

Iowa Pheasant Initiative 2014

Funding Request

Funding Request (\$6.65M)

- **Kitchen Table Conservation Planning for Water Quality and Wildlife** - Provide \$500,000 to expand Iowa Pheasants Forever/DNR biologist partnership. *Strengthen a proven program for Iowa landowners. Information on wildlife habitat/conservation programs for private lands.* DNR
- **Buffer Iowa Initiative** – Provide \$1,000,000 to help enroll 200,000 acres into field and stream buffers. *This project can directly affect nutrient reduction across Iowa, will improve pheasant habitat statewide, improve water quality, and reduce erosion.* IDALS
- **Habitat Initiative** - Provide \$650,000 annually for core pheasant and quail winter habitat on a township basis. *Habitat projects would concentrate on public lands and surrounding private lands.* DNR
- **IHAP (Iowa Habitat an Access Program)** – Provide \$500,000 to expand the Iowa Habitat and Access program. *Hunters like this program, small but growing access program currently enrolls 7,000 acres.* DNR
- **Targeted IHAP** – Provide \$2,000,000 to target the Iowa Habitat An Access program in a 2 county area. *To study the economic impact of increased recreation and public access due to upland bird hunting.* DNR
- **Research** – Provide \$2M for upland bird research. Iowa pheasant numbers are at historic lows. *This is an important opportunity to study this catastrophic decline in grassland birds. Iowa must adapt to a changing environment and agricultural industry. Research would concentrate on improving habitat and stocking pheasants.* DNR

The Iowa Pheasant Plan concept in this proposal provides ample opportunity for citizens and communities to match state dollars impacting potentially an even larger area. There is also significant opportunity to stretch state dollars by coordinating with local Pheasants Forever chapters, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and of course USDA conservation programs.