

# Acres for America

Grantee Webinar - March 21, 2017 Chris West and Kimberly Shriner

### Webinar Etiquette

- Mute your phone.
- Do not hit your phone's HOLD button.
  - Question? Type it in the **Chat box** on the control panel. We will repeat your question to the group and respond at the end of the webinar.
- Problem?
  - Type it into the **Chat box** on the control panel. We will try to resolve it during the webinar.
- This **Webinar** and **Tip Sheet** can be found at <u>Acres for America</u> program page.

## **About Us**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit dedicated to conserving and restoring our nation's native fish and wildlife and the habitats on which they rely.

NFWF invests both public and private conservation dollars to achieve its mission.

### WHO WE ARE

- > Chartered by Congress in 1984
- > 30 member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
  - Includes FWS Director and NOAA Administrator

### WHAT WE DO

- > Sustain, restore, enhance the nation's natural heritage
- > Bring collaboration among federal agencies & private sector
- > Create common ground among diverse interests

### How WE DO IT

- > Leverage public funding with private money average 3:1
- On-the-ground conservation projects through grant making



NFWF's Business and Operations Model



### Walmart's Acres for America

Today, **Acres for America** has become one of the most visible and effective partnerships in conservation.



Acres for America was launched on **April 12**, **2005 at the National Geographic Society** in Washington, DC.



## Acres for America

Since 2005, the Acres for America program has invested in conservation projects of national significance that also benefit people and local economies.



## **Acres for America Goals**

- Conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife
- Connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect migration routes
- Provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors
- Ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and wildlife

Walmart's **\$40.7M** investment has leveraged more than **\$482M** in matching contributions, making this one of the most efficient conservation programs in history. **2005 Goal: Protect 100,000 acres** of land to offset Walmart's domestic development footprint.

#### As of 2016:

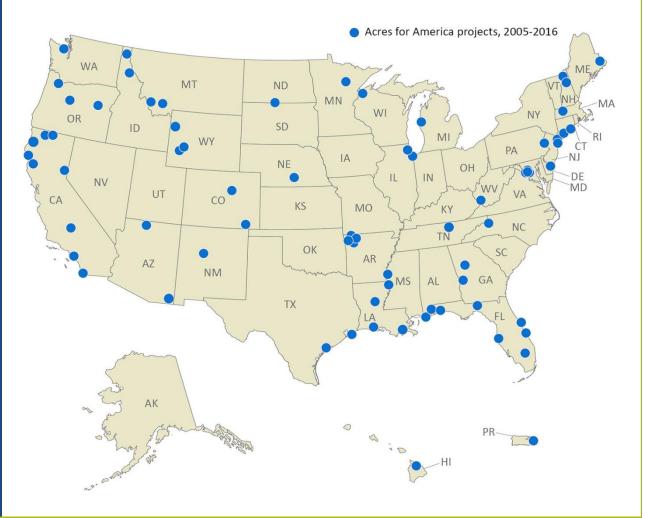
- More than 1 million acres protected, an area comparable in size to Grand Canyon National Park
- **72 projects in 35 states**, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, working with over 100 partners
- **Connected over 10 million acres** to support landscape-scale conservation and wildlife migration



## 1,220,569 Acres Protected!!

### Acres for America 2005- 2016

**72** projects in **35** states have been funded to protect and preserve habitat and open spaces and connect vital wildlife corridors.



## Acres for America: Grant Recipients

\_\_\_\_\_

Walmart has supported numerous groups and agencies representing thousands of individuals and hundreds of communities.



## Acres for America: Funding Partners

Walmart donations have leveraged significant funds from organizations, foundations and government agencies.



## Acres for America: 2017 Funding Availability

### **Funding Available:**

• Approximately \$3.5 million is available in 2017. We anticipate between six (6) and eight (8) projects will be awarded funds.



#### **Programmatic Focus:**

• To be considered for funding through the Acres for America program, land acquisitions and conservation easements should meet the following criteria:

## Acres for America: Program Criteria

### **Conservation Criteria:**

- Protect or contribute to the protection of significant acres of land, and address one/more program priorities.
- National or State conservation priority.
- Protect critical fish and wildlife species.
- Expand wildlife connectivity.
- Expand public access to nature.
- Benefit local economies.
- Provide a range of ecological services.

