

Fiscal Year 2006 Programmatic National Priorities

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

1. Promote restoration of declining or important native wildlife habitats.
2. Protect, restore, develop or enhance wildlife habitat of at-risk species (candidate species, and State and Federally listed threatened and endangered species).
3. Reduce the impacts of invasive species on wildlife habitats.
4. Protect, restore, develop or enhance declining or important aquatic wildlife species' habitats.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

Utah Ranking Criteria - FY 2006

NOTE: This program is specifically for the development and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat. A list of eligible practices is attached. The applicant must be willing to develop and implement a Wildlife Habitat Development Plan, as described in the WHIP Manual, that clearly defines the species habitat requirements being targeted.

Please attach Conservation Plan/Schedule of Operations

Individual/Project name:	
County/Location:	
Cooperator Contact (Name, Address, Phone):	
NRCS Planner:	

TOTAL PROJECT COST (\$)	
WHIP COST-SHARE REQUESTED (\$)	

1.	PARTNER CONTRIBUTION:	POINTS
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Only count partners that reduce the total project costs. Do NOT count NRCS, UACD, or SCD contributions. Excludes archaeological costs and technical assistance costs for project planning.

Partnership contributions constitute:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| > 50% of total project cost | 10 pts |
| 25-50% of total project cost | 7 pts |
| 10-24% of total project cost | 4 pts |
| < 10% of total project cost | 0 pts |

List contributing partners:

2.	PROJECT MONITORING or RESEARCH	POINTS
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Maintain documentation of monitoring plan or research project in 6-part folder (this will be reviewed by Area or State Biologist)

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Project will be monitored by university, state or federal agency, or NGO staff | 4 pts |
| Project will have an experimental design and will be studied by a university | 8 pts |

3.	Priority Habitat Types and Species Benefited	POINTS
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Refer to APPENDIX 1 for definition of priority habitat types

A. Circle Priority Habitat Types directly benefited: (2 pts each, 8 pts max)

8 pts max

- Lowland Riparian < 5500' elevation
- Wetlands (consider using WRP)
- Mountain Riparian > 5500' elevation
- Shrubsteppe
- Mountain Shrub
- Water-Lotic (in-stream habitat)
- Wet Meadows (consider using WRP) 3300' - 9800' elevation
- Grasslands

Refer to APPENDIX 2 for list of At-risk Species

B. At-risk Species directly benefited:

POINTS

1-2 species benefited	6 pts
3-4 species benefited	8 pts
> 4 species benefited	10 pts

List Species:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



3. (Continued) Priority Habitat Types and Species Benefited

Refer to APPENDIX 2 for list of Important Game Species
C. Important Game Species directly benefited. Circle the category of game species the animal falls in. (1 pt each, 4 pts max)

- Big Game
- Upland Game
- Waterfowl
- Game Fish

POINTS

4 pts max

4. Coordinated effort:

Project proposal has been approved by local UPCD Regional Team (applicant is responsible for presenting plan to UPCD Team)

10 pts **POINTS**

Proposal addresses a specific component of an existing Endangered Species Recovery Plan, DWR Species Management Plan, Coordinated Resource Management Plan, Sage Grouse LWG Plan, or Areawide Resource Management Plan addressing at-risk species

5 pts

List plan and component:

5. Proximity to an area protected for wildlife:

Protected areas include: state wildlife management areas, federal wildlife refuges, and private land with wildlife conservation easements; excludes CWMUs

POINTS

- < 1 mile from a protected area
- Within, or contiguous with, a protected area

3 pts
5 pts

List protected area:

1. _____
2. _____

6. Native plant emphasis / Invasive species control:

POINTS

After implementing the habitat development plan, what percent of the plant community will be composed of native species? Native species cover may be increased by planting native vegetation, controlling invasive vegetation, or both. Refer to the appropriate Ecological Site Description to determine the native plants expected on your site.

- < 50% of plant community composed of native species 4 pts
- ≥ 50% but < 90% of plant community composed of native species 7 pts
- ≥ 90% of plant community composed of native species 10 pts

7. Improvement in Habitat Condition:

Complete the appropriate Habitat Models or WHEGs for the planned habitat project. If more than one model is used, compute a weighted average for the "after" scores and "before" scores. Maintain copies of Habitat Models or WHEGs in 6-part folder (this will be reviewed by Area or State Biologist).

1. "After" Habitat Score x 10 = _____
 2. "Before" Habitat Score x 10 = _____
- Difference in Before and After Scores (#1 - #2) = (Enter this value in the "Points" to the right)

POINTS

10 pts max

8. Cost/Benefit Index:

Use the Cost/Benefit Index Score calculated in cell C89 to determine which category you are in below. Enter the respective points in the box on the right.

