge projects, and capital transit projects, including public bus terminals and facilities. Electrification systems for truck stops, remediation of high accident/high congestion intersections, environmental restoration and pollution mitigation, weed control, and establishment of native species have also recently been made eligible activities.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Surface Transportation Program- \$6.6 billion

*An increase of \$0.25 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$6.35 million*

### **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement**

The highly-successful Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program provides flexible funding to state and local governments for transportation projects and programs that help them to meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act. Funding is available for areas that are out of compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards, as well as areas that have reattained compliance.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement- \$1.78 billion

*An increase of \$0.06 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.721 million*

### **Safe Routes to School**

This program is intended to enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school. Funding can be used for both infrastructure projects and outreach programs. The goal of the program is to support childhood wellness as well as to reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the areas around schools.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Safe Routes to School- \$183 million

*An increase of \$36 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$147 million*

### **Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program**

State and local governments, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and tribal governments are eligible for discretionary grants to integrate transportation, community development, and system preservation plans and activities. Additionally, the program is meant to identify private sector initiatives that can improve those relationships. A local funding match is required.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program- \$61.3 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## FEDERAL RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION

### **Amtrak**

Amtrak is the quasi-governmental organization that provides intercity passenger train service in the United States. Amtrak operates service in forty six states, and offers one of the most energy efficient forms of intercity travel. According to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Amtrak consumes 17 percent less energy per passenger-mile than airlines and 21.4 percent less than cars. In FY 07, a record 25.8 million passengers took Amtrak, an increase of 1.5 million over FY 06.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Amtrak- \$2.3 billion

*An increase of \$0.98 billion over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.32 billion*

### **Federal Matching Grants for State Rail Corridor Investments**

This program is intended to encourage and assist states seeking to develop passenger rail infrastructure by providing a fifty percent federal match for eligible capital investments. This is a new source of funding for state passenger rail improvements, established in the FY 08 appropriations bill. A similar program is included in the Amtrak reauthorization legislation which passed the Senate in late 2007. President Bush also recommended \$100 million for a similar program in his FY 08 budget.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Federal Matching Grants for State Rail Corridor Investments- \$311 million

*An increase of \$281 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$30 million*



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

### **Fixed Guideway Modernization**

This program is intended to offer public transit agencies and governments that run public transportation grants to help modernize or improve existing fixed guideway transit systems. Eligible projects include purchase and rehabilitation of rolling stock, track, line equipment, structures, signals and communications, power equipment and substations, passenger stations and terminals, security equipment and systems, maintenance facilities and equipment, operational support equipment including computer hardware and software, system extensions, and preventive maintenance. Fixed guideway systems include heavy rail, commuter rail, light rail, and trolleybus in addition to others, as well as portions of motor bus service operated on exclusive or controlled rights-of-way or in high-occupancy-vehicle lanes.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Fixed Guideway Modernization- \$1.67 billion

*An increase of \$100 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.57 billion*

### **New Starts/Small Starts**

The Federal New Starts program is the federal government's primary financial resource for supporting capital investments in locally new fixed guideway transit systems, or substantial expansion of existing systems. Eligible projects include heavy, light rail, commuter rail, and bus rapid transit. The Federal Transit Administration's New Starts program has helped to make possible hundreds of new or extended transit fixed guideway systems across the country. These rail and bus investments, in turn, have improved the mobility of millions of Americans; have helped to reduce congestion and improve air quality in the areas they serve; and have fostered the development of viable, safer, and more livable communities.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

New Starts/Small Starts- \$1.81 billion

*An increase of \$240 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.57 billion*

### **Bus and Bus Facility Program**

The Bus and Bus-Related Facilities program provides capital assistance to states and municipal areas for new and replacement buses and related equipment and facilities.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Bus and Bus Facility Program- \$984 million

*An increase of \$161 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$823 million*

### **Clean Fuels Grants Program**

The Clean Fuels Grant Program accelerates the deployment of advanced bus technologies by supporting the use of low-emission vehicles in transit fleets. The program assists transit agencies in purchasing low-emission buses and related equipment, constructing alternative fuel stations, modifying garage facilities to accommodate clean fuel vehicles, and assisting in the utilization of biodiesel.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Clean Fuels Grants Program- \$52 million

*An increase of \$3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$49 million*

# DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

## **Global Environment Facility**

The Global Environment Facility is a unique multilateral institution that helps developing countries fund projects that protect the global environment. The U.S. government and 31 other donor countries contribute funds to support projects in six priority areas – biodiversity conservation, climate change (including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and adaptation), international waters, ozone layer protection, land degradation, and persistent organic pollutants. Since 1991, GEF has provided grants for more than 1,300 projects in 140 countries, and is the largest international source of funding for protected areas.

GEF donor countries pledge financial resources every four years. In 2006, the U.S. pledged a total of \$320 million. The approval of the FY 08 U.S. federal budget will secure payment of the second \$80 million installment of the U.S. pledge, but the U.S. remains about \$170 million behind in meeting its past pledges. Until the U.S. pays those arrears, other major donors are freezing nearly \$200 million in contributions. By securing resources to fulfill its current pledge and paying off the remaining arrears over the next two years, the U.S. would free up those funds. Counting additional local matching funds, this would generate more than \$1 billion in on-the-ground projects for the global environment – a leverage of seven-to-one on the U.S. dollar.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

The Global Environment Facility- \$80 million for General Operations and \$85 million for Arrears  
*A decrease of \$1.7 million below the FY 08 enacted level of \$81.7 million for General Operations and an increase of \$85 million in Arrears*

## **Tropical Forest Conservation Act**

The Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA) provides funding for tropical forest conservation in qualified developing countries while reducing their debt to the U.S. Treasury. The debt reduction occurs in exchange for the debtor government's commitment to make local currency payments for the protection of its forests. As of September 2007, 13 TFCA agreements had been signed, generating more than \$160 million in long-term commitments for tropical forest conservation in Bangladesh, Belize, Botswana, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and the Philippines. U.S. government expenditures, totaling some \$95 million thus far, have leveraged millions from private donors. The most recent agreement – with Costa Rica – was signed in September 2007. The TFCA is scheduled to be reauthorized during the 2007-2008 Congress, and is expected to serve as an opportunity to extend the TFCA model to coral ecosystems and make its application more flexible.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Tropical Forest Conservation Act- \$20 million  
*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### **Human Health and Ecosystem Research**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Scientific Advisory Board, over the past several years, has called on both the Agency and the Congress to revitalize, raise the profile of, and increase the funding for ecological research at the EPA. Instead, work in this area continues to decline. There appears to be a systematic bias against ecosystem research in the Agency – this program has sustained a decrease of nearly 26 percent since FY 04. Cuts in human health research will handicap areas that are needed to provide the data necessary for risk assessment and risk management decisions to be efficient and effective. These cuts proposed by the administration include a proposed 13 percent reduction for work on endocrine disruptors, a proposed 14 percent reduction for pesticides, and an increase of only three percent for other core programs in human health research.

On a global scale, science cannot yet accurately tell us where all the mercury in the U.S. comes from, where it goes, or in what chemical forms it exists. To assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the costly mercury controls that EPA regulation is imposing on U. S. industry, there will need to exist an understanding of those planetary flows. Funding at current levels is too small to even adequately address the issues that EPA's Office of Research and Development has been addressing, let alone to allow any work on the key problem of planetary flows of mercury.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Human Health and Ecosystem Research- \$197 million (*Restore to FY 99 enacted level adjusted for inflation*)  
*An increase of \$48 million over the FY 08 proposed level of \$145 million*

### **Integrated Risk Information System Database**

Many of the EPA assessments of regulated chemicals are publicly available on its database, the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS), which contains EPA scientific consensus positions on potential human health effects from environmental contaminants. IRIS information is used by regulators at the state and federal level and by the international community in combination with exposure data to set cleanup standards and various exposure standards for air, water, soil, and food. The database receives over a half-million visits monthly, from over 50 countries, underscoring its widespread use. The EPA finalized the following number of new chemical assessments: In 2006, IRIS finalized only two new assessments; in 2005, IRIS finalized only five new assessments (n-hexane, toluene, zinc and compounds, barium and compounds, perchlorate and perchlorate salts); and in 2004, IRIS finalized only three new assessments (boron and compounds, dibromomethane, lead, and inorganic compounds). With so few assessments finalized each year, the EPA evidently needs more resources, both money and personnel, to develop robust timely IRIS assessments. The administration committed that IRIS will complete 16 health hazard assessments of high priority chemicals and post eight finalized assessments on the internet (S&T-89). Additional budget and staff resources are necessary to accomplish this goal.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

IRIS Database- \$18.9 million  
*No earmark in the FY 08 omnibus appropriations bill*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### **Global Change and Sustainability Research**

Current budget levels will only allow the agency to meet its impact assessment obligations under the government-wide Climate Change Science Program. The EPA will be forced to terminate, in midstream, research vital to understanding how ongoing changes in temperature, precipitation, flooding, snow pack, and other factors will affect water quality across the U.S. No other federal agency is known to support such work on a national scale. The reductions in the budget are coupled with the termination of the Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation Program and Environmental Technology Validation Program. This means that the EPA will lose much of its ability to test and verify new environmental technologies. This loss harms American industry's competitive position for environmental technology in world markets, at a time when other nations treat these technologies as opportunities.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Global Change and Sustainability Research- \$27 million

*An increase of \$7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$20 million*

### **STAR Fellowship Program**

The EPA has mature scientific staff reaching retirement age, and the Agency will face significant staffing challenges in environmental sciences, engineering, economics, behavioral, and decision sciences in the next five to ten years. The STAR Fellowship program budget was cut almost in half between 2006 and 2008.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

STAR Fellowship program- \$15.6 million

*An increase of \$ 5.6 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$10 million*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

### **Enforcement**

The EPA's ability to enforce environmental laws is critical to our nation's efforts to fulfill objectives of protecting and enhancing the nation's public health and natural resources. The Clean Water Act prohibits discharges of pollutants from point sources into U.S. waters without a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit. These permits limit what can be discharged and include monitoring and reporting requirements to ensure that the discharge does not harm water quality or human health. EPA and authorized states implement and enforce these permits. The Clean Air Act's new source review program requires installation of modern pollution control technology when industrial facilities undertake changes that increase air pollution by significant amounts. The EPA has uncovered widespread violations of this requirement that resulted in illegal air pollution releases totaling millions of tons from coal-fired power plants, oil refineries, and other industrial sectors. In recent years, as a result of legal settlements and court decisions arising from NSR enforcement cases against power plants and oil refineries, the EPA has achieved air pollution reductions that dwarf any other Clean Air Act enforcement activities undertaken by the agency. Finally, the EPA is responsible for ensuring that strong enforcement actions are taken in environmental justice communities. The EPA must maintain a strong enforcement presence, in concert with the states, to produce real improvements in environmental quality and protect public health.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Enforcement programs- \$500 million

*An increase of \$306 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$ 194 million*

### **Clean Water Act Permits**

The Supreme Court's 2006 decision (*Rapanos v. U.S.*) interpreting the Clean Water Act and the interpretive "guidance" issued by the Corps and EPA have led the agencies to devote significant effort to examining whether innumerable water bodies are protected by the law. Under the Clean Water Act, the EPA is the final arbiter of whether a water body is protected, and it also needs sufficient resources to review jurisdictional determinations made by the Army Corps of Engineers field personnel and resolve disputes over particular water bodies. A budget increase of \$4 million will help enable EPA to meaningfully police the implementation of this aspect of the Clean Water Act.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Clean Water Act Permits- \$4 million

*An increase of \$4 million over base funding*

### **Energy Star**

Although the DOE plays a lead role on most energy-related programs, the EPA has an important role (with DOE) in operating the Energy Star program, a successful voluntary initiative that has made it easy for consumers to find and buy many energy-efficient products. For every federal dollar spent, Energy Star produces average energy bill savings of \$75 and sparks \$15 in investment of new technology. Last year alone Americans, with the help of Energy Star, prevented 30 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions – equivalent to the annual emissions from 20 million vehicles, and saved about \$10 billion on their utility bills.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Energy Star- \$52 million

*An increase of \$3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$49 million*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

### **WaterSense**

The World Water Council has named the U.S. the most inefficient water user of 147 countries studied, including European countries that enjoy standards of living comparable to ours. As the population continues to expand more demand will be placed on our scarce water supplies, even in areas that were once thought of as ‘water rich’ like the southeastern part of the country. Water supply is beginning to be the limiting factor in economic growth in areas that have stressed water resources. Climate change science points toward future summers of greater warmth and less rain. Water conservation programs can produce significant results. Nationwide surveys indicate that over 80 percent of water utility customers would support some form of water conservation measure. The WaterSense program will establish water efficiency standards and promote efficient products and practices. The program is modeled after the *Energy Star* program that promotes energy efficient appliances and practices.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

