From: John Burk and Jason Isabelle

To: Persons interested in applying for NWTF grant monies

Subject: NWTF super fund call for proposals

Through the George Clark State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) super fund dollars will be available to fund a variety of conservation and hunting heritage projects during 2013. The George Clark State Chapter of the NWTF is a nonprofit group of conservation-minded individuals that raise money through banquets and other activities for use in Missouri. Last year, the chapter funded habitat and shooting sports projects totaling over $200,000.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal for habitat or shooting sports projects, it should be e-mailed to NWTF Regional Biologist John Burk by 11/16/12 (jburk@nwtf.net). We have a few specific requirements for proposal submission. All funding requests must be for an exact amount and submitted bills can be for only approved funds. In the past, we have had projects that ended up costing more than that which was allocated and these situations make it difficult to keep a balanced budget. Therefore, overages will not be covered. If your proposal is approved, money will be available for projects beginning in March and receipts for project costs must be received by John Burk by the mid-September board meeting in 2013. We typically spend all super fund money each year and therefore cannot carry incomplete projects to the next year. Any unused funding for projects that has not been used by mid-September 2013 will be added to funds available for projects during the following year.

Although other projects will be considered during fiscal 2013, habitat projects and equipment purchases should address North American Wild Turkey Management Plan (NAWTMP) goals identified in the state plan approved by the board and Technical Committee representatives in 2008. A copy of the plan synopsis can be found at <http://www.nwtf.org/NAWTMP/states/missouri.html> Attention will also be given to projects associated with Conservation Opportunity Areas (COAs; see <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/nathis/cws/coa>) identified by the Missouri Department of Conservation. COAs of particular importance to the NWTF in Missouri include 3,4, and 5 in northeast Missouri and 17, 18, and 19 in southwest Missouri.

Priority projects should contain the following attributes:

1. Specific line item budget (including any shipping costs).
2. Specific project goals and objectives outlined (e.g., acres of expected impact).
3. Address accountability (e.g., annual report of project progress, signage, news articles, pictures of equipment with NWTF stickers (provided…if applicable)).
4. Multiple bids for equipment purchases.
5. **Multiple matching partners or funds (include in-kind but priority will be given to good projects with cash match).**

It is advisable that all potential project originators pay particular attention to bullet 5. Funding is limited and it is the board’s desire to do both good work and spread the wealth as evenly across the state as possible. Therefore, in addition to quality, projects with a greater percentage of matching dollars will be given a higher ranking when funding decisions are made. It should also be noted that the board rarely approves single project allocations that require more than $5,000 from the super fund. In the case of shooting sports related projects such as FFA, 4H, and NASP, typical allocations are $1,500 or 50% /project. In a further effort to manage super fund dollars wisely, the board will take note of requests asking for top of the line equipment when dependable less expensive models are available. Therefore, submitting requests for what is realistically needed and not necessarily what is desired will be considered. It is also desired that an effort be made to involve a local NWTF chapter in your project. This could simply be a phone call to the local chapter president to make them aware of a potential project in their area. If you need location and contact information for the chapter nearest you, this information can be found at <http://www.nwtf.org/in_your_state/banquet.php>.

The super fund committee will meet in early December to rank submitted projects and the full board will meet in early January to approve funding based on the recommendations of the super fund committee. Applicants will be notified in mid-January 2013 as to the status of their proposals. To ensure that you are addressing all of the requirements for funding consideration, please use the attached proposal form. Also, if you are aware of other possible project contributors, feel free to forward this information.

We hope to see you at a banquet where these dollars are generated. Thank you for considering the George Clark State Chapter Super Fund Grant program in your work to enhance the conservation effort in Missouri.

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