

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

2022 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS



NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is dedicated to sustaining, restoring and enhancing the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats for current and future generations.

NFWF will advance its mission through innovative public and private partnerships, and by investing financial resources and intellectual capital into science-based programs designed to address conservation priorities and achieve measurable outcomes.

In fiscal year 2022, NFWF invested \$414.4 million to support 841 projects across the nation. These investments leveraged \$319.8 million in matching support from grantees to generate a total conservation impact of \$734.2 million.



Black bear cub
in California

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Red-cockaded woodpeckers hunting for insects on a longleaf pine

UNITED STATES AND U.S. TERRITORIES

FISCAL YEAR 2022 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

ALABAMA

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Little River Plateau Shortleaf Pine Restoration (AL)

Establish 375 acres of shortleaf forest on the Little River Wildlife Management Area in northern Alabama. Project will conduct habitat and ecological restoration activities including harvest of the drought damaged loblolly pine plantation, application of site treatments, introduction of prescribed fire, and planting of shortleaf pine trees.
\$99,200

Alabama Forestry Foundation

Engaging Private Landowners to Restore Shortleaf Pine, White Oak Forests and Aquatic Habitat (AL)

Engage family forest owners in north Alabama to restore and improve more than 10,000 acres of shortleaf pine, white oak and riparian forests, and remove stream barriers to improve habitat connectivity to 15 miles of stream, benefiting at-risk aquatic species. Project will implement a marketing strategy to target high-priority landowners and will engage 600 landowners through outreach events and technical assistance which will result in at least 60 landowners implementing conservation practices.
\$400,000

Alabama Forestry Foundation

Restoring Longleaf Pine Forests and Improving Habitat for At-Risk Species in South Alabama

Engage family forest owners in a 27-county area of south Alabama by providing education and technical assistance to restore and enhance longleaf forests and improve habitat for at-risk species. Project will target 8,000 landowners through a marketing campaign and engage 800 through outreach events with 80 landowners expected to take action, impacting a total of 24,628 acres and improving habitat for gopher tortoises and other fire-dependent at-risk species found in longleaf forests.
\$500,000

Alabama Wildlife Federation

Providing Technical Assistance to Restore Longleaf Pine on Private Lands in Alabama

Target private landowners interested in wildlife management for the restoration and/or enhancement of 6,000 acres of longleaf pine located within 31 counties within Alabama. Project will increase landowner outreach and recruitment through collaboration with partner organizations and landowner-hosted events, including events targeting underserved private landowners.
\$175,000

Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy

Restoring Water Quality and Connectivity for Species in the Black Warrior-Tombigbee Watershed (AL)

Improve stream habitat connectivity and water quality in the Upper Black Warrior, Mulberry, and Sipsey Fork watersheds in Alabama, benefiting the Black Warrior waterdog, flattened musk turtle and other at-risk aquatic species. Project will inventory and prioritize stream barriers, remove 14 high-priority barriers to restore 150 miles of stream habitat connectivity, and revegetate and stabilize the banks of one cumulative mile of riparian forest buffer.
\$371,372

City of Auburn

Leveraging Infrastructure Funding to Promote Stewardship (AL)

Plant 2,000 longleaf pine seedlings, engage 150 students and 25 community volunteers through workshops, volunteer opportunities and classroom instruction. Project will improve water quality by capturing stormwater runoff and contribute to long term watershed stewardship by increasing awareness, understanding, and professional skill in the area of watershed management.
\$45,155

Forest Landowners Association

Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.
\$250,000

Manomet

Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.
\$205,000

Marine Environmental Sciences

Consortium / Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Deer River Coastal Marsh Stabilization and Restoration (AL)

Stabilize 5,600 feet of shoreline along an erosion-impacted and storm-vulnerable saltmarsh near Deer River, restore 30 acres of marsh, and improve water quality in the Middle Fork of Deer River by closing a breach and dredging silted-in portions, allowing it to flow its full length. Project will address the stressors underlying the shoreline erosion with engineered headland breakwaters and pile-supported breakwaters, enhancing the long-term resilience of nearby residents and industrial assets.
\$4,125,000

Paint Rock Forest Research Center

Southern Cumberlands Shortleaf Pine Seed and Seedling Initiative (AL, GA, TN)

Address the lack of genetically appropriate shortleaf pine seed and seedling resources for reforestation and restoration. Project will identify appropriate seed banks within Tennessee and Alabama; collect seeds to support three years of propagation; send seeds to processing and storage centers; select appropriate nurseries for propagation; produce over 75,000 seedlings ready for distribution to vetted projects in the second year of the grant; and develop plans for a permanent seed orchard.
\$266,935

Pheasants Forever

Restore Shortleaf Pine Forest and Grassland Ecosystems on Private Lands (AL, TN)

Increase landowner outreach and technical assistance, including engagement of historically underserved landowners, in the Cumberland Plateau region to accelerate adoption of Farm Bill programs and practices to restore shortleaf pine and other woodland and savanna ecosystems. Project will restore 1,100 acres of habitat through the use of prescribed fire, forest thinning and invasive species removal, benefiting northern bobwhite, Bachman's sparrow and other forest and grassland dependent species.
\$275,557

The Longleaf Alliance

Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem (AL, FL)

Restore the longleaf pine ecosystem, with a focus on improving habitat and conservation of several rare species in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem, such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise, and Bachman's sparrow. Project will improve more than 181,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat through prescribed burns, control of invasive species, and plantings of longleaf pine and ground cover, and will reach 900 landowners in Alabama and Florida with education and technical assistance.
\$565,000

The Nature Conservancy

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration and Management in Talladega Mountains (AL, GA)
Restore and maintain the unique montane longleaf ecosystem in the foothills of the Appalachians in Alabama and Georgia through the increased use of prescribed fire and support of longleaf pine reforestation efforts. Prescribed fire crews will assist public and private landowners, including Talladega National Forest, with burning 20,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat and partners will restore 2,125 acres of longleaf through plantings, and will target 400 landowners through outreach and education.
\$375,000

The Nature Conservancy

Priority Stream Restoration Planning and Outreach in Locust Fork and Big Canoe Creek Watersheds (AL)
Provide landowner outreach, field support, technical assistance, and initial project planning efforts to facilitate priority stream restoration projects within the Locust Fork and Big Canoe Creek watersheds in Alabama. Project will improve downstream effects of sedimentation and non-point source pollution resulting in improved water quality and expansion of critical habitat for impacted species, including Black Warrior waterdog, flattened musk turtle and trispot darter.
\$133,507

Town of Dauphin Island

Shoreline Habitat Restoration in Aloe Bay (AL)
Rebuild the previously existing natural first line of defense against storm surge and rising sea levels to mitigate impacts of future storms, increase the resilience of Aloe Bay, and restore native marsh and oyster habitat. Project will construct up to 2,900 linear feet of living shoreline breakwater; create up to 8.5 acres of marsh, tidal creeks, and lagoons; and create 0.25 acres of oyster reef habitat.
\$2,993,500

ALASKA**Ai.Fish**

Operationalizing Machine Learning in Alaska's Fixed Gear Electronic Monitoring Program
Develop and deploy a cloud-based software system for processing electronic monitoring video data using machine learning, incorporate machine learning processing into data review, and conduct a study on the effects of using machine learning to assist review. Project will improve efficiency for data analysis in Alaska and disseminate best practices for implementing machine learning in data review in Alaska and other fisheries.
\$250,000

Alaska Geographic Association

Anchorage Resident Watershed Connection - Monitoring, Restoration, Education and Recreation (AK)
Engage Anchorage residents in hands-on restoration projects, cultivating stewardship of local natural resources through watershed outdoor education, sportfishing and other conservation activities. Project will engage communities in environmental outreach, education, and training activities while also addressing priority habitat restoration.
\$56,422

Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association

Improving Electronic Monitoring Image Quality using Machine Learning Onboard Vessels (AK)
Field test machine learning algorithms that detect common image quality issues seen in fisheries electronic monitoring and provide feedback to the vessel operator in real-time. Project will evaluate the software on operational electronic monitoring systems used in Alaska's fixed gear and trawl programs.
\$97,966

Aleutians East Borough

Improving Data Quality, Timeliness and Access for Full Scale Electronic Monitoring Implementation (AK)
Catalyze adoption of implemented electronic monitoring in the Western Gulf of Alaska pollock trawl fishery. Project will increase the level of monitoring, test the ability of installed electronic monitoring systems to work with other gears, improve catch reporting to support fisheries conservation and management, advance automation of salmon bycatch detection and counting, and develop new tools to more efficiently transfer and review data in Alaska.
\$521,062

Anchorage Park Foundation

University Lake Shoreline Restoration and Wildlife Habitat Improvement (AK)
Restore 750 feet of eroding banks to improve water quality and riparian habitat in University Lake, fed by an anadromous stream in Anchorage, Alaska. Project will install a new toe, trench willows, regrade and revegetate banks using 450 native tree species, native grass seed, and 3,000 willow stems, and divert access from this key nesting area by training 52 high school aged students through the Youth Employment in Parks program.
\$46,794

Copper River Watershed Project

Establishing a Temperature Monitoring Network for Salmon Conservation in the Copper River Watershed (AK)
Establish baseline watershed temperature conditions through the development of a region-wide monitoring network for the Copper River watershed to better understand Pacific salmon population responses to temperature changes in Alaska. Project will convene a Copper River Temperature Working Group to standardize temperature monitoring methodologies, identify current and future monitoring sites, and deploy and collect temperature data from 30 additional temperature monitoring devices in the watershed.
\$53,606

Fairbanks Soil and Water

Conservation District
Education and Outreach to Reduce the Spread of Elodea to Protect Pacific Salmon Habitat (AK)
Detect new invasive aquatic plant elodea infestations, in partnership with tribal and non-profit organizations, to prioritize treatment in seven communities within the Yukon-Kuskokwim Watershed, Alaska. Project will increase public engagement and awareness of elodea, share best practices to prevent spread, train tribal community members on identification and survey techniques, and provide natural resource employment opportunities to Alaska Native students through the Public Land Corps program.
\$74,602

Kenai Watershed Forum

Fish Passage and Infrastructure Improvement in Lower Kenai River Tributary (AK)
Replace a perched culvert with a bridge to reconnect 0.85 miles of Pacific salmon stream habitat and open 1.24 miles of upstream and wetland habitat in Kenai, Alaska. Project will keep floodplain connectivity to accommodate anadromous fish passage to crucial rearing habitat for coho and sockeye salmon in the Lower Kenai River tributary.
\$107,063

Manomet

Monitoring Habitat Use and Migration Pathways for Two Arctic Nesting Shorebird Species (AK)
Deploy GPS tags on whimbrel and American golden-plovers in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, two species identified as high conservation concern in Alaska. Project will use tracking data to identify post-breeding habitat use on the Arctic Coastal plain, establish general connectivity among wintering, migration, and breeding locations, assess threats to survival along migratory routes, and inform conservation decisions for each shorebird species.
\$61,164

Native Conservancy**Restoring Pacific Salmon Coastline Habitat through Community Kelp Farms (AK)**

Restore kelp beds along the coastline to protect Pacific salmon habitat in partnership with Alaska Native communities and local organizations in Alaska. Project will develop 20 kelp farms along 6,400 miles of coastline, train a local workforce to steward the kelp beds, conduct educational outreach on coastal restoration informed by traditional ecological knowledge, and provide internships for Native youth.

\$159,764

Native Village of Napakiak**Restoration and Protection of Coastal Wetlands in Native Village of Napakiak (AK)**

Prevent the contamination of the Kuskokwim River ecosystem by restoring 17 acres of coastal wetlands and riparian habitat in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. Project will construct 12 nature-based natural infrastructure house pads from locally sourced sand and gravel; and revegetate the 7.6 acres by planting native grasses and local willow cuttings.

\$3,000,000

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition**Expanding Conservation Capacity (AK)**

Build regional capacity to implement watershed restoration on the Tongass National Forest by engaging tribes, community groups, agencies, and other stakeholders in hands on restoration, stewardship, and trainings. Project will result in direct benefits to salmon and deer habitat on the Tongass National Forest and will increase agency and community capacity to improve watershed condition.

\$25,000

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition**Restoring Salmon Habitat in Halfmile Creek (AK)**

Restore salmon habitat in Halfmile Creek on T̄aan (Prince of Wales Island) in Alaska through the addition of large woody debris to create habitat complexity and rehabilitate stream function. Project will also provide a workforce development opportunity for an Alaska Native work crew focused on Klawock watershed stewardship.

\$58,046

The Conservation Fund**Permanently Protect Sockeye Salmon Habitat in Pedro Bay Rivers (AK)**

Permanently protect 44,173 acres within Knutson Creek, Pile River, and Iliamna River watersheds in Alaska through a conservation easement. Project will benefit sockeye salmon spawning and rearing habitat and prevent imminent threat of road and infrastructure development to establish an indigenous conservation area that connects 13.7 million acres of protected lands.

\$500,000

The Nature Conservancy**Deploy Machine Learning for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

The Student Conservation Association**Supporting Alaska Regional High School Youth Crew on the Chugach National Forest (AK)**

Support an Alaska Regional High School Youth Crew to conduct conservation work and educational programming on the Chugach National Forest, Alaska. Project will provide opportunities for Alaska Native and Alaska youth to work with U.S. Forest Service personnel through projects which focus on natural resource management, subsistence use, and recreational infrastructure.

\$54,423

United Catcher Boats**Pre-Implementation of Electronic Monitoring in Alaska's Pelagic Trawl Pollock Fishery**

Evaluate the feasibility and cost-efficiency of a fully implemented electronic monitoring approach in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska pelagic pollock trawl fisheries. Project will expand on previous work to improve data quality, timeliness, and cost-efficiency for salmon bycatch accounting and quantifying groundfish discards to monitor compliance with retention regulations.

\$905,084

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7**Developing a Statewide Monitoring Framework for Aleutian Tern in Alaska (AK)**

Develop and initiate a statewide sampling and monitoring strategy to address information gaps of Aleutian tern populations in Alaska. Project will finalize survey and colony count protocols, complete a shared relational database in preparation for the statewide survey, develop an Aleutian tern nesting habitat model to inform survey sampling design, and initiate a statewide Aleutian tern colony census.

\$174,998

University of Alaska Anchorage**2022 NFWF Summer Scholars Program (AK, DC)**

Support the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) to identify and support underrepresented students for the 2022 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Scholars Program. Project will fund a total of ten ANSEP university students who will work in these conservation-based NFWF internships in Washington, DC.

\$352,810

University of Alaska Anchorage**Supporting Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program Students in Advancing Conservation (AK) - II**

Support seven Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) student internships with agencies and local organizations relating to fish and bird conservation projects across Alaska. Project will strengthen the existing pathway for Alaska Native youth to engage in on-the-ground conservation activities and gain exposure to careers in conservation through field work experience and acting as liaisons between resource managers and local communities.

\$103,484

ARIZONA**Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy****Habitat Restoration and Reintroduction for Imperiled Herpetofauna of the Black, San Francisco, and Upper Gila-Mangas Watersheds (AZ, NM)**

Restore wetland habitat quality and availability in the San Francisco, Upper Gila-Mangas, and Black River watersheds through a watershed inventory of target species and threats, prioritization of potential remediation sites, wetland restoration, and ultimately, Chiricahua leopard frog reintroduction. Project will create eight, 1-acre wetlands, and .25 miles of heavy-duty livestock exclusion fencing to increase habitat quality, availability, and biodiversity to critical headwaters of the Upper Gila and Salt Rivers.

\$227,074

Arizona Game and Fish Department**Restoring Big Game Winter Range Grassland Habitat on Perrin Ranch by Removing Woody Invasives (AZ)**

Mechanically remove invasive, encroaching juniper and pinyon pine trees from priority big game winter range habitat within the Grand Canyon to Prescott Corridor Complex in Arizona. Project will restore 1,200 acres of habitat and increase connectivity for mule deer, elk and pronghorn.

\$100,000

Arizona Game and Fish Department**Restoring Big Game Winter Range Grassland Habitat on the Truxton Flat by Removing Woody Invasives (AZ)**

Restore 800 acres of critical winter range and stopover habitat for mule deer and pronghorn in northern Arizona. Project will mechanically masticate invading woody vegetation from grasslands that provide winter range for big game species.

\$100,000

Borderlands Restoration Network

Headwater Riparian Restoration along Arizona/New Mexico Border (AZ, NM)
Increase capacity and train local youth to construct rock and wood erosion-control structures instream and along floodplains in headwater streams of the San Simon River watershed in the Chiricahua Mountains. Project will restore 2 miles of riparian forest habitat in multiple headwater drainages while enhancing groundwater recharge.
\$188,213

Gila Watershed Partnership of AZ

Nonnative Fish Removal in Gila Watershed (AZ)
Mechanically remove nonnative fish species from 1.9 miles of Bonita creek and 22 miles of Aravaipa Creek. Project will help secure populations of four federally endangered fish species, including Gila chub, Gila topminnow, loach minnow and spikedace, and address recovery goals identified for each species.
\$56,118

**Gila Watershed Partnership of AZ
Restoring Native Habitat Refugia for the
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (AZ)**

Restore over 200 acres of riparian habitat for the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher along the Upper Gila River in Arizona. Project will protect critical breeding habitat from the tamarisk leaf beetle, a biological control of the invasive salt cedar.
\$101,774

Tucson Audubon Society

Delivering Native Plants and Creating Urban Bird Habitat in Southeast Arizona (AZ)
Combat urban heat island effects while engaging communities in the installation of urban bird habitats in Tucson and southeast Arizona. Project will utilize a mobile display unit to deliver plants and information to local communities, making birding opportunities in urban Tucson more accessible to a greater number of people.
\$42,116

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Arizona Fisheries Resources Office**

Apache Trout Recovery on Fort Apache Indian Reservation (AZ)
Replace a failing gabion barrier in Crooked Creek with a concrete jump and velocity barrier and complete ongoing partial design work on six other replacement barriers on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation to protect Apache trout populations. Project will protect 9 km of high-quality Apache trout recovery habitat from reinvasion of brown trout and increase the availability of over 60 km of habitat.
\$292,208

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Arizona Fisheries Resources Office
Barrier Replacement and Apache Trout
Recovery on Squaw Creek (AZ)**

Replace an old, non-functioning nonnative species barrier in Squaw Creek to separate the third largest Apache trout recovery population from managed sportfish downstream. Project will increase the availability of high-quality, protected, Apache trout recovery habitat by approximately 9 mi and benefit several native fish species including Apache trout, speckled dace, and desert sucker.
\$100,000

**Watershed Management Group
Plant a Tree and Build Your Own Basin for
Tucson Neighborhoods (AZ)**

Implement low cost nature-based infrastructure projects focused on expanding urban forests with native tree irrigated by simple rain gardens. Project will reduce flooding through stormwater capture, increase shade with rain-fed native trees, and engage 300-600 residents in installing 360 rain gardens and native understory including shrubs, bunch grasses, wildflowers and cactus.
\$49,997

ARKANSAS**Ducks Unlimited**

Restoring Forested Wetlands in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley of Arkansas and Louisiana
Perform hydrologic and forest enhancement and restoration activities on private land in Louisiana and Arkansas and public land in Arkansas. Project will restore hydrology, enhance existing forests, and reforest areas to impact a total of 1,450 acres, benefiting migratory waterfowl, Louisiana black bear and other forested wetland-dependent species.
\$435,700

Mississippi River Trust

Restoring Bottomland Hardwood Wetland Habitat in the Lower Mississippi River Floodplain (AR, MS, LA)
Work with private landowners to reforest and protect 2,000 acres of frequently flooded, mostly cleared land through the adoption of Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetland Reserve Easements in the active floodplain of the Lower Mississippi River. Project will expand and enhance habitat for the Louisiana black bear, swamp rabbit, forest-dwelling birds, waterfowl, and freshwater fish; improve water quality in the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico; and increase carbon sequestration.
\$199,625

The Carbon Fund

Restoring Forests for Wildlife and Carbon in the Mississippi River Floodplain (multiple states)
Pilot a forest restoration program to improve wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration and storage within the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Project will provide outreach and technical and financial assistance to private landowners, with a focus on engaging historically underserved landowners, to reforest frequently flooded marginal cropland benefiting Louisiana black bear and forest birds, including the prothonotary warbler.
\$1,100,000

CALIFORNIA

**Alpine Watershed Group
Monitoring Impacts of Tamarack Fire for
Meadow Recovery in the Upper Carson River
Watershed (CA)**

Employ water quality, vegetation, bird, and photo monitoring to assess impacts to meadows in the Upper Carson River watershed in Alpine County, California from the 2021 Tamarack Fire. Project will assess and identify invasive species removal, erosion and sediment control, and revegetation projects in the affected area and apply traditional ecological knowledge for meadows to help the local ecosystem and provide downstream benefits.
\$80,545

American Rivers

Improving Transportation Infrastructure for Meadow and Watershed Restoration (CA)
Improve transportation infrastructure for aquatic and wet meadow ecosystem restoration and watershed improvement in the South Fork American watershed of Eldorado National Forest in California. Project will replace one road crossing, improve 0.24 miles of road, and restore 18 acres of wet meadow at Wilson Ranch meadow to enhance the ecological function and resilience of South Fork American watershed.
\$449,059

American Rivers

Large-Scale Restoration Planning for Pickel Meadow on West Walker River (CA)
Complete restoration planning for 450 acres at Pickel Meadow on the West Walker River in California to advance meadow restoration in the Desert Terminal Lakes region. Project will develop large-scale meadow restoration plan ready for implementation to increase groundwater storage and attenuated flood flows, reduce downstream sedimentation, increase resilience, and improve habitat for meadow dependent species such as the willow flycatcher and yellow warbler.
\$332,119

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers**Increasing Connectivity through Post-Fire Restoration (CA)**

Restore the Hallelujah Junction Wildlife Area, a prioritized winter range habitat for mule deer that was burned and degraded by recent wildfires, through invasive species removal and monitoring with subsequent native plant restoration to incorporate bitterbrush, forbs and native grasses beneficial to big game species. Project will restore 180 acres with post-fire rehabilitation practices.

\$165,027

California Trout**Fluvial Mainstem Site Assessment and Conceptual Design for the Elk River (CA)**

Conduct a site assessment of the Elk River, consult with landowners and regulatory partners to cooperatively develop the project elements, and prepare conceptual designs in collaboration with landowners and agency scientists. Project will create engineering designs that would rehabilitate 6.1 miles of mainstem salmonid habitat and tens of acres of riparian habitat, as well as protect 15 homes and four bridges from flooding.

\$573,103

California Trout**Fuels Reduction in Inyo National Forest (CA)**

Remove cut biomass resulting from fuels reduction actions targeting pine beetle-killed lodgepole and whitebark pine on June Mountain in Inyo National Forest. Project will develop a plan to assess fuels reduction benefits to Clark's nutcracker and white pine populations, implement restoration monitoring protocols, and estimate greenhouse gas benefits.

\$285,485

California Trout**South Fork Floodplain Connectivity Phase IV (CA)**

Enhance instream habitat in the South Fork of the Scott River through the installation of large wood structures, side channel excavation, and riparian planting. Project will restore floodplain function and connectivity, improve habitat cover and complexity, and enhance cold water rearing habitat for a core population of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coho Salmon in the Klamath Basin.

\$264,465

Channel Islands Marine and Wildlife Institute**Marine Mammals Restoration – Increasing Capability in Santa Barbara and Ventura (CA)**

Increase Channel Islands Marine and Wildlife Institute's capability to recover and rehabilitate marine mammals in distress in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. Project will enhance animal handling capabilities, expand veterinary medical resources, ensure a long-term water supply, increase the electrical infrastructure and provide critical staff to deliver and manage this increased capability.

\$846,984

City of Imperial Beach**Creating a Community Resilience Plan (CA)**

Design a community resilience plan for Imperial Beach to address flooding in vulnerable populations that experience impacts related to coastal hazards. Project will create an adaptation management and monitoring plan that encourages nature-based solutions.

\$250,000

City of San Diego**Creating a Coastal Resilience Master Plan (CA)**

Develop a Coastal Resilience Master Plan to identify specific resilience and conservation needs along the San Diego coastline and develop a portfolio of nature-based solutions. Project will engage the public, analyze 10 sites based on risk and benefits, develop nature-based solutions for five of the most feasible locations, select a pilot project, and analyze the effects of nature-based solutions along the coast.

\$250,000

Conservation Corps of Long Beach**Invasive Vegetation and Off-Highway Vehicle Barriers in the Angeles National Forest (CA) - II**

Remove invasive vegetation and install off-highway vehicle barriers along 4 miles of road to restore native chaparral in the Copper Fire burn scar in the Angeles National Forest. Project will engage young adults from urban communities as environmental stewards to protect restoration areas from disturbance in the fire-damaged Angeles National Forest.

\$552,155

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments**Infrastructure and Recreation Planning in the Buttermilk Region of Inyo National Forest (CA)**

Improve infrastructure in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area and develop long-term recreation planning in the in the Buttermilk subregion of the Inyo National Forest. Project will address immediate infrastructure needs by replacing and/or installing toilets and enhance the resilience of the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity by organizing a collaborative planning effort with partners to implement sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure.

\$247,300

Fall River Resource Conservation District**Restoring Logan Springs Meadow in Lassen National Forest (CA)**

Restore and enhance hydrologic function of Logan Springs meadow in Lassen National Forest to improve habitat conditions, channel stability, and vegetation support near a larger forest health project aiming to reduce the incidence of high intensity wildfire. Project will fill degraded channels, remove railroad grades and berms, construct design features to capture sediment and minimize erosion, and develop a grade control structure to dissipate energy into the meadow.

\$155,688

Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District**North Bay Habitat Restoration for Monarchs and Other Pollinators (CA)**

Collect milkweed seed, propagate milkweed seedlings, and restore and improve habitat for the monarch butterfly, Myrtle's silverspot butterfly and other pollinators in the North Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area in California. Project will improve 6,000 acres, restore 150 acres, collect 1 pound of milkweed seed, propagate 8,000 milkweed seedlings, host 11 workshops, and engage 300 people.

\$175,000

Grassland Water District**Monarch-Friendly Canals: Enhancing Pollinator Habitat Along Managed Wetlands (CA)**

Restore and enhance pollinator habitat along 7 miles of canals in protected wetlands in California. Project will restore 216 acres, propagate 6,000 milkweed seedlings, and engage members of the public.

\$173,040

Klamath Water Users Association**Lower Klamath/Lost River Stewardship Planning Process (CA, OR)**

Develop the Lower Klamath/Lost River Stewardship Agreement to address the regulatory goals and objectives outlined in California's and Oregon's respective total maximum daily loads. Project will support development of solutions for ongoing water issues to help conserve and ensure allocations of water to fish and wildlife as well as affected irrigation districts. The intended outcome will be improved water quality and a maximized coverage area for all beneficial uses.

\$80,865

Mid Klamath Watershed Council**Fuels Management and Wildfire Resilience in Six Rivers and Klamath National Forests (CA)**

Create strategic fuel breaks and develop defensible space around communities and neighborhoods to address high priority community protection needs against wildfires in the Western Klamath Restoration Partnership area. Project will conduct manual fuels reduction, construct fire lines, and engage community members with fire suppression and management training in Siskiyou, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties.

\$120,000

Mid Klamath Watershed Council**Klamath River Creek Mouth Enhancement (CA)**

Remove or modify fish passage barriers at the creek mouths of the Middle Klamath, Salmon and Scott Rivers. Project will improve access for juvenile and adult salmonids to cold water tributaries of the Middle Klamath, Salmon, and Lower Scott Rivers that can become blocked during periods of low stream flow.

\$89,273

Mid Klamath Watershed Council**Lower Beaver Creek Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project (CA)**

Add 13 wood structures to Beaver Creek to improve spawning and rearing habitat for Southern Oregon/Northern California Coho Salmon and other critical anadromous fish species. Project will increase the number of returning adult Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, and Pacific Lamprey.

\$391,219

Mojave Desert Land Trust**Mojave Desert Tortoise Habitat Restoration (CA)**

Conduct a restoration project focused on habitat improvement for Mojave desert tortoise in Western Mojave Recovery Unit focal areas identified by the Mojave Desert Tortoise Recovery and Sustainment Partnership (RASP), to include ground assessment, customized restoration plans, closure of unauthorized routes, and habitat restoration. Grantee will increase capacity for a dedicated Coordinator to be co-located in the Bureau of Land Management's Barstow Field Office to coordinate RASP project implementation.

\$1,100,000

Monarch Joint Venture**Technical Assistance to Private Landowners Improving Pollinator Habitat (CA)**

Provide technical assistance for private landowners in California's Central Valley by hiring a Habitat Coordinator to accelerate adoption of pollinator conservation practices and monarch monitoring efforts. Project will improve 1,000 acres, restore 200 acres, develop 50 conservation plans, host 30 workshops, and engage 550 people.

\$200,712

Montague Water Conservation District**Shasta River Coho Salmon Habitat Enhancement through Design and Assessment**

Complete design and permitting of the Hole in the Ground Diversion Combine Project on the Shasta River. Future implementation of this project will allow efficiencies for instream benefit while also isolating a significant cold-water spring to protect over-summering habitat and providing flexible diversion management to maximize instream benefit.

\$122,586

Monterey County Water Resources Agency Salinas River Lagoon Community Engagement and Planning Project (CA)

Develop a portfolio of nature-based methods to reduce flood risk and improve resiliency in the Salinas River Lagoon. Project will evaluate existing conditions in the Lagoon with respect to flood control structures, land use, bathymetry, sensitive habitats and species, wave dynamics, and/or sediment transport; and prioritize nature-based or hybrid strategies and projects to support flood prevention and resilience.

\$100,000

National Audubon Society**Native Plants for the LA River (CA)**

Install 1,000 native plants, including 200 native trees, with 25 youth leaders and 150 community members at Rio de Los Angeles State Park. Project will restore urban wetlands and provide sustainable habitat for the federally endangered least bell's vireo.

\$50,000

Nature Nexus Institute**Ballona Creek Watershed Community Stewardship (CA)**

Engage 2,400 youth and hundreds of community volunteers in educational and habitat restoration activities throughout the Ballona Creek watershed. Project will address watershed restoration through field trips, hands-on habitat restoration activities, an after-school environmental leadership program, and a culminating youth summit, directly involving participants in restoring 2 acres of coastal sage scrub and 7.7 acres of beach habitat, benefiting wildlife and improving watershed health.

\$49,980

NOAA Fisheries**Non-invasive Diet Characterization of Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA)**

Test the use of stable isotopes to analyze dietary composition for Southern Resident killer whales in the Salish Sea using naturally occurring chemical tracers. Project will measure how stable isotopes in fecal matter and breath samples reflect diets from a feeding study on captive killer whales and compare to archived collected samples from Southern Resident killer whales.

\$148,760

Northwest California Resource Conservation and Development Council East Branch East Weaver Creek Migration Barrier Removal (CA)

Replace a road crossing with an arch culvert at a U.S. Forest Service campground and community trail system in order to open a migration pathway for anadromous fish. Project will restore access to 1.2 miles of quality habitat to salmonid species.

\$265,582

Orange County Coastkeeper/Waterkeeper Upper Newport Bay Living Shorelines (CA)

Increase shoreline resiliency through restoration of a segment of the Upper Newport Bay through improved adaptive management and monitoring techniques, and engaging community in hands-on restoration work. Project will incorporate in-class lessons and field trips to the Upper Newport Bay restoration site, demonstrating the importance of wetland habitats for climate resiliency, water quality and native oysters through a comprehensive curriculum.

\$49,722

Outdoor Outreach**Youth Environmental Stewardship (CA)**

Cultivate environmental stewardship and increase community engagement through outdoor conservation programs in and around the San Diego Bay and Tijuana River watersheds. Project will restore 120 acres of wetland and coastal habitat, engage 140 individuals in environmental stewardship and education programs, and support 16 paid positions in outdoor education.

\$40,317

Pepperdine University**Invasive Crayfish Removal on Endangered Species in San Francisquito Creek (CA)**

Improve aquatic habitat by trapping and removing crayfish to benefit the threatened unarmored threespine stickleback and endangered red-legged frog populations in the Angeles National Forest. Project will conduct trapping, biodiversity monitoring, behavioral experiments, and mathematical modeling to measure the positive impact from crayfish removal.

\$151,089

Point Reyes Bird Observatory dba Point Blue Conservation Science**Seabird Restoration on Farallon Islands (CA)**

Develop and implement a communications and outreach strategy in support of the proposed restoration project to benefit ash storm-petrels at the Farallon Islands National Wildlife Refuge off San Francisco, California. Project will educate the public and other stakeholders about the need for the large-scale restoration project and address questions and concerns about the proposed methods.

\$29,000

Pollinator Partnership**Monarch Wings Across California: Improving Pollinator Habitat for Western Monarchs (CA)**

Expand the Monarch Wings Across California program by working with private landowners and agricultural producers at 10 sites in the Central Valley to improve habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Project will improve 1,000 acres, develop 10 conservation plans, harvest 800 pounds of milkweed seed, propagate 10,000 milkweed seedlings, host 10 workshops, and engage 100 people.

\$174,914

Preservation Ranch**Mojave Desert Tortoise Recovery and Sustainment Partnership Implementation in the Ord-Rodman Focal Area (CA)**

Work with the Marines Corps Air-Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms (MCAGCC) to implement a demonstration project within the 298,790-acre Preservation Ranch Pilot Project Area to support the Mojave Desert Tortoise Recovery and Sustainment Partnership (RASP). Project will support habitat restoration efforts across 1,816 acres of BLM lands and 3.37 miles of unauthorized routes.

\$1,200,000

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Restoring Plant Diversity in Fire-Affected Watersheds in Angeles National Forest (CA) - IV
Improve capacity for wildfire restoration in the Copper and Sayre fire scars within the Angeles National Forest. Project will collect 50 high-priority seed collections, propagate 6,000 chaparral plant species and 3,000 oaks, monitor and maintain existing restoration sites, and implement three new restoration projects for native grasses and milkweed.
\$494,374

Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
Big Pine Mountain Reforestation Project (CA)
Reforest 300 acres burned by the Zaca Fire on Big Pine Mountain in the Los Padres National Forest through targeted planting of 30,000 conifer seedlings. Project will also develop a reforestation plan, conduct cone collection and propagation of native conifers such as Jeffrey pines in targeted areas of Big Pine Mountain, and monitor sites to evaluate survival and inform future replanting activities.
\$271,381

Scott River Water Trust
Enhance Stream Flows for Salmon in the Scott River Watershed (CA)
Develop and negotiate voluntary, permanent water dedications in the upper portion of the Scott River system. Project will conserve 2,000 acre feet of water in the highest quality salmonid spawning and rearing habitat in the Scott River basin.
\$195,814

Scott River Watershed Council
French Creek Spawning and Rearing Habitat Improvement Project (CA)
Install six large wood structures instream, add spawning gravels, excavate a side channel, and remove non-native vegetation with subsequent planting of a mix of willows and cottonwoods along a 590-foot-long reach of French Creek. Project will improve degraded habitat and assist in enhancing natural populations of Southern Oregon Northern California Coast Coho Salmon by enhancing instream habitats in a cold water refugial stream.
\$189,316

Scott River Watershed Council
Patterson Creek Engineered Log Jam Project (CA)
Install Engineered Log Jams on Patterson Creek, a key tributary to the Scott River, consisting of 12 single rootwad structures, three double rootwad structures and one apex jam, with associated planting of cottonwood and willow, to enhance rearing habitat for over-wintering and over-summering Southern Oregon/Northern California Coho Salmon. Project will enhance floodplain connectivity and result in improved groundwater recharge and primary food production for coho salmon.
\$155,532

Scott River Watershed Council
Sugar Creek Coho Refugia Project- Phase 1 (CA)
Create high quality floodplain habitat connected to Sugar Creek, a key Southern Oregon/Northern California Coho Salmon spawning and rearing tributary to the Scott River. Project will improve habitat and increase access to cold water refugia.
\$230,055

Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District
Improving Transportation Infrastructure at Elk Creek in Klamath National Forest (CA)
Complete engineering design and road work to construct rolling dips and install culverts within the Elk Creek tributary to the Klamath River in the Klamath National Forest in California. Project will reduce sediment sources to support the improvement of stream health and salmonid habitat in a high priority watershed.
\$258,394

Sierra Institute for Community and Environment
Restoration Planning for Nanny and Lost Creek Crossings in Lassen National Forest (CA)
Create design plans for two high priority road crossings affecting aquatic organism passage and channel function in the Battle and Deer Creek watersheds in Lassen National Forest to benefit wild salmon and steelhead populations. Project will develop plans to restore hydrologic function, improve resident fish passage, reduce road sedimentation, and create infrastructure resilience.
\$146,055

Sonoma Resource Conservation District
Invasive Species Control for Wildfire Resilience in Fire-impacted lands in Sonoma County (CA)
Work collaboratively with land managers and local organizations to reduce invasive species pressure in watersheds with critical fisheries habitat that were impacted by wildfire, and educate and empower land managers to continue vegetation management by providing them with a Maintenance and Monitoring Toolkit and training via workshops. Project will reduce wildfire fuel loads and improve watershed health and resilience.
\$999,997

The Bay Foundation
Santa Monica Dune Restoration (CA)
Restore 5 acres of sandy coastal habitats located on the beaches of Santa Monica, California by utilizing natural features to transform a portion of the current beach into a sustainable coastal strand and foredune habitat complex resilient to sea-level rise. Project will restore vital habitat for wildlife and native dune species, increase the resiliency of the shoreline through the restoration of sandy beach and foredune habitat, and engage the public and provide a model for the region to inform scalability.
\$85,000

The Corps Network
Engaging Young People in Conservation and Natural Resource Implementation
Advance both Conservation Corps development and implementation and expansion across the Forest Service and sister land management agencies. Project will enroll a young, talented person to provide critical staff capacity will advance two essential priorities for the Service – climate and engaging diverse citizens in conservation action.
\$75,100

The Nature Conservancy
Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)
Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.
\$144,889

The Student Conservation Association
Fuels Reduction in Bishop and Pine Creek Watersheds of Inyo National Forest (CA)
Conduct fuels management within the Bishop Creek and Pine Creek watersheds of the Inyo National Forest. Project will support a five-person crew to implement fuels reduction treatments across 250 acres to improve forest health and reduce wildfire risk on forestlands and recreational areas.
\$194,320

The Student Conservation Association
OHV Barrier Installation and Habitat Restoration in Angeles National Forest (CA)
Build and install 50 no-dig barriers to improve management within the Drinkwater Flat Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) area of the Angeles National Forest. Project will conduct habitat restoration through invasive species management, planting of native vegetation, and perform erosion control.
\$576,784

The Student Conservation Association
Removing Invasive Vegetation on the Inyo National Forest (CA)
Conduct removal of invasive tamarisk in priority locations on the Inyo National Forest to improve water quality and quantity, in-stream habitat conditions, riparian vegetation, and overall watershed function. Project will support a four-person crew to perform invasive species management through and removal, chainsaws, and direct herbicide application.
\$19,647

Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation**Chis-chu Stlh-xat-dvn Naa-yvlh-sri (Roosevelt Elk Habitat Restoration) (CA)**

Increase habitat connectivity and quality for elk in Smith River, Del Norte County, California by restoring prairie and oak woodland habitat on the Nation's Tr'ee-ghii~li Property, continuing ongoing Tribal and Department collaborative elk monitoring efforts, and ultimately connect restored, high quality elk habitat treatments on Tribal land, private timber lands, and Federal land managed by the U.S. Forest Service land. Project will restore or improve more than 3,000 acres of habitat.
\$140,509

Transition Habitat Conservancy**Assessing and Restoring Off-Highway Vehicle Impacts on Conservation Lands (CA)**

Continue ongoing restoration efforts in desert tortoise critical habitat units via an established Off-Highway Vehicle program. Project will build on previous work and support more frequent monitoring visits to restoration sites as well as USGS research study to analyze the extent of soil decompaction from illegal riding off-trails.
\$132,821

TreePeople**Forest Aid within the Copper and Powerhouse Fire Scars of the Angeles National Forest (CA)**

Complete on-the-ground restoration activities in woodland, riparian, and chaparral areas of the Copper and Powerhouse fire scars in the Angeles National Forest. Project will propagate and install 7,900 seedlings, collect 20 lbs of seeds, and invasive species removal and treatment to restore habitat and establish healthy native vegetation across 206 acres.
\$1,035,167

TreePeople**Los Angeles River Corridor Urban Greening Improvement (CA)**

Provide critical nature-based infrastructure to high need communities surrounding the southern section of the Los Angeles River and greater watershed area. Project will implement community-driven urban greening projects, restoring green space and tree canopy in a region of the LA River corridor that is largely made up of heavy industrial development.
\$49,985

Truckee River Watershed Council**Restoring Headwater Meadows for Truckee River in Hoke Valley (CA)**

Restore a 25-acre degraded headwater meadow in the Truckee River system and improve overall ecological resilience in the Hoke Valley of the Tahoe National Forest in California. Project will expand on existing and planned meadow restoration activities and is designed to benefit the willow flycatcher.
\$459,660

U.S. Department of Agriculture's**U.S. Forest Service - Region 5****Expanding Nursery Capacity in Eldorado National Forest (CA)**

Increase container capacity of the Placerville Nursery in Eldorado National Forest, California to protect existing stock and meet current and future reforestation needs within the state. Project will expand pad, shade structure, and greenhouse space for growing seedlings to increase overall nursery container capacity by 1.2 million.
\$1,200,000

University of California - Davis**Monitoring Post-fire Regeneration and Restoration in Angeles National Forest (CA)**

Establish a long-term monitoring plot network for the Angeles National Forest to measure the health and recovery of trees and shrubs in the Copper fire scar area. Project will survey sixty plots to examine plant health and the presence of introduced *Phytophthora* species and other pathogens.
\$129,404

University of Wisconsin - Madison**Assessing the Diet of Barred Owls in Old-Growth Redwood Forests (CA)**

Investigate range expansion of barred owls into the Pacific Northwest and California's redwood region, which poses an existential threat to northern spotted owls. Project will conduct barred owl removals in Headwaters Forest Reserve and other BLM properties in Humboldt County and to genetically screen intestinal contents for prey they are consuming in old-growth redwood forests.
\$239,993

University of Wisconsin - Madison**Monitoring Avian Bioacoustics for Enhanced Fuels Management in the Sierra Nevada (CA)**

Implement a regional-scale bioacoustics monitoring program for assessing the effects of fuels treatment on Sierra Nevada wildlife in California. Project will marry fuels metrics and California spotted owl habitat metrics to enhance the design of fuel treatments by leveraging long term demographic and regional-scale GPS tagging data.
\$269,113

Watershed Research and Training Center**Resiliency in the Greater Trinity River Watershed (CA)**

Plan and implement four storage tank arrays and establish long-term forbearance agreements to reduce annual water withdrawals from key tributaries to the Trinity River during the summer low-flow period. Project will increase the quality and quantity of natural temporal habitats crucial to the survival of anadromous fishes and aquatic organisms in the Trinity River Watershed.
\$439,542

West Bay Sanitary District**Constructing a Living Shoreline for West Bay Sanitary District (CA)**

Create a living shoreline to protect the West Bay Sanitary District's existing facilities, underserved residents, and San Francisco Bay water quality from the current 100-year floodplain and future sea-level rise, at the Menlo Park Flow Equalization Facility and Resource Recovery site. Project will construct approximately 1,200 feet of living shoreline, 3,400 feet of sheet pile walls, conserve 0.8 acre of salt marsh, and create an additional 3.5 acres of habitat along San Francisco Bay.
\$4,884,112

Yurok Tribe**Oregon Gulch Culvert Replacement (CA)**

Complete 100% design plans and obtain environmental approvals to replace the Oregon Gulch culvert under Sky Ranch Road in Junction City. Project will open over 5 miles of suitable salmonid spawning and rearing habitat.
\$104,183

COLORADO**Backcountry Hunters and Anglers****Removing Derelict Fencing to Increase Habitat Connectivity for Big Game (CO)**

Remove derelict fencing that currently serve as a barrier for elk, mule deer and pronghorn migration and dispersal across northwest Colorado. Project will mobilize volunteers to remove 40 miles of fence to improve habitat connectivity.
\$101,148

Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust**Ranchland Conservation in Southern Great Plains (CO)**

Deliver technical assistance, develop and implement conservation projects, and support restoration, mitigation, or ecosystem services opportunities. Project will conserve 50,000 acres with grassland easements and improve critical working lands and habitat in the Southern Great Plains region of Colorado.
\$200,000

Colorado Cattlemen's Association**Increasing Grassland Resilience through Improved Grazing Management (CO)**

Convene a multi-disciplinary team of scientists and livestock producers to work together to study and identify a new set of core grazing management principles on working lands in the eastern Colorado grasslands to systematically improve resiliency and habitat quality. Project will improve management on 20,000 acres of working rangeland to improve grassland health, support biodiversity and increase carbon sequestration to improve climate resilience.
\$413,112

Colorado Department of Transportation**Increasing Habitat Connectivity and Driver Safety with Wildlife Underpasses (CO)**

Construct up to three wildlife underpass structures and install wildlife exclusionary fencing, escape ramps and deer guards along U.S. Highway 160, east of Fort Garland, Colorado to reduce wildlife vehicle collisions and connect critical habitats for both mule deer and elk. Project will significantly improve wildlife movement across the highway and increase driver safety.

\$337,500

Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation**Restoring Riparian Habitat along Rio Grande in Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge (CO)**

Improve the health and resilience of the Rio Grande in the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge by restoring riparian areas to benefit target species, including Rio Grande chub, Southwestern willow flycatcher and Northern leopard frog. Project will improve aquatic habitat complexity and connectivity, enhance native fisheries, restore native vegetation, reconnect floodplains, reduce streambank erosion and improve water quality.

\$258,050

Costilla County**Restoring Riparian and Upland Habitat in the Rio Grande Natural Area (CO)**

Restore riparian and upland habitat in the Rio Grande Natural Area to address grazing issues through strategic fencing infrastructure and new wells, and achieve improved riparian and upland vegetation and reduction of soil erosion. Project will promote river corridor connectivity, enhance water quality, provide shade for fisheries, and increase the quality of wildlife habitat.

\$350,000

Ducks Unlimited**Improving Habitat and Public Access to the Grand Valley Wetland (CO)**

Restore wetland habitat to benefit wildlife and the local community by increasing the number and diversity of wetland dependent species using the wetland and riparian forest habitat in Mesa County, Colorado. Project will restore 343 acres of wetland habitat and provide recreational opportunities for local community members.

\$200,000

Jefferson Conservation District**Restoring Forest Habitat to Benefit Big Game Species on Private, Working Lands (CO)**

Develop and manage an ecology-based forest habitat restoration project on private lands in northeastern Park County, Colorado through mechanical forest thinning methods. Project will increase structural habitat heterogeneity and improve grass, forb, and shrub quantity and quality, for the benefit of upland wildlife species.

\$100,000

Larimer County Natural Resources**Improve Elk and Mule Deer Winter Range (CO)**

Restore winter range habitat needed for mule deer and elk in Larimer, Boulder, and Jefferson counties, Colorado by controlling and eradicating invasive, annual grasses (cheatgrass and feral rye). Project will restore more than 4,300 acres through invasive grass treatments, making the landscape more resistant and resilient to future disturbances (such as wildfire) and provide critical food resources for mule deer and elk.

\$328,875

Mountain Studies Institute**Restoring Riparian and Instream Habitat on Mancos River to Improve Connectivity for Native Fish (CO)**

Restore riparian habitat and revegetate degraded floodplains, in-stream habitat and improve hydrology to benefit imperiled warm water native fish including the Roundtail Chub, Bluehead Sucker and Flannelmouth Sucker. Project will rectify two barriers for fish passage, open access to 16 miles of stream for fish refugia, restore 1.34 miles of stream geomorphology and aquatic habitat, restore 11.32 acres of floodplain, and treat 40 acres for invasive tamarisk.

\$587,388

Mule Deer Foundation**Restoring Sagebrush Rangeland Habitat through a Conservation Partnership Coordinator (CO)**

Restore habitat for mule deer, sage-grouse, and other wildlife in cross-jurisdictional sagebrush rangelands in northwest Colorado by removing invasive conifer and cheatgrass, restoring wet meadow hydrology, reintroducing native fire regimes, improving grazing management and modifying fencing to wildlife-friendly specifications. Project will increase capacity for a Northwest Colorado Sagebrush Conservation Partnership Coordinator to identify and prioritize habitat and range improvement projects on 20,000 acres.

\$383,358

National Forest Foundation**Increasing Biodiversity and Reducing Fire Risk with Cross-Jurisdictional Forestland Restoration (CO)**

Increase quality and quantity of elk and mule deer forage, reduce risk of catastrophic fire, improve forest resilience, and enhance hydrologic function in riverside upland forest habitat on public and private lands in Chaffee County, Colorado. Project will restore 425 acres of ponderosa pine woodlands, dry mixed conifer forests, aspen stands, lodgepole pine forests, and sagebrush shrublands over a three-year period.

\$305,725

Northern Colorado**Water Conservancy District****Restoring Riparian and Mesic Habitat (CO)**

Identify, prioritize, and implement activities that aim to restore habitat, stream reaches and mesic areas within affected areas of the East Troublesome Fire in Grand County, Colorado via restoration practices such as low-tech process-based restoration techniques, aerial mulching, channel stabilization, sediment basin treatments, floodplain roughening and debris removal. Project will regenerate 3 miles of stream reach habitat and mesic area ecology.

