

§ 83.5

under this Act before a conservation plan is approved. Such a proposal must:

(1) Be for the purpose of conserving, restoring, or otherwise benefitting nongame fish and wildlife, its habitats or its users;

(2) Comply with standards contained in the Federal Aid Manual; and

(3) Consist of work to be accomplished before October 1, 1986.

(b) A proposal to develop or maintain a conservation plan. The designated State agency may apply for funding of a project for developing a conservation plan, coordinating or consolidating a conservation plan with other plans, or maintaining a previously approved conservation plan. State costs incurred later than September 30, 1991, for the development of a conservation plan cannot be approved for funding.

(c) A proposal to implement actions described in an approved conservation plan. Such a proposal specifies and requests funding to cover one or more of the nongame actions described in the approved conservation plan.

§ 83.5 Limitations.

The following limitations shall apply to the eligibility of projects for funding under the Act:

(a) Of the total estimated costs for any project proposed under this Act, not less than 80 percent shall be for work or activities for the principal benefit of nongame fish and wildlife resources or of the public use of these resources.

(b) Upon approval of a conservation plan, all projects must be limited to actions required for implementing or revising the plan or for coordinating or consolidating the plan with other plans.

(c) Not more than 10 percent of the costs of any project which is carried out in lieu of an approved conservation plan, or which is carried out under an approved conservation plan covering only nongame fish and wildlife resources, may be derived from the sale of hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses and from penalties (including forfeitures) for violations of hunting, fishing, and trapping laws of the State.

(d) Not more than 10 percent of the estimated costs for projects to be fund-

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ed shall be for law enforcement activities.

(e) Not more than 10 percent of the cost of implementing any project under this Act shall be funded by in-kind contributions from third parties.

§ 83.6 Appeals.

Any difference of opinion over the eligibility of proposed activities or differences arising over the conduct of work may be appealed to the Director. Final determinations rests with the Secretary.

§ 83.7 Availability of funds.

Funds allocated to a State under the Act are available for obligation and expenditure during the fiscal year for which they are allocated and until the close of the succeeding fiscal year. For the purpose of this section, obligation of allocated funds occurs when a project agreement is approved by the Regional Director.

§ 83.8 Submission of proposals for funding.

To make application for funds allocated under this Act, the State shall submit to the regional director an Application for Federal Assistance.

(a) Each application shall contain such information as the regional director may require to determine if the proposed activities are in accordance with the Act, the provisions of this part, and the standards contained in the Federal Aid Manual.

(b) Applications must be signed by the director of the designated State agency or the official(s) delegated to exercise the authority and responsibilities of such director in committing the State to participation under the Act.

§ 83.9 Conservation plans.

A conservation plan submitted to the regional director for approval shall meet the requirements for substantiality set forth in § 83.12(a) and the standards prescribed in the Federal Aid Manual, and shall:

(a) Identify the species of nongame fish and wildlife, and other fish and wildlife deemed appropriate by the designated State agency which are within the State and are valued for ecological,