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UNCLASSIFIED

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Washington, D. C. 20523**

LAC REGIONAL

PROJECT PAPER

**NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION
AMENDMENT NUMBER 1**

**AID/LAC/P-795
CR-660**

Project Number: 598-0795

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT DATA SHEET		1. TRANSACTION CODE <input type="checkbox"/> A = Add <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C = Change <input type="checkbox"/> D = Delete	Amendment Number 1	DOCUMENT CODE 3
2. COUNTRY/ENTITY LAC Regional		3. PROJECT NUMBER 598-0795		
4. BUREAU/OFFICE LAC/DR		5. PROJECT TITLE (maximum 40 characters) Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation		
6. PROJECT ASSISTANCE COMPLETION DATE (PACD) MM DD YY 09 30 96		7. ESTIMATED DATE OF OBLIGATION (Under 'B', below, enter 1, 2, 3, or 4) A. Initial FY 91 B. Quarter 4 C. Final FY 93		

8. COSTS (\$000 OR EQUIVALENT \$1 =)

A. FUNDING SOURCE	FIRST FY 91			LIFE OF PROJECT		
	B. FX	C. L/C	D. TOTAL	E. FX	F. L/C	G. TOTAL
AID Appropriated Total						
(Grant)	(500)		(500)	(1,250)		(1,250)
(Loan)						
Other 1.						
U.S. 2.						
Host Country	110		110	187		187
Other Donor(s)	450		450	665		665
TOTALS	1,060		1,060	852		852

9. SCHEDULE OF AID FUNDING (\$000)

A. APPROPRIATION	B. PRIMARY PURPOSE CODE	C. PRIMARY TECH CODE		D. OBLIGATION TO DATE		E. AMOUNT APPROVED THIS ACTION		F. LIFE OF PROJECT	
		1 Grant	2 Loan	1. Grant	2. Loan	1. Grant	2. Loan	1. Grant	2. Loan
(1)	SD			500		750		1,250	
(2)									
(3)									
(4)									
TOTALS				500		750		1,250	

10. SECONDARY TECHNICAL CODES (maximum 6 codes of 3 positions each)

11. SECONDARY PURPOSE CODE

12. SPECIAL CONCERNS CODES (maximum 7 codes of 4 positions each)

A. Code

B. Amount

13. PROJECT PURPOSE (maximum 480 characters)

The purpose of the project is to improve and coordinate conservation monitoring, research, and associated education and training programs necessary to address the decline in neotropical migratory bird population.

14. SCHEDULED EVALUATIONS

Interim MM YY MM YY Final MM YY

0 6 9 6

15. SOURCE/ORIGIN OF GOODS AND SERVICES
 In accordance with Handbook 13
 000 941 Local Other (specify)

16. AMENDMENTS/NATURE OF CHANGE PROPOSED (This is page 1 of a _____ page PP Amendment.)
 The project amendment adds an additional \$750,000 to the project and extends the project by three years.

17. APPROVED BY

Signature: *William J. Rhodes*

Title: Acting Assistant Administrator

Date Signed: MM DD YY
 0 6 25 9 3

18. DATE DOCUMENT RECEIVED IN AID/W, OR FOR AID/W DOCUMENTS, DATE OF DISTRIBUTION

MM DD YY

JUN 25 1993

ACTION MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, LAC

FROM: LAC/DR, Peter Bloom

SUBJECT: Authorization Amendment for the LAC Regional
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Project
(598-0795)

Action Requested: That you authorize a three year extension and an additional \$750,000 for the LAC Regional Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Project.

Background: In response to an FY 1991 Foreign Assistance Appropriations earmark, A.I.D. awarded the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) \$500,000 for a two-year Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Program (NMBCP). Populations of many species of birds that nest in North America and winter in Latin America and the Caribbean are declining. The NMBCP is a direct response to address the decline through applied conservation and public education measures. The FY 1993 Foreign Assistance Appropriation earmarked an additional \$750,000 for the NMBCP. In response, the NFWF submitted a proposal for use of the funds.