## Acres for America: Program Criteria

### **Additional Criteria:**

- Shapefile delineating the land proposed in the context of adjacent protected lands.
- Final disposition of land, including long-term ownership and management plans.
- Conservation easement restrictions.
- Please view the NFWF website page "<u>Guidance to</u> <u>Applicants Requesting Funds for the Acquisition of</u> <u>Interests in Real Property</u>" for pre- and post-project requirements.

\*\*Please note, there is a requirement for the inclusion of NFWF language in grant agreements, deeds, conservation easements.

## Acres for America: Project Metrics

Project Activity	Metric
<b>Conservation Easements</b>	# acres protected under easement (include acres of wetland, timberland, grazing lands protected)
<b>Conservation Easements</b>	# acres connected as a result of this easement
<b>Conservation Easements</b>	# stream/riverine/riparian miles protected as a result of this easement
Land Acquisitions	# acres acquired in fee (include acres of wetland, timberland, grazing lands protected)
Land Acquisitions	# acres connected as a result of this acquisition
Land Acquisitions	# stream/riverine/riparian miles protected as a result of this acquisition
Economic Benefits	# jobs created # jobs sustained
Public Access	<ul><li># acres opened to public access</li><li># miles opened to public access</li></ul>

## Acres for America: Match and Eligibility

### **Match Requirements:**

- Grants require a minimum 1:1 match in the form of cash, in-kind contributions of goods and services, and/or donated land value.
- Federal funds may be considered as match.

### **Eligibility:**

- Non-profits, state/local/municipal governments, Indian tribes, and educational institutions.
- The fee transfer or perpetual easement must qualify for "conservation purposes" as defined by IRS Code 170(h).
- Provide all acquisition documents, including appraisals, title reports, surveys, mineral rights assessments, etc.

## Acres for America: Grant Process

#### **Grant Process:**

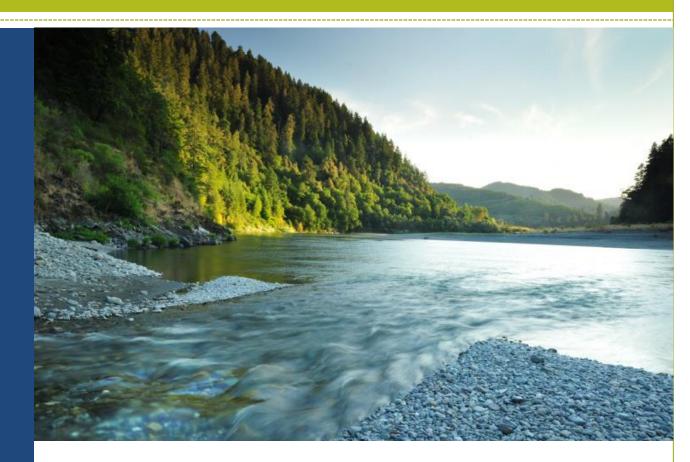
- Please contact the regional office contact person listed in RFP to discuss your project and its potential fit for the Acres for America and/or other NFWF programs.
- Two-stage process: 1) pre-proposal, 2) full proposal.
- The pre-proposal deadline is **April 13**. Only pre-proposals submitted through Easygrants are considered.
- Selected pre-proposals will be invited to submit full proposals. Invitations will be emailed by **May 16**.
- The full proposal deadline is **June 29**.
- Final funding decisions will be made by the NFWF Board of Directors **November 8.**



## **Program Examples**

- Blue Creek (CA)
- Cienega Grasslands (AZ)
- Skinner Mountain (TN)
- Antelope Flats, Grand Teton National Park (WY)
- Fleming Plantation, Jean Lafitte National Park (LA)





Purchase of **47,097 acres** of land along the lower Klamath River and its most important tributary, Blue Creek, in the globally important Klamath Siskiyou ecoregion. The project will create a cold-water sanctuary essential for the survival of Coho and Chinook salmon, as well as a sustainable community forest to help revitalize the economy of the Yurok tribe.

### Blue Creek (California)



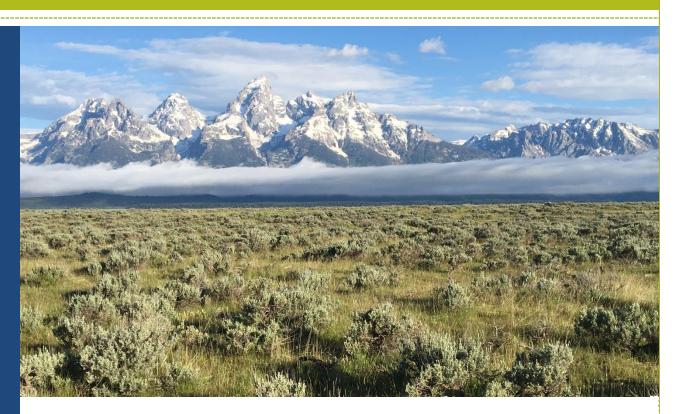
**Cienega Grasslands** (Arizona)

> Conservation easements placed on the **19,044-acre** Cienega Grassland Ranch, an area of high-quality native grasslands and wildlife habitat located in southeastern Arizona. Protection of these acres will allow working cattle operations to be maintained in the face of increasing pressure for residential development, fragmentation and conversion to intensive agriculture. An important conservation corridor for desert and grassland bird species will also be preserved.