WaterSense- \$5 million

*An increase of \$3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$2 million*

### **National Estuary Program**

Estuaries are vibrant coastal zones where saltwater meets freshwater, creating some of the most biologically productive areas on Earth. Started in 1987 under amendments to the Clean Water Act, the National Estuary Program protects and restores the nation’s estuaries by creating partnerships with local communities. The program focuses not only on improving water quality in an estuary, but also on maintaining the integrity of the whole system – its chemical, physical, and biological properties, as well as its economic, recreational, and aesthetic values. Since its inception, the program has grown to include twenty eight programs across the country, but funding levels have stagnated.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Estuary Program- \$26.8 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*



# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

### **Environmental Justice**

In 1992, President George H.W. Bush established the Office of Environmental Equity (now the Office of Environmental Justice) within the EPA to integrate environmental justice into the agency's programs. In 1994, President Clinton issued an Executive Order 12898 requiring each federal agency "to make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." The EPA adopted commitments to environmental justice. Yet today, many places where minority and low-income neighborhoods continue to face disproportionately high levels of air and water pollution and exposure to toxic waste and other health hazards due to federal environmental laws not being evenly enforced. Data show that black Americans are 79 percent more likely than white Americans to live in neighborhoods where industrial pollution poses the greatest health danger, and residents in neighborhoods with the highest pollution scores also tend to be poorer, less educated, and more often unemployed than residents of less-polluted neighborhoods. In 2005, the Government Accountability Office released a report finding that the EPA generally devoted little attention to environmental justice issues while drafting three significant clean air rules on gasoline, diesel, and ozone between FY 00 and FY 04. Then in 2006, the EPA's own Office of Inspector General issued yet another scathing report on EPA's failure to fully implement the Executive Order, and recommends that EPA review all its programs, policies, and activities to develop a plan to ensure compliance with the Order.

Funding for the Office of Environmental Justice must be sustained and Executive Order 12898 must be fully implemented by the EPA to integrate environmental justice into their day-to-day operation.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Office of Environmental Justice- \$6.5 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY SUPERFUND

## **Superfund**

The Superfund program was created in 1980 to locate, investigate, and clean up the worst hazardous and toxic sites nationwide. While 20 percent of the National Priority List Superfund sites have been cleaned up to-date, the EPA reports that human exposure is not under control at 149 final and proposed Superfund sites. At another 158 final and proposed Superfund sites, EPA has insufficient data to determine if human exposure is under control. The EPA reports that migration of groundwater pollution is not under control at 226 final and proposed Superfund sites. The EPA has insufficient data to determine if migration of groundwater pollution is under control at another 224 final and proposed Superfund sites. The under-funding of the Superfund program makes these statistics even more alarming; without adequate funding Americans will continue to be exposed to these dangerous toxic substances.

Insufficient funding jeopardizes continued cleanup progress and the identification of new sites. The EPA Inspector General (IG) and others have documented a significant and growing funding shortfall over the past several years, limiting cleanup actions to less than half of that of the Clinton Administration. Funding shortfalls as defined by the IG have grown from \$114.8 million in FY 02 to \$174.9 million in FY 03 to a record \$250 million shortage in FY 04.

This shortfall is exacerbated by the bankruptcy of the Superfund Trust Fund. In 2003, the Superfund Trust ran out of polluter-contributed funds because Congress and the Administration have refused to renew the polluter-pays-tax on the oil and chemical industries that formerly funded cleanups. American taxpayers should not shoulder the costs of all Superfund-led cleanups.

## **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Superfund- \$1.5 billion

*An increase of \$ 200 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.3 billion*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM

## **Leaking Underground Storage Tanks**

In 1986, Congress established the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund to help the EPA and states pay the costs of cleaning up leaking petroleum underground storage tanks when owners fail to do so, and to oversee LUST cleanup activities. The Trust Fund is financed by a 0.1 cent tax on each gallon of motor fuel sold nationwide and had net assets of approximately \$2.5 billion as of August 31, 2005. However, Congress and the administration have repeatedly failed to appropriate sufficient funds from the LUST Trust Fund to pay for cleanups needed – essentially using the unspent funds as a “deficit reduction” gimmick.

Despite initial strides in addressing leaking petroleum underground storage tanks in the 1990s, a new problem emerged as the gasoline additive MTBE was detected at thousands of LUST sites and in numerous drinking water supplies. Even small amounts of MTBE can render water undrinkable because of its strong taste and odor. The cost to clean up MTBE as a result of leaking underground storage tanks is sizable. Two recent studies by water utilities place their best estimates of the costs to clean up public drinking water systems, given the limited data, at \$25 billion<sup>1</sup> and \$33.2 billion.<sup>2</sup>

## **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks- \$110 million

*An increase of \$ 4.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$105.8 million*

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<sup>1</sup> American Water Works Association, *A Review of Cost Estimates of MTBE Contamination of Public Wells*, June 21, 2005

<sup>2</sup> Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, *Cost Estimate to Remove MTBE contamination from Public Drinking Water Systems in the United States*, June 20, 2005

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

### State Revolving Funds

With the passage of the Clean Water Act more than 30 years ago, Congress made a financial commitment to protecting and improving water quality first through a grant program and later in 1987 through the establishment of the “state revolving loan fund” (SRF), offering grants and low-interest revolving loans to municipalities for construction of wastewater treatment systems. In 1996, the Safe Drinking Water Act created another state revolving fund for drinking water treatment and protection of surface water and groundwater supply areas.

The funds directed to the states through both SRF programs need to be prioritized toward nonstructural projects that reduce non-point source pollution, protect estuaries, prevent contamination of drinking source waters, and reduce polluted runoff by protecting natural areas and other “green infrastructure,” such as stream buffers. These approaches are often more cost-effective than traditional pipe and cement options and provide a wide array of environmental and social benefits, including open space, wildlife habitat, recreation, and improved water supply.

Drastic cuts in federal funding over the past seven years have hampered efforts to clean up the nation’s water sources and to upgrade our drinking water systems. According to recent studies, communities will need an estimated \$300 billion to \$1 trillion over the next 20 years to repair, replace, or upgrade aging drinking water and wastewater facilities. The EPA’s Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Gap Analysis found a \$535 billion gap between *current* spending and projected needs for both drinking water and wastewater infrastructure over the next 20 years.<sup>3</sup> Looking at drinking water infrastructure alone, EPA estimated that the nation’s water systems will need to invest \$276.8 billion in drinking water infrastructure over the next 20 years to protect public health (an average of nearly \$14 billion per year).<sup>4</sup> While assessments have revealed dramatically increased need, funding for programs such as the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) has actually *declined* since the high point of \$850 million in FY 02, even without adjusting for inflation. The Clean Water SRF also has been cut by almost a half billion dollars since FY 01.

Proper maintenance of the tens of thousands of public drinking water systems around the country is critical to protect the health and wellbeing of families and communities nationwide. A greater investment is needed in order to ensure that our waters are fishable, swimmable, and drinkable.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Clean Water SRF- \$1.1 billion

*An increase of \$411 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$689 million*

*Of the amount budgeted for the Clean Water SRF, no less than 7.5% should be reserved for green decentralized or non-structural stormwater and wastewater management that mimics natural hydrology.*

Drinking Water SRF- \$866 million

*An increase of \$37 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$829 million*

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<sup>3</sup> <http://win-water.org/reports/2004-09-15ADU.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> From 2003 – the most recent estimate conducted by EPA.

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

### **Brownfields**

The Brownfields Revitalization Act was signed into law in 2002, providing a framework to clean up lightly contaminated properties and restore them for more widespread use. The program has the potential to turn unusable areas into engines of prosperity and positive local development. Despite broad support from many stakeholders including the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Development Organizations, and the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties, the program has continued to struggle with a lack of funding. In FY 04, only 265 grants were awarded out of 755 applicants, meaning that hundreds of abandoned or underutilized industrial sites remain dirty and useless. The Government Accountability Office estimates that there are 500,000 Brownfields sites across the nation still waiting for funding.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Brownfields programs- \$168 million

*An increase of \$74.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$93.5 million*

### **Non-point Source Management Program, Clean Water Act Section 319**

The damage caused by non-point source pollution includes degradation of wildlife habitat and aquatic life, contamination of drinking water, beach and swimming area closures, lost recreational opportunities, fish kills, aesthetic degradation of waterways, and many other severe environmental and human health problems. The Section 319 Non-point Source Management Program provides grant money that states, territories, and Indian tribes can use for a wide variety of non-point source pollution reduction activities including technical and financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects, and monitoring.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Section 319 Non-point Source Management Program- \$220 million

*An increase of \$19 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$201 million*

### **Total Maximum Daily Loads**

The establishment of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act is a sensible and necessary step in accounting for the range of activities and sources that damage and threaten water quality. TMDLs allow states and the EPA to identify all sources of water quality impairment to rivers, streams and lakes that do not meet water quality standards, develop specific goals for improvement, and design plans to reduce pollutant loads into receiving water bodies. TMDLs must be developed in a way that is consistent with the Clean Water Act, is compatible with related water quality programs and regulatory processes, and leads to real improvements, rather than more paperwork and delay. The development of strong TMDLs by the states requires a commitment of adequate resources.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

State Program Management Grants (CWA section 106)- \$220 million

*An increase of \$2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$218 million*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

### **BEACH Act Grant Program**

Our nation's public beaches are popular destination spots for recreation. Unfortunately, many of our nation's public beach waters are polluted with bacteria and viruses that can make swimmers ill. Polluted urban stormwater, sewage spills and combined sewer overflows are the major sources of beach water pollution. In 2006, beach pollution prompted more than 25,000 closings and swimming advisory days at ocean, bay, and Great Lakes beaches. In 2000, Congress unanimously passed the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act. The BEACH Act established a grant program for beach water testing and public notification programs. Regular information about beach water quality helps to protect the public from swimming in polluted waters and can help communities identify problems with their wastewater treatment systems.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

BEACH Act Grant Program- \$40 million

*An increase of \$30.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$ 9.8 million*

### **Targeted Watershed Grants**

The Targeted Watershed Grants program provides direct grants to a limited number of watershed groups, tribes and communities working to improve water quality. Portions of these funds are designated for technical assistance programs and to train community groups engaged in watershed-level protection and restoration projects. This training is essential to protect and restore the nation's rivers and watersheds.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Targeted Watershed Grants- \$25 million with \$2.5 million dedicated to technical assistance

*An increase of \$15.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$9.8 million*

### **Diesel Emissions Reduction Program**

The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2005 authorized \$200 million per year in grants to states and municipalities to aid in their work to reduce diesel pollution by replacing or retrofitting old and dirty diesel engines. These diesel engine retrofits are incredibly cost-effective: for every dollar of cost, the EPA estimates more than \$12 in health benefits. Plus with many states facing particulate matter (PM) and ozone State Implementation Plans (SIPs) deadlines in the coming year, this program will be critical to protecting the health of communities around the country. Funding for this work should receive priority over other initiatives in the CMAQ program as authorized in the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Diesel Emissions Reduction Program- \$55 million

*An increase of \$5.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$49.2 million*

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION





# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is responsible for managing and conserving our oceans, expanding scientific exploration and ocean observation, sustaining coastal economies, and forecasting our weather, among other critical duties. NOAA also gathers the science needed to understand the impacts of global warming on our nation, yet despite these important roles this agency continues to be critically underfunded. The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, the Pew Oceans Commission and the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative all identified the need to provide additional resources for NOAA. A broad coalition of industry, conservation organizations, academic researchers, and scientific organizations among others have joined together to support overall funding for NOAA at \$4.5 billion.

In addition, if the Administration intends to make global warming a national priority, then funding for NOAA needs to substantially increased, since these additional responsibilities cannot be funded at the current budget level.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration- \$4.5 billion

*An increase of \$580 million above the FY 08 enacted level of \$3.92 billion*

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

### **Fishery Observer Program**

Fishery observers are independent scientists who gather information about fishing practices by accompanying fishermen at sea. Observers collect data on the composition and amount of the actual catch brought on board during fishing operations. This is in contrast to landings data which only record what is brought to port, failing to account for the “bycatch”-often dead or injured species thrown back before being landed. This data is especially important as it is the primary source for identifying and monitoring marine mammal, sea turtle, sea bird, and other ocean wildlife bycatch.

