



# Fisheries Innovation Fund

## NFWF CONTACTS

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## FUNDING PARTNERS

- NOAA



Commercial fishing in Alaska

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced a 2019 round of funding for the Fisheries Innovation Fund projects. Eight new fisheries conservation grants totaling \$442,603 were awarded. The eight awards announced generated \$635,824 in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$1,078,427.

Fisheries Innovation Fund was established in 2010 to foster innovation and support effective participation of fishermen and fishing communities in the implementation of sustainable fisheries in the United States. The Fisheries Innovation Fund is supported through a partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This year’s grant slate funded projects that address fishermen and coastal communities’ key priorities to enhance the sustainability of their fisheries.

The following eight projects address two key strategies for United States fisheries: 1) bycatch reduction and capacity building and 2) recreational fisheries. In many cases, projects address both strategic priorities.

### **Expanding Best Fishing Practices to Strengthen Innovation Uptake (AK)**

Grantee: Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Association  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$69,994  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$79,000  
 Total Project: ..... \$148,994

Enhance uptake of best fishing practices to improve the viability of small-scale fishing using a multi-tiered training program. Project will expand efforts to strengthen uptake of innovative tools and strategies through direct outreach to fishermen and by developing local expert trainers to continue the outreach.

## ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation’s fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds. Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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(continued)

### **Implementing a Bycatch Avoidance Communication Network (RI, MA, NJ, NY)**

Grantee: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$57,621  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$60,563  
 Total Project:..... \$118,184  
 Expand the Bycatch Avoidance Communication Network to identify and report real-time bycatch of nine species, helping to avoid the implementation of restrictive management measures associated with this bycatch. Project will enhance the network by improving daily reporting rates, recruiting additional vessels to the network, and conducting five at-sea observer days to facilitate proper reporting.

### **Developing a Strategic Framework for Permit Banking in the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery (MS)**

Grantee: Mississippi Commercial Fisheries United  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$69,284  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$104,500  
 Total Project:..... \$173,784  
 Develop a strategic framework to advance permit and quota banking opportunities for Mississippi fishing communities in the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery. Project will develop a tool that could increase the capacity of individual fishermen and fishing businesses while helping to retain access to fisheries.

### **Reducing Discard Mortality in the Recreational Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery (NY)**

Grantee: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$78,797  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$78,865  
 Total Project:..... \$157,662  
 Conduct outreach and education in the recreational Atlantic striped bass fishery on proper fish handling and fishing methods in order to reduce discard mortality in Long Island, New York waters. Project will target recreational anglers through fishing groups, charter boats, and fishing expos to offer education on techniques to lower discard mortality in the recreational Atlantic striped bass fishery.

### **Developing the Next Generation of Massachusetts Fishermen Through a Registered Apprentice Program**

Project State: Massachusetts  
 Grantee: Fishing Partnership Support Services  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$65,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$111,519  
 Total Project:..... \$176,519  
 Increase the fisheries workforce by training the next generation of professional fishermen. Project will utilize a four-week apprentice program registered with the state of Massachusetts to train the next generation of fishermen and improve safety, profitability, and conservation in the New England groundfish, scallop, and lobster fisheries.



Red snapper caught in the Gulf of Mexico

### **Engaging the Next Generation of Commercial Fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico (TX, LA, MS, AL, FL)**

Grantee: Reef Fish Conservation and Education Foundation  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$25,835  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$56,337  
 Total Project:..... \$82,172  
 Develop a workforce training program to recruit and educate young fishermen for the commercial seafood harvesting sector. Project will engage fishery leaders from various fisheries across the Gulf of Mexico in face-to-face meetings to design and plan a young fishermen training program for the Gulf of Mexico and develop a review of similar programs around the U.S.

### **Developing a Crew Training Program for Young Fishermen in Cape Cod (MA)**

Grantee: Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$50,072  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$55,200  
 Total Project:..... \$105,272  
 Develop a crew training program focused on safety and fishing skills to build capacity for the next generation of fishermen on Cape Cod. Project will prepare 60 to 80 participants with necessary knowledge for commercial fishing, connect captains to competent crew members and promote fishing as a viable career path.

### **Planning a Collaborative Sustainable Seafood Strategy in Puerto Rico**

Grantee: The Ocean Foundation  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$26,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$89,840  
 Total Project:..... \$115,840  
 Promote locally caught fish and plan a social marketing campaign to raise awareness about local fish markets, local sustainable seafood, and underutilized species thus creating new access to markets for Puerto Rico's fishermen. Project will engage industry stakeholders and develop an outreach plan to facilitate access and commercialize sustainable products.