

SUSTAIN OUR GREATLAKES



Sustain Our Great Lakes 2019 Grant Slate

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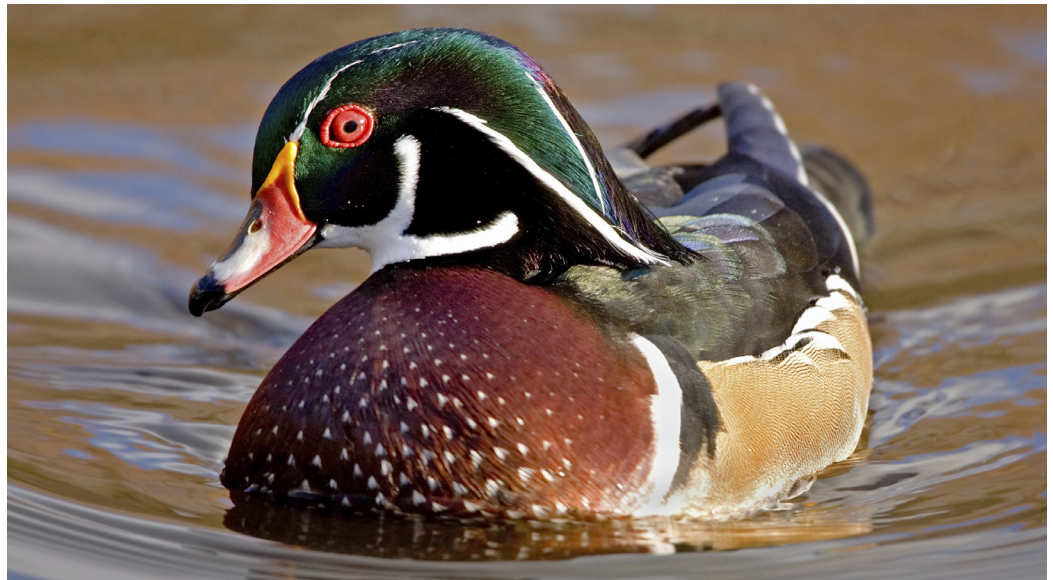
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ABOUT NFWF

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

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Wood duck

OVERVIEW

Sustain Our Great Lakes is a public-private partnership that supports habitat restoration in the Great Lakes basin. Administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the program receives funding and other support from ArcelorMittal, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Significant program funding is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a federal program designed to protect, restore and enhance the Great Lakes ecosystem. In 2019, 25 grants totaling \$6.9 million were awarded, leveraging approximately \$8.1 million in grantee matching contributions and generating a total on-the-ground conservation impact of \$15 million.

Collectively, the 25 projects receiving grants will:

- Restore more than 5 miles of stream and riparian habitat
- Reopen 112 miles of river for fish passage
- Remove or rectify 20 barriers to aquatic organism passage
- Control invasive species on 8,700 acres of wetland, upland and riparian habitat
- Restore 72 acres of wetland habitat
- Add 21 million gallons of stormwater storage capacity

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Installing Green Infrastructure to Reduce Stormwater Runoff in Brookside Reservation (OH)

Grantee: Cleveland Metroparks

Grant Award: \$137,500

Matching Funds: \$137,500

Total Amount: **\$275,000**

Install and maintain four vegetated bioretention cells to manage surface runoff and

(continued)



Brook trout

sheet flows from a 3.2 acre impervious public parking lot adjacent to Big Creek in Brookside Reservation, Cleveland, Ohio. Project will reduce stormwater runoff into Big Creek, a tributary of the Cuyahoga River, by 2.5 million gallons per year and increase infiltration by 58 percent.

Reducing Stormwater Runoff with Bioswales and Rain Gardens in Grand Traverse Bay (MI)

Grantee: Grand Traverse Bay Watershed
 Grant Award:..... \$150,000
 Matching Funds: \$56,000
Total Amount:..... \$206,000

Install green infrastructure at two locations in Elk Rapids Village on Grand Traverse Bay in Lake Michigan to reduce

stormwater runoff into the lake. Project will add one million gallons of stormwater storage annually, reduce sources of water quality impairment typically found in stormwater (such as toxins, pathogens, nutrients and sediments), and enhance long-term partnerships to catalyze future installation efforts around the bay.