According to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), observers are currently deployed to collect fishery data in only 42 of the nation’s 300 fisheries. Even for many of those fisheries that have observers, existing coverage levels are well below the levels needed for precise and accurate estimates of bycatch and total catch of fish and protected marine species. Considering the National Marine Fisheries Service makes fishery management decisions based on these data, more precise and accurate data is beneficial for all interested parties.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Fishery Observer Program- \$56 million

*An increase of \$24.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$31.5 million*

### **Marine Mammal Protection**

Marine mammals are managed primarily by the NMFS and are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Additionally, some marine mammals, such as right whales, are afforded extra protections as they are listed under the Endangered Species Act. The need for additional funding for the marine mammal program is so clear that a recent government report stated, “NOAA [National Marine Fisheries Service] has insufficient resources to meet legislative mandates and attain mission goals of the Agency with respect to protected species programs.”

Stock assessments are critical, and improvements are needed in stock identification, abundance, fishery bycatch – a main source of death and serious injury mortality for marine mammals, and assessment frequency and data quality. For this alone, NMFS requires an increase of over 140 FTEs and 500 contract employees including researchers, observers and others. Currently, 36 marine mammal stocks have an unknown status, meaning information is not available to determine whether the population is healthy, declining, or depleted.

Outside of fishery interactions, there are a number of current and emerging threats to marine mammals that need to be addressed including ocean noise, habitat degradation, contaminants, harmful algal blooms, and ship strikes, among other hazards.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Protected Resources Research & Management Programs-Mammals- \$82 million (Restored to FY 05 enacted level)

*An increase of \$41.5 million above the FY 08 enacted level of \$40.5 million*

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

### Sea Turtle Conservation

All sea turtles in U.S. waters are listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, yet populations of sea turtles continue to decline. New information shows that loggerhead sea turtle nesting in Florida, which makes up approximately 90 percent of all U.S. loggerhead nesting, has declined by nearly 50 percent in the past decade. According to the recent loggerhead five-year status review conducted by NMFS and the Fish and Wildlife Service, “the most significant human-made factor affecting conservation and recovery of the loggerhead is incidental capture in commercial and artisanal fisheries.” However, NMFS is allowing tens of thousands of loggerhead sea turtles to be killed annually in the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico by destructive fishing gear.

Additional resources are needed to conduct enhanced sea turtle stock assessments, place additional observers in fisheries which interact with sea turtles, and protect important habitat. Endangered Species Act compliance activities for other listed fish, crustaceans, and mollusks are also funded out of this line item.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Protected Resources Research & Management programs- \$26.4 million, including:

In-Water Index Sampling Programs for Long Term Trend Monitoring- \$1 million

Improving Sea Turtle Population Assessments and Related Data- \$1 million

Gear Research for Bycatch Reduction in Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Fisheries- \$1 million

Grant funding for State Projects under ESA Section 6 Agreements- \$2 million

Support for International Research, Management, and Capacity Building- \$3 million

*An increase of \$12.7 million above FY 08 enacted level of \$13.7 million*

### Deep Water Corals

Corals are usually associated with shallow tropical waters, however coral ecosystems are also found on the deep sea floor. Unfortunately, these ecosystems are not well understood and are vulnerable to destructive fishing practices. Recently, scientists have begun to discover that deep water coral communities may contain valuable medicines that may one day lead to treatments for cancer and HIV.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 (MSRA) directs NOAA to establish a Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program. This program will allow managers to identify and better protect sensitive deep sea coral habitat throughout our national waters. Program activities, such as mapping and research cruises, are intrinsically linked to another new MSRA activity, the affirmation of the Regional Fishery Management Councils’ authority to protect and conserve deep sea coral habitat for their own merit as valuable and vulnerable marine ecosystems. Additionally, this program is as an important step in achieving NOAA’s goal of ecosystem based management.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program- \$7 million for program initiation (building to \$15 million for a fully robust program in future years)

*A new program for FY 09*

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

### **Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program**

The Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program, funded through the NOAA Restoration Center, reaches out to local constituencies to accomplish on-the-ground, community-based projects to restore estuaries and coastal habitats through its Community-Based Restoration Program. Partnerships and local involvement are fundamental to the success of this program. Partners typically match federal dollars three- or five-to-one and leverage those dollars up to ten times more through state and local participation. To date, the program has funded more than 900 projects in 25 states, promoting fishery habitat restoration in coastal areas with a grassroots, bottom-up approach. The success of the Restoration Center's work spawned the creation of the Open Rivers Initiative in FY 07. This increase in workload as well as the success of the central work of the program needs to continue to be supported.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program- \$31.5 million  
*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

### **Enforcement**

Successful fishery management relies upon fair enforcement of laws, regulations, and other requirements of fishery management plans. Without funds for enforcement personnel at sea and at ports, compliance with fisheries laws will be uncertain. The enforcement program also provides money to support cooperative agreements with state enforcement authorities.

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) is one tool that the NMFS uses to improve monitoring and enforcement of areas closed for protection of ocean wildlife populations and important habitats. VMS are satellite transponders permanently affixed to fishing vessels that allow enforcement real time tracking of an individual vessel location and speed. There are an estimated 10,000 commercial fishing vessels in the U.S., therefore to ensure more widespread implementation of VMS programs, we recommend funding be increased to \$18.3 million.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Enforcement- \$57.1 million (including \$18.3 million for Vessel Monitoring System)  
*An increase of \$3.7 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$53.4 million*

### **Expand Annual Stock Assessments**

Due to a lack of funding for basic research, the NMFS does not have adequate information about the status of many commercial and recreational fish stocks. Almost two-thirds of the nation's fish populations lack basic information to determine whether or not those fish populations are depleted or "overfished". In fact, there are 65 "major" stocks or stock assemblages classified as "unknown" with respect to their population status. Additional resources would allow the NMFS to hire the needed biologists to produce annual stock assessments, fund necessary charter days at sea to collect data, and significantly reduce the number of fish stocks with an unknown status. Increasing and improving fish stock information, in some cases collecting any information, will significantly improve the federal government's ability to manage fish populations and ensure their economic and ecologic viability and sustainability.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Expand Annual Stock Assessments- \$40 million  
*An increase of \$8.37 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$31.63 million*

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

### **Marine Recreational Information Program**

Congress, through the recently reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act, called for improvements to the way the nation manages saltwater fish and understands recreational fishing, providing two ways for improving the way recreational fishing information is collected and analyzed. The first is by creating an angler registry, essentially a phonebook of saltwater fishermen, and the second is by upgrading the existing recreational fisheries surveys. A panel of independent scientists concluded in 2006 that there are a number of serious flaws with the current process for assessing recreational fishing, called the Marine Recreational Fishing Statistics Survey (MRFSS). Their report included a lengthy list of recommended changes not only to the MRFSS, but also to many of the state-level recreational fishing surveys and advised NMFS and the states to rethink the way they do recreational fishing surveys to improve their transparency, effectiveness, and applicability to today's fishery management practices.

NMFS responded with the Development Plan for Improving Recreational Fisheries Statistics, which created a structure of committees and work groups to design improved surveys, improve communication, and develop a registry of anglers.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Marine Recreational Information Program- \$4.5 million

*An increase of approximately \$1 million over the FY 08 enacted level*

### **Cooperative Research in the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery**

The Magnuson-Stevens Act has long dictated that fisheries be managed according to the "best scientific data" available, and the recent reauthorization of this act in December of 2006 was no exception. Unfortunately, there are deficiencies in the quantity and quality of data that are collected by the state and federal governments to assess our fish stocks. Efforts to improve data collected for stock assessments would benefit from a long-term, integrated cooperative data collection system designed to improve stock assessments and generate well-informed and timely management action.

Cooperative research should not be an alternative to, or substitute for, long-term standardized stock assessments, but can still make valuable and unique contributions to the science underlying fishery management. In particular, cooperative research can be used to increase the precision and expand the scope of stock assessments to help build mutual understanding and respect among scientists and fishing people. The importance of the reef fish complex to the culture, economy, and community fabric of the Gulf merits funding for cooperative research in the Gulf of Mexico Region. The Southeast Regional Office of NMFS currently facilitates two different cooperative research programs; the MARFIN and CRP programs are appropriated federal dollars every year to be awarded on a competitive basis to the projects that best address needs identified in the stock assessment process for priority species and projects that have the most scientific merit. While these are incredibly worthwhile programs, like many things in the region they suffer from perennial under-funding.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Cooperative Research in the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery- \$5 million

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

### **National Marine Sanctuary Program**

The National Marine Sanctuary System, which consists of 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, encompasses more than 150,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters and includes several of our nation's most diverse marine ecosystems. While this may seem like a large area, less than one tenth of 1 percent of our sensitive ocean is protected by sanctuary designations. Areas such as coral reef and mangrove forest ecosystems off the Florida Keys to the tide pools and kelp forests on the Olympic Coast are managed through the Sanctuary Program. The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument (now called Paphanaumokuakea Marine National Monument) is the newest addition and creates an immense and irreplaceable coral reef ecosystem preserve, covering 140,000 square miles of reefs, atolls and shallow and deep sea. It is home to more than 7,000 marine species, including the endangered Hawaiian monk seal.

The National Marine Sanctuary Program undertakes important education and outreach to the public, ocean monitoring and research, and enforcement projects in the sanctuaries. The three-year average operations and capital budget for sanctuaries and the monument, a combined area of approximately 96 million acres that exceeds our national parks in size, has been approximately \$57 million per year and has employed about 250 full time government and contractor personnel since FY 06. This works out to be approximately 60 cents per acre to manage our national parks of the sea or one person for every 600 square miles. Level spending has caused real decreases in effort over time. Increased funding is essential to fully implement the existing sanctuaries' management plans, including research and more educational outreach about these national marine treasures. Funding is also needed to provide additional resources for the Marine Monument as well as for sanctuary expansion proposals currently before Congress.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Marine Sanctuary Program- \$75 million (including \$15 million for operating and capital expenditure)  
*An increase of \$15 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$60 million*

### **Marine Protected Areas Center**

Well-designed and implemented marine protected areas (MPAs) are an important tool for maintaining marine biological diversity, protecting ocean habitats, and managing fish populations. They also provide opportunities for scientific research, education, and recreation that is compatible with their mission. The term "marine protected area" is itself a broad term that encompasses a spectrum of management schemes, but generally refers to area-based management where natural or cultural resources are given greater protection than the area surrounding them. The National Marine Protected Areas Center was established within NOAA to undertake the essential task of developing an integrated national system of MPAs which advances the conservation of our nation's vital natural and cultural marine resources. The MPA Center must have its funding restored if it is to carry out its goals, including implementation of the framework for the national system of MPAs, restoration of a modest technical assistance and stewardship support program, stakeholder and advisory committee participation and engagement, collection of data for the marine managed areas inventory, and expansion of the MPA pilot project to other regions – all of which will contribute to the effective use of MPAs as a tool for ecosystem-based management.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Marine Protected Areas Center- \$5 million (Restores the MPA Center FY 04 enacted level)  
*An increase of \$3.6 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$1.4 million*

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

### **Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program**

Ironically, as more Americans answer the siren song of the coasts, we are more and more in danger of loving these sensitive landscapes to death. Rapid and often unplanned development has marred once-pristine viewsheds and substantially reduced public access. The resulting increase in impervious surfaces has correspondingly increased nonpoint source pollution and seriously degraded coastal and estuarine waters. The loss of coastal wetlands has drastically impaired estuaries, some of the most productive habitat on earth. Both the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission reports have stressed the importance of land conservation as part of their broader recommendations to Congress and the nation. In 2002, Congress stepped in to respond to that need by creating the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP). CELCP has since funded a total of \$198 million for 131 coastal conservation projects in 26 of the nation's 35 coastal states. These federal funds have been matched by at least an equal amount of state, local and private funds.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program- \$80 million

*An increase of \$72 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$8 million*

### **Tropical Coral Reef Program**

Tropical coral reefs are often called the rainforests of the sea because of the amount of rich biodiversity that these habitats provide. Coral reef ecosystems provide shelter for marine animals, protection from predators, and feeding, spawning, and nursery areas for many fish species including commercially important fish. For coastal communities, coral reefs also play important roles in the protection of coastlines from storms and as income sources through tourism. Tropical corals face many threats including damaging fishing practices, land-based pollution, vessel strikes, and climate change. Recent science regarding the threat of ocean acidification to corals, episodes of coral bleaching, and the listing of coral species as threatened under the Endangered Species Act illustrate a dire need for managers to better understand all the threats these important ecosystems face.

