



US Fish & Wildlife Service

International Affairs Program & Efforts

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Region 2



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Through its international programs, the Fish and Wildlife Service works multilaterally with many partners and nations in the implementation of international treaties, convention, and on-the-ground projects for conservation of species and the habitats upon which they depend.

Why Work Internationally?



Why Work Internationally?

- ❖ Geopolitical boundaries do not exist in nature
- ❖ Economic, ecological, aesthetic, spiritual, cultural, and recreational benefits of global wildlife species
- ❖ Power of cooperation among gov'ts, non-gov't entities



Varying conservation laws, priorities, cultures

History

Leverage resources in other gov't's

Private sector

Scientific partners

Photo Bill Reaves, TPWD

Legislative Authorization



Panda Bears (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*)

Legislative Authorization

- ❖ CITES ESA
- ❖ MMPA Lacey Act
- ❖ NAFTA WBCA
- ❖ Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
- ❖ Western Hemisphere Convention
- ❖ Multinational Species Conservation Acts



•The international program is mandated by a variety of domestic laws, international treaties, and agreements.

CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, global treaty that ensures international trade is based on sustainable-use management of wild and captive populations

Lacey Act: Injurious wildlife permits and humane import of wildlife

ESA: Endangered Species Act, the Service's nexus to CITES for foreign-listed species

MMPA: Marine Mammal Protection Act

MSCF: Multinational Species Conservation Fund (AECA, AECA, GACA, RTCA)

NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement between Canada, United Mexican States and the United States of America to expand and secure market for goods and services produced in North America

RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International importance: global habitat-oriented convention for wetlands conservation

US/USSR Agreement/Area V: In 1972, the United States and the Soviet Union signed an Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection to provide a framework under which the two nations could collaborate on environmental issues of mutual interest and concern--renegotiated in 1994 .

WBCA: Wild Bird Conservation Act

Western Hemisphere Convention: A broad accord to conserve wildlife and their natural habitats

International Efforts at FWS



Polar Bear (*Thalarectos maritimus*)

International Efforts at FWS

- ❖ International Affairs Program
 - ❖ *Division of Management Authority*
 - ❖ *Division of Scientific Authority*
 - ❖ *Division of International Conservation*
 - ❖ *Wildlife without Borders*
 - ❖ *Multinational Species Conservation Funds*

- ❖ Field Office Collaboration in Border Regions



Division of International Conservation



West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)

Division of International Conservation

- ❖ Implements bi- and multinat'l initiatives and internat'l agreements
- ❖ Provides developing countries with training and educational assistance
- ❖ Administers and implements projects under the Multinat'l Species Conservation Acts
- ❖ Monitors Service contributions to organizations such as IUCN, Arctic Council, and South Pacific Regional Environmental Program



Implements bi-national and multinational initiatives and international agreements

Provides developing countries with training and educational assistance

Administers and implements projects under the Multinational Species Conservation Acts

Monitors Service contributions to international flora and fauna organizations such as IUCN, Arctic Council, and South Pacific Regional Environmental Program

*Division of Management
Authority*



African Elephants (*Loxodonta africana*)

Division of Management Authority

- ❖ Implements international wildlife trade and permitting programs
- ❖ Represents the US at CITES meetings
- ❖ Assists in monitoring trade in protected specimens
- ❖ Works with States and Tribes to facilitate sustainable export of native species



Division of Scientific Authority



Jaguarundi (*Felis yagouaroundi*)

Division of Scientific Authority

- ❖ Scientific and technical issues related to international wildlife trade
- ❖ Develops species listings under CITES and evaluates listing of foreign species under the ESA
- ❖ Issues non-detriment findings required for issuance of permits
- ❖ Evaluates species in trade to determine their potential to become invasive



*Multinational Species
Conservation Funds*



Orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*)