\$300,000

Pheasants Forever**Eradicating Annual Invasives to Restore Native Grassland on Private Working Rangelands (CO)**

Treat invasive annual grasses on native mixed grass and sand sagebrush habitats in targeted sections of working rangelands in Yuma County, Colorado using indaziflam herbicide, proven to be highly effective at controlling cheatgrass. Project will restore 2,500 acres of native grassland habitat to increase forage for cattle and wildlife.

\$103,393

Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust**Permanently Protecting Migratory Bird Wetland Habitat on Chokurei Ranch (CO)**

Permanently protect Chokurei Ranch in Saguache County, Colorado through a voluntary conservation easement to conserve wetland habitats that provide important landscape linkage and breeding and stopover sites for a diversity of bird species. Project will place 2,000 acres under conservation easement to ensure the ecological integrity of the Ranch remains intact.

\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Field Institute**Addressing Public Land Stewardship Needs in the Pikes Peak Region of Southern Colorado (CO)**

Construct and maintain trails, mitigate forest fire risk, provide environmental education and restore riparian areas on public lands in southern Colorado. Project will engage 1,000 community volunteers, support 100 acres of forest mitigation and restoration and support monitoring of 22 project locations.

\$30,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Expanding Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)**

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform conservation of grassland birds.

\$250,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Improve Grassland Habitat for Migratory Birds (CO, NM)

Help reverse the decline of grassland bird populations and improve grassland ecosystem health and resilience to climate change through prescribed grazing, drought management plans, maintaining grass cover, reducing woody invasion, and delivering workshops in the eastern plains of Colorado and New Mexico. Project will provide focused technical and financial support to improve 75,000 acres of private working lands.

\$315,615

Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership

Urban Greenway Wildlife Habitat and Water Quality Community Stewardship (CO)

Monitor 13 miles of an urban creek and greenway to obtain baseline water quality and wildlife habitat data to be better able to conserve the habitat and engage the community of the Sand Creek Regional Greenway. Project will engage 40 local high school students, 250 volunteers, 1 graduate fellow and 75 undergraduate students.

\$37,080

Southern Plains Land Trust

Advancing Shortgrass Prairie Conservation at Heartland Ranch Nature Preserve (CO)

Promote conservation of bison, black-footed ferret, grassland birds, and species of concern on Heartland Ranch Nature Preserve in southeastern Colorado. Project will improve grassland health, support biodiversity and increase carbon sequestration on more than 40,000 acres by improving water infrastructure, removing internal fence, and protecting ferrets and the prairie dog ecosystem from disease.

\$183,480

Southern Plains Land Trust

Permanently Protecting Grassland and Migratory Bird Habitat (CO)

Protect shortgrass prairie adjacent to Heartland Ranch Nature Preserve in Bent County, Colorado to enhance habitat connectivity and quality for many grassland species. Project will place 8,720 acres under voluntary easement to permanently protect critical nesting habitat for grassland bird species, including mountain plovers, burrowing owls and golden eagles.

\$250,000

The Corps Network

Engaging Young People in Conservation and Natural Resource Implementation

Advance both Climate Conservation Corps development and implementation Project will advance two essential priorities: climate and engaging diverse citizens in conservation action.

\$75,100

Weld County Weed Division

Eradicating Annual Invasives to Restore Native Grassland in Weld County (CO)

Restore grassland habitat on private, state and federal lands in Northern Weld County, Colorado by controlling and eradicating invasive, annual grasses with Indaziflam, a scientifically proven and widely accepted herbicide. Project will restore 4,000 acres of habitat and implement a robust educational campaign to inform stakeholders and community members of project successes.

\$174,750

White River Conservation District

Improving Big Game Winter Range and Migration Routes (CO)

Improve winter range habitat and migration routes for elk and mule deer through the management of woody species encroachment on private and public lands which are part of the Stewart Gulch Coordinated Resources Management Plan for the Oldland Ranch located southwest of Meeker, Colorado. Project will treat woody invasives on 974 acres of land, opening up areas for wildlife movement and improving the quality of both wildlife and livestock forage.

\$238,905

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Audubon Society

Creating Thriving Habitats for the Coastal Birds of Long Island Sound-VIII (CT)

Deliver targeted stewardship and provide education on American oystercatcher and other migratory shorebirds and habitat along the Long Island Sound coastline of Connecticut. Project will increase public awareness about the value of sharing the shore with these birds among recreational users and reduce disturbance to the birds' breeding and roosting sites on the Sound.

\$105,809

Connecticut Audubon Society

Restoring the Headwaters of Sasco Brook to Improve the Health Long Island Sound (CT)

Restore 14.5 acres of coastal forest and meadow at the Roy and Margot Larsen Wildlife Sanctuary in Fairfield, Connecticut. Project improve the environment of coastal forest an important habitat of Long Island Sound.

\$147,388

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Reducing Marine Debris by Removing Derelict Lobster Gear from Long Island Sound-II (CT, NY)

Remove derelict lobster pots from 18 square miles of marine waters in Connecticut and New York. Project will collect 43.5 metric tons of marine debris, restoring the marine environment of Long Island Sound.

\$115,841

Ducks Unlimited

Restoring Hammock River Marsh through Improved Hydrologic Flow Management (CT)

Develop a design to restore 185 acres of saltmarsh at Hammock River by installing self regulating tide gates in conjunction with the removal of a large tidal restriction to improve the restricted hydrological flow in the tidal system. Project will enhance fish and wildlife habitats and help ensure the community can recover from a flood event by developing a project design to allow the wetland system to store water and fully drain.

\$520,453

Earthplace - The Nature Discovery Center Engaging Student Community Scientists for Long Island Sound-V (CT)

Engage 92 student citizen scientists in six experiential learning programs about water quality and Long Island Sound ecology using rivers, harbors, and the Sound as outdoor classrooms in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Project will expose students to careers in conservation science, and improve public knowledge and understanding of the Sound.

\$52,614

Earthplace - The Nature Discovery Center Water Quality Monitoring to Improve Fairfield County Waterways and Long Island Sound-VII (CT)

Conduct water quality monitoring to help improve waters affected by pollution in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Project data will be used by local government to reduce sewage pollution in communities with waters that drain into Long Island Sound.

\$99,964

Eastern Connecticut Conservation District From Rain Gardens to Riparian Buffers: Pollinator Pathways for a Healthy Long Island Sound (CT)

Install rain gardens and riparian waterway buffers along two pollinator pathways through Groton, Stonington, Ledyard and Preston, Connecticut. Project will engage 6,400 community members with educational workshops, create habitat for native pollinators, and improve the quality of waters flowing into Long Island Sound.

\$136,160

Eastern Connecticut Conservation District Improving Water Quality Through Nature-based Infrastructure in Quanaquack Cove and Long Island Sound (CT)

Install nature-based infrastructure and apply other stormwater management tools at a coastal condominium complex in Quanaquack Cove, Stonington, Connecticut. Project will prevent 43,560 gallons of stormwater pollution from entering Stonington Harbor and Long Island Sound annually.

\$59,493

Housatonic Valley Association

Improving Water Quality with Nature-based Infrastructure (CT)
Install rain gardens at five Housatonic Habitat for Humanity homes and one community facility and conduct multilingual education about nature-based infrastructure in western Connecticut. Project will showcase nature-based infrastructure that improves water quality as well as actions individuals can take to contribute to healthier local waters and the Long Island Sound.
\$86,640

Long Island Community Foundation

Delivery of the Long Island Sound Community Stewardship Fund Program-IV (CT, NY)
Deliver the Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund of the Long Island Sound Funders Collaborative (LISFC) in the Long Island Sound Study boundaries of Connecticut and New York. Project will enhance the partnership between LISFC and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency around the common mission of restoring and protecting the health and living resources of the Sound
\$150,000

Manomet

Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)
Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.
\$120,000

National Audubon Society

Native Plants for a Bird-friendly New Haven (CT)
Enhance 6 acres in New Haven, Connecticut by engaging youth and other residents in hands-on, outdoor conservation experiences, building awareness and knowledge of how to cultivate urban public green spaces particularly for pollinators and birds. Project will employ youth and create native habitat for neo-tropical migratory songbird species and pollinators.
\$42,992

National Audubon Society

Urban Youth Stewardship of Great Meadows Marsh on Long Island Sound (CT)
Employ urban youth to restore habitat at Great Meadows Marsh at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge in Stratford, Connecticut. Project will result in stewardship activities that improve marshes, and increase both species diversity and the diversity of future conservation professionals for Long Island Sound.
\$59,742

North Central Conservation District

Planning to Reduce Water Pollution in the North Branch Park River Watershed (CT)
Enhance a watershed management plan by developing nature-based infrastructure designs, in the North Branch Park River watershed in Hartford, Connecticut. Project will advance the delivery of on-the-ground projects to improve water quality upstream in the river and downstream to Long Island Sound.
\$307,154

Save the Sound

Fish-Friendly and Flood Resilient Road-Stream Crossings in the Naugatuck Valley-II (CT)
Create six Road-Stream Crossing Management Plans in the Naugatuck Valley watershed, Connecticut. Project will be developed in concert with each town and serve as a basis for securing financing for future projects to benefit these communities and fisheries of the watershed and Long Island Sound.
\$109,618

Southwest Conservation District

Partnering with Communities to Enhance Stewardship of Long Island Sound (CT)
Collaborate with four Conservation Districts in internal environmental training and partner with local communities to identify five water quality projects of value to Long Island Sound, Connecticut. Project will increase awareness and understanding of diversity, equity, and environmental justice issues, increase capacity for future water quality project work, and enhance stewardship of local waters.
\$90,415

The Nature Conservancy

Community-driven Stormwater Nature-based Infrastructure Design in Bridgeport (CT)
Develop a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Action Plan with community-driven design in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Project will identify a portfolio of projects in collaboration with Bridgeport youth and local community members to improve the water quality of Long Island Sound.
\$174,363

The Nature Conservancy

Long Island Sound Coastal Watershed Network (CT, NY)
Grow the Long Island Sound Coastal Watershed Network, a collaborative workspace for members to share resources, best practices, and innovative ideas and build capacity advance local and regional strategies that target pollution from sewage, stormwater, fertilizers, and marine debris. Project will deliver programs that foster shared learning about ways to address pollution problems and engage members of the community, promoting cleaner, healthier waters in Long Island Sound.
\$215,000

The Trust for Public Land

Planning for Greening the Yellow Mill Channel to Improve Water Quality in the Long Island Sound (CT)
Develop a collaborative community-driven analysis to select the preferred types of nature-based infrastructure to be used at a waterfront site, Bridgeport Connecticut. Project will set the stage for improving water quality and enhancing community resilience to storms and floods in an urban coastal community of Long Island Sound.
\$120,509

Town of Clinton

Restoring Fish Passage at the Upper Mill Pond Dam (CT)
Develop a plan to install a fishway at the Upper Mill Pond Dam in Clinton, Connecticut. Project will set the stage to restore access to 5.2 miles of riverine corridor for river herring and American eel spawning and migration to Long Island Sound.
\$58,850

Town of Groton

Coastal Resilience and Sustainability Plan for the Mystic Waterfront (CT)
Develop a resiliency and sustainability plan for Mystic, Connecticut. Project will produce a strategy to address sea-level rise and climate change in this coastal community of Long Island Sound.
\$90,000

Town of Stonington

Designing a Living Shoreline to Restore Chippechaug Cove Marsh (CT)
Complete a project design to restore and expand the coastal natural systems with a living shoreline and a wet rock sill. Project will maintain marsh habitat in Chippechaug Cove and build resilience for the community against rising sea levels by buffering Chippechaug Trail roadway.
\$41,966

Town of Waterford

Renovate to Restore Fish Passage at the Jordan Millpond Dam Fishway (CT)
Renovate a damaged fishway to restore fish passage at Jordan Millpond dam, Waterford, Connecticut. Project will reconnect 2.75 miles of river corridor benefiting alewives that migrate between rivers and Long Island Sound.
\$60,000

University of Connecticut

Shell Recycling Planning to Restore Long Island Sound Oyster Reefs and Shorelines (CT)
Develop a local shell recycling program in Groton and Mystic, Connecticut. Project will engage local restaurants to generate shell for future habitat restoration projects around Long Island Sound.
\$155,890

University of New Haven**Citizen Opportunities for Accessing Science Training on the Sound (COASTS) (CT)**

Deliver community environmental training and education about the marine environment of Long Island Sound in New Haven and West Haven, Connecticut. Project will equip community members with knowledge to share about their “blue backyard” of local waters and Long Island Sound.

\$74,215

DELAWARE**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay****Establishing Builders Institute to Expand Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)**

Increase capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management.

\$399,093

Brandywine Shad 2020**Brandywine Shad 2020 Phase III (DE)**

Complete studies required to obtain the permits for the removal of barriers to fish passage or modification of the Brandywine Falls Dam near the Pennsylvania State line in Delaware. Project will set the stage for improved anadromous fish migration and provide upstream and downstream access for numerous resident fish populations in the future.

\$750,000

Caesar Rodney School District**Habitat Restoration and Education in the Caesar Rodney School District (DE)**

Continue to restore underutilized space on 14 public school campuses within the Caesar Rodney School District through a revitalized, EcoTeam Volunteer Corps, traditional coursework, district professional development, community outreach, and a growing network of community partners. Project will provide benefits to wildlife with increased intent to target listed, at-risk, and priority species’ needs while increasing equitable access to authentic place-based learning for students.

\$227,740

Center for Watershed Protection**Scaling Up Biochar Applications for Runoff Reduction in Chesapeake Bay (multiple states)**

Accelerate the rate and scale at which biochar amendments are applied in the urban landscape to support runoff reduction and improved water quality across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Project will secure new partners for widespread use of biochar amendments and provide technical assistance on sourcing and using certified biochar in a variety of urban applications.

\$699,509

City of Wilmington**Designing Wetland Restoration for South Wilmington (DE)**

Expand the design of 8-10 acres of degraded wetland to restore the site to a high functioning freshwater tidal wetland habitat. Project will further reduce flooding, enhance resiliency, restore freshwater tidal exchange, filter polluted runoff, improve soil and water quality, and restore habitat for a variety of fish and wetland and aquatic wildlife.

\$475,000

Delaware River Basin Commission**Water Resource Management Studies across the Delaware River Basin (DE, NJ, NY, PA)**

Increase and enhance water security for fish, wildlife, and humans in the Delaware River Basin by advancing research in water resource management through the completion of studies comprising four critical components of water security to understand disparities in water security in overburdened communities and water resiliency. Project will generate findings that will be used for future water security planning efforts.

\$866,938

Delaware Wild Lands**Restoring Upland Forest and Meadow Habitat in the Great Cypress Swamp (DE)**

Restore a prior agricultural field to native coastal plain upland forest and native meadow habitat on Delawares largest freshwater wetland and contiguous block of forestland. Project will restore 25 acres of habitat and nearly a half mile of riparian habitat.

\$177,565

Delaware Wild Lands**Upland Habitat Restoration and Land Protection for Critical Coastal Conservation - II (DE)**

Restore 83 acres of coastal plain seasonal ponds and contiguous tracts of forest at the Taylors Bridge Land Complex in New Castle County, Delaware. Project will build on recent land conservation and restoration success, creating high value early successional habitat, benefiting water quality of tidal wetlands, and engaging the community in habitat restoration and monitoring efforts.

\$279,397

DNREC Coastal Programs**Restoring Upland Habitats in the Blackbird Creek Watershed (DE)**

Restore a total of 27 acres of agricultural lands that are no longer in production to upland habitats at the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve, Blackbird Creek Reserve component. Project will create 22 acres of early successional, young forest habitat and 5 acres of early successional, herbaceous meadow habitat to augment poorly buffered riparian corridors and to improve water quality, forest patch size and habitat connectivity.

\$176,392

Ducks Unlimited**Accelerating Wetland Conservation for Black Duck on the Delmarva Peninsula (DE, MD, VA)**

Support a Working Lands for Wildlife Farm Bill Biologist to continue and expand outreach efforts such as workshops and publications to reach a broader range of agricultural producers including those identified as historically underserved. Project will extend an existing partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to maximize landowner participation in NRCS wetland conservation program to benefit black ducks on the Delmarva Peninsula.

\$100,000

Ducks Unlimited**Demonstrating the Utility of Low-cost Salt Marsh Restoration Techniques in Delaware Bay (DE, NJ)**

Advance a Delaware Bay-wide tidal marsh resilience program based on innovative low cost and disturbance marsh restoration techniques. Project will serve as the beginning of a programmatic approach to investigate the utility of these techniques and scale up the effort to make a more meaningful impact to the coastal wetland conservation within the Bay.

\$388,878

Lower Shore Land Trust**Implementing the Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network Strategic Plan**

Support the coordination of the Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network (DRCN), a cross-sector collaborative working to address habitat loss, climate resiliency, under-resourced communities, and water quality improvement on the Delmarva Peninsula. Project will directly support implementation of the Network’s Conservation and Restoration Strategic Action Plan.

\$38,382

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Nanticoke Watershed Alliance

Centenary Church Green Parking Lot Design (DE)
Partner with the Centenary Church in Laurel, DE to complete an engineering design to convert an existing parking lot and an adjacent property into a green parking lot for improved water quality and stormwater management. Project will build upon other nature-based infrastructure projects in the Town of Laurel and will help support improved water quality.
\$43,465

National Wildlife Federation

Delaware River Conservation Blueprint
Create a science-based Conservation Blueprint to help guide where and when to invest resources for restoration and conservation in the Delaware River Watershed. Project will create a roadmap that includes the parameters of the Blueprint, the selection of a technical provider, and the paneling of Basin partners to assist in the development of a science-based, landscape-scale strategy.
\$213,955

New Jersey Audubon Society

Building Capacity for Conservation Projects through a Mentored Small Grant Program (DE, NJ, NY PA)
Administer a small grants restoration program to provide peer mentoring opportunities to prospective grantees in the Delaware River Basin. Project will assist organizations and community groups in capacity building through on-the-ground restoration projects with an outcome of a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable and coordinated Delaware River watershed.
\$439,952

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary Capacity for Urban Waters Federal Partnership Cities through Project Planning (DE, NJ, PA)
Expand capacity in Camden, Chester, Philadelphia, and Wilmington to plan and implement community-driven habitat and water quality projects. Project will engage community groups and local decision-makers in order to implement community-led projects, such as tree plantings, installing rain gardens and native pollinator gardens, and other habitat improvement projects.
\$92,541

Riverfront Development Corporation of Delaware

A Pilot for Ecological Management of Wilmington's Riverfront (DE)
Pilot a new approach for managing the greenspaces owned and managed by the Riverfront Development Corporation along the Wilmington Riverfront in a more ecologically beneficial and river-friendly way. Project will include components of wetland restoration, nature-based infrastructure enhancement, outreach, community engagement, and strategic collaboration.
\$75,000

Shorerivers

Restoring Headwater Wetlands on Marginal Cropland in Western Delaware
Restore critical headwater freshwater shallow wetland habitat in the upper Choptank and Chester watersheds in Delaware. Project will restore 32 acres of marginal cropland to high quality freshwater wetland habitat.
\$499,100

Sustainable Chesapeake Improving Nutrient Management Programs through Collaboration (multiple states)

Improve nutrient management program delivery by facilitating collaboration among nutrient management leaders throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. Project will improve collaboration among land grant universities in the region, working across state lines with those leading the development of agricultural nutrient management recommendations across the watershed.
\$65,910

The Nature Conservancy

Increasing Capacity for Improving Aquatic Passageways to Accelerate Habitat Improvement in Delaware River (DE, NJ, NY, PA)
Add capacity and expertise for aquatic passage restoration in the Delaware River Basin by leveraging an existing collaboration and offering new training opportunities throughout the basin. Project will support efficient habitat restoration, increase recreation, and reduce risk by increasing capacity and expertise among conservation practitioners, fish and wildlife agencies, local governments, and dam safety programs.
\$106,965

University of Delaware

Diadromous Fish Habitat Studies in the Red Clay, White Clay, and Christina Watersheds (DE)
Conduct surveys of diadromous fish abundance and habitat utilization at three tributaries of the Delaware River, as well as explore the feasibility of providing fish passage at 11 dams along Red Clay Creek. Project will complete the first step to restoring diadromous and resident fish passage to 13 miles and 153 acres of spawning habitat.
\$174,185

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Establishing Builders Institute to Expand Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)
Increase regional capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects more efficiently and effectively by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management.
\$399,093

Center for Watershed Protection

Scaling Up Biochar Applications for Runoff Reduction in Chesapeake Bay (multiple states)
Accelerate the rate and scale at which biochar amendments are applied in the urban landscape to support runoff reduction and improved water quality across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Project will secure new partners for widespread use of biochar amendments and provide technical assistance on sourcing and using certified biochar in a variety of urban applications.
\$699,509

Chesapeake Commons

FieldDoc Implementation for Restoration Tracking in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (DC)
Support Chesapeake Program staff with necessary planning and development to extend FieldDoc's capabilities. Project will support multi-program reporting, integration of water quality monitoring efforts at the best management practice scale, and opening the system's application programming interface for use across NFWF's data science team.
\$126,914

Department of Energy and Environment

Correcting DC Sewer Systems to Benefit Anacostia Watershed Communities
Reduce sanitary sewer discharges in underserved communities in the Anacostia River watershed through an innovative approach to community engagement in planning, prioritizing, and financing sanitary sewer corrections.
\$180,000

ecoLatinos

Nature-based Infrastructure Training for Latino Landscape Professionals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (DC, MD, VA)
Develop and implement a culturally relevant Spanish language nature-based infrastructure training for landscape professionals across Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Project will train 36 professionals and serve as a replicable model for engaging new communities in regional watershed restoration efforts.
\$252,746

National Wildlife Federation

Building and Advancing Capacity of Chesapeake Nonprofits to Accelerate Water Quality Improvements (multiple states)
Coordinate efforts to create a more inclusive and diverse Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration movement and support regional and watershed-wide convenings to improve collaboration and impact among nearly 300 nonprofits working towards Bay restoration.
\$286,543

Rock Creek Conservancy

Planning for Rock Creek Park's Forests (DC)
Create a landscape-scale plan to restore and maintain the forests in the Rock Creek watershed while engaging community members in people-powered restoration to sustain this restoration beyond Rock Creek Park's borders.
\$74,935

The Corps Network

Engaging Young People in Conservation and Natural Resource Implementation (DC)
Advance both Conservation Corps development and implementation and expansion across the Forest Service and sister land management agencies. Project will enroll a young, talented person to provide critical staff capacity will advance two essential priorities for the Service – climate and engaging diverse citizens in conservation action.
\$75,100

Thurgood Marshall College Fund

2022 NFWF Summer Scholars Program - Thurgood Marshall College Fund (DC)
Leverage the TMCF outreach systems and campus relationships to communicate internship opportunities to the broad HBCU markets and provide NFWF with the best candidates for open internship positions. Project will place 20 graduate and undergraduate students from HBCUs in internships to enhance the recruitment of diverse professionals within the conservation community.
\$417,574

University of Alaska Anchorage

2022 NFWF Summer Scholars Program (AK, DC)
Support the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) to identify and support underrepresented students for the 2022 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Scholars Program. Project will fund a total of ten ANSEP university students who will work in these conservation-based NFWF internships in Washington, DC.
\$352,810

FLORIDA**Alachua Conservation Trust**

Increasing Technical Assistance to Improve Habitat for Gopher Tortoise and Bobwhite Quail (FL)
Increase staff capacity to provide technical assistance on engaging in conservation practices and Farm Bill programs to agricultural producers in areas that contain gopher tortoise and bobwhite quail in north and central Florida. Project will protect 1,500 acres under an easement and implement 15 best practices management plans.
\$345,059

Alachua Conservation Trust

Ocala Regional Implementation Team Private Landowner Prescribed Fire Assistance (FL)
Assist the 70 members of the North Florida Prescribed Burn Association to plan and complete 750 acres of prescribed burns in longleaf habitat on private lands in North Central Florida. Project will train private landowners to build experience, skills, and confidence using fire as a management tool to enhance longleaf habitat for fire-dependent species across the counties that comprise the Ocala Local Implementation Team working area.
\$82,000

Alachua Conservation Trust

Technical Assistance for Conservation Easement Rangeland Management Plans in Florida
Provide technical assistance to landowners whose property is enrolled in federally protected Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs (ACEP). Project will facilitate the coordination between landowners, agencies and other stakeholders to create effective management for at least 90 properties at 125,000 acres primarily in watersheds that affect south Florida estuaries, Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades ecosystems, reducing management impacts on regional water quality and aquatic species.
\$326,504

American Forest Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Longleaf Restoration to Benefit At-Risk and Listed Species (FL, LA, MS)
Restore and maintain longleaf pine forests in Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi to benefit populations of at-risk and listed species, such as gopher tortoise, southern hognose snake, and red-cockaded woodpecker. Project will provide technical and financial assistance to restore or maintain more than 1,100 acres of longleaf pine habitat and secure long-term agreements with family forest owners to provide access to the land for monitoring the effects of these activities on species populations.
\$154,000

Bonefish and Tarpon Trust

Restoring Hydrologic Connectivity of Mangrove Wetlands in Florida
Design two mangrove habitat restoration projects in Collier County, that will restore the ability of these habitats to buffer against sea-level rise and storm effects as well as protecting coastal communities and recreational fisheries. Project will include wetland characterization, sensitive species surveys, historic imagery review, hydrological monitoring, tidal conditions assessments, wildlife evaluations, and overall preliminary habitat restoration designs.
\$250,000

City of Mexico Beach

Phase II: Post Hurricane Michael Marine Debris Removal in Mexico Beach (FL)
Remove approximately 1,100 cubic yards of marine debris located along the shoreline of Mexico Beach. Project will remove of marine debris deposited immediately offshore as a result of Hurricane Michael assisting the City's economic recovery and provide safe habitat for nesting endangered sea turtles.
\$495,639

City of Tampa

Palmetto Beach Living Coastline and Community Engagement (FL)
Design a living shoreline and/or offshore breakwater that incorporates future sea level projections, port expansion, ecosystem needs and asset value for the community. Project will create a new model for data collection, visualization and communication to facilitate community dialogue.
\$200,000

Coral Restoration Foundation

Increasing Coral Nursery Capacity to Support Mission Iconic Reefs (FL)
Expand coral nursery capacity in support of Mission Iconic Reefs by generating outplant-ready stocks of species: *D. cylindrus* and *M. cavernosa*, and strengthening nursery structures. Project will develop the infrastructure to support long-term coral restoration goals for both fast-growing and slow-growing coral species.
\$205,500

Florida Conservation Group

Managing Central and South Florida's Ranchlands to Improve Water Quality
Provide technical assistance to south-central Florida's ranchers enrolled in NRCS cost-share programs to develop grazing and other management plans that utilize best management practices for prescribed grazing and burning. Project will improve cattle and land management through prescribed fire and rotational grazing, decreasing soil compaction and nutrient run-off, as well as encouraging native vegetation retention and wildlife habitat, thus improving quality and quantity of surface water.
\$599,232

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Enhancing Landscape Connectivity through Acquisition within the Apalachicola River Ecosystem (FL)
Acquire approximately 31,997 acres of land that supports ecosystem functions and contains critical habitats including wetlands, floodplain and uplands within the Apalachicola River ecosystem in Florida. Project will protect this unique Florida landscape and ensure the land is managed to conserve and restore
\$750,000

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Assessing the Effect of Spotted Spiny Lobster Densities on Coral Rehabilitation (FL)

Evaluate the role of spotted spiny lobsters in aiding coral restoration efforts. Project will study the affect of lobster populations on both algal cleaning and corallivore consumption to determine the degree which lobsters can be employed for biocontrol and reef rehabilitation.

\$99,838

Forest Landowners Association Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.

\$250,000

Manomet

Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue monitoring program built around night roosts.

\$120,000

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Recovery along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Museum of Science

Habitat Restoration in Miami-Dade County (FL)

Promote community stewardship by making natural areas accessible for educational, recreational and ecological purposes as a part of the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science's Museum Volunteers for the Environment program. Project will enhance three coastal ecosystems, including two dunes and one coastal hammock.

\$42,104

Reef Renewal USA

Expanding Genetic Diversity in Coral Nurseries in the Florida Keys (FL)

Increase capacity and genetic diversity in offshore coral nurseries to support Mission: Iconic Reefs in the Florida Keys. Project will add 25 genotypes from 10 new species of coral to existing offshore nurseries, and develop techniques for propagating, rearing, and outplanting.

\$150,000

Mote Marine Laboratory

Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Reef Fish Fishery Electronic Monitoring (FL)

Streamline artificial intelligence driven data collection processes by creating a repeatable process for generating data and algorithms. Project will make strides in applying artificial intelligence in the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery to serve as a foundation for providing more timely and efficient data for management and industry applications.

\$349,000

NOAA Fisheries

Non-invasive Diet Characterization of Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA)

Test the use of stable isotopes to analyze dietary composition for Southern Resident killer whales in the Salish Sea using naturally occurring chemical tracers. Project will measure how stable isotopes in fecal matter and breath samples reflect diets from a feeding study on captive killer whales and compare to archived collected samples from Southern Resident killer whales.

\$148,760

Santa Rosa County

Living Shoreline Assessment and Design for Navarre Beach in Santa Rosa County (FL)

Assess, characterize and design a nature based living shoreline along 1,400 linear feet of coastal shoreline on Santa Rosa Sound. Project will develop designs to address severe coastal erosion due to historical storm surges, sea-level rise, waves and wind action, protecting Navarre Beach Utilities Wastewater Treatment Plant, and restore estuarine aquatic habitat within the northeastern Gulf of Mexico.

\$250,000

Sea Turtle Conservancy

Increasing Sea Turtle Survivorship by Strengthening Local Lighting Ordinances in Florida

Assist local governments across Florida in updating their lighting ordinances to align with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's newly adopted Model Lighting Ordinance for Sea Turtle Protection. Project will support sustained reduction of hatchling disorientation for loggerhead, leatherback, and green sea turtles through darker nesting habitat for adults and hatchlings.

\$110,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem (AL, FL)

Restore the longleaf pine ecosystem, with a focus on improving habitat and conservation of several rare species in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem, such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise, and Bachman's sparrow. Project will improve more than 181,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat through prescribed burns, control of invasive species, and plantings of longleaf pine and groundcover, and will reach 900 landowners in Alabama and Florida with education and technical assistance.

\$565,000

The Nature Conservancy

Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

The Nature Conservancy

Improving Longleaf Pine Habitat in the Apalachicola Partnership Landscape (FL, GA)

Restore and manage more than 32,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat within the Florida Panhandle located between the Aucilla and Choctawhatchee rivers. Project will plant longleaf pine, implement prescribed fire, thinning and invasive species treatments in existing longleaf habitat on the Apalachicola National Forest and other public lands, and provide financial assistance to private landowners to restore longleaf pine, improving habitat for the eastern indigo snake and Bachman's sparrow.

\$450,000

The Nature Conservancy

Planning Coastal Resilience and Ecosystem Restoration at Tyndall Air Force Base (FL)

Design the reconstruction of Tyndall Air Force Base through restoring dunes, salt marshes, and oyster reefs to make the base more resilient and provide habitat for coastal resident and migratory species. Project will gather data and develop engineering designs and permits to implement four projects to enhance habitats critical for biodiversity and military infrastructure resilience along 6,000 feet of shoreline.

\$4,800,000

The Trust for Tomorrow**Protecting Critical Habitat and Water Quality through Grazing Management Plans (FL)**

Provide technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to provide grazing management plans and implement conservation practices that will improve water quality and quantity, while protecting critical habitats and creating carbon benefits. Project will result in 55,000 acres under grazing management throughout Florida; development of 240 grazing management plans; outreach, education, and technical assistance to 240 private landowners; and implementation of conservation actions by 240 landowners.
\$681,110

GEORGIA**Decatur Legacy Project****Legacy Park Restoration and Environmental Education (GA)**

Provide erosion and sediment build-up mitigation through the installation of a boardwalk along 77-acre pond site. Project will expand recreational opportunities to create a welcoming and engaging place for a strong and diverse community, providing safer access to the pond and wetlands for students participating in environmental field trips, while also facilitating greenspace preservation, building affordable housing and artist spaces.
\$50,000

Flint River Soil and Water**Conservation District****Water Conservation in the Lower Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin (GA)**

Expand adoption of water conservation practices within the lower Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin orchard industry through capacity building and outreach. Project will reach over 1,000 local producers and partners and implement irrigation efficiency practices/management plans across 400 acres, and provide flow resiliency to benefit state and federally listed species, such as the gulf sturgeon, gulf striped bass, Dougherty plain cave crayfish, and the Georgia blind salamander.
\$49,839

Forest Landowners Association**Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.
\$250,000

Georgia Department of Natural Resources**Estimating the Northbound Passage Population of Red Knot in the Georgia Bight (GA, SC)**

Assess the red knot population along the coast of Georgia and South Carolina through band resighting, trapping and tagging to provide a population estimate and inform the management of Red Knot in the Georgia Bight. Project will fill critical data gaps on Red Knot to help guide habitat management and assess life-cycle threats for red knots and other high priority shorebird species.
\$75,000

Georgia Forestry Commission**Restoring Longleaf Pine and Bottomland Hardwood Habitats on Private Lands in South Georgia**

Engage family forest landowners in a 37-county southern Georgia priority area to improve longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitat for at-risk species, such as gopher tortoise and eastern indigo snake, through the promotion of prescribed fire and plantings. Project will provide outreach and assistance to approximately 300 forest owners and improve management practices on more than 11,750 acres of high-priority longleaf pine habitat and 150 acres of bottomland hardwood habitat.
\$450,000

Georgia Forestry Commission**Restoring Shortleaf Pine and Oak Habitat in the Georgia Cumberlands - II**

Restore and enhance shortleaf pine and shortleaf pine-oak savannah habitat on private lands in north western Georgia, benefiting northern bobwhite, prairie warbler, pine warbler, Bachman's sparrow and other forest dependent birds. Project will establish 300 acres of shortleaf pine and enhance an additional 1,800 acres of existing shortleaf pine and shortleaf pine-oak savannah habitat with prescribed burning and mid-rotation management techniques.
\$260,000

Georgia Wildlife Federation**Restoring Wildlife Habitat and Longleaf Pine on Private Lands in Georgia**

Identify and engage at least 40 landowners to provide one-on-one wildlife and forestry technical assistance to establish and enhance 2,350 acres of longleaf pine habitat, and enhance 150 acres of bottomland hardwoods on private lands in Georgia. Project will focus on wildlife habitat management as an entry point to private lands management and collaborate with partners on outreach needs with a specific focus on lands between and adjacent to Longleaf Significant Geographic Areas.
\$300,000

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.
\$205,000

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.
\$120,000

National Wildlife Federation**Engaging Underserved Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Expand outreach, education, and technical and financial resources for historically underserved landowners to restore and manage longleaf pine habitat across the longleaf pine range. Partners will engage 500 landowners through outreach events, workshops, demonstration sites and hands-on trainings to restore and manage more than 1,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat benefiting Bachman's sparrow, northern bobwhite and other longleaf-dependent species.
\$425,000

New Jersey Audubon Society**Surveying American Horseshoe Crab as a Critical Element of Red Knot Conservation (Multiple States)**

Implement surveys and recovery metrics used in Delaware Bay to characterize and track the status of horseshoe crab populations in six Atlantic Coast states. Project will inform natural resource agencies, supporting the recovery of horseshoe crab populations outside of Delaware Bay, with a goal of rebuilding a network of shorebird stopovers, and advancing the recovery of rufa red knot and other Arctic-nesting shorebirds.
\$60,000

Okefenokee Swamp Park**Okefenokee Swamp Park Invasive Species Removal and Habitat Restoration (GA)**

Restore a half-acre subsection of land in the Okefenokee Swamp in Southeastern Georgia through the removal of invasive plant species and replanting of native species. Project will engage five community partners, 300 K-12 students and 20 local community volunteers in active invasive species removal, native species replanting, education and protection of the watershed. **\$25,463**

Paint Rock Forest Research Center**Southern Cumberlands Shortleaf Pine Seed and Seedling Initiative (AL, GA, TN)**

Address the lack of genetically appropriate shortleaf pine seed and seedling resources for reforestation and restoration. Project will identify appropriate seed banks within Tennessee and Alabama; collect seeds to support three years of propagation; send seeds to processing and storage centers; select appropriate nurseries for propagation; produce over 75,000 seedlings ready for distribution to vetted projects in the second year of the grant; and develop plans for a permanent seed orchard. **\$266,935**

Southern Conservation Trust**The Ridge Nature Area: Ecological Restoration Plan (GA)**

Restore ecological diversity of the Ridge Nature Area, located in Fayetteville, Georgia, by removing invasive plant species and installing native vegetation. Project will utilize best management practices to increase biodiversity, support existing wildlife and attract additional species. **\$35,000**

The Longleaf Alliance**Advancing Longleaf Restoration and Management in the Fort Stewart/Altamaha Area (GA)**

Develop a conservation plan for the Fort Stewart/Altamaha Longleaf Partnership, engage private landowners through outreach and technical assistance, and support longleaf pine habitat management and reforestation benefiting the red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's sparrow, gopher tortoise and associated fauna species. Project will implement 17,250 acres of prescribed fire, remove encroaching hardwoods and thin pine stands to improve habitat on 2,225 acres and plant 530 acres of longleaf pine. **\$375,000**

The Nature Conservancy**Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration in the Talladega Mountains (AL, GA)**

Restore and maintain the unique montane longleaf ecosystem in the foothills of the Appalachians in Alabama and Georgia through the increased use of prescribed fire and support of longleaf pine reforestation efforts. Prescribed fire crews will assist public and private landowners, including Talladega National Forest, with burning 20,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat and partners will restore 2,125 acres of longleaf through plantings, and will target 400 landowners through outreach and education. **\$375,000**

The Nature Conservancy**Improving Fish Passage for Aquatic Organisms in the Holly Creek Watershed of Northwest Georgia (II)**

Improve connectivity in the Holly Creek watershed in Northwest Georgia by replacing an undersized plastic culvert at Yellow Creek and Piney Road, which will open 1.9 miles of fish passage. Project will address a significant barrier to aquatic species passage and greatly reduce sediment loading from active erosion around the culvert, benefiting species including the trispot darter, bridled darter, blue shiner, Coosa creekshell and Alabama rainbow. **\$250,000**

The Nature Conservancy**Improving Longleaf Pine Habitat in the Apalachicola Partnership Landscape (FL, GA)**

Restore and manage more than 32,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat within the Florida Panhandle located between the Aucilla and Choctawhatchee rivers. Project will plant longleaf pine, implement prescribed fire, thinning and invasive species treatments in existing longleaf habitat on the Apalachicola National Forest and other public lands, and provide financial assistance to private landowners to restore longleaf pine, improving habitat for the eastern indigo snake and Bachman's sparrow. **\$450,000**

Trees Atlanta**Better Forests for Cleaner Streams - Proctor Creek Greenway Forest Restoration (GA)**

Improve and restore 10.6 acres of upland pine, late succession and wetland forest through invasive species removal, native replanting, on-site volunteer education and community engagement along Proctor Creek in Atlanta, Georgia. Project will plant 150 native shrubs and 150 native trees to repopulate the understory forest layer, engage 200 volunteers, work with 400 members of the community through outreach and education and reach 22,500 people with promotional material on the project's benefits. **\$41,656**

University of Georgia Research Foundation**Nature-Based Restoration of Shoals in the Conasauga River (GA, TN)**

Restore three shoals in the in the Upper Conasauga River mainstem through the addition of logs and the re-establishment of American water willow and riverweed. Project will improve habitat quality for imperiled fishes and mussels within the Conasauga River, a hot spot for freshwater biodiversity, and provide information essential to the management and conservation of target species. **\$213,340**

WaterWays**Chattanooga Creek Education, Litter Abatement and Nature-based Infrastructure (TN, GA)**

Provide environmental workshops for community adults, monitor microplastics, E. coli, and chemical parameters of water quality and install nature-based infrastructure and trees in neighborhoods along the Chattanooga Creek Watershed. Project will remove over 1 ton of litter from watershed, and compile data for one year leading to long-term litter reduction plan while educating over 200 4th graders. **\$50,147**

HAWAI'I**Ai.Fish****Operationalizing Machine Learning in Fixed Gear Electronic Monitoring Program**

Develop and deploy a cloud-based software system for processing electronic monitoring video data using machine learning, incorporate machine learning processing into data review, and conduct a study on the effects of using machine learning to assist review. Project will improve efficiency for data analysis in Alaska and disseminate best practices for implementing machine learning in data review in Alaska and other fisheries. **\$250,000**

American Bird Conservancy**Saving Hawai'i's Imperiled Forest Birds XIV (HI)**

Continue conservation activities to protect forest birds in Hawai'i. Project will: 1) restore native dry forest and maintain 48 miles of fence around palila critical habitat on Hawai'i, 2) conduct cat, rat, and mongoose control on 16,270 acres on Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island, 3) survey and monitor kiwiviu and palila populations, 4) conduct mosquito surveys on Kaua'i and Maui, and 5) support coordination of the Birds, Not Mosquitoes committee to develop and deploy a landscape-scale mosquito control tool. **\$270,000**

College of Charleston**Mitigation of Chondria Tumulosa Spread in Papahānaumokuākea (HI, SC)**

Utilize satellite imagery and invertebrates to monitor and understand invasive Chondria's spread in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Project will create distributional maps, Best Management Practices, and train resource managers to decrease the spread of Chondria.

\$174,030

Hawai'i Department of Hawaiian Home Lands**Developing Community Resilience for Molokai Coastal Homesteads (HI)**

Develop a resilience plan for homestead communities on the island of Molokai through scientific analyses and modeling of projected sea-level rise, flooding, groundwater upwelling and other increasing coastal hazards. Project will identify priorities for projects that will stabilize and restore shorelines, mitigate coastal flooding and sedimentation, and emphasize culturally grounded, nature-based solutions.

\$203,941

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources**Enhancing Flood Mitigation Through Invasive Species Control for a Resilient Ala Wai Watershed (HI)**

Mitigate flood risks in the Ala Wai watershed on O'ahu by controlling invasive plant species, albizia and mulesfoot fern, and accelerating the complete eradication of miconia from O'ahu. Project will control and monitor an estimated 1,000 albizia trees across 669 acres, treat all miconia plants detected during surveys across 4,000 acres, and treat mule's foot ferns across 200 acres.

\$1,640,830

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources**Increasing Military Installation Resilience and Mitigating Rare Plant Impacts (HI)**

Construct 10 miles of ungulate-proof fence, build 10.75 miles of new firebreaks to protect over 1,900 acres of native habitat, and outplant 7,000 native plants consisting of 25 species to restore mixed wet and dry forests on Hawai'i Island and O'ahu. Project will provide landscape-level protection from invasive ungulates; protect sensitive habitats by reducing fire risk; and create new populations of endangered, threatened, and at-risk plant species on state managed lands.

\$1,280,591

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources**Initiating a Reintroduction Strategy for 'Alala in Maui Nui (HI)**

Support a reintroduction program for 'alala, a culturally significant bird that currently exists only in captive breeding facilities, to establish a self-sustaining wild population in Maui Nui, Hawai'i. Project will increase capacity for two 'alala monitoring associates who will be responsible for assessing bird condition, following movements, recording behavior of released birds, and will integrate lessons learned from past reintroduction efforts.

\$99,241

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources**Supporting Reintroduction and Recovery of 'Alae 'Ula in Hawai'i (HI)**

Conduct a reintroduction feasibility study for 'alae 'ula (Hawaiian common gallinule) to support recovery efforts for establishing a new population on a third island in Hawai'i. Project will identify source populations, model population scenarios, create site assessment criteria and conduct preliminary post-site assessments on potential translocation sites, and engage local community members and organizations to develop partnerships to provides ongoing support and expertise.

\$41,870

Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources**Relocate Corals in Honolulu Harbor to Prevent Damage from Dredging (HI)**

Mitigate damage to coral clusters in the Honolulu Harbor entrance. Project will rescue 77 at risk coral colonies from the harbor prior to dredging operations and attached the coral to larger reef structures.

\$30,270

Hawai'i Longline Association**Reducing Seabird Bycatch through Tori Line Distribution in the Hawai'i Longline Fisheries (HI)**

Deploy tested tori line systems in the Hawai'i deep-set longline fishery to reduce bycatch and albatross mortality. Project will fabricate and distribute approximately 80 tori line systems for stern setting vessels as part of an updated mitigation strategy to reduce albatross interactions in the fishery.

\$65,000

Kuleana Coral Reefs**Reef Restoration of Airport Reef Runway (HI)**

Collect and outplant 350 large mature corals of opportunity in the Airport Reef Runway area and will closely document all efforts along with coral outplant survival to create a clear vision of operational coral restoration in Hawaiian waters. Project will directly consult with and provide all data to the NOAA-Damage Assessment Remediation and Restoration Program (DARRP), and Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR).

\$34,327

Malama Maunaloa**Utilizing a Traditional Framework to Minimize Flood in Maunaloa Bay Watersheds (HI)**

Develop a plan utilizing an ahupuaa, a traditional division of land, concept to address flooding in several watersheds that feed into Maunaloa Bay, O'ahu, Hawai'i. Project will address the serious flooding issues confronting residential, commercial, and environmental resources surrounding Maunaloa Bay by reducing the volume of the stormwater runoff in priority areas through increased filtration with revegetation in natural areas and by slowing down or capturing the water from urban areas.

\$262,312

Malama Maunaloa**Utilizing a Traditional Framework to Minimize Flooding in Maunaloa Bay Watersheds (HI)**

Develop final plans utilizing ahupuaa, a land division roughly equivalent to a watershed, to address flooding and erosion risk in several watersheds of Maunaloa Bay, O'ahu, Hawai'i. Project will utilize nature-based infrastructure solutions to reduce runoff and adapt streams to mimic natural flow in order to reduce flooding and erosion.

\$1,506,747

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council**Building Resiliency of the Kihei Reef Tract Through Land-based Pollutant Reduction (HI)**

Reduce land-based pollutant concentrations along the Kihei reef tract through recommended practices. Project will mitigate pollution of nutrients and sediment and close gaps in current reef and water quality monitoring to support conservation management.

\$300,000

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council**Conducting Site Assessments and Planning to Address Recurring Coastal Flooding (HI)**

Conduct site assessments and planning of proposed nature based solutions, including Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance methods, to address recurring stormwater flooding in Hapapa watershed impacting the coastal community of Kihei, Hawai'i. Project will create a workplan for site design, with the goal of preventing property and infrastructure damage due to stormwater flooding and protecting wetland bird habitat, native plant species, nearshore coral reef ecosystems and marine wildlife.

\$210,000

Na Maka Onaona**Innovating Management Strategies to Protect Terrestrial and Marine Species at Lalo (HI)**

Develop biocultural process to identify and assess management options for terrestrial and marine species at risk from sea-level rise. Project will convene a group of experts to establish a list of management options for Lalo (French Frigate Shoals).

