



DORIS DUKE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



Whooping cranes last nested in Louisiana in 1930 and disappeared by 1950. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries brought them back in 2011.

With the support of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the WCS Wildlife Action Opportunities Fund was launched in 2006.

Over the last four years, the Opportunities Fund awarded more than \$7.2 million for 81 wildlife conservation projects in 46 states, working to:

- Mitigate the effects of climate change
- Protect wildlife linkages and habitat connectivity
- Reintroduce species/restore habitat and
- Improve planning efforts to benefit the needs of wildlife

We are proud of the conservation outcomes achieved by all of our grantees and grateful for the on-going support of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

Response to the Wildlife Action Opportunities Fund was overwhelming. From 2006-2010 the Wildlife Conservation Society received **1,211** proposals for wildlife conservation action in **50** states and **4** U.S. territories.

The Wildlife Conservation Society saves wildlife and wild places worldwide. We do so through science, global conservation, education and the management of the world's largest system of urban wildlife parks, led by the flagship Bronx Zoo. Together these activities change attitudes toward nature and help people imagine wildlife and humans living in harmony. WCS is committed to this mission because it is essential to the integrity of life on earth.

The Mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child abuse, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.



Wind power is a clean energy source for humans, but turbines and transmission lines must be sited carefully to minimize environmental impacts. Manomet Center for Conservation is studying the potential benefits and threats to the wildlife and habitats these corridors transect.

Mitigating the Effects of Climate Change:

Center for Native Ecosystems \$148,738 Updating and improving Colorado's State Wildlife Action Plan through integrating climate change and wildlife corridors conservation.

Manomet Center for Conservation \$199,520 Ensuring that strategies are adopted for climate change impacts in the Mass. Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan

National Wildlife Federation (Northeast) \$120,000 Building climate-smart demonstration projects in the Northeast.

National Wildlife Federation \$200,000 Work in three pilot states (FL, VA and WA) to help state wildlife agencies become leaders on climate adaptation.

The Nature Conservancy (New Hampshire) \$193,451 Mitigating fragmentation and climate impacts on wildlife through functional habitat linkages in the Appalachians.

The Nature Conservancy (New Mexico) \$75,000 Assessing and mapping current and projected effects of climate change on habitats and species of conservation concern in New Mexico.

The Nature Conservancy (North Carolina) \$107,500 Coastal adaptation and wetland restoration on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge.

The Nature Conservancy (Virginia) \$92,717 Developing conservation strategies to facilitate adaptation and enhance resiliency of wildlife to climate change.

Playa Lakes Joint Venture \$79,138 Wind siting framework for states of the southern high plains.

The Trust for Public Land (Montana) \$85,437 Northern rockies climate adaptation strategy.



Thanks to the work of the Western Rivers Conservancy and partners, connectivity for numerous species will remain intact on 16,000 acres of habitat along the John Day River.

Protecting Wildlife Linkages and Habitat Connectivity:

Advanced Conservation Strategies \$144,328 Optimizing and mainstreaming a gopher tortoise habitat credit trading program in the southeastern United States.

American Rivers \$85,640 Securing instream flows in California coastal streams.

Defenders of Wildlife \$65,000 Creating a statewide forum to facilitate best practices/guidelines in designing and implementing wildlife connectivity plans.

Manoment Center for Conservation Sciences \$92,800 Understanding and promoting energy corridors for wildlife.

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks \$50,000 Crucial areas and connectivity assessment.

The Nature Conservancy (Missouri) \$189,945 Grand River Grasslands Prairie Habitat Connectivity.

The Nature Conservancy (Washington) \$107,868 Connected landscapes for the Columbia Plateau and Okanogan ecoregions of Washington.

The Nature Conservancy (Wisconsin) \$121,350 Developing a comprehensive strategy for maximizing the benefits of grass-based biomass in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Oregon Natural Desert Association \$195,700 Hart/Sheldon wildlife connectivity Project.

Pinchot Institute for Conservation, Bay Bank \$96,750 Eastern brook trout habitat crediting project.

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy \$50,000 Restoration & enhancement of habitat and connectivity areas on the Roan Mountain Massif.

The Vital Ground Foundation \$50,000 Selkirk-Cabinet-Purcell linkage zone initiative (Montana and Idaho).

Western Rivers Conservancy \$150,000 John Day River Project: establishing wildlife connectivity along the longest un-dammed river west of the rockies.



The Four Corner's institute returned the river otter into the Upper Rio Grande River and developed a long-term otter population management and monitoring plan for New Mexico.

Species Reintroduction/ Habitat Restoration

Alaska Department of Fish and Game \$152,350 Wood Bison restoration in Alaska.

Conservation Northwest \$124,000 Reintroducing Fisher to the Olympic Peninsula.

The Four Corners Institute \$36,000 Reintroduction of River Otters to the Rio Grande and Gila River, New Mexico.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries \$156,000 Reintroduction of whooping cranes to southwest Louisiana.

The Wildlife Management Institute \$150,000 New England Cottontail recovery project.

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife - \$95,760 - Restoration of the western gray squirrel and Mazma pocket gopher that are critical components of prairies and oak woodlands in Western Washington.

World Wildlife Fund \$65,000 Conducting prairie dog restoration and conservation in north central Montana.





