



Melissa Velez-Morales

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 10:02 AM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Melissa Velez-Morales
Subject: FW: DEP Release: DEP Receives \$850,000 Endangered Species Act Grant
Attachments: image002.jpg; image003.jpg; USFWS Grant -- P88.pdf; image001.jpg

Correspondence

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Budd Lake, NJ 07828
clerk@mtolivetwp.org
973-691-0900 X7291

From: Beltran, Christine [mailto:Christine.Beltran@dep.nj.gov] **On Behalf Of** Pflugh, Kerry
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:45 AM
Subject: DEP Release: DEP Receives \$850,000 Endangered Species Act Grant



IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 23, 2016

Contact: Bob Considine (609) 292-2994
Robert Geist (609) 633-7588
Lawrence Hajna (609) 984-1795

DEP RECEIVES \$850,000 ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT GRANT
FEDERAL FUNDS TO GO TOWARD LAND PURCHASE FOR BOG TURTLE PROTECTION

(16/88) TRENTON – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has awarded the Department of Environmental Protection an \$850,000 grant under the federal Endangered Species Act Grants Program, Commissioner Bob Martin announced today.



The Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF) Recovery Land Acquisition grant for New Jersey will go toward the future acquisition of hundreds of key acres of habitat for the bog turtle, which is found predominately in the northern half of New Jersey.

“Preservation of this unique habitat protects the federally threatened bog turtle, while also enhancing our environment and providing a better quality of life for residents of the state,” Commissioner Martin said. “We are grateful to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for our inclusion in this federal grant program.”

New Jersey is one of 20 states to receive funding to support projects that conserve at-risk species and their habitats.

“These grants will enable state fish and wildlife agencies to advance the stewardship of our nation’s fish and wildlife resources,” said Dave Chanda, Director of DEP’s Division of Fish and Wildlife. “We appreciate the strong ties formed by state agencies and their partners to protect these imperiled wildlife species and their habitats, which are critical to the on-the-ground success of these projects.”

The bog turtle is native only to the eastern United States and is found in the northern half of New Jersey. The species, considered threatened at the federal level and endangered at the state level, congregates in small colonies often of fewer than 20 individuals. They prefer calcareous wetlands (areas containing lime), including meadows, bogs, marshes, and spring seeps, that have both wet and dry regions.

Once the purchases of the properties are completed, the preserved lands will be managed by the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust in cooperation with the DEP’s Endangered and Nongame Species Program,

CESCF funding is provided through three competitive grant programs: the *Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants Program*, which provides funds to support the development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) that protect habitat for listed species; the *Recovery Land Acquisition Grants Program*, which provides funds for the acquisition of habitat in support of approved and draft species recovery plans; and the *HCP Land Acquisition Grants Program*, which provides funds to acquire habitat for listed species associated with approved HCPs.

The grants are funded in part by the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which was established by Congress in 1965. The fund promotes access to outdoor recreation resources for present and future generations by providing funding to federal, state and local governments to purchase land, water and wetlands for the benefit of all Americans. For the past 51 years, the fund has supported more than 40,000 conservation and outdoor recreation projects nationwide.

To learn more about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Ecological Services Program visit: www.fws.gov/endangered

For more information on the state’s Threatened and Endangered species, please visit: www.nj.gov/dep/fwg/ensphome.htm

For more information on turtles in New Jersey, please visit:

www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/ensp/fieldguide_herps.htm#turtles

For more information about the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust, please visit:

<http://www.njnlt.org/>

Regards,

Kerry Kirk Pflugh

Director

Office of Local Government Assistance

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

401 E. State Street

P.O. Box 402

Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

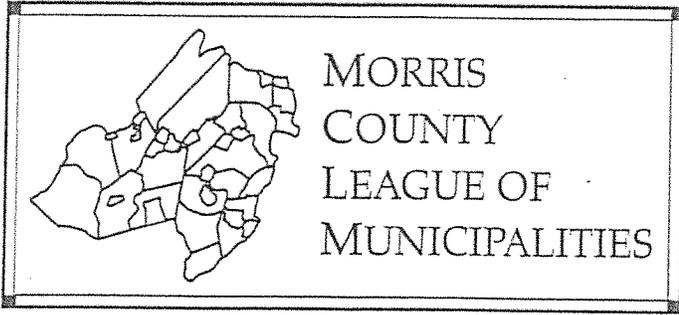
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www.nj.gov/dep/

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Mayor, Township of Long Hill

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Robert Birmingham
Councilman, Township of Jefferson

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Time: 12:00 noon
 Hot Buffet Luncheon

Place: Sheraton Convention Center Hotel
 "Pearl Room"
 2 Miss America Way
 Atlantic City, NJ

Cost: \$50.00 Members (County/Municipal Elected or Appointed Officials/Spouses)
 \$65.00 Non Members
 \$75.00 Attendees without prior reservation (members or non members)

Program: Fredric M. Knapp, Morris County Prosecutor
 Brad Seabury, Morris County Chief Assistant Prosecutor
 "The Heroin Epidemic in New Jersey"

PLEASE RSVP NO LATER THAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2015

RSVP to June Uhrin, Borough Clerk
 Borough of Morris Plains
 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ 07950
juhrin@morrisplainsboro.org 973-538-8834/fax

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Phone: _____
 Municipality/Organization: _____

Price: \$50.00 - Members (County/Municipal Elected or Appointed Officials/Spouses) Check (made payable to MCLOM) _____ Voucher _____
 \$65.00 - Non Members
 \$75.00 - Attendees without prior reservations (members or non members)

PLEASE RESPOND EARLY IN ORDER TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE
NOTE: League badges will be scanned at entrance

(Next meeting: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 – Birchwood Manor)



DEP NEWS RELEASE

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor
Bob Martin, Commissioner



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