\$100,000

**North Shore Community Land Trust
Kalou Fishpond Restoration (HI)**

Enhance over 18 acres of wetland and surrounding area through the removal of invasive trees and shrubs on the north shore of O'ahu, Hawai'i, which will provide wetland and terrestrial habitat benefiting endangered and indigenous waterbirds and fish. Project will result in 3.2 acres of restored terrestrial native vegetation, 4.9 acres of open freshwater pond habitat, 9.3 acres of fenced pasture and 1.4 acres of open grassed area. **\$50,000**

Pacific Rim Conservation

Creating Resilient Tropical Seabird Colonies through Translocation (HI and MEX) - II
Transport 36 black-footed albatross eggs from Midway Atoll in Hawai'i to Guadalupe Island, Mexico to help establish a new high island breeding colony at this site. Project will place translocated eggs into foster nests of Laysan albatross on Guadalupe Island and deploy social attraction using decoys and playbacks of vocalizations to provide stimuli for chicks to help with imprinting and to attract prospecting adult black-footed albatross. **\$95,825**

Pacific Rim Conservation

Developing a Predator-Free Nesting Area for Hawaiian Petrel in Hawai'i (HI)
Construct a predator-proof fence to protect 3 acres of seabird habitat for Hawaiian petrel in the Kohala mountains. Project will initiate social attraction for Hawaiian petrel and Newell's shearwater to increase the numbers nesting within the protected area, remove predators, and conduct ground searches for possible breeding locations of both seabird species on O'ahu and Kauai. **\$408,839**

Pacific Rim Conservation

Improving Predator Control on O'ahu (HI) - II
Continue rat control in the Honolulu Watershed Forest Reserve on O'ahu to protect O'ahu elepaio from rat predation. Project will improve the efficacy of rat control methods and expand the scale of trapping activities into 3 new territories for a total of 45 territories under management resulting in increased O'ahu elepaio reproductive success and supporting population growth. **\$29,467**

Papahānaumokuākea

Marine Debris Project
Increasing Capacity for Marine Debris Removal from Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (HI)
Remove large scale debris from coral reefs and shorelines of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and implement strategies to improve removal practices. Project will aim to remove 110 metric tons of marine debris to mitigate impacts to protected wildlife species and marine habitat. **\$2,186,580**

Pono Pacific Land Management

Improving Native Habitat for 'Ua'u on Lana'i (HI)
Identify and establish a 10-acre area to initiate systematic removal of invasive plants to promote regeneration of native species and increase vegetative cover within 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel) nesting habitat on Lana'i. Project will perform herbicide treatment and physical removal of invasive plants, and conduct native seed collection, nursery propagation, outplanting, and outreach events in partnership with the local community. **\$36,426**

Pulama Lanai

Protecting Endangered Seabirds through Predator-Proof Fencing and Eradication on Lāna'i (HI)
Eradicate non-native rodents from a recently completed predator-proof fence on the island of Lāna'i, to protect 80 acres of dense nesting habitat for Hawaiian petrels. Project will complete necessary compliance and eradicate non-native rodents, cats, and deer from the protected area and monitor predator presence within and around the fenced project area. **\$64,900**

The Nature Conservancy

Assessment of Kiwikiu and Mosquito Populations in Waikamoi Preserve, East Maui - III (HI)
Continue assessing the status of the western subpopulation of kiwikiu (Maui parrotbill) and mosquitoes carrying avian disease in the Waikamoi Preserve on Maui. Project will fill information gaps on the presence, distribution, abundance, and seasonality of kiwikiu and avian malaria carrying mosquitoes that are essential to developing an effective landscape-level mosquito control strategy. **\$53,000**

University of Hawaii

Establishing Water Quality Targets for Nutrient Inputs to Coral Reefs in West Maui (HI)
Monitor nutrient pollution and coastal acidification across population fluctuations and wastewater infrastructure upgrades. Project will assist management by developing quantitative water quality targets to support the recovery and resiliency of the Kahekili coral reef ecosystem. **\$176,815**

University of Hawaii

Formulating a Resiliency Strategy to Address Climate Impacts at Lalo (HI)
Formulate an inter-agency resiliency strategy to maintain ecosystems that include birds, coral, green sea turtles, and monk seals at French Frigate Shoals (Lalo). Project will explore innovative management options for terrestrial and marine species through research and workshops. **\$45,000**

University of Hawaii

Restoring Coastal Dunes to Improve Community Resilience and Enhance Wildlife Habitat (HI)
Restore 12 acres of impaired coastal sand dunes at Kapukaulua to address impacts of coastal hazards and enhance habitat for native Hawaiian plants and animals including wedgetailed shearwaters, Hawaiian green sea turtles, and endangered Hawaiian monk seals. Project will preserve and restore dunes along 1 mile of shoreline to reduce impacts of erosion, sea-level rise, and high wave flooding. **\$1,435,665**

University of Hawaii

Understanding Chondria Spread at Papahānaumokuākea (HI)
Detect and characterize Chondria spread and potential impacts using eDNA. Project will seek to understand the dynamics of the Chondria outbreak to increase management options. **\$115,969**

IDAHO

Idaho Department of Water Resources

Identifying, Assessing, Prioritizing and Implementing Water Transactions in the Upper Salmon and Teton River Basins (ID)
Identify, assess, prioritize, and implement new water transactions in the Upper Salmon and Teton River Basins. Project will improve tributary flows for the benefit of Snake River Spring/Summer-run Chinook salmon, Snake River steelhead, and native trout populations. **\$301,297**

Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Improving Big Game Migration across US-95 in the Panhandle Complex Priority Area (ID)
Improve habitat connectivity for big game species in north Idaho's Panhandle Complex Priority Area where a busy two-lane highway (US-95) transects the valley, impeding wildlife movement. Project will improve big game passage success rates across US-95 from an average of 162 to at least 500 crossings per year and reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions by repairing and extending 2.8 miles of wildlife funnel fencing along wildlife crossing infrastructure. **\$289,667**

Nez Perce Tribe

Increase Flow Restoration Efforts in the Nez Perce Tribal Geographies (ID, OR, WA)
Increase flow restoration efforts in the Nez Perce tribal geographies. Project will increase tribal capacity to coordinate with other groups developing water transactions within the broad geography of ceded lands, and also enable the Tribe to propose transactions uniquely linked to tribal relationships, tribal treaty rights, and tribal sovereignty. **\$17,617**

Sustainable Northwest**Building a Regenerative Ranching Economy in the West (ID, NV, OR)**

Launch and enroll producers in a voluntary regenerative ranching program across Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada to provide customized regenerative management plans, technical assistance and establish baseline data and monitoring for each ranch to measure impacts. Project will implement regenerative ranching practices to benefit core sage grouse habitat, soil health, carbon sequestration and water conservation.

\$281,108

ILLINOIS**American Farmland Trust****Coordinating Cover Crop Adoption to Conserve Natural Resources in Illinois**

Coordinate technical and financial support and develop an outreach campaign to help farmers increase the adoption of cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat systems throughout Illinois. Project will support the adoption of cover crops on 75,000 acres to enhance soil health, improve water resources, and provide benefit to wildlife while providing economic benefits to participating farmers.

\$566,817

**Association of State Floodplain Managers
Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)**

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.

\$260,851

Chicago Park District**Improving Upland and Hemi-Marsh Habitats to Support Migratory Waterfowl at Hegewisch Marsh Park (IL)**

Enhance 60 acres of mixed habitat types, including 23 acres of hemi-marsh and 37 acres of adjacent savanna, wet prairie, and vernal pools at Hegewisch Marsh Park on Chicago's southeast side. Project will improve ecological health and suitability for key species of establishing native plant communities, and grading marsh banks to a more natural slope.

\$340,396

Ducks Unlimited**Implementing Farm Bill Programs to Benefit Wetlands Along Mississippi River (MO, IL, KY)**

Promote and implement Farm Bill conservation programs with private landowners within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley of southeast Missouri, southwest Illinois, and western Kentucky to restore and enhance wetland habitat. Project will engage a minimum of 250 landowners, enroll 36 landowners in Farm Bill programs, and develop 30 new wetland plans to restore or enhance more than 2,300 acres of wetland habitat, benefiting swamp rabbit, waterfowl and songbirds including the Kentucky warbler.

\$245,690

Friends of the Chicago River**Restoring Riparian Habitat and Improving Public Access to Thorn Creek Tributary (IL)**

Improve function and accessibility of Thorn Creek by removing invasive species, improving stormwater infiltration, and enhancing habitat for Illinois species of concern such as the wood thrush and red-headed woodpecker in Sweet Woods Forest Preserve. Project will restore 118 acres of Thorn Creek resulting in an additional 1.9 million gallons of stormwater infiltrated into the soil per rain event.

\$278,302

Friends of the Forest Preserves**Restoring Rare Ecosystems in the Lake Michigan Watershed (IL)**

Train and employ a five member crew to conduct maintenance of invasive species control efforts with the Calumet Conservation Corps Program at Wentworth Woods and Prairie Forest Preserves. Project will increase native plant species abundance and richness across 150 acres to advance restoration of unique wetland ecosystems in the Calumet region of Illinois and advance skills and certifications for crew members.

\$200,000

Friends of the Forest Preserves**Restoring Wetlands for Wildlife and People at the Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center (IL)**

Restore 18 acres of wetland habitat within the Des Plains River watershed at the Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center forest preserve in Illinois by engaging 250 participants of the Conservation Corps and other youth stewards, who will gain career training through these restoration activities. Project will remove invasive brush and improve habitat for 239 species of birds and six species of reptiles and amphibians.

\$50,000

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative**Facilitating Development of Coastal Resilience Projects for Great Lakes****Shoreline Communities**

Enable communities to develop implementation of projects that prevent or minimize impacts in coastal areas and facilitating collaboration on coastal resilience needs and opportunities. Project will work with coastal communities to assess critical coastal resilience needs; identify solutions for mitigating risks to community infrastructure; assess project feasibility; outline project development needs and funding; and provide direction on next steps to implement coastal resilience projects.

\$380,000

Lake County Forest Preserve District**Improving Monarch and Pollinator Habitat Through the Barrington Greenway Initiative (IL)**

Establish native seed production beds to advance pollinator habitat restoration and improvement efforts through the Barrington Greenway Initiative and support the monarch butterfly and rusty patched bumble bee on public and protected lands in Illinois. Project will improve 1,050 acres, restore 25 acres, collect 10 pounds of milkweed seed, and propagate 50,000 milkweed seedlings.

\$135,000

Lewis and Clark Community College District 536**Coordinating Technical Support for Statewide Collaborative Watershed Conservation (IL)**

Increase capacity for one watershed planning expert to facilitate collaborative areawide conservation planning projects with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field staff and private landowners to bolster local-led efforts improving water quality and wildlife habitat throughout Illinois. Project will connect local partners with NRCS resources to improve watershed conservation planning and management on 500 acres of private working lands.

\$75,000

OAI**Implementing Shared Services to Maintain Nature-based Infrastructure in the Calumet Region (IL, IN)**

Reduce localized flooding and prevent pollution from entering priority waterways by maintaining green stormwater infrastructure for communities in Illinois and northwest Indiana disproportionately impacted by flooding. Project will provide community-based training and enhance over 1 million square-feet of nature-based infrastructure for self-sustaining maintenance.

\$181,751

Shedd Aquarium Society**Enhancing Aquatic Habitat and Community Stewardship in the Chicago River (IL)**

Install floating wetlands and create in-stream habitat to promote biodiversity and shoreline resilience for wildlife and lead community stewardship activities for the South Branch of the Chicago River. Project will engage the public, improve 2 acres of greenspace and install 35 floating wetlands for native fish and migratory bird species. **\$159,341**

Southern Illinois University Carbondale Investigating Fungal Host Invasion Mechanisms to Develop Preventive Interventions in Bats (IL)

Investigate the hypothesis that the process used by well-known plant fungal pathogens is also used by the fungus causing white-nose syndrome to create structures that facilitate infection of bat host tissue. Project will first verify whether the structures are present and, if so, target gene regions that regulate structure formation to create a method that allows testing of chemical treatments and genetic modifications to the fungus that will inhibit its ability to create the structures. **\$232,227**

INDIANA**Association of State Floodplain Managers Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)**

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration. **\$260,851**

Ducks Unlimited**Coordinating Cover Crop Adoption to Conserve Natural Resources (IN, MI)**

Coordinate and increase capacity for technical and financial support to help farmers increase the adoption of cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat systems in Indiana and Michigan. Project will support the adoption of cover crops on 75,000 acres to enhance soil health, improve water resources, and provide benefit to wildlife while providing economic benefits to participating farmers. **\$386,683**

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative**Facilitating Development of Coastal Resilience Projects for Great Lakes Shoreline Communities**

Enable communities to develop implementation of projects that prevent or minimize impacts in coastal areas and facilitating collaboration on coastal resilience needs and opportunities. Project will work with coastal communities to assess critical coastal resilience needs; identify solutions for mitigating risks to community infrastructure; assess project feasibility; outline project development needs and funding; and provide direction on next steps to implement coastal resilience projects. **\$380,000**

Groundwork Ohio River Valley**Connecting Youth to Regional Leaders in Conservation Across the Ohio River Valley (OH, IN)**

Restore 15 acres in the Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge and in Cincinnati neighborhoods through mapping native and non-native plants, invasive species removal, seed collection and propagation and native replanting. Project will work with 100 paid youth green workforce development fellows across eight sites to cultivate regional environmental knowledge and support urban communities facing adverse climate challenges. **\$40,000**

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful**Community-Based Habitat Restoration in Parks along Pogue's Run and Pleasant Run (IN)**

Engage community volunteers to restore 9.3 acres along 1 mile of riparian habitat in Brookside Park and Emhardt Stadium Park in Indianapolis, Indiana. Project will engage and provide environmental education for 150 community and corporate volunteers, train 10 college students, open public views and access to the waterways through removal of invasives, and improve the herbaceous layer of the understory with 950 native shrubs and trees. **\$44,421**

Little River Wetlands Project**Urban Forested Wetland Restoration Including Enhancements of Pollinator and Turtle Habitats (IN)**

Restore 12.5 acres of emergent wetland and forested wetland habitats to support the return of pollinators and state-endangered Blandings turtles in an urban setting. Project will engage community members in the Seed to Marsh program, which teaches participants how to propagate native plants. **\$44,288**

OAI**Implementing Shared Services to Maintain Nature-based Infrastructure in the Calumet Region (IL, IN)**

Reduce localized flooding and prevent pollution from entering priority waterways by maintaining green stormwater infrastructure for communities in Illinois and northwest Indiana disproportionately impacted by flooding. Project will provide community-based training and enhance over 1 million square-feet of nature-based infrastructure for self-sustaining maintenance. **\$181,751**

Pollinator Partnership**Expanding Inclusive Outreach on Working Lands Conservation for Monarch Butterflies (IN, OH)**

Provide hands-on technical assistance paired with a series of in-person and virtual activities to help a variety of landowners learn about the Working Lands for Wildlife and Farm Bill programs and how to enroll. Project will expand landowner outreach and increase implementation of Farm Bill programs to help accelerate adoption of conservation practices that support habitat for monarch butterflies and other species of concern in Indiana and Ohio. **\$320,000**

Save the Dunes Conservation Fund**Enhancing Corridor Health of the East Branch of the Little Calumet River (IN)**

Restore and improve habitat and public access along the East Branch of the Little Calumet River corridor to enhance water quality, wildlife habitat and stormwater storage. Project will advance regional goals through a collaborative approach and restore 32 acres of prairie and floodplain habitat, control invasive species on 45 acres and create 7.7 miles of riverfront trails. **\$210,783**

Shirley Heinze Land Trust**Improving Riparian Habitat and Public Access to Deep River in New Chicago (IN)**

Restore riparian habitat for birds and improve public greenspace in underserved community through habitat restoration, invasive species control and installing green stormwater infrastructure along Deep River in the town of New Chicago. Project will improve 0.55 acres of public greenspace through community-led process and restore 23.7 acres of riparian bird habitat. **\$216,093**

Shirley Heinze Land Trust**Water Quality Monitoring and Watershed Stewardship in the Little Calumet River-Galien Watershed (IN)**

Develop and establish a volunteer water quality monitoring program and volunteer watershed stewardship events in the Little Calumet River-Galien watershed. Project will engage community members, students, educators and a diverse group of local partners across the watershed through water quality monitoring training and monthly monitoring of key sites, outreach and education around the importance of protecting water quality and public events to cultivate community watershed stewardship.

\$40,103

The Nature Conservancy**Providing Technical Assistance to Agricultural Retailers to Advance Sustainable Agricultural Practices (IN)**

Increase conservation agronomist capacity to utilize precision agriculture data to advance on-farm conservation implementation. The position will expand collaborative public-private partnerships by empowering agricultural retailers to deliver technical assistance to farmers to advance incentive-based approach for private lands conservation, sustainable agricultural practices, and positive environmental outcomes focused on soil health, nutrient management, water quality, and habitat in southern Indiana.

\$184,105

The Student Conservation Association**Calumet Tree Conservation Corps (IN)**

Reduce stormwater runoff and create urban habitat by planting 500 new trees in northwest Indiana. Project will build upon previous investments and continue to improve water quality at a regional scale while engaging the community and volunteers.

\$183,225

IOWA**Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation****Restoring and Improving Pollinator Habitat Through Iowa Butterfly Flyways (IA)**

Restore and improve pollinator habitat for the monarch butterfly, rusty patched bumble bee, and other pollinators on federal, state, and protected lands in Iowa. Project will improve 1,000 acres, restore 742 acres, and propagate 3,000 milkweed seedlings.

\$150,000

National Audubon Society**Improving Grazing Practices to Benefit Grassland Birds (IA, MO, WI)**

Increase capacity for the Audubon Conservation Ranching program to accelerate voluntary adoption of managed grazing practices to benefit birds, biodiversity, and soil health on working lands in Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. Project will improve grazing practices across 12,590 acres to benefit wildlife of tallgrass prairie ecosystems including focal grassland birds such as the bobolink, Henslow's sparrow, and upland sandpiper.

\$398,198

Practical Farmers of Iowa**Coordinating Cover Crop Adoption to Conserve Natural Resources in Iowa**

Coordinate technical and financial support to help farmers increase the adoption of cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat systems across Iowa. Project will support the adoption of cover crops on 225,000 acres to enhance soil health, improve water resources, and provide benefit to wildlife while providing economic benefits to participating farmers.

\$850,000

Practical Farmers of Iowa**Providing Technical Assistance to Promote Adoption of Grazing Conservation Practices (IA)**

Provide outreach, education, and technical assistance through a range of farmer-led on-farm events, virtual events, and direct one-on-ones to producers to overcome social and technical barriers to conservation adoption across Iowa. Project will accelerate the implementation of managed grazing across 15,000 acres and adoption of wildlife conservation practices.

\$361,842

KANSAS**Ducks Unlimited****Improving Pollinator Habitat in the Playa Region Through Technical Assistance (KS)**

Support two landowner-focused staff positions that provide technical assistance for restoration and enhancement practices that benefit monarch butterflies and other pollinators on private working lands in the playa region of western Kansas. Project will restore 2,760 acres, improve 500 acres, develop 20 conservation plans, host 3 workshops, and engage 90 people.

\$136,879

Ducks Unlimited**Kansas Wetland Conservation Initiative**

Provide technical assistance to private landowners to maximize the benefits of Farm Bill and other conservation programs on working lands in central and western Kansas. Project will facilitate delivery of wetland, grassland, and cropland conservation programs on private lands in this landscape.

\$399,860

Emporia State University**Restore and Assess Impacts of Riparian Prairie Restoration (KS)**

Restore a quarter mile of prairie riparian area by replanting native riparian species and removing excess sediments in the Neosho River caused by erosion. Project will address stream degradation issues by improving habitats for stream dwelling organisms, providing diverse habitat resources while mitigating pollutants, while also providing an opportunity for hands-on conservation experience for community members.

\$50,012

Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska**Iowa Tribe Conservation Partnership Program (KS, NE)**

Provide a series of educational events, conservation planning, and technical assistance to the agricultural producers of the Iowa Reservation and surrounding communities. Project will expand regenerative agriculture strategies that ensure a lasting impact on soil health, water conservation and quality, and carbon storage and sequestration.

\$400,000

Kansas Association**of Conservation Districts****Coordinating Cover Crop Adoption and Peer Networks to Conserve Natural Resources in Kansas**

Coordinate technical and financial support and develop Farmer-to-Farmer Peer Networks to help farmers increase the adoption of cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat systems throughout Kansas. Project will support the adoption of cover crops on 300,000 acres to enhance soil health, improve water resources, and provide benefit to wildlife while providing economic benefits to participating farmers.

\$566,500

Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition**Increasing Capacity to Deliver Grassland Conservation on Private, Working Ranches (KS)**

Increase capacity for a local, community-based conservation collaborative to regenerate Kansas' grazing lands through landowner agreements that address grassland restoration via native grass planting, invasive species control, grazing management and appropriate use of prescribed fire. Project will enhance 16,500 acres of native prairie on private, working ranches improve grassland health, support biodiversity and increase carbon sequestration to improve climate resilience.

\$499,950

The Nature Conservancy

Grassland Conservation to Catalyze Regional Adoption of Climate-Resilient Practices (KS)
Launch a scalable model for grassland “stronghold” development in western Kansas, to achieve long-term voluntary conservation of high-quality habitat in large enough blocks to sustain ecological function, biodiversity, carbon sequestration and climate resilience over time. Project will build upon private and public partnerships with local producers to improve on 11,000 acres of working ranches. **\$334,490**

Thrive Allen County

Elm Creek Invasive Species Cleanup (KS)
Restore riparian area along Elm Creek watershed in the south of Iola, Kansas through the removal of invasive species and implementation of water quality monitoring. Project will nurture community environmental education and enhance native habitat and biodiversity by reducing moisture stress on existing critical species. **\$34,215**

KENTUCKY**American Conservation Experience**

Advancing Shortleaf Pine and White Oak Restoration on Public and Private Lands (KY)
Provide landowner technical assistance and forest habitat restoration on public and private lands in southern Kentucky. Project will deploy three conservation crews on the Daniel Boone National Forest and seek to pilot efforts on private lands to assist the Natural Resources Conservation Service with implementation of restoration practices. **\$328,919**

Cumberland River Compact

Restoring Abandoned and Legacy Mine Lands in the Cumberland River Basin (KY, TN)
Engage private landowners to restore forest habitat on abandoned and legacy coal mine sites in the Cumberland River Basin in Kentucky and Tennessee. Project will implement restoration practices developed by the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative, resulting in restored riparian buffers, improved stream habitat, and the establishment of bird and pollinator habitats. **\$194,302**

Ducks Unlimited

Implementing Farm Bill Programs to Benefit Wetlands Along Mississippi River (MO, IL, KY)
Implement Farm Bill conservation programs with private landowners within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley of southeast Missouri, southwest Illinois, and western Kentucky. Project will engage a minimum of 250 landowners to restore or enhance more than 2,300 acres of wetland habitat, benefiting swamp rabbit, waterfowl and songbirds including the Kentucky warbler. **\$245,690**

Green Forests Work

Restoring Shortleaf Pine and Upland Oak Forests on Legacy Mine Lands in the Cumberland Plateau (KY)
Restore shortleaf pine-upland oak forest types on a former mine site in the Cumberland Plateau region of Kentucky. Project will address priority goals associated with both the Shortleaf Pine Restoration Initiative and the White Oak Initiative of decompacting soil, removing invasive species, planting native species, and restoring shortleaf pine/oak habitat benefiting northern bobwhite, wild turkey and other game and non-game species. **\$168,800**

Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves

Restoring Pine/Oak Barrens and Building a Conservation Workforce in Kentucky
Restore 2,200 acres of imperiled pine barrens and forested riparian habitats on public and private lands in eastern Kentucky, benefiting long-eared owl, Indiana bat, and other forest-dependent species. Project will implement prescribed burning, invasive species removal and other restoration treatments and collaborate with local universities, including historically black colleges and universities, to expand an internship program and provide hands-on restoration experience for students. **\$420,216**

Shakertown at Pleasant Hill Kentucky Shaker Pond Drainage Area Restoration (KY)

Improve habitat through the removal of invasive plants and replanting of native species selected to support birds and pollinators across 20 acres of upland habitat in headwaters of the Kentucky River. Project will enhance environmental educational programming for students and will focus on helping students understand what a watershed is, how pollutants are introduced and travel through it, and how to use best management practices to mitigate pollution and restore riparian areas. **\$30,360**

LOUISIANA**American Forest Foundation**

Engaging Landowners in Longleaf Restoration to Benefit At-Risk and Listed Species (FL, LA, MS)
Restore and maintain longleaf pine forests in Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi to benefit populations of at-risk and listed species, such as gopher tortoise, southern hognose snake, and red-cockaded woodpecker. Project will provide technical and financial assistance to restore or maintain more than 1,100 acres of longleaf pine habitat and secure long-term agreements with family forest owners to provide access to the land for monitoring the effects of these activities on species populations. **\$154,000**

Common Ground Relief

Fortifying Bayou Bienvenue (LA)
Restore of 10 acres of degraded marsh habitat along the shoreline of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland area by planting over 3,000 native grasses. Project will engage over 100 students and volunteers in educational and hands-on, site based restoration activities, fostering environmental awareness and stewardship. **\$28,835**

Ducks Unlimited

Increasing Community Resilience through Restoration of Dularge Marsh (LA)
Construct earthen terraces, plant marshhay cordgrass, construct a new water control structure, and refurbish a portion of levee in fragmented, deteriorated marsh in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. Project will enhance and protect 3,764 acres, including creation of 150 acres of marsh habitat, and contribute to the resiliency of Bayou Dularge and Dulac communities. **\$4,952,800**

Ducks Unlimited

Increasing Technical Assistance on Working Wetlands for Louisiana Shorebirds
Increase technical assistance for Farm Bill programs through an established partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to benefit the Working Lands for Wildlife Shorebirds of Louisiana Initiative. Project will enhance approximately 20,000 acres of ricelands through implementation of best management practices and provide critical habitat for Louisiana shorebirds and other species that benefit from working wetlands. **\$200,000**

Ducks Unlimited

Port Fourchon Terracing and Living Shoreline Project (LA)
Construct earthen terraces, plant black mangroves and smooth cordgrass, and install a living shoreline protection feature in fragmented, deteriorated marsh adjacent to Port Fourchon in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Project will enhance and protect 500 acres of salt marsh and contribute to the resiliency of critical infrastructure in Port Fourchon, such as a section of Highway 1 that leads to Grand Isle, Louisiana. **\$1,150,000**

Ducks Unlimited

Restoring Forested Wetlands in Arkansas and Louisiana
Perform hydrologic and forest enhancement and restoration activities on private land in Louisiana and Arkansas and public land in Arkansas. Project will restore hydrology, enhance existing forests, and reforest areas to impact a total of 1,450 acres, benefiting migratory waterfowl, Louisiana black bear and other forested wetland-dependent species. **\$435,700**

Forest Landowners Association**Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species. **\$250,000**

Groundwork New Orleans**Building Climate Resilient Communities (LA)**

Build climate resilient communities through revitalization of communities and address climate resiliency issues. Project will provide flood mitigation, job training and career mentoring for youth ages 14 to 25, education on nature-based infrastructure features, and stormwater management, all with a focus on health equity outcomes. **\$50,000**

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority**Bayou Grand Cheniere Marsh Creation (LA)**

Create approximately 42 acres of tidal salt marsh along Bayou Grande Cheniere in the influence area of the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion through hydraulically dredging sediment from the Mississippi River. Project will be adjacent to and under the same construction as 490 acres of marsh and ridge restoration funded by NRDA and help protect coastal communities. **\$5,025,037**

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority**Developing a Wetlands Restoration Design in the Grand Bayou Community (LA)**

Develop designs to create new wetland habitat and restore degraded marsh on up to 1,500 acres of the Grand Bayou Canal to maintain ecosystem function and reduce storm surge damage risk. Project will conduct the preliminary design for restoration and take a data inventory and needs assessment, land rights investigation, and geotechnical investigations. **\$673,639**

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation along Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will create a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites. **\$205,000**

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts. **\$120,000**

Mississippi River Trust**Restoring Bottomland Hardwood Wetland Habitat in the Lower Mississippi River Floodplain (AR, MS, LA)**

Work with private landowners to reforest and protect 2,000 acres of frequently flooded, mostly cleared land through the adoption of Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetland Reserve Easements in the active floodplain of the Lower Mississippi River. Project will expand and enhance habitat for the Louisiana black bear, swamp rabbit, forest-dwelling birds, waterfowl, and freshwater fish; improve water quality in the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico; and increase carbon sequestration. **\$199,625**

Sankofa Community Development Corporation**Restoration of Sankofa Wetland Park (LA)**

Restore 40-acres of coastal wetlands by removing over 3,000 invasive plant species, planting 40 acres of native vegetation with 10,000 native plants, including cypress and tupelo trees, and building a retention pond to store over 8,000,000 gallons of water. Project will improve water quality, attract birds and wildlife by restoring their natural habitats, and retain and store floodwaters to mitigate flood damage and climate change in the Lower Ninth Ward. **\$1,725,000**

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government**Living Shoreline Installation on Lake Chien (LA)**

Install a living shoreline along 1.85 miles of the shoreline of Lake Chien in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana near the Gulf of Mexico to preserve at least an estimated 20 acres of marshland in the first 20 years and 50 acres in 50 years. Project will build over 5 acres of land and will buffer infrastructure investments and estuaries that provide habitat to important fisheries, species of concern, and traditional subsistence customs. **\$5,455,744**

The Carbon Fund**Restoring Forests for Wildlife and Carbon in the Mississippi River Floodplain (multiple states)**

Pilot a forest restoration program to improve wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration and storage within the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Project will provide outreach and technical and financial assistance to private landowners, with a focus on engaging historically underserved landowners, to reforest frequently flooded marginal cropland benefiting Louisiana black bear and forest birds, including the prothonotary warbler. **\$1,100,000**

The Nature Conservancy**Longleaf Pine Habitat Restoration on Private Lands in West Louisiana**

Restore and maintain longleaf pine habitat on private lands in proximity to Kisatchie National Forest and Fort Polk in west-central Louisiana, benefiting open pine and grassland-dependent birds, such as the red-cockaded woodpecker and northern bobwhite. Project will plant 1,200 acres of longleaf pine, implement prescribed fire on 1,500 acres, and engage at least 40 private landowners through field days, workshops and one-on-one technical assistance. **\$297,607**

The Trust for Public Land**Restoring Bottomland Hardwoods in the Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge (LA)**

Restore 1,700 acres of bottomland hardwood forest wetlands within the Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge. Project will contribute to a multi-year effort to establish a forested habitat corridor between a large expanse of coastal forests in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, and the vast forested wilderness of the Atchafalaya Basin benefiting forest birds, waterfowl and the Louisiana black bear. **\$200,000**

University of Memphis**Restoring Habitat and Addressing Barriers to Improving Louisiana Black Bear Populations (LA)**

Restore 700 acres of forest habitat in Russell Sage State Wildlife Management Area to benefit Louisiana black bear, pilot a BearWise project coordinator to address human-bear conflicts, and identify landscape barriers to bear movement and gene flow within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley of Louisiana. Project will restore soil hydrology, forest and understory growth, engage communities to decrease human-bear conflict, and identify which environmental variables influence population connectivity. **\$390,000**

MAINE**Greater Portland Council of Governments
Capacity Building for Resilient Long-Term
Planning in Greater Portland (ME)**

Engage up to ten vulnerable Casco Bay coastal municipalities in a collaborative planning initiative that will produce resilience strategies and solutions by addressing environmental, social, and economic issues from a regional perspective. Project will begin plans for one regional coastal resilience plan, plus ten individual coastal Maine towns' comprehensive plans, to provide nature-based resilience solutions. *\$249,352*

**Gulf of Maine Research Institute
Building Maximized Retention Electronic
Monitoring Capacity in the New England
Groundfish Fishery**

Support the implementation of the maximized retention electronic monitoring model in the New England groundfish fishery by piloting a third-party dockside monitoring approach to build regional capacity to support 100 percent monitoring on vessels. Project will facilitate the transition to an industry led effort and support implementation by providing technical assistance to sectors, fishers, and dealers using a maximized retention model to meet their monitoring requirements. *\$319,745*

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel
Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts. *\$120,000*

The Nature Conservancy**Deploy Machine Learning for Electronic
Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators. *\$144,889*

Town of Camden**Megunticook River Fish Passage (ME)**

Improve flood resiliency and habitat connectivity for sea run and resident fish including brook trout, American eel, Atlantic salmon, and rainbow smelt throughout the Megunticook watershed in Camden, Maine. Project will produce final designs for full or partial removal of four barriers to fish passage and construction of additional fish passage at two sites where removal is not feasible. *\$1,601,000*

MARYLAND**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Accelerating Conservation in Maryland
Through Corporate Sustainability Initiatives**

Partner with the Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association and Maryland Department of Agriculture to advance adoption of agricultural conservation practices that support water quality and corporate supply chain sustainability goals. Project will work with seven dairies in Maryland to plan and implement conservation practices on 300 acres. *\$500,000*

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Riparian Forest Buffer Implementation in
the Mason Dixon Region (MD, PA)**

Develop and pilot a conservation incentive program that accelerates the adoption and establishment of riparian forest buffers by agricultural producers in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Project will restore 35 miles of critical riparian habitat and result in the planting of nearly 50,000 trees. *\$500,000*

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Establishing Builders Institute to Expand
Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)**

Increase regional capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects more efficiently and effectively by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management. *\$399,093*

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Jump-starting Organic Valley's Dairy
Sustainability Strategy (MD, NY, PA, VA)**

Partner with Organic Valley to provide cost-effective agricultural conservation practices to manage agricultural runoff, improve water quality and wildlife habitat on organic dairy farms in the Bay watershed. Project will restore 5 miles of riparian habitat and engage an additional 200 volunteers in implementing on-farm conservation practices. *\$500,000*

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Outcomes-Based Model for Accelerating
Pollutant Reductions (MD, PA)**

Pilot an outcomes-based model for accelerating pollution reductions in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Project will engage partners and landowners to implement at least 115 acres of riparian forest buffer and upland reforestation projects and work with at least 12 dairy farmers to implement agricultural best management practices. *\$1,000,000*

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Riparian Rangers Volunteer Program (PA, MD)**

Expand the Riparian Rangers program by training 100 new volunteers on riparian forest buffer establishment while providing additional educational opportunities and resources. Project will result in 3 new regional Branches of the Riparian Rangers program within priority watersheds in Maryland and Pennsylvania which will enable enhanced stewardship of around 250 acres of riparian forest buffer plantings. *\$75,000*

**Alliance for the Restoration
of Northwest Creek****Restoration Planning for Northwest Creek (MD)**

Design and permit a restoration plan for Northwest Creek, a 100-acre tidal inlet on Kent Island that has been plagued with deteriorating water quality and habitat conditions. Project will create new habitat for shallow water fish species and protected breeding grounds for other wildlife via the creation of marsh habitat and living shorelines. *\$75,000*

**Anne Arundel County
Watershed Stewards Academy
Establishing New Models for Equitable and
Inclusive Stewardship (MD)**

Develop a new model for Watershed Steward programs serving communities underrepresented in watershed stewardship activities across northern and western Anne Arundel County. Project will pilot a framework for environmental leadership among Spanish language speakers and communities of color to identify, design, and install community-led watershed improvement projects. *\$499,463*

**Audubon Naturalist Society
of the Central Atlantic States****Conservation Landscaping and Pollinator
Habitat for Landowners and Landscapers (MD)**

Improve 4 acres of degraded grassland habitat at Woodend Nature Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, Maryland to serve as a demonstration and training center for watershed restoration and stormwater management in the DC metro region. Project will recruit 150 local community members to install additional pollinator habitat and conservation landscaping in the broader Sligo Creek watershed. *\$188,596*

Baltimore Green Space**Flood Mitigation and Forestry Care Strategies in Urban Baltimore (MD)**

Enhance urban forestry efforts in Baltimore through improved urban forest management, community outreach and educational activities, and college-level field training. Project will engage 3,000 city residents through outreach and 600 volunteers in urban forestry programming in the city.
\$230,033

Baltimore Green Space**Restoration of Urban Forests (MD)**

Engage 300 residents, 35 students and 50-100 volunteers in restoration activities, including tree plantings, removal of invasive plants and other outreach activities. Project will restore 2.5 acres of forest habitat in three Baltimore City community forests totaling 8 acres.
\$49,990

Blue Water Baltimore**Runoff Reduction in Baltimore (MD)**

Install watershed restoration projects in Baltimore's Howard Park and Coppin Heights and Ash-Co-East neighborhoods, empower individual homeowners to implement conservation practices, and engage residents in pollution detection and stream learning opportunities. Project will engage more than 900 community members and volunteers and improve stormwater management for nearly 4 acres of urban land in the city.
\$500,000

Center for Watershed Protection**Scaling Up Biochar Applications for Stormwater Runoff Reduction (multiple states)**

Accelerate the rate and scale at which biochar amendments are applied in the urban landscape to support runoff reduction and improved water quality across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Project will secure new partners for widespread use of biochar amendments and provide technical assistance on sourcing and using certified biochar in a variety of urban applications.
\$699,509

Central Baltimore Partnership**Installing Stormwater Wetlands at Baltimore's Union Collective (MD)**

Install a stormwater wetland at Union Collective, a hub for independently owned, Baltimore-based businesses in the city's Hampden neighborhood. Project will treat runoff from 2 acres of the Union Collective campus and further implementation of a nature-based infrastructure master plan developed for the campus.
\$204,348

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Community-Based Shoreline Restoration (MD)**

Identify, design, and permit a living shoreline project in the Harness Creek sub-watershed of the South River along Quiet Waters Park in Anne Arundel County. Project will target up to 500 linear feet of eroding shoreline and will incorporate a living oyster reef breakwater in the structural design to directly enhance critical habitat for oysters, fish, and invertebrates while mitigating shoreline erosion and marsh loss.
\$69,183

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Expanding Rotational Grazing through the Mountains to Bay Grazing Alliance (MD, PA, VA, WV)**

Expand the adoption of rotational grazing practices among dairy and livestock operations in the Shenandoah Valley, western and central Maryland, and southcentral Pennsylvania. Project will utilize conservation and farm networks to improve grazing management on 1,200 acres.
\$493,780

Chesapeake Conservancy**Creating a Community-Led Climate Resilience Workforce (MD)**

Deploy community-led conservation crews in Baltimore City and Prince Georges and Howard counties focused on tree planting and maintenance, nature-based infrastructure improvements and maintenance, native habitat restoration, and other priority greening projects co-identified and prioritized with community stakeholders. Project will support 30 crew members over two 14-week deployments and result in planting of 1,800 trees.
\$445,385

Chesapeake Rivers Association**Transforming a Stormwater Pond into a Wetland Complex (MD)**

Retrofit an existing stormwater pond into a regenerative stormwater conveyance with integrated stream and wetland habitat. Project will create and enhance habitat, sequester carbon, improve water quality, mitigate flooding, provide resilience to the effects of climate change, and serve as a prototype for communities with clay core dams around the Chesapeake Bay.
\$75,000

City Neighbors Foundation**Implementing Nature-based Infrastructure Across City Neighbors Foundation Campuses (MD)**

Install nature-based infrastructure practices at campuses of the City Neighbors Foundation across Baltimore. Project will treat stormwater runoff from 1 acre of impervious surfaces and enhance the Foundation's experiential environmental education programs.
\$196,614

City of Annapolis**Restoring Living Shoreline and Enhancing Community Open Space in Hawkins Cove (MD)**

Install a living shoreline to improve water quality, habitat, and resilience in Hawkins Cove and improve public access for the surrounding community. Project will engage 300 community members in project planning, design, and implementation.
\$500,000

City of Baltimore Planning Department**Reducing Stormwater Runoff and Supporting Black Businesses and Communities (MD)**

Engage three East Baltimore neighborhoods and the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum to create a community-led stormwater management design to manage runoff in the community. Project will inform plans for a community-managed green space for use as a living classroom and other community needs.
\$65,010

Coastal Conservation Association Maryland**Restoring St. Mary's River Oyster Sanctuary through Community Partnerships (MD)**

Build and deploy oyster reef ball habitat in the St. Mary's oyster sanctuary, one of five Maryland tributaries targeted for large-scale oyster reef restoration. Project will utilize community engagement to deploy more than 600 reef balls to serve as reef habitat for oyster populations in the St. Mary's sanctuary.
\$182,772

College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science**Enhanced the RecFish Mobile Application in Response to Stakeholder Input - Phase II (MD, VA)**

Enhance the functionality of the RecFish mobile application and database in response to stakeholder input. Project will develop features that allow invasive species alerting and reporting and facilitate more accurate reporting by recreational anglers and charter boat captains to continue effectively engaging recreational fishermen and managers.
\$315,382

Defensores de la Cuenca**Expanding Watershed Stewardship in the Patapsco and Anacostia Watersheds (MD)**

Expand La Academia, a paid adult watershed training and stewardship program delivered in Spanish, in the Anacostia and Patapsco River watersheds. Project will pair culturally relevant education with hands-on experiences and culminate in completion of individually led stormwater improvement projects in local communities.
\$465,467

Ducks Unlimited

Accelerating Wetland Conservation for Black Duck on the Delmarva Peninsula (DE, MD, VA)
Support a Working Lands for Wildlife Farm Bill Biologist to continue and expand outreach efforts such as workshops and publications to reach a broader range of agricultural producers including those identified as historically underserved. Project will extend an existing partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to maximize landowner participation in NRCS wetland conservation program to benefit black ducks on the Delmarva Peninsula.
\$100,000

Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
Protecting Migration Between Blackwater and the Nanticoke River Watershed (MD)

Complete conservation easements in a critical wildlife habitat and marsh migration corridor between Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge and the Nanticoke River watershed. Project will permanently protect 300 acres through strategic landowner outreach efforts and support long-term resilience of wildlife populations and critical ecosystems of the Maryland's lower Eastern Shore.
\$500,000

ecoLatinos

Nature-based Infrastructure Training for Latino Landscape Professionals (DC, MD, VA)
Develop and implement a culturally relevant Spanish language nature-based infrastructure training for landscape professionals across Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Project will train 36 professionals and serve as a replicable model for engaging new communities in regional watershed restoration efforts.
\$252,746

Future Harvest

Nutrient and Sediment Reduction through Healthy Soils and Regenerative Agriculture (MD)
Catalyze nutrient and sediment reduction through healthy soils and regenerative agriculture in Maryland. Project will combine entry-level educational opportunities, advanced peer-to-peer learning; financial incentives for practice implementation; state-specific economic case studies; and vouchers for technical assistance to support the adoption of soil health management systems.
\$763,162

GreenTrust Alliance

Piney Point Living Shoreline and Habitat Restoration Project (MD)
Design an ecologically holistic and innovative approach to provide shoreline stabilization and essential habitat at Piney Point by using natural structures and shellfish habitat structures like oyster reef balls. Project will result in plans for establishing a functional tidal marsh with a dynamic and resilient shoreline.
\$74,991

Howard EcoWorks

Transforming Urban Lands to Improve Resilience, Biodiversity, Water Quality (MD)
Install tree plantings, perennial agricultural plantings, and conservation landscaping in historically underserved areas across the greater Baltimore region. Project will treat polluted stormwater runoff from nearly 5 acres and advance community engagement in local conservation projects.
\$173,939

Lower Shore Land Trust
Implementing the Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network Strategic Plan (MD)

Support the coordination of the Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network (DRCN), a cross-sector collaborative working to address habitat loss, climate resiliency, under-resourced communities, and water quality improvement on the Delmarva Peninsula. Project will directly support implementation of the Network's Conservation and Restoration Strategic Action Plan.
\$38,382

Manomet

Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)
Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.
\$205,000

Maryland Reentry Resource Center Inc.

Creating a Restoration Resource Workforce through Reentry Partnerships (MD)
Provide nature-based infrastructure and conservation landscaping training through partnership with the Maryland Reentry Resource Center and Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council. Project will enhance conservation-related reentry opportunities and support tree planting and maintenance of existing nature-based infrastructure across Anne Arundel County.
\$171,439

National Wildlife Federation

Building and Advancing Capacity of Chesapeake Nonprofits to Accelerate Water Quality Improvements (multiple states) (MD)
Coordinate efforts to create a more inclusive and diverse Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration movement and support regional and watershed-wide convenings to improve collaboration and impact among nearly 300 nonprofits working towards Bay restoration.
\$286,543

National Wildlife Federation

Creating Pollinator Habitat and Enhancing Food Security in Baltimore (MD)
Create and enhance pollinator habitat around urban agriculture and nursery sites in Baltimore in partnership with community-based organizations. Project will improve conservation landscaping and pollinator habitat for more than 2 acres at six sites across the city.
\$146,494

New Jersey Audubon Society
Surveying American Horseshoe Crab for Red Knot Conservation (Multiple States)

Implement surveys and recovery metrics used in Delaware Bay to characterize and track the status of horseshoe crab populations in six Atlantic Coast states. Project will inform natural resource agencies, supporting the recovery of horseshoe crab populations outside of Delaware Bay, with a goal of rebuilding a network of shorebird stopovers, and advancing the recovery of rufa red knot and other Arctic-nesting shorebirds.
\$60,000

Oyster Recovery Partnership
Collaboratively Developing Long-Term Oyster Restoration Plans (MD)

Galvanize collaborative efforts to restore oyster populations in Eastern Bay on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Project will establish stakeholder goals and objectives for long-term oyster population efforts, utilize new sonar maps to delineate oyster habitat, and generate local stewardship through community engagement and education.
\$471,919

ReBUILD Metro

Expanding Community Nature-based Infrastructure and Urban Tree Canopy (MD)
Increase greenspace, sustainability, and community ownership in East Baltimore by restoring a contaminated vacant lot into a safe and community-friendly urban garden and conservation landscape and removing impervious surfaces to plant native shade trees on residential streets. Project will convert more than a half acre of vacant lot into a community greenspace and engage 200 community members and volunteers in project planning, design, and implementation.
\$485,595

Severn River Association

Severn River Watershed Action Plan Development (MD)
Build capacity in the Severn River watershed to implement future on-the-ground water quality and habitat restoration actions. Project will develop a long-term strategy for action plan development that prioritizes subwatersheds for protection and restoration and conduct assessments and develop an action plan for one priority subwatershed.
\$72,537

Shorersivers

Engaging the Next Generation of Land Stewards in Agricultural Conservation (MD)
Engage Eastern Shore landowners most receptive to new information and ideas by convening a cohort of Next Generation Land Stewards, new or upcoming landowners, to gather with local agricultural conservation professionals to share information, resources, and expertise around land stewardship. Project will connect Stewards with local experts, create an inclusive learning space, and help them navigate the resources and programs available for conservation work on agricultural land in the region.

\$33,156

South Baltimore Gateway Partnership

Designing a Middle Branch Resiliency Initiative in Harbor Hospital Wetlands (MD)
Design a living shoreline and finalize plans to re-establish 7 acres of aquatic habitat for migratory birds along the North Atlantic Flyway and protect a waterfront hospital in Baltimore City, Maryland. Project will reduce the risk of coastal flooding, increase resiliency to sea-level rise in vulnerable areas, and restore habitat for wildlife.

\$650,000

St. Mary's County DPW&T

Piney Point Lighthouse and Museum Shoreline Restoration (MD)
Enhance shoreline resiliency to erosion, flooding and sea-level rise through shoreline stabilization and tidal wetland enhancement. Project will construct a 1,100 linear foot living shoreline with climate-resilient natural features at the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum and Historic Park.

\$1,937,953

Sustainable Chesapeake

Improving Nutrient Management Programs through Collaboration (multiple states)
Improve nutrient management program delivery by facilitating collaboration among nutrient management leaders throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. Project will improve collaboration among land grant universities in the region, working across state lines with those leading the development of agricultural nutrient management recommendations across the watershed.

\$65,910

The Corps Network

Engaging Young People in Conservation and Natural Resource Implementation
Advance Conservation Corps development and implementation and expansion across the Forest Service and sister land management agencies. Project will enroll a young, talented person to provide critical staff capacity will advance two essential priorities for the Service – climate and engaging diverse citizens in conservation action.

\$75,100

The Neighborhood Design Center

Nature-based Infrastructure Inventory, Design, and Asset Management (MD)
Design nature-based infrastructure and maintenance plans for three Prince George's County Public Schools that will act as a pilot for a school-system wide nature-based infrastructure asset design and management process. Project will provide plans that prioritize managing and reducing stormwater runoff, protect and enhance native flora and fauna, improve campuses' climate resilience, and engage school community members in environmental stewardship.

\$74,748

The Neighborhood Design Center

Port Towns Urban Forestry Inventory and Management Plans (MD)
Complete a community-informed street tree inventory, assessment, and design process for three of Prince Georges County's Port Towns communities. Project will deliver a plan, maps, recommendations for future plantings, and additional supporting materials for improving and maintaining new and existing tree canopy in public spaces.

\$69,342

The Neighborhood Design Center

Prince George's County Municipal Stormwater Maintenance Training Pilot (MD)
Convene four Prince George's County municipalities to form a Public Works Department training and maintenance schedule. Project will provide training by local stormwater engineering experts and uniform maintenance schedules customized to each municipality's inventory of stormwater management practices.

\$55,955

The Neighborhood Design Center

Seat Pleasant and Fairmount Heights Urban Forestry Management Plans (MD)
Complete a community-engaged street tree inventory, assessment, and design process for the Seat Pleasant and Fairmont Heights communities in Maryland. Project will provide plans, maps, recommendations for future plantings, and additional supporting materials for improving and maintaining new and existing tree canopy in public spaces.

\$60,927

Town of Charlestown

Charlestown Water Quality Retrofits (MD)
Design retrofits for existing stormwater management facilities and a concept-level stream restoration project on and adjacent to the city-owned recreation facilities. Project will work to achieve stated goals in the Town of Charlestown Stormwater Vulnerability and Floodplain Management Assessment and the Northeast River Watershed Assessment Priority Sites Re-Evaluation Report, both completed in 2019.

\$74,480

Trout Unlimited

Accelerating Water Quality Improvements and Supporting Conservation Collaboratives (MD, PA, VA, WV)
Support restoration efforts and the assessment and further development of conservation collaboratives, programs, and services within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed region. Project will result in improved water quality in focal watersheds, increased capacity to deliver watershed scale conservation services in the region, engagement of future environmental stewards, and the long-term monitoring and maintenance of conservation projects.

\$979,739

Trout Unlimited

Restoring Riparian Buffers to Bolster Freshwater Species in the Upper Casselman River (MD, PA)

Restore riparian buffers, implement conservation practices on agricultural lands, and reforest abandoned mine lands in the Upper Casselman River. Project will bolster brook trout, hellbender, and mussel populations in the watershed; reduce the impacts of sedimentation; and establish early successional habitat for golden-winged warbler.

\$189,711

University System of Maryland Foundation Developing Equitable Nature-based Infrastructure for the Port Towns of Prince George's County (MD)

Develop and pilot implementation of a Walkable Watershed Plan for the Port Towns of Prince George's County, improving municipal collaboration and shared planning for coordinated habitat restoration, resilience, and stormwater management efforts. Project will engage 150 community members in both English and Spanish language events to help inform community goals and interests for local watershed restoration.

\$499,795

MASSACHUSETTS**A.I.S.**

Integrating an Intelligent Discard Chute into New England Groundfish Electronic Monitoring (MA)

Develop and pilot a solution for electronic monitoring in collaboration with high catch fishing industry partners in the New England groundfish fishery. Project will develop an approach with on vessel artificial intelligence in a discard chute system, wireless video transfer, web-based video review, and integration of broadband vessel monitoring systems and electronic logbooks to incentivize fleet adoption for the high catch New England groundfish trawl vessel fleet.