Project Description: The strategy underlying the Partners in Flight program, of which the NMBCP is a component, calls for prioritization of species and habitats of greatest concern, and development of a framework for long-term management and habitat protection. The purpose of the three-year, \$750,000 amendment is to continue to improve and coordinate monitoring, research, conservation and associated education and training programs necessary to address the decline in neotropical migratory bird populations. Through NMBCP grants will be provided to non-governmental organizations (NGOs), host country government agencies and independent researchers to carry out activities in the above areas. A.I.D. funds will also be used to cover the cost of a Caribbean Liaison and to continue to meet the expenses of the sub-grantees, including salaries, training, equipment and travel, to be matched with a contribution of \$665,000 from non-federal sources. The Foundation will also provide \$187,000 of administrative and program service as an in-kind contribution.

As a result of the Project Review Meeting of April 30, 1993, clarifications/changes to the proposal were requested, including: (1) modifying the sub-grant proposal review process to conform to procedures agreed upon in meetings with NFWF and which will be stated in the amendment to the cooperative agreement; (2) substantiating the need for FY-93 funds; (3) revising the budget to show previously provided A.I.D. funds in addition to the new funds being requested; (4) including a discussion of NFWF's substantive role in the sub-grant review and approval process, and; and (5) adding funds to the budget for one administrative

position to serve as a Caribbean Liaison. These changes have been made to the Bureau's satisfaction.

Discussion: It is with reservation that LAC/DR recommends the project be amended. At issue is not the importance of neotropical migratory birds to the U.S. and LAC countries, nor the severe threat to the bird's populations. Of the approximately 500 land-bird species in the United States, close to 50% are neotropical migrants. Many are experiencing dramatic population declines which could result in the extinction of these species. In addition to the potential environmental impacts, are economic and social impacts in the United States if the Endangered Species Act needs to be repeatedly invoked as a result of neotropical migratory bird species becoming endangered.

Of concern is the grantee's qualifications to manage the program, and whether the \$1.25 million will be used effectively for advancing A.I.D.'s environment and natural resource management priorities. NFWF has been slow to implement an effective program. Until recently, A.I.D. technical staff found few proposals presented for review by NFWF to meet technical and administrative criteria, and thus, adequate for funding. LAC/DR believes that the purpose of conserving migratory birds would have been better served if open competition had been allowed, and a program designed that was integrated with A.I.D.'s other extensive E/NR activities in the region. Instead, the earmark language was very restrictive, specifying both the institution and activity to receive the funds. Section 532(e)(1) of the FY 93 FAA states, "...\$750,000 shall be for the Neotropical Bird Conservation Initiative of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation...."

Examples of highly qualified institutions that could have been considered for implementing a program include the Smithsonian's Neotropical Migratory Bird Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Cornell University's Ornithology Laboratory, the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, and the Manomet Bird Observatory. Examples of A.I.D. conservation projects that could have been strengthened, while providing a multi-million dollar per year funding base for the NMBCP to build upon, are the regional Parks in Peril Program, MAYAREMA in Guatemala, and the Sustainable Use of Biological Resources (SUBIR) in Ecuador.

Regardless of our concerns, however, A.I.D. is obliged to provide the funds to NFWF. The intent of Congress in the earmark language is unambiguous. Only if A.I.D. was unable to obligate the funds due to such circumstances as the designated recipient institution no longer existing or being found unable to manage funds, would A.I.D. have grounds. No such circumstances exist. Not proceeding with amending the agreement would constitute "impoundment" of the funds, which is illegal. In this case,

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given these legal considerations, you are advised to authorize the subject amendment.

On the bright side, with assistance from LAC/DR/E, NFWF is doing a more professional job, and approximately \$300,000 of quality proposals have recently been selected for funding. NFWF also provides a link to the larger Partners in Flight program which is a consortium of businesses and local, state, provincial, and federal government agencies working to improve migratory bird conservation in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. We hope the strength of this consortium can be built upon through A.I.D.'s funding of NMBCP.

