



NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACT OFFICE PROVO, UTAH

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Contact: Ralph Swanson, 801-379-1254

FISH AND WILDLIFE MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM BEGINS 18TH YEAR

The Central Utah Project Completion Act Office in Provo, Utah, has released its annual request for proposals to be funded by the Upper Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Program. This will be the 18th year of operations for the program which has distributed over \$3.9 million to the states and others for fish and wildlife enhancement projects in the upper Colorado River basin.

The wildlife grants program was authorized by Congress in 1992 as Section 314c of the Central Utah Project Completion Act, Public Law 102-575. Under this program, a portion of the funds allocated for completion of the Central Utah Project are directed to fish and wildlife improvement projects in upper Colorado River basin states, outside Utah. Appropriated funds are expended to conserve, mitigate and enhance fish, wildlife and recreation resources to offset the adverse effects of construction and operation of federal reclamation projects in the upper Colorado River basin, particularly the facilities of the Colorado River Storage Project. The legislation defines criteria for project funding. Special emphasis is placed on projects and activities that will restore or enhance native species and ecosystems, including endangered and threatened species. The program supplements the historic mitigation efforts that have occurred and expands those efforts to address unforeseen circumstances and otherwise benefit wildlife habitat and citizen interests.

Federal and state agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental groups, and private individuals are all eligible to apply for funding.

Typical projects are wetland creation and enhancement, riparian habitat restoration, big game habitat acquisition, fisheries habitat improvements, invasive species control, and more.

The program requirements, program criteria, and application forms are available at the [CUPCAO website](#). The deadline for receipt of applications is November 5, 2010. For additional information on the program contact Ralph G. Swanson at 801-379-1254, or rswanson@usbr.gov.

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