NOAA's Tropical Coral Reef Programs, under the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, focuses on improving the understanding tropical coral reef ecosystems and minimizing the threats to their health and viability.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Tropical Coral Reef Programs- \$35 million

*An increase of \$5.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$29.2 million*

# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## OFFICE OF RESEARCH

### **Ocean Acidification Research**

Although not discussed as often as global warming, one of the major effects of increased carbon emissions has been and will continue to be the acidification of our oceans. Ocean acidification is the name given to the ongoing decrease in the pH of the Earth's oceans, caused by their uptake of anthropogenic carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Researchers agree that ocean acidification will pose a significant threat to marine ecosystems over the next century, with significant potential impacts to fisheries and coral reefs.

Research on the processes and consequences of ocean acidification is still in its infancy, many questions about the biological and ecosystem effects of changing ocean chemistry on marine life remain unanswered. We need to know a lot more about what the effects of ocean acidification will be, the cumulative linked effects of ocean acidification on other environmental changes (e.g. increasing ocean temperatures), and the degree to which marine organisms and ecosystems will be able to adapt to increased acidity.

Funding for ocean acidification research should be given a high priority, including funds for research at NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, a National Research Council study, and interagency planning and coordination.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Ocean Acidification Research- \$30 million for program initiation (building to \$50 million for a fully robust program in future years)

*A new program for FY 09*

### **National Undersea Research Program (NURP)**

As part of its response to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, the Administration has completed an Ocean Research Priority Plan that identifies our nation's most pressing ocean research needs. NOAA's National Undersea Research Program (NURP) is a key mechanism for implementing many priority topics in the research plan. Research activities, conducted through NURP's network of regional research centers, are invaluable to our greater understanding and proper management of the marine environment. The Program provides grants to academic researchers to further enhance understanding of our oceans and Great Lakes, in direct support of the managers responsible for protecting and managing fisheries, corals and other undersea ecosystems. Examples of advances provided by recent NURP-sponsored research includes prediction of the role of essential fish habitat for managed species, quantification of the performance of marine protected areas, and clarification of the effects of climate change and disease on coral reefs. Funding for NURP was cut more than 40 percent in FY 06, halting important marine research.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Undersea Research Program- \$19.5 million

*An increase of \$9.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$10 million*

### **Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund**

Wild Pacific salmon and steelhead are national treasures of enormous environmental, economic, and cultural significance. These important species are in decline due to a variety of factors such as dams, unsustainable logging and agricultural practices, urban sprawl, and poor hatchery practices. Twenty-six of the 51 salmon and steelhead stocks along the West Coast from Washington to California are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), funded through the NOAA, is aimed at restoring and



# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## OFFICE OF RESEARCH

protecting habitat for these imperiled fish. This program provides much-needed assistance to state, local, and tribal governments in Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho and Alaska. Funds are matched dollar-for-dollar at the state and local level. These funds may be used for habitat restoration, preservation, and acquisition, and also be used for monitoring the health of salmon populations and watersheds.

Citizens, watershed groups, Native American tribes, and federal and state agencies from across the nation have been working to bring these species back from the brink of extinction and set them on the road to recovery. With several new salmon recovery plans in effect or about to take effect, it is imperative to fund these plans at levels that will allow for their full implementation to successfully recover wild salmon and steelhead. The recommendation below of \$120 million is an excellent starting point; however, in order to provide an adequate federal contribution for the completion and implementation of remaining recovery plans from Southern California to Alaska to Idaho, funding of the PCSRF will need to increase to \$250 million per year by 2010.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund- \$120 million

*An increase of \$53 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$67 million*

### **Office of Ocean Exploration**

NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration (OE) was created to investigate the oceans for the purpose of discovery and the advancement of knowledge. This is achieved through at-sea expeditions in various national and international regions, including mapping of deep water habitats and discovery using the latest exploration tools. OE's work consists of four distinct areas: (1) characterizing physical, biological, chemical and archaeological aspects of the ocean; (2) developing a more thorough understanding of ocean dynamics and interactions at new levels; (3) developing new ocean exploration tools, and; (4) public education and outreach.

OE's achievements include a Russian-U.S. Arctic Census of Marine Life, and explorations of seamounts and shipwrecks. In 2008, NOAA will commission the *Okeanos Explorer*. This unique ship will be the only Federal vessel dedicated to exploring little known and unknown reaches of our world's oceans. In 2008, OE will be tasked with mapping activities in support of potential extension of our nation's continental shelf.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Ocean Exploration- \$25 million

*An increase of \$5.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of approximately \$19.5 million*

### **National Undersea Research Program & Office of Ocean Exploration**

A merger of the National Undersea Research Program (NURP) and Office of Ocean Exploration (OE) is scheduled to occur at NOAA. In the President's Budget for FY 08, these programs were merged under a new Ocean Exploration and Research Program. However, as the appropriations bill for FY 08 does *not* merge these programs it is unclear whether this merger will occur. Additionally, it is unclear how the merger will affect the current priorities and activities of each program.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Combined as the Ocean Exploration and Research Program- \$44.5 million (under merger condition)

*A new program for FY 09*



## CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS



# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure. However, the ecological health of the largest estuary in the U.S., a 64,000 square-mile watershed that encompasses six states and the District of Columbia, continues to be poor – dropping a point to 28 on a 100 point scale according to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s annual State of the Bay report. Aggressive efforts undertaken over the past thirty years to limit pollution and restore the Bay’s incredible biological productivity are not keeping pace with population and development trends. Water pollution – mainly excess nitrogen and phosphorous – from sewage treatment plants, agriculture, and urban runoff, together with air pollution from power plants, vehicles, and industry, threaten the Bay’s future. A major influx of funds for the implementation of projects to control the flow of pollution to the Bay is vital to success of efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Environmental Protection Agency

Chesapeake Bay Program- \$32 million

*An increase of \$9 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$23 million with a \$4 million increase to State Implementation Grants and \$4 million to Small Watershed Grants*

Chesapeake Bay Targeted Watershed Grants- \$12 million

*An increase of \$4 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$8 million*

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Agricultural Management Assistance Program- \$10 million

*An increase of \$10 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0*

Army Corps of Engineers

Chesapeake Bay Oyster Restoration- \$4 million

*An increase of \$2 million over FY 08 enacted level of \$2 million*

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Chesapeake Bay Studies- \$3 million

*An increase of \$1.58 million over enacted FY 08 level of \$1.42 million*

Chesapeake Bay Oyster Restoration- \$6 million

*An increase of \$4.13 million over enacted FY 08 level of \$1.87 million*

All other programs that support Chesapeake Bay Conservation should continue to be funded at their current level.

# **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS**

## **EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION**

The 18,000 square mile Everglades ecosystem of central and southern Florida is not only one of the world's most diverse and productive wetlands, but also one of the nation's most imperiled natural wetland ecosystems. Since 1900, more than half of the ecosystem has been drained and lost to urban and agricultural development, and the remaining marshes are crisscrossed by 1,400 miles of canals that alter natural water flows. Restoration of the Everglades is at a critical juncture. Keeping Everglades Restoration on schedule and the Federal/Florida partnership strong requires significant federal investment in 2009. The long anticipated Modified Waters and Kissimmee River Restoration Projects will be completed by 2010, but only if fully funded over the next two years. Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, authorized 6 years ago, should finally be implemented.

### Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program is aimed at reversing the decline of the Everglades and loss of the many ecological and economic services it provides. The program will restore water flows throughout the ecosystem, clean up polluted waters, purchase privately owned lands to create a buffer between natural and urban areas, protect habitat, and enhance recreational opportunities.

### Kissimmee River Restoration

Upon completion of the Kissimmee River restoration project in 2011, over 40 square miles of river and floodplain ecosystem will be restored, including returning 43 miles of meandering river to its original course and re-creating 27,000 of the 35,000 acres of wetlands that were lost to past flood control efforts. The estimated \$494.8 million restoration project is being jointly implemented and equally cost-shared by the South Florida Water Management District and the Army Corps of Engineers.

# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

### FY 09 Recommendation:

#### Army Corps of Engineers

Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP) Construction- \$62 million

Indian River Lagoon- \$16 million

Picayune Strand- \$24 million

Site I Compound- \$22 million

*An increase of \$62 million over the FY 08 enacted levels of \$0*

Central and Southern Florida- \$98 million

*An increase of \$16.3 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$81.7 million*

Kissimmee River Restoration- \$69 million

*An increase of \$38 million over the FY 08 enacted level if \$31 million*

CERP Pilot Projects- \$60 million

*An increase of \$60 million over FY 08 enacted level of \$0*

Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park- \$25 million

*An increase of \$15 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$10 million*

#### Department of the Interior

CERP-Fish & Wildlife Service and National Park Service- \$10 million

*An increase of \$2.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$7.2 million*

NPS-Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park- \$25 million

*An increase of \$10.8 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$14.2 million*

Critical Ecosystems Studies Initiative (CESI)- \$6 million

*An increase of \$2.12 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$3.88 million*

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force- \$1.3 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

USGS-Integrated Research, Planning, and Interagency Coordination- \$8 million

*An increase of \$1.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$6.8 million*

#### National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

NMFS, NOS, and OAR Programs- \$6 million

*An increase of \$2.12 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$3.88 million*

# **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS**

## **GREAT LAKES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS**

The Great Lakes hold one fifth of the world's fresh surface water supply. For the more than 30 million people that live within the watershed, the Great Lakes hold the key to economic health, recreation, and irreplaceable family experiences. They support the economy through agriculture, industrial manufacturing, steel production, commercial and sport fisheries, and recreation and tourism. More than 150,000 Americans work in the Great Lakes' shipping industry, which provides passage for approximately 180 million tons of cargo annually. The economic benefits in the Great Lake states are more than \$15 billion for hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching.

Despite their overwhelming greatness and their vast expanse, the Great Lakes are fragile and in peril. Raw sewage contaminates beaches, invasive species threaten native fish, and toxic mercury makes fish unsafe to eat. These problems have reached a critical tipping point. Scientists say that action must be taken now or the entire Great Lakes' ecosystem will be damaged beyond repair. Funding is needed to restore the health of the Great Lakes. The problems continue to worsen and the solutions get more costly with each passing day.

In 2005, the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) produced a blueprint to protect and restore the Great Lakes. The GLRC, which was made up of over 1,500 leaders from around the region, identified goals to restore this fresh water resource. Some recommendations are outlined in other areas of this report, such as the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Farm Bill conservation programs. The programs listed below are specific to the Great Lakes. They are supported by the region's mayors, governors and families and need adequate funding to ensure the simple solutions identified in the GLRC strategic plan can immediately be carried out.



# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## GREAT LAKES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS

### FY 09 Recommendation:

#### Environmental Protection Agency

Great Lakes Legacy Act- \$54.0 million

*An increase of \$19 million over the FY 08 level of \$35 million*

Great Lakes National Program Office- \$25 million

*An increase of \$3.24 million over the FY 08 level of \$21.76 million*

#### Army Corps of Engineers

Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration- \$10 million

*An increase of \$9 million over the FY 08 level of \$0.94 million*

Chicago Ship and Sanitary Canal dispersal barrier- \$6.25 million

*For operations and maintenance, an increase of \$5.5 million over the FY 08 level of \$0.738 million*

Great Lakes Tributary Modeling Program- \$1.5 million

*An increase of \$0.66 million over the FY 08 level of \$0.84 million*

#### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory- \$16.5 million

#### Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service

Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act- \$16 million

*An increase of \$15.5 million over the FY 08 level of \$0.5 million*

#### Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey

Great Lakes Science Center- \$13.2 million

#### Department of State

Great Lakes Fishery Commission- \$21.8 million

*An increase of \$5 million over the FY 08 level of \$16.7 million*

#### Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service

Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control- \$5 million

*An increase of \$4.6 million over the FY 08 level of \$0.43 million*

# **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS COASTAL LOUISIANA RESTORATION**

Where the Mississippi River meets the Gulf of Mexico it forms a complex of ecosystems that are drastically unique and vitally important to the economic, environmental, and the security-related concerns of the Gulf Region and its citizens. The vast wetland complexes that previously covered acres of the Mississippi delta are disappearing at an alarming rate because the River cannot deposit its vital sediments into the surrounding wetlands. The loss of 2000 square miles of wetlands through the years has led to a dramatic decrease in the natural protection afforded by wetlands and barrier islands to coastal cities such as New Orleans. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, it is paramount to consider coastal restoration and conservation as an integral portion of the rebuilding of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast and to appropriate funds accordingly.

