

Department of Wildlife and Parks

NOTICE OF 2011 STATE WILDLIFE GRANT APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

Application materials for the State Wildlife Grants (SWG) are now available from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP). The SWG is a federal grant program, which is funded in part by CFDA 15.634 Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior and administered in Kansas by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The priority of this program is to fund projects that benefit nongame fish and wildlife and their associated habitats. Federal regulations require that projects benefit "Species of Greatest Conservation Need," which may include listed federal and state endangered and threatened species. To be eligible, proposals must address issues and strategies identified in the Kansas Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan, entitled "A Future for Kansas Wildlife." The plan can be found at <http://kdwp.state.ks.us/news/content/download/7904/40012/file/Kansas%20CWCPfinal10.pdf>

KDWP will distribute up to \$400,000 of SWG funds through competitive subgrants. Eligible applicants include local governments, non-profit corporations, and educational institutions. Federal regulations require that a minimum of 35% of project costs be matched with non-federal funds. Templates for the grant budget sheet, narrative, and grant cover sheet are available in Microsoft Word and pdf formats on request from the KDWP Office of Federal Aid (address provided below).

All proposals that address priorities stated in A Future for Kansas Wildlife (FKS) for Species of Greatest Conservation Need will be considered for funding. However, priority consideration will be given to research proposals that specifically address the following:

- Determine habitat associations of broadhead skink (*Plestiodon laticeps*) and determine if Kansas populations are genetically distinct from other populations. Provide any observation data as a geospatial layer capable of easy integration into KDWP GIS systems.
- Determine habitat associations of longnose snake (*Rhinocheilus lecontei*) and determine if Kansas populations are genetically distinct from other populations. Provide any observation data as a geospatial layer capable of easy integration into KDWP GIS systems.
- Assess reproductive life history of Great Plains pelagic spawning fish (i.e. plains minnow, *Hybognathus placitus*; Arkansas River speckled chub, *Macrhybopsis tetranema*; silver chub, *Macrhybopsis storeriana*) as related to:
 - Spawning microhabitat requirements (e.g. flow, substrate, water quality)
 - Recruitment success
 - Impacts of anthropogenic activities (e.g. flow alteration, obstructions, and water diversion) on the viability of existing populations.

- Assess population sustainability and habitat requirements (physical, biological and chemical) of the only known population of the Scott Riffle Beetle (*Optioservus phaeus*) and evaluate “Active Management Options” related to habitat suitability provided in “Recovery Plan for the Scott Riffle Beetle, *Optioservus phaeus* Gilbert, in Kansas”. The Recovery Plan can be found at: <http://kdwp.state.ks.us/news/Other-Services/Threatened-and-Endangered-Species/Recovery-Plans>. Specific objectives of this work include:

Estimating long-term population viability of the species at the Big Spring site.

Evaluating potential management options to enhance habitat for the species at the Big Spring site, including potential for enhancement of habitat substrate as recommended in the Recovery Plan.

Determining site criteria that should be considered if transplant of the species were to be undertaken.

The deadline for final applications is December 2, 2010. For more information concerning this program or to request application materials should contact the Office of Federal Aid, KDWP, 1020 SW Kansas, Room 200, Topeka, KS 66612 (785-296-2281). Persons with special communication needs may utilize the Kansas Relay Center, 1-800-766-3777.

J. Michael Hayden
Secretary