

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Migratory Bird and Wetlands Conservation Stamp and Artwork Program
Expenditure Plan for FY 2015-17 Biennium

A. History of Migratory Bird Stamp and Artwork Legislation

The Migratory Waterfowl and Wetland Conservation Stamp and Artwork legislation was signed into law on May 10, 1985. This legislation established a Washington "Duck Stamp" required to hunt migratory waterfowl, and an artwork program designed to generate revenue using the image on the stamp. In 1998, the legislation was amended to include all migratory game birds (waterfowl, coots, snipe, doves, band-tailed pigeons) under a permit validation. All funds derived from the sale of stamps and permits are dedicated for acquisition and development of migratory game bird habitat in the state, and for the enhancement, protection, and propagation of migratory game birds in the state. All funds derived from the sale of artwork are dedicated for contracts to nonprofit organizations or individuals for the development of migratory game bird propagation projects within the state.

B. Development of Project Proposals

When the program was initiated, WDFW personnel throughout the state assisted in developing project evaluation forms and evaluation criteria for use in assigning priorities to migratory bird habitat enhancement projects. In early 2015, a total of 38 proposals were completed and submitted through WDFW regional offices. Proposals were evaluated and ranked by the Duck Stamp Project Evaluation Group, a WDFW committee composed of 8 representatives, including District Biologists, Wildlife Area Managers, and the Olympia Waterfowl Section. Proposals were also evaluation by the Waterfowl Advisory Group, a citizen's committee representing waterfowlers throughout the state.

C. Criteria for Selecting Projects

Several factors were considered in developing guidelines for selection of proposals for funding in the 2015-17 biennium. Primary factors included relative migratory bird use for nesting, staging, and wintering; potential for increasing migratory bird use; relative cost and benefit of improvements (including cost/year/acre scores); projected annual operation and maintenance costs; amount of other funds leveraged; proximity to other projects; threat of loss (acquisitions); benefits to other species; and benefits to public access. The proposed program plan developed for the Legislature in 1985 was also used to guide the selection process, which described the planned allocation of revenues: habitat acquisition 48%; enhancement of wildlife areas 25%; project administration 18%;

food plots on private lands 9%. General guidance in project selection also included providing emphasis on projects to increase waterfowl recruitment in eastern Washington, and wintering habitat and access in western Washington.

D. Approved Projects

The projects listed in Tables 1 and 2 were approved as proposed for funding in 2015-17, based on projected available stamp and print revenue. Note that approved funding levels are for the entire biennium rather than annual totals. As in each biennium, funding levels for stamp projects may increase over projections. Additional funding is anticipated from outside sources (e.g. Ducks Unlimited, Inc., USFWS, NRCS). Increases in stamp / artwork revenue may allow additional funding for approved projects and /or addition of new projects during the biennium, and a portion of projected expenditure authority has been allocated for contingencies. Projects listed in Tables 3 and 4 were not selected for funding.

TABLE 1: 2015-17 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / PRINT PROJECTS - CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTED PROJECTS AND NEW FUNDED PROJECTS

REG	RR	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	FUND LEVEL (2 YR TOTAL)	CTOTAL	LEV	MATCH	CONTR	FOCUS	OWNSHP	YRS	PROD	NEST	FOOD	HUNT	C/B	COMMENTS
1		*Sandyglen/Swanson Lk. Water Control	Impoundment	16029	16029	16029	+	163000	C	P	O/W							DU Contract
3		*Mesa Lake Water Control	Impoundment	22298	22298	38327			C	P	W							DU Contract
4		*Rainbow Pond Structure	Water Control	39981	39981	78308			C	W	W							DU Contract
4		*Samish Unit NAWCA Restoration Ph. 2	Impoundment	69648	69648	147956	+	250000	C	W	W							DU Contract
6		*Kindred Island Acquisition	Acquisition	100000	100000	247956	+	804000	W	W	A							NCWCG
		CAPITAL COMMITTED		231927	231927			1054000										
4	6	Skagit Wildlife Area, Island Unit Culverts	Water Control	20000	20000	267956			W	W	W	15			165	165	4	
1	2	Crab Creek Headwaters - Reardon Lakes	Acquisition	489058	100000	367956			W	P	A	30	200	200	300	300	12	INLT
4	5	Skagit Wildlife Area, Island Unit Tidegate	Water Control	47710	47710	415666			W	W	W	15			50	160	15	
2	5	Desert Unit Ponds	Water Control	83000	83000	498666	+	17000	C	W	W	15	657		29	657	3	DU Contract
3	3	McDonald / Grow Acquisition	Acquisition	50000	28000	548666			W	W	A	30	3	14	3	18.5	30	
3	5	Kroll Acquisition	Acquisition	18000	18000	566666			W	W	A	30	2	7	3	10	19	
		TOTAL CAPITAL		249927	249927			1054000										

