

Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary to carry out the African Elephant Conservation Act, the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997, the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994, the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000, and the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 \$4,257,000 to remain available until expended. 16 U.S.C 1538, 4201-4203, 4211-4213, 4221-4225, 4241-4245, 4261-4266, 5301-5306, 6301-6305, 6601-6607).

Authorizing Statutes

African Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4201-4203, 4211-4213, 4221-4225, 4242-4245, 1538). Authorizes funding for approved projects for research, conservation, management and protection of African elephants and their habitats. Authorizes prohibitions against the sale, importation, and exportation of ivory derived from African elephants. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2007.

Asian Elephant Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 4261-4266, 1583). Authorizes financial assistance for cooperative projects for the conservation and protection of Asian elephants and their habitats. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2007.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, (16 U.S.C. 5301-5306, 1583). Authorizes grants to other nations and to the *CITES* Secretariat for programs directly or indirectly assisting in the conservation of rhinoceros and tigers. Prohibits the sale, importation, and exportation of products derived from any species of rhinoceros and tiger. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2007.

Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000, (16 U.S.C. 6301-6303, 1583). Authorizes grants to foreign governments, the *CITES* secretariat, and non-governmental organizations for the conservation of great apes. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2010.

Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004, (Public Law 108-266; 16 U.S.C. 6601). Authorizes financial assistance in the conservation of marine turtles and the nesting habitats of marine turtles, to conserve the nesting habitats, conserve marine turtles in those habitats and address other threats to the survival of marine turtles. The funds are to be a sub-account of the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. Authorization of Appropriations: Expires September 30, 2009.

Multinational Species Conservation Fund

	2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
African Elephant Conservation Fund	1,379	990			990	-
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund	1,379	990			990	-
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund	1,576	990			990	-
Great Ape Conservation Fund	1,379	990			990	-
Marine Turtle Conservation Fund	691	297			297	-
Impact of the CR		+1,800		-1,800		-1,800
Total, Multinational Species Conservation Fund						
(\$000)	6,404	6,057			4,257	-
FTE	3	3			3	-

Summary of 2008 Program Changes for Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Request Component	Amount	FTE
• Impact of CR	-1,800	0
Total, Program Changes	-1,800	0

Justification of 2008 Program Changes

Impact of 2007 Continuing Resolution (-\$1,800,000)

The 2008 Budget includes a \$1,800,000 decrease to align the priorities of the 2007 President's Budget with the 2007 continuing resolution level, including eliminating unrequested congressional earmarks, implementing the program enhancement and other program reduction proposals included in the 2007 President's budget, including fixed costs for 2007.

Program Overview

The Multinational Species Funds provide direct support in the form of technical and cost-sharing grant assistance to range countries for on-the-ground conservation of African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes, marine turtles and their habitats. The Multinational Species Conservation Funds (MSCFs) support Strategy 2.2.2.0712 of the DOI Strategic Plan to manage populations to self-sustaining levels for specific species and the Service's Operating Plan Goal 10 to influence sustainable conservation of species of international concern through Critical Success Factor 10.3 by facilitating the conservation of these species through federal assistance grants and leveraged funds or in-kind resources. The sustainability of species is influenced by these projects because the activities funded gradually change the perception of local people about the affect that species and their habitats have on their daily lives. Old customs and traditions related to coexistence with species are not altered until the people affected can be convinced that alternative practices will yield positive benefits. These changes are gradual because instant results related to agricultural or economic benefits are not possible.

A number of activities designed to promote collaboration with key range country decision-makers which ultimately furthers sound policy development, international cooperation, and goodwill toward the U.S. among citizens of developing countries are funded through this program. The Funds strengthen law enforcement activities, build support for conservation among people living in the vicinity of the species' habitats, and provide vital infrastructure and field equipment needed to conserve habitats. The program strengthens local capacity by providing essential training, opportunities for newly trained staff to apply

skills in implementing field projects, and opportunities for local people to gain project management expertise.

By maintaining species-specific funds, focus can be given to the needs of species or species groups of particular importance to the American public. The range countries of these species are most often underdeveloped nations in Africa and Asia, where local people have few skills or little training in wildlife management. Funds provided are used for on-the-ground projects that provide local people and professional in-country wildlife researchers and managers with the tools and skills to effectively protect their country's wildlife and habitat resources. Without this assistance, it is likely that people in these nations will otherwise continue activities that result in further degradation of species and their habitats which may ultimately result in extinction.