Restoring an Urban Wetland along Cayuga Creek to Improve Habitat and Mitigate Flooding (NY)

Grantee: Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
 Grant Award:..... \$326,829
 Matching Funds: \$300,000
Total Amount:..... \$626,829

Apply green infrastructure solutions by reconnecting Cayuga Creek to its historic floodplain, improving urban wetland habitat, mitigating flood volumes, controlling invasives and strategically planting native trees within an undeveloped parcel located in the Town of Niagara, New York. Project will add 1.28 million gallons of stormwater storage annually, improve water quality, restore fish and wildlife habitat and increase habitat resilience to future extreme weather events.

Installing Green Infrastructure at Milwaukee Public Library Branches to Reduce Urban Runoff (WI)

Grantee: Milwaukee Public Library
 Grant Award:..... \$514,544
 Matching Funds: \$556,990
Total Amount:..... \$1,071,534

Construct green infrastructure improvements at five Milwaukee Public Library locations in the Lake Michigan shoreline city of Milwaukee to mitigate nonpoint source pollution. Project will treat and manage stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces to help reduce non-point source pollution and improve water quality, preventing nearly one million gallons of stormwater runoff from entering the Lake Michigan watershed annually.

Improving Stormwater Storage and Shoreline Stability to Reduce Runoff Impacts on Baker’s Island (WI)

Grantee: City of Superior
 Grant Award:..... \$499,701
 Matching Funds: \$610,000
Total Amount:..... \$1,109,701

Install green infrastructure elements and improve shoreline stability to a city-owned parking area, a small craft launch and recreational areas on Barker’s Island, Wisconsin to mitigate runoff issues to impaired waters draining into Lake Superior. Project will prevent 1.8 million gallons of stormwater runoff annually, reduce pollutant loading by decreasing the area of impervious surfaces, plant native vegetation and mitigate erosion along the Lake Superior shoreline.

Restoring the Urban Forest in Cleveland’s Emerald Valley to Reduce Stormwater Runoff (OH)

Grantee: Western Reserve Land Conservancy
 Grant Award:..... \$187,000
 Matching Funds: \$486,607
Total Amount:..... \$673,607

Transform a former landfill into Emerald Valley park in Cleveland, Ohio to reduce stormwater runoff. Project will restore the urban forest with 1,000 native species trees and meadow habitat, install a green infrastructure project and remove invasive species along the Big Creek.

Installing Green Stormwater Infrastructure to Improve Habitat in the Grand Trunk Wetland (WI)

Grantee: Harbor District
 Grant Award:..... \$429,000
 Matching Funds: \$865,000
Total Amount:..... \$1,294,000

Install two innovative green infrastructure practices adjacent to the Grand Trunk Wetland, a remnant 7.5-acre urban wetland in center of Milwaukee’s industrial Harbor District. Project will create 60,000 square feet of stepped treatment pools, which provide both water quality and habitat benefits to the restored wetland and prevent more than 14 million gallons of stormwater runoff annually.

COASTAL WETLAND RESTORATION

Restoring Hydrology Within Dunes Lake Hemi-Marsh (WI) - Phase II

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited
 Grant Award:..... \$703,412
 Matching Funds: \$500,000
Total Amount:..... \$1,203,412

Conduct hydraulic dredging of accumulated sediment in the 20-acre inner basin of the Dunes Lake hemi-marsh to improve habitat structure and water quality in Door County, Wisconsin. Project will enhance and secure long-term aquatic connectivity to the wetland for Great Lakes migratory fish such as northern pike, restore access to more than 18 miles of streams, and control invasive cattails on 36 acres.

Treating Invasive Species and Replanting Native Vegetation to Restore Bay Point Coastal Wetland (OH)

Grantee: Western Reserve Land Conservancy
 Grant Award:..... \$100,000
 Matching Funds: \$190,000
Total Amount:..... \$290,000

Improve more than 34 acres of coastal wetland habitat structure and quality, utilizing both invasive control and native species planting in the Bay Point coastal wetland in the Village of Marblehead in Ottawa County, Ohio. Project will design and implement a restoration plan to enhance

and restore coastal wetlands benefiting priority migratory shorebirds and waterfowl.