### **Skinner Mountain** (Tennessee)



Acquisition of **14,600 acres** of working hardwood forestland in Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau will protect critical karst habitat for seven bat species of Greatest Conservation Need, most notably three listed bat species: Indiana bat, gray bat and northern long-eared bat. The project will also preserve important ecological sites, increase land connectivity, sustain forestry jobs, create new public recreation opportunities, and preserve water quality and forest health. Antelope Flats, Grand Teton National Park (Wyoming)



Identified as the highest national priority acquisition for the National Park Service, the **640-acre** Antelope Flats inholding was purchased from the State of Wyoming and incorporated into Grand Teton National Park. This land serves as a critical migration route for elk, pronghorn, moose, bison and wolves, and its protection will ensure that the natural and scenic resource value of Grand Teton National Park remains protected in perpetuity.

### Fleming Plantation (Louisiana)



The **3,476-acre** Fleming Plantation will be incorporated into Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, a biological hotspot, providing forest, marsh and aquatic habitat for migratory birds, fish and other wetland wildlife. The conservation of this property will improve the ecological integrity of the Louisiana Gulf Coast while expanding opportunities for public recreation and building resiliency against storm surge and other climate induced threats.

### **GETTING STARTED**

- 1. Go to <u>http://easygrants.nfwf.org</u>
- 2. Login or Register

SHO WILDU	
	ŴF
AOLIN HOLD	
	Log In
	Welcome to the Easygrants ® System.
	Enter your login ID and password and click Log In below. If you have forgotten your password, click Forgot your password? below.
FAQ	If you are a first time visitor to this system, click <b>Register here</b> below.
	Login ID / Email
	Password
	Remember Me?
	Forgot your password?
	Log In
	New User? Register here.
	Frequently Asked Questions
	Altered Designed
	About Pop-ups Easygrants uses pop-up windows to display some files. Please make sure that your Web browser allows pop-ups for Easygrants.
	About Cookies
	Easygrants uses cookies to maintain the session information. Please make sure that your browser and computer can accept cookies
	from this site. For more information, click View system requirements.
	About PDF
	Easygrants uses PDFs extensively. Download the free Adobe Reader

3. Choose "Apply for Funding"



4. Choose the Funding Opportunity called: *Acres for America Fall 2017* 

			Due Date
Gra	nts		
0	Acres for America Fall 2017	www.nfwf.org/acresforamerica	4/13/2017 11:59 PM ET

- 5. Click "Continue"
- 6. Click "Apply"

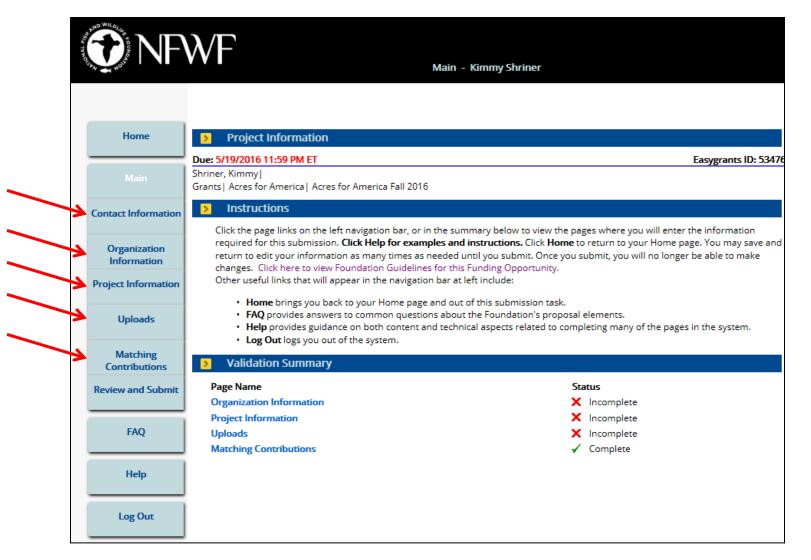
7. Complete the **Eligibility Quiz** and click "Submit", then "Continue".

