SOGL – Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed

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PARTNERS

- Caerus Foundation
- Crown Family Philanthropies
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
- Walder Foundation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of $6.1 billion.

Learn more at **www.nfwf.org**

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OVERVIEW

Sustain Our Great Lakes (SOGL) is a public–private partnership that supports habitat restoration in the Great Lakes basin. In 2020, a new partnership formed under the SOGL program to support projects in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed. The additional funding is administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and supported by Caerus Foundation, Crown Family Philanthropies, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, Walder Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In 2021, eight grants totaling $1.4 million were awarded, leveraging approximately $3.1 million in grantee matching contributions and generating a total on-the-ground conservation impact of $4.5 million.

Least bittern

These grants will support projects across Wisconsin's Lake Michigan watershed to restore and preserve habitats and natural landscapes and improve water quality. The projects will enhance the quality and connectivity of streams habitat, control invasive species, restore wetland habitat, and improve nearshore health and water quality through green stormwater infrastructure to enhance biodiversity and safeguard habitat for critical species.

Collectively, the eight projects receiving grants will:

- Control invasive species on 400 acres of wetland, upland and riparian habitat
- Restore 1,400 acres of wetland habitat
- Prevent more than 115,000 tons of sediment from entering waterways annually
- Add 410 million gallons of stormwater storage capacity

Blanding's turtle

2021 GRANTS

The following projects seek to restore and preserve of a wide variety of habitats and natural landscapes in the region, including but not limited to prairies, grasslands, oak savannas, upland and lowland forests, wetlands and ephemeral ponds, beaches and dune systems. Projects will protect, restore and support both urban biodiversity and biodiversity and habitat quality in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed.

Restoring Urban Biodiversity and Riparian Habitat Quality in Honey Creek (WI)
Grantee: City of Greenfield
Grant Amount: $225,000
Matching Funds: $895,300
Total Project Amount: $1,120,300
Improve habitat resilience to development and nonpoint source pollution as well as enhance and safeguard critical habitat for native species within the headwaters of Honey Creek. Project will protect, restore and support urban biodiversity and habitat quality through floodplain/riparian wetland restoration, fish passage improvement, main channel re-meandering, in-stream restoration, improved green space and community access.

Increasing Vegetative Green Stormwater Infrastructure Installation in Garden Homes (WI)
Grantee: Clean Wisconsin
Grant Amount: $116,510
Matching Funds: $890,000
Total Project Amount: $1,006,510
Install green stormwater infrastructure including trees, bioswales, and rain gardens, to reduce stormwater runoff while also providing cooling, improving air quality, and providing pollinator habitat in Garden Homes, a highly-urbanized neighborhood. Project will plant 100 trees and install vegetative infrastructure to add 9,180,000 gallons of stormwater storage annually.

Restoring Riparian and Oak Savanna Habitat in the Wequiock Creek Natural Area (WI)
Grantee: University of Wisconsin - Green Bay
Grant Amount: $146,360
Matching Funds: $0
Total Project Amount: $146,360
Restore Midwestern oak savanna/wet meadow and riparian forest in a newly acquired natural area along Wequiock Creek, adjacent to the Point au Sable Nature Reserve in lower Green Bay, Wisconsin. Project will control invasive species and restore a native riparian corridor by widening native habitats along a stream corridor adjacent to a natural area with Great Lakes coastal wetlands, hardwood swamp, and oak woodland.

Enhancing the Ecological Integrity and Wildlife Use of Sheboygan Marsh (WI)
Grantee: Sheboygan County
Grant Amount: $200,000
Matching Funds: $221,500
Total Project Amount: $421,500
Improve aquatic and wetland habitat within Sheboygan Marsh and increase public access and educational opportunities. Project will improve up to 400 acres of habitat by restoring marsh and wetland hydrology, improving wildlife habitat, controlling invasive species and developing recreational facilities.

(continued)

Karner blue butterfly

Engaging Local Communities in Restoration and Enhancement of Coastal Preserves (WI)
Grantee: Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve
Grant Amount: $268,320
Matching Funds: $360,000
Total Project Amount: $628,320
Restore native hardwood and coniferous forests, wetlands, and prairie habitats in the Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve and support environmental programming for local school districts. Project will restore or enhance wildlife and migratory bird stopover habitat at a variety of coastal preserve sites.

Increasing Community Resiliency through Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Old North Milwaukee (WI)
Grantee: Quasimondo Physical Theatre
Grant Amount: $75,000
Matching Funds:.....$63,000
Total Project Amount: $138,000
Expand green stormwater infrastructure in an underserved Milwaukee community, prevent runoff pollutants from entering Lake Michigan, and increase local ecological equity. Project will add 46,000 gallons of stormwater storage annually by installing a native rain garden, bioswales, a stormwater orchard, three permeable pavement mosaics designed by local minority artists, and a green wall.

Conserving and Restoring Stony Creek through a Fee Acquisition in Door County (WI)
Grantee: Door County Land Trust
Grant Amount: $83,000
Matching Funds:..... $83,000
Total Project Amount: $166,000
Protect 1 mile of stream bank on Stony Creek in Door County, WI, by placing a fee acquisition on 43 acres of land on the Kruswick property. Project will preserve habitat for native animals and plants, especially habitat that supports Lake Michigan fisheries and migratory birds and provide public access to the creek and property for recreational activities such as hiking, fishing, bird watching, hunting and snowshoeing.

Designing and Constructing Green Stormwater Infrastructure at Five Milwaukee Public Schools (WI)
Grantee: Milwaukee Public Schools
Grant Amount: $600,000
Matching Funds: $600,485
Total Project Amount: $1,200,485
Design and construct green stormwater infrastructure at five public schools in Milwaukee to reduce stormwater runoff and engage community youth in environmentally conscious programming. Project will replace asphalt with 26,810 square feet of bioswales, native plantings and other green infrastructure as well as plant more than 100 trees to add 4.3 million gallons of stormwater storage annually. *Funded in part by SOGL GSI