## **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Mississippi River Sediment and Freshwater Diversions- \$1 billion

Louisiana Coastal Area Plan- \$15 million

Myrtle Grove Restoration- \$35 million

Science and Technology - \$100 million

# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION HYDROPOWER RELICENSING

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issues 30 to 50 year operating licenses for non-federal hydroelectric dams, setting the rules for how these dams may be operated. When issuing these licenses, FERC is required by law to look beyond power production and give equal consideration to fish and wildlife, recreation, environmental protection, and other public values. When these licenses expire, Americans get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to protect and improve the health of the rivers that flow through their communities.

Federal resource agencies play a very important role in FERC's hydropower licensing process. Congress has given these agencies the authority to recommend license conditions that will minimize the harmful impacts that dam operations have on public resources. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct) gave these agencies significant new obligations associated with protecting public assets affected by hydropower dams. In particular, agencies must now hold costly "trial-type" administrative hearings for disputed license conditions. Federal resource agencies need sufficient funding to allow them to uphold their congressionally authorized duties to protect public resources with license conditions when appropriate. This includes holding hearings mandated by EPAAct when the factual basis of the conditions is being reviewed.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Energy Projects- \$57.5 million

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-  
National Marine Fisheries Service, Habitat Conservation:

\$12.4 million and a direct line item for hydropower relicensing

\$2.8 million for implementation of hydropower requirements under the EPAAct of 2005

Department of the Interior-

Fish and Wildlife Service, Habitat Conservation, Project Planning:

\$2.35 million for hydropower relicensing

\$1.5 million for implementation of hydropower requirements under the EPAAct of 2005

Bureau of Indian Affairs, FERC Activities, Trust Services- \$2 million for hydropower relicensing

Bureau of Land Management, Land Resources/Wildlife and Fisheries:

\$1.1 million for hydropower relicensing

\$0.3 million for implementation of hydropower requirements under the EPAAct of 2005

National Park Service, Hydropower Recreation Assistance:

\$1.5 million for hydropower relicensing

\$0.15 million for implementation of hydropower requirements under the EPAAct of 2005

Department of Agriculture-

Forest Service, Lands Budget:

\$11.6 million and a direct line item for hydropower relicensing

\$0.75 million for implementation of hydropower requirements under the EPAAct of 2005

## **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS LONG ISLAND SOUND**

The Long Island Sound Restoration Act strives to protect and restore the environmentally and economically vital resources of the Sound. In 1985, the Sound was one of the first estuaries recognized under the National Estuary Program because it provides feeding, breeding, nesting and nursery areas for a diversity of plant and animal life, and contributes an estimated \$5.5 billion per year to the regional economy from commercial fishing, sport fishing, and recreational activities. More than eight million people live in the Long Island Sound watershed, and the resultant development has led to increasingly poor ecosystem health. Future funding will allow regional conservation groups to continue their implementation of programs aimed at restoring the health of the Sound through improvements in water quality, the control of invasive species, the restoration of and/or reclamation of natural areas, and the bolstering of native species populations. In 2006, Congress passed the Long Island Sound Stewardship Act which will build on the ongoing work of restoring the Sound.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Long Island Sound Restoration Act- \$40 million

*An increase of \$35.2 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$4.8 million*

Long Island Sound Stewardship Act- \$25 Million

*An increase of \$25 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0*

## **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS**

### **OPEN RIVERS INITIATIVE**

The U.S.'s rivers are plugged with millions of dams, most still functional and benefiting society. Many others are either dilapidated, having outlived their 50-year life expectancy or are no longer providing the benefits for which they were built. These dams are unnecessarily degrading the riverine ecosystem and holding up economic development. The Open Rivers Initiative, a Presidential initiative announced by the Secretary of Commerce in 2005, will provide grants to communities and local dam owners to remove their dams that no longer make sense. These restoration projects provide significant environmental improvements and offer noteworthy economic and societal benefits. They create new opportunities for recreational fishing, river rafting, and kayaking; provide cost savings by eliminating the need for dam repairs; and remove safety and liability risks associated with outdated structures.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Open Rivers Initiative- \$20 million

NOAA- Community Based Restoration Center- \$10 million

*An increase of \$4 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$6 million*

DOI-Fish & Wildlife Service Fish: Passage Program- \$10 million

*An increase of \$4.1 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$5.9 million*

# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## PENOBSCOT RIVER RESTORATION

The Penobscot River Restoration Project is an unprecedented approach to river restoration that will reconfigure hydropower facilities and maintain energy production while opening up more than 500 miles of habitat to 10 native species of anadromous fish, improve water quality, boost wildlife and create new opportunities in communities along New England's second largest river. The two lowermost Penobscot dams, Veazie and Great Works, will be removed and a state-of-the-art fish bypass will be installed at Howland Dam. The restoration project will reestablish the River's historic connection to the ocean, and help feed fisheries and wildlife in the river and the Gulf of Maine. The project's reconfiguration of dams will have a wide range of benefits to fish and wildlife populations, water quality and communities along the river. The restoration of the Penobscot River is the best last chance for the dwindling Atlantic Salmon populations in the country.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Penobscot River Restoration Project- \$14 million for dam removal

NOAA- Habitat Restoration Center- \$10 million

*Same as the FY 08 enacted level*

Department of the Interior- \$2 million

*An increase of \$1.5 million over the FY 08 enacted level of \$0.5 million*

Department of Agriculture- \$2 million

*An increase of \$2 million over the FY 08 enacted level*

# **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS**

## **BORDERLANDS ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION**

America's border with Mexico includes national parks, forests, monuments, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas and other environmentally sensitive areas. Nearly one-quarter of the 1,950 mile U.S.-Mexico border lies within public lands running through such national treasures as Big Bend National Park, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge. These protected lands provide essential habitat for hundreds of imperiled species, including nearly 40 species listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act in Arizona alone. Much of this country's most spectacular wildlife, including jaguars, ocelots, and hundreds of bird species, depend upon protected public lands along the border for migration corridors between countries.

Illegal border crossings and enforcement activities along the border are placing a tremendous burden on federal land management agencies and causing long-term damage to natural and cultural resources. In addition, border natural and cultural resources lie directly in the path of large scale construction projects, including hundreds of miles of proposed border wall construction authorized under the Secure Fence Act. Several wall segments have already been constructed within protected federal lands in 2007, including the Barry M. Goldwater Range, Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, and the incomparable San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. The Department of Homeland Security is planning to begin additional construction in the near future that will impact three national wildlife refuges in Texas. The effects of large scale border wall construction on wildlife, clean water, clean air, and human health and safety could be serious and lasting, yet little baseline data even exists on the status of wildlife and lands pre-construction so that impacts of the wall can be assessed and documented in the future.

The federal land management agencies are in dire need of resources to mitigate the effects of illegal immigration and law enforcement activities on public lands; moreover, a cross-cutting budget initiative that also includes the Departments of Homeland Security and Defense, both of which either manage land or have border enforcement responsibilities, could alleviate some of the pressure on federal land managers. The need is extensive, for example, half of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge's already meager \$1.5 million annual budget is siphoned away from other pressing needs to deal with border issues; however, the entire amount needed by the land management and other agencies to address the impacts has not been quantified. Substantial increases are needed for:

- Staff and infrastructure improvements, including funding to increase land management agency law enforcement staff; provide training of Border Patrol and other non-land management agency law enforcement personnel to minimize harm to sensitive natural and cultural resources; maintain, repair, and acquire facilities and vehicles; and improve visitor outreach and safety.
- Research, restoration, and monitoring programs, including funding for monitoring and understanding impacts on endangered species and habitat; restoration of fragile desert habitat; and special endangered species management needs in the border region.
- Resource protection, including funding for removal of tons of trash and hundreds of abandoned vehicles; cleaning and protecting fouled desert water sources; physically closing hundreds of miles of illegal roads; use of surveillance and deterrence technology; firefighting and fire fighter safety dealing with wildfires inadvertently set from cooking and signal fires used by border crossers; and protection and restoration of important historic, cultural, and anthropological structures and artifacts.

# **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS**

## **NATIONAL STRATEGY TO ADDRESS IMPACTS OF GLOBAL WARMING & OCEAN ACIDIFICATION**

Global warming poses one of the most serious threats to wildlife and wildlife habitats in the U.S. and around the world. Cutting greenhouse gas emissions is essential to stave off mass extinctions and major disruptions of ecosystems, but cutting emissions alone is not sufficient. Global warming is already happening and substantial additional warming is inevitable due to pollution already released into the atmosphere. Scientists project that this warming will lead to increased sea level rise, intensified storms, floods and droughts, disappearing mountain snowpack and altered stream flows, evaporating lakes and wetlands, and numerous other disruptions.

Planning for how to best assist wildlife and ecosystems in becoming more resilient and adapting to the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification is needed by all federal land management agencies. A report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) underscores natural resource managers' need for national policy direction on this issue. In *Climate Change: Agencies Should Develop Guidance for Addressing the Effects on Federal Land and Water Resources*, the GAO found that federal land and wildlife management agencies lack the guidance and capacity to respond effectively to the impacts of global warming on our federal lands and wildlife.

The FY 09 budget should provide funding to develop a comprehensive national strategy for assisting fish and wildlife and ecosystems in becoming more resilient and adapting to the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification. This cross-cutting initiative should be coordinated by the President to ensure all government jurisdictions are effectively addressed. Future federal climate change legislation is likely to direct significant funding to wildlife adaptation measures, and the U.S. needs to start planning now to ensure that federal funds are prudently committed and positive results are achieved. Funding is requested for the President, acting through the Council on Environmental Quality to:

- develop a comprehensive national strategy in close consultation with relevant federal agencies, including the Interior, Commerce, Agriculture, and Defense Departments and the Environmental Protection Agency, states, territories, Indian tribes, and other stakeholders, with input from the public, including:
  - Prioritize goals and measures, and a schedule for implementation to identify, monitor and conserve natural resources threatened by climate change and ocean acidification;
  - Coordination with other relevant conservation plans, including the state comprehensive wildlife conservation plans, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, the national fish habitat action plans, coastal zone management plans and reports of the Pew Oceans Commission and the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy.
- establish a Science Advisory Board comprised of 10 to 20 scientists recommended by the National Academy of Sciences and appointed by the President. The Board would ensure the scientific integrity of the national strategy and advise the President and federal agencies on the best available science regarding the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on wildlife and ecosystems, adaptation responses, and research needs.



# **CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS**

## **NATIONAL STRATEGY TO ADDRESS IMPACTS OF GLOBAL WARMING & OCEAN ACIDIFICATION**

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

National Strategy for Addressing Global Warming & Ocean Acidification Impacts on Wildlife and Habitat-  
\$15 million

Council on Environmental Quality- \$4 million for 3 Full Time Employees and Science Advisory Board

Department of the Interior- \$5 million

Forest Service/Natural Resources Conservation Service- \$2 million

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration- \$2 million

Environmental Protection Agency- \$1 million

Army Corps of Engineers- \$1 million

*A new initiative for FY 09*

# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

### **National Environmental Policy Act**

For more than 35 years, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has been an essential tool that allows citizens an opportunity to participate in federal decisions that impact the environment, their family's health, and their quality of life. NEPA, enacted by Congress in 1969, proclaims a national policy for environmental protection, requires federal agencies to analyze how their actions might affect the environment, and creates opportunities for the public to be involved in these decisions. Without a strong NEPA, the nation could lose an indispensable tool that guides how policy decisions, which directly impact our environment and communities, are made.

Despite the importance of NEPA, federal agencies over the last decade have not been allocated adequate resources to implement their NEPA requirements. The decrease in available resources, coupled with the increase in the number of projects requiring NEPA analyses, leaves federal agencies stretching their limited NEPA resources. Complaints about project delays due to NEPA analysis are in part attributable to decreased funding.

The need for additional NEPA resources is pronounced. The Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency should undertake a study of resource needs at the federal agencies and develop proposals for additional funding in future years.

### Council on Environmental Quality

As part of the enacting NEPA legislation, Congress established the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) within the Executive Office of the President in 1969, and tasked CEQ with the hefty responsibility of ensuring that federal agencies meet their NEPA obligations. Specifically, CEQ provides oversight on NEPA, and issues regulations and guidance to federal agencies on NEPA implementation. In addition, CEQ develops training for agency personnel. Federal agencies can also bring to CEQ interagency disagreements concerning proposed major federal actions. Currently, CEQ only has one full time employee devoted to NEPA related-activities. Increased funding is needed in order to return CEQ to the staffing levels of 1990 and to offer much needed support for CEQ's NEPA responsibilities.