\$455,803

Gulf of Maine Research Institute**Building Maximized Retention Electronic Monitoring Capacity in the New England Groundfish Fishery**

Support the implementation of the maximized retention electronic monitoring model in the New England groundfish fishery by piloting a third-party dockside monitoring approach to build regional capacity to support 100 percent monitoring on vessels. Project will facilitate the transition to an industry led effort and support implementation by providing technical assistance to sectors, fishers, and dealers using a maximized retention model to meet their monitoring requirements.

\$319,745

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.

\$120,000

Mote Marine Laboratory**Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Reef Fish Fishery Electronic Monitoring (FL)**

Continue the Center for Fisheries Electronic Monitoring at Mote's efforts to streamline artificial intelligence driven data collection processes by creating a repeatable process for generating data and algorithms. Project will make strides in applying artificial intelligence in the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery to serve as a foundation for providing more timely and efficient data for management and industry applications.

\$349,000

Mystic River Watershed Association**Designing Nature-Based Solutions to Protect Communities and Shorebird Habitat (MA)**

Conduct hydrodynamic scenarios with modeling to project the range of future conditions in Belle Isle Marsh and explore nature-based solutions using the model outputs to protect the shoreline and over 250 bird species. Project will develop a hydrodynamic model, create a priority list of recommended interventions, and design concepts for the top three recommendations.

\$240,596

National Marine Life Center**Critical Safety Repairs to the National Marine Life Center Rehabilitation Hospital (MA)**

Complete facility repairs to bring the National Marine Life Center back on-line for the rehabilitation of stranded pinnipeds in New England. Project will install additional electrical outlets and replace staircases to ensure the safety of staff.

\$99,955

The Nature Conservancy**Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center**Thompson Island Green Ambassadors (MA)**

Remove invasive vegetation, monitor native and invasive plant species, and engage in maintenance and construction of 9 miles of trails in the Boston Harbor Islands. Project will directly engage students with hands-on work experience in the areas of conservation and environmental stewardship, and educate them on land and climate resiliency management.

\$50,364

Town of Braintree**Restoration and Reconnection of the Monatiquot River (MA)**

Remove two obsolete and aging dams which block aquatic organism passage on the Monatiquot River in Braintree, Massachusetts. Project will reconnect 36 upstream miles of unimpeded access for river herring, American eel, and sea lamprey and improve access to 180 acres of river herring spawning and rearing habitat which will strengthen community resilience by reducing flooding risk, protecting nearby infrastructure, and providing protection from storm flows.

\$2,535,000

Town of Bridgewater**Restoration and Enhancement of Coastal Resiliency of the Town River (MA)**

Remove an obsolete dam and replace an undersized, aging road-stream crossing that are barriers to aquatic organism passage in the watershed of the federally declared Wild and Scenic Taunton River. Project will restore access between the Atlantic Ocean to the Hockomock Swamp and will increase community resiliency by removing hazardous flood conditions caused by these structures.

\$2,285,000

University of New Hampshire**Building Coastal Resilience for the Broader Great Marsh System of New Hampshire and Massachusetts**

Stabilize dunes across the five barrier beach towns of Great Marsh, complete marsh restoration efforts in the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary, conduct a sediment placement pilot in Great Bay Estuary, and create a scholarship initiative focused on climate adaptation across the states. Project will preserve and strengthen the resiliency of broader Great Marsh and reduce human vulnerability to the growing risks from coastal storms and sea-level rise, with direct benefits to fish and wildlife.

\$1,519,207

**Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
Operational Support for Marine Mammal Stranding Response Program in Plymouth (MA)**

Build organizational capacity to support stranding response efforts for live and dead species of cetaceans and pinnipeds along the coast of Massachusetts. Project will assist in stranding efforts in the region, provide triage and rehabilitation for live stranded animals, and conduct thorough examinations and identification of stranded marine mammals.

\$67,755

MICHIGAN

Arenac Conservation District

Restoring Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands and Riverine Habitat through Invasive Species Control (MI)

Manage invasive species through new treatment and retreatment for phragmites in Saginaw Bay and surrounding wetlands. Project will improve habitat quality across more than 360 acres that are home to multiple rare species and communities and provide stopover habitat for migratory waterfowl species.
\$924,995

Association of State Floodplain Managers Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.
\$260,851

Charter Township of Van Buren

Restoring Prairie Habitat and Public Space in Riggs Heritage Park (MI)

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.
\$100,000

Chikaming Open Lands

Protecting and Enhancing the Galien River Watershed through Invasive Species Control (MI)

Enhance habitat through targeted invasive species control along the Galien River, which empties into Lake Michigan. Project will enhance 416 acres of natural areas throughout the watershed, benefiting resident and migratory wildlife populations, providing valuable ecosystem services to local communities, and safeguarding the Great Lakes Basin from additional invasive species.
\$220,617

City of Kalamazoo

Floodplain and Stormwater Improvements (MI)

Restore floodplain and provide improved stormwater treatment on a brownfield parcel located along Portage Creek. Project will combine stormwater treatment with enhanced floodplain connectivity and flood capacity of Portage Creek. Project would combine stormwater treatment with enhanced floodplain connectivity and flood capacity of Portage Creek while providing an opportunity to link pedestrian pathways with educational signage.
\$34,700

City of Plainwell

Removal of Fish Passage Barriers at Plainwell Diversion Dam and Mill Race Dam and Channel Restoration (MI)

Remove barriers to fish passage at the Plainwell Diversion Dam and Mill Race Dam. Project will implement natural channel restoration, which will improve passage for fish and other aquatic wildlife, add natural in-stream structure for improved habitat for benthic invertebrates, and improve recreational paddling opportunities.
\$500,000

Conservation Resource Alliance

Improve Stream Crossings for Brook Trout (MI)

Build on a long-term conservation partnership to improve eleven stream crossings and develop 25 individual road-stream crossing designs to reconnect coldwater habitat in high-quality northern Lake Michigan and Lake Huron watersheds containing brook trout. Project will reconnect 24 miles of upstream habitat to 16 miles of high-quality habitat lower in the watersheds, including downstream reaches, Lake Leelanau, and Lake Michigan.
\$750,000

Conservation Resource Alliance

Reducing Runoff to Protect Priority Lake Michigan Watersheds (MI)

Execute a comprehensive tree planting plan to reduce runoff and sediment nutrient loading into Lake Michigan and its tributaries in Michigan. Project will plant 15,000 trees on 450 acres of Tribal, national forest, private, and publicly accessible protected lands and build a network of staff, volunteers, youth, and landowners as stewards to grow and maintain the region's forests.
\$360,000

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department

Accelerating Resilience and Neighborhood Stabilization through Nature-based Infrastructure in Detroit (MI)

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.
\$300,000

Ducks Unlimited

Coordinating Cover Crop Adoption to Conserve Natural Resources (IN, MI)

Coordinate and increase capacity for technical and financial support to help farmers increase the adoption of cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat systems in Indiana and Michigan. Project will support the adoption of cover crops on 75,000 acres to enhance soil health, improve water resources, and provide benefit to wildlife while providing economic benefits to participating farmers.
\$386,683

Ducks Unlimited

Improving Wetland Habitat Management at Harsens Island East Marsh (MI)

Install a water control pump and control invasive species to restore the ecologically important 825 acre East Marsh coastal emergent wetland at Harsens Island. Project will result in improved wetland management for breeding marsh birds, waterfowl and black terns.
\$310,294

Friends of Grand Rapids Parks

Increasing Urban Tree Canopy in Grand Rapids (MI)

Improve water quality, mitigate urban tree canopy loss and reduce stormwater runoff in targeted areas in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Project will plant over 1,500 trees to increase natural areas and increase ecosystem resilience in low and middle-income communities who experience less benefits from nature-based infrastructure compared to other community residents.
\$348,220

Friends of the Rouge

Reducing Stormwater Impacts through Community-Led Rain Garden Implementation in Wayne County (MI)

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.
\$208,454

Friends of the Rouge

Reducing Stormwater Runoff through Community Tree Planting (MI)

Engage communities in tree plantings to build resilience in underserved communities in southeast Michigan. Project will plant 3,000 trees that capture an estimated 2,045,000 gallons of stormwater runoff per year in communities that experience pollution from nearby heavy industry and freeways.
\$260,000

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Facilitating Development of Coastal Resilience Projects for Great Lakes Shoreline Communities

Enable communities to develop implementation of projects that prevent or minimize impacts in coastal areas and facilitating collaboration on coastal resilience needs and opportunities. Project will work with coastal communities to assess critical coastal resilience needs; identify solutions for mitigating risks to community infrastructure; assess project feasibility; outline project development needs and funding; and provide direction on next steps to implement coastal resilience projects. **\$380,000**

Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Council

Connecting Upstream Habitat for Brook Trout in Beavertail Creek (MI)

Replace three undersized road/stream crossings with appropriately sized and aligned crossing structures on Beavertail Creek to provide aquatic organism passage to upstream habitat during all life-cycle movements. Project will connect 17 miles of coldwater habitat to address aquatic habitat fragmentation and sedimentation issues for brook trout and other aquatic species. **\$250,143**

Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Council

Restoring Northern Headwaters through Habitat Management (MI)

Improve the health of the Great Lakes through invasive species control, native plant enhancement, and increasing community awareness by focusing on the nine river systems originating in Northern Michigan's interior. Project will control invasive species, provide outreach and enhance degraded areas with native plants across all nine river systems in order to support healthier watersheds. **\$238,983**

Marquette County Conservation District Riparian Restoration through Invasive Species Control (MI)

Treat and restore riparian habitat in the Lower Dead River Watershed Basin through the management of invasive butterbur, currently found in extremely limited locations in Michigan. Project will remove the invasive butterbur to curb spread in coldwater riparian habitat along the Lower Dead River. **\$146,652**

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Technical Assistance for Family Forest Landowners to Improve Woodland Health (MI)

Engage diverse partners to conduct spatial analysis and help local water utilities implement their source water protection plans with family forest landowners in their watersheds. Project will educate landowners about forest management and protection, improve management on approximately 17,000 acres, plant 20,000 trees in riparian zones and outreach to 3,500 landowners. **\$315,000**

Michigan State University

Farmer Woodland Owner Technical Assistance to Enhance Agroforestry and Woodland Management (MI, OH WI)

Support integrated agricultural and farmer woodland and agroforestry management through collaborative extension programs that connect farmers with resource professionals to support ecosystem service markets, woodland management, agroforestry, and tree-planting practices. Project will help farmers navigate strategies for innovative uses of trees and forests to improve farm viability and increase water quality and social benefits. **\$169,273**

Michigan Technological University

Developing Strategies to Reduce White-nose Syndrome and Increase Bat Survival (MI)

Test the effects of utilizing two methods to create cooler temperatures in cave hibernacula to slow the growth of the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome and improve the over-winter survival of bats. Project will develop, implement and disseminate a guide to management strategies to agencies and landowners that have bat populations affected by white-nose syndrome. **\$103,925**

Muskegon Conservation District

Enhancing Critical Dune Habitat in Western Michigan

Manage hemlock forests for the invasive hemlock woolly adelgid on public lands in Muskegon and Ottawa counties in Western Michigan. Project will help protect hemlocks for migratory shoreline bird, marsh bird, and waterfowl habitat. **\$249,988**

Muskegon River Watershed Assembly

Reconnecting Brook Trout Spawning Habitat in the Muskegon River Watershed (MI)

Remove of two high priority derelict dams located in wetland habitat for brook trout in the Muskegon River Watershed. Project will reconnect of 25 miles of brook trout spawning and nursery habitat, provide access for trout to coldwater refugia, reestablish natural channel form and hydrologic flow, and increase public access for recreational water activities. **\$220,000**

Ottawa Conservation District

Invasive Species Management in the Pere Marquette, Muskegon, and Lower Grand Watersheds (MI)

Manage invasive species in the Pere Marquette, Muskegon, and Lower Grand watersheds through new treatment and retreatment efforts including invasive bittersweet, Japanese knotweed, and Phragmites. Project will facilitate treatment of invasive species as part of a long term plan for continued management to preserve habitat, water quality and biodiversity. **\$200,000**

Pheasants Forever

Accelerating Regenerative Agriculture Technical Assistance for Water and Wildlife (MI)

Increase technical assistance capacity in southeast Michigan to train and work as a Regenerative Ag and Conservation Specialist. Project will directly engage at least 30 farmers to identify opportunities to simultaneously provide environmental benefits and positive economic return through implementation of regenerative agriculture practices. **\$274,140**

Rescue MI Nature Now

Transforming Blight through Urban Forestry and Community Greenspace in Detroit (MI)

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 storm water annually through bioretention, facilitate multigenerational environmental awareness, and improve the quality of life for residents in the Nolan neighborhood of Detroit. **\$189,304**

Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

Davis-Olmsted Drain Improvements (MI)

Replace two unsuitable sets of culverts, encourage a more harmonious relationship between the creek and residents, and enhance riparian habitat along the last 1 mile of the Davis-Olmstead Drain that empties to the Kalamazoo River. Project will improve stream flow and reduce erosion and sedimentation, thus reducing phosphorus loading to the Kalamazoo River, and will open the last mile of the creek to fish and wildlife movement to and from the Kalamazoo River. **\$40,000**

Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy

Saginaw Regional Tree Planning Initiative (MI)

Implement the Better Branches Regional Tree Initiative on vacant lots in Saginaw to increase the tree community and canopy. Product will engage volunteers to plant 3,000 trees and enhance nature-based infrastructure for the community. **\$203,391**

Saugatuck Township**River Bluff Park Shoreline Restoration (MI)**

Design and install bioengineered shoreline and related habitat improvements to stabilize riverbank, enhance the riparian corridor, and reduce sediment loading to the Kalamazoo River. Project will benefit fish, aquatic invertebrates, and sediment and water quality by reducing erosion and increasing vegetation and large woody structures that provide areas for fish to hide and feed.

\$57,000

Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians**Planning for St. Marys River Coastal Wetland Resiliency (MI)**

Develop a comprehensive inter-agency resilience plan that prioritizes coastal wetlands for protection and restoration in the St. Marys River, Michigan. Project will complete a St. Marys River Resilience Plan and foster relationship building and collaboration among natural resources managers, stakeholders, and community members through participation at planning workshops.

\$123,714

The Greening of Detroit**Expanding Green Stormwater Infrastructure through Urban Forestry in Southwest Detroit (MI)**

Implement an urban forest restoration project to slow and retain stormwater runoff in the Rouge River watershed to reduce impairments and stressors of nearshore waters along the Lake Erie corridor. Project will strategically plant 500 diverse tree species in public parks and along neighborhood streets in Southwest Detroit, where many residents in the underserved majority-Latino community are affected by higher rates of poverty and greater environmental risks than in other areas of the city.

\$365,236

The Greening of Detroit**Planting Trees to Build Community Climate Resilience in Southwest Detroit (MI)**

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.

\$245,788

Trout Unlimited**Improving Fish Passage and Coldwater Connectivity in Michigan**

Replace culverts with improved structures using concepts of stream simulation design to span bankfull width, maintain channel morphology, and allow for aquatic organism passage. Project will improve aquatic organism passage at three road-stream crossings within the Sturgeon, Tahquamenon and Whitefish Watersheds, and improve connectivity to over 20 miles of high-quality coldwater habitat.

\$250,000

Washtenaw County**Increasing Nature-based Infrastructure and Pollinator Habitat in Ypsilanti Township (MI)**

Increase nature-based infrastructure in Ypsilanti Township by building rain gardens and wild prairie pollinator gardens and planting trees in community spaces. Project will add 2 million gallons of stormwater storage annually and add 154,000 square feet of nature-based infrastructure.

\$300,000

Wildlife Habitat Council**Revitalizing Public Space through Nature-based Infrastructure in Detroit's 94 Industrial Corridor (MI)**

Install nature-based 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.

\$242,703

MINNESOTA**Association of State Floodplain Managers Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)**

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.

\$260,851

City of Duluth**Restoring Habitat and Managing Invasive Species in the Lake Superior Watershed (MN)**

Treat invasive species and enhance habitat along the Tischer Creek and Kingsbury Creek watersheds near Duluth, Minnesota. Project will manage invasive species on more than 250 acres to increase biodiversity, enhance habitat enhancement for birds, insects and fish and improve buffer zones.

\$201,430

Ducks Unlimited**Northwest Minnesota Livestock Grazing Assistance and Planning Program**

Facilitate the improvement of grazing systems on private working lands that foster sustainable agriculture while promoting wildlife habitat conservation. Project will increase capacity for a Range, Pasture and Grassland Planner to work with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field staff to provide technical assistance to 150 private landowners and livestock producers on an estimated 6,000 acres.

\$295,185

Minnesota Soil Health Coalition**Coordinating Cover Crop Adoption to Conserve Natural Resources in Minnesota**

Coordinate technical and financial support to help farmers increase the adoption of cover crops in corn, soybean and wheat systems in Minnesota. Project will support the adoption of cover crops on 25,000 acres in 2022, with the potential to increase the total to 100,000 acres by 2025 to enhance soil health, improve water resources, and provide benefit to wildlife while providing economic benefits to participating farmers.

\$248,654

Minnesota Soil Health Coalition**Farmer to Farmer Mentoring to Improve Soil Health and Conservation Grazing (MN)**

Facilitate farmer-led mentorships and workshops in the Minnesota River Valley watershed to increase adoption of Farm Bill programs and Natural Resources Conservation Service practices, targeting corn and bean farmers and livestock producers. Project will expand a network of peer mentorships to educate about conservation grazing to improve water quality and soil health.

\$281,145

Mississippi Park Connection**Community Tree Nurseries to Support the Mississippi River (MN)**

Increase resiliency in the Ash-Elm-Mixed Lowland Hardwood forest through invasive species removal and planting of approximately 1,000 climate-adapted trees and shrubs. Project will address emerald ash borer threat by engaging local youth and community members in conservation activities focused on enhancing ecosystem health across a 2,224 acre forested area.

\$44,283

Monarch Joint Venture**Advancing Biodiversity Conservation and Diverse Citizen Engagement (MN)**

Create a learning management system with modular components targeted for diverse audiences and different levels of engagement. Project will provide a full-suite learning platform that offers partners, stakeholders, and interested individuals a range of pre-recorded and live digital courses, stand-alone videos, trainings, and educator resources that will greatly expand the Monarch Joint Venture's educational scope, thus broadening the organization's capacity to facilitate monarch conservation in North America.

\$30,000

National Audubon Society**Promoting Conservation Grazing to Enhance Minnesota's Grasslands**

Improve grazing practices through technical assistance, outreach, and the launch of Audubon Conservation Ranching in Minnesota. Project will enhance over 8,000 acres of grasslands in western and central Minnesota benefiting priority grassland bird, duck, and shorebird species.

\$418,486

The Nature Conservancy**Providing Technical and Financial Assistance to Support Regenerative Agriculture Practices (MN)**

Provide technical and financial assistance to increase crop retailer offerings of conservation practices and services, while also supporting farmers with technical and financial tools to manage risk while transitioning to regenerative soil health systems. Project will provide training for retail agronomy staff, develop soil health management plans, and implementation of at least 8,000 acres of cover crops in central, southwest and southeastern Minnesota.

\$262,224

**Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation District
Advancing Regenerative Agriculture in the Buffalo-Red River Watershed (MN)**

Provide technical assistance to accelerate landowner adoption of regenerative agriculture practices in high priority areas identified in the Buffalo-Red River Comprehensive Water Management Plan. Project will support Farm Bill program enrollment and promote peer to peer learning opportunities for farmers resulting in improved grazing management, soil health, water quality, irrigation efficiency and habitat enhancement on 15,000 acres.

\$299,000

MISSISSIPPI**American Forest Foundation****Engaging Landowners in Longleaf Restoration to Benefit At-Risk and Listed Species (FL, LA, MS)**

Restore and maintain longleaf pine forests in Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi to benefit populations of at-risk and listed species, such as gopher tortoise, southern hognose snake, and red-cockaded woodpecker.

Project will provide technical and financial assistance to restore or maintain more than 1,100 acres of longleaf pine habitat and secure long-term agreements with family forest owners to provide access to the land for monitoring the effects of these activities on species populations.

\$154,000

Forest Landowners Association**Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.

\$250,000

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Mississippi River Trust**Restoring Bottomland Hardwood Wetland Habitat in the Lower Mississippi River Floodplain (AR, MS, LA)**

Work with private landowners to reforest and protect 2,000 acres of frequently flooded, mostly cleared land through the adoption of Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetland Reserve Easements in the active floodplain of the Lower Mississippi River. Project will expand and enhance habitat for the Louisiana black bear, swamp rabbit, forest-dwelling birds, waterfowl, and freshwater fish; improve water quality in the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico; and increase carbon sequestration.

\$199,625

STEPS COALITION**Restoration of Keegan Bayou and Bayou Auguste in East Biloxi (MS)**

Conduct site assessments of Keegan Bayou and Bayou Auguste and develop preliminary designs for nature-based restoration, while educating and training community leaders and youth in East Biloxi to engage with environmental actions through bayou restoration. Project will develop designs for restoration sites that improve stormwater management and coastal resilience, as well as the establishment of long-term community education programs in the neighborhood.

\$226,758

The Nature Conservancy**Longleaf Restoration, Enhancement and Management in the Mississippi and Louisiana**

Restore longleaf pine on private lands through plantings, prescribed fire and other management treatments within priority areas in Mississippi and Louisiana, benefiting gopher tortoise, northern bobwhite and Bachman's sparrow. Project will help address long-term prescribed fire capacity issues as well as provide financial assistance to landowners and contractors to offset some of the costs associated with managing fire-maintained habitats, resulting in improved management longleaf pine forests.

\$291,500

MISSOURI**Ducks Unlimited****Implementing Farm Bill Programs to Benefit Wetlands Along the Mississippi River (MO, IL, KY)**

Promote and implement Farm Bill conservation programs with private landowners within the Mississippi Alluvial Valley of southeast Missouri, southwest Illinois, and western Kentucky to restore and enhance wetland habitat. Project will engage a minimum of 250 landowners, enroll 36 landowners in Farm Bill programs, and develop 30 new wetland plans to restore or enhance more than 2,300 acres of wetland habitat, benefiting swamp rabbit, waterfowl and songbirds including the Kentucky warbler.

\$245,690

National Audubon Society**Improving Grazing Practices to Benefit Grassland Birds in the Upper Mississippi River Region (IA, MO, WI)**

Increase capacity for the Audubon Conservation Ranching program to accelerate voluntary, on-the-ground adoption of managed grazing practices to benefit birds, biodiversity, and soil health on working lands in priority areas of Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. Project will improve grazing practices across 12,590 acres to benefit wildlife of tallgrass prairie ecosystems including focal grassland birds such as the bobolink, Henslow's sparrow, and upland sandpiper.

\$398,198

MONTANA**American Bird Conservancy**

Leveraging Grassland Conservation for Birds and Rangeland Resiliency (MT, ND, SD, WY)
Increase the impact of Working Lands for Wildlife initiatives for Greater Sage-grouse and the Northern Plains Grassland in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Project will provide technical assistance and planning to improve management on at least 15,500 acres, while fostering landowner trust and interest in grassland conservation, to ultimately provide more high-quality habitat and build rangeland resiliency.
\$205,095

Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department
Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big Game and Migration Corridors Across the Blackfeet Nation (MT)

Address habitat connectivity on the Blackfeet Nation through removal and upgrade of fences, reduction of animal-vehicle collisions along key sections of highway, and improvement of habitat through control of invasive species. Project will provide capacity and educational opportunities to improve habitat management and fence line modifications on 26,000 acres of tribal lands.
\$171,568

Clark Fork Coalition

Restoring Urban Grant Creek (MT)
Restore habitat connectivity for cutthroat trout in western Montana by engaging 140 volunteers to reforest 2 acres of riparian land, plant 300 trees, and remove invasive species. Project will utilize best management practices to manage stormwater runoff, implement water quality monitoring at four sites, remove 150 pounds of trash and reach 100 people.
\$36,987

Clark Fork Coalition

Water Transaction Development in the Clark Fork River Basin (MT)
Identify, implement and monitor water transactions in the Clark Fork basin of Montana. Project will improve stream flows and aquatic habitat conditions for native trout.
\$184,640

Ducks Unlimited

Supporting Climate Resilient Habitats and Increasing Grassland Carbon Sequestration (MT, ND, SD, WY)
Provide technical assistance and incentives for on-the-ground conservation projects on private lands through the Northern Grassland Incentives Program which offers landowners financial assistance to voluntarily restore and enhance native grasslands, shrublands and mesic habitats. Project will improve or restore nearly 10,000 acres to help build rangelands that are resilient to climate change, drought, and invasive species, and which have improved capabilities to sequester carbon.
\$296,988

Five Valleys Land Trust

Permanently Protecting Migratory Bird Stopover and Breeding Habitat on Rocking Chair Ranch (MT)
Permanently protect Rocking Chair Ranch in the Flint Creek Valley of western Montana through a conservation easement to conserve breeding and stopover habitat for a variety of bird and wildlife species and safeguard a critical wildlife movement corridor between the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Project will place more than 1,801 acres under conservation easement to benefit wildlife and sustain the rural heritage of the valley.
\$75,000

Fort Belknap Indian Community

Improving Habitat and Plague Mitigation for Black-Footed Ferrets on the Fort Belknap Reservation (MT)
Increase the Fort Belknap black-footed ferret population from 17 to 30 breeding adults to meet federal delisting criteria and contribute to the removal of the species from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. Project will scale up annual sylvatic plague mitigation in ferrets and their prairie dog prey, ferret population surveys, and reintroductions on the Reservation.
\$191,874

Montana Audubon Society

Restoring Grassland Habitat on Private Working Lands through Audubon Conservation Ranching (MT, WY)
Provide capacity and technical assistance to increase landowner enrollment in the Audubon Conservation Ranching program which increase climate resilience and system health in grassland habitats through individualized improved grazing management plans. Project will improve management technical plans on approximately 25,000 acres of private and privately managed grassland habitats and enroll an additional 300,000 acres.
\$488,017

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Support for Water Transfers to Instream Flows (MT)
Assist organizations developing water transactions with review and coordination of project proposals. Project will efficiently process instream flow water right change applications to legally protect instream water acquired through water right transactions.
\$47,786

Montana Land Reliance

Increasing Capacity to Facilitate Conservation Easements on Private Lands Grassland Habitat (MT)
Increase capacity for an Eastern Manager position to identify conservation easement opportunities in Montana's Northern Great Plains, work directly with landowners to answer questions, negotiate easement terms and guide easement donors through the process. Project will secure 50,000 acres under easements through this coordinator to protect vulnerable prairie landscapes, sagebrush habitat, and threatened species, including the greater sage grouse, pronghorn, and migratory bird species.
\$150,000

Montana Land Reliance

Protecting Private Grassland Rangeland Habitat through Conservation Easements in Rosebud County (MT)
Permanently protect two multi-generation private working ranches in Rosebud County, Montana through conservation easements to benefit the greater sage grouse and ensure the area remains intact and available for wildlife habitat. Project will protect the high quality grassland habitat in to row crop agriculture in perpetuity.
\$421,058

Mule Deer Foundation

Improving Conservation Coordination and Implementation in the Dakota Grasslands (MT, ND, SD, WY)
Increase capacity for a habitat partnership coordinator to be the key position for increasing the capacity to identify, plan, coordinate and implement conservation projects that restore key habitats in the Dakota Grassland region. Project will improve derelict fencing to wildlife-friendly specifications, restore sage-grouse habitat through invasive species treatments, improve mesic habitat hydrology through seedyk structures and improve rangelands through modified grazing plans.
\$364,717

National Wildlife Federation

Restoring Mesic and Wet Meadow Habitat in the Missouri-Milk River Grasslands (MT)
Provide a replicable model for watershed-scale mesic, wet meadow, and riverscape restoration through a comprehensive assessment and prioritization of public and private lands in the Willow North Watershed in the Milk River basin, Montana. Project will restore 13 acres of mesic habitat hydrology by installing Zeedyk and beaver dam analog structures to benefit greater sage-grouse and other species.
\$78,942

Ranchers Stewardship Alliance**Increasing Climate Resilience for Grassland Habitats and Ranching Communities (MT)**

Improve soil health, hydrology and carbon storage through improved grazing management practices in north-central Montana to increase climate resilience and benefit wildlife species. Project will target ranches operating on perennial rangelands and develop infrastructure to disincentivize land use conversion and associated losses to wildlife and soil carbon to improve 10,000 acres of habitat.

\$381,075

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)**

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.

\$250,000

The Blackfoot Challenge**Restoring Grassland Habitat by Removing Woody Invasives in the Blackfoot River Watershed (MT)**

Restore intermountain grasslands in the Helmsville Valley through the removal of invasive Rocky Mountain juniper and Douglas-fir trees. Project will increase desirable plant productivity and health, provide additional forage for livestock and wildlife, improve hydrologic functions, and revitalize an important stronghold for Brewer's sparrows, trumpeter swans, and many other bird species.

\$74,149

The Nature Conservancy**Increasing Climate Resilience through Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (MT)**

Build on past success to expand the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances program for grassland birds and greater sage-grouse and implement habitat conservation activities that will help to retain the ecological integrity of climate-resilient grassland habitat in Montana. Project will place 360 acres under conservation easement, restore 20 acres of mesic habitat hydrology with Zeedyk structures, modify 14 miles of fencing and improve grazing management on 50,000 acres.

\$299,716

The Trust for Public Land**Conserve Habitat in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (MT)**

Permanently protect 88,428 acres of riparian, wetland and forest habitat in Lincoln, Flathead, and Sanders Counties, Montana that supports 46 federally listed species including redband trout, hoary bat, northern goshawk, and northern alligator lizard. Project will provide habitat connectivity between existing protected areas.

\$600,000

Trout Unlimited**Restoring Instream Flow in the Upper Clark Fork Basin (MT)**

Develop water right leases and transactions that work to augment streamflow and critical habitat for native trout species, including bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout, throughout the Clark Fork River basin, Blackfoot River and Bitterroot River subbasins. Project will reconnect key tributaries to their mainstems and restore chronically dewatered stream reaches.

\$126,001

World Wildlife Fund**Expanding Regenerative Grazing (MT)**

Engage ranchers in the Prairie Pothole region of Montana to facilitate regenerative grazing practices that improve soil organic carbon and wildlife habitat. Project will enhance grassland condition through application of wildlife-friendly grazing practices and infrastructure on 75,000 acres of nesting habitat for grassland birds and waterfowl.

\$258,839

NEBRASKA**Central Platte Natural Resources District****Increasing Technical Assistance to Restore Grassland Habitat through Prescribed Fire (NE)**

Increase technical assistance and financial assistance to landowners to reintegrate prescribed fire and improve range condition for grassland birds and cattle producers in central Nebraska. Project will restore 12,000 acres of grassland habitat on private, working ranches through the development of burn plans, improved grazing management, mechanical removal of eastern red cedar, and implementation of prescribed fire.

\$300,000

Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska**Iowa Tribe Conservation Partnership Program (KS, NE)**

Provide a series of educational events, conservation planning, and technical assistance to the agricultural producers of the Iowa Reservation and surrounding communities. Project will expand regenerative agriculture strategies that ensure a lasting impact on soil health, water conservation and quality, and carbon storage and sequestration.

\$400,000

National Audubon Society**Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Habitat (NE)**

Restore and improve pollinator habitat for the monarch butterfly and regal fritillary on public lands and private working lands in eastern Nebraska. Project will improve 5,180 acres, restore 340 acres, propagate 2,000 milkweed seedlings, collect 110 pounds of milkweed seed and engage 100 people.

\$175,000

Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition**Restoring Grassland Habitat by Reintroducing Historic Prescribed Fire Regimes (NE)**

Increase technical assistance through two Burn Coordinator positions to ensure capacity is available to implement prescribed fires to treat woody invasive species encroachment of eastern red cedars and restore native grassland habitat in the Nebraska Sandhills. Project will restore nearly 9,600 and support communication efforts that explain the value and necessity of prescribed fire in managing healthy grassland systems.

\$300,000

Pheasants Forever**Restoring Grassland Habitat by Removing Invasive Eastern Red Cedar (NE)**

Restore grassland rangeland habitat in the Nebraska Sandhills using prescribed fire to control woody invasive species such as eastern red cedar. Project will restore 50,000 acres of habitat by working with private landowners to remove invasive trees, reintroduce historic burning regimes, reseed native grassland species and follow best management practices for grazing.

\$261,244

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)**

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation of grassland birds.

\$250,000

Sandhills Task Force**Collaborative Conservation in the Sandhills Ecosystem (NE)**

Improve grassland bird and wildlife habitat, ecosystem resiliency, and carbon sequestration potential in Nebraska's Sandhills on privately owned land by controlling eastern red cedar infestations and/or improving grazing systems. Project will restore or improve 10,000 acres through use of prescribed fire, mechanical treatment, and strategically removing seed sources of woody invasives.

\$300,000

The Nature Conservancy**Enhancing Nutrient Management in the Blue River Watershed (NE)**

Partner with farmers in the Lower Big Blue River watershed to implement nutrient management practices on their operations. Project will deliver financial and technical assistance to thirty area farmers to improve nutrient management regimens on 4,800 acres based on best available science and each farm's operational realities.

\$232,561

The Nature Conservancy**Increase Capacity and Technical Assistance to Accelerate Conservation Delivery in the Sandhills (NE)**

Increase capacity for a full-time Grassland Protection Coordinator will enhance partner efforts in the eastern third of the Sandhills, providing technical assistance to accelerate on-the-ground delivery and implementation of NRCS and Farm Bill conservation programs. Project will improve management on nearly 200,000 acres of private rangeland habitat, addressing woody encroachment and increase grassland health climate resilience.

\$245,036

NEVADA**Sustainable Northwest****Building a Regenerative Ranching Economy in the West (ID, NV, OR)**

Launch and enroll producers in a voluntary regenerative ranching program across Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada to provide customized regenerative management plans, technical assistance and establish baseline data and monitoring for each ranch to measure impacts. Project will implement regenerative ranching practices to benefit core sage grouse habitat, soil health, carbon sequestration and water conservation.

\$281,108

NEW HAMPSHIRE**Gulf of Maine Research Institute****Building Maximized Retention Electronic Monitoring Capacity in the New England Groundfish Fishery**

Support the implementation of the maximized retention electronic monitoring model in the New England groundfish fishery by piloting a third-party dockside monitoring approach to build regional capacity to support 100 percent monitoring on vessels. Project will facilitate the transition to an industry led effort and support implementation by providing technical assistance to sectors, fishers, and dealers using a maximized retention model to meet their monitoring requirements.

\$319,745

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services**Building Capacity to Protect Communities and Tidal Wetlands (NH)**

Build upon the state guidance to develop a dynamic sea-level rise and storm surge model for coastal New Hampshire. Project will use the model to test the effectiveness of community-driven conceptual adaptation alternatives for eight transportation and local land use pilot projects, as well as publish best practices for conducting alternatives analyses that consider future flood conditions, social vulnerability, and nature-based designs that protect tidal wetlands.

\$350,000

The Nature Conservancy**Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

University of New Hampshire**Building Coastal Resilience for the Broader Great Marsh System of New Hampshire and Massachusetts**

Stabilize dunes across the five barrier beach towns of Great Marsh, complete marsh restoration efforts in the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary, conduct a sediment placement pilot in Great Bay Estuary, and create a scholarship initiative focused on climate adaptation across the states. Project will preserve and strengthen the resiliency of broader Great Marsh and reduce human vulnerability to the growing risks from coastal storms and sea-level rise, with direct benefits to fish and wildlife.

\$1,519,207

NEW JERSEY**Association of New Jersey****Environmental Commissioners****Strategic Use of Nature-based Infrastructure to Manage Untreated Runoff (NJ)**

Install green stormwater infrastructure projects and restore forested wetlands in the Kirkwood Cohansey Cluster geography of the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. Project will include restoration of forested wetlands, installation of a bioretention system, and installation of tree pits and extended tree trenches, addressing water quality and biological impairments in the region.

\$300,000

Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority**Living Shoreline Installation on the Delaware River in Camden, NJ**

Install a hybrid living shoreline along the Delaware River in Camden, New Jersey, in front of the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant. Project will ensure shoreline stability, protect critical infrastructure at this site, and promote aquatic life and vegetation that in turn furnish diverse ecosystem services such as water quality enhancement.

\$1,625,474

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey**Assessing Red Knot Survival Using Data from Delaware Bay and Lagoa do Peixe, Brazil (DE, BRA)**

Monitor recovery and stopover health of red knot and other shorebirds, estimate stopover population size, and protect critical habitats to improve foraging conditions for migratory shorebirds in Delaware Bay, Delaware, and Lagoa do Peixe, Brazil. Project will continue to develop a better understanding of the threats occurring at Lagoa do Peixe and surrounding areas towards recovery of the red knot population as a whole.

\$75,000

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey**Developing Management and Restoration Strategies for American Oystercatcher in the Delaware Bay (NJ)**

Systematically survey and monitor American Oystercatchers breeding on the beaches along the Delaware Bay in New Jersey for productivity and risk factors to reproductive success. Project will result in the development of a quantitative habitat characterization based on comprehensive assessments at active nest sites and the incorporation of the habitat needs of this priority at-risk species into larger beach restoration projects along the Delaware Bay in the future.

\$125,367

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey**Restoring the Delaware Bay Stopover for Red Knots through Monitoring and Protection (NJ)**

Further current management and monitoring efforts to recover the Rufa Red Knot and other shorebirds as well as Horseshoe Crab through disturbance protection and monitoring of population status. Project will support the maintenance of effective, established, volunteer-based population monitoring programs in the region.

\$239,168

Delaware River Basin Commission**Water Resource Management Studies across the Delaware River Basin (DE, NJ, NY, PA)**

Increase and enhance water security for fish, wildlife, and humans in the Delaware River Basin by advancing research in water resource management through the completion of studies comprising four critical components of water security to understand disparities in water security in overburdened communities and water resiliency. Project will generate findings that will be used for future water security planning efforts.

\$866,938

Delaware Riverkeeper Network**Restoring the Stream-Community Connection in East Trenton (NJ)**

Invest in local knowledge and capacity to connect to the Assunpink Creek and East Trenton community. Project will expand the StreetLeader program with two youth leaders each year to be environmental specialists for the community and build a training program to sustain these positions into the future. This project will also monitor water quality and ecological integrity through continuous sensors and discrete water quality and biological surveys.

\$116,687

Ducks Unlimited**Demonstrating the Utility of Low-cost Salt Marsh Restoration Techniques in Delaware Bay (DE, NJ)**

Advance a Delaware Bay-wide tidal marsh resilience program based on innovative low cost and disturbance marsh restoration techniques. Project will serve as the beginning of a programmatic approach to investigate the utility of these techniques and scale up the effort to make a more meaningful impact to the coastal wetland conservation within the Bay.

\$388,878

Ducks Unlimited**Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Tidal Marsh Restoration Implementation Phase II (NJ)**

Restore and enhance 430 acres of existing and lost critical tidal freshwater marsh habitat at Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, New Jersey. Project will facilitate natural hydrologic regime through removal of excess rock in key channels, enhance marsh resilience via enhancing existing breakwaters along the Refuge border, and conduct marsh elevation enhancement via dredge material placement.

\$1,461,082

Foodshed Alliance**Water Quality Monitoring and Outreach Campaign for the Paulins Kill Watershed (NJ)**

Expand outreach and education on protecting the Paulins Kill Watershed to municipalities, schools, community groups, nonprofits, and local residents, and institute a citizens' water-quality monitoring program. Project will support the promotion of science-based water quality decision-making and management.

\$131,668

Groundwork Hudson Valley**Exemplary Trees for Critical Habitats: Hudson Valley Restoration (NJ, NY, PA)**

Conduct habitat restoration work across three areas involving riparian, swamp and upland environments in the Hudson Valley. Project will engage 30-50 youth and over 75 local volunteers in reforestation activities to restore 3 acres, improve management on 15 acres of habitat and plant 500 trees.

\$49,938

Groundwork Elizabeth**Urban Riparian Restoration, Stewardship, Awareness and Training (NJ)**

Restore natural habitats through the enhancement of six wetlands, removal of 4 acres of invasive plant species, and installation of 32 feet of Bio-logs in Sussex, New Jersey. Project will increase engagement with volunteers and public and private sector partnerships, and address local watershed issues that threaten the waterway, stream bank and native flora and fauna.

\$38,663

Long Beach Township**Restoring Bay Islands for Community Resiliency (NJ)**

Conduct site assessments and create preliminary design for five islands, with the dual purpose of ecological health and community resiliency. Project will target assessment of islands that buffer the Township and in preparation for final design and construction, will obtain regulator input at a permit pre-application meeting and develop construction cost estimates.

\$87,066

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

National Wildlife Federation**Creating the Delaware River Watershed Conservation Blueprint**

Create a science-based Conservation Blueprint to help guide where and when to invest resources for restoration and conservation in the Delaware River Watershed. Project will facilitate the creation of a roadmap that includes the parameters of the Blueprint, the selection of a technical provider, and the paneling of Basin partners to assist in the development of a science-based, landscape-scale strategy that builds upon the existing strategic and conservation plans of partners throughout the Basin, and a coordination mechanism that reflects and balances the preferences and views of the partners.

\$213,955

Natural Resource Education Foundation of New Jersey**Coastal Landscape Enhancement for Community Resilience at the Waretown Lighthouse Center (NJ)**

Conduct site assessment and develop plans to restore 50 acres of salt marsh habitat at the Lighthouse Center in Waretown, NJ. Project will develop designs to increase marsh elevation with the reuse of local dredge material and restore natural marsh hydrology by mitigating mosquito-control ditches with low-technology methods.

\$138,138

New Jersey Audubon Society**Building Capacity for Conservation Projects through a Mentored Small Grant Program (DE, NJ, NY PA)**

Administer a small grants restoration program to provide peer mentoring opportunities to prospective grantees in the Delaware River Basin. Project will assist organizations and community groups in capacity building through on-the-ground restoration projects with an outcome of a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable and coordinated Delaware River watershed.

\$439,952

New Jersey Audubon Society**Enhancing Habitat to Benefit Golden-Winged Warbler, Bobwhite Quail, American Black Duck and Bog Turtle (NJ)**

Work directly with private landowners across focal areas for golden-winged warbler, bobwhite quail, American black duck, and bog turtle in New Jersey to deploy best management practices and improve habitat. Project will restore 10 acres of wetlands, develop ecological forest management plans, and implement at least 15 Best Management Plans.

\$425,527

New Jersey Audubon Society**High Marsh Habitat Management for Nesting Black Rail and Saltmarsh Sparrow in the Delaware Bay (NJ)**

Conserve critical black rail and saltmarsh sparrow high marsh habitat in Delaware Bay at an unimpounded site currently farmed for salt hay. Project will work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to modify existing practice scenarios that integrate salt marsh conservation into their incentive programs, which will allow the landowner to maintain some farming while providing critical habitat for at-risk marsh birds.
\$190,295

New Jersey Audubon Society**Surveying American Horseshoe Crab as a Critical Element of Red Knot Conservation (Multiple States)**

Implement surveys and recovery metrics used in Delaware Bay to characterize and track the status of horseshoe crab populations in six Atlantic Coast states. Project will inform natural resource agencies, supporting the recovery of horseshoe crab populations outside of Delaware Bay, with a goal of rebuilding a network of shorebird stopovers, and advancing the recovery of rufa red knot and other Arctic-nesting shorebirds.
\$60,000

North Jersey RC&D Area**Implementing Effective Best Management Practices through the AgAssist Program in New Jersey**

Address agricultural runoff by administering the AgAssist Conservation and Commitment Program in the New Jersey Highlands Cluster geography of the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. Project will efficiently, equitably, and effectively deliver technical and financial assistance to farmers by implementing best management practices that improve and protect water quality.
\$250,489

NY/NJ Baykeeper**Designing a Nature Based Shoreline for Naval Weapons Station Earle (NJ)**

Advance an innovative nature-based design for 3,200 linear feet of shoreline stabilization, coastal protection, and habitat enhancement along the Raritan Bay coast adjacent to U.S. Naval Weapons Station Earle. Project will progress the goal of stabilizing the station's shoreline and protecting the surrounding community through oyster castles and marsh restoration to dampen wave energies, mitigate storm surge, reduce erosion, and initiate beneficial sediment accretion along the coastline.
\$621,576

Ocean County College

Nellie Bennett Marsh Restoration Planning (NJ)
Complete site assessment and preliminary design for restoration of 20 acres of tidal salt marsh and up to 2,600 feet of shoreline that is undergoing subsidence and edge erosion. Project will provide important wildlife habitat and protect a local school and over 150 homes from flooding and wave action.
\$234,930

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary Building Capacity for Urban Waters Federal Partnership Cities (DE, NJ, PA)

Expand the capacity of local organizations in the four Delaware River Urban Waters Federal Partnership cities of Camden, Chester, Philadelphia, and Wilmington to plan and implement community-driven habitat and water quality projects. Project will engage community groups and local decision-makers in order to implement community-led projects, such as tree plantings, installing rain gardens and native pollinator gardens, and other habitat improvement projects.
\$92,541

Pinelands Preservation Alliance**Introducing the Landscape Makeover Program to the Delaware River Watershed (NJ)**

Implement the Landscape Makeover Program along the Delaware River Watershed communities. Project will transform lawns into pollinator habitats that reduce stormwater and localized flooding by providing homeowners and municipalities and other institutions funding and technical assistance to install green stormwater infrastructure.
\$443,750

Rutgers University**Design of Nature-based Infrastructure for the Royce Brook Watershed (NJ)**

Identify and develop preliminary designs for nature-based stormwater management projects that can capture and store stormwater runoff from developed areas and release it slowly well after storm events. Project will reduce flooding in both Hillsborough and Manville, New Jersey, while also treating the stormwater runoff and providing wildlife habitat.
\$249,569

Rutgers University**Final Floodplain Habitat Design To Establish Nature-based Infrastructure along Woodbridge River (NJ)**

Produce final floodplain restoration designs that incorporate nature-based solutions and nature-based infrastructure to improve ecosystem function and mitigate flood risk in three communities in coastal New Jersey. Project will improve community resilience and wetland habitat for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife.
\$397,632

Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association**Creating Watershed Community Through a Science-Based Educational Collaborative (NJ)**

Support the collaboration of two non-profit environmental groups to simultaneously offer StreamWatch Schools, River-Friendly Schools, and Eco-Schools to partnering schools in the historically under-resourced districts in and around Trenton, New Jersey. Project will work with partners to engage teachers and students from historically excluded groups and connect them with their watershed neighbor-schools throughout the Assunpink watershed.
\$152,703

The Nature Conservancy**Fish Passage Barrier Removals for Habitat Restoration and Water Quality for Native Wildlife on the Pequest River (NJ)**

Complete engineering, permitting and construction needed to fully remove fish passage barriers at the No Name and Cedar Grove Dams, the third and fourth blockages on the Pequest River. Project will amplify the impact that removal of the two most downstream fish passage barriers will have on restoring aquatic connectivity and improving water quality for the benefit of Delaware River Basin priority species.
\$266,061

The Nature Conservancy**Increasing Capacity for Improving Aquatic Passageways to Accelerate Habitat Improvement in Delaware River (DE, NJ, NY, PA)**

Add capacity and expertise for aquatic passage restoration in the Delaware River Basin by leveraging an existing collaboration and offering new training opportunities throughout the basin. Project will support efficient habitat restoration, increase recreation, and reduce risk by increasing capacity and expertise among conservation practitioners, fish and wildlife agencies, local governments, and dam safety programs.
\$106,965

NEW MEXICO**Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy Habitat Restoration and Reintroduction for Imperiled Herpetofauna of the Black, San Francisco, and Upper Gila-Mangas Watersheds (AZ, NM)**

Restore wetland habitat quality and availability in the San Francisco, Upper Gila-Mangas, and Black River watersheds through a watershed inventory of target species and threats, prioritization of potential remediation sites, wetland restoration, and ultimately, Chiricahua leopard frog reintroduction. Project will create eight, 1-acre wetlands, and .25 miles of heavy-duty livestock exclusion fencing to increase habitat quality, availability, and biodiversity to critical headwaters of the Upper Gila and Salt Rivers.
\$227,074

Borderlands Restoration Network**Headwater Riparian Restoration along Arizona/New Mexico Border (AZ, NM)**

Increase capacity for local youth to construct rock and wood erosion-control structures instream and along floodplains in headwater streams of the San Simon River watershed in the Chiricahua Mountains. Project will restore 2 miles of riparian forest habitat in multiple headwater drainages while enhancing groundwater recharge.

\$188,213

Carlsbad Soil and Water Conservation District**Vegetative Restoration of Blue Springs (NM)**

Remove invasive salt cedar and Russian olive trees in and around the riparian area of Blue Springs and mesquite in adjacent upland areas. Project will enhance soil, water, vegetation and wildlife habitat along the springs and wetlands.

\$222,221

Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management**Black River Sensor Array (NM)**

Establish a sensor array within the reach of the Black River in southeastern New Mexico occupied by the endangered Texas hornshell mussel (*Popenaias popeii*). Project will greatly improve the precision and accuracy of water quality readings and contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of conditions endured by the mussel.

\$197,228

Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management**Restoring Grasslands by Removing Dead Standing Mesquite to Benefit Lesser Prairie-Chicken (NM)**

Prioritize landscape habitat connectivity projects by implementing brush control across multiple cross-jurisdictional properties within the lesser prairie-chicken Core Management Area in southeastern New Mexico. Initiative will remove previously treated, dead, standing mesquite structures from nearly 7,000 acres and remove 5 miles of derelict fencing to improve grassland health, support biodiversity and improve climate resilience.