	Eligibility Quiz - Kimmy Shriner	
Home	> Project Information	
Eligibility Quiz	Due: 5/19/2016 11:59 PM ET         Easygrants ID: 53476           Shriner, Kimmy          Grants   Acres for America   Acres for America Fall 2016	
FAQ	> Instructions	
Help	Answer each question below by selecting the Yes or No radio button, and click Submit to determine your eligibility to apply for this award. All information is recomplete this quiz later, be sure to save your data by clicking Save.	equired. If you partially complete and wish to return to
Log Out	Have you read and do you understand the Program Guidelines for this Funding Opportunity, including any match requirements specific to the Funding	g Opportunity? 🔿 No 🌣 Yes
	Can the reports and deliverables associated with any potential Foundation award for your project be published on the Foundation website?	○ No ○Yes
	Do you certify that you are authorized to submit this request for funding on behalf of your organization?	○ No ○Yes
	Upon submission of this page, you will see the outcome of your Eligibility Quiz. If you are eligible to apply for this award, you will have a corresponding To Do it award at this time, click Cancel.	em on your <b>Home</b> page. If you do not wish to apply for this
	Important: Please proof your answers carefully. You will not be able to revise your answers after submitting.	
	Save Cancel	
	Submit	

8. Click on the "*Pre-proposal*" task on your Home page.

O NFWF							My Tasks - Kimm	y Shriner				
		My Tasks	My Grants	Profile	Apply For Funding							
	Home Change Password	To access a ta		the task na	me link in the <b>Task</b> colur Tasks	<u>nn</u> .						
	FAQ	My T	Fasks									
	Log Out	Easygrant ID	<sup>s</sup> Primary Co	ntact/Pl	Task		Program Name	Funding Cycle Name	Status	Outcome	Due Date	
		53476	Shriner, Kim	imy	Pre-proposal	I	Grants	Acres for America Fall 2016	Incomplete	Pre-proposal Not Submitted	5/19/2016	View PDF

9. Click on links in left column to complete each section of your application *(Contact Info, Org Info, Project Info, Uploads, Matching Contributions).* 



10. Uploads section (Pre-proposal Narrative and Project Map)

#### Pre-Proposal Narrative Template:

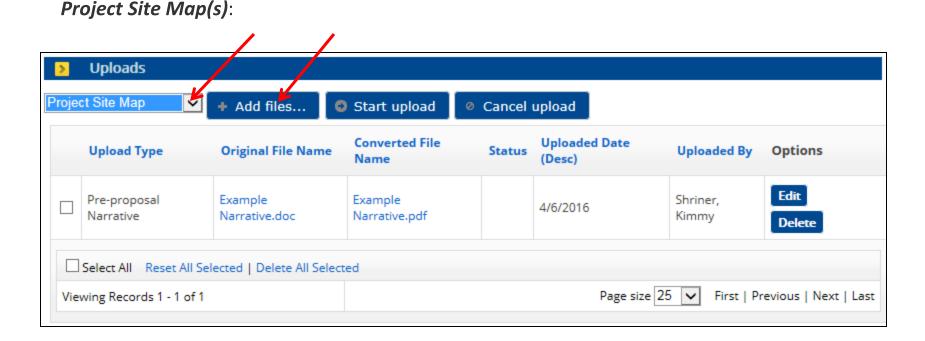
Download the "NFWF Pre-proposal Narrative Template", complete offline, then upload.

Upload Type	Required	Template	File Types Allowed	Max Uploads	Max File Size	Max Pages	Max Words	Max Characters
Pre-proposal Narrative	Yes	NFWF Pre-proposal Narrative Template	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf	No Limit	16 MB	2	No Limit	No Limit
Project Site Map	Yes		.xls, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .docx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit



>	Uploads			
Pre-p	oroposal Narrative 🗸	+ Add files	Start upload	Cancel upload
Pre	e-proposal Narrative:	Example Narrative.do	c 174.08 KB	art 🛛 🖉 Cancel