TOTAL POINTS 0

Cost/Benefit Index Score (TOTAL POINTS * 10,000 / TOTAL PROJECT COST) #DIV/0!

- Index Score >20 3 pts.
- Index Score 10-20 2 pts.
- Index Score 5-10 1 pts.
- Index Score <5 0 pts.

POINTS

Final Ranking Score: **0**

Minimum Ranking Threshold: If project does not have a final ranking score ≥20 points, then do not submit application.

The following practices are eligible for WHIP cost-share assistance:

Note: Incentive payments for management practices are NOT available through WHIP by federal rule.

Brush Management (314)
Channel Bank Vegetation (322)
Conservation Cover (327)
Contour Buffer Strips (332)
Critical Area Planting (342)
Dike (356)
Fence (382)
Field Border (386)
Filter Strip (393)
Fish Passage (396)
Forest Site Preparation (490)
Forest Stand Improvement (666)
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
Grassed Waterway (412)
Hedgerow Planting (422)
Microirrigation (441)
Pest Management (595)
Pipeline (516) *(pipe must be < 3" in diameter; only eligible when used with practices 614, 648, or 441)
Prescribed Burning (338)
Prescribed Grazing (528A)* (Not an incentive payment)
Pumping Plant (533)
Range Planting (550)
Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats (643)
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
Shallow Water Management for Wildlife (646)
Stream Channel Stabilization (584)
Stream Habitat Improvement & Management (395)
Streambank & Shoreline Protection (580)
Structure for Water Control (587)
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
Use Exclusion (472)* (Not an incentive payment)
Watering Facility (614)*
*(only eligible when the purpose is to provide off-site water because an area has been excluded from livestock grazing)
Wetland Creation (658)*(this practice is not for developing fish ponds)
Wetland Enhancement (659)*(this practice is not for developing fish ponds)
Wetland Restoration (657)*(this practice is not for developing fish ponds)
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
Wildlife Watering Facility (648)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650)

PRIORITY HABITAT TYPES (based on Utah Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy)

HABITAT	% OF TOTAL AREA OF UTAH	DESCRIPTION
RIPARIAN		
Lowland Riparian	0.2%	Riparian areas generally <1,670 m (<5,500 ft) elevation; Principal woody species include Fremont cottonwood (<i>Populus fremontii</i>), salt cedar (<i>Tamarix pentandra</i>), netleaf hackberry (<i>Celtis reticulata</i>), velvet ash (<i>Fraxinus velutina</i>), desert willow (<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>), willow (<i>Salix</i> spp.), and squawbush (<i>Rhus trilobata</i>).
Mountain Riparian	0.2%	Riparian areas generally >1,670 m (>5,500 ft) elevation; Principal woody species include willow, narrowleaf cottonwood (<i>Populus angustifolia</i>), thinleaf alder (<i>Alnus tenuifolia</i>), water birch (<i>Betula occidentalis</i>), black hawthorn (<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>), rocky mountain maple (<i>Acer glabrum</i>), red-osier dogwood (<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>), and wild rose (<i>Rosa woodsii</i>).
Wetland	0.2%	Low elevation marsh and Wetland areas <1,670 m (<5,500 ft) elevation; Principal species include cattail (<i>Typha latifolia</i>), bullrush (<i>Scirpus</i> spp.), and sedge (<i>Carex</i> spp.).
Wet Meadow	<0.1%	Water saturated meadows dominated by grasses, forbs, sedges, and rushes at 3,300-9,800 ft. elevation. Principal species include sedges, rushes (<i>Juncus</i> spp.), reedgrass (<i>Calamagrostis</i> spp.), timothy (<i>Phleum</i> spp.), Alpine (<i>Poa</i> spp.), hairgrass (<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>), willowherb (<i>Epilobium</i> spp.), cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla</i> spp.), saxifrage (<i>Saxifraga</i> spp.), etc. Associated species include willow, honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera</i> spp.), and water birch.
SHRUBLANDS		
Shrubsteppe	13.4%	Shrubland principally dominated by big sagebrush (<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>), black sagebrush (<i>Artemisia nova</i>), low sagebrush (<i>Artemisia arbuscula</i>), or silver sagebrush (<i>Artemisia cana</i>); or dominate sagebrush shrub land and perennial Grassland at 750-3,500 m (2,500-11,500 ft) elevation. Principle associated grass species include bluebunch wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron spicatum</i>), needlegrass (<i>Stipa comata</i>), sand dropseed (<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>), blue grama (<i>Bouteloua gracillis</i>), Thurber's needlegrass (<i>Stipa thurberiana</i>), western wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron smithii</i>), Indian ricegrass (<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>), galleta (<i>Hilaria jamesii</i>), and cheatgrass (<i>Bromus tectorum</i>). Primary associated shrub species include rabbitbrush (<i>Chrysothamnus</i> spp.), snakeweed (<i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>), winterfat (<i>Ceratoides lanata</i>), shadscale (<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i>), bitter brush (<i>Purshia tridentata</i>), and oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.). Primary associated tree species include juniper (<i>Juniperus</i> spp.), pinyon (<i>Pinus</i> spp.), mountain mahogany (<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>), and Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>).
Mountain Shrub	1.3%	Deciduous shrubland at 1,000-3,000 m (3,300-9,800 ft) elevation principally dominated by alder leaf mountain mahogany, cliff rose (<i>Cowania mexicana</i>), bitter brush, serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier utahensis</i>), and (<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>), buckbrush (<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.), chokecherry (<i>Prunus virginiana</i>), snowberry (<i>Symphoricarpos</i> spp.), pointleaf manzanita (<i>Arctostaphylos pungens</i>), and bearberry (<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>); or deciduous shrub land principally dominated by bigtooth maple (<i>Acer grandidentatum</i>); forest principally dominated by mountain mahogany; or conifer forest or woodland with spruce-fir dominate/associate or co-dominate with Mountain Shrub; Primary associated shrub species include Gambel oak (<i>Quercus gambelii</i>),