### Department of Agriculture/ Forest Service

The Forest Service (FS) must comply with NEPA when undertaking resource, research, and cooperative forestry programs. The FS, similar to many other federal agencies, faces tight budget constraints while the amount of NEPA reviews required are remaining constant or are increasing. Due to lack of adequate funding, the FS cannot always fully staff NEPA interdisciplinary teams. In addition, people assigned to NEPA-related activities are often reassigned to other issues during ongoing NEPA reviews, causing delays. The FS performs valuable NEPA analyses and continues to meet its NEPA requirements.

One area that particularity needs increased funding is the review of grazing allotments. The FS has more than two thousand grazing permits that have not gone through proper NEPA analysis, but are renewed without the FS taking a hard look at the environmental effects of these permits. In order for the FS to review these grazing allotments properly, increased funding is needed.

### Department of the Interior/ Bureau of Land Management

Due to the increased emphasis on resource extraction during the last several years, the number of environmental assessments and environmental impact statements has increased. Although there has been an increase in NEPA responsibilities, no additional resources have been provided to meet this need. Before mining and drilling projects begin, it is essential that the environmental damage be evaluated and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has the proper resources to meet its NEPA requirements. In addition, a backlog of over fifteen hundred grazing permits that have never had proper environmental reviews under NEPA are outstanding. This backlog has allowed harmful

# CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

grazing practices to continue unabated. In order to prevent further destruction and degradation of public resources, increased funding is needed.

### Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Federal Activities is responsible for reviewing all federal Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) prepared by other federal agencies; maintaining a national EIS filing system; and assuring that EPA is complying with NEPA in its own actions. On average, the EPA reviews approximately 500 to 600 EISs and hundreds of Environmental Assessments annually. Also, an increasingly major focus of effort within the EPA is its role in helping agencies develop EISs, including scoping and following up with agencies as concerns arise over proposed projects.

With increased funds, the EPA could meet several important NEPA objectives. First, the EPA could increase collaboration efforts between itself and other federal agencies. Second, the EPA could offer increase NEPA training for their employees. Finally, the EPA could also increase NEPA outreach work.

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Office of Protected Resources (OPR), a program office of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service, is tasked with the responsibility of protecting marine mammals and endangered marine life. Included in OPR's responsibilities is the implementation of policies and regulations for issuance of permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act-decisions that are subject to NEPA. Over the last few years, OPR has received an increase in demand for permits. To ensure that OPR can continue to provide quality NEPA review and offer the public an opportunity to comment on the permits in a timely manner, OPR must receive adequate funding.

### **FY 09 Recommendations:**

#### Council on Environmental Quality

\$0.7 million for an additional 4 Full Time Employees

#### Department of Agriculture/Forest Service

\$2.0 million for 12 FTEs (2 in Headquarters and 10 in Regional Offices)

#### Department of the Interior/Bureau of Land Management

\$1.6 million for 10 FTEs; (2 in Headquarters and 8 in Regional Offices)

#### Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Federal Activities

\$2.6 million for 25 FTEs (5 in the Office of Federal Activities and 20 in Regional Offices)

#### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Office of Protected Resources

\$9.5 million for additional support in the Office of Protected Resources (including an additional 5 FTEs)

*(NEPA resources are combined with resources for the programs that they affect so it is not possible to disaggregate baseline numbers)*



# OFFSETS



# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### **Farm Bill Subsidies**

The federal government spends billions of dollars each year on agricultural programs that were established during the Great Depression. These programs were originally intended to support domestic crop production by stabilizing farm income, propping up agricultural prices at levels above world market rates, and controlling the production of designated crops. Over time, however, the original goals of these programs have been distorted. Now, instead of supporting the livelihood of the small family farmer, these programs benefit large corporate farms, and place massive and unnecessary costs on the American taxpayer.

In 2005, the federal government spent approximately \$24 billion to subsidize the production of 15 agricultural crops. These crops include cotton, sugar, corn, wheat, and soy beans, which are being subsidized at a time of record prices. Many of these crops such as cotton, sugar, and corn have significant environmental impacts when produced. For instance, sugar production in Florida is partially responsible for the decay of the Everglades. The monocropping of corn in the Midwest, with intense pesticide and fertilizer inputs, is contributing to dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico. These crops and the other beneficiaries of farm subsidies are also being overproduced throughout the United States.

### **FY 09 Recommendation**

Shift wasteful subsidies to cost-effective programs like conservation, nutrition and organics and deficit reduction.

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### **Forest Service Commercial Timber Sales**

The U.S. Forest Service's (FS) "commodity" timber sales program funds subsidized logging on our National Forests. Many of these sales result in irreparable ecological damage, loss of vital habitat, increased fire risk, and millions of dollars in squandered taxpayer resources. According to Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Congressional Budget Office reports, the FS loses between \$150 and \$300 million annually on the commodity timber program. Eliminating unnecessary and harmful logging projects would yield significant environmental and community benefits.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Reduce the commodity timber sale programs in National Forests by \$150 million

### **Forest Service Timber Roads Program**

The FS timber program pays to construct logging roads that assist timber companies in cutting and removing timber from our national forests. Over the history of the program, the agency has paid for the construction of hundreds of thousands of miles of timber roads. Construction of these forest roads exploits tax dollars to pay the timber industry's business costs and leads to the degradation of wildlife habitat, soil, and streams.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Cut all funding for construction, planning and design of logging roads for new timber sale contracts.

### **Forest Service Salvage Fund**

The FS Salvage Fund was created to expedite the removal of insect-infested, dead, damaged or down timber. Salvage sale revenues are deposited in the Salvage Fund. The FS can spend the monies in the Salvage Fund without an annual appropriations request. Lacking this congressional oversight, the Salvage Fund is currently financing approximately one-third of the logging in the national forests, with many sales failing to fully cover their costs.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Abolish the FS Salvage Fund and return the unspent balance to the Treasury. The current amount programmed for the fund in FY 06 is approximately \$78 million.



# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### National Nuclear Security Administration

Congress established the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) in 1999 to consolidate and manage the nuclear weapons complex. One of the goals of the NNSA in this administration has been the resumption of pit production—the primary stage of the plutonium warhead. The justification for this reanimation of the nuclear weapons manufacturing complex was the concern that existing plutonium warheads would be unreliable because of deterioration or contamination. However, recent analyses show that these pits and the nuclear arsenal in general, have much longer life times and show very little deterioration (JASON report transmitted to the Congress, November 28, 2006).

Each year, the Department of Energy (DOE) budget for the NNSA exceeds \$6 billion, with a significant portion of these funds spent on new warhead research and production. Fortunately, the next step in production and manufacturing has not taken place, and there is an opportunity to scale back this work while ensuring America's defense security remains reliable for decades to come. Existing plutonium pits in surplus will provide the necessary "stockpile" to support U.S. security policies established in the Nuclear Posture Review.

Those operations that are specific to new nuclear warhead production should be halted. Congress should provide no funding for the reliable replacement warhead or pit manufacturing, as these operations are unnecessary and scale up nuclear warhead production. Indeed, the U.S. should be reducing its nuclear arsenal in order to comply with the goals of the Moscow Treaty, which requires the U.S. and the former Soviet Union to reduce their nuclear arsenals to less than 2,200 warheads by 2012.

Continued stockpile maintenance, surveillance and readiness are necessary. Spending on other new research programs, including fusion ignition, high yield, and advanced simulation, should be scaled back as the NNSA focuses on existing surplus management and certification. Reducing the NNSA budget will not endanger national security but will allow the DOE to address other priorities, such as renewable energy research and development.

### FY 09 Recommendations:

Making cuts to the following programs would save approximately \$9.35 billion

Specified NNSA budget reductions, FY 08 (all figures in millions)

	FY 08 Enacted Levels	FY 09 Cut
Directed Stockpile Work	\$1,413	\$200
Science Campaigns	\$290	\$145
Engineering Campaigns	\$171	\$20
Fusion Ignition & High Yield	\$474	\$74
Advanced Simulation	\$579.7	\$200
Pit Manufacturing	\$215.7	\$60
Readiness in Technical Base and Facilities	\$287.6	\$189
Congressionally Directed Weapons Activities Projects	\$47.9	\$47.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,479</b>	<b>\$935.9</b>

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### **Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service Public Lands Grazing**

The public land grazing program administered by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management is highly subsidized and benefited only two percent of the nation's livestock operators. According to the Government Accountability Office, the grazing programs cost taxpayers roughly \$136 million to operate, but only earned \$21 million. Below-cost grazing fees encourage overgrazing and, along with other problematic features of the existing federal program, have resulted in extensive and severe environmental damage to public lands and riparian areas, resulting in reduced ecologic resiliency and ability to adapt to a warming western climate. In FY 07, the fee dropped to a ludicrous low of \$1.35, the lowest allowable amount by law. To put that in perspective, the first uniform federal grazing fee that was established in 1934 was set at \$1.23.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Charge a grazing fee on federal lands that covers management costs, and eliminate program expenditures that neither protect nor restore resources.

*A savings of \$105.5 million compared to FY 08 levels*

### **Bureau of Land Management Western Oregon Plan Revisions**

The Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR) affects 2.5 million acres of federal forests in southern Oregon managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and as drafted, will have significant negative impacts on both Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet habitat. A final plan is expected to be completed by the end of 2008. The plan's preferred alternative would reduce the owl's old growth reserves by 36 percent and triple logging in old growth forests over 200 years old. The Environmental Protection Agency commented that the plan would harm water quality. The plan proposes to build over 1,000 miles of new logging roads and reduce stream buffers by 57 percent. WOPR is also based on and tiered to the prescriptions of the draft Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, a scientifically-flawed document that has yet to be finalized. The plan came about as a result of the administration's sue-and-settle strategy. The timber industry filed a lawsuit demanding more logging in Oregon, and the administration promptly settled before arguments were heard, promising a relaxation of environmental safeguards and a significant boost in old growth logging.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

WOPR- \$0

*Approximately \$16 million has been appropriated to BLM in Oregon for WOPR from FY 05 to FY 08*

### **Bureau of Land Management Oil and Gas Program**

Funding for the BLM's oil and gas program has grown spectacularly over the past seven years, while most other BLM programs have remained stagnant or have lost funding. Between FY 00 and FY 08, the BLM's oil and gas budget has grown from approximately \$55 million to approximately \$115 million – a doubling of the budget for the oil and gas program. In recognition of the increasing costs of this program, and the vast profits going to the oil and gas industry from this program, Congress imposed a "cost recovery fee" of \$4,000 per drilling permit application to defray the BLM's administrative costs in the FY 08 omnibus appropriations bill.

#### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

BLM Application for Permits to Drill (APD)- Continue the \$4,000 cost recovery fee

*A savings of \$40 million based on yearly average APD of 10,000*

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### **Bureau of Land Management Hardrock Mining Reforms**

Under the 1872 Mining Law, mining companies extract minerals from publicly owned lands without paying royalties to the federal government. This policy differs from federal policy toward the coal, oil and gas industries, all of which must pay royalties for extracting minerals from public lands. The estimated value of hardrock minerals extracted from federal lands is about \$1 billion annually, without any royalty payment to taxpayers. Adding insult to injury, the 135-year-old law also allows mining companies to patent, or buy, mineral-rich public land for \$5 an acre or less, paying 1872 prices for land worth billions of dollars. The archaic 1872 Mining Law not only distorts the minerals market, it promotes environmental destruction of public lands because it includes no provisions for environmental protection and elevates mining as the best use of the land, regardless of other potential uses. The law has allowed the mining industry to scar Western landscapes with an estimated half a million abandoned mines, which could cost taxpayers as much as \$50 billion dollars to clean up.