*Currently under contract

CTOTAL=CUMULATIVE TOTAL; LEV=PROGRAM FUNDS LEVERAGED; CONTR - CONTRACT=C, WDFW=W; OWNSHP - A=ACQUISITION, O=OTHER, W=WDFW; FOCUS - P=PRODUCTION, W=WINTERING; CBSCORE=COST BENEFIT SCORE=COST / YEAR / AC; AC=PROD+NEST+1/2FOOD+1/2HUNT

TABLE 2: 2015-17 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / PRINT PROJECTS - OPERATING BUDGET COMMITTED AND NEW FUNDED PROJECTS

REG	RR	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	FUND LEVEL (2 YR TOTAL)	CTOTAL	LEV	MATCH	CONTR	FOCUS	OWNSHP	YRS	PROD	NEST	FOOD	HUNT	C/B	COMMENTS
O		Project Management	Admin	170000	170000	170000			W	NA	NA							
O		*JV Coordination	Admin	20000	20000	190000	+	80000	C	NA	NA							DU Contract
2		*Artesian / Black Lk Wetlands	Feasibility/Design	4853	4853	194853	+	5000	C	P	W							DU Contract
3		*WB-10 Wetlands	Feasibility/Design	10794	10794	205647	+	4300	C	P	W							DU Contract
4		Skagit Water Control	Water Control	14065	14065	219712			W	W	W							
		OPERATING COMMITTED		219712	219712			89300										
2	1	Frenchman RAA Rx Burning	Vegetation Mgmt	15000	15000	234712	+	2000	W	W/P	W	2	140	140		140	11	
3	1	Marsh Master	Vegetation Mgmt	159477	159477	394189			W	W/P	W	15	3400		3400	3400	1	
4	3	Samish / Leque Farming	Winter Forage	90000	90000	484189			W	W	W	2			350	625	46	
5	1	Shillapoo Moist Soil Management	Vegetation Mgmt	70000	70000	554189			W	W	W	2	50	50	350	1000	23	
6	3	Chehalis Vegetation Control	Vegetation Mgmt	30000	30000	584189			W	W	W	2	80		180	220	27	
O	1	Wrangel Island Snow Geese - PTTs	Research	10000	10000	594189			W	W	O	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
4	4	Boe Road Snow Goose Reserve	Winter Forage	21720	21720	615909			W	W	O	2			181		60	
2	2	CBWA Fish Control	Vegetation Mgmt	55000	55000	670909	+	18500	W	P	W	5	1557	1557	1266	260	1	
3	2	WB-10 Ponds	Feasibility/Design	32000	9600	680509	+	58474	C	W/P	O/W	15	375	950	950	950	1	DU Contract
3	2	WB-10 Wasteway	Feasibility/Design	32000	32000	712509			C	W/P	O/W	15	375	369	369	369	1	DU Contract
1	1	Channeled Scablands Waterfowl Surveys	Research	128000	60000	772509	+	35000	C/W	P	O/W	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	DU Contract
2	3	CB Cropland Hunting Access Initiative	Winter Forage	90000	60000	832509			C	W	O	2			3000		15	
2	5	Desert Unit Ponds	Feasibility/Design	89100	89100	921609	+	17000	C	W	W	15	657		29	657	3	DU Contract
6	5	Chinook/Willapa Moist Soil Mgmt	Vegetation Mgmt	33600	33600	955209			W	W	W	2			310	310	27	
6	6	John's River Moist Soil Mgmt	Vegetation Mgmt	14000	14000	969209			W	W	W	2	40	5	95	95	25	
2	4	Washburn Island Unit Farming	Winter Forage	33950	33950	1003159			W	W	W	2			70	70	121	
4	7	WQHP Private Lands Access Farming	Winter Forage	63108	63108	1066267			C	W	O	2			100	100	158	
6	4	Davis Cr. Vegetation Control	Vegetation Mgmt	14000	14000	1080267			W	W	W	2			19	38	123	
4	8	Whatcom WA, Lake Terrell Farming	Winter Forage	9000	9000	1089267			W	W	W	2		20	20	20	56	
4	10	Skagit Wildlife Area, Island Unit Farming	Winter Forage	4000	4000	1093267			W	W	W	2			10	10	100	
		TOTAL NEW OPERATING PROPOSALS		993955	873555			130974										
		TOTAL OPERATING		1213667	1093267			220274										