More than \$115 million in matching or in-kind support has been obtained since the first grant was awarded under the *African Elephant Conservation Act* in 1990, nearly tripling the effect of the Service's \$43 million in appropriations. More than 500 partners have worked with the Service in 44 countries to protect and conserve these species, which demonstrates broad interest in the long-term conservation of them. In addition, coordination with other Federal agencies involved in overseas activities, such as USAID, can link species preservation and habitat management under the MSCF with economic development and other conservation efforts by other Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Administration

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to use up to \$80,000 for general program administration for each of the five Multinational Species Conservation Fund grant programs. Program administrative costs represent salary and related support costs for the administration of these grant programs. The Great Apes Conservation Fund was reauthorized in fiscal year 2007, with language raising this fund's limitation to \$100,000.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

The Multinational Species Conservation Funds achieve mission results via performance-based management on several fronts, in conformance with the Departmental Strategic Plan:

- **Activity-based costing** and leveraged funding or matching resources from cooperators are gauges of the cost and benefit of international federal assistance for these species focused projects. For example, in 2006, the Service provided \$50,000 for a project designed to assist emerging wildlife managers by establishing an applied Masters of Science program in Biodiversity Conservation in Cambodia, ultimately strengthening tiger conservation and other wildlife habitats in that country. Our partners in this venture, Fauna and Flora International, provided an additional \$267,132 in matching resources, which is more than five times the funding provided through appropriations. Although this match is exceptional, it demonstrates the commitment of non-governmental organizations to wildlife conservation and management activities that hope to sustain these species in the future.
- Since their inception (1990 through 2006), the multinational species conservation funds have leveraged over \$115 million in matching and in-kind support from \$43 million in appropriations, a testament to the importance placed on conservation of these species around the world.
- During 2006, the Service received a total of 359 proposals and awarded 180 grants from available multinational funds and funds provided from foreign assistance appropriations to support species-focused projects for African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tiger, great apes, and marine turtles.
- A protocol and criteria to evaluate grants targets funding for the species and habitats designated for conservation assistance by the Multinational Species Acts and **supports the accomplishment of program performance goals** to manage populations to self-sustaining levels through international cooperation with species' range country government and non-government individuals and organizations.
- Standardized financial assistance processes for these grant programs comply with government-wide financial assistance standards resulting from Public Law 106-107 implementation; provide improved customer service; eliminate duplication of effort; ensure efficiency and consistency among grant programs; and reduce the amount of time spent by both grantees and project managers overseeing the process. Ultimately, as undeveloped countries become more technologically advanced, electronic processes will become standard, mitigating manual and paper processes and thereby further reducing costs.