10. Uploads section (Pre-proposal Narrative and Project Map)



10. Uploads section (Pre-proposal Narrative and Project Map)

**Project Site Map(s)**:

>	Uploads									
Proje	Project Site Map 🖌 🕂 Add files 💿 Start upload 💿 Cancel upload									
	Project Site Map: Example Map.jpg									
	Upload Type	Original File Name	Converted File Name	Status	Uploaded Date (Desc)	Uploaded By	Options			
	Pre-proposal Narrative	Example Narrative.doc	Example Narrative.pdf		4/6/2016	Shriner, Kimmy	Edit Delete			
	Select All Reset All Selected   Delete All Selected									
Vie	Viewing Records 1 - 1 of 1 Page size 25 V First   Previous   Next   Last									

10. Uploads section (Pre-proposal Narrative and Project Map)

**Project Site Map(s)**:

> Decis	Uploads				1				
Projec	Project Site Map 🖌 🔸 Add files 🐵 Start upload 🖉 Cancel upload								
	Upload Type	Original File Name	Converted File Name	Status	Uploaded Date (Desc)	Uploaded By	Options		
	Project Site Map	Example Map.jpg	Example Map.pdf	Successfully validated and converted file.	4/6/2016	Shriner, Kimmy	Edit Delete		
	Pre-proposal Narrative	Example Narrative.doc	Example Narrative.pdf	Successfully validated and converted file.	4/6/2016	Shriner, Kimmy	Edit Delete		
	Select All Reset All Selected   Delete All Selected								
Vie	wing Records 1 - 2	of 2			Page size 25 🗸	First   Prev	ious   Next   Last		

- 11. **Review & Submit** section make sure the status of all sections is complete ( $\square$ ).
- 12. Review and save your completed proposal  $\rightarrow$  View the PDF  $\rightarrow$  Click "Submit"!

#### **HELP!!** Use the **Help** button or contact us via the information at the bottom of the page

	λF		
WAY HOUR	V V I	Main - Kimmy Shriner	
Home	> Project Information		
Main	Due: 5/19/2016 11:59 PM ET Shriner, Kimmy  (Test Org) Grants  Acres for America  Acres for America	Acres Test	Easygrants ID: 53476
Contact Information	Instructions     Click the page links on the left pavigation	n bar, or in the summary below to view the pages where y	ou will enter the information required for this
Organization Information	submission. Click Help for examples an	in <b>di instructions.</b> Click <b>Home</b> to return to your Home page. ' mit. Once you submit, you will no longer be able to make cl	You may save and return to edit your information
Project Information	Other useful links that will appear in the	2	
Uploads	<ul> <li>FAQ provides answers to common</li> </ul>	ome page and out of this submission task. on questions about the Foundation's proposal elements. content and technical aspects related to completing many em.	of the pages in the system.
Matching Contributions	Validation Summary		
Review and Submit	Page Name Organization Information	<b>Status</b> ✓ Complete	
FAQ	Project Information Uploads	✓ Complete ★ Incomplete	e
Help	Matching Contributions	✓ Complete	
Log Out			
		nce, please contact us via <b>e-mail</b> or phone 202-595-2497. ms of Use Download Adobe Reader	
		Powered by <b>Easygrants™</b> v8.0.4	