Noncompetitive Award: The original award to the NFWF was made on a non-competitive basis due to the uniqueness of the NMBCP and the Partners in Flight program as described in their unsolicited proposal. The amendment to NFWF's Cooperative Agreement will not require a competitive action due to the specific language of the Congressional earmark.

Environmental Determination: The LAC Environmental Officer has approved a recommendation for a negative determination of the project under A.I.D. environmental requirements [HB 3, Appendix 2B, section 216.2(c)(iii)]

Waivers: No waivers are anticipated at this time.

Technical Notification: A TN was forwarded to the Hill on May 3, 1993 and expired on May 17, 1993.

Authority: Current Delegation of Authority No. 400 delegates authority to the Assistant Administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean to authorize a project amendment if the project (a) does not present significant policy issues, and; (b) does not require issuance of waivers that may only be approved by the Administrator.

Recommendation: That you authorize an amendment of \$750,000 to the LAC Regional Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Project (598-0795) and approve a PACD extension of three years, through September 30, 1996.

Attachments:

1. Project Authorization Amendment
2. Proposal

PROJECT AUTHORIZATION
AMENDMENT NUMBER 1

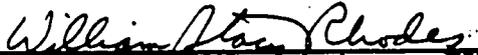
Name of Country: LAC Regional
Name of Project: Neotropical Migratory
Bird Conservation
Number of Project: 598-0795

1. Pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation project was authorized on August 9, 1991. That authorization is hereby amended as follows:

a. The first paragraph under "Background" is amended to delete the figure "\$500,000" and to insert in lieu thereof "\$1,250,000". The planned life of project is revised to five years from the date of initial obligation.

b. The paragraph entitled "Project Description" is amended as follows: in the first sentence, delete the words "two year, \$500,000 project" and insert in lieu thereof "five year, \$1,250,000 project". In the latter part of this paragraph, delete the non-federal contribution amount of "\$500,000" and the Foundation contribution amount of "\$110,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$665,000" and "\$187,000" respectively.

2. The Authorization cited above remains in force except as hereby amended.



Acting Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

Clearances:

LAC/DR:S Bugg
LAC/DR/E:JHester
LAC/DR:WNilsestuen
LAC/DP:JStepanek
GC/LAC:RMeighan-SCA No 6.
DAA/LAC:NParker

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Drafted by:
6/22/93 ext7-8070

[Signature]
JBrokaw:doc#U:\drpub\ees\brokaw\AUTHAMEN

Program Description

PROJECT TITLE: NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

PROJECT LOCATION: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

FVO NAME: NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

FVO LOCATION: 1120 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW
 SUITE 900
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036
 TELEPHONE: (202) 857-0166
 FAX: (202) 857-0162

HEADQUARTERS: SAME AS ABOVE

CONTACT PERSON: PETER STANGEL
 DIRECTOR, NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY
 BIRD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 6, 1993

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal form 7671 # of pages 12

To	From
Caron M... [Signature]	
Co.	Co.
Dept.	Phone #
Fax #	Fax #

**NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

**A PROPOSAL TO THE
UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FROM THE
NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION**

Request

This is a request to amend Cooperative Agreement No. LAC-0795-A-00-1057-00 to extend the agreement period from September 29, 1993 to September 29, 1996 and to request an additional \$750,000 for the project "Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation in Latin America and the Caribbean" (NMBC).

Summary

Long-term surveys indicate that populations of many species of Neotropical migratory birds are declining. Declines have been linked to loss and deterioration of habitat on North American breeding grounds and Neotropical wintering grounds.

There is an immediate need to focus resources on those factors contributing to deterioration of Neotropical habitats where migrants spend half or more of each year. In 1990 the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) launched the *Partners in Flight - Aves de las Americas* Program to coordinate and direct resources to management, training, education, research, and monitoring projects to benefit Neotropical migrants on both the breeding and wintering grounds. NFWF's Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Initiative is one component of the umbrella *Partners in Flight* Program.

