



**Compensatory Mitigation: Funding Mechanisms**  
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# National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

## Who We Are

- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- Independent 501(c)(3) organization
- 30 member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
  - Includes FWS Director and NOAA Administrator

## What We Do

- Sustain, restore and enhance wildlife
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies and private sector

## How We Do It

- Leverage public funding with private money – average 3:1



*Bald eagle*

## NFWF is

- An implementer – we fund projects

## NFWF is not

- An advocacy organization that funds lobbying or litigation



# Impact-Directed Environmental Accounts (IDEA)

- NFWF's IDEA department serves as manager and trustee for funds arising from legal and regulatory actions involving natural resources and the environment.
- IDEA efficiently manages and disburses such funds in strict accordance with the governing legal and/or regulatory documents and requirements
  - IDEA is not involved in bringing enforcement cases or issuing permits
  - IDEA supports the work of federal, state, and local governmental agencies when opportunities arise
- Congress authorized NFWF in its Establishment Act “to receive and administer restitution and community service payments, amounts for mitigation of impacts to natural resources, and other amounts arising from legal, regulatory, or administrative proceedings, subject to the condition that the amounts are received or administered for purposes that further the conservation and management of fish, wildlife, plants, and other natural resources.” (16 USC 3703(c)(1)(K))



## Examples of IDEA's Involvement with Compensatory Mitigation

- Holder and administrator of short-term mitigation funds
  - California condor
  - Bald and golden eagle
  - Desert tortoise
  - Western Joshua tree
  - Greater sage grouse
- Holder of mitigation financial assurance mechanisms
  - Incidental Take Permits/Habitat Conservation Plans for wind power projects
  - Bat conservation banks
- Holder and administrator of long-term management funds aka “mitigation endowments” for compensatory mitigation and conservation lands
  - Species conservation banks and wetland mitigation banks
  - Permittee responsible mitigation projects
- Sponsor of a wetlands In-Lieu Fee mitigation program covering the California portion of the USACE Sacramento District's jurisdiction



NFWF

## Questions?

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