

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Region 6 Migratory Birds**

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 15.637

Notice of Funding Availability and Application Instructions

I. Single Source Information

This is a Notice of Intent to award a Single Source Cooperative agreement to Nebraska Community Foundation for the purpose of implementing the Strategic Habitat Conservation business model to protect, restore, and enhance wetland and grassland resources within the Bird Conservation Regions 11 and 19 of Nebraska. These activities will significantly contribute to the goals and objectives outlined in the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture 2013 Implementation Plan.

The tasks to be performed under this agreement are as follows: Biological Planning, Conservation Design, Implementation of Conservation projects, Research/Inventory/Monitoring, and Communication/Outreach activities to facilitate wetland and grassland conservation within the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture administrative boundary.

This Single Source Award is being awarded in accordance with Department of the Interior Policy 505 DM 2.14 B, [4: Unique Qualifications], which allows for award without competition to an applicant. This recipient and project meet this criteria due to fact the Nebraska Community Foundation is a longstanding partner within the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture. Consequently, the RWBJV has long had cooperative agreements with Nebraska Community Foundation, so this new agreement is simply a continuation of activities presently being funded and it provides the spring-board to embark on new projects that fulfill the strategic needs of the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture partners including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Moreover, the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture geography has long been regarded as critical migration habitat for millions of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and wetland dependent waterbirds, so their continued involvement and actions are paramount to our collective success. Lastly, the Nebraska Community Foundation offers unique expertise and capacity that is vital for meaningful conservation success within the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture.

II. Award Information

This project should be considered a Cooperative Agreement with substantial involvement by the FWS Project Officer. The FWS Project Officer will work closely with personnel from Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to develop work plans for projects;

develop strategic direction on where to focus conservation efforts; develop conservation planning tools to help target conservation actions; and to conduct partner workshops. Consequently, the FWS Project Officer will serve as an integral partner with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks via this Cooperative Agreement.

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$1,000,000

Expected Number of Awards: 5

Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000

Award Floor: \$30,000

III. Basic Eligibility Requirements

Cost Sharing or Matching: Cost sharing or matching is not required.

IV. Agency Contacts

Project Officer

Andy Bishop
2550 N. Diers Ave.
Grand Island, Nebraska 68803-1214
andy_bishop@fws.gov

Administrative Officer

Theresa Bates
P.O. Box 25486
Denver, CO 80225
303-236-4407
theresa_bates@fws.gov