STREAM AND RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION
Restoring Stream Habitat and Natural Floodplain Hydrology on the Pigeon River (MI)

Grantee: Golden Lotus
 Grant Award:..... \$338,531
 Matching Funds: \$350,000
Total Amount:..... \$688,531

Remove legacy sediments and improve riparian wetlands on Golden Lotus property above the Pigeon River’s former Song of the Morning dam to create self-sustaining wildlife habitat and restore natural stream geomorphology. Project will install eight sediment runoff prevention structures, restore two acres of riparian and floodplain habitat and 0.15 miles of stream habitat.

Restoring Aquatic Connectivity in High-Quality Michigan Brook Trout Streams (MI)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited Home Rivers Initiative
 Grant Award:..... \$298,886
 Matching Funds: \$536,300
Total Amount:..... \$835,186

Improve aquatic organism passage and habitat in western and northwestern Michigan cold-water streams to benefit brook trout and other native communities and help to restore natural stream ecosystem processes. Project will reconnect 35 miles of high-quality, cold-water habitat by upgrading six culverts.

Improving Fish Passage and Riparian Habitat for Brook Trout in Lake Superior Tributaries (MI)

Grantee: Alger Conservation District
 Grant Award:..... \$208,695
 Matching Funds: \$210,695
Total Amount:..... \$419,390

Replace two culverts in the Slapneck Creek and Sucker river watershed to improve brook trout habitat quality and accessibility and prevent introductions of invasive species at riparian restoration sites. Project will reduce sedimentation by 18 tons per year, reconnect 9 miles of streams and manage invasive species on 25 acres of restored habitat along two Lake Superior tributaries.

Replacing Road Crossings to Restore Fish Passage in Hockamin Creek (MN)

Grantee: Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District
 Grant Award:..... \$390,000
 Matching Funds: \$421,000
Total Amount:..... \$811,000

Replace two road-stream crossings with open bottom

structures to restore aquatic connectivity for native brook trout and other aquatic organisms on Hockamin Creek in Lake County, Minnesota. Project will increase brook trout abundance and distribution by restoring connectivity to 33.15 stream miles of high-quality habitat in the upper reaches of Hockamin Creek and the West Branch of the Baptism River.

Restoring Aquatic Connectivity and Habitat Availability for Brook Trout in Northwest Michigan

Grantee: Conservation Resource Alliance
 Grant Award:..... \$250,000
 Matching Funds: \$315,000
Total Amount:..... \$565,000

Improve stream crossings, restore connectivity, reduce sediment and nutrient loading, and increase the overall quality of habitat for brook trout and other species of conservation concern in four watersheds in Northwestern Michigan. Project will rectify eight aquatic passage barriers, open 16 miles of stream habitat and prevent 40,000 pounds of sediment from entering the watershed annually.

Restoring Fish Passage and Valley Habitat for Brook Trout and Atlantic Salmon (Ontario, Canada)

Grantee: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
 Grant Award:..... \$88,873
 Matching Funds: \$201,650
Total Amount:..... \$290,523

Remove a fish passage barrier on Centreville Creek in the headwaters of the Humber River to improve habitat quality and accessibility for brook trout and Atlantic salmon in Caledon, Ontario, Canada. Project will restore 3 acres of upstream habitat, open 4 miles of stream, install woody habitat, plant native vegetation and bioengineer the stream banks and floodplain to improve habitat quality.

INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

Restoring Habitat and Removing Invasives in Cayuga Lake Tributary Gorges (NY) - Phase II

Grantee: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
 Grant Award:..... \$206,456
 Matching Funds: \$222,238
Total Amount:..... \$428,694

Maintain and protect the ecology of three gorges and stream ecosystems in Ithaca and Trumansburg, New York by surveying and treating invasives. Project will restore 77 acres of habitat and protect 11.4 miles of tributaries of Cayuga Lake from pale swallowwort, Japanese knotweed, porcelainberry and phragmites.



Wet-mesic prairie, Wisconsin | Credit: Joshua Mayer

Controlling Invasive Plant Species to Protect Restored Habitat at Mequon Nature Preserve (WI)

Grantee: Mequon Nature Preserve
 Grant Award:..... \$112,551
 Matching Funds: \$199,648
Total Amount:..... \$312,199

Control and remove populations of non-native, invasive plant species threatening the establishment of high-quality restored wetland, mesic prairie and shrub-carr habitats in the Mequon Nature Preserve, Wisconsin. Project will reduce the coverage of 19 target invasive plant species to less than 25 percent of the original population size and restore 214 acres of habitat.

