

INVITATION

To manage and assist in the recovery of Pennsylvania's species of greatest conservation need, the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission are inviting applicants for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Landowner Incentive Program projects. These funds are for permanent easements on private lands. As in the past, our agencies are requesting project applications to be considered for statewide competitive funding. The landowner incentive program (LIP) funding will be used for agency-identified, high-priority, wildlife diversity efforts. We anticipate that by soliciting projects from conservation organizations, our agencies can multiply the benefits of this funding while strengthening partnerships in wildlife conservation. Our agencies are hereby soliciting project applications from organizations across the Commonwealth for consideration to receive Landowner Incentive Program funds.

Project Selection: Projects will have the best chance of selection by focusing on high priority needs as defined by the Commissions (see attached Project Application Package for details). Providing multiple benefits to multiple fish and wildlife species will also improve selection ranking. For additional background information, please review the *Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS)*, (also called the [Pennsylvania State Wildlife Action Plan](#)) which was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service in September 2005. The document is awaiting final approval.

Projects of all sizes will be considered, however the funds are only available on a reimbursement basis, so qualifying organizations must be able to support all project costs prior to reimbursements. Ranking factors and guidance on applications as well as additional information on the Landowner Incentive Program may be found on the Game Commission's Web page (www.pgc.state.pa.us). Conservation organizations are encouraged to share this announcement with their regional chapters and local affiliates.

Timeline: Complete applications must be received at the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Bureau of Wildlife Management by **1:00 pm on April 28th, 2006**. Projects selected for funding will be announced following any formal approval required by the respective commissions. Project costs may not be charged to grants until complete execution of contracts. Project cooperators will be notified by the Commissions when work can begin.

Thank you for your interest in this process. We look forward to working with you on the selection of Pennsylvania's most important fish and wildlife projects. If you have any questions, please contact Patti Barber, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Landowner Incentive Program Coordinator at 610 756-3931 or 717-787-5529 ext: 3326.

Sincerely,