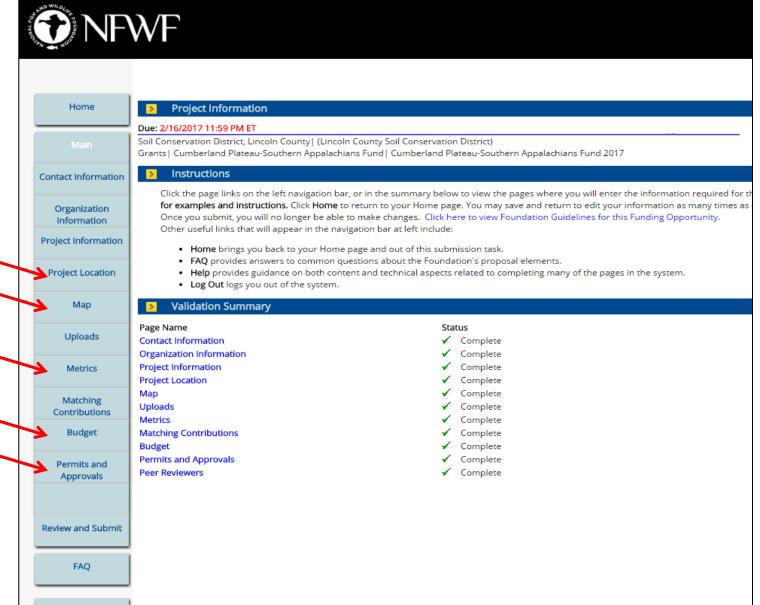
## Full proposal stage in Easygrants

1. Click on the "*Full proposal*" task on Home page.

NFWF						My Tasks – Kir	nmy Shriner				
	My Tasks	My Grants		Apply For Funding							
Home		ask below, <u>click t</u>	ne task nam		<u>n</u> .						
Change Passwor	Apply for F	unding	iew All My T	asks							
FAQ	<mark>≥</mark> My`	Tasks									
Log Out	Easygrant ID	ts Primary Cor	ntact/Pl	Task		Program Name	Funding Cycle Name	Status	Outcome	Due Date	
	53476	Shriner, Kimr	my	Full Proposal		Grants	Acres for America Fall 2016	Incomplete	Pre-proposal Not Submitted	5/19/2016	View PDF

## Full proposal stage in Easygrants

2. Click on links in left column to complete/update each section of your application.



Log Out

## Full proposal stage in Easygrants

3. Budget section - Grant funds can only be applied to the property's *purchase price*.

Only fill out the "Other Direct Costs" category. Enter the number **1** in the "quantity" field, and the **total amount you are requesting from NFWF** in the "unit cost" field.

Budget		
Collapse all		
	Budget 📑	Other Direct Costs
▶ Personnel	\$0.00	Type * Fee aquisition
▶ <u>Travel</u>	\$0.00	Purpose * Land conservation
▶ Equipment	\$0.00	Unit of Measure
Materials and Supplies	\$0.00	Apply to Year(s)
<u>Contractual Services</u>	\$0.00	Quantity Unit Cost Total Cost
<u>Other Direct Costs</u>	\$200,000.00	Budget 1 \$200,000.00 \$200,000.00
Other Direct Costs  🛨 📄	\$200,000.00	Save Save and Close Cancel
Indirect Costs	\$0.00	
Total Direct Costs	\$200,000.00	
Total Indirect Costs	\$0.00	
Total Costs	\$200,000.00	
Continue		

#### **Acres for America TIP SHEET**

• A **Tip Sheet** with step-by-step instructions for using Easygrants can be found on the <u>Acres for America</u> program page.



#### Acres for America Pre-Proposal Tip Sheet

#### STARTING AN APPLICATION

When you are ready to begin the application process, go to www.nfwf.org/Easygrants.

- New users to the system will be prompted to register before starting their application.
- Existing users should log in using their e-mail address and password. If you have forgotten you password, Easygrants will e-mail one to you.
- Once you are logged in, click the Apply for Funding button, and select Acres for America from the list of "Available Funding Opportunities".
- Complete the Eligibility Quiz and Save and Submit your response.
- If you pass the Eligibility Quiz, Easygrants will return you to your personal Easygrants Home Page. From there, click on the Pre-Proposal for the Acres for America. Now you are ready to get started! If you do not pass the Eligibility Quiz, please contact the NFWF Program Contact identified in the RFP.

#### Take Note!

- Pop-ups: Easygrants uses pop-up windows to display some files. Please make sure your web browser allows for pop-ups. The internet browser pop-up blocker must be disabled prior to beginning the application process. You can also try holding the Shift or Control (CTRL) key when clicking the link.
- Cookies: Easygrants uses cookies to maintain the session information. Please make sure that your browser and computer can accept cookies.
- PDF: Easygrants uses PDFs extensively. Make sure you are able to use Adobe Reader.
- SAVING AND SUBMITTING: Once an application has been initiated, it may be saved and then modified and submitted at a later time, up to the application deadline of

### TIPS & INFO

- $\checkmark$  Site proximity to a Walmart store is not considered in the review process.
- ✓ If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login *TODAY* and familiarize yourself with the system.
- ✓ Turn off your internet's pop-up blockers. Internet Explorer users will probably need to do this over and over.
- It is important that you discuss your ideas with fellow conservationists, agencies and funders, since their support will be critical in the full proposal stage.
- ✓ Feel free to contact NFWF regional office staff to discuss your project and potential conservation priorities in your area. Contact names are listed on RFP.
- ✓ The pre-proposal deadline is April 13. Only electronic pre-proposals submitted through Easygrants will be considered.
- Following a review period of about four weeks, appropriate pre-proposals will be selected and applicants will be invited to submit full proposals. The deadline for full proposals is June 29. Final funding decisions will be made by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Board of Directors in November.

## **THANK YOU!**

If you have any additional questions, please contact:

- > Chris West, <u>chris.west@nfwf.org</u>
- Kimberly Shriner, <u>kimberly.shriner@nfwf.org</u>

