OVERVIEW
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the Bezos Earth Fund, Cleveland-Cliffs, the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, announced the 2022 round of funding for the Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund. These seven new projects will reduce stormwater impact, improve water quality, enhance habitat and increase accessibility and usability of public green space. These grants received a total of nearly $1.6 million in grant funding and leveraged $1.3 million in matching contributions to generate a total conservation impact of more than $2.9 million.

These community-driven investments will strengthen regional resilience by installing green infrastructure, adding more than 4.8 million gallons of stormwater storage, and reducing the threat of flooding and other intensifying environmental stressors. Additionally, projects will restore critical habitat for wildlife and create or enhance public access to and use of natural areas and parks.

The grants will support projects that also will:
- Add 4.8 million gallons of stormwater storage
- Plant over 940 trees for increased stormwater storage and habitat
- Restore 24 acres through invasive species control
- Help restore the quality and connectivity of the region’s unique habitats
- Improve quality of life for residents by increasing public access to natural areas and parks for communities through eight new access points

(continued)
Revitalizing Public Space through Green Infrastructure in Detroit’s 94 Industrial Corridor (MI)
Grantee: Wildlife Habitat Council
Grant Amount: $242,703
Matching Funds: $255,400
Total Project Amount: $498,103
Install green infrastructure in recreational areas and two alleys and create pollinator habitat within the Mount Elliott and Alkebu-Lan neighborhoods adjacent to the I-94 Industrial Corridor in Detroit. Project will add more than 25,000 gallons of stormwater storage per rain event and build on existing collaborative efforts between community initiatives and corporate partners to connect communities to natural spaces and facilitate stormwater management.

Restoring Prairie Habitat and Public Space in Riggs Heritage Park (MI)
Grantee: Charter Township of Van Buren
Grant Amount: $100,000
Matching Funds: $100,000
Total Project Amount: $200,000
Restore reclaimed prairie wildlife habitat by removing invasive species, promoting growth of prairie plants, and establishing a detailed management plan in Riggs Heritage Park. Project will improve access to public space and restore and manage approximately 16 acres of grassland, 7 acres of woodland, and 1 acre of wet meadow with an emphasis on habitat for bees, migratory birds, reptiles, and amphibians.

Planting Trees to Build Community Climate Resilience in Southwest Detroit (MI)
Grantee: The Greening of Detroit
Grant Amount: $245,788
Matching Funds: $263,125
Total Project Amount: $508,913
Engage hundreds of community volunteers to plant 318 new trees in several parks in Southwest Detroit. Project will intercept stormwater runoff to reduce flooding in under-resourced neighborhoods and support watershed restoration, contribute to existing park improvement efforts, and enhance public green space for community residents.

Transforming Blight through Urban Forestry and Community Greenspace in North Central Detroit (MI)
Grantee: Rescue MI Nature Now
Grant Amount: $189,304
Matching Funds: $115,689
Total Project Amount: $304,993
Transform neighborhood blight into a 2.25 acre, accessible therapeutic forest through a participatory planning design and construction process and providing hands-on learning component for grade-school students. Project will manage 195,000 gallons of stormwater annually through bioretention, facilitate multigenerational environmental awareness, and improve the quality of life for residents in the Nolan neighborhood of Detroit.

Increasing Green Infrastructure and Pollinator Habitat in Ypsilanti Township (MI)
Grantee: Washtenaw County
Grant Amount: $300,000
Matching Funds: $405,000
Total Project Amount: $705,000
Transform a six-acre city block into a stormwater park by creating five bioretention cells, planting trees, and integrating community amenities such as trails and recreational space. Project will add 1,650,000 gallons of stormwater storage annually, reduce combined sewer overflows, and promote neighborhood stabilization.

Accelerating Resilience and Neighborhood Stabilization through Green Infrastructure in Detroit (MI)
Grantee: Detroit Water and Sewerage Department
Grant Amount: $300,000
Matching Funds: $405,000
Total Project Amount: $705,000
Transform a six-acre city block into a stormwater park by creating five bioretention cells, planting trees, and integrating community amenities such as trails and recreational space. Project will add 1,650,000 gallons of stormwater storage annually, reduce combined sewer overflows, and promote neighborhood stabilization.

Reducing Stormwater Impacts through Community-Led Rain Garden Implementation in Wayne County (MI)
Grantee: Friends of the Rouge
Grant Amount: $208,454
Matching Funds: $97,586
Total Project Amount: $306,040
Engage residents in community-led rain garden design and installation and facilitate maintenance workshops for houses of worship and residential neighborhoods in Wayne County, Michigan. Project will create a network of rain gardens capturing stormwater runoff while increasing habitat connectivity, pollinator habitat, and access to nature in low-income areas.