*Currently under contract

CTOTAL=CUMULATIVE TOTAL; LEV=PROGRAM FUNDS LEVERAGED; CONTR - CONTRACT=C, WDFW=W; OWNSHP - A=ACQUISITION, O=OTHER, W=WDFW; FOCUS - P=PRODUCTION, W=WINTERING; CBSCORE=COST BENEFIT SCORE=COST / YEAR / AC; AC=PROD+NEST+1/2FOOD+1/2HUNT

**2015-17 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP/PRINT PROJECTS
PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS**

1. **2015-17 Capital Budget Projects (Ongoing)**
 - a. Sandygren/Swanson Lks. Water Control (BLM, Lincoln Co.)
Restore 100 ac of wetlands using ditch plugs and water control structures. Cost share.
 - b. Mesa Lake Water Control (Sunnyside / Snake R. WA, Franklin Co.)
Restore 9 ac. of Mesa Lake Unit wetlands through modification of water control structures.
 - c. Rainbow Pond Structure (Lake Terrell WA, Whatcom Co.)
Repair of failed water control structure to retain management capability on 6 ac of wetland habitat.
 - d. Samish Unit Restoration (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)
Create 2 new wetland cells with water control and manage for moist soil and agricultural plants on 220 ac of the Samish Unit. Cost share.
 - e. Kindred Island Acquisition (Pacific Co.)
Provide partial funding for 355 ac acquisition on Willapa Bay near Tokeland. Cost share.

2. **2015-17 Capital Budget Projects (New)**
 - a. Skagit Wildlife Area, Island Unit Culverts (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)
Replace/repair approximately 12 culverts to improve water control on 165 ac. for winter forage production.
 - b. Crab Creek Headwaters – Reardon Lakes (Lincoln Co.)
Provide matching funds for 1000 ac acquisition near Reardon to provide production habitat, access.
 - c. Skagit Wildlife Area, Island Unit Tidegate (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)
Replace failing tidegate to improve water control on 165 ac. for winter forage production.
 - d. Desert Unit Ponds (Columbia Basin WA, Grant Co.)
Excavate 25 ac of wetlands on Frenchman RAA to provide improved production capability and access.
 - e. McDonald / Grow Acquisition (Yakima Co.)
Acquire 60 ac of inholding to Sunnyside WA to provide breeding habitat and access.
 - f. Kroll Acquisition
Acquire 10 ac of inholding to Sunnyside WA to provide breeding habitat and access.

3. **2015-17 Operating Budget Projects (Ongoing)**
 - a. Project Management (Olympia)
Staff time costs to implement projects.
 - b. Joint Venture Coordination (Olympia)
Provide funding to match \$80,000 partner funds for communication of Joint Venture activities. Cost share.
 - c. Artesian / Black Lake Wetlands (Columbia Basin WA, Grant Co.)

Provide design and feasibility to create 150 ac wetland 10 mi. NE of Moses Lake.
Cost share.

- d. WB-10 Wetlands (Franklin Co.) Provide design and feasibility to restore 1000 ac wetland. Cost share.
- e. Skagit Farmed Island Water Control (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)
Dredge and clean out ditches and culverts on the Island Unit to improve water control on 165 ac.