\$74,300

Chaves Soil and Water Conservation District**Southeast New Mexico Plains Pronghorn Restoration (NM)**

Enhance grassland habitat and improve landscape connectivity for pronghorn across ranches and pastures in Chaves County, New Mexico. Project will restore nearly 5,000 acres of grassland habitat through mesquite brush control and install at least 5 miles of pronghorn-friendly fencing.

\$106,128

National Audubon Society**Conserving Shortgrass Prairie Habitat through Conservation Ranching (NM, TX)**

Implement on-the-ground restoration efforts in the shortgrass prairie ecosystems of the Texas panhandle and southeastern New Mexico through the Audubon Conservation Ranching Initiative. Project will improve grazing management on 50,000 acres of private, working ranches and implement a spectrum of technical guidance tools and development of ranch-specific habitat management plans and monitoring efforts to benefit Lesser Prairie-Chickens and other native species.

\$175,346

National Audubon Society**Program Development Support for Middle Rio Grande Native Water Leasing Pilot (NM)**

Contribute to the development, design, and implementation of a water leasing pilot program within the boundaries of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District. Project will support water and habitat management alternatives that the MRGCD and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation may consider as they seek to provide adaptive management and protection for agricultural communities in coordination with site monitoring and habitat restoration for endangered species.

\$299,848

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Fence Management to Improve Connectivity and Habitat Quality in the Pecos Grassland Focal Area (NM)

Modify, remove, and install at least 40 miles of fence on 27 Wildlife Management Areas spread across the Pecos Grassland Focal Area. Project will increase grassland connectivity, improve grazing and range management practices, improve habitat quality and bolster populations of Chestnut-collared longspur, Sprague's pipit, pronghorn and other grassland wildlife.

\$195,000

North Carolina State University**Assessment of the Rio Grande Cooter Population Structure in the Delaware River (NM)**

Conduct high trap intensity Rio Grande cooter (*Pseudemys gorzugi*) surveys along the Delaware River and compare findings to capture data on the Black River. Project will enhance knowledge of overall species occupancy, distribution and habitat preferences, which are essential to implementing sound management practices for species protection.

\$88,808

Pueblo of Sandia**Restoring Climate-Resilient Habitat for Big Game on Sandia's Bobcat Ranch (NM)**

Increase climate-resilient habitat for big game in the Sangre de Cristo mountain range on Bobcat Ranch, a ranch owned and operated by the Pueblo of Sandia Tribe. Project will restore a 247-acre big game migration corridor for the benefit of Rocky Mountain elk and mule deer by implementing forest thinning treatments, prescribed burning, and reseeded of grassland vegetation to link three existing meadows via a migration corridor.

\$205,054

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)**

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.

\$250,000

Rio Grande Return**Rio Cebolla Wetland and Watershed Natural Process Based Restoration Initiative (NM)**

Conduct restoration activities on the Rio Cebolla in the Santa Fe National Forest such as watershed thinning, riparian and wetland vegetation planting, and beaver dam analog installation. Project will restore a cottonwood and willow overstory, increase channel complexity and floodplain connectivity through the addition of in-stream structures, and protect riparian habitat from grazing, benefiting Rio Grande cutthroat trout, New Mexico meadow jumping mouse and other sensitive and threatened species.

\$189,481

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Using Community-Based Collaboratives to Improve Grassland Habitat for Migratory Birds (CO, NM)**

Help reverse the decline of grassland bird populations and improve grassland ecosystem health and resilience to climate change through prescribed grazing and associated infrastructure, drought management plans, maintaining grass cover, reducing woody invasion, and delivering workshops in the eastern plains of Colorado and New Mexico. Project will provide focused technical and financial support to improve 75,000 acres of private working lands through community based collaboratives.

\$315,615

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Native Seeds Development and Outreach for Grassland Restoration in the Pecos River Watershed (NM, TX)

Develop ecotypic native seed sources for the Pecos River watershed in West Texas and New Mexico to support successful grassland restoration. Project will address limitations to native grassland habitat restoration through outreach and technical assistance to landowners, energy operators, and related contractors reseeding in the watershed, by expanding an established native seed research and development program, and by collaborating with the commercial seed trade to expand seed source availability.
\$195,891

The Trust for Public Land

Protecting Mt. Taylor Traditional Cultural Properties for the Marquez Wildlife Management Area (NM)

Acquire 52,870 acres of the Mt. Taylor Traditional Cultural Properties in central New Mexico to secure important wildlife corridors and eliminate the threat of future mineral development while also preserving important cultural resources and providing new recreational opportunities. Project will benefit a large suit of species who rely on this area and enhance connectivity between existing protected lands.
\$1,000,000

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Restoration Project (NM)**

Restore the Rio Hondo river channel and replace 5 miles of boundary fencing with pronghorn-friendly fence at Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Project will improve the overall health of the river channel and improve conditions for federally endangered and threatened species such as the Pecos gambusia (*Gambusia nobilis*) and state species of concern Pecos pupfish (*Cyprinodon pecosensis*), as well as improve habitat connectivity for pronghorn.
\$68,000

Western Landowners Alliance

Enhancing Grassland Habitat through Data-Informed Adaptive Grazing Management and Restoration (NM)

Implement a regional collaborative approach to landscape-scale enhancement of lesser prairie chicken and pronghorn habitat upon working lands using a combination of adaptive grazing management and land restoration practices informed by robust soil health data collection. Project will improve grazing management on more than 127,000 acres of private, working ranches to improve grassland health, support biodiversity and increase carbon sequestration to improve climate resilience.
\$295,823

NEW YORK**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay**

Establishing Builders Institute to Expand Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)

Increase regional capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects more efficiently and effectively by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management.
\$399,093

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Jump-starting Organic Valley's Dairy Sustainability Strategy in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (MD, NY, PA, VA)

Partner with Organic Valley to provide cost-effective agricultural conservation practices to manage agricultural runoff, improve water quality and wildlife habitat, and address climate change on organic dairy farms in the Bay watershed. Project will restore 5 miles of riparian habitat and engage an additional 200 volunteers in implementing on-farm conservation practices.
\$500,000

American Farmland Trust

Advancing Regenerative Agriculture Adoption on Women-Owned Farms through Peer-to-Peer Learning (NY)

Provide interactive, farmer-led, technical events targeting women landowners to showcase practical on-farm regenerative agriculture. Project will accelerate the implementation of comprehensive regenerative agriculture practices on over 1,200 acres on four women-owned farms in New York's Great Lakes watershed through leveraging existing peer-to-peer networks and strong technical service provider partnerships.
\$350,000

**Association of State Floodplain Managers
Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience
in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)**

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.
\$260,851

Bronx River Alliance

Bronx River Environmental Enrichment and Leadership for Students (EELS) (NY)

Connect students with learning and professional development opportunities and college credit through the Bronx River Environmental Enrichment and Leadership for Students (EELS) program in the Bronx, New York. Project will introduce a more diverse community of young people to conservation education and career experiences focused on the Bronx River and Long Island Sound.
\$77,556

Citizens Campaign

Fund for the Environment

Developing a Long Island Sound Student Action Plan-II (NY)

Deliver hands-on environmental education and stewardship activities focused on addressing challenges to restoration and protection of the health and living resources of Long Island Sound, New York. Project will develop the next generation of environmental leaders.
\$100,000

**Citizens Campaign Fund
for the Environment**

Nature-based Infrastructure to Improve Water Quality in Northport Harbor and Long Island Sound (NY)

Install 27,334 square feet of nature-based infrastructure in Northport, New York. Project will install a bioretention rain garden to capture, store, and filter contaminants and 17,040 gallons of stormwater from Northport Harbor and Long Island Sound.
\$60,001

City Island Oyster Reef

Designing Oyster Reef Restoration Sites on City Island and Long Island Sound (NY)

Complete design and permitting for two oyster reefs and conduct public environmental education and stewardship activities in City Island, Bronx, New York. Project will set the stage to restore wild oysters and an important coastal habitat of Long Island Sound.
\$263,750

City of Buffalo

Nature-based Infrastructure and Urban Reforestation at Ralph C. Wilson Junior Centennial Park (NY)

Install 1,650 trees and shrubs at Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park located in Buffalo, New York. Project will capture 132,000 gallons of water and 61,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year while providing much needed services to the local residents by closing a nature gap in Buffalo.
\$750,000

City of Corning

Denison Park Stormwater and Nature-based Infrastructure Plan (NY)
Complete a Stormwater and Nature-based infrastructure Plan for Denison Park, Corning's most visited and largest park, located adjacent to the Chemung River. Project will identify nature-based infrastructure solutions to address urban stormwater and ensure that water quality of the Chemung River is protected consistent with the City's 2020 Park Strategy.
\$75,000

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Marshes and Mussels: New Tools to Enhance Coastal Restoration and Resilience (NY)
Deploy new methods combining ribbed mussels and cordgrass to restore degraded shoreline marshes in Centerport Harbor, New York. Project will provide an innovative tool for natural living shoreline restoration to enhance community coastal resilience around Long Island Sound.
\$249,050

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Reducing Marine Debris by Removing Derelict Lobster Gear from Long Island Sound-II (CT, NY)
Remove derelict lobster pots from 18 square miles of marine waters in Connecticut and New York. Project will collect 43.5 metric tons of marine debris, restoring the marine environment of Long Island Sound.
\$115,841

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Reducing Marine Debris in Long Island Sound Deploying Innovative Floating Litter Traps (NY)
Reduce marine debris and plastic pollution by deploying "Seabin" floating litter traps in Oyster Bay and Hempstead Harbor, New York. Project will remove 1,800 pounds of marine debris and pilot innovative technology to address litter and other forms of floatable pollution in marinas and ports around Long Island Sound.
\$81,341

Delaware River Basin Commission Water Resource Management Studies across the Delaware River Basin (DE, NJ, NY, PA)

Increase and enhance water security for fish, wildlife, and humans in the Delaware River Basin by advancing research in water resource management through the completion of studies comprising four critical components of water security to understand disparities in water security in overburdened communities and water resiliency. Project will generate findings that will be used for future water security planning efforts.
\$866,938

Friends of the Bay

Expanding Oyster Spawning Sanctuaries in Oyster Bay and Cold Spring Harbor (NY)
Expand and monitor oyster spawning sanctuaries in the Oyster Bay-Cold Spring Harbor Complex, New York. Project will contribute to the restoration of these native shellfish and their habitat in Long Island Sound.
\$86,815

Friends of the Upper Delaware River Building Capacity in the Willowemoc with the Climate Corps to Support Recovery and Resiliency (NY)

Build the technical and community capacity in the Upper Delaware to accelerate restoration and improvement projects that will benefit eastern brook trout recovery and community resiliency. Project will form an Upper Delaware River Climate Corps, which will supply a conservation workforce needed in the region.
\$463,667

Genesee RiverWatch

Stabilizing and Restoring Riparian and Stream Habitat at Rush Creek (NY)
Restore riparian and stream habitat using toe wood construction to stabilize sections of Rush Creek, placing root wad structures, and clearing the accumulated gravel while redirecting discharge of the creek. Project will stabilize the last 2,600 feet of Rush Creek to reduce sediment and phosphorus discharges to the Genesee River.
\$212,469

Groundwork Hudson Valley

Exemplary Trees for Critical Habitats: Hudson Valley Restoration (NJ, NY, PA)
Conduct habitat restoration work across three areas involving riparian, swamp and upland environments in the Hudson Valley. Project will engage 30-50 youth and over 75 local volunteers in reforestation activities to restore 3 acres, improve management on 15 acres of habitat and plant 500 trees.
\$49,938

Guardians of Flushing Bay

Innovative Nature-based Infrastructure and Coastal Resilience Design for Flushing Creek (NY)
Develop a nature-based infrastructure and living shoreline design in collaboration with the community for a project along Flushing Creek, Queens, New York. Project will integrate innovative nature-based techniques that can be applied along urban waterfronts to improve water quality, filter stormwater, enhance shoreline resiliency, and connect communities to local waterways and Long Island Sound.
\$203,934

Housatonic Valley Association

Preventing Pollution with Nature-based Infrastructure in Wells Brook and the Long Island Sound (NY)
Construct nature-based infrastructure in a paved area at two commercial locations near Wells Brook, Town of Dover, New York. Project will prevent 17.28 pounds of nitrogen annually from entering the Wells Brook, a tributary of two rivers that flow downstream to Long Island Sound.
\$51,313

Long Island Community Foundation

Delivery of the Long Island Sound Community Stewardship Fund Program-IV (CT, NY)
Deliver the Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund of the Long Island Sound Funders Collaborative (LISFC) in the Long Island Sound Study boundaries of Connecticut and New York. Project will enhance the partnership between LISFC and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency around the common mission of restoring and protecting the health and living resources of the Sound
\$150,000

Manhattan College

Living Shorelines, Living Classrooms, Living Communities (NY)
Living shorelines will be utilized to improve water quality for a 14 acre lake in the Bronx, which is an impoundment on a Harlem River tributary. Project will engage two local non-profits, 100 community volunteers and provide environmental education programs for 120 K-12 aged students where they will work to reduce pollutants in the lake and become stewards of their watershed.
\$42,321

Manomet

Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)
Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.
\$205,000

Nassau County Museum of Art

Restoring Coastal Grassland at the William Cullen Bryant Preserve (NY)
Restore coastal grassland and use the restored grassland to educate visitors about the environment at the William Cullen Bryant Preserve, Roslyn Harbor, New York. Project will restore an important coastal habitat of Long Island Sound.
\$76,900

National Audubon Society

Be a Good Egg: Share the Shore with Shorebirds around Long Island Sound-V (NY)
Deliver “Be a Good Egg,” an environmental education program in the Long Island Sound watershed of New York. Project will increase support for coastal conservation and engage people in actions that help shorebirds thrive in important coastal habitats of the Sound.
\$62,562

National Wildlife Federation

Building and Advancing Capacity of Chesapeake Nonprofits to Accelerate Water Quality Improvements (multiple states)
Coordinate efforts to create a more inclusive and diverse Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration movement and support regional and watershed-wide convenings to improve collaboration and impact among nearly 300 nonprofits working towards Bay restoration.
\$286,543

National Wildlife Federation

Creating the Delaware River Watershed Conservation Blueprint
Create a science-based Conservation Blueprint to help guide where and when to invest resources for restoration and conservation in the Delaware River Watershed. Project will facilitate the creation of a roadmap that includes the parameters of the Blueprint, the selection of a technical provider, and the paneling of Basin partners to assist in the development of a science-based, landscape-scale strategy that builds upon the existing strategic and conservation plans of partners throughout the Basin, and a coordination mechanism that reflects and balances the preferences and views of the partners.
\$213,955

Natural Areas Conservancy

Engaging Community Stewards to Manage Coastal Forest in Seton Falls Park (NY)
Train and educate local stewards to enhance 32 acres of coastal forest, Seton Falls Park, Bronx, New York. Project will enhance long-term stewardship and refine strategies for community natural resources management of this forest, an important coastal habitat of Long Island Sound.
\$62,277

New Jersey Audubon Society

Building Capacity for Conservation Projects through a Mentored Small Grant Program (DE, NJ, NY PA)
Administer a small grants restoration program to provide peer mentoring opportunities to prospective grantees in the Delaware River Basin. Project will assist organizations and community groups in capacity building through on-the-ground restoration projects with an outcome of a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable and coordinated Delaware River watershed.
\$439,952

New Jersey Audubon Society

Surveying American Horseshoe Crab as a Critical Element of Red Knot Conservation (Multiple States)
Implement surveys and recovery metrics used in Delaware Bay to characterize and track the status of horseshoe crab populations in six Atlantic Coast states. Project will inform natural resource agencies, supporting the recovery of horseshoe crab populations outside of Delaware Bay, with a goal of rebuilding a network of shorebird stopovers, and advancing the recovery of rufa red knot and other Arctic-nesting shorebirds.
\$60,000

New York City Audubon Society

Engaging Communities in Bird Conservation: Restoration, Monitoring, Education and Birding (NY)
Restore and monitor 2 acres of habitat within New York City’s Harlem River watershed to reduce stormwater runoff and increase biodiversity and conduct collision surveys of 12 building sites to address urban hazards for migratory birds. Project will engage 700 adults and students in hands-on conservation, environmental education and birding, enhance 2.5 acres of native wet meadow and upland meadow habitat for migratory and nesting birds and support local watershed and natural resource management.
\$49,999

**New York Restoration Project
Community Restoration, Reforestation, and Monitoring in Highbridge Park Urban Forest (NY)**

Restore 1.5 acres and manage 50 acres of urban forest along the Harlem River by removing invasives, reforesting, and monitoring tree health. Project will engage 7 local partners and 380 volunteers to plant 1,020 native trees, create 1 new acre of native forest, restore a half-acre of understorey, manage 50 acres to control and prevent invasive vegetation, and conduct research on experimental plantings of American chestnut.
\$49,790

Open Space Institute Land Trust

Installing Green Stormwater Infrastructure for Buffalo Parks (NY)
Reduce stormwater and nutrient pollutant outflow and improve the health and resilience at two parks in Buffalo through addition of nature-based infrastructure and tree plantings. Project will add stormwater storage capacity to capture approximately 138,000 gallons of stormwater per year and enhance neighborhood greenspace for local communities.
\$416,400

Riverkeeper

Site Assessment and Design for Walsh Road Dam Removal (NY)
Conduct a site assessment and produce an engineering design to remove the obsolete Walsh Road Dam in New Windsor, NY. Project will improve community resilience by reducing flooding risks and restore critical habitat for American eel, river herring, blue crab, brown trout, and both species of black bass.
\$329,943

Rockaway Waterfront Alliance

Restoring the Rockaway Waterfront Dunes - Phase II (NY)
Develop a final design to enhance 4.3 miles of coastal dunes along the Atlantic shoreline through an integrated community-driven framework. Project will use innovative, nature-based practices and engage with community-based organizations in shoreline enhancement, management and monitoring while making the community and its dune system more resilient.
\$455,848

Rocking the Boat

Engaging Local Youth Through Seaweed Farming to Improve Water Quality in the Long Island Sound (NY)
Install a seaweed farm engaging 120 young people in growing, harvesting, and producing nitrogen-rich fertilizer for community gardens and other organizations on the Bronx River, New York. Project will demonstrate a model to reduce nitrogen pollution by seaweed “bioextraction” and create an alternative to synthetic fertilizers to improve water quality in the Bronx River and Long Island Sound.
\$72,163

Save the Sound

Restoring Big Rock Wetland for Marsh and Community Resilience, Phase I (NY)
Establish a natural shoreline along Memorial Field in Udalls Cove, Little Neck Bay, Queens, New York. Project will restore the shoreline to reduce erosion from storms and engage the local community, public schools, and university students in environmental stewardship.
\$604,461

Sisters of St. Joseph

Forest Restoration and Farmland Habitat (NY)
Improve ecosystem function, stormwater infiltration, habitat value, resilience and connectivity in 8 acres of successional woodland using invasive removal and native plantings in Brentwood, New York. Project will improve management and utilization on 16 acres of adjoining organic farms while fostering community relationship with the land.
\$32,435

Sullivan County

Callicoon Riverside Park Restoration (NY)
Purchase and clean up 38 acres of land in the town of Delaware, New York. Project will perform site remediation at a former RV campground including removal of debris build-up, invasive species removal, installation of welcome signs and development of rustic trails for public use.
\$317,335

Sustainable Chesapeake

Improving Nutrient Management Programs through Collaboration (multiple states)
Improve nutrient management program delivery by facilitating collaboration among nutrient management leaders throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. Project will improve collaboration among land grant universities in the region, working across state lines with those leading the development of agricultural nutrient management recommendations across the watershed.
\$65,910

The Nature Conservancy

Increasing Capacity for Improving Aquatic Passageways to Accelerate Habitat Improvement in Delaware River (DE, NJ, NY, PA)
Add capacity and expertise for aquatic passage restoration in the Delaware River Basin by leveraging an existing collaboration and offering new training opportunities throughout the basin. Project will support efficient habitat restoration, increase recreation, and reduce risk by increasing capacity and expertise among conservation practitioners, fish and wildlife agencies, local governments, and dam safety programs.
\$106,965

The Nature Conservancy

Long Island Sound Coastal Watershed Network (CT, NY)
Expand opportunities for members to share resources, best practices, and innovative ideas and build capacity advance local and regional strategies that target pollution from sewage, stormwater, fertilizers, and marine debris. Project will deliver programs that foster shared learning about ways to address pollution problems and engage members of the community, promoting cleaner, healthier waters in Long Island Sound.
\$215,000

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District of New York

Embracing and Promoting Afforestation in the Riparian Corridor and Beyond (PA, NY)
Accelerate tree planting in riparian and upland areas of the Upper Susquehanna watershed through proven programs and existing soil and water conservation district partners, while expanding community partnerships for tree planting and stewardship. Project will result in 30,000 new trees planted across more than 100 acres.
\$500,000

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District of New York

Fueling Natural Filter Restoration in the Headwaters of the Upper Susquehanna Watershed (NY, PA)
Provide flexible funding and technical assistance opportunities for natural filter restoration and protection in the Upper Susquehanna Watershed of New York and Pennsylvania. Project will identify and implement high priority projects that provide ecosystem benefits such as improving habitat and addressing water quality and quantity.
\$1,000,000

Town of Brookhaven

Oyster Planting to Improve Water Quality in Long Island Sound-II (NY)
Plant 200,000 American oysters and assess their potential to both remove or "bioextract" pollution and repopulate a historic fishery in Port Jefferson Harbor, New York. Project will remove 130 pounds of nitrogen pollution annually from a harbor of Long Island Sound.
\$79,640

Trout Unlimited

Expanding Brook Trout Habitat Reconnection and Restoration Efforts in New York
Enhance and increase eastern brook trout populations in Wylie Brook and Butternut Creek through riparian forest restoration and improved planning, assessment, and design of future restoration actions. Project will expand landowner outreach, complete road stream crossing assessments, and improve collection of species biomass data to inform ongoing restoration efforts.
\$359,159

Trout Unlimited

Reconnecting Coldwater Habitat for Brook Trout in Black River (NY)
Replace two priority culverts to reconnect 7.5 miles for native brook trout in the Black River watershed. Project will improve the quality and connectivity of coldwater streams in the Great Lakes and Adirondack region and complete approximately 350 culvert assessments expanding and coordinating work with local municipalities and partners to restore coldwater habitat and flood resiliency.
\$319,636

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Community Infrastructure Improvement Project in the Upper Delaware River (NY)
Implement nature-based solutions to support prioritized aquatic organism passage projects in the Upper Delaware River. Project will replace three culverts, reconnecting over 4 miles of stream for brook trout while also completing a fish passage barrier removal feasibility study, setting the stage for reconnecting over 15 miles of the East Branch Delaware River.
\$635,484

University of Connecticut

Developing a Conservation and Climate Adaptation Plan for Great Gull Island (NY)
Develop a climate and shoreline adaptation, monitoring, and management plan for common and roseate terns at Great Gull Island, New York. Project will establish a roadmap for conservation of rare species of Long Island Sound.
\$399,997

Village of Sea Cliff

Hempstead Harbor Water Quality Monitoring Program (NY)
Conduct water quality monitoring in Hempstead Harbor, Nassau County, New York. Project will inform management of Hempstead Harbor, a waterbody that feeds Long Island Sound.
\$100,000

NORTH CAROLINA**American Conservation Experience**

Longleaf Pine Restoration on the Croatan and Uwharrie National Forests (NC)
Restore 500 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood habitat on Croatan and Uwharrie national forests in North Carolina. Project will improve and increase longleaf habitat by performing timber stand improvements at the understory and midstory levels and planting wiregrass plugs and longleaf seedlings; and improve bottomland hardwood habitat.
\$180,000

Forest Landowners Association

Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)
Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species.
\$250,000

Manomet

Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)
Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.
\$205,000

National Audubon Society**Completing Design Plans to Improve Natural Infrastructure in Currituck Sound (NC)**

Complete final engineering design and secure permits for four nature-based marsh restoration pilot projects in Currituck Sound, building on a design project to mitigate marsh habitat loss and enhance community resilience to storm surge and flooding. Project will preserve the integrity of two marsh complexes totaling 3,481 acres of bird habitat that also provide protection for at least seven critical infrastructure sites and 1,658 residential properties in Currituck and Dare Counties.

\$210,267

National Wildlife Federation**Engaging Underserved Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Expand outreach, education, and technical and financial resources for historically underserved landowners to restore and manage longleaf pine habitat across the longleaf pine range. Partners will engage 500 landowners through outreach events, workshops, demonstration sites and hands-on trainings to restore and manage more than 1,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat benefiting Bachman's sparrow, northern bobwhite and other longleaf-dependent species.

\$425,000

New Jersey Audubon Society**Surveying American Horseshoe Crab as a Critical Element of Red Knot Conservation (Multiple States)**

Implement surveys and recovery metrics used in Delaware Bay to characterize and track the status of horseshoe crab populations in six Atlantic Coast states. Project will inform natural resource agencies, supporting the recovery of horseshoe crab populations outside of Delaware Bay, with a goal of rebuilding a network of shorebird stopovers, and advancing the recovery of rufa red knot and other Arctic-nesting shorebirds.

\$60,000

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality**Expanding Resilient Coastal Communities Program (NC)**

Expand and build local capacity with North Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Program through risk and vulnerability assessments, community engagement, project identification and prioritization, and the inclusion of 13 more communities within the state's coastal zone in the program. Project will build a resilience strategy for each community, including a vision, map of critical assets and natural infrastructure, risk and vulnerability assessment, and portfolio of prioritized projects.

\$545,860

The Nature Conservancy**Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration and Management in the North Carolina Sandhills**

Plant 735 acres of longleaf pine and manage 60,000 acres of existing longleaf pine habitat within the Sandhills region of North Carolina. Partners will build prescribed burning capacity through fire trainings and utilize seasonal burn crews to complete prescribed burning and mid-story control and other management on lands around Fort Bragg and the Uwharrie National Forest, improving habitat for Bachman's sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker, and northern bobwhite.

\$392,200

The Nature Conservancy**Pocosin Wetland Hydrology Restoration and Water Management Across North Carolina's Coastal Plain**

Conduct detailed site assessments and develop preliminary hydrologic restoration designs across over 58,000 acres of drained pocosin wetland areas within Holly Shelter Game Land and Hofmann Forest in North Carolina. Project will lay the foundation for implementing the project which will enable managers to effectively control drainage levels that can simultaneously provide community flood resilience benefits while enhancing pocosin wetland habitat.

\$220,138

The Nature Conservancy**Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat in the Onslow Bight Landscape (NC)**

Plant more than 1,600 acres of longleaf pine and improve management of more than 65,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat on public and private lands in the Onslow Bight region of eastern North Carolina. Project will increase prescribed burning through a burn crew to assist partners with longleaf management, complete aerial ignition burns, provide certified prescribed fire training for fire managers and provide forest management trainings for women landowners through ForestHer program workshops.

\$499,988

Town of Navassa**Designing a Rowel Branch Watershed Protection Plan (NC)**

Use nature-based solutions to reduce flood-risk and improve resiliency for community residents while restoring, enhancing, and conserving ecologically significant streams and wetlands in the Rowel Branch Watershed. Project will incorporate both traditional stream channel restoration methods for flood-risk reduction and innovative bioretention and stormwater wetland management designs in specific segments obstructed by historical fill and recent storm debris.

\$110,480

NORTH DAKOTA**American Bird Conservancy****Leveraging Grassland Conservation for Birds and Rangeland Resiliency (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Leverage two NRCS partner positions to increase the impact of Working Lands for Wildlife initiatives for Greater Sage-grouse and the Northern Plains Grassland in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Project will provide technical assistance and planning on NRCS practices to improve management on at least 15,500 acres of land, while fostering landowner trust and interest in grassland conservation, to ultimately provide more high-quality habitat and build rangeland resiliency.

\$205,095

Ducks Unlimited**Keeping Livestock on the Prairies through Diversified Agriculture (ND)**

Integrate livestock grazing onto cropland by developing holistic management plans for interested producers. Project will increase capacity for two new agronomist technicians and one new soil health intern to provide technical assistance, collect soil health data, and advance adoption of regenerative principles on 7,000 acres.

\$216,077

Ducks Unlimited**Supporting Climate Resilient Habitats and Increasing Grassland Carbon Sequestration (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Provide technical assistance and incentives for on-the-ground conservation projects on private lands through the Northern Grassland Incentives Program which offers landowners financial assistance to voluntarily restore and enhance native grasslands, shrublands and mesic habitats. Project will improve or restore nearly 10,000 acres to help build rangelands that are resilient to climate change, drought, and invasive species, and which have improved capabilities to sequester carbon.

\$296,988

Mule Deer Foundation**Improving Conservation Coordination and Implementation in the Dakota Grasslands (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Increase capacity for a habitat partnership coordinator to be the key position for increasing the capacity to identify, plan, coordinate and implement conservation projects that restore key habitats in the Dakota Grassland region. Project will improve derelict fencing to wildlife-friendly specifications, restore sage-grouse habitat through invasive species treatments, improve mesic habitat hydrology through seedyk structures and improve rangelands through modified grazing plans.

\$364,717

National Audubon Society

Technical Assistance for Pollinator Habitat on Working Lands in the Eastern Dakotas (ND, SD)
Support a Range Ecologist to advance technical assistance for private landowners and promote conservation practices that benefit the monarch butterfly, Dakota skipper, regal fritillary, and other pollinators in eastern North Dakota and South Dakota. Project will improve 7,480 acres, restore 2,600 acres, develop 32 conservation plans, host 4 workshops, and engage 120 people.
\$262,409

North Dakota Grazing Lands Coalition
Increase Capacity and Technical Assistance to Deliver Grassland Conservation on Private Lands (ND)

Expand programs focused on the conservation of North Dakota grasslands and the plant and wildlife species that are dependent on them by adding capacity and expanding education and outreach programs. Project will improve livestock management practices on more than 50,000 acres by working one-on-one with individual ranching operations to find ways to improve their livestock management practices.
\$350,000

North Dakota Natural Resources Trust
Providing Technical Assistance to Improve Grassland Habitats and Increase Carbon Sequestration (ND)

Increase support and capacity for existing programs that assist livestock agriculture producers in implementing rotational grazing systems, transitioning idle grass to healthy grasslands, planting native perennial species into previously cropped areas and reclaiming ecologically disturbed sites from oil and gas development. Project will improve or restore more than 35,000 acres of rangeland habitat to benefit native species and increase grassland carbon sequestration.
\$500,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.
\$250,000

OHIO

Association of State Floodplain Managers
Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.
\$260,851

Black Swamp Conservancy
Habitat Maintenance and Enhancement at Little Auglaize Wildlife Reserve Early Successional Forest (OH)

Manage widespread infestations of invasive teasel and reed canary grass in an emergent wetland in the riparian zone of the Little Auglaize River. Project will treat invasive species across 125 acres of early successional forest habitat and 5 acres of wetland on a nature preserve to enhance the development of an early successional oak-hickory forest to increase habitat availability for listed bat species, migratory birds and other locally important species.
\$200,000

City of Mentor

Enhancing Nature-based Infrastructure and Water Quality at Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve and Marina (OH)

Install permeable pavers and two vegetated buffers to enhance existing green stormwater infrastructure and alleviate stormwater runoff into Lake Erie. Project will expand green stormwater infrastructure at the Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve and Marina to reduce stormwater runoff and enhance pollinator and migratory bird habitat.
\$270,594

Cleveland Metroparks
Capturing Stormwater and Adding Habitat at Cleveland Metroparks Lakefront Reservation (OH)

Install nature-based infrastructure at Lakefront Reservation to reduce stormwater directly being discharged into Lake Erie. Project will capture 5,337,805 gallons of stormwater, include interpretive signs for public education and volunteer engagement and benefit migratory bird species along the lakefront.
\$272,500

Cleveland Metroparks

Cleveland Harbor Eastern Embayment Resilience Design and Engineering (OH)

Design a plan for 79 acres of new in-water and nearshore habit and public parkland along Cleveland's Lake Erie shoreline. Project will develop construction documents for the entire Habitat Loop of the project area that will contribute to resiliency of the area by building habitat and expanding parks, protecting the critical infrastructure of Interstate 90 along the shore, and stabilizing the unpredictable wave action adjacent to key recreation and transportation facilities.
\$2,000,000

Cleveland Metroparks

Cleveland Harbor Eastern Embayment Resilience Design and Engineering (OH)

Design a plan for 79 acres of new in-water and nearshore habit and public parkland along Cleveland's Lake Erie shoreline. Project will develop construction documents for Phases B1 and A2 of the project area that will contribute to resiliency of the area by building habitat and expanding parks, protecting the critical infrastructure of Interstate 90 along the shore, and stabilizing the unpredictable wave action adjacent to key recreation and transportation facilities.
\$985,000

Groundwork Ohio River Valley

Connecting Youth to Regional Leaders in Conservation Across the Ohio River Valley (OH, IN)

Restore 15 acres in the Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge and in Cincinnati neighborhoods through mapping native and non-native plants, invasive species removal, seed collection and propagation and native replanting. Project will work with 100 paid youth green workforce development fellows across eight sites to cultivate regional environmental knowledge and support urban communities facing adverse climate challenges.
\$40,000

Michigan State University

Farmer Woodland Owner Technical Assistance to Enhance Agroforestry and Woodland Management (MI, OH WI)

Support integrated agricultural and farmer woodland and agroforestry management through collaborative extension programs that connect farmers with resource professionals to support ecosystem service markets, woodland management, agroforestry, and tree-planting practices. Project will help farmers navigate strategies for innovative uses of trees and forests to improve farm viability and increase water quality and social benefits.
\$169,273

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Enhancing Lake Erie Forests Through Small Woodland Owner Technical Assistance (OH)
Expand forestry technical assistance and landowner education in northern Ohio's Lake Erie watersheds to enhance the health and productivity of woodlands, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat. Project will increase access to and impact of forestry technical assistance, engaging 800 landowners and ultimately changing behavior of 400 landowners.
\$315,000

Pollinator Partnership

Expanding Outreach on Working Lands Conservation for Monarch Butterflies (IN, OH)
Provide technical assistance to help a variety of landowners learn about the Working Lands for Wildlife and Farm Bill programs and how to enroll. Project will expand landowner outreach and increase implementation of Farm Bill programs to help accelerate adoption of conservation practices that support habitat for monarch butterflies and other species of concern in Indiana and Ohio.
\$320,000

Put-in-Bay Township Park District

Scheeff and Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve Shoreline Stabilization (OH)
Construct a living shoreline at Scheeff East Point Preserve through a variety of natural shoreline restoration techniques. Project will remove foreign debris, place fallen trees and boulders to stabilize existing shoreline and deflect wave energy, and plant native vegetation and beach materials to enhance wetland and aquatic habitat for native mussels and fish.
\$700,000

The Nature Conservancy

Increasing Stormwater Retention and Restoring Wetlands along Ottawa River (OH)
Create stormwater retention areas and restore floodplain wetlands along the Ottawa River. Project will convert manicured turf floodplain into a forested wetland complex that will capture and filter an estimated 33 million gallons of stormwater remove pollutants such as phosphorous, nitrogen, and coarse sediment, and plant 5,000 trees.
\$218,000

The Nature Conservancy

Maintaining Lakeplain Oak Openings through Invasive Species Management (OH) - II
Enhance habitat quality in globally imperiled Lakeplain Oak Openings natural communities in Northwest Ohio. Project will improve habitat for species dependent upon Lakeplain Oak Openings through the deduction of invasive plant species that degrade habitat quality and ecosystem function, and conservation of plant and animal diversity in a global biodiversity hot spot within the Lake Erie basin.
\$330,000

OKLAHOMA**Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas Supporting the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program to Restore Working Lands Habitat (OK, TX)**

Support the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program, a multi-organization effort aimed at achieving grassland bird conservation objectives in focus areas throughout the Oaks and Prairies Ecoregion of Texas and Oklahoma. Project will restore nearly 9,000 acres of private working lands habitat for grassland-obligate species.
\$186,615

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)
Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.
\$250,000

The Learning Center at the Euchee Butterfly Farm

Tribal Alliance for Pollinators: Restoring and Improving Pollinator Habitat (OK)
Work with 10 tribes to restore and improve habitat that benefits monarch butterflies and other pollinators on private working lands and tribal lands in Oklahoma. Project will improve 2,500 acres, restore 250 acres, develop 19 conservation plans, propagate 20,000 milkweed seedlings, collect 10 pounds of milkweed seed, host 8 workshops, and engage 320 people.
\$173,043

OREGON**Bat Conservation International**

Developing a Targeted Treatment for White-Nose Syndrome Using RNA Interference Gene Silencing (OR)
Develop a novel tool using RNA to target and disable key cellular functions in the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome in bats. Project will conduct the first step in the development of this treatment tool, which involves the design of genetic markers to target the fungus and determine the efficacy of interference by RNA to inhibit fungal growth via in vitro lab experiments.
\$175,000

Clackamas Trout Unlimited

North Fork Eagle Creek Dam Fish Passage Barrier Removal and Side Channel Restoration Project (OR)
Restore full fish passage to 8 miles of high quality spawning and rearing habitat within the North Fork Eagle Creek sub-basin of the Clackamas River for ESA-listed Lower Columbia River winter steelhead, Coho salmon and spring Chinook salmon. Project will restore natural channel processes and increase watershed resilience and connectivity.
\$100,498

Clean Water Services

Balm Grove Dam Fish Passage Barrier Removal and Stream Enhancement for Pacific Lamprey, Winter Steelhead, Coho Salmon and Native Migratory Fish (OR)
Remove fish passage barriers at Balm Grove Dam site to open up to 87 miles of instream habitat for native steelhead, coho salmon, Pacific lamprey and several other native species in Gales Creek, Oregon. Project will improve instream aquatic habitat and floodplain connectivity and enhance approximately one-quarter mile of the Gales Creek riparian area in the vicinity of the dam.
\$69,734

Deschutes River Conservancy

Deschutes Basin Streamflow Restoration (OR)
Restore stream flow in Oregon's Deschutes Basin through water transactions. Project will improve habitat and water quality for native fish, including salmon and federally listed steelhead trout.
\$224,934

Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors Metro Middle School Watershed Restoration (OR)

Restore 8 acres across two watersheds in Oregon's Willamette Valley by engaging 700 middle school students in service-learning, including the removal of invasive blackberry, ivy and holly, and replanting native species. Project will incorporate site monitoring, invasives removal, biological assessments and native plant restoration activities.
\$74,950

General Klamath Tribal Administration ESA Listed Sucker Rearing Pond (OR)

Recover Klamath Basin Lake Lost River and shortnose suckers by rearing naturally produced larvae and hatchery produced larvae to be released into Upper Klamath Lake and its tributaries. Project will release approximately 100,000 fish of various ages per year to support dwindling wild populations on the brink of extinction. Rearing ponds are a critical component of enabling survival of sucker populations by allowing larvae to grow large enough to be reintroduced to the Upper Klamath Basin.
\$94,000

Klamath Water Users Association**Lower Klamath/Lost River Stewardship Planning Process (CA, OR)**

Develop the Lower Klamath/Lost River Stewardship Agreement to address the regulatory goals and objectives outlined in California's and Oregon's respective total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). Project will support development of solutions for ongoing water issues to help conserve and ensure allocations of water to fish and wildlife as well as affected irrigation districts. **\$80,865**

Klamath Watershed Partnership**Klamath Lake Water Quality Monitoring (OR)**

Conduct water quality monitoring, focused on nutrient dynamics in agricultural fields and treatment wetlands. Project will help assess nutrient concentrations in flooded farm fields and treatment wetlands to inform pumping and draining operations and assess treatment wetland effectiveness. **\$13,711**

Nez Perce Tribe**Increase Flow Restoration Efforts in the Nez Perce Tribal Geographies (ID, OR, WA)**

Increase flow restoration efforts in the Nez Perce tribal geographies. Project will increase tribal capacity to coordinate with other groups developing water transactions within the broad geography of ceded lands, and also enable the Tribe to propose transactions uniquely linked to tribal relationships, tribal treaty rights, and tribal sovereignty. **\$17,617**

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**Real-Time Instream Flow Assessment of Transactions (OR)**

Continue to develop a real-time instream flow tracking system to ensure that Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program transactions are monitored and enforced through an automated program. Project will increase instream flows by ensuring stakeholders are immediately aware when legally protected senior instream flows are not being met and regulation or management adjustments are necessary. **\$52,548**

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**Spring Chinook Pathogen Susceptibility Assessment (OR)**

Initiate an assessment of susceptibility of juvenile spring-run Chinook salmon to waterborne pathogens in anticipation of scheduled experimental releases of salmon into the Upper Klamath Basin. Project will help inform state, federal and tribal fish managers as to which pathogens are present and will help advance fish managers' planning for repopulation of anadromous fish in the upper basin to ultimately achieve sustainable and harvestable levels. **\$71,219**

Oregon Water Resources Department**Water Transaction Coordination, Processing, and Monitoring (OR)**

Provide assistance to the Oregon Qualified Local Entities on water transactions for proposed streamflow restoration projects, including instream transfer, instream leases, and allocations of conserved water. Project will ensure the conditions specified in final orders are monitored to protect instream flows. **\$40,000**

Sandy River Basin Watershed Council**Final Design of a Sandy River Floodplain Reconnection (OR)**

Create a final design to restore the Sandy River to its original channel and reconnect it to its floodplain at the confluence with the Salmon River. Project will restore wild salmonid habitat while enhancing community resiliency in a priority Oregon basin for recovery of threatened Lower Columbia River wild fish that are vulnerable to climate change driven storms, flooding, and erosion. **\$234,218**

Sustainable Northwest**Building a Regenerative Ranching Economy in the West (ID, NV, OR)**

Launch and enroll producers in a voluntary regenerative ranching program across Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada to provide customized regenerative management plans, technical assistance and establish baseline data and monitoring for each ranch to measure impacts. Project will implement regenerative ranching practices to benefit core sage grouse habitat, soil health, carbon sequestration and water conservation. **\$281,108**

The Freshwater Trust**Upper Sandy River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Restoration (OR)**

Restore 0.88 miles of side channel habitat and place a total of 450 pieces of large wood in habitat structures in the restored channels and stream margins of Salmon River, Boulder Creek, and Zigzag River in the Upper Sandy River basin. Project will restore habitat for native salmon and steelhead and restore ecological function in the Sandy basin. **\$59,303**

The Nature Conservancy**Deploy Machine Learning for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators. **\$144,889**

The Trust for Public Land**Developing Southern Oregon Forest Management to Improve Resiliency (OR)**

Develop forest management practices at scale in key watersheds to mitigate the impact of flooding from winter storm and low flows due to summer drought, while enhancing fish and wildlife habitat. Project will develop a comprehensive plan for management and restoration that will restore 100,000 acres of forestland in the Southern Oregon Coast Range. **\$250,000**

Trout Unlimited**Elevating Instream Flow Enhancement in the Umatilla Tribal Geographies (OR)**

Identify, prioritize and develop water transactions in the Grande Ronde, Wallowa, Umatilla, Walla Walla and John Day River Basins working in collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Project will improve future flow regimes for ESA-listed salmonids, mitigate for out of stream use, increase habitat quantity and lower water temperatures. **\$293,852**

Trout Unlimited**Reconnecting Floodplains for Native Fish (OR)**

Build woody debris and beaver dam analogues using roving hand crews to improve habitat resiliency and restore ecological function for native fish species in the Lower Snake and Mid-Columbia Headwaters. Project will implement low-tech, high-impact approaches to restore ecosystem groundwater storage capacity, thereby improving habitat for Columbia River Basin steelhead, Chinook salmon, Pacific lamprey, and bull trout. **\$72,347**

Trout Unlimited**Water Quality Monitoring and Restoration Planning to Support Endangered Suckers in the Upper Klamath Basin (OR)**

Conduct a comprehensive nutrient dynamics synoptic study in the Wood River Valley and Williamson River. Project will assist in the planning and prioritization of restoration actions necessary to support survival and recovery of listed suckers and support revision of the Upper Klamath Basin Watershed Action Plan (UKBWAP). **\$124,640**

Washington Water Trust**Stream Flow Restoration to Benefit Salmon, Steelhead and Trout in the Columbia Basin - Umatilla (OR, WA)**

Restore fish-critical streams in the Columbia River Basin by implementing instream flow acquisitions in the Walla Walla basin. Project will continue its partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation to benefit ESA-threatened summer steelhead and bull trout. **\$124,290**

PENNSYLVANIA

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Accelerating Agricultural Conservation Through the Corporate Partnership Model in Pennsylvania

Partner with corporations to implement best management practices on the Pennsylvania dairy farms that supply their milk. Project will reduce agricultural nitrogen loads and improve water quality through implementation of targeted agricultural and forest best management practices.

\$1,000,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Accelerating Riparian Forest Buffer Implementation in the Mason Dixon Region (MD, PA)

Develop and pilot a conservation incentive program that accelerates the adoption and establishment of riparian forest buffers by agricultural producers in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Project will restore 35 miles of critical riparian habitat and result in the planting of nearly 50,000 trees.

\$500,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Conservation Planning for Impact with Dairy Farmers of America (PA)

Complete six preliminary concept plans for agricultural conservation practices for producer members of the Dairy Farmers for America cooperative in order to improve water quality in south-central Pennsylvania.

\$75,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Boosting Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (PA)

Implement best management practices on farms in Pennsylvania's Lancaster, Union, and Chester Counties. Project will leverage existing partnerships and corporate resources to provide cost-share programs and direct implementation support for targeted water quality and conservation improvements on participating farms.

\$915,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Establishing Builders Institute to Expand Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)

Increase regional capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects more efficiently and effectively by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management.

\$399,093

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Jump-starting Organic Valley's Dairy Sustainability Strategy (MD, NY, PA, VA)

Partner with Organic Valley to provide cost-effective agricultural conservation practices to manage agricultural runoff, improve water quality and wildlife habitat, and address climate change on organic dairy farms in the Bay watershed. Project will restore 5 miles of riparian habitat and engage an additional 200 volunteers in implementing on-farm conservation practices.

\$500,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Increasing Nitrogen Reductions with Riparian Buffers and Best Management Practices (PA)

Install best management practices to achieve agricultural nitrogen load reduction on farms in three counties of Pennsylvania. Project will implement riparian forest and grass buffers, livestock exclusion fencing, and barnyard practices to reduce nitrogen runoff by over 37,900 pounds per year.

\$1,000,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Accelerating Pollutant Reductions (MD, PA)

Pilot a project in three Maryland Phase I MS4 jurisdictions and four Pennsylvania jurisdictions. Project will implement at least 115 acres of riparian forest buffer and upland reforestation projects, and agricultural BMPs with at least 12 dairy farmers, including field soil health practices, barnyard stabilization, heavy use areas, grassed waterways, manure storage facilities, and other practices.

\$1,000,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Riparian Rangers Volunteer Program (PA, MD)

Expand the successful Riparian Rangers program by training 100 new volunteers on riparian forest buffer establishment maintenance while providing additional educational opportunities and resources. Project will result in three new regional Branches of the Riparian Rangers program within priority watersheds in Maryland and Pennsylvania which will enable enhanced stewardship of around 250 acres of riparian forest buffer plantings.

\$75,000

American Bird Conservancy Implementing Forest Practices that Create Habitat Structure for Wildlife (PA)

Improve forest management within the Pennsylvania Wilds region where forest health is limited by a lack of age class diversity and structural complexity. Project will employ a variety of management practices to create or enhance more than 75 acres of young forest habitat, 440 acres of mature forest habitat, and at least 180 acres of late successional habitat to support the entire reproductive cycle of golden-winged warbler, cerulean warbler, and wood thrush.

\$200,000

American Bird Conservancy

Restoring Dynamic Forest Structure for Priority Birds in the Delaware River Watershed - VI (PA)

Create Dynamic Forest Restoration Block (DFRB) comprehensive plans for two new DFRBs and implement forest management activities in eight existing DFRBs and four new DFRBs in Pennsylvania. Project will build upon the management implemented in order to develop and implement a comprehensive forest management strategy targeting long-term availability of diverse forest age classes and structural complexity benefiting the reproductive cycles of golden-winged warbler, cerulean warbler, and wood thrush.

\$1,425,759

American Rivers

Restoring Fish Passage and Reducing Flood Risk in Cussewago Creek (PA)

Remove the obsolete lowhead Cussewago Dam on Cussewago Creek in Meadville, Pennsylvania which serves as a barrier for aquatic organism passage and also is a safety hazard. Project will open 46 miles of stream, reduce flood risk, restore fish passage and stream health to positively impact freshwater mussel species and their host species, conduct species monitoring, and restore the riparian buffer.

\$50,000

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania Community Riparian Conservation (PA)

Restore 7.5 acres of riparian habitat, including 1,500 feet of stream and a pond, to improve water quality and habitat for several dragonflies, damselflies, and avian Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Project will engage 6 partners in restoration and education, including planting of 600 trees and shrubs, removing 7.5 acres of invasive vegetation, involve 175 volunteers, and directly educate 1,926 people through complimentary formal and informal education.

\$40,000

Association of State Floodplain Managers Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)

Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.

