



Southern California Forests and Watersheds

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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 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$7.4 billion.

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Los Padres National Forest

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in August 2021 announced a round of funding for Southern California Forest and Watersheds projects. Sixteen new or continuing land and watershed recovery grants totaling \$4 million were awarded. The sixteen awards announced generated \$2.6 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of over \$6.5 million.

The Southern California Forests and Watersheds program invests in projects in the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and the Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) that aim to restore watersheds affected by historic fire events. Investments will improve the USFS's capacity to effectively identify and address resource management issues caused from these fires, aid ecological recovery, and repair fire-damaged critical infrastructure such as trails, roads, and fuel breaks to support the goals of ecological restoration, while building partnerships that encourage shared-stewardship of public lands.

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Fire in California

OHV Barrier Installation and Resource Restoration in Drinkwater Flat, Angeles National Forest (CA)

Grantee: The Student Conservation Association
 Grant Amount:..... \$72,407
 Matching Funds:..... \$40,345
 Total Project Amount: \$112,752
 Install barriers within the Drinkwater Flat Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) area within the Angeles National Forest. Project will support a five-person crew to build and install 100 no-dig barriers to improve management of OHV use and protect and support landscape restoration across 500 acres.

Restoring the Shake Plantation Within the Sierra Pelona Mountains (CA)

Grantee: TreePeople
 Grant Amount:..... \$198,443
 Matching Funds:..... \$110,285
 Total Project Amount: \$308,728
 Restore the Shake plantation, a conifer plantation in direct vicinity of the Powerhouse and Lake Fire scars within the Angeles National Forest. Project will remove invasive non-native vegetation, propagate and maintain 11,000 seedlings across 26 acres, and engage 750 volunteers to assist with restoration activities.

Restoring Conifer Plantations in the Powerhouse Fire Scar (CA)

Grantee: American Forests
 Grant Amount:..... \$101,760
 Matching Funds:..... \$19,328
 Total Project Amount: \$121,088
 Aid restoration of conifer forests impacted by the Powerhouse Fire within the Angeles National Forest. Project will conduct surveys of local seedbanks, collect seeds from critical species such as big cone Douglas fir and grey pine, and fill seedbank gaps for the Southern California seed zone by developing a reforestation infrastructure strategy using climate-smart principles and new forestation tools.

Education and Outreach for Goldspotted Oak Borer in the Angeles National Forest (CA)

Grantee: University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources
 Grant Amount:.....\$196,011
 Matching Funds:.....\$110,444
 Total Project Amount:.....\$306,455
 Develop and implement education, outreach, and public information campaigns relevant to forest wildlife recovery and management of post-fire invasive pests in the Angeles National Forest. Project will increase public awareness of major forest pests, including goldspotted oak borer, and inform the community on management and prevention of future infestation to ultimately enhance forest health and wildfire resilience by countering the spread and impact of invasive forest pests.

Restoring Plant Diversity in Fire-Affected Watersheds on the Angeles National Forest (CA) - III

Grantee: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
 Grant Amount:.....\$273,089
 Matching Funds:.....\$278,469
 Total Project Amount:.....\$551,558
 Improve capacity for wildfire restoration in the Copper and Sayre fire scars within the Angeles National Forest. Project will collect 50 high-priority seed collections, seed bulk high priority grasses, propagate over 5,000 chaparral plant species, monitor and maintain existing restoration sites, and develop a comprehensive report for chaparral restoration.

Design and Restoration of the Pothole Trail within the Ojai Ranger District (CA)

Grantee: Los Padres Forest Association
 Grant Amount:.....\$114,888
 Matching Funds:..... \$43,800
 Total Project Amount:.....\$158,688
 Realign the southern 1.8 miles of the Pothole Trail within the Ojai Ranger District in the Los Padres National Forest. Project will design a new trail layout and complete necessary environmental approvals to build a sustainable section of the trail.

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Baseline Data Collection on Fire-Mammal Relationships in Los Padres National Forest Fire Scars (CA)

Grantee: LifeScape International
 Grant Amount:..... \$198,800
 Matching Funds:..... \$125,593
 Total Project Amount: \$324,393
 Provide baseline information on local wildlife populations by examining the impact of recurring fire intensity, expanse, and post-fire recovery intervals on mammal communities in the Los Padres National Forest. Project will deploy camera traps across differential landscape gradients of fire impact to develop an occupancy model and understand fire impact on the ecology and certain wildlife of the region.