Partners in Flight is a cooperative Program that now involves 14 U.S. federal agencies, over 50 state and provincial wildlife agencies, 29 nongovernmental conservation organizations, 14 organizations representing the forest products industry, and a host of universities and foundations. A commitment to *Partners in Flight* is indicated by a Memorandum of Agreement which has been signed by the U.S. federal agencies, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Coordination and communication within this coalition is facilitated by Working Groups, which are comprised of experts from *Partners in Flight* member organizations. Working Groups have been formed to advise member organizations in the fields of research, monitoring, information and education, international programs, and regional issues. Conservation recommendations are generated within Working Groups and submitted to *Partners in Flight* oversight committees representing federal agencies, state agencies, and nongovernmental conservation organizations (NGO) for implementation.

With this proposal, NFWF requests an amendment to the existing cooperative agreement No. LAC-0795-A-00-1057-00 to extend the agreement period from September 29, 1993 to September 29, 1996 and to request an additional \$750,000 for the NMBC project to continue implementation of *Partners in Flight* in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region. Under the NMBC project, NFWF will administer a competitive grants program to implement conservation recommendations of the International Working Group.

NFWF proposes a minimum match of \$665,000 from subgrantees for implementation of the NMBC project, and will provide an estimated \$187,000 of administrative and program services related to this project as an in-kind contribution to ensure a direct, on-the-ground expenditure of funds in high priority conservation projects. In-kind contributions from the International Working Group are valued at \$50,000 per year.

The total amendment project budget for the NMBC project is \$750,000 (USAID); \$665,000 (NGO match); \$187,000 (NFWF in-kind contribution) for a total of \$1,602,000. FY 1991 funding was \$500,000 (USAID); \$450,000 (NGO match); \$110,000 (NFWF in-kind contribution) for a total of \$1,060,000 and a grand combined total of \$2,662,000.

NFWF will actively seek additional funding from federal, state, and private partners for the umbrella *Partners in Flight* Program to complement and augment the LAC NMBC project.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

I. PROJECT PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

Project purpose and beneficiaries:

The primary purpose of the NMBC project is to fund coordinated and strategic training, education, management, monitoring, and research projects to benefit Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. The project focuses on providing support to local organizations within the LAC area. The project will provide grants to NGOs, government agencies, and independent researchers to carry out recommendations of the International Working Group consistent with the umbrella *Partners in Flight* Program.

The International Working Group has as a priority supporting conservation of Neotropical migratory birds by providing grants to regional institutions that can implement conservation projects in a manner complementary to other conservation priorities, including protection of endemic birds species and biological diversity in general. Partnerships with U.S. individuals and organizations will be encouraged to promote technology transfer.

Particular emphasis will be given to projects that provide coordinated and standardized implementation of training, education, management, monitoring, and research technology and methodology.

By the end of NMBC project, the ability of local NGOs, government natural resource agencies, host country universities, and other national and international organizations to coordinate and implement on-the-ground training, education, management, monitoring, and research will be improved and strengthened.

Project description:

The conservation of migrants in the neotropics, where over 50% of the breeding bird species in the United States spend the nonbreeding season, has received little attention. Previous efforts have been piecemeal in approach, geographically restricted, largely uncoordinated, and rarely developed on a strategic and sustainable basis. *Partners in Flight* was initiated to overcome these limitations and direct new resources into critical projects in the neotropics. A commitment to conservation of Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats in Latin America and the Caribbean is essential. Many species spend the majority of their life cycle on the migratory routes and the Neotropical nonbreeding grounds. Neotropical migrants are highly

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concentrated in this area, and their habitats are under extreme pressure from development. Simultaneous conservation of Neotropical migratory birds on both the North American breeding grounds and Neotropical nonbreeding grounds is not just desirable, it is mandatory if conservation is to be successful.

Because conservation efforts for Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats are not well developed in the neotropics, there are considerable opportunities to start new programs "from the ground up." For example, in the United States, bird monitoring programs have been underway for decades. Unfortunately, there has been little coordination among these efforts, resulting in a maze of data from different projects that is largely incompatible. In the neotropics, few monitoring programs have started, and continued funding from USAID will provide extraordinary opportunities for beginning such efforts in a coordinated and cooperative manner. Early coordination will provide earlier, more reliable results, and reduce the program overlap that drains resources from contributing organizations.