		Primary associated shrub species include Gambel oak (<i>Quercus gambelii</i>), currant (<i>Ribes</i> spp.), ninebark (<i>Physocarpus</i> spp.), mountain lover (<i>Paxistima myrsinites</i>), blueberry (<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.), elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i> spp.), Oregon grape (<i>Mahonia repens</i>), and manzanita. Primary associated tree species include Rocky Mountain maple (<i>Acer glabrum</i>), Aspen (<i>Populus tremuloides</i>), Douglas fir (<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>), white fir (<i>Abies concolor</i>), limber pine (<i>Pinus flexilis</i>), Alpine fir (<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>), Engelmann spruce (<i>Picea engelmannii</i>), and Ponderosa Pine.
GRASSLAND		
Grassland	3.5%	Perennial and annual Grasslands; or herbaceous dry meadow, including mostly forbs and grasses occurring at 640-2,740 m (2,200-9,000 ft) elevation. Principle perennial grass species include bluebunch wheatgrass, sandburg bluegrass (<i>Poa secunda</i>), crested wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron cristatum</i>), basin wildrye (<i>Elymus cinereus</i>), galleta, needlegrass, sand dropseed, blue gramma, Thurbers needlegrass, western wheatgrass, squirreltail (<i>Sitanion hystrix</i>), timothy, poa (<i>Poa</i> spp.), spike (<i>Trisetum spicatum</i>), Indian ricegrass, and some sedges. Principle annual grass species include cheatgrass. Principal forb species include yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>), dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>), Richardson's geranium (<i>Geranium richardsonii</i>), (<i>Penstemon</i> spp.), mulesears (<i>Wyethia amplexicaulis</i>), golden aster (<i>Chrysopsis villosa</i>), arrowleaf balsamroot (<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>), hawkbit (<i>Agoseris pumila</i>), larkspur (<i>Delphinium</i> spp.), and scarlet gilia (<i>Gilia pulchella</i>). Primary associated shrub species include sagebrush, shadscale, greasewood, creosote, rabbit brush, cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>), snowberry, and elderberry (<i>Sambucus caerulea</i>). Primary associated tree species include juniper.
OTHER HABITAT		
Water - Lotic	<0.1%	Open water: streams and rivers.



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At-Risk Species from Utah Sensitive Species List

Most recent at: <http://dwr.cdc.nr.utah.gov/ucdc/>

Fishes

Federally Endangered Species

Humpback chub *Gila cypha*
Bonytail *Gila elegans*
Virgin River chub *Gila seminuda*
Colorado pikeminnow *Ptychocheilus lucius*
Woundfin *Plagopterus argentissimus*
June sucker *Chasmistes liorus*
Razorback sucker *Xyrauchen texanus*

Federally Threatened Species

Lahonton cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi*

Conservation Agreement Species

Bonneville cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki utah*
Colorado River cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki pleuriticus*
Virgin spinedace *Lepidomeda mollispinis mollispinis*
least chub *Iotichthys phlegethontis*

Wildlife Species of Concern

roundtail chub *Gila robusta*
bluehead sucker *Catostomus discobolus*
flannelmouth sucker *Catostomus latipinnis*
leatherside chub *Gila copei*
desert sucker *Catostomus clarki*
Yellowstone cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri*
Bear Lake whitefish *Prosopium abyssicola*
Bonneville cisco *Prosopium gemmifer*
Bonneville whitefish *Prosopium spilonotus*
Bear Lake sculpin *Cottus extensus*