4. 2015-17 Operating Budget Projects (New)

- a. Frenchman RAA Rx Burning (Columbia Basin W.A., Grant Co.)
Pilot burning project to evaluate the cost and efficacy of using a burn crew to manage wetland vegetation on 140 ac.
- b. Marsh Master (Sunnyside / Snake R. WA, Franklin Co.)
Purchase Marsh Master to manage wetland vegetation on 3400 ac annually throughout eastern Washington.
- c. Samish / Leque Farming (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)
Continue farming 350 ac with barley / corn on the Samish and Leque Island units.
- d. Shillapoo Moist Soil Management (Shillpoo WA, Clark Co.)
Partial funding for wetland / pasture management and access on 1000 ac. Cost share.
- e. Chehalis WA Vegetation Control (Chehalis WA, Grays Harbor Co.)
Continuation of 180 ac. vegetation control at the Chehalis Unit.
- f. Wrangel Island Snow Goose PTTs (Skagit / Snohomish Co.)
Provide funding for 5 GPS collars to document snow goose habitat use and distribution in north Puget Sound.
- g. Boe Road Snow Goose Reserve (Snohomish Co.)
Provide 181 ac. of winter forage for snow geese near Port Susan Bay.
- h. CBWA Fish Control (Columbia Basin W.A., Grant Co.)
Provide staff support to secure permits for removal of fish (carp etc.) detrimental to waterfowl production on 1557 ac.
- i. WB-10 Ponds (Franklin Co.)
Provide design and feasibility to restore 950 ac wetland. Cost share.
- j. WB-10 Wasteway (Sunnyside / Snake R. WA, Franklin Co.)
Provide design and feasibility to restore 369 ac wetland.
- k. Channeled Scablands Waterfowl Surveys (Spokane, Lincoln, Adams, Whitman, Grant Co.)
Fill critical data gaps regarding spring migration use of waterfowl within the Channeled Scablands wetlands to estimate total abundance, distribution, species composition, timing of migration, and habitat use.
- l. CB Cropland Hunting Access Initiative (Benton, Franklin, Grant Co.)
Provide 1500 ac of corn stubble for winter forage and hunting access on private lands.
- m. Desert Unit Ponds (Columbia Basin WA, Grant Co.)
Provide engineering / design to improve 657 ac of wetlands on the Desert Unit. Cost share.
- n. Chinook / Willapa Moist Soil Management (John's River WA, Pacific Co.)

Vegetation management on 310 ac to improve winter use on the Chinook and Willapa Wetlands units.

- o. John's River Moist Soil Mgmt (John's River WA, Grays Harbor Co.)
Enhance wetland management and forage on 95 ac. through water control, mowing, grain planting on the John's River Unit.
- p. Washburn Dove Plots (Wells WA, Douglas Co.)
Plant and irrigate 65 acres of small grains for dove use on the Washburn Island Unit.
- q. WQHP Private Lands Access Farming (Skagit and Whatcom Co.)
Expand food plot plantings on 100 ac. of private lands access agreements in Skagit and Whatcom Counties.
- r. Davis Cr. Vegetation Control (Scatter Creek WA, Grays Harbor Co.)Vegetation management on 38 ac to improve winter use on the Davis Creek Unit.
- s. Whatcom WA, Lake Terrell Farming (Whatcom WA, Whatcom Co.)
Provide funds for 19 ac planting of winter forage on the Lake Terrell Unit.
- t. Skagit Wildlife Area, Island Unit Farming (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)
Small grain farming of new 10 ac area on Island Unit.

TABLE 3: 2015-17 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / PRINT PROJECT PROPOSALS - CAPITAL BUDGET NOT FUNDED

REG	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	LEV	MATCH	C/B	COMMENTS
2	Artesian and Black Lakes Pipeline	Water Control	775000	+	1500000	89	Lack of Available Funding

TABLE 4: 2015-17 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / PRINT PROJECT PROPOSALS - OPERATING BUDGET NOT FUNDED

REG	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	LEV	MATCH	C/B	COMMENTS
2	CBWA - Excel Boat	Vegetation Mgmt	28150			117	Cost / habitat benefit
4	Ebey Island Unit Alternatives	Feasibility/Design	62000			1	Unknown habitat benefits
2	Bridgeport Bar Dove Nesting	Vegetation Mgmt	17372			14	Unknown habitat benefits
1	Port of Whitman County Wetland	Vegetation Mgmt	8900			1483	Cost / habitat benefit
4	Whatcom WA, Lake Terrell Island Planting	Vegetation Mgmt	2500			63	Develop volunteer project
5	Wahkiakum Private Lands Access Farming	Winter Forage	32000			1	Lack of habitat benefits
O	Molting Scoter Surveys	Research	19995			N/A	Fund with PR

C/B=COST/BEN. SCORE=COST / YEAR / AC