The NMBC project is the major component of the focus on the neotropics, and serves as the key mechanism for implementation of the Latin America and Caribbean segments of the *Partners in Flight* effort. Implementation of the Latin America and Caribbean component will be accomplished by NFWF soliciting and administering grants consistent with International Working Group recommendations and the *Partners in Flight* Program.

NFWF will not directly implement NMBC projects. Instead, we will administer grants to qualified individuals or groups who have experience in the desired area. Potential applicants include individuals, agencies, and organizations with expertise in the main program areas of training, education, management, monitoring, and research. Many, if not most, projects transcend boundaries of two or more of these program areas.

Funding of proposals to subgrantees is contingent upon their securing matching funds or in-kind contributions. All proposals submitted to NFWF will receive review from the International Working Group, as well as relevant experts not associated with that group. The International Working Group will convene and recommend rejection, revision, or approval of projects to NFWF. Only those proposals approved by NFWF and the International Working Group will be sent to the USAID project officer. Final support for all projects is contingent upon approval by the NFWF Board of Directors, as required by NFWF by-laws, and by the USAID project manager under terms of the cooperative agreement. All activities supported by the NMBC project will be fully-funded, "start-to-finish." Conditions expected at the end of the project are:

Strategic:

Local or regional plans, designed by local resource managers and coordinated nationally and internationally, for training, education, management, monitoring, and research projects. Coordination and communication networks will start at the local level, and progress to the international level, linking resource professionals throughout the geographic range of Neotropical migratory birds. Contacts, and more importantly working relationships, will be facilitated among resource professionals in Latin America and the Caribbean, and between this group and colleagues the U.S. and Canada. This latter group will include representatives from federal and state agencies, NGOs, academia, and industry. These plans will be developed with oversight from the International Working Group to ensure coordination with U.S. and Canadian entities.

Training:

To include training for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as resource professionals requiring additional expertise as it relates to Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. Emphasis will be placed on developing training programs at existing host-country institutions where the best developed facilities are already available. Creation of regional training centers at existing institutions will reduce overhead and strengthen existing infrastructures. Training programs will include bird and habitat monitoring, resource management directly affecting Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats, public education, and research techniques.

Education:

Particularly for indigenous peoples to facilitate better understanding of Neotropical migratory birds, their relationships to nonmigratory and endemic species, importance in local cultures, relationship to soil, water, and habitat conservation, etc.

Management:

On-the-ground management programs to improve habitat conditions for Neotropical migratory birds. Desirable projects include efforts to work with local landowners to improve habitat quality, increase connectivity of existing habitats, restore degraded habitats, and combine these efforts with economic returns for landowners.

Monitoring:

Development of a strategy for coordinated monitoring programs throughout the region, developed by in-country resource professionals, with assistance from *Partners in Flight* Working Groups. Establishment of regional training centers to improve monitoring skills and to provide coordination among monitoring efforts, and development of data storage and retrieval systems for use by in-country biologists.

Research:

Management and conservation driven research projects to help resolve critical issues affecting conservation of Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. Primary focus will be habitat preferences of different species and survival in disturbed vs. undisturbed habitats.

General:

Establishing networks to facilitate communication and technology transfer within and among countries in Latin America and the Caribbean with their counterparts in the U.S. and Canada. Increased exposure of conservation programs in Latin America and the Caribbean will greatly facilitate improved funding opportunities from the U.S. and Canadian private sectors.

II. PROJECT BACKGROUND

History of Proposal development:

In 1990 NFWF launched the *Partners in Flight* Program to promote increased coordination, communication, funding, and strategic planning to benefit conservation of Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. The Program brings together all groups with an interest in conservation of Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats and encourages partnerships to address pressing conservation issues.

Nine Working Groups, with memberships from participating organizations, drive the Program. Working Groups develop recommendations for conservation programs based on the collective expertise within each group. Recommendations are then presented to oversight committees representing federal agencies, state agencies, and NGOs. Oversight committees then have responsibility for implementing Working Group recommendations.

