

priority system does not preclude former NAWCA grant recipients from receiving Small Grants funding; ultimately, project resource value is the critical factor in deciding which projects receive funding. Also, projects are likely to receive a greater level of attention if they are part of a broader related or unrelated effort to bring or restore wetland or wetland-associated upland conservation values to a particular area or region.

In addition, proposals must represent on-the-ground projects, and any overhead in the project budget must constitute 10 percent or less of the grant amount. The anticipated magnitude of wetlands and wildlife resources benefits that will result from project execution is an important factor in proposal evaluation, and there should be a reasonable balance between acreages of wetlands and wetland-associated uplands. Mitigation-related projects may be precluded from consideration, depending upon the nature of the mitigation application.

Please keep in mind that NAWCA and matching funds may be applied only to wetlands acquisition, creation, enhancement, and/or restoration; they may not be applied to signage, displays, trails or other educational features, materials and equipment, even though the goal of the project may ultimately be to support wetland conservation education curricula. Projects oriented toward education are not ordinarily eligible for NAWCA funding because education is not a primary purpose of the Act. However, useful project outcomes can include educational benefits resulting from conservation actions. Research is also not a primary purpose of the Act, and research proposals are not considered for funding.

Even though we require less total application information for Small Grants than we do for the Standard Grants program, Small Grant proposals must have clear explanations and meet the basic purposes given above and the 1:1 or greater non-Federal matching requirements of the NAWCA. Small Grants projects must also be consistent with Council-established guidelines, objectives and policies. All non-Federal matching funds and proposed expenditures of grant funds must be consistent with Appendix A of the Small Grants instructions, "Eligibility Requirements for Match of NAWCA Grant and Non-Federal Funds." Applicants must submit a completed Standard Form 424, Application For Federal Assistance. Hard copies of Small Grant instructions (booklets) are no longer provided, except under

special circumstances. However, the NAWCA Program website, birdhabitat.fws.gov, contains instructions for completing and submitting a Small Grant application, as well as forms and instructions for the Standard Form 424.

Small Grant proposals may be submitted prior to the due date but must be postmarked no later than Friday, November 30, 2001. Address submitted proposals as follows: Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 110, Arlington, VA 22203, Attn: Small Grants Coordinator.

Applicants must submit *complete* grant request packages to the Division of Bird Habitat Conservation (DBHC), including *all* of the documentation of partners (partner letters) with funding pledge amounts. Information on funding in partner letters, i.e., amounts and description regarding use, must correspond with budget amounts in the budget table and any figures provided in the narrative.

With the volume of proposals received, we are not usually able to contact proposal sources to verify and/or request supplemental data and/or materials. Thus, those proposals lacking required information or containing conflicting information are subject to being declared ineligible and not further considered for funding.

For more information, call the DBHC office secretary at 703-358-1784, facsimile 703-358-2282, or send E-mail to R9ARW_DBHC@FWS.GOV. Small Grant application instructions may be available by E-mail as a WordPerfect® file, upon request.

In conclusion, we require that, upon arrival in the DBHC, proposal packages must be: complete with regard to the information requested, presented in the format requested, and be presented according to the established deadline.

The Service has submitted information collection requirements to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. On May 26, 1999, OMB gave its approval for this information collection and confirmed the approval number as 1018-0100. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The information collection solicited: is necessary to gain a benefit in the form of a grant, as determined by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council and the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission; is necessary to determine the eligibility

and relative value of wetland projects; results in an approximate paperwork burden of 80 hours per application; and does not carry a premise of confidentiality. The information collections in this program will not be part of a system of records covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)).

Dated: May 22, 2001.

Thomas O. Melius,

Assistant Director—Migratory Birds and State Programs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of approved Tribal-State Compact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Pub. L. 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in the **Federal Register**, notice of approved Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. The Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (Management), Department of the Interior, through his delegated authority, has approved the Off-Track Wagering Compact between the Choctaw Nation and the State of Oklahoma, which was executed on March 28, 2001.

DATES: This action is effective June 7, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George T. Skibine, Director, Office of Indian Gaming Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

Dated: May 25, 2001.

James H. McDivitt,

Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (Management).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of approved Tribal-State Compact.