\$260,851

Berks County Conservation District**Implementation of Nitrogen Reduction Best Management Practices (PA)**

Provide financial support to agricultural producers for cropland conservation practices such as single and multi-species cover crops, manure injection, split rate nitrogen applications, and nutrient management planning in Berks County, Pennsylvania. Project will implement agricultural conservation practices to reduce nitrogen pollution in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. **\$868,135**

Berks County Conservation District**Cold Run Habitat Restoration and Agricultural Best Management Practices (PA)**

Implement stream and riparian habitat restoration on a 70-acre farm within in Berks County, Pennsylvania. Project will work with landowners to install instream habitat structures and transition 10 acres of marginal pasture along 1,800 feet of floodplain into riparian forest buffer, meadow with pollinator habitat, and enhanced wetland habitat. **\$146,245**

Berks Nature**Implementing Whole Farm Agricultural Best Management Practices (PA)**

Install whole farm best management practices on farms located in priority focus areas within the Middle Schuylkill Cluster geography of the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. Project will play a role in a larger watershed approach, addressing a critical mass of agricultural restoration initiatives. **\$270,000**

Brandywine Red Clay Alliance**East Branch Red Clay Stream Restoration (PA)**

Address steeply eroding stream banks and lack of riparian buffer along 5,470 linear feet of stream including instream restoration on a severely degraded, impaired reach of stream and riparian buffer plantings. Project will measurably improve water quality by lowering nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment inputs to the stream channel and increasing filtration of fertilizers, chemicals, sediment, and pesticides through the riparian buffer resulting in a greater diversity of aquatic life. **\$239,798**

Capital Resource Conservation and Development Area Council**Catalyzing Action for Clean Water in Pennsylvania's Capital Region**

Implement cost-effective conservation practices and improve reporting of existing practices across Pennsylvania's capital region through the use of innovative technology and increased staff capacity. Project will utilize trusted conservation partners to improve understanding of the region's current conservation efforts while driving additional water quality improvements consistent with locally led clean water plans. **\$499,730**

Center for Watershed Protection**Scaling Up Biochar Applications for Runoff Reduction in Chesapeake Bay (multiple states)**

Accelerate the rate and scale at which biochar amendments are applied in the urban landscape to support runoff reduction and improved water quality across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Project will secure new partners for widespread use of biochar amendments and provide technical assistance on sourcing and using certified biochar in a variety of urban applications. **\$699,509**

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Expanding Rotational Grazing through the Mountains to Bay Grazing Alliance (MD, PA, VA, WV)**

Expand the adoption of rotational grazing practices among dairy and livestock operations in the Shenandoah Valley, western and central Maryland, and southcentral Pennsylvania. Project will utilize conservation and farm networks to improve grazing management on 1,200 acres. **\$493,780**

Darby Township**Conway Park Streambank Restoration for Environmental and Community Resilience (PA)**

Restore floodplain connection in Hermesprota Creek and create 1.3 acres of native forested habitat upstream of the Heinz National Wildlife Refuge. Project will reduce downstream flooding by allowing flood waters to more easily reach the floodplain while creating habitat and connectivity for wildlife in nearby Heinz Refuge. **\$199,000**

Delaware River Basin Commission**Water Resource Management Studies across the Delaware River Basin (DE, NJ, NY, PA)**

Increase and enhance water security for fish, wildlife, and humans in the Delaware River Basin by advancing research in water resource management through the completion of studies comprising four critical components of water security to understand disparities in water security in overburdened communities and water resiliency. Project will generate findings that will be used for future water security planning efforts. **\$866,938**

Delaware River City Corporation**Stewarding Delaware River Watershed through Job Skill Training Partnerships (PA)**

Build capacity for a job skill training partnership in environmental stewardship for the Delaware River Watershed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Project will include start-up costs for non-profit partners to share resources, train youth in "green jobs", and model local non-profit/municipal partnerships to address maintenance needs for expanded restoration of parks and trails. **\$253,524**

East Cocalico Township Authority**Protecting Drinking Water in East Cocalico Township through Farm Collaboration (PA)**

Improve local drinking water quality in East Cocalico Township by partnering with farmers to implement agricultural conservation practices that reduce nitrogen pollution to local groundwater supplies. Project will implement 900 acres of conservation practices, including cover crops, no-till, and adaptive nutrient management. **\$282,656**

Ephrata Borough**Restoring Gross Run Stream (PA)**

Restore approximately 4,500 linear feet along Gross Run and tributaries within the Indian and Cocalico Creek watersheds. Project will create 5 acres of riparian habitat and nearly 1 acre of floodplain wetlands. **\$500,000**

Fairmount Park Conservancy**Designing Riparian Restoration and Floodplain Improvement of Franklin D. Roosevelt Park (PA)**

Complete the final design and permitting for the Franklin D. Roosevelt Park Riparian Restoration and Floodplain Improvement Project. Project will result in the design and permitting required to expand and restore 4,700 linear feet of Shedbrook Creek and dredge Edgewood and Meadow Lakes. **\$250,000**

Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds**Monitoring Wild Trout Populations in the Unassessed Waters of the Delaware River (PA)**

Assess and monitor wild trout populations in the Pennsylvania drainage of the Delaware River Basin. Project will develop a proven and transferable private-public partnership between the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. **\$119,840**

Groundwork Hudson Valley**Exemplary Trees for Critical Habitats: Hudson Valley Restoration (NJ, NY, PA)**

Conduct habitat restoration work across three areas involving riparian, swamp and upland environments in the Hudson Valley. Project will engage 30-50 youth and over 75 local volunteers in reforestation activities to restore 3 acres, improve management on 15 acres of habitat and plant 500 trees. **\$49,938**

Harveys Lake Borough**Improvement Stormwater Management (PA)**

Increase efficiency of existing stormwater management facilities by utilizing new filter techniques to improve nitrogen and phosphorus removal. Project will incorporate stormwater monitoring to better understand nutrient removal capacity from practice enhancements. **\$89,200**

**Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Research Institute**

Implementing Dynamic Forest Restoration (PA)
Design and implement dynamic forest block restoration to support eastern forest bird species in three state parks and one state game land in Pennsylvania. Project will result in implementation of comprehensive forest management that provides a long-term strategy for balancing forest age classes and increasing structural complexity across more than 76,260 acres.
\$199,141

**Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Research Institute**

Implementing Forest Management Practices to Promote Resiliency and Habitat (PA)
Design and implement crop tree management and variable density thinning practices in young forest stands to improve the resiliency of oak forests and enhance habitat structure for species of greatest conservation need. Project will result in 800 acres of forest stewardship activities, development of management practice guidelines, and outreach and training targeting agency and consulting foresters.
\$341,221

Intergovernmental Stormwater Committee

Restoring Urban Streams to Connect Blair County Communities and Improve Water Quality (PA)
Restore 1,800 linear feet stream along Brush Run while restoring 1 acre of riparian forest buffers and floodplain habitat.
\$500,000

Lancaster Conservancy

Wizard Ranch Floodplain Restoration and Habitat Enhancement (PA)
Create a reach-wide stream restoration plan at Wizard Ranch Nature Preserve. Project will address the overall health of the stream corridor and include recommendations for areas of streambank stabilization, streambed elevation, grade-control structures, invasive species management and installing native plants.
\$75,000

**Lancaster County Conservation District
Using Data to Advance the Lancaster Countywide Action Plan (PA)**

Advance the Lancaster Countywide Action Plan (CAP) by employing a Data Manager and a Verification Coordinator to collaboratively manage data from municipalities, District staff, partnering organizations, and technical service providers. Project will spur momentum for verification of practices and data management to more accurately track progress in Lancaster County, a priority area for meeting Chesapeake Bay nutrient reduction goals.
\$454,913

Lancaster Farmland Trust

Implementing Best Management Practices in the Lower Conestoga River Watershed (PA)
Implement barnyard, manure-handling, and stream best management practices on a farm in the Lower Conestoga River Watershed. Project will significantly reduce nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment pollution flowing into Stauffer Run, an impaired stream and a priority catchment area for Lancaster County's Countywide Action Plan.
\$500,000

Lancaster Farmland Trust

Collaborative Water Quality Improvement (PA)
Implement agricultural best management practices including cattle walkways, stabilized access roads, and a roofed manure stacking structure on a farm in East Earl, Pennsylvania. Project will reduce nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment pollution flowing to the Chesapeake Bay.
\$241,754

Lancaster Farmland Trust

Implementing Agricultural Conservation Practices on Conserved Farms (PA)
Advance water quality improvements in Strasburg Township and the Pequa Creek watershed by coupling farmland protection and landowner outreach. Project will result in 30 new conservation plans for farms in the area and full-scale implementation on two permanently preserved farms.
\$478,955

Lebanon County Conservation District

Advancing Conservation Practice Implementation Through Planning (PA)
Assist with the significant amount of requests for conservation plans within the Little Swatara and Swatara Creek watersheds in Lebanon County. Project result in development of more than 50 agricultural conservation plans that will allow the advancement of future implementation of pollutant reduction best management practices on farms in these watersheds.
\$61,200

Little Conestoga Creek Foundation

Restoring the Little Conestoga Creek (PA)
Advance efforts to establish the Little Conestoga Blue-Green corridor through stream restoration, floodplain reconnection, and riparian buffer restoration. Project will restore 1 acre of floodplain and engage 30 volunteers in restoration activities.
\$500,000

Londonderry Township

Restoring Conewago Creek (PA)
Restore and create more than 2,600 linear feet of stream habitat as part of a broader initiative to restore Conewago Creek. Project will restore and reconnect an additional five and a half acres of floodplain.
\$500,000

Natural Lands Trust

Natural Lands Bear Creek Expansion (PA)
Acquire the 344-acre Bear Creek Preserve Expansion property in Luzerne County for incorporation into Natural Lands' 3,565-acre Bear Creek Preserve. Project will close the last major gap in a conservation corridor comprised of the 3,565-acre Bear Creek Preserve, the 1,880-acre North Branch Bear Creek Camp easement, and the 21,137-acre Game Lands 91.
\$751,832

National Wildlife Federation

Building and Advancing Capacity of Chesapeake Nonprofits to Accelerate Water Quality Improvements (multiple states)
Coordinate efforts to create a more inclusive and diverse Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration movement and support regional and watershed-wide convenings to improve collaboration and impact among nearly 300 nonprofits working towards Bay restoration.
\$286,543

National Wildlife Federation

Delaware River Conservation Blueprint (PA)
Create a Conservation Blueprint to guide restoration and conservation in the Delaware River Watershed. Project will create a roadmap that includes the selection of a technical provider and development of a landscape-scale strategy that builds upon the existing conservation plans of partners throughout the Basin, and a coordination mechanism that reflects and balances the preferences and views of the partners.
\$213,955

New Jersey Audubon Society

Building Capacity for Conservation through Mentored Small Grant Program (DE, NJ, NY PA)
Administer a small grants restoration program to provide peer mentoring opportunities to prospective grantees in the Delaware River Basin. Project will assist organizations and community groups in capacity building through on-the-ground restoration projects with an outcome of a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable and coordinated Delaware River watershed.
\$439,952

**Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
Building Capacity for Urban Waters Federal Partnership Cities (DE, NJ, PA)**

Expand the capacity of local organizations and decision-makers in the four Delaware River Urban Waters Federal Partnership cities of Camden, Chester, Philadelphia, and Wilmington to plan and implement community-driven habitat and water quality projects. Project will engage community groups and local decision-makers in order to implement community-led projects, such as tree plantings, installing rain gardens and native pollinator gardens, and other habitat improvement projects.
\$92,541

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
Living Shoreline Design and Permitting along
an Urban Delaware Riverfront (PA)

Advance conceptual designs of a shellfish-based living shoreline at the Constellation Generating Station along the Delaware River in Croydon, Pennsylvania. Project will develop formal engineering designs used to obtain federal and state permits for installation and ultimately promote habitat enhancement, water quality improvement, and increased coastal resiliency in the region.
\$96,824

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
Pickering Valley Green Stormwater
Infrastructure in the Schuylkill Highlands (PA)

Implement nature-based infrastructure practices at the site of the Pickering Valley Farm and Feed store in Lionville, Pennsylvania. Project will initiate a nature-based infrastructure master plan that has been developed for the site, ultimately reducing flooding, erosion, and water pollution.
\$168,276

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
Removal of Fish Passage Barriers at the Spring
Garden Dam (PA)

Remove fish passage barriers at the Spring Garden Dam in Neshaminy Creek in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Project will remove a barrier to migratory fish and restore this reach of Neshaminy Creek to free-flowing conditions, eliminate a public safety hazard, and enhance water-related recreational opportunities in an increasingly urban locale.
\$750,000

Pennsylvania Organization
for Watersheds and Rivers
Enhanced Capacity for Delivering Technical
Assistance for Watershed Stewardship (PA)

Establish a formal regional-scale partnership between the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers and Penn State Extension's Master Watershed Steward program to improve delivery of technical assistance and enhanced local capacity for watershed and habitat restoration efforts. Project will employ virtual and in-person convenings, field site visits, and other approaches to deliver targeted outreach strategies and specific restoration education, training, and technical assistance.
\$39,921

Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation
Restoring Dune Habitat for Shorebirds at
Presque Isle State Park (PA)

Restore 3 acres of dune habitat and decrease erosion and flooding to benefit shorebirds such as piping plover. Project will propagate and plant of over 30 species of native plants and improve dune sand for a more stable shoreline habitat and add protection infrastructure and wetland at Presque Isle State Park.
\$512,959

Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation
Stream Restoration at Jacobsburg
Environmental Education Center (PA)

Restore full stream width along the Bushkill Creek in Pennsylvania by rebuilding the stream bank and armoring public access points. Project will use seeded soil lifts, root wads with vegetated rock protection, and imbricated stone to rebuild the stream bank, provide an additional access point to the stream while refurbishing the two that already exist, and re-establish a vegetated riparian buffer.
\$626,301

Pennsylvania Resources Council
Building Capacity for More Equitable
Nature-based Infrastructure in Delaware and
Montgomery Counties (PA)

Strengthen the partnership of four organizations in Delaware and Montgomery counties Pennsylvania by combining several programs together under one umbrella program, Growing Greener Communities. Project will streamline stormwater work and increase the partners' capacity to respond to increasing requests within their service areas while building technical tools and resources for other organizations and communities to replicate it.
\$293,694

Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust
Fulmor Heights Green Riparian Restoration:
Phase II (PA)

Implement the second phase of a stormwater management plan in Fulmor Heights, Pennsylvania. Project will improve water quality and the quality of life for residents through riparian restoration and streambank stabilization, transforming the space into a park-like recreation space.
\$151,301

Pheasants Forever
Creating Enrollment Incentives to Establish
Grass Buffers in Pennsylvania
 Incentivize enrollment in existing grass buffer programs on farms in Pennsylvania. Project will reduce agricultural nutrient loading and create grassland wildlife habitat within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.
\$537,759

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Ecological and Wildlife Habitat Restoration in
McKinley Park (PA)

Expand ongoing monitoring work on Pittsburgh's McKinley Park nature-based infrastructure installation, expand this installation through the establishment of an adjacent native meadow. Project will incorporate youth development and environmental education activities through two local youth-serving organizations and assist in community-driven litter cleanups on more than 30 acres of surrounding park land.
\$35,542

Potter County Conservation District
Restoring Aquatic Connectivity to Strengthen
Brook Trout Habitat in Pennsylvania

Sustain and improve eastern brook trout populations in Card Creek and Little Portage Creek by removing three barriers to aquatic organism passage. Project will result in the opening of 10.75 miles of previously inaccessible stream and the improvement of flood resiliency at each site.
\$199,943

Potter County Conservation District
Enhancing Resilience of the Cowanesque
Watershed through Collaboration (PA)

Implement more than 11,000 acres of soil health practices across the headwaters of the Cowanesque River in Potter and Tioga Counties, including cover crops, no-till, prescribed grazing, and nutrient management. Project will enhance eastern brook trout populations in a high priority patch by restoring connectivity to upstream cold-water habitat through replacement of an existing stream culvert.
\$500,000

Schuylkill Conservation District
Middle Creek Watershed Restoration Plan (PA)

Conduct an assessment of the Middle Creek watershed and develop a restoration plan that addresses sources of stormwater, flooding, sediment, and habitat fragmentation to build environmental and community resiliency. Project will rank pollution sources and watershed stressors and identify specific restoration solutions with highest impact and lowest cost and risk.
\$50,000

Schuylkill Center for Environmental
Education
Habitat Restoration, and Citizen Science (PA)

Design and construct a green stormwater infrastructure project, build an infiltration basin and stable bypass channel, and reinforce the adjacent riparian forest buffer on 2 acres of forested hillside, pond and streambanks. Project will create a coalition of eight partners to protect the water quality of a first-order stream and pond, plant 200 trees, engage 215 local volunteers in land stewardship events, and eliminate stormwater runoff threats.
\$50,000

Snyder County Conservation District
Agricultural Plans and Cover Cropping
Programs in the Middle Creek Watershed (PA)

Develop agricultural plans for farmers in the Middle Creek watershed of Snyder County and incentivize cover cropping through incentive payments. Project will reduce nutrient and sediment contributions reaching local streams and watersheds of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and increase the number of cover crop acres planted within the Middle Creek watershed.
\$20,719

Schuylkill River Development Corporation
Designing the Schuylkill River Trail (PA)
 Develop design plans to create a recreational trail and restore approximately 16 acres of riparian buffer along 1,500 feet of the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia, a tributary of the Delaware River. Project will accelerate improvements to the shoreline, water quality, wildlife habitat, and access to recreational opportunities along the river consistent with local conservation efforts.
\$90,000

Snyder County Conservation District
Agricultural Pollution Reduction (PA)
 Reduce agricultural runoff in the West and North Branches of Mahantango Creek through farmer outreach, development of agricultural conservation plans, and implementation of conservation practices on beef and poultry operations. Project will result in development of 30 agricultural conservation plans to guide future farm management for improved water quality.
\$414,000

Stroud Water Research Center
Agricultural Best Management Practices and Forested Buffers (PA)
 Implement whole farm agricultural best management practices on three horse farms and plan for future restoration efforts in the Brandywine-Christina Cluster geography of the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. Project will address the major restoration needs in the West Branch Red Clay Creek watershed and support planning for major renovations to the dairy center and associated agricultural lands, resulting in the restoration of scores of acres of forested buffers and upland forests expected.
\$299,999

Stroud Water Research Center
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning for Lancaster County Farms (PA)
 Accelerate implementation of agricultural water quality improvements in Lancaster County through development and implementation of comprehensive nutrient management plans. Project will result in more than 1,100 acres under improved nutrient management and more than 4 miles of riparian forest buffers and livestock exclusion fencing implemented.
\$499,723

Stroud Water Research Center
Meeting Lancaster County's Clean Water Goals through Riparian Forest Buffers (PA)
 Increase capacity and accelerate the rate of installing state-of-the-art riparian forest buffers towards locally led clean water plans for Lancaster and Chester Counties. Project will result in more than 40 acres and nearly 10 miles of riparian forest buffer implemented to intercept polluted runoff and protect sensitive stream ecosystems.
\$499,278

Stroud Water Research Center
Promoting Soil Health and Riparian Buffers in Northwest Pennsylvania
 Restore stream health by addressing excessive sedimentation in the French Creek and Shenango River waterways that threatens freshwater species. Project will create a no-till drill rental program and provide funding to establish forested streamside buffers for sediment control and overall stream health functions.
\$191,158

Sustainable Chesapeake
Improving Manure and Nutrient Management in Pennsylvania's Most-Effective Basins
 Reduce nitrogen loss in Pennsylvania's Most-Effective Basins through improved manure and fertilizer management practices that benefit both farm profit and water quality. Project will work with agribusiness partners to expand adoption of liquid manure injection and precision nitrogen management on farms in Pennsylvania's Most-Effective Basins with a priority for farms located in countywide action plan priority watersheds, reducing nitrogen loading by 40,908 lbs per year.
\$999,919

Sustainable Chesapeake
Improving Nutrient Management Programs through Collaboration (multiple states)
 Improve nutrient management program delivery by facilitating collaboration among nutrient management leaders throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. Project will improve collaboration among land grant universities in the region, working across state lines with those leading the development of agricultural nutrient management recommendations across the watershed.
\$65,910

Sustainable Chesapeake
Reducing Nutrient Loss from Manure in Lancaster through Expanded Adoption of Manure Injection (PA)
 Work with partners to expand the adoption of low-disturbance manure injection on a range of farms. Project will improve water quality by reducing nitrogen and phosphorus loss from land-applied manure in most-effective basins in Lancaster County.
\$249,174

TeamAg
Implementing Comprehensive Agricultural Conservation Practices in Lancaster County (PA)
 Implement comprehensive agricultural conservation practices needed to achieve stream delisting and Chesapeake Bay restoration on agricultural lands in priority watersheds across Lancaster County. Project will align limited resources towards delisting streams on an accelerated time frame in catchments with the highest potential for delisting, reducing nitrogen loading by over 38,800 pounds per year.
\$1,000,000

The Nature Conservancy
Increasing Capacity for Improving Aquatic Passageways to Accelerate Habitat Improvement in Delaware River (DE, NJ, NY, PA)
 Add capacity and expertise for aquatic passage restoration in the Delaware River Basin by leveraging an existing collaboration and offering new training opportunities throughout the basin. Project will support efficient habitat restoration, increase recreation, and reduce risk by increasing capacity and expertise among conservation practitioners, fish and wildlife agencies, local governments, and dam safety programs.
\$106,965

The Nature Conservancy
Developing Agricultural Conservation Partnerships to Improve Water Quality and Stream Health (PA)
 Accelerate wetland and stream restoration across agricultural lands in the upper Cocalico Creek watershed of Pennsylvania through the development of a regional-scale partnership that builds capacity for planning and implementation. Project will create a pipeline of landowners interested in restoring wetlands and streams and a strengthening of partnerships across the watershed that will identify, secure, and implement future projects.
\$75,000

The Trust for Public Land
Kennedy Elementary Green Schoolyard Design (PA)
 Design a schoolyard at Kennedy Elementary School in Scranton that meets community needs for a healthy, equitable, and climate resilient community park. Project will provide new opportunities to explore stormwater management in Scranton schoolyards, engage dozens of students and residents in a process of hands-on education about their schoolyard and its place in the watershed, and incorporate a low-income community of color in planning and design of public community green spaces.
\$75,000

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District of New York
Embracing and Promoting Afforestation in the Riparian Corridor and Beyond (PA, NY)
 Accelerate tree planting in riparian and upland areas of the Upper Susquehanna watershed through proven programs and existing soil and water conservation district partners, while expanding community partnerships for tree planting and stewardship. Project will result in 30,000 new trees planted across more than 100 acres.
\$500,000

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District of New York

Fueling Natural Filter Restoration in the Upper Susquehanna Watershed (NY, PA)

Provide flexible funding and technical assistance opportunities for natural filter restoration and protection in the Upper Susquehanna Watershed of New York and Pennsylvania. Project will identify and implement high priority projects that provide ecosystem benefits such as improving habitat and addressing water quality and quantity. *\$1,000,000*

Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership

Introducing Stormwater Management (PA)

Install green stormwater infrastructure at the Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel parking lot in Cheltenham Township, Pennsylvania. Project will retrofit the parking lot to reduce impervious cover and install two bioretention features to slow the movement of water on the property and reduce nonpoint source pollutants. *\$84,310*

Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership

Shoemaker Run Stream Restoration at Abington Club Golf Course (PA)

Install green stormwater infrastructure to reduce impacts from high velocity stormwater runoff at the Abington Club golf course in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. Project will mitigate impacts from upstream development and accelerated erosion through instream restoration, stabilization of stream buffers, and engagement of local volunteers through tree plantings. *\$244,838*

Trout Unlimited

Accelerating Water Quality Improvements and Supporting Conservation Collaboratives (MD, PA, VA, WV)

Support restoration efforts and the assessment and further development of conservation collaboratives, programs, and services within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed region. Project will result in improved water quality in focal watersheds, increased capacity to deliver watershed scale conservation services in the region, engagement of future environmental stewards, and the long-term monitoring and maintenance of conservation projects. *\$979,739*

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Strongholds (PA)

Enhance and increase Eastern brook trout populations in habitat strongholds in Pennsylvania's Pine and Kettle Creeks. Project will develop a long-term plan for aquatic connectivity and cold-water habitat enhancements and restore more than a mile of riparian forest habitat. *\$254,001*

Trout Unlimited

Restoring Riparian Buffers in the Upper Casselman River (MD, PA)

Restore riparian buffers, implement conservation practices on agricultural lands, and reforest abandoned mine lands in the Upper Casselman River. Project will bolster brook trout, hellbender, and mussel populations in the watershed; reduce the impacts of sedimentation; and establish early successional habitat for golden-winged warbler. *\$189,711*

Union County Conservation District

Helping Farmers Accomplish Conservation Goals in the West Branch Susquehanna River Watershed (PA)

Implement agricultural conservation practices on four farms in the Turtle Creek watershed within the broader West Branch of the Susquehanna River. Project will complete whole farm conservation plans by strategically leveraging federal conservation program funding to fulfill farm-level funding needs. *\$500,000*

University of Maryland

Building Organizational Capacity for Clean Water in Franklin County, Pennsylvania

Establish a new countywide water quality organization that will build local capacity to advance the implementation of water quality improvements identified as priorities in Franklin County's clean water plans. Project will address critical gaps in restoration capacity within existing agencies and environmental and conservation organizations in the county. *\$62,000*

University of Pittsburgh

Automated Acoustic Monitoring of Focal Bird Species in Dynamic Forest Restoration Blocks (PA)

Survey avian communities in three dynamic forest restoration blocks in the Pennsylvania Wilds and Laurel Highlands. Project will continue and expand the use of automated acoustic recorders to monitor populations of golden-winged warbler, wood thrush, cerulean warbler, and four additional avian focal species. *\$183,568*

University of Pittsburgh

Acoustic Monitoring of Focal Bird Species in Dynamic Forest Restoration Blocks - II (PA)

Use automated acoustic recorders to monitor populations of Golden-Winged Warbler, Wood Thrush, Cerulean Warbler, and other species in dynamic forest restoration blocks in the watershed. Project will estimate species occupancy and abundance at each site using statistical models and holding technical training workshops to support future analysis of bioacoustic recordings. *\$173,241*

Urban Riparian Restoration

Stewardship, Awareness and Training (NJ)

Restore natural habitats through the enhancement of six wetlands, removal of 4 acres of invasive plant species, and installation of 32 feet of Bio-logs in Sussex, New Jersey. Project will increase engagement with volunteers and public and private sector partners. *\$38,663*

Watershed Alliance of York (WAY)

Coordinating Partnerships to Increase Watershed Forestry Best Management Practices in York County, PA

Bring together private and public partners to accelerate implementation, maintenance, and financial incentives of riparian forest buffers and lawn conversion projects in York County. Project will use partner-funded outreach, large contract plantings, investment in partners' professional development, and a marketing campaign to accelerate the pace of riparian forest buffer and lawn conversion implementation. *\$1,000,000*

WeConservePA

Implementing Conservation Easements and Resource Management Planning in Pennsylvania

Support local Pennsylvania land trusts in implementing conservation easements and developing resource management plans to inform long-term restoration and stewardship of conserved habitat. Project will permanently protect 980 acres across more than a dozen individual land conservation projects. *\$150,000*

West Cocalico Township Authority

Protecting Drinking Water in West Cocalico Township through Farm Collaboration (PA)

Improve local drinking water quality in West Cocalico Township by partnering with farmers to implement agricultural conservation practices that reduce nitrogen pollution to local groundwater supplies. Project will implement 630 acres of conservation practices, including cover crops, no-till, and adaptive nutrient management. *\$212,960*

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

Developing a Conservation Framework and Action Plan for Freshwater Mussel Conservation (PA)

Develop a framework for the conservation of freshwater mussels across Pennsylvania. Project will complete planning activities and collect field data to determine which restoration actions are important for the long-term conservation of freshwater mussels in the state. *\$194,250*

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Improving Aquatic Organism Passage on State Gamelands in Central Pennsylvania**

Complete aquatic organism passage projects on state game lands to benefit brook trout and other important and at-risk aquatic species. Project will result in 20 additional miles of accessible stream habitat through assessment and design, implementation, and monitoring of culvert replacement projects.

\$499,967

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Protecting Critical Habitat and Water Quality in Pennsylvania's Western Tributaries**

Permanently protect forestland, wetland, and high-quality riparian corridors that serve as critical habitat for species of greatest conservation need. Project will work with private foundations, state agencies, and landowners to conserve 1,000 acres across central Pennsylvania.

\$492,699

Wildlands Conservancy**Bushkill Stream and Fish Passage Restoration Project (PA)**

Complete fish passage and stream restoration through the removal of the first three fish passage barriers in the Bushkill Creek in Easton, Pennsylvania. Project will include fish passage barrier removal, installation of instream habitat structures, stream bank stabilization, riparian buffer plantings, continued stream monitoring, and community outreach.

\$1,000,001

York County Rail Trail Authority**Floodplain Restoration on Oil Creek (PA)**

Restore more than a mile of Oil Creek to improve water quality and protect a planned trail corridor to improve local public access. Project will restore up to 8 acres of wetlands.

\$500,000

RHODE ISLAND**Bristol County Water Authority****Restoring the Ecological Resiliency of the Kickemuit River Estuary (RI)**

Remove two fish passage barriers on the Kickemuit River to provide community and ecological resiliency benefits by increasing flood storage capacity of the wetlands, reducing flooding of infrastructure, restoring a tidal estuary, enhancing habitat for estuarine and anadromous species, hydrologically re-connecting the watershed to the estuary and improving water quality. Project will restore salt and brackish marsh habitat in both the lower and upper impoundments and will create an area for salt marsh migration.

\$1,391,000

Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation**Test Utility of a Buoyless Gear Location Marking Application for Mobile and Fixed Gear Fishers (RI)**

Test the accuracy and utility of an electronic gear location marking application in both mobile and fixed gear fisheries in New England to help refine the buoyless gear marking application. Project will increase the ability of electronic gear location marking to contribute to the reduction of gear conflicts and the transition to ropeless gear to reduce the number of gear entanglements of North Atlantic Right Whales.

\$93,861

Groundwork Rhode Island**Urban Tree Planting to Enhance Habitat and Communities (RI)**

Train volunteers to manage bird habitat demonstration sites at locations across 4 acres and develop a bird-friendly planting guide to be used in planting 2,000 additional trees in a companion planting project. Project will develop a curriculum for local schools on bird habitat in urban settings, lead eight field trips to demonstration sites, coordinate eight volunteer planting events with 150 volunteers, and install up to 10 educational signs at demonstration areas.

\$45,700

Gulf of Maine Research Institute**Building Maximized Retention Electronic Monitoring Capacity in the New England Groundfish Fishery**

Support the implementation of the maximized retention electronic monitoring model in the New England groundfish fishery by piloting a third-party dockside monitoring approach to build regional capacity to support 100 percent monitoring on vessels. Project will facilitate the transition to an industry led effort and support implementation by providing technical assistance to sectors, fishers, and dealers using a maximized retention model to meet their monitoring requirements.

\$319,745

Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank**Creating a Centralized Nature-Based Resilience Program for Rhode Island (RI)**

Expand Rhode Island's Shoreline Adaptation Inventory and Design program and incorporate it into the Municipal Resilience Program at Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. Project will provide expanded nature-based design technical assistance to municipalities through a statewide program providing resilience workshops, project prioritization, and construction funding.

\$249,897

Rhode Island Department of**Environmental Management, NBNERR****Final Designs to Improve Coastal Resiliency at Gull Cove and Quonochontaug Pond Breachway (RI)**

Complete final designs and permitting for two shoreline access projects in Portsmouth and Charlestown, Rhode Island. Project will be an implementation ready design to restore coastal habitat and improve resiliency to flooding and erosion.

\$200,150

The Nature Conservancy**Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

SOUTH CAROLINA**Center for Heirs' Property Preservation****Developing a Regional Community Resiliency Implementation Workplan (SC)**

Create a regional resiliency implementation workplan that will engage diverse stakeholders and build their capacity to plan and execute future resiliency strategies, projects and other activities for the Lower Pee Dee Watershed. Project will identify and prioritize nature-based solutions to mitigate flooding, storm surge, sea-level rise risks, and other threats to local infrastructure, facilities and communities.

\$400,000

Chesterfield County Soil and Water Conservation District**Private Lands Longleaf Conservation in the Sandhills Region of South Carolina**

Conduct a private landowner outreach and education campaign, with emphasis on underserved communities, to increase participation in available financial and technical assistance programs to restore longleaf pine within the South Carolina Sandhills. Project will impact 3,325 acres of privately owned longleaf through establishment, management practices, and prescribed fire, benefiting northern bobwhite, Bachman's sparrow, and southern hognose snake.

\$297,000

College of Charleston**Mitigation of Chondria Tumulosa Spread in Papahānaumokuākea (HI, SC)**

Utilize satellite imagery and invertebrates to monitor and understand invasive Chondria's spread in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Project will create distributional maps, Best Management Practices, and train resource managers to decrease the spread of Chondria.

\$174,030

Forest Landowners Association**Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.

\$250,000

Georgia Department of Natural Resources Estimating the Northbound Passage Population of Red Knot in the Georgia Bight (GA, SC)

Assess the red knot population along the coast of Georgia and South Carolina through band resighting, trapping and tagging to provide a population estimate and inform the management of Red Knot in the Georgia Bight. Project will fill critical data gaps on Red Knot to help guide habitat management and assess life-cycle threats for red knots and other high priority shorebird species.

\$75,000

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.

\$120,000

New Alpha CDC**Developing a Coastal Resilience Plan in Lower Pee Dee River Basin (SC)**

Develop a coastal resilience plan for low-income communities within the Lower Pee Dee Basin. Project will provide a prioritized set of strategies and projects where nature-based solutions may be implemented to reduce flooding risk and exposure; host a series of events to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and exchange on coastal resilience.

\$250,000

New Jersey Audubon Society**Surveying American Horseshoe Crab as a Critical Element of Red Knot Conservation (Multiple States)**

Implement surveys and recovery metrics used in Delaware Bay to characterize and track the status of horseshoe crab populations in six Atlantic Coast states. Project will inform natural resource agencies, supporting the recovery of horseshoe crab populations outside of Delaware Bay, with a goal of rebuilding a network of shorebird stopovers, and advancing the recovery of rufa red knot and other Arctic-nesting shorebirds.

\$60,000

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources**Coastal Wetland Restoration to Improve Community Resiliency in Charleston (SC)**

Restore the tidal marsh adjacent to Old Town Creek at Maryville through community-based channel excavation, salt marsh restoration, and construction of oyster reef living shorelines. Project will improve community coastal resilience and enhance tidal marsh habitat in a degraded estuarine area using nature-based solutions.

\$1,549,181

The Longleaf Alliance**Longleaf and Bottomland Hardwood Restoration in the South Lowcountry-ACE Basin (SC)**

Plant 1,050 acres of longleaf pine and improve management on an additional 2,200 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire and mid-story hardwood removal on public and private lands within the South-Lowcountry and ACE Basin in South Carolina. Project will conserve working forests with conservation easements, provide outreach and technical assistance to private landowners, and restore populations of gopher tortoises releasing up to 100 juvenile tortoises on restored habitat.

\$480,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Seewee Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration and Landowner Outreach (SC)**

Restore, manage and conserve more than 4,500 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood forest in the South Carolina Coastal Plain, north of Charleston. Project will provide public and private landowner outreach and financial assistance for longleaf establishment, prescribed burning, and working forest conservation easements, benefiting northern bobwhite, Carolina gopher frog and Bachman's sparrow.

\$322,000

The Nature Conservancy**Fostering an Understanding of Climate Smart Longleaf Pine Management (SC)**

Expand the knowledge of carbon sequestration in managed longleaf pine forests and bring that information to partners and landowners. Project will collect carbon sequestration measurements in young, mature, and fire maintained longleaf stands to build on existing literature and fill data gaps, plant 200 acres of longleaf, and develop webinars and workshops to inform 300 partners and landowners of findings from project information.

\$225,000

University of Massachusetts - Amherst**Assessing and Protecting a Critical Whimbrel Nocturnal Roost Site at Deveaux Bank (SC)**

Improve understanding of the largest known whimbrel nocturnal roost site, Deveaux Bank in South Carolina. Project will utilize research and media to increase public support for the conservation of this site and similar shorebird habitat on the Atlantic coast as a critical step toward stabilizing whimbrel and other shorebird populations.

\$90,000

SOUTH DAKOTA**American Bird Conservancy****Leveraging Grassland Conservation for Birds and Rangeland Resiliency (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Leverage two NRCS partner positions to increase the impact of Working Lands for Wildlife initiatives for Greater Sage-grouse and the Northern Plains Grassland in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Project will provide technical assistance and planning on NRCS practices to improve management on at least 15,500 acres of land, while fostering landowner trust and interest in grassland conservation, to ultimately provide more high-quality habitat and build rangeland resiliency.

\$205,095

Ducks Unlimited**Supporting Climate Resilient Habitats and Increasing Grassland Carbon Sequestration (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Provide technical assistance and incentives for on-the-ground conservation projects on private lands through the Northern Grassland Incentives Program which offers landowners financial assistance to voluntarily restore and enhance native grasslands, shrublands and mesic habitats. Project will improve or restore nearly 10,000 acres to help build rangelands that are resilient to climate change, drought, and invasive species, and which have improved capabilities to sequester carbon.

\$296,988

Mule Deer Foundation**Improving Conservation Coordination and Implementation in the Dakota Grasslands (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Increase capacity for a habitat partnership coordinator to be the key position for increasing the capacity to identify, plan, coordinate and implement conservation projects that restore key habitats in the Dakota Grassland region. Project will improve derelict fencing to wildlife-friendly specifications, restore sage-grouse habitat through invasive species treatments, improve mesic habitat hydrology through seedling structures and improve rangelands through modified grazing plans.

\$364,717

National Audubon Society**Technical Assistance for Pollinator Habitat on Working Lands in the Eastern Dakotas (ND, SD)**

Support a Range Ecologist to advance technical assistance for private landowners and promote conservation practices that benefit the monarch butterfly, Dakota skipper, regal fritillary, and other pollinators in eastern North Dakota and South Dakota. Project will improve 7,480 acres, restore 2,600 acres, develop 32 conservation plans, host 4 workshops, and engage 120 people.

\$262,409

Pheasants Forever**Using Decision-Support Tools to Strategically Deliver Grassland Bird Conservation – Phase 3 (SD)**

Develop a tract prioritization protocol based on the new grassland bird decision-support tools to identify grassland tracts on private land in western South Dakota with the highest value to grassland nesting passerines. Project will enroll 14,000 acres of highest priority grassland habitat into improved grazing management systems.

\$345,090

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)**

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.

\$250,000

South Dakota Grassland Coalition**Adoption of Regenerative Practices on Prairie Pothole Working Grasslands (SD)**

Promote regenerative agriculture principles and conservation practices with ranchers in the Prairie Pothole Region of eastern South Dakota. Project will improve grassland health, promote long-term ranch sustainability, promote water conservation, improve water quality, enhance soil health, increase carbon storage and enhance wildlife habitat on an estimated 75,000 acres of grassland.

\$408,919

South Dakota Grassland Coalition**Enhancing Grasslands by Promoting Regenerative Practices in the Northern Plains Grassland (SD)**

Promote regenerative agriculture principles and conservation practices utilizing cost share programs on working grasslands by working with ranchers in western South Dakota. Project will promote long-term ranch sustainability, protect grasslands from conversion, improve grassland and soil health, water quality, and wildlife habitat for priority species of concern including chestnut-collared longspur, Baird's sparrow and Sprague's pipit on 75,000 acres of grasslands.

\$181,325

TENNESSEE**American Forest Foundation****Engaging Family Forest Landowners to Support Sustainable Forest Management Practices (TN)**

Engage private landowners with outreach and technical assistance to restore and enhance 1,600 acres of white oak and shortleaf pine habitat in the Cumberland Plateau region of Tennessee. Project will assist private landowners with prescribed burning on 600 acres of shortleaf pine and improve habitat through treatment of invasive species and timber stand improvement on 200 acres of shortleaf pine and 800 acres of white oak, benefiting prairie warbler, northern bobwhite and several bat species.

\$447,173

Cumberland River Compact**Restoring Abandoned and Legacy Mine Lands in the Cumberland River Basin (KY, TN)**

Engage private landowners to restore forest habitat on abandoned and legacy coal mine sites in the Cumberland River Basin in Kentucky and Tennessee. Project will implement restoration practices developed by the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative, resulting in restored riparian buffers, improved stream habitat, and the establishment of bird and pollinator habitats.

\$194,302

Green Interchange**Watershed Education and Riparian Restoration Garrison Creek (TN)**

Restore 1,750 linear feet of upper Garrison Creek's riparian forest to establish urban wildlife corridors with increased habitat for pollinators, small mammals and bird species. Project will enhance stormwater Restore 1,750 linear feet of upper Garrison Creek's riparian forest to establish urban wildlife corridors with increased habitat for pollinators, small mammals and bird species. Project will enhance stormwater

\$50,000

Paint Rock Forest Research Center**Southern Cumberlands Shortleaf Pine Seed and Seedling Initiative (AL, GA, TN)**

Address the lack of genetically appropriate shortleaf pine seed and seedling resources for reforestation and restoration. Project will identify appropriate seed banks within Tennessee and Alabama; collect seeds to support three years of propagation; send seeds to processing and storage centers; select appropriate nurseries for propagation; produce over 75,000 seedlings ready for distribution to vetted projects in the second year of the grant; and develop plans for a permanent seed orchard.

\$266,935

Pheasants Forever**Increasing Landowner Habitat Management with a Habitat Specialist Crew (TN)**

Increase landowner technical assistance in the Cumberland Plateau region of Tennessee to restore and enhance more than 1,600 acres of shortleaf pine woodland and savanna habitat. Project will deploy a habitat specialist crew to implement prescribe burns and timber stand improvement treatments, remove invasive species, and plant shortleaf pine and oak seedlings, benefiting northern bobwhite, prairie warbler and other woodland and savanna-dependent species.

\$591,420

Pheasants Forever**Restore Shortleaf Pine Forest and Grassland Ecosystems on Private Lands (AL, TN)**

Increase landowner outreach and technical assistance, including engagement of historically underserved landowners, in the Cumberland Plateau region to accelerate adoption of Farm Bill programs and practices to restore shortleaf pine and other woodland and savanna ecosystems. Project will restore 1,100 acres of habitat through the use of prescribed fire, forest thinning and invasive species removal, benefiting northern bobwhite, Bachman's sparrow and other forest and grassland dependent species.

\$275,557

Tennessee Aquarium**Removing Fish Passage Barriers and Improving Water Quality on the Cumberland Plateau (TN)**

Replace a failing culvert on Duskin Creek, provide technical assistance to agricultural landowners to implement conservation practices, and monitor fish response to stream habitat improvements in Bledsoe, Rhea, and Sequatchie counties, Tennessee. Project will engage 150 landowners to adopt conservation practices on 200 acres of cropland, and remove a fish passage barrier to improve water quality and habitat connectivity for the endangered Laurel Dace and other at-risk fish species.

\$265,696

The Nature Conservancy**Conserve Peach Creek Forest Habitat for the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge (TX)**

Acquire nearly 5,000 acres of contiguous, high quality river bottom forest along the San Bernard River near Wharton, Texas. Project will support a great diversity of wildlife, serving as a home to more than 400 different resident and migratory species and increasing habitat within the federally protected San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge.

\$203,500

University of Georgia Research Foundation**Nature-Based Restoration of Shoals in the Conasauga River (GA, TN)**

Restore three shoals in the in the Upper Conasauga River mainstem through the addition of logs and the re-establishment of American water willow and riverweed. Project will improve habitat quality for imperiled fishes and mussels within the Conasauga River, a hot spot for freshwater biodiversity, and provide information essential to the management and conservation of target species.

\$213,340

WaterWays**Chattanooga Creek Education, Litter Abatement and Nature-based Infrastructure (TN, GA)**

Provide environmental workshops for community adults, monitor microplastics, E. coli, and chemical parameters of water quality and install nature-based infrastructure and trees in neighborhoods to combat environmental injustice in the Chattanooga Creek Watershed. Project will remove over 1 ton of litter from watershed, and compile data for one year leading to long-term litter reduction plan while educating over 200 4th graders.

\$50,147

TEXAS**Bat Conservation International
Developing Community-Centered Outreach for Bat Conservation**

Develop a community-based and deeply collaborative outreach program about bat conservation to serve as a model for other conservation NGOs. Project will share lessons learned with other organizations that grapple with similar challenges to be inclusive and responsive to diverse communities.

\$44,997

City of Houston**Designing Pocket Prairies to Reduce Flood Risk in Houston (TX)**

Conceptualize five sites as Pocket Prairies that will reduce flood risk by relieving stormwater systems and restore wetlands and prairies in highly developed areas. Project will use the Complete Communities and community-led, council approved, action plans as a guide to select priority sites and develop the conceptual design which will serve as pilots to develop a replicable and scalable design for future design and implementation.

\$200,000

Community In-Power and Development Association**Collaborative Coastal Resilience Planning in Jefferson County (TX)**

Integrate community knowledge with multidisciplinary community planning, through a diverse partnership of local stakeholders, community planners, landscape architects, nature-based infrastructure experts, and hydrologists. Project will develop a plan, priorities and strategies for building coastal resilience in West Port Arthur with a focus on nature-based solutions that protect human life while improving the region's endangered and threatened wildlife habitats.

\$233,965

Forest Landowners Association**Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.

\$250,000

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.

\$120,000

Mote Marine Laboratory**Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery Electronic Monitoring (FL)**

Continue the Center for Fisheries Electronic Monitoring at Mote's efforts to streamline artificial intelligence driven data collection processes by creating a repeatable process for generating data and algorithms. Project will make strides in applying artificial intelligence in the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery to serve as a foundation for providing more timely and efficient data for management and industry applications.

\$349,000

National Audubon Society**Conserving Shortgrass Prairie Habitat through Conservation Ranching (NM, TX)**

Implement on-the-ground restoration efforts in the shortgrass prairie ecosystems of the Texas panhandle and southeastern New Mexico through the Audubon Conservation Ranching Initiative. Project will improve grazing management on 50,000 acres of private, working ranches and implement a spectrum of technical guidance tools and development of ranch-specific habitat management plans and monitoring efforts to benefit Lesser Prairie-Chickens and other native species.

\$175,346

NOAA Fisheries**Non-invasive Diet Characterization of Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA)**

Test the use of stable isotopes to analyze dietary composition for Southern Resident killer whales in the Salish Sea using naturally occurring chemical tracers. Project will measure how stable isotopes in fecal matter and breath samples reflect diets from a feeding study on captive killer whales and compare to archived collected samples from Southern Resident killer whales.

\$148,760

Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas**Supporting the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program (OK, TX)**

Support the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program, a multi-organization effort aimed at achieving grassland bird conservation objectives in focus areas throughout the Oaks and Prairies Ecoregion of Texas and Oklahoma. Project will restore nearly 9,000 acres of private working lands habitat for grassland-obligate species.

\$186,615

Pheasants Forever**Increasing Capacity for Grassland Conservation On Working Ranches (TX)**

Increase capacity and technical assistance in the Texas Panhandle to improve grassland health, increase habitat quality and provide benefits to priority wildlife species including lesser prairie-chicken, pronghorn, migratory songbirds and monarch butterfly. Project will improve management on 8,000 acres of working ranches to improve grassland health, support biodiversity and increase carbon sequestration to improve climate resilience.

\$200,000

Pheasants Forever**Improving Grassland Bird Habitat (TX)**

Provide incentive payments and technical assistance to landowners for land management practices that improve and restore habitat for grassland birds and mottled ducks in coastal areas of Texas. Project will restore more than 3,000 acres of coastal grassland habitat by improving habitat diversity and structure on private working lands.

\$150,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)**

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.

\$250,000

Texas A&M Forest Service**Restoring Longleaf Pine in the Big Thicket and Longleaf Ridge Regions of East Texas**

Coordinate education, outreach, technical, and financial assistance to restore, enhance, and conserve the longleaf pine ecosystem in East Texas through prescribed burning, plantings and silvicultural management, benefiting northern bobwhite, brown-headed nuthatch and game species, such as eastern wild turkey. Project will plant 775 acres of new longleaf stands, implement prescribed burning on 4,100 acres, enhance 250 acres through woody plant control and educate 150 private landowners.

\$490,000

Texas A&M University-Kingsville**Native Seeds Development and Outreach for Grassland Restoration in the Pecos River Watershed (NM, TX)**

Develop ecotypic native seed sources for the Pecos River watershed in West Texas and New Mexico to support successful grassland restoration. Project will address limitations to native grassland habitat restoration through outreach and technical assistance to landowners, energy operators, and related contractors reseeding in the watershed, by expanding an established native seed research and development program, and by collaborating with the commercial seed trade to expand seed source availability.

\$195,891

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation**Northern Hudspeth County Grassland Restoration (TX)**

Conduct herbicide application to restore 6,000-9,000 acres of brush-invaded dry mixed prairie in northern Hudspeth County, Texas. Project will strategically expand the existing grassland for the greatest net gain of contiguous, usable habitat for grassland obligate species like pronghorn.

\$250,000

Texas Tech University**Using Virtual Fencing to Improve Grazing Management, Carbon Sequestration, and Wildlife Habitat (TX)**

Utilize virtual fencing as grazing management tool to implement an adaptive grazing system to improve grassland health and associated ecosystem services in the Texas Rolling Plains. Project will employ virtual fencing on 10,000 acres of private, working ranches to promote healthy grasslands that increase productivity, soil health and function, carbon sequestration, and habitat for grassland-obligate songbirds.