The initial focus for *Partners in Flight* was the U.S. and Canada. With that component of the Program functioning, increasing attention is being directed to Latin America and the Caribbean.

Fourteen federal agencies, over 50 state and provincial agencies, 29 NGOs, 14 organizations representing the forest products industry, and a host of universities are participants in this program.

In the first 18 months of the current cooperative agreement with USAID, NFWF has worked with both International Working Group members and USAID personnel to define how USAID funds can have the greatest impact on Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. Over 20 proposals have also been received for the NMBC project, representing a diverse array of opportunities. Based on proposals received, and discussions among USAID, NFWF, and International Working Group personnel, NFWF is now in a much better position to solicit proposals that best meet the needs of the *Partners in Flight* Program.

NFWF Prior Experience:

NFWF has considerable experience organizing cooperative conservation programs and administering funds for projects.

The NMBC project is modeled after the highly successful North American Waterfowl Management Plan, a program organized by NFWF to promote conservation of migratory waterfowl in Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. Over \$150 million has been dispersed. NFWF has also administered projects in the former Soviet Union, Africa, Mexico, Belize, Costa Rica, and Panama.

NFWF has been in existence for six years, awarding 660 grants, that when leveraged by partners produced more than \$79 million for 255 different conservation organizations. NFWF annually receives an appropriation from Congress (\$5 million in 1992) to support projects, and has a budget department intimately familiar with handling and dispersing federal funds.

III. PROJECT ANALYSIS

Economic Effects of the Project:

Due to the nature of the projects supported under the NMBC project, there will be limited economic effects. Most benefits will be realized by conservation and research agencies, institutions, and universities that implement subgrants.

Local NGOs and government agencies will recognize considerable benefits by receiving grants and by increased exposure to international organizations. Improved contact with U.S. and Canadian organizations will greatly facilitate technology transfer.

Technology to be used by the Project:

Technology used by subgrantees will be adapted for sustained use by local groups. Emphasis will be given to projects that result in equipment and expertise remaining in-country.

Sociocultural Factors and Implementing Agency Environment:

Sociocultural benefits of sub-grants funded by NFWF are positive, but limited and indirect. The focus of the NMBC project is on strengthening training, education, management, monitoring, and research capabilities in the LAC region. This effort will ultimately lead to improved management of natural resources, with concomitant socioeconomic benefits, but these will not result directly from project implementation.

Project Continuity:

A primary objective of NFWF involvement in this project is to stimulate long-term funding for sustainable resource management and conservation programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. Once programs have started with NFWF/AID assistance, every effort will be made to encourage long-term funding from U.S. federal and state agencies, NGOs, foundations, and corporations. The umbrella *Partners in Flight* Program will provide the lasting structure through which funding efforts will continue.

Partners in Flight has already stimulated new partnerships between U.S. and LAC region countries; for example the recently started "Sister Forest" program of the U.S. Forest Service. This demonstrates that the structure works. A key component of *Partners in Flight* over the next several years will be to further strengthen ties between the U.S. private/public sector and host country organizations.

IV. PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation Plan:

NFWF will administer the entire requested amount of USAID funds to individual subgrantees through a competitive grants program. Funding will be contingent upon favorable review from NFWF, the International Working Group, and USAID. Subgrantees must raise matching funds

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in cash or in-kind contributions. NFWF will provide administrative and management support for the NMBC project to ensure that USAID funds and the corresponding match go directly to meet individual project goals in accordance with *Partners in Flight* strategic goals.

By having NFWF administer USAID funds, it is ensured that sub-projects chosen for support will directly meet International Working Group goals and *Partners in Flight* objectives. NFWF plays a central coordinating role in *Partners in Flight* and through contact with the International Working Group can direct resources to the most critical project areas. Coordination by NFWF will also ensure that selected projects do not overlap with other efforts, and that standardized procedures are used whenever possible.