Controlling Phragmites Through Coastal Wetland Restoration and Landowner Stewardship (MI, WI)

Grantee: Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council
 Grant Award:..... \$150,000
 Matching Funds: \$150,000
Total Amount:..... \$300,000

Restore 120 acres of coastal wetlands in the Upper

Peninsula of Michigan and northeastern Wisconsin by treating invasive phragmites regrowth and other secondary invasive species that threaten the quality of previously restored habitats. Project will implement a landowner cost share program to encourage phragmites stewardship by private property owners.

Restoring Priority Wetlands in Green Bay through Invasive Species Control (WI)

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited
Grant Award:..... \$308,944
Matching Funds: \$310,000
Total Amount:..... \$618,944

Manage and maintain eight priority coastal marshes in Green Bay, Wisconsin through invasive species control efforts, thereby enabling native vegetation establishment. Project will treat and restore 300 acres and manage a larger footprint of 1,000 acres of priority coastal marshes.

Coordinating and Implementing Invasive Species Control Efforts throughout Door County (WI)

Grantee: Door County Soil & Water Conservation Department
Grant Award:..... \$139,011
Matching Funds: \$139,025
Total Amount:..... \$278,036

Provide financial assistance to partners and landowners in Door County between Green Bay and Lake Michigan to manage and remove invasive species such as phragmites and Japanese knotweed on their property. Project will use a landscape scale approach for invasive species management to provide continued protection of 70 acres of ecologically important wetland and riparian ecosystems.

Restoring Wetlands and Controlling Invasive Species in the Calumet Region (IL, IN) - Phase IV

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
Grant Award:..... \$442,352
Matching Funds: \$434,134
Total Amount:..... \$876,486

Protect and enhance habitat values of previously restored wetland and upland habitat through invasive species control in the Calumet region of Southern Lake Michigan. Project will retreat 425 acres for invasive species and expand invasive control on 70 acres, contributing to a multi-stakeholder effort to restore and manage declining wetland birds and expand ongoing monitoring of birds, water quality and vegetation throughout the Calumet region.

Conserving Rare Lakeplain Oak Openings Habitat through Invasive Species Management (OH)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
Grant Award:..... \$269,000
Matching Funds: \$269,000
Total Amount:..... \$538,000

Conduct invasive species removal and prescribed burns to enhance and maintain Lakeplain Oak Openings habitats in Northwestern Ohio. Project will reduce persistent or re-invading primary invasive species, control secondary invasive species that have colonized sites post-initial treatment, and improve vegetative structure, species diversity and habitat quality over 2,400 acres.

Removing Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species to Restore Coastal Wetlands (MI)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council
Grant Award:..... \$160,240
Matching Funds: \$161,633
Total Amount:..... \$321,873

Remove aquatic and terrestrial invasive plant species in priority coastal wetland habitat along the coastline of Northeast Michigan. Project will restore 450 acres of habitat benefiting several species of conservation concern, such as piping plover, Hine's emerald dragonfly and eastern massasauga rattlesnake.

Managing Invasive Species Through Regional Collaboration to Restore Coastal Wetlands (WI)

Grantee: Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership
Grant Award:..... \$375,000
Matching Funds: \$375,000
Total Amount:..... \$750,000

Manage phragmites and Japanese knotweed in ecologically sensitive shoreline and coastal wetlands, inland waterways and wetlands and roadside ditches in Manitowoc and Sheboygan counties, Wisconsin. Project will protect 42 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and 93 miles of inland waterways by retreating up to 519 acres for invasive species and performing initial invasive treatments on up to 470 acres.

Managing Invasives on Recently Restored Wetlands in the Indiana Dunes Conservation Area (IN)

Grantee: Shirley Heinze Land Trust
Grant Award:..... \$153,976
Matching Funds: \$66,478
Total Amount:..... \$220,454

Preserve, restore and manage high quality wetland and upland habitats in and adjacent to the Indiana Dunes National Park through invasive species control. Project will control and manage invasive species on 200 acres that have undergone restoration in recent years.