\$193,672

The Nature Conservancy**Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

Toyah Limpia SWCD**Central Trans Pecos Native Grassland Restoration and Management (TX)**

Restore high-quality Chihuahuan native grassland habitat for migratory grassland birds and pronghorn on private land in Reeves, Jeff Davis, Culberson, and Pecos Counties, Texas. Project will address habitat quality, connectivity and management for native grasslands by managing encroaching woody species like mesquite, tarbrush, whitebrush, acacia and creosote brush.

\$195,000

UTAH**Summit Land Conservancy****Permanently Protecting Migratory Bird Stopover Habitat along the Weber River in Summit County (UT)**

Permanently preserve and restore scarce wetlands along the Weber River in Summit County, Utah, saving key migratory bird stopover habitat that would otherwise likely be sold for conversion to residential housing. Project will place 107 acres of agricultural land under permanent conservation easement and implement targeted grazing efforts to improve wetland habitat quality for migratory species and permanently protect all ecosystem services provided by this land.

\$150,000

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources**Reconnecting Big Game Migration Corridors and Winter Range Habitat (UT)**

Restore big game migration corridors, reconnect critical winter ranges, and reduce wildlife vehicle collisions by installing a wildlife exclusion fence around the I-80/I-84 interchange in northern Utah. Project will install 2.68 miles of fencing to direct animal movement to existing underpasses and bridges, where wildlife can cross safely.

\$250,000

VERMONT**Connecticut River Watershed Council
Engaging Vermont Communities to Develop
Nitrogen Prevention Projects (VT)**

Conduct outreach and deliver technical assistance to private landowners in the Connecticut River watershed, Vermont. Project will develop designs for projects to reduce nitrogen pollution into the Connecticut River and downstream to Long Island Sound.

\$250,000

**Vermont Association
of Conservation Districts****Pocket Wetland Restoration Planning to
Prevent Nitrogen Pollution - II (VT)**

Design wetland restoration projects in agricultural fields in Vermont's Connecticut River Basin. Project will result in designs to ultimately restore freshwater wetlands and reduce nitrogen pollution runoff from farms into the Connecticut River and downstream to Long Island Sound.

\$203,199

**Vermont Department of
Environmental Conservation****Wetland Mapping to Prevent Nitrogen
Pollution from the Connecticut River (VT)**

Create water resource maps and provide education about the mapping tool in the Connecticut River Basin, Vermont. Project will inform development of nitrogen pollution prevention projects in wetlands at a watershed and site-scale that benefit the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound.

\$210,456

VIRGINIA**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Establishing Builders Institute to Expand
Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)**

Increase regional capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects more efficiently and effectively by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management.

\$399,093

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay**Nature-based Infrastructure Improvements to
Richmond's Blackwell Playground (VA)**

Implement nature-based infrastructure practices to enhance recent improvements at Blackwell Playground in Richmond's Blackwell neighborhood. Project will improve water quality and reduce local heat island impacts through community engagement alongside trust community partners.

\$500,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay**Jump-starting Organic Valley's Dairy
Sustainability Strategy in the Chesapeake Bay
Watershed (MD, NY, PA, VA)**

Partner with Organic Valley to provide cost-effective agricultural conservation practices to manage agricultural runoff, improve water quality and wildlife habitat, and address climate change on organic dairy farms in the Bay watershed. Project will restore 5 miles of riparian habitat and engage an additional 200 volunteers in implementing on-farm conservation practices.

\$500,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay**Opening Barn Doors for Clean Water and
Healthy Cows (VA)**

Assist dairy farmers with developing and implementing conservation plans alongside partner with the Maryland Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, and local soil and water conservation districts. Project will work with farmers in the Shenandoah Valley to install riparian forest buffers and upland forest plantings, stream exclusion fencing, rooftop runoff controls, manure management, and nutrient management plans.

\$500,000

**Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley
Accelerating Riparian and Upland Best
Management Practices to Improve Water
Quality in Virginia**

Accelerate the installation and maintenance of riparian and upland best management practices to improve water quality in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Project will establish innovative demonstration farms, share implementation costs, provide technical support, and use data and local knowledge to evaluate other watersheds in order to replicate the coordinated Smith Creek Watershed Partnership approach to improving water quality.

\$999,988

**Boxerwood Education Association
Boxerwood Watershed and Wetland
Restoration and Planning (VA)**

Collaborate with experts to develop a comprehensive plan for managing excess stormwater runoff at the Boxerwood Education Association's nature center and woodland garden in Lexington, Virginia.

\$63,463

Center for Watershed Protection**Scaling Up Biochar Applications for Runoff
Reduction in Chesapeake Bay (multiple states)**

Accelerate the rate and scale at which biochar amendments are applied in the urban landscape to support runoff reduction and improved water quality across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Project will secure new partners for widespread use of biochar amendments and provide technical assistance on sourcing and using certified biochar in a variety of urban applications.

\$699,509

**Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Middle James River Preservation Plan (VA)**

Provide the foundation for a science and engineering-based evaluation of practices that can be employed to reduce the impacts of stormwater, sedimentation, streambank erosion in Amherst County, Virginia. Project will result in a plan that will include at least five priority projects or programs and include associated cost estimates, stakeholder partners, and funding mechanisms.

\$75,000

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Building Plan for Virginia's Freshwater Mussels**

Increase habitat connectivity and quality for at-risk and federally listed populations of native freshwater mussels by working with partners to create a Mussel Richness Map for Virginia and a Conservation Buffer Layer that will prioritize buffer placement to best enhance mussel habitat. Project will convene partners to showcase these new tools and resources and facilitate coordination in support of freshwater mussel restoration and ongoing water quality restoration initiatives.

\$73,764

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Expanding Rotational Grazing (MD, PA, VA, WV)**

Expand the adoption of rotational grazing practices among dairy and livestock operations in the Shenandoah Valley, western and central Maryland, and southcentral Pennsylvania. Project will utilize conservation and farm networks to improve grazing management on 1,200 acres.

\$493,780

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Greening Faith Places, Community Spaces (VA)**

Enhance water quality improvement efforts in Central Virginia through tree planting on public lands, job training for at-risk youth, and partnering with houses of worship to plan, design, and install nature-based infrastructure practices on congregational properties. Project will engage 160 volunteers and improve stormwater management for more than 3 acres.

\$467,202

City of Richmond**Restoring Pine Camp Creek (VA)**

Educate and engage students and the public about enhancing a watershed through planting riparian vegetation in a rain garden/bioswale near a degraded stream corridor. Project will create a field station for weekly water quality monitoring to involve students in citizen science and stream restoration, and will educate and inform park visitors about stream corridor reconstruction.

\$28,357

College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science**Eastern Shore Barrier Island Stabilization and Marsh Habitat Engineering (VA)**

Develop final engineering design plans for 217-acres of marsh restoration and expansion along southern Cedar Island, Virginia to enhance backbarrier marsh and lagoon habitat to improve rural community resilience. Project will secure permitting and provide outreach on the Eastern Shore.

\$310,309

College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science**Enhanced the RecFish Mobile Application in Response to Stakeholder Input - II (MD, VA)**

Enhance the functionality of the RecFish mobile application and database in response to stakeholder input. Project will develop features that allow invasive species alerting and reporting and facilitate more accurate reporting by recreational anglers and charter boat captains to continue effectively engaging recreational fishermen and managers.

\$315,382

Defensores de la Cuenca**Expanding Spanish-Language Watershed Stewardship in the Patapsco and Anacostia Watersheds (MD)**

Expand La Academia, a paid adult watershed training and stewardship program delivered in Spanish, in the Anacostia and Patapsco River watersheds. Project will pair culturally relevant education with hands-on experiences and culminate in completion of individually led stormwater improvement projects in local communities.

\$465,467

Ducks Unlimited**Accelerating Wetland Conservation for Black Duck on the Delmarva Peninsula (DE, MD, VA)**

Support a Working Lands for Wildlife Farm Bill Biologist to continue and expand outreach efforts such as workshops and publications to reach a broader range of agricultural producers including those identified as historically underserved. Project will extend an existing partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to maximize landowner participation in NRCS wetland conservation program to benefit black ducks on the Delmarva Peninsula.

\$100,000

Ducks Unlimited**Enhancing Waterfowl Management Capacity at Doe Creek Wildlife Management Area (VA)**

Enhance water management capabilities at Doe Creek Wildlife Management Area on Virginia's Eastern Shore through new water control structures and resilience improvements. Project will improve management of 147 acres of tidal wetlands for waterfowl and recreational benefit.

\$476,432

ecoLatinos**Nature-based Infrastructure Training for Latino Landscape Professionals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (DC, MD, VA)**

Develop and implement a culturally relevant Spanish language nature-based infrastructure training for landscape professionals across Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Project will train 36 professionals and serve as a replicable model for engaging new communities in regional watershed restoration efforts.

\$252,746

Forest Landowners Association**Engaging Large-Scale Landowners for Longleaf Pine Restoration (Multiple States)**

Establish 2,500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 5,500 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands within the historical longleaf pine range. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders to achieve collaborative conservation for at-risk and listed species, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.

\$250,000

Friends of the Rappahannock**Accelerate Water Quality Improvement in the Rappahannock River Watershed (VA)**

Cultivate the growth, participation, and capacity of the Rappahannock River Roundtable partnership and measurably accelerate the geographic scale of implementation for priority conservation and water quality improvement practices in the Rappahannock River Watershed. Project will increase the participation and accessibility of cost-share programs and project implementation through financial incentives, inclusion of the carbon market, increased technical assistance, and enhanced outreach.

\$999,378

Friends of the Rappahannock**Rappahannock River Oyster Restoration (VA)**

Increase capacity and implementation efforts to restore oyster populations in Virginia's Rappahannock River. Project will restore 25 acres of oyster reef and plant more than one million oysters through engagement of local schools and businesses, nonprofits and research institutes, and volunteers.

\$499,641

Groundwork RVA**Greening of Highland Park (VA)**

Improve community engagement of Richmond's Highland Park neighborhood in planned greening efforts. Project will add to the tree canopy both at street level and in community green spaces, including small-scale urban forests, and demonstrate that disparate impacts from the urban heat island effect are not an inevitable outcome for low- and-moderate income communities.

\$75,000

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission**Engaging Industrial Properties in Water Quality Improvement for the Elizabeth River (VA)**

Pilot implementation, maintenance, and verification of water quality improvement and flood reduction practices on industrial lands in the Elizabeth River watershed. Project will provide a model for expanded engagement of industrial land owners in voluntary contributions to Hampton Roads clean water and climate resilience goals.

\$490,603

James River Association**Establishing a Freshwater Mussel Restoration Plan in the James River Basin (VA)**

Create a James River Basin Freshwater Mussel Restoration Plan that will serve as an important tool for state government departments, federal agencies, nonprofits, and funders in mussel restoration efforts in the James River. Project will provide for a proactive restoration plan to guide planting activities, to identify areas for further surveys and investigation, and establish strategic restoration objectives for the James.

\$51,818

James River Association**Petersburg Battlefield Flood Remediation and Drainage Improvements (VA)**

Engage the Petersburg's Lakemont neighborhood in planning and design work associated with the Petersburg Battlefield Flood Remediation and Drainage Improvements project. Project will support efforts to alleviate detrimental flooding caused by stormwater through the design and implementation of engineered solutions.

\$75,000

Lower Shore Land Trust**Implementing the Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network Strategic Plan**

Support the coordination of the Delmarva Restoration and Conservation Network (DRCN), a cross-sector collaborative working to address habitat loss, climate resiliency, under-resourced communities, and water quality improvement on the Delmarva Peninsula. Project will directly support implementation of the Network's Conservation and Restoration Strategic Action Plan.

\$38,382

Manomet**Coordinating American Oystercatcher Recovery and Conservation along the Atlantic Coast (multiple states)**

Coordinate the American Oystercatcher recovery initiative, conduct a range-wide aerial survey to count all wintering oystercatchers along the Southeast Atlantic and Gulf coasts (United States), and reduce the impact of predators and human disturbance on populations of coastal breeding shorebirds. Project will support the goals of the Atlantic Flyway Business Plan by creating a framework for long-term protection, restoration, and creation of shorebird habitat at key sites.

\$205,000

Manomet**Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States)**

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.

\$120,000

Middle Peninsula Planning**District Commission****Empowering Veterans to Engage in Coastal Resiliency (VA)**

Develop and formalize a partnership between the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority and Knott Alone-Hold Fast to utilize military veterans to address existing gaps in the local climate resilience and ecosystem restoration workforce.

\$75,001

Middle Peninsula Planning**District Commission****Resilience-Based Shoreline Protection and Habitat Restoration on Hog Island (VA)**

Install a nature-based shoreline protection and habitat restoration project along Hog Island in Gloucester County, Virginia. Project will protect and enhance habitat for shorebirds, oysters, and other species, and protect vulnerable communities at risk from shoreline erosion and coastal storms.

\$499,999

NDPonics**Short Hills Wetland Assessment (VA)**

Develop a wetland assessment and restoration and management plan for a indigenous-owned mountaintop forestland in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Project will provide essential data for critical future implementation efforts aimed at restoring wetland conditions to protect endangered species and migratory bird habitat while also preventing future aquatic ecosystem failure.

\$75,000

National Wildlife Federation**Building and Advancing Capacity of Chesapeake Nonprofits to Accelerate Water Quality Improvements (multiple states)**

Coordinate efforts to create a more inclusive and diverse Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration movement and support regional and watershed-wide convenings to improve collaboration and impact among nearly 300 nonprofits working towards Bay restoration.

\$286,543

Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission**River Heroes Pilot Program (VA)**

Provide resources and social incentives for individuals, organizations, businesses, and municipalities to adopt practices that reduce nonpoint source pollution and support water quality in Shenandoah County. Project will perform formative research needed to understand our target audiences, design an effective social marketing strategy for each audience, define target behaviors, and develop tailored outreach and program materials for each audience.

\$74,634

Randolph-Macon College**Developing Best Practices to Enhance Critical Beach Habitat and Community Resilience (VA)**

Determine the effects of shoreline stabilization methods on beach habitat and educate relevant stakeholders about the benefits of shoreline management strategies that can enhance both communities and ecosystems. Project will help conserve critical beach habitat for the federally threatened Northeastern beach tiger beetle and increase resilience of Chesapeake Bay beaches and coastal communities.

\$72,506

Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia**Conserving Indigenous Rappahannock Ancestral Lands at Fones Cliffs on the Rappahannock River (VA)**

Acquire 484 acres of indigenous ancestral homelands on the Rappahannock River at Fones Cliffs to conserve it as a natural area and use for educational purposes befitting the Tribe and the public. Project will protect wetland and forest habitat adjacent to other projected lands to benefit breeding and migratory habitat for bald eagles, ospreys, and waterfowl.

\$500,000

Rivanna Conservation Alliance**Improve Resilience of Riparian Forests in the Urban Corridor of the Rivanna River (VA)**

Organize and implement a coordinated effort among nonprofits, local governments, and community stakeholders to improve riparian forest resilience in the urban corridor of the Rivanna River. Project will result in improved management of 130 acres of riparian forests across three urban river parks.

\$339,979

Rolling Ridge Conservancy**Protecting and Restoring Forest and Grasslands at the Virginia-West Virginia Border**

Implement a forest stewardship plan and grassland restoration on 1,795 acres of forest and floodplain along the Shenandoah River at the Virginia-West Virginia border. Project will permanently protect 100 acres and convert an additional 60 acres of turf and invasive plants to native grassland habitat.

\$265,000

Ruffed Grouse Society**Dynamic Forest Restoration to Support Wildlife in Southwest Virginia**

Plan a dynamic forest restoration block and implement active forest management to aid in the recovery of focal wildlife populations in southwest Virginia. Project will implement forest management that results in a mosaic of mixed-aged forests that support a diversity of bird and wildlife species on state and private lands.

\$199,928

Shenandoah Valley Soil and Water Conservation District**Expanding Manure Injection as a Standard Application Method on Virginia Dairy Farms**

Expand the adoption of manure injection as a standard approach to better applying manure nutrients for agricultural production and water quality benefits through trusted local agricultural conservation partners. Project will result in 4,500 cropland acres under improved nutrient management.

\$499,991

Smithsonian Institution**Piedmont Grassland Bird Initiative to Guide and Strengthen Working Lands Conservation in Virginia**

Enhance collective capacity to better manage agricultural lands in Virginia as habitat for grassland birds through enhanced regional conservation planning, consistent landowner messaging across local conservation partners, and applied research to understand and improve ongoing efforts. Project will improve grassland habitat management on 3,000 acres across the Virginia Piedmont and Shenandoah Valley and permanently protect 600 acres of critical grassland habitat.

\$499,985

Sustainable Chesapeake**Farmer-Led Innovations in Cover Cropping (VA)**

Expand the adoption of cover crops among Virginia farms by demonstrating and evaluating innovative technologies that reduce time and input costs associated with cover cropping systems. Project will result in 7,580 acres of new cover crops planted across Virginia.

\$499,837

Sustainable Chesapeake**Improving Nutrient Management Programs through Collaboration (multiple states)**

Improve nutrient management program delivery by facilitating collaboration among nutrient management leaders throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. Project will improve collaboration among land grant universities in the region, working across state lines with those leading the development of agricultural nutrient management recommendations across the watershed.

\$65,910

The Corps Network**Engaging Young People in Conservation (VA)**

Advance both Conservation Corps development and expansion across the Forest Service and sister land management agencies. Project will enroll a young, talented person to provide critical staff capacity will advance two essential priorities for the Service – climate and engaging diverse citizens in conservation action.

\$75,100

The Elizabeth River Project**Establishing a Model for Restoration of Urban Tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay (VA)**

Explore creative approaches to motivate sustainable engagement of environmentally and economically vulnerable communities in equitable restoration of urban tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. Project will implement ten on-the-ground projects such as living shorelines, rain gardens, conservation landscaping and tree plantings in the targeted communities to reduce pollutants.

\$999,971

The Elizabeth River Project**Uniting the Community to Develop the Knitting Mill Creek Eco-Corridor (VA)**

Establish the Knitting Mill Creek Eco-Corridor along one of the Elizabeth River's most impacted urban tributaries. Project will engage local homeowners and businesses to adopt nature-based infrastructure and coastal resilience practices, implement showcase restoration projects at the Elizabeth River Project's Ryan Resilience Lab, and engage Norfolk State University to support enhanced community outreach and engagement in the surrounding community.

\$500,000

The Nature Conservancy**Adaptation and Resilience Plan for Oyster (VA)**

Address the diversity of assets in Oyster Village to increase coastal resilience and protection for the community and its culture, preserve natural habitat and use nature-based solutions where possible. Project will facilitate a collaborative partnership with the community, stakeholders and an engineering consultant to identify risk, characterize that risk to community assets, develop action plan and rank projects and estimate costs.

\$243,630

Trout Unlimited**Accelerating Water Quality Improvements and Supporting Conservation Collaboratives (MD, PA, VA, WV)**

Support restoration efforts and the assessment and further development of conservation collaboratives, programs, and services within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed region. Project will result in improved water quality in focal watersheds, increased capacity to deliver watershed scale conservation services in the region, engagement of future environmental stewards, and the long-term monitoring and maintenance of conservation projects.

\$979,739

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Habitat Assessments for Strongholds in the South Branch of Potomac (VA, WV)**

Fill data gaps in brook trout presence, aquatic organism passage, and instream and riparian habitats to further watershed restoration plans for brook trout strongholds in the South Branch and the North Fork of the South of the Potomac. Project will improve understanding of brook trout patch dynamics, an updated data set for aquatic organism passage project prioritization, and regional watershed scale restoration plans to further prioritize restoration efforts.

\$74,847

Trout Unlimited**Habitat and Fish Passage Assessments in Virginia Brook Trout Stronghold Focal Areas**

Fill data gaps in eastern brook trout strongholds of the Upper Jackson River, the Upper Cowpasture River, and the Upper North Fork Shenandoah River in Virginia. Project will assess fish passage at nearly 200 road stream crossings, conduct biological surveys and data analysis for more than 60 catchments to determine the presence or absence of brook trout, and measure stream temperatures and instream habitat quality in reaches of streams most heavily impacted by agricultural land use.

\$74,515

Trout Unlimited**Improving Aquatic Organism Passage for Brook Trout in the Upper North Fork Shenandoah River (VA)**

Enhance and increase eastern brook trout populations in the Upper North Fork of the Shenandoah River. Project will reconnect 21 miles of high quality headwaters habitat by removing two barriers to fish movement and unite two fragmented habitat patches into a larger, more resilient unit.

\$252,450

Trout Unlimited**Reconnecting and Restoring Brook Trout Strongholds in the South Branch of the Potomac River (VA, WV)**

Enhance and increase Eastern brook trout populations in the South Branch of the Potomac River in Virginia and West Virginia. Project will reconnect 16 miles of high-quality headwaters habitat and restore nearly 9 miles of riparian habitat through livestock exclusion and riparian forest buffers.

\$495,342

Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe**Restoring and Stewarding the Ancestral Watershed of the Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe (VA)**

Restore and steward the recently reacquired lands of the Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe in King William County through conservation design and implementation of aquatic ecosystem restoration efforts. Project will implement 115 acres of agricultural conservation practices to improve water quality and habitat and restore a half mile of stream habitat.

\$500,000

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**Road to Recovery**

Develop and oversee a process for the recovery of ESA-listed birds and promote targeted and actionable science to recover populations. Project will increase effectiveness and efficiency of implementation of conservation actions and ensure the best available natural and social science research is incorporated into conservation and management plans to recover species.

\$300,000

WASHINGTON**Cascade Forest Conservancy****Building Instream Habitat Resilience in the Cispus Watershed (WA)**

Install a minimum of six instream wood structures on confined salmonid-bearing tributaries of the Cispus River to benefit winter steelhead, Coho salmon, and other species. Project will slow peak flows, reengage floodplains and side channels, create refugia, and build climate resiliency in these streams.

\$52,000

Chelan County Natural Resource Department**Wenatchee Subbasin Instream Flow Improvement Project (WA)**

Develop and implement water transactions in the Wenatchee subbasin in Chelan County, Washington. Project will improve instream flows and restore habitat for native salmon and steelhead populations.

\$39,225

City Fruit**Watershed Resiliency through Urban Orchard Engagement (WA)**

Plant an urban orchard to provide stormwater management and community engagement opportunities within the High Point community in Seattle located within the Longfellow Creek watershed. Project will plant 30 fruit trees and engage roughly 4,000 High Point residents, furthering conservation efforts within the watershed, protecting local coho salmon habitats and providing fresh, organic fruit to the community.

\$20,050

Conservation Northwest**Satsop River Habitat Connectivity (WA)**

Restore 4 acres of riparian habitat by removing invasive species, planting native species and clearing refuse and debris along the Satsop River in the Chehalis Basin in Western Washington. Project will remove a riparian bottleneck, improve habitat connectivity, build community stewardship and will improve accessibility of a wildlife underpass.

\$34,971

Conservation Northwest**Using Virtual Fence Technology to Enhance Big Game Habitat (WA)**

Utilize virtual fence technology on a working ranch in the Columbia Plateau Mule Deer Management Zone of Washington to improve big game habitat and will serve as a model of this technology for future applications. Project will pilot virtual fence technology to control cattle on 47,700 acres in the shrub-steppe habitat of mule deer, sharp-tailed grouse, greater sage-grouse, and pronghorn.

\$192,110

Fieldwork Communications**Advancing Stakeholder Partnerships Across the Fishtech Community (WA)**

Support core operations for EM4Fish, an online community of practice that serves agency personnel, scientists and commercial fishing organizations. Project will develop and publish feature-level articles with industry leaders, as well as provide an outreach channel to the fishtech community through its monthly newsletter, social media, webinars, podcasts, events and workshops.

\$127,500

Friends of Skagit Beaches**Monitoring Stormwater Pollution Entering Southern Resident Killer Whale Habitat (WA)**

Expand the Anacortes Stormwater Monitoring Project to three North Puget Sound communities. Project will set up citizen science monitoring projects to identify baseline conditions for stormwater systems, educate residents about harmful effects of polluted stormwater, engage volunteers to help local governments find and mitigate sources of pollution, and improve killer whale habitat quality.

\$74,423

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group**Designing Big Quilcene River Restoration (WA)**

Develop the final design of an integrated floodplain protection and restoration project on the Big Quilcene River. Project will provide a design for flood risk reduction, salmon habitat restoration, channel migration zone protection, education, and community economic vitality.

\$572,500

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership**Community-Based Hazards and Habitat Resilience Planning (WA)**

Conduct outreach and adaptation planning workshops to prioritize project concepts to strengthen ecological and community resilience in the Columbia River estuary. Project will develop capacity and advance projects to be ready for additional assessment, design and implementation; and support planning for restoration of critical tidal floodplain habitat for juvenile salmonids.

\$259,888

Lummi Indian Business Council**Creating a Coastal Resilience Plan for Lummi Reservation (WA)**

Develop a coastal resilience strategy and project priority plan for the Lummi Reservation. Project will address high priority items identified in the Lummi Nation Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Plan 2016-2026 related to flood risk, water quality, salmon and shellfish harvest, instream flow, and protection of potable groundwater systems, and create a planning document will be developed prioritizing strategies.

\$96,706

Lummi Indian Business Council**Preparing for Riparian Restoration for Chinook Salmon in the Middle Fork Nooksack River (WA)**

Restore spawning, rearing and holding habitat to recover Nooksack Chinook populations and increase prey availability for the Southern Resident killer whale. Project will develop final designs to construct engineered logjams along 0.5 miles and plant 0.46 acres along 0.08 miles of priority habitat.

\$200,000

Mote Marine Laboratory**Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery Electronic Monitoring (FL)**

Continue the Center for Fisheries Electronic Monitoring at Mote's efforts to streamline artificial intelligence driven data collection processes by creating a repeatable process for generating data and algorithms. Project will make strides in applying artificial intelligence in the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery to serve as a foundation for providing more timely and efficient data for management and industry applications.

\$349,000

Nez Perce Tribe**Increase Flow Restoration Efforts in the Nez Perce Tribal Geographies (ID, OR, WA)**

Increase flow restoration efforts in the Nez Perce tribal geographies. Project will increase tribal capacity to coordinate with other groups developing water transactions within the broad geography of ceded lands, and also enable the Tribe to propose transactions uniquely linked to tribal relationships, tribal treaty rights, and tribal sovereignty.

\$17,617

NOAA Fisheries**Non-invasive Diet Characterization of Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA)**

Test the use of stable isotopes to analyse dietary composition for Southern Resident killer whales in the Salish Sea using naturally occurring chemical tracers. Project will measure how stable isotopes in fecal matter and breath samples reflect diets from a feeding study on captive killer whales and compare to archived collected samples from Southern Resident killer whales.

\$148,760

Nooksack Indian Tribe**Restoration of the South Fork Nooksack River for Chinook Salmon (WA)**

Complete final engineering designs, obtain permits, and implement restoration of 0.4 miles of mainstem riverine habitat in the South Fork Nooksack River. Project will restore upstream migration, holding, spawning, and rearing habitat of endangered Puget Sound Chinook salmon to improve abundance and productivity of a primary food source of Southern Resident killer whales.

\$153,000

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association**Whatcom County Stream Stewards (WA)**

Plant 4,000 trees to improve urban water quality and habitat conditions for Chinook salmon, bull trout and steelhead salmon on 10 acres in the Puget Sound. Project will engage five local resource management partners to host 25 Stream Steward events, bringing together 1,500 volunteers.

\$34,076

Oceans Initiative**Protecting Puget Sound Chinook Salmon from Harbor Seal Predation (WA)**

Implement a proven pinniped predation reduction strategy at Tumwater Falls over two years to increase passage of Puget Sound Chinook salmon through fish ladders on their return migration to Deschutes River spawning grounds. Project will mitigate a major threat to recovery of ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook salmon, namely pinniped predation at bottlenecks, which will increase long-term abundance of this preferred prey species of southern resident killer whales.

\$235,455

Palouse Conservation District**A Watershed Moment: Restoring a Community Green Space through Partner Engagement (WA)**

Engage university, youth and other community volunteers in tree and shrub plantings and other conservation projects to restore 5.2 acres and 0.6 miles of streambank, in addition to monitoring water quality of the South Fork Palouse River and Paradise Creek. Project will implement 3rd-6th grade watershed educational activities and workshops for community members to build understanding, commitment and participation in watershed restoration.

\$49,848

Skagit River System Cooperative**Design Alternatives to Improve Connectivity for Salmon through McGlenn Island Jetty (WA)**

Explore opportunities at McGlenn Island to increase habitat connectivity and access for juvenile salmon. Project will evaluate potential modifications to the McGlenn Island Jetty that would improve connectivity for fish between the Skagit River and the Swinomish Channel without creating changes to sedimentation rates.

\$108,537

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group**Lower Greenwater Riparian Restoration: Headwater Investments with Downstream Communities (WA)**

Survey and treat invasive species, plant native species and remove 1,500 pounds of water-contaminating garbage across 105 acres of salmon habitat in a 7-mile riparian corridor in the Greenwater River headwaters. Project will engage over 200 students and volunteers through field trips and native plantings, and establish a community partnership that includes youth from urban and rural communities.

\$49,500

The Corps Network**Engaging Young People in Conservation and Natural Resource Implementation**

Advance both Conservation Corps development and implementation and expansion across the Forest Service and sister land management agencies. Project will enroll a young, talented person to provide critical staff capacity will advance two essential priorities for the Service – climate and engaging diverse citizens in conservation action.

\$75,100

The Nature Conservancy**Develop, Test and Deploy Machine Learning to Reduce Storage for Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (multiple states)**

Develop, widely test and deploy open source computer vision tools which identify and trim video segments to reduce archival video storage costs for fisheries electronic monitoring. Project will employ a two-step process where detection of humans is completed during video review and trimming is done only after video review is completed to reduce risk of eliminating important fishing activity and to facilitate adoption by regulators.

\$144,889

Trout Unlimited**Elevating Instream Flow Enhancement in the Methow and Okanogan Basins (WA)**

Identify, prioritize and develop water transactions in the Methow and Okanogan subbasins of Washington working in collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Project will increase habitat and instream flow in priority tributaries and will build capacity for working with agricultural landowners on conservation projects that will benefit Pacific salmon, steelhead and their habitat.

\$80,305

Trout Unlimited**Hydrologic Flow Restoration in the Yakima, Entiat, and Wenatchee Basins (WA)**

Identify, prioritize and develop projects with willing water right holders in the Entiat, Yakima and Wenatchee subbasins of Washington to complete significant instream flow enhancements to priority streams and tributaries. Project will improve tributary instream habitat to benefit listed salmon and other fish species and their habitats.

\$216,227

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**Prairie Habitat Restoration to Recover Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Populations Surrounding Joint Base Lewis-McChord**

Enhance the habitat and population status of Taylor's checkerspot butterfly outside of Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), reducing the need for military training restrictions and supporting military readiness goals. Project will improve management on 165 acres, with a total of 33 five-acre units across both medium- and high-quality landscapes, and will directly advance multiple objectives of the JBLM Sentinel Landscape Implementation Plan, by restoring and maintaining prairies on conservation lands, expanding partnership capacity for native plant production, improving population numbers for rare species, and supporting research to improve restoration outcomes for rare species.

\$360,000

Washington Fish and Wildlife**Piloting Electronic Monitoring in the Coastal Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishery - II (WA)**

Continue evaluating a lite electronic monitoring system, with limited image collection, as a potential tool to modernize the management of the Washington coastal commercial dungeness crab fishery and address time-sensitive management needs. Project will improve the quality and timely accessibility of fishing effort and location information through increasing electronic monitoring coverage to 12 vessels; testing the flow of program data to partners; and reporting data on a larger scale.

\$122,901

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**Provide Streamflow Monitoring and Water Transaction Support (WA)**

Provide stream monitoring and technical assistance to all Washington state Qualified Local Entities on prioritization, identification, and development of water right transactions. Project will provide review on monitoring plans to ensure that stream flow and, where appropriate, biological monitoring are incorporated into project monitoring plans.

\$95,833

Washington Maritime Blue**Whale Sighting Network Participation in the WhaleReport Alert System (WA)**

Enhance the Whale Report Alert System, a real-time geographically based alert system for commercial mariners, with timely, accurate United States whale sightings data. Project will increase the number of Washington whale sightings entered into the system and provide data analysis of the number of whale sightings, whale alerts, and mariner uses.

\$50,930

Washington Water Trust**Stream Flow Restoration to Benefit Salmon, Steelhead and Trout in Columbia Basin (WA)**

Restore fish-critical streams in the Columbia River Basin by implementing instream flow acquisitions in the Methow, Yakima, Wenatchee, Klickitat, and White Salmon River basins. Project will benefit ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead.

\$146,120

Washington Water Trust**Stream Flow Restoration to Benefit Salmon, Steelhead and Trout in the Columbia Basin - Umatilla (OR, WA)**

Restore fish-critical streams in the Columbia River Basin by implementing instream flow acquisitions in the Walla Walla basin. Project will continue its partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation to benefit ESA-threatened summer steelhead and bull trout.

\$124,290

Washington Water Trust**Stream Flow Restoration to Benefit Salmon, Steelhead and Trout (WA)**

Restore fish-critical streams in the Columbia River Basin by implementing instream flow acquisitions in the Okanogan, Wenatchee, and Methow watersheds. Project will continue its partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation to benefit ESA-listed steelhead, spring Chinook, and bull trout.
\$98,731

**Woodland Park Zoological Society
Amphibian Monitoring (WA)**

Engage community members in amphibian conservation efforts through species monitoring and restoration of their wetland habitats. Project will implement a monitoring regime of 15 acres of wetlands for presence, absence and breeding of eight amphibian species, 3.3 acres of wetland habitat will be restored through native planting and invasive species removal, and 105 volunteers and six partners will be engaged in project activities.
\$46,063

WEST VIRGINIA**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay****Establishing Builders Institute to Expand Capacity for Clean Water (multiple states)**

Increase regional capacity to implement watershed restoration and conservation projects more efficiently and effectively by establishing a Chesapeake Capacity Builders Institute. Project will engage 130 watershed stewardship leaders in piloting efforts to build and enhance collective watershed project management.
\$399,093

Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust**Leveraging Hunt Clubs and Conservation Hubs to Improve Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat (WV)**

Expand wildlife habitat hubs and corridors in West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay watershed through permanent land protection and engagement of hunt clubs. Project will protect 1,000 acres of critical habitat for eastern brook trout, freshwater mussels, several federally endangered species, and 60 other species of greatest conservation need.
\$275,905

Chesapeake Bay Foundation**Expanding Rotational Grazing through the Mountains to Bay Grazing Alliance (MD, PA, VA, WV)**

Expand the adoption of rotational grazing practices among dairy and livestock operations in the Shenandoah Valley, western and central Maryland, and southcentral Pennsylvania. Project will utilize conservation and farm networks to improve grazing management on 1,200 acres.
\$493,780

National Wildlife Federation**Building and Advancing Capacity of Chesapeake Nonprofits to Accelerate Water Quality Improvements (multiple states)**

Coordinate efforts to create a more inclusive and diverse Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration movement and support regional and watershed-wide convenings to improve collaboration and impact among nearly 300 nonprofits working towards Bay restoration.
\$286,543

Rolling Ridge Conservancy**Protecting and Restoring Forest and Grasslands at the Virginia-West Virginia Border**

Implement a forest stewardship plan and grassland restoration on 1,795 acres of forest and floodplain along the Shenandoah River at the Virginia-West Virginia border. Project will permanently protect 100 acres and convert an additional 60 acres of turf and invasive plants to native grassland habitat.
\$265,000

Sustainable Chesapeake**Improving Nutrient Management Programs through Collaboration (multiple states)**

Improve nutrient management program delivery by facilitating collaboration among nutrient management leaders throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. Project will improve collaboration among land grant universities in the region, working across state lines with those leading the development of agricultural nutrient management recommendations across the watershed.
\$65,910

The Nature Conservancy**Permanently Protect Habitat in Canaan Valley to Increase Climate Resilience (WV)**

Permanently protect 4,490 acres of habitat in Canaan Valley, West Virginia under active threat of development. Project will contribute to climate resilience, protect the largest wetland complex in the region and connect 75,000 acres of protected land.
\$1,000,000

The Forest Stewards Guild**Increasing Capacity for Bird-friendly Forestry on West Virginia's Private Forest Lands**

Increase awareness, capacity, and acreage for bird-friendly forestry in West Virginia's Monongahela Forest Focal Geography. Project will develop a dynamic forest management plan for at least 5,000 acres of private forest lands and create demonstration sites to engage students, landowners, foresters, and loggers.
\$143,336

Trout Unlimited**Accelerating Water Quality Improvements and Supporting Conservation Collaboratives (MD, PA, VA, WV)**

Support restoration efforts and the assessment and further development of conservation collaboratives, programs, and services within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed region. Project will result in improved water quality in focal watersheds, increased capacity to deliver watershed scale conservation services in the region, engagement of future environmental stewards, and the long-term monitoring and maintenance of conservation projects.
\$979,739

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Habitat Assessments for Strongholds (VA, WV)**

Fill data gaps in brook trout presence, aquatic organism passage, and instream and riparian habitats to further watershed restoration plans for brook trout strongholds in the South Branch and the North Fork of the South of the Potomac. Project will improve understanding of brook trout patch dynamics, an updated data set for aquatic organism passage project prioritization, and regional watershed scale restoration plans to further prioritize restoration efforts.
\$74,847

Trout Unlimited**Reconnecting and Restoring Brook Trout Strongholds (VA, WV)**

Enhance and increase Eastern brook trout populations in the South Branch of the Potomac River in Virginia and West Virginia. Project will reconnect 16 miles of high-quality headwaters habitat and restore nearly 9 miles of riparian habitat through livestock exclusion and riparian forest buffers.
\$495,342

Trout Unlimited**Watershed and Habitat Restoration at Seneca Rocks to Enhance Recreation and Community Benefits (WV)**

Enhance eastern brook trout populations, improve watershed conditions, and expand recreation and educational opportunities in the Spruce Knob Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area. Project will reconnect 1.5 miles of brook trout habitat and an additional mile of riparian forest habitat.
\$500,000

West Virginia Land Trust**Restoring James Spiny mussel Along Potts Creek (WV)**

Preserve and restore one of two remaining populations of the endangered James spiny mussel along the South Fork of Potts Creek. Project will permanently protect a 40-acre tract, implement conservation practices support a variety of wildlife, and restore sections of Potts Creek critical to the resident James spiny mussel population.
\$499,824

West Virginia National Guard Foundation
Restoring Mine Lands through More Efficient Distribution Agricultural Nutrients (WV)
Improve transport of poultry litter from West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay watershed to enhance abandoned mine reclamation efforts across the state. Project will support mine reclamation efforts on 180 acres for the Patriot Apple Project benefiting ex-coal miners and veterans in the region.
\$499,146

WISCONSIN

American Bird Conservancy
Enhancing Lake Michigan Coastal and Riparian Habitats for Migratory Birds (WI)
Restore and enhance wetland, forested and riparian habitats to benefit a variety of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, landbirds, waterbirds and pollinator species. Project will expand on-going restoration at eight coastal preserves located along the Lake Michigan flyway in Wisconsin, in partnership with municipal and non-profit partners, to benefit declining and imperiled bird, pollinator and plant species.
\$330,000

Association of State Floodplain Managers
Strengthening Coastal Communities Resilience in the Great Lakes Region (multiple states)
Engage coastal shoreline communities in the Great Lakes region in a formal scenario-based process to identify local flood vulnerabilities and to convene complementary regional capacity building workshops to help participating communities prioritize strategies and projects that address identified vulnerabilities. Project will give coastal communities a better understanding of local coastal resilience issues and how to incorporate nature-based solution into plans, and build regional collaboration.
\$260,851

City of Milwaukee
Rehabilitating a Bioretention Facility to Improve Water Quality in the Menomonee River (WI)
Rehabilitate a 17-year old 1-acre bioretention facility, test the performance of several pilot soil amendments, and plant pollinator-friendly plants in the tributary to the Menomonee River in Milwaukee. Project will improve water quality by mitigating stormwater runoff and restoring on-site sediment filtration, and provide valuable feedback in designing future bioretention facilities.
\$350,000

Farmers for Sustainable Food
Supporting Farmer-Led Efforts to Implement Regenerative Agriculture and Enhance Sustainability (WI)
Increase capacity for local conservation professionals to assist farmers in developing regenerative plans to improve the environmental impact of current farm management. Project will determine regenerative practices to reduce soil, phosphorus and nitrogen loss to local water resources with 12 farms, including eight dairy and four crop.
\$153,509

Clean Wisconsin
Increasing Nature-based Infrastructure throughout Milwaukee's 30th Street Corridor (WI)
Work with residents to install small-scale nature-based infrastructure practices such as rain barrels, rain gardens, and trees on homes and community areas by partnering with underserved neighborhoods in Milwaukee's 30th St. Corridor. Project will facilitate leadership roles for community members to develop solutions for reducing stormwater runoff pollution and flood risk while improving pollinator habitat and strengthening engagement to implement community-driven plans for climate resilience.
\$200,000

Glacierland Resource Conservation and Development Council
Collaborative Invasive Species Control and Native Restoration in Wisconsin's Great Lakes Basin
Implement a regional landscape-level approach to managing phragmites and Japanese knotweed on ecologically sensitive communities including Lake Michigan and Lake Winnebago shorelines and coastal wetlands, inland waterways and connecting wetlands and roadside ditches. Project will continue and expand control efforts and will restore 859 acres and retreat 550 acres to improve ecosystem services for the native plants and animals that depends on them.
\$375,000

GrassWorks
Accelerating Conservation Practices and Regenerative Agriculture on Working Lands (WI)
Engage producers in conservation and regenerative agriculture principles through partner-coordinated outreach such as workshops, peer to peer learning, and on-farm technical assistance. Project will coordinate partners to assist with the adoption of regenerative agriculture practices on 14,400 acres to reduce sediment and phosphorous losses along with improved soil health, water quality and biodiversity.
\$349,807

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Facilitating Development of Coastal Resilience Projects for Great Lakes Shoreline Communities
Enable communities to develop implementation of projects that prevent or minimize impacts in coastal areas and facilitating collaboration on coastal resilience needs and opportunities. Project will work with coastal communities to assess critical coastal resilience needs; identify solutions for mitigating risks to community infrastructure; assess project feasibility; outline project development needs and funding; and provide direction on next steps to implement coastal resilience projects.
\$380,000

Ice Age Trail Alliance
Habitat Improvement for Karner Blue Butterfly, Rusty Patched Bumble Bee, and Other Pollinators (WI)
Restore and improve pollinator habitat for the monarch butterfly, Karner blue butterfly, rusty patched bumble bee, regal fritillary, and other pollinators on public lands and private working lands in Wisconsin. Project will improve 1,800 acres, restore 900 acres, harvest 230 pounds of milkweed seed, and support private landowners by hosting workshops, developing conservation plans, and conducting outreach.
\$175,000

Mequon Nature Preserve
Facilitating Biodiversity and Education at Mequon Nature Preserve through Wetland Restoration (WI)
Restore agricultural fields to historic wetlands and prairies, control non-native, invasive plant species threatening high-quality native habitat, and educate Milwaukee Metropolitan youth at Mequon Nature Preserve. Project will restore roughly 10 acres of wetland and 25 acres of upland habitat, reduce the coverage invasive plant species across 358 acres, engage various local school groups in restoration and monitoring, and increase stormwater storage.
\$160,946

Michigan State University
Farmer Woodland Owner Technical Assistance to Enhance Agroforestry and Woodland Management (MI, OH WI)
Support integrated agricultural and farmer woodland and agroforestry management through collaborative extension programs that connect farmers with resource professionals to support ecosystem service markets, woodland management, agroforestry, and tree-planting practices. Project will help farmers navigate strategies for innovative uses of trees and forests to improve farm viability and increase water quality and social benefits.
\$169,273

Milwaukee Board of School Directors dba Milwaukee Public Schools

Constructing Green Stormwater Infrastructure on Milwaukee Schoolyards (WI)

Conduct removal of over 4 acres of asphalt and replace with bioswales, 264 stormwater trees, native plantings, and other nature-based infrastructure. Project will engage students and community members and result in over 758,000 gallons of stormwater captured annually.

\$600,000

Milwaukee Environmental Consortium

Lincoln Creek Greenway Restoration Project (WI)

Build resiliency and reconnect communities through engagement with nature, and incorporate recreational and educational environmental programming. Project will impact a 6-mile, 20-acre parcel by expanding on existing efforts in prairie and riparian restoration, trail building and cultivating environmental stewardship.

\$36,000

Milwaukee Water Commons

Renewing Urban Canopy to Improve Community Health and Climate Resiliency (WI)

Collaborate with partners to implement an urban canopy renewal program in the vulnerable Sherman Park neighborhood to plant at least 250 trees, maintain at-risk trees, and plant whips in nearby riparian areas of the Milwaukee River watershed. Project will add 45,000 gallons of stormwater storage annually, and build community engagement for long-term equity environmental, health, and economic benefits and climate resiliency.

\$340,000

National Audubon Society

Improving Grazing Practices to Benefit Grassland Birds in the Upper Mississippi River Region (IA, MO, WI)

Increase capacity for the Audubon Conservation Ranching program to accelerate voluntary, on-the-ground adoption of managed grazing practices to benefit birds, biodiversity, and soil health on working lands in priority areas of Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. Project will improve grazing practices across 12,590 acres to benefit wildlife of tallgrass prairie ecosystems including focal grassland birds such as the bobolink, Henslow's sparrow, and upland sandpiper.

\$398,198

Ozaukee County

Mineral Springs Creek Resiliency and Habitat Restoration (WI)

Restore a degraded stream and riparian corridor, aquatic connectivity, and protect critical infrastructure through use of ecological restoration to improve resiliency on Mineral Springs Creek. Project will re-grade and plant the ravine corridor for resiliency and raise the stream bed elevation with rocky substrate to stabilize the stream during flood events, protecting infrastructure, improving aquatic organism passage, and enhancing in-stream and riparian habitat for native fish and wildlife.

\$404,500

Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network Improving Wetland Habitat and Stormwater Storage in Shagbark Recreational Area (WI)

Restore the Shagbark Recreational Area in Kenosha, an underserved Lake Michigan watershed, by replacing under-performing, mowed turf grass with climate resilient and native-species boosting vegetation. Project will improve management of 44 acres to support habitat for endangered species such as the monarch butterfly, rusty-patched bumble bee, Blanding's turtle, increase stormwater storage, and develop outdoor classroom activities.

\$117,810

Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network Restoring Wetlands for Wildlife, Aquatic Species, and Improving Water Quality in the Root River (WI)

Reconstruct 850 feet of the ditched and eroded East Branch of the Root River in Milwaukee County to provide increased connectivity wetlands, repair detached floodplain conditions, and create microhabitat features for macroinvertebrates, forage fish populations, threatened mussel species, northern pike, and pollinators such as the rusty-patched bumblebee. Project will restore hydrology, improve water quality, and increase diverse habitat conditions for species to thrive in microhabitat features.

\$200,479

The Conservation Fund

Conserve Threatened Forest and Forested Wetland Habitat in the Pelican River Forest (WI)

Acquire 69,000 acres of privately owned forest and wetland habitat in the Pelican River Forest in Wisconsin to permanently protect habitat while securing public access and sustainable forest management. Project will protect valuable habitat for wolves, northern goshawks, cerulean warblers and other key species, creating a land bridge between adjacent protected forest lands.

\$600,000

Trout Unlimited

Reconnecting and Monitoring Climate Resilient Brook Trout Habitat in Northeast Wisconsin

Remove or replace at least 10 aquatic organism passage (AOP) barriers in watersheds on or adjacent to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and contribute to existing programs monitoring brook trout population dynamics and movement. Project will reconnect at least 45 miles of coldwater habitat to expand resilient brook trout habitat in northeast Wisconsin's Lake Michigan watershed and build partnerships between Tribes, communities, non-profits, and agencies to increase AOP design adoption.

\$409,307

Urban Ecology Center

Improving Habitat Through Community Engagement in Milwaukee's Primary Environmental Corridor (WI)

Remove invasive species, plant native species, and enhance pollinator habitat through community engagement in Milwaukee's Rotary Centennial Arboretum. Project will remove 100 ash trees to mitigate emerald ash borer, plant trees to improve diversity, and complete a 4-acre prescribed burn to manage invasive species.

\$31,500

Urban Ecology Center

Restoring Reclaimed Urban Parks and Access to Green Space Across Milwaukee (WI)

Engage neighborhood volunteers to help maintain three public parks in Milwaukee as an urban oasis with diverse native plant communities by removing invasive species and planting plugs of native species. Project will increase biodiversity of new prairie, oak savanna, wetland, ephemeral ponds and a variety of forest ecosystems and facilitate environmental education and community access to green space.

\$213,095

Visit Sheboygan STEAM

Transforming an Urban Lot into an Educational Community Greenspace in Sheboygan (WI)

Transform a degraded asphalt parking lot in downtown Sheboygan, on the Sheboygan River, into a educational community greenspace with nature-based infrastructure, restored wildlife habitat, and integrated public access features. Project will turn an urban space with 200 feet of riverfront shoreline into an recreational area with public access to greenspace, provide canopy in an urban heat island, and add approximately 764,700 gallons of stormwater storage annually.