Proposal advertisement and review:

NFWF will advertise the RFP in the following ways: send to all members of the International Working Group and encourage them to distribute through their channels; Newsletters of the following groups: Partners in Flight; Ornithological Societies of North America; United Nations Environmental Program; Birdlife International; Caribbean Conservation Association; Tropical Conservation Newsbureau; Vida Silvestre Neotropical; El Volante Migratorio; Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay; Tropic News; Simbiota. The RFP will also be sent to AID missions for distribution.

Application deadlines will be March 15 and November 15 annually.

Proposals received will be handled in the following manner:

1) NFWF will conduct a preliminary review of applications. Incomplete or inappropriate applications will be returned to applicant for necessary revision. Complete and appropriate applications will be accepted for continued review by the International Working Group and outside experts.

2) The Chairperson of the International Working Group will be provided with complete applications from (1) above. Members of the International Working Group will be solicited to provide review of specific projects. Responding members will form a working group that will be provided with the appropriate proposals; USAID will be represented on this group. Experts outside of the International Working Group will also be requested to review proposals. Members of the International Working Group review subgroup who review proposals will be invited to convene to discuss pending proposals. Based on input from reviewers at this meeting, NFWF will decide which proposals will be rejected, considered further after revisions, or recommended for approval. Only those proposals approved by NFWF will be forwarded to USAID who will check for mission concurrence and compliance with USAID financial criteria.

3) NFWF is responsible for obtaining USAID mission concurrence on proposals approved by the International Working Group prior to USAID review.

4) Approximately five weeks prior to NFWF Board of Director's meeting, USAID will be provided with copies of proposals, available reviews, and statement requesting mission concurrence, for those projects recommended for funding by the International Working Group and NFWF. NFWF Board meetings occur in mid-July (April 15 deadline) and mid-March (November 15 deadline).

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

ONLY

AND LEGAL

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5) Chair of International Working Group and NFWF will meet with AID at least two weeks prior to NFWF Board meeting. The USAID project officer will check for compliance with USAID financial criteria and mission concurrence. USAID will provide written comments to NFWF at this time. NFWF will assume responsibility for follow-through on USAID suggested revisions. NFWF assumes responsibility for approving/disapproving revised proposals. Proposals approved by USAID at this meeting will be submitted to NFWF Board of Directors for final approval.

6) NFWF will provide USAID Washington office with a final copy of all projects approved by NFWF Board of Directors

Interim and final reports will be submitted to NFWF by all subgrantees; NFWF will submit quarterly reports to USAID summarizing sub-grantee progress. NFWF will observe all USAID reporting requirements.

NFWF, the International Working Group, and participants in the *Partners in Flight* Program will take an active role in monitoring the progress of individual projects, and will conduct on-site inspections to determine the effectiveness of individual programs. NFWF will be ultimately responsible for all on-site inspections.

Provision of Technical Assistance and Training:

NFWF's main role will be coordination of activities under the NMBC project related to the overall *Partners in Flight* objectives. NFWF will help implement recommendations of the International Working Group; assist subgrantees with efforts to identify matching funds; and provide technical assistance to subgrantees as needed.

Assumptions about NFWF Project Management:

As the grantee, NFWF will subgrant funds to cooperators. Cooperators will implement subgrants in accordance with the work plan and calendar submitted to NFWF. Grant funds will be used to meet approved expenses including salaries and stipends, training, equipment, and travel as detailed in the proposal. NFWF will not charge overhead or other fees. As the grantee, NFWF will complete all financial and reporting requirements in accordance with USAID standard provisions. NFWF will be responsible for obligating subgrantees to furnish written quarterly reports describing activities and progress. These will also indicate success in attracting additional support for ongoing projects. NFWF will provide USAID with quarterly reports discussing project accomplishments. On the project termination date, NFWF will deliver to USAID a project narrative and financial report that covers project accomplishments.

Schedule of Actions Required:

Action	Date
Approval of USAID/NFWF Amendment	9/93
Revised RFP	9/93
Individual project initiation	ongoing
Quarterly narrative/financial report submission	quarterly

Project evaluation	3/95
Project final report	9/96
<hr/>	
Total amendment duration	3 years
Total project duration	5 years

Measurement and Evaluation of Project Accomplishments

NFWF will prepare an evaluation report at the midpoint of grant implementation. This report will list accomplishments of subgrantees in using funds provided through the NMBC project, problems encountered during project implementation, and the degree of progress in achieving project status completion. The evaluation will also assess the success of subgrantees in securing additional funds for continuation of individual projects.

