



NFWF

National Wildlife Refuge Friends 2017 Grant Slate

NFWF CONTACT

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Aplomado falcon

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced more than \$168,430 in grants to 18 National Wildlife Refuge Friends organizations across the country to support on-the-ground projects, capacity building work and peer-to-peer conferences within the refuge system. Grant recipients will provide more than \$284,450 in match for a total conservation impact of \$452,880.

The grants were awarded through the National Wildlife Refuge Friends Grant Program, a collaborative effort between NFWF, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Enbridge. The program provides competitive grants that enable Friends organizations to develop and implement conservation projects, strengthen organizational capacity and skills, meet local refuge challenges, and build community recognition and support.

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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Holly Beach Habitat Restoration and Outreach (TX)

Grantee: Friends of Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

NWRF Award:\$14,984

Matching Funds:\$18,621

Total Project:\$33,605

Friends of Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge will restore estuarine wetlands, coastal prairie and tamaulipan thornshrub habitat at Holly Beach for species such as the aplomado falcon. The project will result in improved habitat across 1,500 acres.

Building a Viewing Platform at Necedah National Wildlife Refuge (WI)

Grantee: Friends of Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

NWRF Award:\$15,000

Matching Funds:\$18,000

Total Project:\$33,000

(continued)

Friends of Necedah National Wildlife Refuge will build a fishing and viewing platform to provide water access and educational opportunities for visitors of all ages. The project will increase the number of volunteers and partnering organizations on the refuge and enhance visitor experiences.

Creating a Dynamic Outdoor

Environmental Education Experience at

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge (OR)

Grantee: Friends of the

Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex

NWRF Award:..... \$15,000

Matching Funds: \$36,220

Total Project:\$51,220

Friends of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex will repurpose a popular trail to create an outdoor environmental education destination in rare native habitat types. The project will include bilingual environmental education stations, as well as a sheltered observation pavilion where refuge visitors and visiting school groups can interact with and learn about conserving valuable valley wildlife, habitats and ecosystems.

Goat Grazing Restoration Demonstrations at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Grantee: Refuge Friends

NWRF Award:..... \$13,964

Matching Funds: \$13,400

Total Project:\$27,364

Refuge Friends will restore 2 acres of oak savanna at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge using goat grazing to benefit native species and serve as a demonstration plot for land managers and visitors. The project will clear and seed oak habitat and engage and educate community members.

Native Sagebrush Steppe Restoration at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (ID)

Grantee: Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge

NWRF Award:..... \$2,500

Matching Funds: \$9,910

Total Project:\$12,410

Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge will restore 2 acres of upland habitat near the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge visitor center. The project will reestablish native bunch grasses and shrubs to benefit refuge wildlife and visitors.

Wildflower Demonstration Gardens at the Muleshoe and Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuges (TX)

Grantee: Friends of the High Plains National Wildlife Refuges

NWRF Award:..... \$9,590

Matching Funds: \$22,019

Total Project:\$31,609

Friends of the High Plains National Wildlife Refuges will construct two wildflower demonstration gardens that will benefit local wildlife and create interactive, engaging and educational opportunities for visitors. The project will utilize native seeds to create the habitats and establish a native seed bank for future use.

Wildlife Heritage and Outdoor Festival (KY)

Grantee: Friends of Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge

NWRF Award:.....\$7,655

Matching Funds: \$66,637

Total Project:\$74,292

Friends of Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge will host an outdoor festival to celebrate and educate the community about the outdoor legacy of western Kentucky and the Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge. The project will connect the community with nature and highlight ways to contribute to the conservation and the sustainability of natural resources.

Navigating Change through Strategic Planning (NY)

Grantee: Friends of Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge

NWRF Award:.....\$5,500

Matching Funds:\$6,314

Total Project:\$11,814

Friends of Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge will coordinate with Refuge staff and USFWS' Vision document to create strategic long-term goals and innovating programming. The project will increase capacity of the Friends organization to engage community members with the refuge.

Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge Improving Communications Capacity (MN)

Grantee: Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge

NWRF Award:..... \$15,000

Matching Funds: \$16,257

Total Project:\$31,257

Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge will strengthen capacity through a communications initiative to increase volunteer involvement and support for new projects. The project will help the Friends organization share refuge information and encourage visitors to participate in educational programs.

Building Capacity for Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges (CO)

Grantee: Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges

NWRF Award:..... \$3,372

Matching Funds:\$0

Total Project:\$3,372

Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges will develop and improve capacity to strengthen organizational membership

and presence on the refuges. The project will increase the Friends organization's ability to achieve its mission of supporting the Front Range Wildlife Refuges.

Expanding Outreach Capacity for the Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges (AK)

Grantee: Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges
 NWRP Award:..... \$5,903
 Matching Funds: \$14,300
Total Project:\$20,203

Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges will expand its outreach capacity by increasing awareness and visibility through informative education material. The project will increase volunteers and members, and will expose more people to Alaska's 16 National Wildlife Refuges.

Enhancing Visitor Opportunities at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (OR)

Grantee: Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
 NWRP Award:..... \$13,625
 Matching Funds: \$14,777
Total Project:\$28,402

Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge will enhance visitor center space to provide environmental and cultural educational opportunities. The project will increase volunteer participation and improve the Friends organization's ability to assist with the goals of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Increasing Capacity for the Friends of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (OH)

Grantee: Friends of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge
 NWRP Award:..... \$5,592
 Matching Funds: \$6,276
Total Project:\$11,868

Friends of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge will improve capacity for volunteer and member management to enhance the organization's strategy and goals. The project will increase the number of members, visibility of the refuge and capacity of the Friends organization to partner with the refuge.

Building Capacity and Outreach at Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (NJ)

Grantee: Friends of Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge
 NWRP Award:..... \$4,250
 Matching Funds: \$2,000
Total Project:\$6,250

Friends of Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge will expand capacity and outreach through an enhanced online presence and website. The project will engage community members and visitors, and support the overall mission of the refuge.

Building Community

Engagement at Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge (MS)

Grantee: Friends of Noxubee Refuge
 NWRP Award:.....\$7,700
 Matching Funds:\$1,600
Total Project: \$9,300

Friends of Noxubee Refuge will increase organizational capacity and community engagement through outdoor canoeing and kayaking events. The project will bring visitors outdoors to learn about environmental conservation and the importance of the refuge.

Enhancing Capacity of Friends and Volunteers of Refuges - Florida Keys

Grantee: Friends and Volunteers of Refuges - Florida Keys
 NWRP Award:.....\$4,755
 Matching Funds:\$5,794
Total Project:\$10,549

Friends and Volunteers of Refuges - Florida Keys will enhance its capacity and at the new Nature Store, increasing their ability to support Florida National Wildlife Refuges. The project will draw additional Friends volunteer to assist with refuge support.

Building Capacity for Friends of Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (NM)

Grantee: Friends of Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge
 NWRP Award:.....\$9,039
 Matching Funds:\$1,600
Total Project:\$10,639

Friends of Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge will develop online capacity in order to expand community outreach and engagement on the refuge. The project will allow the Friends organization to increase its exposure and community engagement around the Urban National Wildlife Refuge.

Friends of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge Peer-to-peer Workshop

Grantee: Friends of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge
 NWRP Award:..... \$15,000
 Matching Funds: \$30,726
Total Project:\$45,726

Friends of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge will coordinate and host a peer-to-peer training workshop for Friends organizations. Training sessions will cover topics such as board leadership, memberships and volunteers, and promoting citizen science to increase the capacity and success of the Friends organizations.