# NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT: A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY

Since its inception in 1989, NAWCA grants totaling more than \$1.48 billion have leveraged \$4.34 billion in contributions from partners. These contributions have far exceeded the match requirements, allowing for the successful implementation of wetland habitat restoration projects across North America. Federal and non-federal funding has resulted in the conservation of more than 33.4 million acres of wetlands and associated uplands across North America. The abundance of wildlife, including many species of waterfowl, other migratory birds, fish and mammals supported by wetlands, translates into multi-billion dollar activities for Americans who enjoy hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing and photography.

NAWCA REQUIRES A 1:1 MATCH, BUT PARTNERS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL OFTEN DOUBLE OR TRIPLE FEDERAL FUNDS



## Through the history of the program, NAWCA has provided...

2,644

PROJECTS USING NAWCA GRANTS, TOTALING \$1.4 BILLION

**33.4 MILLION** 

ACRES OF HABITAT IMPACTED USING NAWCA FUNDING

5,600

PARTNERS CONTRIBUTE OVER \$3 BILLION IN MATCHED FUNDS

### ...in all 50 states



**NAWCA conserves and restores wetlands to increase water quantity and quality.** Wetlands store water and recharge aquifers, thus securing future water supplies and reducing soil erosion in the event of floods. Wetlands also preserve water quality by removing phosphates, nitrogen and pesticides.

### NAWCA funds have created on average, nearly 7,500 new jobs annually in the US.<sup>1</sup>

These jobs generate more than \$200 million in worker earnings each year. NAWCA has benefited the national economy by translating \$1.3 billion in federal funds into more than \$5 billion in on-the-ground conservation and economic activity in North America.

### NAWCA expands recreational opportunities for people such as hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing and photography.

These recreational activities are a multi-billion dollar industry. On average, Americans spend \$646 billion on outdoor recreation and the recreation industry directly supports over 6.1 million jobs.<sup>2</sup>

1. "A Programmatic Evaluation of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) in the United States and Canada" Final Report, Conducted for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service by Responsive Management, September 2002

2. "The Outdoor Recreation Economy" Conducted for Outdoor Industry Association by Southwick Associates, Inc. 2012

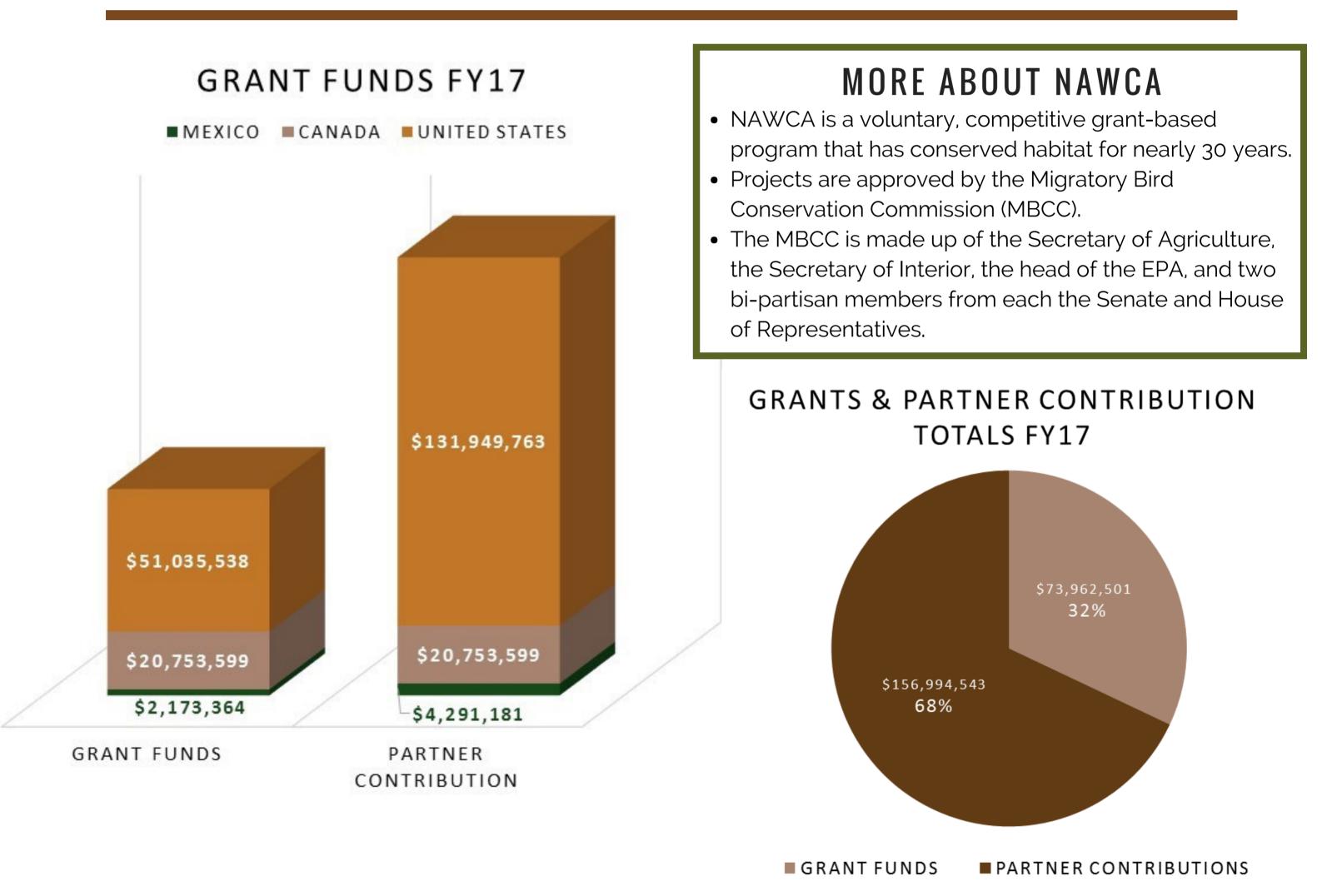
# FY2017 OVERVIEW



#### FY2017 NUMBERS

| GRANT FUNDING            | \$73,962,501  |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| PARTNER<br>CONTRIBUTION: | \$156,994,543 |
| TOTAL PROJECTS:          | 113           |
| ACRES AFFECTED:          | 3,415,349     |

In 2016, 113 projects were selected for funding across the continent- 97 in the U.S., 9 in Canada, and 7 in Mexico. NAWCA proposals totaling more than \$73 million will leverage \$156 million in contributions from partners in the FY17 recommended awards. In the history of the program, partners have included all 50 state wildlife agencies, hundreds of private landowners, a diversity of private conservation organizations, corporations, businesses, tribes and local governments.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

MORE THAN 900 SPECIES OF BIRDS AND WILDLIFE RELY ON WETLAND HABITAT.

For more information, contact Whitney Tawney with Ducks Unlimited at wtawney@ducks.org or 202-347-1530.