



NFWF

Coral Reef Conservation Fund

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PARTNERS

- NOAA
- Aramco
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation 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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Divers installing coral fragments in a nursery | Alex Neufeld

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) and Aramco announced a 2020 round of funding for Coral Reef Conservation Fund projects. Eleven new grants totaling \$1,237,251 were awarded. The 11 awards announced leveraged \$1,296,438 in grantee matching contributions, generating a total conservation impact of \$2,533,689. Additional support for select projects was provided by USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service.

The Coral Reef Conservation Fund seeks to provide catalytic funding for innovation in management and science, and foundational capacity at the local level. The 2020 project slate addresses three key categories for increasing the resiliency and long-term persistence of coral reefs:

- 1) Targeted watershed runoff abatement
- 2) Increasing capacity for coral reef and reef fish management
- 3) Capacity for large-scale reef restoration

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Coral reef landscape

Reducing Land-based Sources of Pollution at Three Priority Sites in Maui Nui (HI)

Grantee: Ridge to Reefs

Grant Amount:\$268,950
 Matching Funds:\$268,950
 Total Project:.....\$537,900

Implement sediment and nutrient reducing practices to reduce run-off onto three reef tracks in Maui Nui. Project will work with management and local partners in West and South Maui and on Lana'i to install best practices, pilot new approaches and plan for further implementation actions.

Expanding Stream Gulch Restoration Actions to Improve Coral Reef Health in Wahikuli, West Maui

Grantee: The Coral Reef Alliance

Grant Amount: \$84,059
 Matching Funds: \$85,002
 Total Project:.....\$169,061

Address land-based pollution from sedimentation using best management practices recommended by the Stream Restoration Knowledge Sharing Group in West Maui. Project will install 30 practices to address erosion, stabilize sediment and increase the infiltration of storm water to improving coral reef health.

Reduce Chronic Sedimentation and Restore Resilience to South Kohala Reefs (HI)

Grantee: Queen Emma Land Company

Grant Amount: \$31,130
 Matching Funds: \$31,130
 Total Project:..... \$62,260

Remove unmanaged feral goats from the Pelekane Watershed to significantly decrease erosion and subsequent sedimentation of nearshore coral reefs. Project will allow vegetation to reestablish in critical and susceptible erosion-prone areas, preventing 15,000 pounds of sedimentation runoff annually.

Developing a Genetic Toolkit to Assess Stress Levels in Coral Reefs (GU)

Grantee: The University of Guam

Grant Amount:\$118,779
 Matching Funds:\$119,860
 Total Project:.....\$238,639

Develop a genetic toolkit to detect, identify and quantify stress before the onset of physical symptoms in two of the most common and important coral species on Guam. Project will help reef managers identify reefs under stress, pinpoint the causative stressors, and target resilient individuals to propagate for restoration actions.

Studying Effects of Water Quality on Coral Reproductive Success (FL, HI)

Grantee: University of Hawaii - Manoa

Grant Amount:\$149,803
 Matching Funds:\$206,211
 Total Project:.....\$356,014

Study coral proteins to determine the role of reduced coastal water quality and associated stressors on reproductive success of corals in Florida and Hawaii. Project will study water quality effects on coral reproduction to help understand the extent of reproductive failure at priority restoration sites and to identify site-specific stressors.

Measuring the Impacts of Herbivorous Fish on Coral Reefs to Better Inform Reef Management (AS)

Grantee: University of California - Santa Barbara

Grant Amount:\$ 61,609
 Matching Funds: \$61,608
 Total Project:.....\$123,217

Fill knowledge gaps regarding the relationship between herbivorous fish biomass and coral reef condition and how this relationship impacts the resilience of coral reefs in American Samoa. Project will identify species that both prevent macroalgae from increasing and remove macroalgae once abundant to prioritize species and inform fisheries management options.



Surgeonfish on reefs of American Samoa | Robert F. Myers

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Increasing Coral Nursery Capacity and Active Restoration of Reefs in the Florida Keys (FL)

Grantee: Coral Restoration Foundation

Grant Amount: \$99,998
 Matching Funds: \$99,998
 Total Project:..... \$199,996

Support active coral restoration at four sites in the Florida Keys to benefit endangered coral species. Project will improve 27.51 acres of reef habitat through increased coral propagation and direct reef restoration.