Design, Decommissioning and Construction of the Santa Barbara Canyon Trail (CA)

Grantee: Los Padres Forest Association
 Grant Amount:..... \$86,737
 Matching Funds:..... \$52,462
 Total Project Amount: \$139,199
 Realign a mile section of eroded trail along the Santa Barbara Canyon Trail within the Mt. Pinos Ranger District in the Los Padres National Forest. Project will decommission 3.5 acres and build and realign one mile of trail to create a sustainable trail and reduce erosion and sedimentation resulting from the existing trail alignment.

Trail Development and Interpretive Signage for the St. Francis Dam Monument and Memorial (CA)

Grantee: The Student Conservation Association
 Grant Amount:..... \$283,309
 Matching Funds:..... \$56,514
 Total Project Amount: \$339,823
 Construct a portion of new trail and install interpretive signage at the Saint Francis Dam Monument and Memorial on the Angeles National Forest. Project will design a trail, design up to eight interpretive signs, and field a crew to construct the new trail at the Saint Francis Dam.

Forest Aid within the Copper Fire Scar of the Angeles National Forest (CA) - III

Grantee: TreePeople
 Grant Amount:..... \$894,269
 Matching Funds:..... \$491,601
 Total Project Amount: \$1,385,870
 Complete on-the-ground restoration activities in woodland, riparian, and chaparral areas of the San Francisquito Canyon in the Angeles National Forest. Project will maintain existing restoration sites, restore additional acres and propagate 1,500 native plants to establish healthy native vegetation.

Bigcone Douglas-fir Regeneration in the Powerhouse Fire Scar (CA)

Grantee: TreePeople
 Grant Amount:..... \$222,092
 Matching Funds:..... \$122,732
 Total Project Amount: \$344,824
 Conduct a wide-ranging study of the different methods and approaches to improve outcomes and success in the establishment and regeneration of Bigcone Douglas-fir in areas of the Sierra Pelona Mountains impacted by fires. Project will complete surveys, collect and propagate seedlings, and ensure maintenance and monitoring of seedlings for conifer regeneration.

Gold Spotted Oak Borer Response and Oak Recovery in Green Valley Area, Angeles National Forest (CA)

Grantee: National Forest Foundation
 Grant Amount:..... \$290,267
 Matching Funds:..... \$500,000
 Total Project Amount: \$790,267
 Identify and remove gold spotted oak borer, a high priority pest, from the Green Valley area within the Angeles National Forest. Project will treat 175 acres to stop and slow the spread of gold spotted oak borer and improve forest health.



Intern removing tamarisk | Photo credit: Los Padres ForestWatch



Los Padres National Forest after fire

Addressing Invasive Vegetation and Off-Highway Vehicle Barriers in the Angeles National Forest (CA)

Grantee: Conservation Corps of Long Beach
 Grant Amount:..... \$367,774
 Matching Funds:..... \$183,887
 Total Project Amount: \$551,661
 Remove invasive vegetation and litter and install off-highway vehicle barriers within the Copper and Powerhouse fire scars in the Angeles National Forest. Project will work alongside conservation corps groups to manage invasive plants across 30 acres, restore 5 acres through native plantings, remove 400 pounds of trash from the project area, and construct or replace 170 off-highway vehicle barriers to restore critical habitats and improve land degradation.

Fuelbreak and Cistern Management within the Copper Fire Scar (CA)

Grantee: The Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program
 Grant Amount:..... \$304,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$304,000
 Total Project Amount: \$608,000
 Manage fuel break vegetation and provide GIS mapping and assessment services for cisterns along priority fuel breaks and areas within the Copper Fire burn scar. Project will support two crews to improve 300 acres of fuelbreaks and assess 20 cisterns within the project area.

Developing Signage and Improving Off-Highway Vehicle Barriers within the Jesusita Fire Scar (CA)

Grantee: Los Padres Forest Association
 Grant Amount:..... \$251,411
 Matching Funds:..... \$100,975
 Total Project Amount:..... \$352,386
 Develop and install educational signage and improve barriers blocking access to user-created off-highway vehicle trails located around the Jesusita Fire scar. Project will obtain the necessary environmental compliance to install 26 barriers and create and install signage at six locations.

Developing and Installing Cultural and Educational Signage within the Zaca Fire Scar (CA)

Grantee: Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
 Grant Amount:..... \$101,696
 Matching Funds:..... \$44,484
 Total Project Amount:..... \$146,180
 Develop and install educational signage in recreational areas of the Los Padres National Forest that were affected by the Zaca Fire. Project will develop and install signage at nine sites to educate visitors on the Native American Chumash history of the forest, traditional use of land and resource, and the importance of wildlife, including Southern California Steelhead.