2008 Program Performance

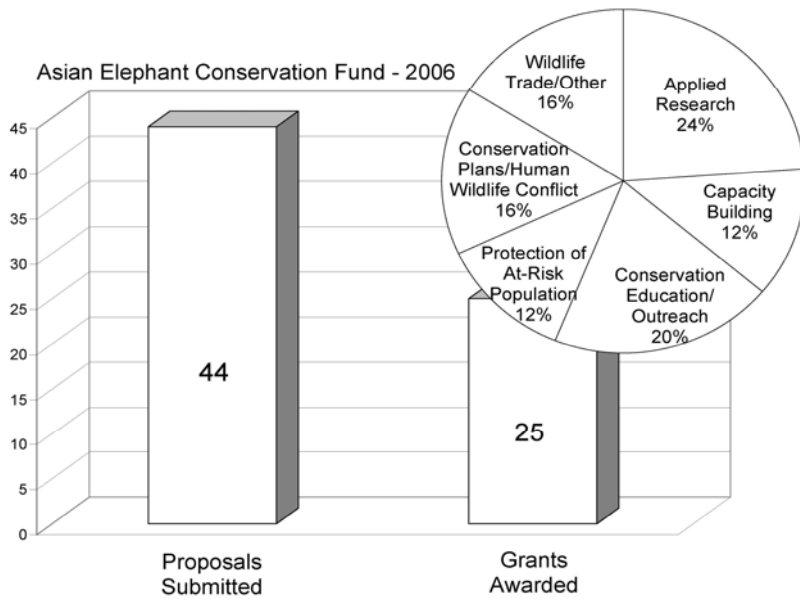
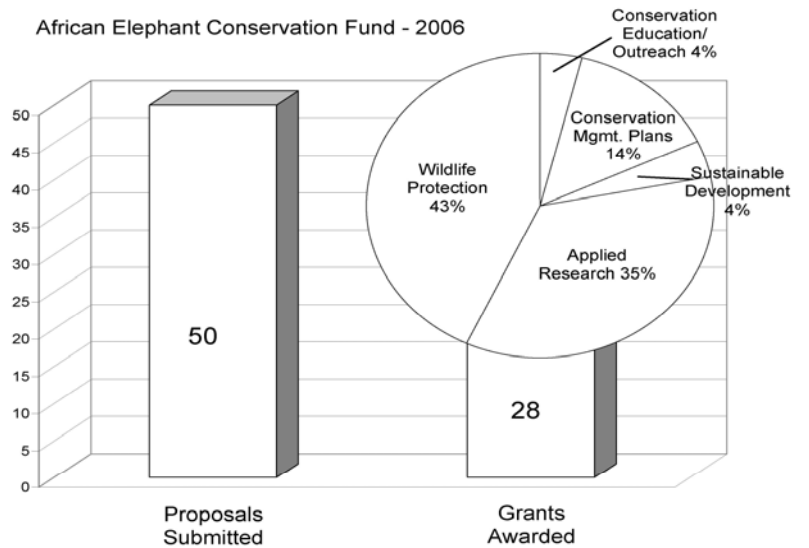
Funding for all the Multinational Species Conservation Funds would allow the Service to continue the highest priority projects impacting the greatest number of species. These projects provide direct support to range countries through broad-based partnerships with national governments, non-governmental organizations, and other private entities for on-the-ground activities to conserve these species and their habitats. Species targets remain steady, demonstrating the Service's concentration on only the highest priority projects that focus on select species.

To focus greater attention on increasing partnerships with other agencies, non-government organizations, individuals, and academia, which share in the cost of joint conservation, international conservation efforts maximize matching funds and in-kind resources from these entities, using appropriated funds as leverage. There is a direct correlation of matching resource availability with appropriations levels. Economic, financial, social, and environmental (i.e., weather) conditions in range countries also influence the availability of partner and collaborator resource matches with appropriated funds. The highest needs for conservation in these countries continue to outpace current funding levels resulting in a number of identified, unfunded high priority projects. Historically, the Service has been able to fund less than 50% of the total proposals received.

Activities funded in 2006 continued to demonstrate our involvement in improving species' status for species important to the American public through collaboration at the local level.

African Elephant Conservation

In 2006, Service support to projects included support for transboundary collaboration of park authorities in Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Uganda to reduce cross-border poaching and trafficking of elephant ivory. Funding was also used to provide training to monitor elephant population size, density and seasonal movements in the landscape; improve protection for elephants in Kenya by identifying resident and transient and identification of individual elephants that repeatedly break fences and raid adjacent farms; and provide assistance to a Gabon wildlife department in implementing anti-poaching missions.

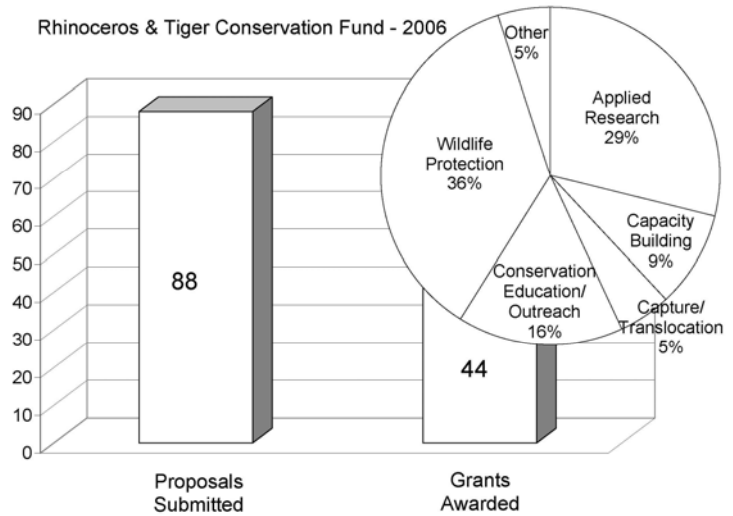


Asian Elephant Conservation

Projects supported in 2006 included one-year training for 50 frontline volunteers on wildlife conservation and anti-poaching methods for elephants in India; support for environmental and conservation education relating to forests and wildlife in Cambodia; and conservation of elephant habitat and populations in Sumatra through collaboration between its National Park staff, communities, mahouts and captive elephants.