Coral Genetic Diversity and Diadema Urchin Propagation Techniques for Reef Restoration (FL)

Grantee: The Florida Aquarium

Grant Amount: \$168,720
 Matching Funds: \$169,474
 Total Project:..... \$338,194

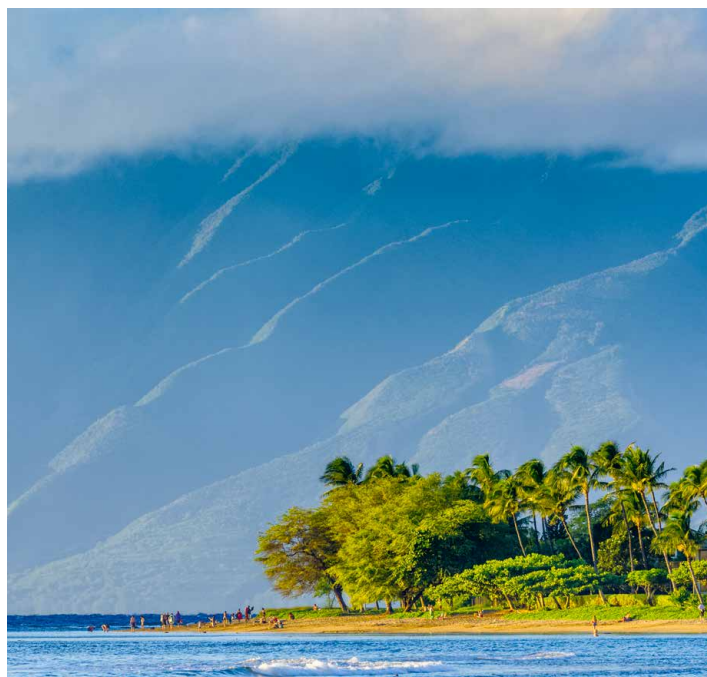
Address key capacity gaps in the full execution of the Mission: Iconic Reefs strategy in the Florida Keys. Project will increase genetic diversity of *Acropora palmata* (coral sp.) and develop a nursery stock of *Diadema* urchins (primary herbivore), to be used in the broader restoration effort.

Testing Coral Intervention Methods to Optimize Reef Restoration in the Florida Keys (FL)

Grantee: University of Florida

Grant Amount: \$149,204
 Matching Funds: \$149,204
 Total Project:..... \$298,408

Field test management interventions to address local threats to coral restoration success. Project will evaluate the effectiveness of localized coral predation control and monitor water quality gradients to establish best practices in coral restoration.



Coastline on the Island of Maui



Mangrove roots in a coral reef

Coordinated Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease Monitoring in the Greater Caribbean (YC)

Grantee: Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi

Grant Amount: \$25,000
 Matching Funds: \$25,000
 Total Project:..... \$50,000

Coordinate a peer exchange between coral reef scientists and officials in the Gulf of Mexico and Greater Caribbean region to review coral reef monitoring protocols with an emphasis on Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease. Project will standardize and coordinate monitoring efforts needed to make informed management decisions to conserve coral reefs in a sustainable manner.

Coordination of a Global Socio-economic Monitoring Initiative for Coastal Management

Grantee: Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), The University of the West Indies

Grant Amount: \$80,000
 Matching Funds: \$80,000
 Total Project:..... \$160,000

Facilitate the coordination and enhancement of six regional Socio-economic programs for coastal management. Project will facilitate monitoring activities at established or new sites, and disseminate information on global status, trends, and prospects for six regional socio-economic monitoring programs in the Caribbean, Central America, Brazil, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Pacific Islands.

Coral Reef and Nearshore Water Quality Assessment and Mapping on Northeast Lānaʻi (HI)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$71,433
 Matching Funds: \$71,433
 Total Project:..... \$142,866

Establish a baseline of the nearshore fish and coral communities along the northeast coast of Lānaʻi, Hawaiʻi to inform local watershed mitigation activities and the State of Hawaiʻi's 30x30 Initiative. Project will collect benthic, fish, and nearshore water quality data and establish sedimentation flow patterns and recommendations for monitoring.

**This project was not funded through the Coral Reef Conservation Fund, but is funded in part by NOAA and Aramco*