Policy Update

Working for Waterfowl

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA), clean water and climate are among the current top priorities for DU’s policy efforts.

A bill to enhance NAWCA became law in March 2010. The bill will allow increased investment from Canada to fulfill requirements for private funds to match US federal contributions. This change was promoted by DU demonstrating the value of DU’s policy work.

The Farm Bill, although not scheduled for renewal until 2012, also remains on DU’s radar, because Farm Bill programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program and Wetlands Reserve Program have significant implications for waterfowl habitat.

To receive the latest news on DU’s policy work go to www.ducks.org/CIB and subscribe to the Conservation Issues Briefing.

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Project Spotlight:

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge

A Decade of Success and Partnership

During the last Decade, Ducks Unlimited has worked closely with the staff of Cibola NWR to improve habitat conditions for migrating birds, which also improved public use opportunities for sportsmen. With the help of other partners, including BASF, California Department of Fish and Game, Friends of Cibola NWR, North American Wetlands Conservation Act, River Partners, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Ducks Unlimited has helped restore or enhance over 4,360 acres of habitat that improved conditions for wildlife and public enjoyment.

**PROJECT LIST:**

- **Long Pond**: Cibola NWR and DU, 80 acres of seasonal wetlands, 2007
- **Nature Trail Rehab.**: Cibola NWR, 40 acres of interpretive trails and habitat, 2008
- **Unit 2 Fields Rehab.**: Cibola NWR, 300 acres of goose habitat enhanced, 2005
- **Unit 2 Pond Const.**: Cibola NWR, 40 acres seasonal waterfowl habitat, 2005
- **Unit 2 Ditch**: Cibola NWR and DU, secure water supply for Unit 2, 2007
- **Unit 3 Small NAWCA**: NAWCA, Cibola NWR, DU, BASF, Friends of Cibola NWR, 500 acres of invasive salt cedar control, seasonal wetland and riparian restoration, 2008-2010
- **Fire Rehab Project**: Cibola NWR, DU, 550 acres of riparian restoration, 2007-2011
- **Hartline Marsh**: Cibola NWR, BOR, DU, 20 acres of Riparian Restoration (shaded light green), 2008-2009
- **Hartline Marsh**: Cibola NWR, Friends of Cibola NWR, DU, 225 acres of wetlands restored, 2010; NAWCA, DU, 10 acres Riparian Restoration (shaded light green), 2010
Oregon

DU Responds to Sea Level Rise. In the West, DU has completed over 2,500 projects, with many of these in coastal areas now threatened by sea level rise. In an effort to maintain past investment in restored wetlands and guarantee future work integrates climate change, DU is designing projects in ways that account for sea level rise from a waterfowl perspective as well as ensure that easements in coastal areas will provide wetlands for the future. DU recently received funding from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation and M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust to support this work.

DU’s Western Office Gets Top Award from Wildlife Agencies. Ducks Unlimited’s western regional office received the prestigious President’s Award from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The award is given to an organization or individual that, “best exemplifies the highest ideals of innovation, leadership, stewardship and/or dedication involving fish and wildlife resources in the West.”

North America’s Boreal Forest. At 1.5 Billion acres, North America’s Boreal Forest accounts for 25% of the Earth’s remaining intact forests. DU has been a leader in conservation and sustainable development of the forest. In the last ten years, DU, Pew Environmental Group, and other partners have helped protect over 130 million acres of key waterfowl breeding area, such as the Ramparts, Akaitscho, and East Arm of Great Slave Lake (equaling 25 million acres just this last year).

Western States News

Grassroots and Conservation

The minimum conservation goal for each state is to spend the equivalent of 7.5% of total grassroots income raised in that state. This is based on a five-year average. The amount actually spent is much greater.

Arizona

Five-Year Average Conservation Expenditures 2005 -- 2009

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<th>Minimum Goal</th>
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<td>Arizona</td>
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For More Information and to Help Support Wetland, Waterfowl and Wildlife Conservation in the West

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