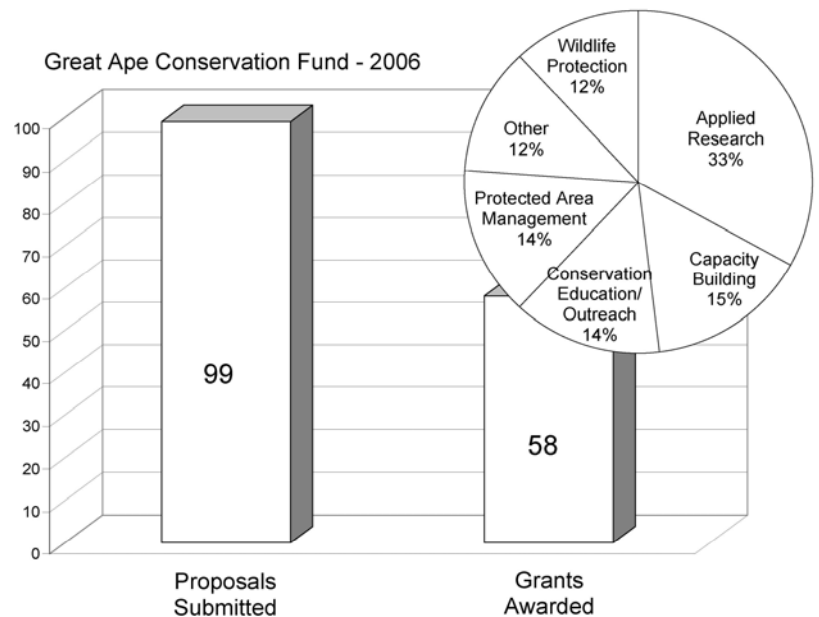
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation

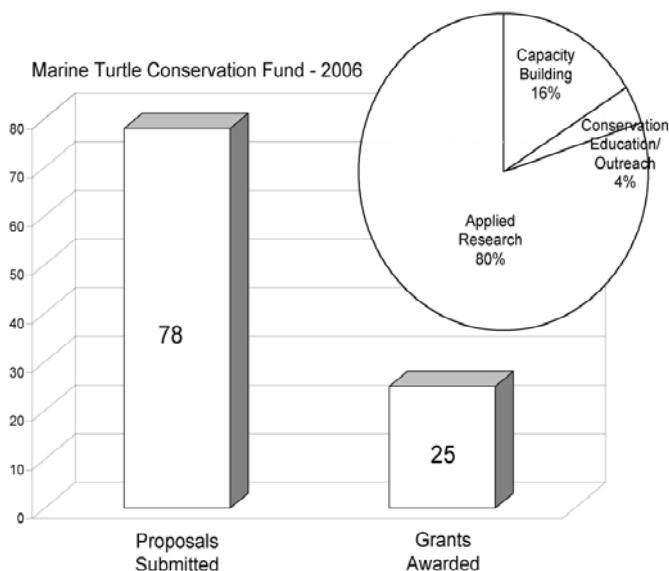
In 2006, the Service supported a number of important projects for these species including strengthening of rhinoceros conservation through public outreach and support for apprehension of poachers and rhino horn traders operating in Nepal; environmental education activities designed to strengthen tiger conservation awareness in Russia including Tiger Day Festivals, development of tiger conservation banners and sign boards in schools, art contests, education seminars and classes on tiger conservation at eco-centers, and media outreach; and training and support for 50 home guards drawn from local communities in India to facilitate relocation of additional Indian rhinos into a national park.



Great Ape Conservation

In 2006, projects included workshops to teach over 200 teachers, forest officers, and non-government organization personnel on educating others on the importance of the conservation of the Hoolock gibbon in India; continued support for the operation of Orangutan Protection and Habitat Monitoring Units directed at stopping the killing and capture of orangutans and destruction of their habitat in an Indonesian National Park and its buffer zone; and support for a study and follow-up work to evaluate the potential for carefully managed logging concessions to conserve ape populations in the Congo.





