



Background:

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Partners in Flight (PIF) Program consists of a cooperative network of natural resources personnel and others that spans across U.S. military installations, and links with partners throughout the Americas. DoD PIF's mission is to manage migratory and resident birds and their habitats on DoD lands. In FY2008, Booz Allen began providing support to the DoD PIF Program Coordinator to help alleviate project backlog, to support and provide minutes for the DoD PIF annual meeting, and to revise and help finalize the DoD PIF Strategic Plan. In FY2010, Booz Allen began supporting the DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) Program, which is a new initiative and just now beginning to form. The National PARC initiative, established in 1999, works to conserve amphibians, reptiles, and their habitats through proactive and coordinated public/private partnerships.

Objective:

This project funded efforts to provide meeting and program support activities related to DoD PIF. The goal was to enable the DoD PIF Program Coordinator to focus on high priority technical and substantive issues by alleviating his administrative burden. This project also funded efforts related to DoD PARC. The goal was to provide organizational recommendations and development actions, including supporting two formative workshops geared towards establishing the initiative and developing a strategic plan.

Summary of Approach:

DoD PIF: At the direction of the DoD Deputy Director, Natural Resources (DDNR) and in coordination with the DoD PIF Program Coordinator, Booz Allen staff facilitated and provided notes for monthly meetings; solicited and edited articles and designed three editions of the *Steppingstones* newsletter; incorporated edits to finalize the DoD PIF Strategic Plan; updated and distributed the DoD PIF Representatives' performance metrics; and coordinated logistics, provided onsite support, and drafted an outcomes document for the DoD PIF Representatives' annual meeting.

DoD PARC: Booz Allen staff participated in a meeting with Navy, PARC members, and the DDNR, providing input and guidance for establishing a DoD PARC initiative. Booz Allen staff participated in weekly and monthly conference calls to discuss initiative progress and provided feedback and updates to the DDNR; facilitated and provided administrative input for two workshops to gather information for a DoD PARC Strategic Plan; and helped develop a DoD PARC Strategic Plan outline.



Arroyo Toad

Photo: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Benefit:

Through their proactive and habitat-based conservation and management strategies, DoD PIF and DoD PARC support the military by helping ensure healthy habitats and landscapes that can be used to train personnel. This project helped the DoD PIF Program maximize its efficiencies and effectiveness by providing much needed administrative and logistical support to the Program's Coordinator, thus enabling him to focus on high priority mission and stewardship objectives. This project also supported the initiation of DoD PARC, and helped its members draft a Strategic Plan outline. Once fully functional, DoD PARC will work to ensure healthy and viable ecosystems on military lands necessary to sustain the military mission.



Accomplishments:

Key DoD PIF accomplishments:

- supported the annual DoD PIF Representatives' meeting, including handling all hotel and facility support coordination, preparing the agenda, attending and taking notes, and preparing the official meeting outcomes document;
- compiled, designed, and finalized the DoD PIF *Steppingstones* newsletter in February 2010, June 2010, and September 2010;
- provided comments on and incorporated inputs to finalize the DoD PIF Strategic Plan; and
- prepared for and participated in monthly meetings with the DDNR and the DoD PIF Program Coordinator.



Male Golden-cheeked Warbler
Photo: Gil Eckrich

Key DoD PARC accomplishments:

- provided guidance about how to establish a successful initiative in line with DoD's mission;
- participated in weekly and monthly conference calls to discuss the two workshops and Strategic Plan, and provided feedback and updates to the DDNR;
- helped plan and participated in two formative DoD PARC workshops; and
- helped draft an outline for the DoD PARC Strategic Plan.

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