Multinational Species Conservation Funds

- ❖ Technical and cost-sharing grant assistance
- ❖ Since 1990
 - ❖ 500 Partners
 - ❖ 300 Projects
 - ❖ 35 countries
 - ❖ over \$70M in support



ENACTED

African Elephant Conservation Act of 1989

Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997

Rhino/Tiger Conservation Act of 1994

Great Apes Conservation Act of 2000

UNDER CONSIDERATION

Marine Turtle Conservation Act

Crane Conservation Act

Borderlands Wildlife Conservation Act

Rare Felines and Canines Conservation Act

Monarch Butterfly Conservation Act

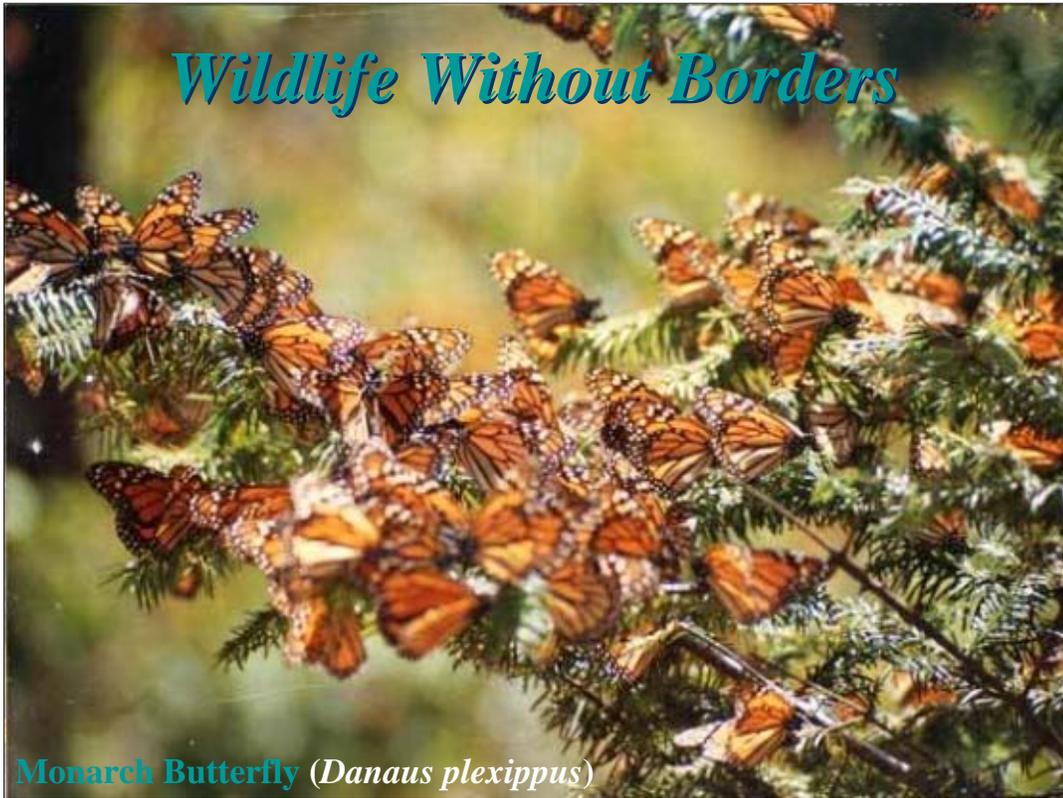
Funds are administered through the FWS International Affairs Program, Division on International Conservation

2 potential new acts introduced to congress:

marine turtle conservation act, recently passed the Senate, may be considered in house in '04

crane conservation act, but has not yet been considered by committee

Wildlife Without Borders



Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)

Wildlife Without Borders

- ❖ Financial Assistance Programs
 - ❖ *Latin America & the Caribbean*
 - ❖ *Mexico*
 - ❖ *India*
 - ❖ *Russia*



Support conservation education, capacity building, information exchange and technology transfer, treaty implementation, protocols and conventions, protected areas support, endangered and migratory species conservation, and ecosystem conservation and management