V. FINANCIAL PLAN SUMMARY

At the recommendation of the International Working Group, NFWF will use its administrative funds to hire liaisons (Latin American nationals) to help coordinate the Partners in Flight Program in the tropics. Liaisons will be hired as contractors by NFWF, and there will be one liaison in Mexico, Central America, northern South America, and the Caribbean. Liaisons will concentrate on identifying host country NGO that can best implement neotropical migratory bird conservation projects, assist them with proposal development, coordinate their activities with U.S. counterparts, and organize participation in Partners in Flight in a way similar to that now being done in the U.S.

Justification for Coop Agreement with NFWF for this project:

NFWF launched Partners in Flight and continues to be the central organizing body. NFWF has established a series of technical working groups addressing issues including research, monitoring, and information and education. As the central coordinating body of the 100+ organizations now involved in Partners in Flight, NFWF can best coordinate conservation objectives with organizations willing to implement those objectives. Coordinating research, monitoring, education, and other activities across continents and among over 100 organizations is a complicated task. NFWF's central position in the program ensures that all necessary coordination will take place. Conservation of neotropical migratory birds and their habitats is a relatively new issue, and is thus ideally suited for coordination from the start. The structure for this coordination to take place exists in the form of the working groups, and NFWF is well-suited to facilitate this coordination. By working cooperatively with NFWF, AID essentially buys into a highly integrated network that has already been established for conservation of neotropical migratory birds, and simultaneously avoids having to become involved in the labor intensive communication and coordination associated with the network. The proposal screening process outlined by NFWF in the proposal above provides for extraordinary review and input from a wide variety of conservation agencies and organizations, and relieves USAID of much of the preliminary review process. USAID sees only those proposals that have been carefully reviewed and revised, and benefits from opinions solicited by a variety of conservation professionals.

Need for FY 1993 funds:

NFWF and USAID expect that the next proposal review cycle, to be completed in July of 1993, will require funds in excess of the approximately \$200,000 remaining in the FY 1991 allocation. NFWF and USAID have established a project priority and review system, and the review and approval process is moving along rapidly. Additional projects to fulfill the NFWF/USAID priority system will be received shortly, and will greatly exceed the funds remaining from FY 1991. FY 1993 funding is also required to implement the proposed liaison system, which will further stimulate submission of proposals from the LAC region. Liaisons will provide in-country solicitation for International Working Group recommendations, further enhancing the likelihood that in-country NGOs and others will be the direct beneficiaries of NFWF/USAID funds. Liaisons will also handle preliminary proposal review, which will result in higher quality proposals being sent for NFWF/AID review and thus more proposals in need of funding.

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	FY 1991				FY 1993				TOTAL
	\$900,000				\$750,000				\$1,250,000
<u>Component</u>	<u>AID</u>	<u>NFWF</u>	<u>NGO</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>AID</u>	<u>NFWF</u>	<u>NGO</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>	
Congressional Earmark									
Competitive Grants Program	\$450,000	\$0	\$450,000	\$900,000	\$665,000	\$0	\$665,000	\$1,330,000	\$2,230,000
Administration and Liaison	45,000	0	0	45,000	75,000	0	0	75,000	\$120,000
Personnel	0	76,000	0	76,000	0	150,000	0	150,000	\$226,000
Office Support	0	12,000	0	12,000	0	18,000	0	18,000	\$30,000
Travel for Evaluation and Audit	5,000	16,000	0	21,000	10,000	10,000	0	20,000	\$41,000
General and Equipment	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	9,000	0	9,000	\$15,000
Project Total	<u>500,000</u>	<u>110,000</u>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>1,060,000</u>	<u>750,000</u>	<u>187,000</u>	<u>665,000</u>	<u>1,602,000</u>	<u>2,662,000</u>

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