Marine Turtle Conservation

Marine turtle projects in 2006 included launch of a community awareness and education program and recruitment and training of conservation guards from local communities to monitor marine turtle populations and collect data to assess the impact of coastal development in Angola; community collaboration to protect turtles and nests, collect nesting data, and provide education and outreach activities in New Guinea; and training for Community Turtle Officers to conduct daily nest surveys and protect turtles in Tanzania.

2008 Program Performance

Cost inefficiencies have already been reduced or eliminated as far as practicable. Administrative work that can be automated domestically has been. This work is not likely to be completely automated in international operations because of limited or nonexistent electronic capabilities of foreign entities and financial institutions. As these and similar technological barriers are lifted in undeveloped countries where funded projects are implemented, additional efficiencies will be obtained when possible.

In FY 2008, the individual Multinational Species Conservation Funds as requested are level with the 2007 President’s Budget. Because the number of species is focused on only the highest priority species and is purposefully small, efforts are concentrated on those species which are deemed especially important to the American public and within the range countries where these species have their habitats. Since federal assistance awards are made on a competitive basis, the Service prioritizes the proposals submitted.

In FY 2008, significant accomplishments in the Multinational Species Conservation Funds will be directed toward species range States and international conservation organizations, with special emphasis on countries that show increased interest in conservation action or have not previously received assistance. For African Elephant, Asian Elephant, and Great Ape conservation, 22 new projects to conserve and protect these species will be implemented. Implementation of 25 new projects will be accomplished for rhinoceros and tiger conservation and 10 projects will be supported for marine turtle conservation.

In 2007, we estimate that all appropriations will be expended for the five funds. Matching and in-kind resources will be maximized as much as possible.

Program Performance Overview

The target performance levels shown in the President’s 2008 Budget are level with that of 2007. Since we limit the species focus to those of the highest priority, we anticipate that we will continue to see improvement for those focused species shown at the levels below.

	2004 Actual	2005 Actual	2006 Plan	2006 Actual	2007 Plan	2007 Change from 2006	2008 Plan	2008 Change from 2007
10.3.1 Number of species of international concern facilitated through conservation by federal assistance awards and leveraged funds or in-kind resources (BUR)	30	31	32	32	32	0	32	0

** Performance data also reflects the contributions of activities performed under the International Conservation’s Wildlife Without Borders Initiatives.

Standard Form 300

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND**

Program and financing (in millions of dollars)			
Identification code 14-1652-0-1-303	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
<u>Obligations by program activity:</u>			
00.01 African Elephant Conservation projects	1	1	1
00.02 Asian Elephant Conservation Projects	1	1	1
00.03 Rhinoceros/Tiger Conservation Projects	3	2	1
00.04 Great Ape Conservation Fund	1	1	1
00.05 Marine Sea Turtle	1	1	0
10.00 Total obligations	7	6	4
<u>Budgetary resources available for obligation:</u>			
21.40 Unobligated balance available, start of year	7	6	4
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	7	6	4
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	14	12	8
23.95 Total new obligations	-7	-6	-4
24.40 Unobligated balance available, end of year	7	6	4
<u>New budget authority (gross), detail:</u>			
40.00 Appropriation (special fund, definite)	7	6	4
43.00 Appropriation Total	7	6	4
68.00 Spending Authority from Offsetting collections (Interest on Great Ape)	0	0	0
<u>Change in unpaid obligations:</u>			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	4	6	6
73.10 Total new obligations	7	6	4
73.20 Total outlays (gross) (-)	-5	-6	-5
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	6	6	5
<u>Outlays (gross), detail:</u>			
86.90 Outlays from new discretionary authority	1	2	1
86.93 Outlays from current authority	4	4	4
87.00 Total outlays (gross)	5	6	5
<u>Net budget authority and outlays:</u>			
89.00 Budget authority	7	6	4
90.00 Outlays	5	6	5
92.01 Total Investments SOY, Federal Securities: Par Value	0	0	1
92.02 Total Investments EOY, Federal Securities: Par Value	0	1	1
95.02 Unpaid Obligation, end of year	6	6	5

Standard Form 300

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

Program and financing (in millions of dollars)			
	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate	2008 Estimate
Identification code 14-1652-0-1-303			
Object classification (in millions of dollars)			
Personnel compensation:			
11.9 Total personnel compensation	0	0	0
41.0 Grants, subsidies and contributions	7	6	4
99.9 Total obligations	7	6	4
Personnel Summary			
Full-time equivalent employment	3	3	3