In addition to the 1872 Mining Law, the hardrock industry is further subsidized by the U.S. tax code. After taking valuable minerals from public lands for free, a mining company is then allowed to compensate for the reduced value of a mine as it is exhausted. This tax break, called the percentage depletion allowance, was established in 1912 and allows the mining industry a deduction of anywhere from 5 to 22 percent, depending on the mineral.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

- 1) Require fair market returns to taxpayers for extraction of publicly owned minerals. A gross royalty of eight percent could raise \$80 million annually, based on Congressional Budget Office mineral estimates.
- 2) Double the fee mining companies pay to maintain their unpatented claims on public lands, from \$125 to \$250 per claim annually, to better reflect the value of these claims. Moreover, the fee should be doubled again to \$500 if no mining occurs within five years of filing a mining claim. A doubled fee would return an estimated \$40 million or more per year to taxpayers.
- 3) In addition to an 8 percent gross royalty, a sliding scale fee should be levied on all mining occurring on lands claimed or patented under the 1872 Mining Law. This fee would create an abandoned hardrock reclamation fund worth \$45 million per year. A conservation alternative (though it would raise no revenue) would be to instead permanently end the sale, or “patenting” of public lands for \$2.50 or \$5 an acre. Although there has been a moratorium on this practice since 1994, mining companies have purchased public lands the size of Connecticut under this outdated law.
- 4) Remove the double subsidy given by the “percentage depletion allowance.” The “percentage depletion allowance” is a concept created nearly a century ago to spur exploration and extraction of natural resources. As a result of this concept, mining companies are given what is tantamount to a double subsidy on public lands: first, they are allowed to mine on federal lands for free and then, under the percentage depletion allowance, they are allowed to take tax deductions beyond the value of investments they have made. Based on the most recent estimates of the Joint Committee on Taxation, the elimination of this subsidy would save taxpayers an estimated \$100 million a year.

**A total savings of at least \$ 265 million compared to FY 08 levels**

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### **Mineral Management Services Royalty Relief**

Companies drilling for oil and natural gas in publicly-owned waters and on publicly-owned lands typically pay royalties, or a percentage of the revenue they generate, to the government. These royalties provide needed resources to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Historic Preservation Trust Fund, the oil-producing states and the federal treasury. Schemes that relieve oil companies of their obligation to pay these royalties will cost taxpayers at least \$9.5 billion over the next five years. Losses to taxpayers could balloon significantly higher if the oil industry wins a recent lawsuit.

### **Royalty Relief: 1995 Deep Water Royalty Relief Act**

Between 1996 and 2000, the Interior Department awarded offshore drilling leases to companies drilling for oil and natural gas in the Gulf of Mexico. Leases awarded in 1998 and 1999 failed to include “price thresholds,” a critical safety valve that ensures royalty relief will end when prices rise above a certain amount. The Minerals Management Service, which manages royalties at the Interior Department, estimates that over the next five years oil and gas companies in drilling in the Gulf of Mexico will receive approximately \$9.5 billion in royalty relief.<sup>7</sup> A draft report from the Government Accountability Office<sup>8</sup> further estimated that taxpayers could lose out on an additional \$60 billion if the oil industry is successful in a recent lawsuit challenging the Interior Department’s authority to set price thresholds under the 1995 Deepwater Royalty Relief Act. Unfortunately, the federal courts have ruled in favor of the oil industry and the Bush administration is considering an appeal.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Amend the 1998 and 1999 Gulf of Mexico leases that do not contain “price thresholds.”  
*A savings of approximately \$9.5 billion over the next five years*

### **Royalty Relief: Energy Policy Act of 2005**

Despite massive losses to taxpayers expected as a result of royalty relief included in past offshore drilling leases, Congress enacted additional royalty relief provisions in the recent energy bill. The following provisions will allow oil and gas companies to negotiate new leases with the federal government that allow them to drill without paying royalties. An estimate of the future benefits the oil industry will gain as a result of these provisions does not currently exist:

Royalty-in-Kind Payments- Section 342 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 codifies the royalty-in-kind payment scheme sought by oil and gas producers in which the federal government is paid in oil and gas instead of cash.

Relief for marginal producers- Section 343 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides royalty relief for “marginal property” oil and gas production that produce less than 15 barrels a day when prices fall below \$15 a barrel.

Relief for deep wells in shallow waters of the Outer Continental Shelf- Section 344 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides royalty relief for natural gas production from deep wells (greater than 15,000 feet) in shallow

<sup>7</sup> Gulf of Mexico royalty information provided on page 169 in the Mineral Management Services’ Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Justifications and Performance Information. [http://www.mms.gov/PDFs/2007Budget/FY\\_07BudgetJustification.pdf](http://www.mms.gov/PDFs/2007Budget/FY_07BudgetJustification.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Draft GAO Briefing, March 27, 2006, found on <http://www.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/business/29lease.pdf>

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

waters (less than 400 meters) of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in the Gulf of Mexico. The provision grants royalty relief for leases of no less than 35 billion cubic feet, subject to price thresholds.

Relief for deep water wells in the Gulf of Mexico- Section 345 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 continues the federal government's commitment to provide oil and gas companies royalty relief when they drill in waters in the Gulf of Mexico deeper than 400 meters.

Relief for offshore production in Alaska- Section 346 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 expands the Outer Continental Lands Act to in offshore oil and gas development in Alaska. The expansion will allow Alaska drillers to receive royalty relief for oil and gas production.

Relief for methane gas hydrates in the Outer Continental Shelf and Alaska- Section 353 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides oil and gas companies seeking energy from methane gas hydrates. Methane gas hydrates are essentially methane trapped in ice, and can be found in the outer continental shelf and in cold regions such as Alaska. The provisions provides royalty relief for up to 30 billion cubic feet of natural gas per a lease, and is offered in addition to current royalty relief on leases not receiving specific methane gas hydrate relief.

Relief for enhanced oil and natural gas production- Section 354 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 offers royalty relief to oil and gas companies operating wells on-shore and the outer continental shelf to inject carbon dioxide into older less productive wells. The provision provides royalty relief for up to five million barrels of oil per a lease. The royalty relief in this provision is in addition to the enhanced oil recovery tax credit which provides companies with a 15 percent credit for the cost of enhanced oil recovery.

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

Repeal all oil royalty relief provisions authorized under the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Oil and Gas Tax Breaks

The federal tax code contains more than \$17 billion in tax breaks for the oil and gas industry. This total represents the creation of seven new tax breaks in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 in addition to a host of incentives that existed prior to passage of the energy bill. Unless otherwise noted, the cost of the tax breaks come from the Joint Committee on Taxation's Estimates of Federal Tax Expenditures for FY 07 to FY 11. The tax code contains the following oil and gas tax breaks.<sup>1</sup>

Oil and gas percentage depletion allowance- Created in 1916, this incentive allows independent oil to deduct 15 percent of their sales revenue to reflect the declining value of their investment. This flat deduction bears little resemblance to the actual loss in value over time and companies often end up deducting more than the value of their initial investment. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 modified the percentage depletion, expanding the credit by allowing refiners whose average daily production remains less than 75,000 barrels, instead of 50,000 barrels, to claim it. This tax break will cost \$5.9 billion over five years.

Intangible drilling costs- Integrated oil companies such as ExxonMobil are allowed to immediately deduct 70 percent of "intangible drilling costs" such as the cost of wages, supplies, and site preparation, rather than capitalizing them. Smaller, independent oil and gas producers are allowed to immediately deduct all of their intangible drilling costs. This tax break will cost \$3.5 billion over five years.

Manufacturing tax deduction for oil and gas companies- H.R. 4520, the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, contained provisions that reclassified oil and gas production as a manufactured good. According to a Joint Committee of Taxation estimate requested by Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) and Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA.), oil and gas companies would gain \$3.5 billion over the next five years under this deduction.<sup>2</sup>

Expensing for refining equipment- This tax break was created in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and allows companies to deduct 50 percent of the cost of certain equipment used at oil refineries to refine liquid fuels. This tax break will cost \$2.1 billion over five years.

Geological and geophysical expenditures- This tax break was created in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and allows companies to deduct the costs associated with searching for oil, amortizing the costs over a two-year period. Companies would still be eligible for this deduction even if they discover oil and gas. The credit, which the Joint Committee on Taxation scored at \$800 million over five years, was modified in H.R. 4297, the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005. The modification increased the time that integrated oil companies could deduct geological and geophysical expenditures from two years to five years.<sup>3</sup> Given the changes, the tax break is now expected to cost \$1.1 billion over the next five years.

Natural gas distribution lines- This tax break was created in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and accelerates the rate at which companies can deduct the cost of natural gas distribution pipelines, reducing the depreciation time from 20 years to 15 years. This tax break will cost \$386 million over five years.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Some tax credits that currently do not have a cost, such as the Marginal Wells Tax Credits, are not described in this document.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.house.gov/mcdermott/pr060515.shtml>. The press release states that the Joint Committee on Taxation estimates the manufacturing tax deduction costs approximately \$700 million annually.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.house.gov/jct/x-18-06.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> The cost for this credit was taken from <http://www.house.gov/jct/x-59-05.pdf>, the Joint Committee on Taxation's Estimated Budget Effects of the Conference Agreement for Title XIII of H.R.6. This estimate was used because the Joint Committee on Taxation has merged the estimates with this credit with the broader "Depreciation of equipment in excess of the alternative depreciation system."

# OFFSETS

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Deductions for foreign tax- The tax code allows oil and gas companies to deduct payments such as taxes and royalty payments made to foreign countries. The Senate Finance Committee included a provision in S. 2020, the Tax Relief Act of 2005, that would have created new restrictions on the ability of major oil companies to claim these deductions. Unfortunately, this provision failed to make it into the final tax reconciliation package signed into law. According to estimates from the Joint Committee on Taxation, modifying the deduction would have raised \$325 million over the next five years.<sup>5</sup>

Enhanced Oil Recovery -This tax break provides oil and gas companies with a 15 percent income tax credit to increase the production oil and gas production from older wells. To qualify for the credit, companies can force water, steam, carbon dioxide or other chemicals into the reservoir to force the harder to obtain oil and gas out of the well. This tax break will cost \$300 million over five years.

Passive Loss- This tax break allows owners and investors in oil and gas properties to use losses from the oil and gas business to shelter other income. This tax break will cost \$200 million over five years.<sup>6</sup>

Small Refiners Deduction- Originally created in H.R. 4520, the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, and later modified by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, this tax break allows small refiners to deduct 75 percent of their capital costs to comply with new Environmental Protection Agency sulfur rules, and also provides a .05-cent credit for each gallon of low sulfur diesel fuel produced. The deduction was expanded in the energy bill to allow the tax benefits to be passed through to members of a cooperative. This tax break will cost \$100 million over five years.

Natural gas gathering lines- This tax break was created in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and accelerates the rate at which companies can deduct the cost of natural gas gathering lines, establishing a seven-year depreciation recovery period. This tax break will cost \$10 million over five years.<sup>7</sup>

Exemption from bond arbitrage rules- The provision was created in Energy Policy Act of 2005 and exempts prepayments for natural gas from tax-exempt bond arbitrage rules. This tax break will cost \$14 million over five years.<sup>8</sup>

### **FY 09 Recommendation:**

A savings of \$17.44 million over five years.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.house.gov/jct/x-82-05r.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> The cost for this credit was taken from the fiscal year 2007 *Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2007*.

<sup>7</sup> The cost for this credit was taken from <http://www.house.gov/jct/x-59-05.pdf>, the Joint Committee on Taxation's Estimated Budget Effects of the Conference Agreement for Title XIII of H.R.6. This estimate was used because the Joint Committee on Taxation has merged the estimated for this credit with the broader "Depreciation of equipment in excess of the alternative depreciation system."

<sup>8</sup> The cost for this credit was taken from <http://www.house.gov/jct/x-59-05.pdf>, the Joint Committee on Taxation's Estimated Budget Effects of the Conference Agreement for Title XIII of H.R.6. This estimate was used because the Joint Committee on Taxation has merged the estimates of this credit with the broader "Exclusion of interest on public purpose State and local government bonds."





