

National Coastal Resilience Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

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PARTNERS

- NOAA
- AT&T
- Shell
- TransRe
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Flooded street in Jacksonville, Florida

ABOUT NEWF

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

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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OVERVIEW:

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) National Coastal Resilience Fund restores, increases and strengthens natural infrastructure — the landscapes that help absorb the impacts of storms and floods — to protect coastal communities while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife.

In partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Shell Oil Company, TransRe, and beginning in 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and AT&T, NFWF invests in projects that plan for, design, build, and monitor the restoration or expansion of natural features such as coastal marshes and wetlands, dune and beach systems, oyster and coral reefs, forests, coastal rivers, and barrier islands that minimize the impacts of storms and other naturally occurring events on nearby communities. With the addition of this year's awards, the National Coastal Resilience fund will provide roughly \$90 million over three years.

Since 2018, the National Coastal Resilience Fund has provided funding to enhance, build, or restore almost 17,800 acres of coastal habitat. Projects have provided enhanced protection to roughly 100,400 properties and 2,500 critical facilities or pieces of infrastructure.

NFWF also leads significant monitoring and evaluation efforts that measure the enhanced resilience of the restored coastal systems and improved understanding of which activities are associated with the greatest and most cost-effective reductions in storm risk and storm damage.



NATIONAL OUTLOOK WITH REGIONAL FOCUS

This fund has been implemented as a national program focused on enhancement of resilience for coastal communities across the United States, with consideration of differing regional circumstances, needs and priorities.

Restoration projects that help reduce regional threats are a key component of this program. Examples of the threats addressed include storm surge along the East and Gulf Coasts, subsidence in the Gulf and Mid-Atlantic Coasts, stormwater management in the Great Lakes, inland flooding that directly impacts the west coasts, and the combination of inland flooding and ocean surge for islands such as Hawaii.

Building on the significant coordination and planning that has already been done in many of the nation's coastal communities and recognizing the need for action, NFWF is focusing investments on a regionally diverse portfolio of projects that have been prioritized in existing community or regional resilience plans. Priority is given to:

- Implementation of design-ready restoration projects that enhance resilience and reduce threat risk
- Planning and project site assessment, design, and permitting in at-risk communities to position them for future implementation
- Projects that demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative approaches to enhance coastal resilience with natural infrastructure

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND COASTAL RESILIENCE

NFWF partnered with NOAA and the University of North Carolina-Asheville's National Environmental Modeling Analysis Center to develop Regional Coastal Resilience Assessments. The Assessments identify public and private lands ideal for restoration and analyzes the potential to provide benefit for both human community resilience and fish and wildlife. Using this tool, NFWF identified specific areas with the greatest potential to provide protection to human communities while also restoring or improving habitat for fish and wildlife. The public can access the Assessment through the online Coastal Resilience Evaluation and Siting Tool.

AN OUTCOME-BASED APPROACH

NFWF combines its outcome-based approach with insights from the Regional Coastal Resilience Assessments to set goals and monitor project investments. Projects are evaluated using criteria that support the goal of the National Coastal Resilience Fund, including:

- Benefits to coastal communities, from reducing the impact of coastal flooding and associated threats to property and key assets such as hospitals and emergency routes
- Benefits to fish and wildlife from enhancing the ecological integrity