NFWF National Coastal Resilience Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

Michelle Pico Program Director, Marine Conservation pico@nfwf.org 262-567-0601

FUNDING PARTNERS

- NOAA
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Department of Defense
- Shell Oil Company
- TransRe
- AT&T
- Occidental

ABOUT NFWF



Flooding in Texas

OVERVIEW

The National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF) seeks to create, expand and restore natural systems in areas that will both increase protection for communities from coastal storms, sea and lake level changes, flooding, and/or coastal erosion and improve valuable habitats for fish and wildlife species. The NCRF will award \$39.5 million in 2021 in competitive grants across four priority strategies: community capacity building and planning; site assessment and preliminary design; final design and permitting; and restoration and monitoring. Since the NCRF's launch in 2018, the fund has awarded more than \$135 million to 174 projects, leveraging more than \$211 million in conservation resources.

In partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Defense, Shell Oil Company, TransRe, AT&T, and beginning in 2021, Occidental, 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.

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

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

organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.8 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW Suite 1000 Washington, D.C., 20005 202-857-0166

FACT SHEET



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 surges 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 Coast, and the combination of inland flooding and ocean surge for islands such as Hawai'i.

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 <u>Coastal Resilience Evaluation and Siting</u>. <u>Tool.</u>

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