Projects with Results

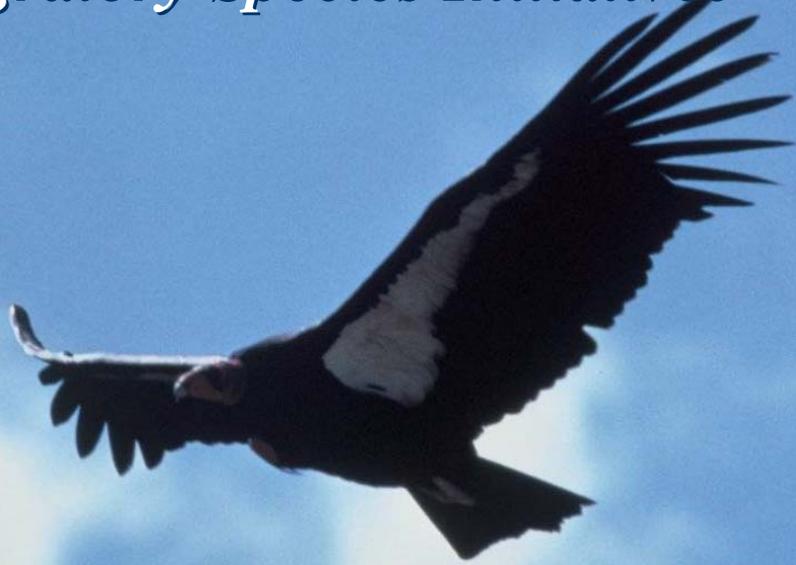
African Black Rhinoceros (Diceros bicornis)

Projects with Results

- ❖ Wildlife w/o Borders and Multinational Species Conservation Funds
- ❖ From 1995 to 2002, \$31.7 Million awarded in grant money
- ❖ 1,025 projects sponsored
- ❖ \$99.5 Million leveraged in matching and in-kind support



Migratory Species Initiatives



California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*)

Migratory Species Initiatives

- ❖ Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act
- ❖ North American Bird Conservation Initiative
- ❖ International Sea turtle Conservation efforts
- ❖ Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Conference



Border Region Field Offices

Gray Whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*)

Border Region Field Offices

- ❖ Partner with Mexico & Canada
- ❖ Recovery planning & implementation
- ❖ Region 2 has 60 T&E species sharing habitat in Mexico



Mexican Grey Wolf



Mexican Gray Wolf (*Canis lupis baileyi*)

Mexican Grey Wolf

- ❖ Mexican gov't participation on recovery team
- ❖ Zoos/captive breeding facilities in Mexico
- ❖ Annual meetings/coordination



Photo Bill Reaves, TPWD

Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle



Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)

Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle



Photo Bill Reaves, TPWD

Sonoran Pronghorn



Sonoran Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana sonoriensis*)

Sonoran Pronghorn

- ❖ Species on verge of extinction
- ❖ Intnt'l participation on recovery team
- ❖ Mexico population supplementing captive rearing



*Interagency Partnership
Opportunities*

Jaguar (*Felis onca*)

Interagency Partnership Opportunities

- ❖ Financial Assistance
Program advisors
- ❖ Western hemisphere
Migratory Species
Conference
- ❖ Canada/US/Mexico
Trilateral Committee
- ❖ North American Bird
Conservation Initiative
- ❖ Partners in Flight



WWB and MSCA employ experts throughout gov't to review grants and set conservation priorities for the species and regions being assisted. Some acts mandate the use of scientific advisory committee.

NABCI has members from multiple federal agencies and has a standing NABCI international committee working group comprised of representatives from a number of agencies.

Partners in Flight consists of 16 federal agencies, 146 NGO's, over 60 state and provincial fish & wildlife agencies, 15 industry members, numerous universities, and groups from all over the hemisphere.

Become a Partner!



Pronghorn Antelope (*Antilocapra americana*)