The longleaf pine forest is one of the most fire-dependent ecosystems, harboring hundreds of different species and was once a dominant vegetation type of the coastal plain in Georgia and other southeastern states. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources along with project partners are working to restore this important ecosystem.

Development of planning efforts to benefit the needs of wildlife.

American Bird Conservancy \$132,000 Conservation of State Wildlife Action Plan Cavity-Nesting Bird Species on Ponderosa Pine Family Forests of the Pacific Northwest.

American Rivers \$100,000 Work to restore multiple aquatic species through removal of the Briggsville Dam in Clarksburg, Massachusetts.

Five Valleys Land Trust \$40,000 Developing a coordinated delivery mechanism for the habitat conservation and restoration components of Montana's comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources \$94,800 Seasonal fire crew targeting habitat restoration for rare species.

Atlanta Botanical Garden \$65,299 Restoration and safeguarding of six mountain bog habitats in northeast Georgia.

Grand Canyon Trust \$100,000 Rehabilitating and restoring wildlife habitat on the Kaibab Plateau, Arizona.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game \$95,000 Development of a transboundary decision support system (DSS) to guide and implement conservation, land use, energy, transportation, and climate change actions to benefit wildlife.

Indiana Wildlife Federation - \$35,000 - Engaging landowners in Indiana's comprehensive wildlife strategy.

Intermountain West Joint Venture \$84,000 Implementing State Wildlife Action Plans in the intermountain West through partnerships and leveraging Farm Bill conservation program funding.

Kansas City Wildlands \$61,700 Development of a conservation opportunity area action plan in the Kansas City area.

Michigan United Conservation Clubs \$93,455 Creation of a state-wide, broad based coalition of organizations and outreach programs.

Monadnock Conservancy \$50,000 Monadnock community conservation project.

National Audubon Society (Vermont) \$72,000 Addressing the threats of fragmentation and habitat loss through technical assistance and outreach to landowners, planners, municipalities and residents on public and private land.

The Nature Conservancy (Oregon) \$194,385 To support the analysis of forest landscapes at five sites in central and eastern Oregon and understanding fire suppression to ultimately protect wildlife habitat, human life and property.

The Nature Conservancy (Utah) \$50,000 To enhance Utah's Wildlife Action Plan to where it serves as a strategic guide for planning and action.

The Nature Conservancy (Washington) \$56,115 Implementation of direct restoration actions on grassland habitats.

National Wildlife Refuge Association \$150,000 Mobilizing communities to identify and support the conservation of priority lands and waters that serve as vital refuge buffer zones and wildlife corridors.

National Wild Turkey Federation \$35,500 Providing on-the-ground longleaf pine understory ecosystem restoration for private landowners in Louisiana.

National Wild Turkey Federation \$60,087 Oak Savannah restoration project.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission \$200,000 Implementation of the Green Growth Toolbox: integrating NC wildlife action plan priorities into local land use planning.

Open Space Institute \$76,000 Development and implementation of a Southern Appalachian State Wildlife Action Plan priority habitat toolkit.

Ozark Regional Land Trust \$21,000 Ozark Karst conservation easement project.

Pheasants Forever \$50,000 Creating grassland habitat on a landscape scale using incentives provided by state, federal and private programs as described in the wildlife action plan.

Platte River Basin Environments, Inc. \$100,000 Conservation and management of Wildcat Hill's habitats on both conservation-owned and private lands.

Playa Lakes Joint Venture
\$63,310 Engagement with the USDA Farm Service Agency and Natural Resource Conservation Services to increase Farm Bill program applicability for playa and aquifer conservation.

The Prairie Enthusiasts
\$200,000 Facilitation and implementation of the conservation, expansion and improvement of critical prairie/grassland and oak savanna habitat for 27 species of greatest conservation need.

Quail Unlimited \$100,000
Creation of self-sufficient "Habitat Management Teams" that focus on early successional restoration and management practices in priority conservation areas.

The Sonoran Institute \$75,000
Managing growth to protect fish and wildlife habitat in Montana.

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy
\$50,000 Creation of an accessible and secure GIS-based toolkit for the globally significant Roan Mountain Massif.

Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project \$55,000 Aligning transportation projects with state wildlife action plans in Colorado and New Mexico.

Southeast Watershed Forum
\$20,780 To support stakeholders working in three Tennessee communities integrating specific protection strategies.

Tall Timbers Research Station
\$42,900 Addressing habitat restoration by implementing on-the-ground management to increase populations of declining fire-dependent species.

Triangle Land Conservancy
\$25,000 Comprehensive conservation plan for Chatham county, North Carolina.

Trout Unlimited (California)
\$90,000 In support of the Water and Wine initiative to restore streams and enhance stream flows for fish through out California's wine country.

Trout Unlimited (Montana)
\$38,000 Improve stream flows crucial to restoration of arctic grayling in the upper Big Hole River basin.

Vermont Natural Resources Council \$64,000 To prioritize north-south wildlife crossing areas in Vermont using historical data and new road ecology science and wildlife passage techniques.

Vermont Wildlife Partnership
\$75,000 To build a diverse coalition of partnership to direct 1/8 of 1% of Vermont's state sales tax to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

Wildlife Management Institute
\$158,400 Improving the quantity, quality and conservation status of shrubland and grassland habitat in six northeastern states.