

US Fish and Wildlife Service

SUMMARY OF STATE WILDLIFE (NNA)

Washington 2004

Division of Federal Aid

September 27, 2005



T-2-1

Citizen Science - Conservation and Recovery of Priority Species - Volunteer Data Collection

Develop partnerships with volunteers in the community and schools to collect scientifically valid information important in conservation and management of WEFW priority species through implementing 5 projects that will: Provide training to K-12 students to enable them to undertake fish, wildlife & habitat field studies; develop and implement policies to include citizen science data into WDFW database; work with school districts to investigate wildlife and habitat components (with focus on cougars) of their communities; provide avenues for citizens to investigate, report and field-truth LandSat habitat data; use school district student/teacher information to investigate causes for mule deer declines in Eastern Washington; and implement a field investigation research project on bald eagle nests using remote techniques through 'Wildlife Cams'.

These objectives will produce benefits such as: volunteers and students will provide species distribution data to WDFW data base to inform decision making; data on cougars will be used to plan more effective management strategies to reduce conflicts and improve human safety; in acquiring data for use by the agency, students will learn more about the world they live in and the importance of sound wildlife management; through participating in data collection, local communities will gain information to allow them to be better able to participate in making responsible choices; the science investigations in these projects will motivate citizens and students to become more involved in local conservation activities; the processes of citizen and student participation will result in developing new, stronger partnerships to support and inform local field investigations and influence decision-making.

Beginning Date: 04/12/2004

Ending Date: 06/30/2007

Federal Cost: \$ 182,055.00

Congressional District(s): All