Amphibians

Conservation Agreement Species

Columbia spotted frog *Rana luteiventris*

Wildlife Species of Concern

western toad *Bufo boreas*
Arizona toad *Bufo microscaphus*

Reptiles

Federally Threatened Species

Desert tortoise *Gopherus agassizii*

Wildlife Species of Concern

zebra-tailed lizard *Callisaurus draconoides*
western banded gecko *Coleonyx variegatus*
desert iguana *Dipsosaurus dorsalis*
Gila monster *Heloderma suspectum*
common chuckwalla *Sauromalus ater*
desert night lizard *Xantusia vigilis*
sidewinder *Crotalus cerastes*
speckled rattlesnake *Crotalus mitchellii*
Mojave rattlesnake *Crotalus scutulatus*
cornsnake *Elaphe guttata*
smooth greensnake *Opheodrys vernalis*
western threadsnake *Leptotyphlops humilis*

Birds

Federally Endangered Species

Southwestern Willow Flycatcher *Empidonax trailii extimus*

Federally Threatened Species

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*
Mexican Spotted Owl *Strix occidentalis lucida*

Federal Candidate Species

Gunnison Sage-grouse *Centrocercus minimus*
Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus*

Conservation Agreement Species

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

Wildlife Species of Concern

Grasshopper Sparrow *Ammodramus savannarum*
Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*
Ferruginous Hawk *Buteo regalis*
Greater Sage-grouse *Centrocercus urophasianus*
Black Swift *Cypseloides niger*
Bobolink *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*
Lewis's Woodpecker *Melanerpes lewis*
Long-billed Curlew *Numenius americanus*
American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*
Three-toed Woodpecker *Picoides tridactylus*
Sharp-tailed Grouse *Tympanuchus phasianellus*

Mammals

Federally Threatened Species

Utah prairie-dog *Cynomys parvidens*
Canada lynx *Lynx canadensis*

Wildlife Species of Concern

Preble's shrew *Sorex preblei*
Townsend's big-eared bat *Corynorhinus townsendii*
spotted bat *Euderma maculatum*
Allen's big-eared bat *Idionycteris phyllotis*
western red bat *Lasiurus blossevillii*
fringed myotis *Myotis thysanodes*
big free-tailed bat *Nyctinomops macrotis*
pygmy rabbit *Brachylagus idahoensis*
Gunnison's prairie-dog *Cynomys gunnisoni*
white-tailed prairie-dog *Cynomys leucurus*
silky pocket mouse *Perognathus flavus*
dark kangaroo mouse *Microdipodops megacephalus*
Mexican vole *Microtus mexicanus*
kit fox *Vulpes macrotis*

Mollusks

Federally Endangered Species

Kanab ambersnail *Oxyloma kanabense*

Federal Candidate Species

Ogden rocky mountainsnail *Oreohelix peripheralis wasatchensis*
fat-whorled pondsnail *Stagnicola bonnevillensis*

Wildlife Species of Concern

southern tightcoil *Ogaridiscus subrupicola*
Eureka mountainsnail *Oreohelix eurekaensis*
lyrate mountainsnail *Oreohelix haydeni*
Brian Head mountainsnail *Oreohelix parawanensis*
Deseret mountainsnail *Oreohelix peripherica*
Yavapai mountainsnail *Oreohelix yavapai*
cloaked physa *Physa megalochlamys*
Utah physa *Physella utahensis*
wet-rock physa *Physella zionis*
longitudinal gland pyrg *Pyrgulopsis anguina*
smooth Glenwood pyrg *Pyrgulopsis chamberlini*
desert springsnail *Pyrgulopsis deserta*
Otter Creek pyrg *Pyrgulopsis fusca*
Hamlin Valley pyrg *Pyrgulopsis hamlinensis*
carinate Glenwood pyrg *Pyrgulopsis inopinata*
Ninemile pyr g *Pyrgulopsis nonaria*
bifid duct pyrg *Pyrgulopsis peculiaris*
Bear Lake springsnail *Pyrgulopsis pilsbryana*
Black Canyon pyrg *Pyrgulopsis plicata*
sub-globose Snake pyrg *Pyrgulopsis saxatilis*
southern Bonneville pyrg *Pyrgulopsis transversa*
northwest Bonneville pyrg *Pyrgulopsis variegata*
California floater *Anodonta californiensis*
western pearlshell *Margaritifera falcata*

Important Game Species List

Big Game

Mule Deer
Elk
Rocky Mountain Goat
Moose
Bighorn Sheep

Upland Game

Ring-necked Pheasant
Chukar
Quail
Wild Turkey
Hungarian Partridge
Ruffed Grouse
Blue Grouse

Waterfowl

Ducks & Geese

Game Fish

Trout species