## APPENDICES

A – Funding Table

B – Program Contacts



# APPENDIX A

**FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE**  
(dollars in millions)

	2008	2009
	Enacted	Recommended
<b>ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 1-1</b>		
Project Modification for Improvement of the Environment	29.5	25.0
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration	29.5	25.0
Flood Hazard Mitigation and Riverine Restoration (Challenge 21)	0	0.5
Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program	NP	44.7
Upper Mississippi Environmental Management Program	16.8	33.5
Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment	0.25	1.5
Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Recovery Project	50.0	85.0
Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration: OR & WA	1.7	1.7
Matilija Dam Removal	0.8	1.0
Rindge Dam Removal	0.16	0.6
<i>Total, Selected Army Corps of Engineers Programs</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>218</i>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 2-1</b>		
<b><u>Farm Bill Conservation Programs - Natural Resource Conservation Service</u></b>		
Agriculture Management Assistance Program	NS	20
Conservation Reserve Program	NS	2,271
Conservation Security Program	NS	450
Environmental Quality Incentive Program	NS	1,300
Farm and Ranchland Protection Program	NS	97
Grasslands Reserve Program	NS	50
Ground and Surface Water Conservation Program	NS	60
Wetlands Reserve Program	NS	400
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program	NS	85
<i>Total, NRCS Farm Bill Programs</i>		<i>4,733</i>
<b><u>Forest Service</u></b>		
Forest Inventory and Analysis Program	64.9	79.9
Forest Legacy Program	52.2	125
Community Forest and Open Space Program	NP	75
Office of International Programs	7.5	12
Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness Program	263	409
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management Program	132	177
Roads Maintenance Program	131	325
Deferred Maintenance	8.9	25
Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation Program	39.4	75
Accounting Program	NP	NS
State Fire Assistance	80.6	144
State and Local Fire Assistance	215	288
Wildfire Suppression Funding	NS	<i>implement new budget structure</i>
Wildland Fire Use	NS	10
<i>Total, Selected Forest Service Programs</i>	<i>995</i>	<i>1,744</i>

NP = new program

NS = dollar value not specified for FY 08

# APPENDIX A

## FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE (dollars in millions)

	2008 Enacted	2009 Recommended
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 3-1</b>		
<b><u>Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy</u></b>		
Vehicle Technologies Program	212	220
Building Technologies Program	108	138
Industrial Technologies Program	64	66.6
Gateway Deployment Programs	0	28
Federal Energy Management Program	19.7	25
Weatherization Assistance Program	221	300
State Energy Program	43.8	50
Wind Energy Program	49.2	55
Solar Energy Technologies Program	167	174
Biomass and Biorefinery System R&D Program	197	205
Geothermal Technology Program	19.7	28
Hydropower Program	9.8	10.2
Hydrogen Technology Program	210	120
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund	618	643
Defense Environmental Cleanup	5,300	5,900
Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup	181	364
Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve	12.3	12.8
Loan Guarantee Authority		
Nuclear Power Facilities and "Front-End Activities"	20,000	0
Coal-Based Power Generation & Industrial Gasification Activities	6,000	0
Advanced Coal Gasification	2,000	0
Renewables and Efficiency	10,000	20,000
<i>Total, Selected Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Programs</i>	<i>45,432</i>	<i>28,338</i>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY 4-1</b>		
<b><u>Federal Emergency Management Agency</u></b>		
Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	34	35
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	99	125
National Dam Safety Program	5.9	11.7
Repetitive Flood Claims	NS	10
Severe Repetitive Loss Program	NS	40
National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund	114	150
Flood Hazard Identification Map Modernization	220	220
<i>Total, Selected Federal Emergency Management Agency Programs</i>	<i>473</i>	<i>592</i>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF STATE 4-3</b>		
<b><u>International Organizations and Programs (IO&amp;P)</u></b>		
International Conservation Programs	6.6	12
Global Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation	300	500
<i>Total, Selected International Organizations and Programs</i>	<i>307</i>	<i>512</i>
<b>U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) 4-4</b>		
Biodiversity Conservation Programs	195	250

NP = new program

NS = dollar value not specified for FY 08

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## FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE (dollars in millions)

	2008 Enacted	2009 Recommended
<b>DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR 5-1</b>		
<b><u>Bureau of Land Management</u></b>		
National Landscape Conservation System	55.3	70
Wildlife, Fisheries & Threatened and Endangered Species Management	66.6	95.3
Challenge Cost Share	9.3	19.3
Plant Conservation	4.6	15.8
Landscape Scale Habitat Conservation	5	30
<i>Total, Selected Bureau of Land Management Programs</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>230</i>
<b><u>Bureau of Reclamation</u></b>		
Savage Rapids Dam Removal and Pump Replacement	14.8	15
Yakima River Basin Enhancement Project	8.3	10
Deschutes Resources Conservancy	0.4	0.7
California-Federal Bay Delta Program	40	40
<i>Total, Selected Bureau of Reclamation Programs</i>	<i>63.5</i>	<i>65.7</i>
<b><u>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</u></b>		
Endangered Species Program	150.5	185.2
National Wildlife Refuge System	434.1	514
Migratory Bird Management	40.4	53
International Affairs	11.6	20.4
Law Enforcement	59.6	69.5
National Fish Passage Program	10.8	12
Coastal Program	14	15
National Fish Habitat Initiative	5	5
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Program	73.8	100
Cooperative Endangered Species Fund	73.8	96.2
Landowner Incentive Grants and Private Stewardship Grants	0	31
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	50	50
Multinational Species Conservation Fund	7.9	12
North American Wetland Conservation Fund	42	50
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund	4.4	6
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	7.5	7.5
Spotted Owl Recovery Program	NS	0.4
<i>Total, Selected Fish and Wildlife Service Programs</i>	<i>278</i>	<i>373</i>
<b><u>Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)</u></b>		
LWCF Federal Program		278
LWCF Stateside Program		125
<i>Total, LWCF</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>403</i>

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## FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE (dollars in millions)

	2008 Enacted	2009 Recommended
<b><u>National Park Service</u></b>		
Operations of the National Park Service (ONPS)	1970	2120
International Park Affairs Program	1.6	2
Dam Safety Program	2.5	3
Elwha River Restoration	19.7	20
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance	8.5	10
<i>Total, Selected NPS Programs</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2155</i>
<b><u>U.S. Geological Survey</u></b>		
Water Resources Investigations		
National Water Quality Assessment Program	63.9	70
Toxic Substances Hydrology Program	13.5	15
National Streamflow Information Program	20	21
Biological Information Management and Delivery	22.4	24
Biological Research and Monitoring	141	152
Cooperative Research Units	16.2	19.4
National Global Warming and Wildlife Science Center	2.5	10
High Priority Global Climate Change Research	4.9	10
<i>Total, Selected USGS Programs</i>	<i>285</i>	<i>321</i>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 6-1</b>		
<b><u>Federal Highway Administration</u></b>		
Surface Transportation Program	6,350	6,600
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement	1,721	1,780
Safe Routes to School	147	183
<i>Total, Selected Federal Highway Administration Programs</i>	<i>8,218</i>	<i>8,563</i>
<b><u>Federal Railway Administration</u></b>		
Amtrak	1,325	2,301
Federal Matching Grants for State Rail Corridor Investments	30	311
<i>Total, Selected Federal Railway Administration Programs</i>	<i>1,355</i>	<i>2,612</i>
<b><u>Federal Transit Administration</u></b>		
Fixed Guideway Modernization	1,570	1,670
New Starts	1,570	1,810
Bus and Bus Facility Program	823	984
Clean Fuels Grants Programs	49	52
<i>Total, Selected Federal Transit Administration Programs</i>	<i>4,012</i>	<i>4,516</i>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY 6-4</b>		
Global Environment Facility		see page 6-4
Tropical Forest Conservation Act	20	20

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## FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE (dollars in millions)

	2008 Enacted	2009 Recommended
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY</b>		
<b><u>Selected Science and Technology</u></b>		
Human Health and Ecosystem Research	125	197
Integrated Risk Information System Database	18.9	18.9
Global Change and Sustainability Research	20	27
STAR Fellowship Program	10	15.6
<i>Total, Selected Science and Technology</i>	<i>174</i>	<i>259</i>
<b><u>Hazardous Substance Superfund</u></b>		
Enforcement	194	500
Clean Water Act Permits	0	4
Energy Star	49	52
WaterSense	2	5
National Estuary Program	26.8	26.8
Environmental Justice	6.5	6.5
Superfund	1,300	1,500
<i>Total, Selected Hazardous Substance Superfund</i>	<i>1,579</i>	<i>2,094</i>
<b><u>Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program</u></b>		
	105.8	110.0
<b><u>State and Tribal Assistance Grants</u></b>		
State Revolving Funds		
Clean Water State Revolving Fund	689	1,100
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	829	866
Brownfields	93.5	168
Non-Point Source Management Program, Clean Water Act Section 319	201	220
Total Maximum Daily Loads	218	220
BEACH Act Grant Program	9.8	40
Targeted Watershed Grants	9.8	25
Diesel Emissions Reduction Program	49.2	55
<i>Total, Selected EPA Programs</i>	<i>2,099</i>	<i>2,694</i>
<b>NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) 8-1</b>		
<b><u>Overall NOAA Funding Level</u></b>	3,920	4,500
<b><u>National Marine Fisheries Service</u></b>		
Fishery Observer Program	31.5	56
Marine Mammal Protection	40.5	82
Sea Turtle Conservation	13.7	26.4
Deep Water Corals	NP	7
Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program	31.5	31.5
Enforcement	53.4	57.1
Expand Annual Stock Assessments	31.6	40
Marine Recreational Information Program	3.5	4.5
Cooperative Research in the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery	NS	5
<i>Total, Selected National Marine Fisheries Service Programs</i>	<i>206</i>	<i>310</i>

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FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE  
(dollars in millions)

	2008 Enacted	2009 Recommended
<b><u>National Ocean Service</u></b>		
National Marine Sanctuary Program	60	75
Marine Protected Areas Center	1.4	5
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program	8	80
Tropical Coral Conservation	29.2	35
<i>Total, Selected National Ocean Service Programs</i>	<i>98.6</i>	<i>195</i>
<b><u>Office of Research</u></b>		
Ocean Acidification Research	NP	30
National Undersea Research Program	10	19.5
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	67	120
Office of Ocean Exploration	19.5	25
National Undersea Research Program and Office of Ocean Exploration	NP	44.5
<i>Total, Selected Office of Research Programs</i>	<i>97</i>	<i>239</i>
<b><u>CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMS 9-1</u></b>		
<b><u>Chesapeake Bay</u></b>		
Environmental Protection Agency	23	32
Chesapeake Bay Targeted Watershed Grants	8	12
Department of Agriculture (NRCS)	0	10
Army Corps of Engineers	2	4
Department of Commerce (NOAA)	1.4	3
Chesapeake Bay Oyster Restoration	1.9	6
<i>Total, Chesapeake Bay Restoration</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>67</i>
<b><u>Everglades Ecosystem Restoration</u></b>		
Army Corps of Engineers	123	314
Department of the Interior (FWS, NPS)	32.1	50.3
Department of Commerce (NOAA)	3.9	6
<i>Total, Everglades Ecosystem Restoration</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>370</i>
<b><u>Great Lakes Ecosystem Restoration Projects</u></b>		
Environmental Protection Agency	56.8	79
Army Corps of Engineers	2.5	17.8
Department of Commerce (NOAA)	NS	16.5
Department of the Interior (FWS)	0.5	16
Department of the Interior (USGS)	NS	13.2
Department of State	16.7	21.8
Department of Agriculture (NRCS)	0.4	5
<i>Total, Great Lakes Restoration</i>	<i>76.9</i>	<i>169</i>
<b><u>Coastal Louisiana Restoration</u></b>		
	NS	1150

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(dollars in millions)

	2008 Enacted	2009 Recommended
<b><u>Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Hydropower Relicensing</u></b>		
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Energy Projects	NS	57.5
Department of Commerce (NOAA/NMFS)	NS	15.2
Department of the Interior (FWS, BIA, BLM, NPS)	NS	3.9
Bureau of Indian Affairs	NS	2
Bureau of Land Management	NS	1.4
National Park Service	NS	1.7
Department of Agriculture (USFS)	NS	12.4
<i>Total, FERC Hydropower Relicensing</i>		94
<b><u>Long Island Sound Restoration</u></b>		
Long Island Sound Restoration Act	4.8	40
Long Island Sound Stewardship Act	0	25
<i>Total, Long Island Sound Restoration</i>	4.8	65
<b><u>Open Rivers Initiative</u></b>		
Department of Commerce (NOAA)	6	10
Department of the Interior (FWS)	5.9	10
<i>Total, Open Rivers Initiative</i>	11.9	20
<b><u>Penobscot River Restoration</u></b>		
Department of Commerce (NOAA)	10	10
Department of the Interior	0.5	2
Department of Agriculture	0	2
<i>Total, Penobscot River Restoration</i>	10.5	14
<b><u>National Strategy To Address Impacts of Climate Change and Ocean Acidification</u></b>		
Council on Environmental Quality	NP	4
Department of the Interior	NP	5
Forest Service/NRCS	NP	2
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	NP	2
Environmental Protection Agency	NP	1
Army Corps of Engineers	NP	1
<i>Total, National Strategy to Address Climate Change and Ocean Acidification</i>		15
<b><u>National Environmental Policy Act</u></b>		
Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)	NS	0.7
Department of Agriculture (Forest Service)	NS	2
Department of the Interior (BLM)	NS	1.6
Environmental Protection Agency	NS	2.6
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	NS	9.5
<i>Total, NEPA Funding</i>		16.4

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## PROGRAM CONTACTS

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