\$211,471

Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory

Improving Bird Habitat, Water Quality and Research (WI)

Plant native plants, install rain gardens, educate community members, and expand the Motus Wildlife Tracking System in Lake Michigan communities of Wisconsin. Project will plant approximately 4,400 trees and support bird and pollinator habitat, water quality, research infrastructure, and community needs by implementing multi-faceted projects at eighteen locations near the Lake Michigan Coast.

\$231,150

Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory

Protecting Lake Michigan through Community Engagement, Restoration and Education (WI)

Improve the watersheds of four Lake Michigan tributaries through restoration and pollinator garden, rain garden and tree plantings, while improving capacity for long-term stewardship with applied workshops, trainings and citizen science monitoring. Project will restore 6.3 acres, engage over 2,000 people in learning programs, work with 300 volunteers, 250 students and 12 interns in citizen science and restoration activities, and install 30 educational signs.

\$47,756

Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve

Enhancing Stream Function and Wetlands to Improve Water Quality at Woodland Dunes (WI)

Implement stream and wetland enhancements including re-meandering of the linear channel at Forget Me Not Creek, a channelized and degraded tributary to Lake Michigan that flows through the Woodland Dunes Preserve. Project will enhance aquatic and wetland habitats, increase native species diversity, reduce sediment loading, and improve water quality at Woodland Dunes and in downstream Lake Michigan.

\$235,000

WYOMING**American Bird Conservancy**

Leveraging Grassland Conservation for Birds and Rangeland Resiliency (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Leverage two NRCS partner positions to increase the impact of Working Lands for Wildlife initiatives for Greater Sage-grouse and the Northern Plains Grassland in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Project will provide technical assistance and planning on NRCS practices to improve management on at least 15,500 acres of land, while fostering landowner trust and interest in grassland conservation, to ultimately provide more high-quality habitat and build rangeland resiliency.

\$205,095

Ducks Unlimited

Supporting Climate Resilient Habitats and Increasing Grassland Carbon Sequestration (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Provide technical assistance and incentives for on-the-ground conservation projects on private lands through the Northern Grassland Incentives Program which offers landowners financial assistance to voluntarily restore and enhance native grasslands, shrublands and mesic habitats. Project will improve or restore nearly 10,000 acres to help build rangelands that are resilient to climate change, drought, and invasive species, and which have improved capabilities to sequester carbon.

\$296,988

Jackson Hole Land Trust

Protecting Big Game Migration Habitat with the Middle Piney and Lead Creek Conservation Easements (WY)

Permanently protect key migration habitat on the Middle Piney and Lead Creek properties to benefit the Sublette County and Wyoming Range mule deer herds and enhance landscape-scale connectivity in the Upper Green River Basin for elk, moose, and pronghorn. Project will place 980 acres of private working lands under permanent conservation easement to address a high risk of residential development.

\$67,775

Laramie County Conservation District

Restoring Riparian, Wetland and Shortgrass Prairie Habitat through Improved Grazing Management (WY)

Improve grazing management along lodgepole creek in southeast Wyoming to restore riparian, wetland and shortgrass prairie habitat important for wetland and prairie bird species. Project will use exclusionary fencing and rotational grazing to restore 240 acres and improve management on more than 700 acres of private working lands.

\$50,000

Montana Audubon Society

Restoring Grassland Habitat on Private Working Lands through Audubon Conservation Ranching (MT, WY)

Provide capacity and technical assistance to increase landowner enrollment in the Audubon Conservation Ranching program which increase climate resilience and system health in grassland habitats through individualized improved grazing management plans. Project will improve management technical plans on approximately 25,000 acres of private and privately managed grassland habitats and enroll an additional 300,000 acres.

\$488,017

Mule Deer Foundation

Improving Conservation Coordination and Implementation in the Dakota Grasslands (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Increase capacity for a habitat partnership coordinator to be the key position for increasing the capacity to identify, plan, coordinate and implement conservation projects that restore key habitats in the Dakota Grassland region. Project will improve derelict fencing to wildlife-friendly specifications, restore sage-grouse habitat through invasive species treatments, improve mesic habitat hydrology through seedyk structures and improve rangelands through modified grazing plans.

\$364,717

National Audubon Society

Improving Habitat Management on Working Lands to Benefit Grassland Birds in Western Wyoming

Expand the Audubon Conservation Ranching program to increase technical assistance delivery targeting western Wyoming including migration corridors. Project will improve habitat management on 50,000 acres of rangeland to benefit wildlife species such as the greater sage-grouse, sage thrasher, sage sparrow, bobolink, upland sandpiper, long-billed curlew, ferruginous hawk, and burrowing owl.

\$172,353

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Expanding the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert Motus Network to Inform Migratory Bird Conservation (multiple states)

Expand efforts to build a network of automated radio telemetry stations (Motus) throughout the Great Plains and Chihuahuan Desert that will help fill demographic knowledge gaps, characterize stop-over and migratory connectivity, and strategically inform full annual cycle habitat conservation for steeply declining grassland birds. Project will install 10 new Motus stations and deploy bird tags to inform future conservation delivery for grassland birds.

\$250,000

The Conservation Fund

Protecting Big Game Migration and Winter Range with the Twin Eagle Ranch Conservation Easement (WY)

Permanently protect priority big game habitat on Twin Eagle Ranch in Sublette County, Wyoming through a conservation easement. Project will prevent a high threat of subdivision, maintain these migration corridors, protect habitat (including known nests) in the Greater Sage-Grouse Designated Core Area, support climate resiliency, and provide the opportunity for a future wildlife crossing.

\$250,000

Thunder Basin Grasslands Prairie Ecosystem Association

Improving Sagebrush-Grassland Habitat in the Cross-Jurisdictional Thunder Basin Ecoregion (WY)

Enhance rangeland grassland habitat on private, state and federal lands through improved grazing management, derelict fence removal, and invasive species treatments to benefit greater sage-grouse, black-tailed prairie dogs, pronghorn, and other sagebrush and grassland obligates. Project will improve more than 250,000 acres within the Thunder Basin Ecoregion and increase landscape permeability within key habitats.

\$400,000

Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Improving Habitat Connectivity and Increasing Forage Quantity and Quality for Mule Deer (WY)

Improve cross-jurisdictional migration corridor and winter range habitat in the Platte Valley, Sublette County, Wyoming to benefit mule deer. Project will implement 2,000 acres of invasive species management and modify 27 miles of fence to wildlife friendly standards, there by increasing forage resources and connectivity between seasonal ranges for mule deer and other wildlife.

\$280,000

Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust

Protecting Migratory Bird Stopover Habitat through Conservation Easement on X Bar T Ranch (WY)

Permanently protect a working family ranch in Sweetwater County, Wyoming to conserve wetland, riparian and grassland habitat which provides critical habitat for migratory birds and greater sage-grouse. Project will place 1,691 acres of the working X Bar T Ranch under a permanent conservation easement.

\$55,000

U.S. TERRITORIES

GUAM

Micronesian Conservation Coalition

Habitat Restoration and Community Engagement at Masso, Guam (GU)

Restore ravine forest and savanna habitat in Masso, Guam. Project will conduct baseline habitat surveys and monitoring, remove invasive vegetation, initiate a proof-of-concept study for the successful propagation and outplanting of native plants, maintain firebreaks, and engage the community in educational and volunteer events.

\$679,353

Tano Tasi yan Todu

Advancing Limestone Forest Conservation and Restoration on Guam (GU)

Advance restoration of limestone forests and support local government efforts to achieve long-term conservation management targets for Taguan, Anao, and Pagat, Guam. Project will conduct habitat and species surveys, identify project boundaries, research land-use history, remove invasive vegetation, propagate and outplant native plants, and engage the community in educational and volunteer events to enhance limestone forest habitat.

\$927,520

University of Guam

Explore New Coral Engineering Methods to Enhance Coral Reef Restoration in Guam

Develop a novel coral engineering method to enhance resilience in corals through micro-fusion of corals and study of associated microbiomes. Project will advance active restoration strategies for Acropora species and provide a tool for local adaptation of coral restoration techniques.

\$150,000

White Buffalo

Feral Ungulate-exclusion Fencing and Eradication in Taguan, Guam (GU)

Install an ungulate control fence around threatened limestone forest habitat in Taguan, Guam. Project will use highly effective and efficient methodologies to remove all invasive pigs and deer from within the fenced management unit in preparation for limestone forest restoration.

\$871,000

PUERTO RICO

Institute for Socio-Ecological Research

Improving Resilience for Land-based Coral and Sea Urchin Nurseries in Puerto Rico

Increase capacity and efficiency of land-based coral and sea urchin nurseries to grow outplants for coral reef restoration. Project will upgrade and expand current nursery infrastructure to increase their resilience to storm disruptions and increase capacity to address disease outbreaks.

\$75,974

Institute for Socio-Ecological Research

Establishing a Land-based Coral Nursery to Increase Coral Restoration for Culebra, Puerto Rico

Develop a land-based coral nursery for the east coast of Puerto Rico. Project will provide thousands of coral micro-fragments to coral reef restoration efforts occurring in the Canal Luis Pena Natural Reserve.

\$270,050

Protectores de Cuencas

Building Coastal Communities Resilience in Culebra Island (PR)

Design a fringing reef to restore and expand seagrass and mangrove habitats to reduce current flood risks and adapt to projected sea-level rise. Project will improve residents' access to critical infrastructure, enhance marine ecosystem habitats, engage government agencies, municipal government, and local communities in project design, implementation and subsequent monitoring and care.

\$164,561

Protectores de Cuencas

Building Capacity for Coral Reef Restoration and Monitoring in Culebra (PR)

Restore the functionality of sediment mitigation infrastructure and build capacity for future coral reef conservation work in Culebra. Project will address land-based sources of pollution entering the Ensenada Honda Bay by restoring the largest sediment basin in the watershed and establish a field station for ongoing projects.

\$175,730

Sea Ventures

Vessel Removal and Reef Restoration on La Parguera Reef (PR)

Prevent further damage to coral reef from a vessel grounding along west coast of Puerto Rico. Project will complete a vessel salvage operation, conduct a damage assessment to the coral within the vessel scar and conduct reattachment and restoration where possible through triage efforts.

\$99,995

UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONAL FISCAL YEAR 2022 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

CANADA

Manomet

Western Atlantic Flyway Whimbrel Conservation Program (Multiple States and Canada)

Expand on efforts to coordinate conservation and monitor declining whimbrel populations using the western Atlantic Flyway. Project will increase coordination of whimbrel partners working throughout the flyway, address information gaps on whimbrel ecology and demography, and continue development of a monitoring program built around night roosts.
\$120,000

NOAA Fisheries

Non-invasive Diet Characterization of Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA and Canada)

Test the use of stable isotopes to analyse dietary composition for Southern Resident killer whales in the Salish Sea using naturally occurring chemical tracers. Project will measure how stable isotopes in fecal matter and breath samples reflect diets from a feeding study on captive killer whales and compare to archived collected samples from Southern Resident killer whales.
\$148,760

Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation

Securing Critical Habitat for Greater Sage-Grouse through Conservation Easements in Saskatchewan

Enhance and restore natural ecosystems and wildlife habitat and to preserve indigenous species of flora and fauna in Saskatchewan by acquiring conservation easements in accordance with Canada's Conservation Easements Act and increase public awareness of conservation easements with a comprehensive communications strategy. Project will analyze 50,000 acres of grassland habitat to identify conversion risk and engage with landowners on the highest priority properties.
\$239,861

South of the Divide Conservation Action Program

Increasing Grassland Connectivity through Habitat Restoration and Species Management in Saskatchewan

Engage livestock producers to restore and manage native prairies in southwest Saskatchewan that increase connectivity among grasslands, maintain or improve habitats for species at risk, and foster sustainable livelihoods while preserving cultural identities. Project will improve 45,000 acres to benefit greater sage-grouse, Sprague's pipit, chestnut-collared longspur and thick-billed longspur and other grassland obligates.
\$265,100

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Asociación ProCosta

Protecting Hawksbill Sea Turtle Nests and Reducing Bycatch in El Salvador

Safeguard hawksbill turtle nesting beaches and use LED-equipped lobster gillnets to reduce bycatch at priority sites in El Salvador. Project will work to protect 300 nesters and 74,000 hatchlings at three key beaches and will reduce hawksbill mortality events in two lobster gillnet fisheries.
\$269,927

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey

Assessing Red Knot Survival Using Data from Delaware Bay and Brazil (DE, BRA)

Monitor recovery and stopover health of red knot and other shorebirds, estimate stopover population size, and protect critical habitats to improve foraging conditions for migratory shorebirds in Delaware Bay, Delaware, and Lagoa do Piexe, Brazil. Project will continue to develop a better understanding of the threats occurring at Lagoa do Piexe toward recovery of red knot populations.
\$75,000

Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas

Protecting and Monitoring the Townsend's Shearwater in Mexico - III

Protect Townsend's shearwater on the Revillagigedo Archipelago of Mexico. Project will continue and assess cat eradication efforts on Socorro Island, monitor Townsend's shearwater on Socorro and Clarión Islands, evaluate rabbit removal strategies on Clarión Island, and survey historic nesting areas to fill population information gaps.
\$450,000

Haiti Ocean Project

Establishing Sustainable Community Support for Hawksbill Sea Turtle Conservation in Haiti

Establish a conservation program in two fishing villages to explore and implement sustainable solutions toward reducing bycatch of hawksbill sea turtles in the Bay of Baraderes, Haiti. Project will bring together local leaders and fishers to evaluate the impact of gill nets on mortality rates of hawksbills and discuss community-based conservation initiatives.
\$30,000

Oikonos - Ecosystem Knowledge

Conservation of the Pink-Footed Shearwater in Chile - V

Continue pink-footed shearwater conservation efforts and long-term species monitoring to assess the effectiveness of past conservation investments in Chile. Project will conduct multi-site pink-footed shearwater reproductive season monitoring, assess light attraction impacts to seabird fallout, and monitor mammal-proof fencing.
\$175,000

Pacific Rim Conservation

Creating Resilient Tropical Seabird Colonies through Translocation (HI and MEX) - II

Transport 36 black-footed albatross eggs from Midway Atoll in Hawai'i to Guadalupe Island, Mexico to help establish a new high island breeding colony at this site. Project will place translocated eggs into foster nests of Laysan albatross on Guadalupe Island and deploy social attraction using decoys and playbacks of vocalizations to provide stimuli for chicks to help with imprinting and to attract prospecting adult black-footed albatross.
\$95,825

Pro Delphinus

Reduce Bycatch of Leatherback Turtles in Peru by Strengthening the LAUDOPO Network

Work in Peru to support local fisheries in reducing sea turtle bycatch. Project will improve understanding of fishery bycatch interactions of leatherbacks, increase human capacity to undertake sea turtle conservation and sustainable fisheries, and reduce turtle mortality resulting from fishery bycatch interactions.
\$90,000

ASIA - INDONESIA

Safina Center

Integrated Seabird Bycatch Management Plan for Pacific Longline Fishery (Vanuatu)

Implement a participatory decision support tool to develop an integrated bycatch management plan for a Vanuatu flagged, Taiwanese-owned tuna longline fishery. Project will enable stakeholders to select a management strategy with acceptable multispecies conflicts and commercial viability costs while mitigating bycatch and mortality risk for vulnerable species.
\$40,000

Tano Tasi yan Todu

Advancing Limestone Forest Conservation and Restoration on Guam (GU)

Advance restoration of limestone forests and support local government efforts to achieve long-term conservation management targets for Taguan, Anao, and Pagat, Guam. Project will conduct habitat and species surveys, identify project boundaries, research land-use history, remove invasive vegetation, propagate and outplant native plants, and engage the community in educational and volunteer events to enhance limestone forest habitat.
\$927,520

GULF ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT FUND

FISCAL YEAR 2022 PROJECT COMMITMENTS

In the wake of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, BP Exploration and Production, Inc. and Transocean Deepwater, Inc. each pled guilty to criminal violations of federal law. The plea agreements in those cases require BP and Transocean, among other things, to make certain monetary payments to NFWF that are designated to fund projects benefiting Gulf Coast natural resources injured as a result of the spill. NFWF has established the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund to receive and administer these funds. Funding was committed to the following projects under the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund during Fiscal Year 2022 in accordance with the terms of the plea agreements. Since its inception in 2013, NFWF has awarded approximately \$1.6 billion to projects in the Gulf States.

ALABAMA

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

Fowl River Watershed Restoration: Coastal Spits and Wetlands - Phase II

Increase ecological resilience within the lower reach of the Fowl River by enhancing marsh elevation and stabilizing shorelines of five marsh-covered spits in the watershed's transitional zone between upstream fresh water and downstream brackish water. Project activities aim to stabilize up to 12,600 linear feet of shoreline and restore 40 acres of marsh habitat.

\$19,798,000

Mobile County Commission

Lower Halls Mill Creek Protection

Acquire and permanently protect approximately 300 acres of wetland habitat in the Dog River Watershed. Acquisition of the subject tracts will permanently protect them from commercial or residential development and preserve unique tidally influenced marshes in the Dog River watershed that support many species of shellfish, finfish, birds, and other wildlife of the type directly impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

\$2,687,000

Town of Dauphin Island

Dauphin Island Beach Nourishment: Engineering and Design

Complete 30% engineering and design activities as Phase I of a multi-phase restoration effort to restore beach and dune habitats located along the western end of Dauphin Island. This project aims to restore and maintain the ecological functions of the coastal habitat to ensure its viability against current and future threats while also restoring and protecting habitat for a variety of living resources on the island and within Mississippi Sound.

\$1,143,000

Town of Dauphin Island

Graveline Bay Marsh Restoration - Phase II

Restore tidal wetland habitat, a natural first line of defense against storm surge and rising sea levels in Graveline Bay on Dauphin Island's north shore. The project is expected to provide habitat for coastal birds and other wildlife and create needed nursery habitat for fish and shellfish. Additionally, this project will enhance the resiliency of Dauphin Island to future coastal storms and hazards.

\$6,437,000

FLORIDA

Dolphins Plus

Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response (Amendment)

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health. Amendment to continue project activities until 2023.

\$179,556

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Apalachicola River Ecosystem Land Acquisition

Acquire approximately 32,000 acres of wetlands and floodplains and nearly 38 miles of frontage along the Apalachicola River. Preserving Florida's largest river and its extensive floodplain is key to ensuring the long-term sustainability of Apalachicola Bay fisheries because the floodplain supplies a critical source of nutrients and organic matter, a cornerstone of Apalachicola Bay's food web.

\$31,000,000

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Apalachicola River Ecosystem Land Management

Manage approximately 32,000 acres of wetlands and floodplains and nearly 38 miles of frontage along the Apalachicola River. Preserving Florida's largest river and its extensive floodplain is key to ensuring the long-term sustainability of Apalachicola Bay fisheries because the floodplain supplies a critical source of nutrients and organic matter, a cornerstone of Apalachicola Bay's food web.

\$1,973,000

Sea World of Florida

Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response - Manatee Rehabilitation

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. The project will construct three new rehabilitation pools for manatee, enhancing critical care emergency response capacity by more than 20 animals annually.

\$1,077,000

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Panhandle Dune Restoration

Restore and enhance up to 21 miles of degraded dune habitats across the Florida Panhandle. In areas where disturbance has created gaps, restoring the dunes will improve habitat functionality and resiliency.

\$4,080,000

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Bellefontaine Nearshore Habitat Restoration - Engineering and Design

Design shoreline protection extending along up to 2 miles of Bellefontaine shoreline. The project will conduct sediment and hydrodynamic modeling to evaluate the shorelines and optimize restoration actions.

\$1,040,000

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Mississippi Coastal Restoration Plan - Phase II (Amendment)

Expand Mississippi's Gulf Coast Restoration Plan to include additional conservation goals for living coastal and marine resources, including Gulf Coast birds and water quality by collecting geospatial and other data to assist in improving recommendations for priority habitat restoration and protection projects. Amendment to extend project activities to 2025.

\$720,900

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Point Cadet Nearshore Habitat Restoration - Engineering and Design

Support permitting, engineering, and design of an emergent breakwater structure and submerged reefs at Point Cadet along the Biloxi Waterfront Park providing shoreline protection as well as benthic habitat for invertebrates and fish.

\$410,000

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Utilization of Dredge Material for Marsh Restoration in Coastal Mississippi – Phase I (Amendment)

Use dredge material in the sustainable restoration and creation of marsh habitat within St Louis Bay, Back Bay Biloxi, and the Escatawpa Watershed. The effort will enhance overall ecosystem function and the ecological integrity and sustainability of priority bays and estuaries of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Amendment to fund the construction of the Beardslee Marsh and Wolf River Containment Structures.

\$2,500,000

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Utilization of Dredge Material for Marsh Restoration in Coastal Mississippi - Phase II (Amendment)

Use dredge material in the sustainable restoration and creation of marsh habitat. The effort will enhance overall ecosystem function and the ecological integrity and sustainability of priority bays and estuaries of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Amendment to fund construction of the Greenwood Island Containment Berm.

\$11,000,000

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

West Hancock County Nearshore Habitat Restoration - Engineering and Design

Plan, engineer, and design a series of submerged artificial reefs to create substantial sub-tidal habitat enhancements in Hancock County. The overall outcome of this project is to develop plans and acquire permits for the eventual implementation of artificial reefs which would re-establish important coastal habitats to increase productivity of fish, including red and black drum, spotted seatrout, and oysters.

\$1,410,000

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Artificial Reef and Habitat Enhancement: Barrier Island Reefs

Create five new artificial reefs using 500-1,000 fabricated reef structures. These structures will be deployed in the four permitted reef creation zones in state waters near Mississippi's barrier islands.

\$3,125,000

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Artificial Reef and Habitat Enhancement: Katrina Key

Provide additional acreage of nearshore artificial reef habitat that will enhance shelter for spawning spotted seatrout and other reef species. The project will utilize prefabricated reef structures to expand the westward extent of the existing reef footprint by approximately 4 miles.

\$8,500,000

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Inshore Artificial Reef Assessment and Petit Bois Reef Planning - Phase I

Compile structural and ecological information regarding the current condition of Mississippi Sound inshore reefs and to document species utilization. This information is then expected to inform a significant request to enhance and refurbish these reefs to ensure they optimize fish productivity across the Mississippi Sound.

\$662,000

TEXAS

Texas Agricultural Land Trust

East Matagorda Bay Land Conservation (Amendment)

Conserve 3,547 acres of coastal working lands in the mid coast of Texas through a perpetual conservation easement. The property has frontage along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway near East Matagorda Bay and is composed of a suite of coastal marsh, prairie, and freshwater wetland habitats. Amendment to cover an increase in the cost of acquiring a conservation easement.

\$1,488,000

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Dagger Island Restoration Project (Amendment)

Construct a half-mile, nearshore breakwater and beneficially use dredge material to restore an island in order to protect approximately 5,236 acres of coastal habitat, including 2,630 acres of seagrass in Redfish Bay, an area adjacent to Corpus Christi Bay. Project also will restore approximately 28 acres of coastal wetland habitat and create oyster, invertebrate and fisheries habitat. Amendment to stabilize the containment levee, which was damaged by Hurricane Hanna.

\$305,000

Rock hind grouper
in the Gulf of Mexico
off Texas



IMPACT-DIRECTED ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTS (IDEA) FISCAL YEAR 2022 PROJECT COMMITMENTS

NFWF's IDEA department serves as a manager and trustee for funds arising from legal and regulatory actions involving natural resources and the environment. These funds originate primarily from court orders, settlements of legal cases, regulatory permits, licenses, and conservation and mitigation plans.

ALASKA**Saint Mary's University of Minnesota**
Addressing Critical Gaps in Wetland
Information: Enhancing Proactive Growth
and Conservation Management Decisions on
Alaska's North Slope (AK)

Fill critical geospatial information gaps relating to wetland habitat within the North Slope Borough. Project will map approximately 1.2 million acres of private, state and native lands utilizing nationally compliant National Wetland Inventory mapping standards and protocols.
\$23,839

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.

Ukpeagvik Iñupiat Corporation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Endowment - AR-9 Mitigation Site (AK)

Perform long-term land management of mitigation land in Utqiavik, Alaska.
\$33,289

Mitigation Endowmentⁱ**ARIZONA****Climate Conservation**

Desert Tortoise Transportation Ecology Task Force (AZ, CA, NV, UT)

Develop a set of guidelines that provide technical and policy Best Management Practices to overcome barriers to the implementation of mitigation measures, improve interagency collaboration and coordination, and ultimately result in consistent implementation of the most effective transportation mitigation measures for the reduction of desert tortoise road mortality and improvement of habitat permeability across its range, which includes parts of Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and California.

\$57,874

Mitigation**The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois**

Quantify mRNA for the Assessment of Temperature Effects on Razorback Sucker Development (AZ, CO, NM, UT)

Fund the quantification of mRNA for the assessment of temperature effects on Razorback Sucker development. Project will provide a greater understanding of how unnatural temperature depressions affect susceptible life-stages of Razorback Sucker will be necessary for aiding recovery of the species.

\$6,290

Mitigation**CALIFORNIA****Althouse and Meade**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Palo Prieto Conservation Bank (CA)

Perform long-term land management of mitigation land in San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties, California.

\$63,529

Mitigation Endowment**American Rivers**

Calf Pasture Meadow Restoration Project (AME-1) Project Implementation and Interim Management and Monitoring (CA)

Implement and monitor certain elements of a Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program mitigation project entitled, "Calf Pasture Meadow Restoration Project (AME-1)." The project will restore aquatic resources and ensure long-term protection of the project site in Eldorado National Forest in California.

\$971,050

Mitigation**Bill Luce Consulting**

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services (CA)

Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California.

\$6,000

Other**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Account - Cienega Springs (CA)

Perform start-up and interim management activities on mitigation land in Kern and Los Angeles counties, California.

\$2,071,167

Mitigation**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Account - Hollenbeck Canyon (CA)

Perform start-up and interim management activities on mitigation land in San Diego County.

\$88,669

Mitigation**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Alton North CB (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Napa County, California.

\$5,363

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - American Canyon Ecological Reserve (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Napa County, California.

\$18,552

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Brewer Parcel (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Shasta County, California.

\$1,121

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Cherry Ranch (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Sonoma County, California.

\$2,332

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Coalinga Prison (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Fresno County, California.

\$9,955

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - DAVIS Preserve (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Sonoma County, California.

\$3,135

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Delano Prison (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Kern County, California.

\$6,380

Mitigation Endowment**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Eden Landing ER (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Alameda County, California.

\$5,297

Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Indian Wells Valley (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Kern County, California.
\$6,050
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Margaret Preserve (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Sonoma County,
California.
\$2,316
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Gorman Creek (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Imperial County,
California.
\$1,100
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Hazel MB (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Sonoma County,
California.
\$12,436
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Gobbi Preserve (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation
land in Sonoma County, California.
\$9,812
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Margaret West CB (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Sonoma County,
California.
\$3,982
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Oceanic Community (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Kern County, California.
\$5,775
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Old Oregon Trail (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in the city of Redding,
California.
\$1,192
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - San Diego ESP&CSP (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in San Diego County,
California.
\$5,500
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - San Vicente (TET) (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation
land in San Diego County, California.
\$1,100
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Slippery Rock Conservation Bank
(CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation
land in Sonoma County, California.
\$3,916
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - South Sonoma Business Park
(CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation
land in Sonoma County, California.
\$1,271
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Statewide Electric Fence (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Tulare County, California.
\$8,580
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Swift-Turner Mitigation Bank
(CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Sonoma County,
California.
\$3,839
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Topaz Solar Farm (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation
land in San Luis Obispo County, California.
\$215,720
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Tuscarora Pipeline (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Modoc County, California.
\$4,180
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - W Riverside Multiple Species
Habitat Conservation Plan (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Riverside County,
California.
\$354,253
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - YUBA DRIVE MP (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation
land in Sonoma County, California.
\$2,684
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Initial and Capital Account - Red Rock Canyon
Project (CA)
Perform short-term management of
mitigation land in Kern County, California.
\$3,213
Mitigation

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife-
Renewable Energy Action Team Endowment
- Catalina and Pacific Wind (CA)
Perform long-term management of
mitigation land in Kern County, California.
\$41,776
Mitigation Endowment

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Department of Fish and Wildlife-
Renewable Energy Action Team Initial and
Capital Account - Catalina and Pacific Wind (CA)
Perform short-term management of
mitigation land in Kern County, California.
\$123,988
Mitigation

California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response
Guadalupe Restoration Maintenance and Operations (CA)
 Fund the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for administrative costs incurred in the response, containment, and cleanup of the Guadalupe Restoration maintenance and operations.
\$3,275
State Civil Case

California Department of Parks and Recreation
California State Parks Endowment - MSS Habitat Management (CA)
 Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Luis Obispo County, California.
\$12,424
Mitigation Endowment

California State University - Stanislaus
Tipton Kangaroo Rat Monitoring on Unit 15 of Kern National Wildlife Refuge (CA)
 Monitor population trends for the endangered Tipton kangaroo rat via live-trapping on Unit 15 of Kern National Wildlife Refuge.
\$3,691
Mitigation

City of Santa Rosa
California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Airfield Neighborhood Park (CA)
 Long-term management of mitigation land in Sonoma County, California.
\$4,388
Mitigation Endowment

Climate Conservation
Desert Tortoise Transportation Ecology Task Force (AZ, CA, NV, UT)
 Develop a set of guidelines that provide technical and policy Best Management Practices to overcome barriers to the implementation of mitigation measures, improve interagency collaboration and coordination, and ultimately result in consistent implementation of the most effective transportation mitigation measures for the reduction of desert tortoise road mortality and improvement of habitat permeability across its range, which includes parts of Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and California.
\$57,874
Mitigation

Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District
Nipomo Lupine Dune Protected Area Management (CA)
 Continue habitat restoration in a portion of the Nipomo Lupine Dune Protected Area. Project will control perennial veldtgrass, and protect and enhance the naturally occurring populations of Nipomo lupine.
\$9,806
State Civil Case

Corvus Ecological Consulting
2022 Common Raven Monitoring and Management within Desert Tortoise Conservation Areas / California Common Raven Monitoring and Management Strata Proposal Joshua Tree National Park and Pinto Mountains Critical Habitat Unit (CA)
 Conduct raven monitoring and management activities for protection of federally listed desert tortoise in Joshua Tree National Park and Pinto Mountains Critical Habitat Unit in California.
\$130,614
Mitigation

Eagle Electrocutation Solutions
Eagle Electrocutation Solutions, LLC In-Lieu Fee Credit Purchase under Permit MB23857D (CA)
 Purchase 196 golden eagle 30-year mitigation credits in the Pacific Flyway Eagle Management Unit under Eagle Electrocutation Solution, LLC's Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Electrocutation Prevention In-Lieu Fee Program in California.
\$1,078,000
Mitigation

East Bay Regional Park District
Encinal Beach Park Conservation and Public Access (CA)
 Maintain native dune and upland transition zone plantings to provide functional habitat for sensitive, endangered, and special status species, over a three-year period, as part of a larger project to improve public access and restore native plants at Encinal Beach in Alameda, California.
\$100,000
Federal Criminal Case
Multiple prosecutions

East Bay Regional Park District
California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Marsh Creek Preserve (CA)
 Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Contra Costa County, California.
\$14,310
Mitigation Endowment

EcoVision Partners
Study of the Relative Success of Morro Shoulderband Snail Relocations (CA)
 Collect data on the relative success of Morro shoulderband snail relocations to conserved parcels in Los Osos, California. Project study results will address various recovery tasks which include, but are not limited to, conducting habitat-oriented research, species-specific research, and the study of habitat use and life history needs of the Morro shoulderband snail.
\$4,000
Mitigation

Fagundes Agribusiness
California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Cross Creek West (CA)
 Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Kings County, California.
\$14,546
Mitigation Endowment

Fletcher Ranch Road Properties
California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Mountain House Conservation Bank (CA)
 Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Alameda County, California.
\$3,830
Mitigation Endowment

FlowWest
San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services (CA)
 Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California.
\$30,000
Other

Forest Creek Restoration
Hunsinger Draw Meadow Restoration Project Concept Design Report (CA)
 Provide the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation with Concept Design Report for Hunsinger Draw Meadow Restoration Project in the In-Lieu Fee Program's Pit River Aquatic Resource Service Area. The Concept Design Report would serve as the basis for NFWF's preparation of an Initial Project Prospectus to be submitted to the Interagency Review Team for approval in California.
\$10,000
Mitigation

Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District
Iron Horse Fish Screen Implementation Project – Permitting (CA)
 Complete permitting for an already-funded fish screen installation project for a currently unscreened irrigation diversion intake at Iron Horse Vineyards, along the mainstem of Green Valley Creek, in Sonoma County, California. Project will install a fish screen to protect juvenile coho salmon and steelhead trout, which rear in the project reach.
\$34,907
State Civil Case

Greater Farallones Association

Investigation of Kelp Forest Restoration Methods and Interconnectivity in Coastal Habitats (CA)

Evaluate methods for establishing bull kelp refugia close to Drakes Estero along Point Reyes National Seashore, and characterize the connectivity between the estuary and nearshore reefs to better inform future site selection and restoration efforts.

\$184,474

*Federal Criminal Case
Multiple prosecutions*

Habitat Restoration Sciences

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - JAL Preserve (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Diego County, California.

\$13,470

Mitigation Endowment

Habitat Restoration Sciences

San Diego County Endowment - Jacumba Solar Open Space Preserve (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Diego County, California.

\$18,337

Mitigation Endowment

Habitat Restoration Sciences

San Diego County Endowment - Greenhills Ranch (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Diego County, California.

\$21,884

Mitigation

Hanson Environmental

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services (CA)

Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California.

\$15,000

Other

Hardshell Labs

Raven Subsidy Denial by Laser (CA)

Use lasers to repel ravens from adjacent raven subsidy sites in the Mojave Desert and document the effect of laser treatments on ravens with three forms of raven point counts. Project will demonstrate the feasibility of using lasers to control ravens in high quality desert tortoise habitat as a means to reduce raven predation on tortoises.

\$80,047

Mitigation

Heal the Bay

Nick Gabaldón Day - Celebrating Diversity, Environmentalism, and Ocean Readiness (CA)

Support planning and execution of Nick Gabaldón Day, which offers participants access to unique water-based, shoreline, and near-shore recreation, as well as environmental, cultural, and historic learning opportunities along the Los Angeles County coastline in California.

\$50,000

*Federal Civil Case
U.S. and People of the State of California ex rel. California Dpt. Of Fish and Wildlife et al. v. Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. et al*

Institute for Wildlife Studies

Non-lead Ammunition Outreach (CA)

Provide non-lead ammunition outreach and education throughout California for the benefit of California condors. Project will support the Alta East Wind Project's California Condor Recovery Contribution to a lead outreach program.

\$103,388

Mitigation

J&D Basile

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Cross Creek East (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Tulare and Kings Counties, California.

\$53,681

Mitigation Endowment

Koopmann Family Trust

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Koopmann Preserve (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Alameda County, California.

\$9,837

Mitigation

McBain Associates

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services (CA)

Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California.

\$100,000

Other

Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Willits Bypass (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Mendocino County, California.

\$663,195

Mitigation Endowment

Mid Klamath Watershed Council

Middle Creek Fish Passage Project (CA)

Complete a design for a concrete single span bridge that will replace a corrugated steel squash pipe at the Bar Road stream crossing on Middle Creek, a tributary to Horse Creek in Siskiyou County, California.

\$44,723

Mitigation

Mid Klamath Watershed Council

East Fork Elk Creek Fish Passage Project (CA)

Mitigate for a fish migration barrier across an exposed mid-channel bedrock strath on East Fork Elk Creek, providing an additional 4.5 miles of high-quality coho salmon spawning and rearing habitat.

\$138,044

Mitigation

Mojave Desert Land Trust

California Department of Fish and Wildlife-Renewable Energy Action Team Endowment - Hidden Valley (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Bernardino and Imperial Counties, California.

\$82,545

Mitigation Endowment

Mojave Environmental Holdings

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Cuddeback-Kramer Preserve (RE Cinco & RE Rosamond One and Two) (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Bernardino County, California.

\$47,969

Mitigation Endowment

Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Initial and Capital Account - Stickleback Ranch for Foothill Feeder (CA)

Perform short-term management of mitigation land in Los Angeles County, California.

\$33,829

Mitigation

National Park Service

California Department of Fish and Wildlife-Renewable Energy Action Team Endowment - Mojave Milkweed (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Bernardino County, California.

\$2,897

Mitigation Endowment

Point Millerton Ranch

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Point Millerton aka Tract 4870 (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Madera County, California.

\$11,821

Mitigation Endowment

Rogers State University**Desert Tortoise Population Augmentation Strategy Model (CA, NV)**

Conduct a spatially-explicit, individual based population model using the program HexSim, to further understand the long-term population viability of and potential recovery actions for the Mojave desert tortoise throughout its range, including Nevada and California.

\$20,521

Mitigation

Ross Taylor and Associates**Mono Basin Fisheries Monitoring for 2022-2023 (CA)**

Conduct annual fisheries monitoring in Rush and Lee Vining Creeks in the Mono Lake basin in Mono County, California to meet the terms of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's amended water license from the State Water Resources Control Board. Project will generate results that will be used within an adaptive management strategy to evaluate recommended modified flow regimes and potentially fine-tune flow releases in Rush and Lee Vining Creeks.

\$137,784

Other

Salmon River Restoration Council**Mid-Klamath Coho Rearing Habitat Enhancement Project (CA)**

Improve critical coho salmon rearing habitat throughout the Mid-Klamath River and tributaries by increasing cover and habitat complexity in off-channel and thermal refuge habitat through strategic placement of brushy material and woody debris.

\$58,726

Mitigation Endowment

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory**Habitat Restoration and Enhancement at Eden Landing Ecological Reserve (CA)**

Enhance 8 acres of upland transition zone habitat and reduce noxious weeds in Eden Landing Ecological Reserve and benefit the federally threatened Western Snowy Plover through improving connectivity between ponds and reducing predator perches.

\$193,393

Federal Criminal Case

Multiple prosecutions

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority**Fisher Creek Riparian Habitat Restoration Project – Phase II (CA)**

Support an ongoing restoration project along the Fisher Creek riparian corridor, which is an important habitat and wildlife movement pathway within and through Coyote Valley in Santa Clara County, California. Project will include the removal of invasive plants, site preparation, installation of native plants, maintenance, monitoring, and community engagement.

\$247,360

State Civil Case

Santa Paula Creek Mitigation Bank**California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Santa Paula Creek Mitigation Bank (CA)**

Long-term management of mitigation land in Ventura County, California.

\$4,348

Mitigation Endowment

Scott River Watershed Council**Long Pond Bridge Crossing Project, Siskiyou County (CA)**

Develop conceptual designs for a bridge crossing to ensure that existing roadways will not enter restored waterways in the Sugar Creek tributary of the Scott River.

\$28,381

Mitigation

Scott River Watershed Council**Planning to Enhance Coho Rearing Habitat in Wildcat Creek (CA)**

Implement restoration planning for the benefit of coho salmon spawning and rearing in the Wildcat Creek tributary of the Scott River.

\$196,621

Mitigation

Siskiyou Resource Conservation District**Lower Scott River Valley Restoration and Off-Channel Development: Phase II (CA)**

Complete restoration efforts within the Scott River mainstem and oxbow side-channel area to improve channel function and enhance coho salmon access to slow water habitat.

\$139,565

Mitigation

Sundance Biology**Common Raven Monitoring and Management in Mojave National Preserve, Piute-Fenner and Ivanpah Critical Habitat Unit Stratum / Remote Egg Oiling Implementation in Mojave National Preserve, Piute-Fenner and Ivanpah Critical Habitat Unit Stratum (CA)**

Conduct raven monitoring and management activities for protection of federally listed desert tortoise in Mojave National Preserve and Piute-Fenner and Ivanpah Critical Habitat Unit in California.

\$126,426

Mitigation

Sundance Biology**Common Raven Monitoring and Management in Fremont-Kramer Critical Habitat Unit / Remote Egg Oiling Implementation in Fremont-Kramer Critical Habitat Unit (CA)**

Conduct raven monitoring and management activities for protection of federally listed desert tortoise in Fremont-Kramer Critical Habitat Unit in California.

\$183,857

Mitigation

Sundance Biology**Common Raven Monitoring and Management in Ord-Rodman Critical Habitat Unit (includes portion within Barstow Marine Corps Logistics Base) Stratum / Remote Egg Oiling Implementation in Ord-Rodman Critical Habitat Unit (includes portion within Barstow Marine Corps Logistics Base) Stratum (CA)**

Conduct raven monitoring and management activities for protection of federally listed desert tortoise in Ord-Rodman Critical Habitat Unit, including portions within Barstow Marine Corps Logistics Base, in California.

\$31,197

Mitigation

Sundance Biology**Common Raven Monitoring and Management in Superior-Cronese Critical Habitat Unit and Fort Irwin's Southeast Conservation Area Stratum / Remote Egg Oiling Implementation in Superior-Cronese Critical Habitat Unit and Fort Irwin's Southeast Conservation Area Stratum (CA)**

Conduct raven monitoring and management activities for protection of federally listed desert tortoise in Superior-Cronese Critical Habitat Unit and Fort Irwin's Southeast Conservation Area in California.

\$135,059

Mitigation

The Bay Institute**San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services (CA)**

Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California.

\$100,000

Other

The Restoration Trust**The Restoration Trust - Roberts Ranch Endowment (CA)**

Perform long-term land management of Roberts Ranch Mitigation Area in Alameda County, California.

\$9,698

Mitigation Endowment

The Restoration Trust**Wetland Management of Bordoni Ranch (CA)**

Perform long-term land management of mitigation land in California.

\$10,436

Mitigation Endowment

Thomas K. Moss**California Department of Fish and Wildlife Endowment - Pletz Residence (CA)**

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Monterey County, California.

\$3,367

Mitigation Endowment

Thomas R. Johnson, LLC

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement
Implementation Restoration Administrator
Services (CA)

Assist in implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California by serving as Restoration Administrator under the terms of the settlement.

\$155,500

Other

Transition Habitat Conservancy

California Department of Fish and Wildlife-
Renewable Energy Action Team Endowment
- Fremont-Kramer (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in San Bernardino County, California.

\$115,885

Mitigation Endowment

Trout Unlimited

Austin Creek Large Wood Augmentation –
Planning & Design (CA)

Develop site-specific plans and cost estimates for a wood placement project in three watersheds- East Austin, Thompson, and Gilliam Creeks- within the Austin Creek State Recreation Area to complement ongoing post-fire recovery efforts in Sonoma County, California. Project will advance hazard tree removal and implement large wood restoration instream.

\$22,460

State Civil Case

Trout Unlimited

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement
Implementation Technical Advisory Committee
Services (CA)

Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam in California.

\$13,500

Other

**U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Animal and Plant Health Inspection
Service, Wildlife Services, National Wildlife
Research Center**

Raven Management for Desert Tortoise
Protection (CA)

Conduct wildlife damage management activities to control ravens for the protection of the federally listed Desert Tortoise in the Mojave and Colorado Deserts located within California.

\$81,700

Mitigation

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Kern National Wildlife Refuge**

Supply Procurement for Unit 15 Biological
Monitoring and Habitat Improvement at Kern
National Wildlife Refuge (CA)

Purchase supplies to monitor endangered species (Tipton kangaroo rat, San Joaquin kit fox, vernal pool fairy shrimp, and blunt-nosed leopard lizard) on Unit 15 of the Kern National Wildlife Refuge.

\$1,829

Mitigation

**University of California - Santa Barbara
Mono Lake Limnology Monitoring Program
(CA)**

Conduct meteorological and limnological monitoring of Mono Lake in Mono County, California under the terms of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's amended water license from the State Water Resources Control Board. Project will include collection of data on phytoplankton, brine shrimp, and the physical and chemical environment in Mono Lake.

\$299,164

Other

**University of California - Santa Barbara
Restoring a Rare Freshwater Seep in Support
of the Federally Endangered Marsh Sandwort
(CA)**

Restore and interpret a rare half-acre freshwater seep wetland plant community in order to support a new population of the federally endangered marsh sandwort. Project will include installation of a permanent sign and preparation of material to support the site's inclusion into multiple University of California, Santa Barbara field ecology classes.

\$48,927

State Civil Case

Ventana Wildlife Society

California Condor Recovery (CA)

Fund the performance of vital recovery actions for California condors. Project will conduct daily, year-round data collection and utilize these data to prioritize recovery actions with partners; conduct releases of captive-bred condors to the wild; ensure population growth and healthy dynamics of the flock; ensure survival of condor chicks and adult pairs as they successfully nest in the wild; and work to minimize threats and hazards to condors.

\$100,000

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Ventura Port District

Ventura Port District: Six Project Request (CA)

Conduct various improvements and upgrades to increase public safety, recreation, and access at Ventura Harbor in Ventura, California. Project will include installing new radio repeaters, replacing deteriorated light poles, installing a mobile traffic sign, and procuring beach-accessible wheelchairs and beach access mats.

\$93,301

Federal Civil Case

U.S. and People of the State of California ex rel. California Dpt. Of Fish and Wildlife et al. v. Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. et al

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Initial and Capital Account - Poso Plains
Mitigation Site (CA)

Perform short-term management of mitigation land in Kern County, California.

\$39,003

Mitigation

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Initial and Capital Account - Lost Hills
Mitigation Site (CA)

Perform short-term management of mitigation land in Alameda County, California.

\$51,790

Mitigation

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Alkali Flats Mitigation Site (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Kern County, California.

\$14,717

Mitigation Endowment

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - CD Hillman (CA)

Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Kern County, California.

\$14,771

Mitigation Endowment

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Initial and Capital Account - Kings River
Mitigation Site (CA)

Perform short-term management of mitigation land in Fresno County, California.

\$16,706

Mitigation

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Initial and Capital Account - Cottonwood
Creek (CA)

Perform short-term management of mitigation land in Tulare County, California.

\$18,375

Mitigation

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Dutchman Creek Conservation Bank (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Merced County, California.
\$15,440
Mitigation Endowment

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Maxwell Planned Unit Development (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Colusa County, California.
\$12,686
Mitigation Endowment

Westervelt Ecological Services

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Endowment - Meridian Ranch Mitigation Bank (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Butte County, California.
\$13,013
Mitigation Endowment

Westervelt Ecological Services

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endowment - Pacific Gas and Electric Palermo (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Butte, Yuba and Sutter Counties, California.
\$7,150
Mitigation Endowment

Westervelt Ecological Services

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endowment - Ferrari Ranch (CA)
Perform long-term management of mitigation land in Solano County, California.
\$18,517
Mitigation Endowment

WRA

Aquatic Resource Delineation Assistance (CA)
Assist the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation under its Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program with completing a wetland delineation on a potential In-Lieu Fee Project site, Ledger Island, located in the San Joaquin River Watershed Service Area, California.
\$7,800
Mitigation

Yurok Tribe

Enhancing Coho Salmon Rearing Habitat in Upper & West Fork McGarvey Creek (CA)
Enhance 7.0 acres of upper McGarvey Creek to promote beneficial self-maintaining physical and ecological processes, expand rearing habitat enhancement in West Fork McGarvey by installing a fourth beaver dam analogues site, and preform physical and biological restoration performance monitoring and outreach to help inform basin recovery efforts.
\$79,255
Mitigation

COLORADO

Advanced Telemetry Systems

Purchase of Radio Tags to Track Spawning Activity of Nonnative Channel Catfish in the San Juan River (CO, NM, UT)
Fund the purchase of radio tags to evaluate temporal and spatial patterns of channel catfish spawning in the San Juan River with the goal of disrupting spawning or displacing larvae. Channel catfish are opportunistic feeders known to consume fish and are considered a leading factor contributing to the decline of native fishes in the Colorado River Basin.
\$28,873
Mitigation

Colorado River Water Conservation District

Lease of Elkhead Reservoir Water for Lower Yampa River (CO)
Fund the lease of up to 2,000 acre-feet of water from Elkhead Reservoir for the benefit of endangered fish in the Yampa River.
\$62,650
Mitigation

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Pilot Study to Assess Accumulation of Dietary Methylmercury in Colorado Pikeminnow (CO, NM, UT)
Provide funds to investigate the reproductive effects of mercury in Colorado Pikeminnow in the San Juan River.
\$13,384
Mitigation

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Quantify mRNA for the Assessment of Temperature Effects on Razorback Sucker Development (AZ, CO, NM, UT)
Fund the quantification of mRNA for the assessment of temperature effects on Razorback Sucker development. Project will provide a greater understanding of how unnatural temperature depressions affect susceptible life-stages of Razorback Sucker will be necessary for aiding recovery of the species.
\$6,290
Mitigation

DELAWARE

Delaware Department of Natural Resources

Delaware Fish and Wildlife Natural Resources Police Training/Equipment (DE)
Support training and equipment purchases for the Delaware Natural Resources Police to assist law enforcement efforts benefiting the fish and wildlife resources of Delaware.
\$7,550
Other

FLORIDA

Conservation Fisheries

Okaloosa Darter Collection, Propagation, and Reintroduction (FL)
Fund the collection, propagation, and reintroduction of the Federally Threatened Okaloosa Darter.
\$5,500
Mitigation

St. Andrew Bay Resource Management Association

St. Andrew Bay Resilient Shorelines (FL)
Assess and identify highly impactful areas of shoreline erosion in Florida's St. Andrew Bay. Project will restore coastal salt marsh habitat with community-based living shorelines and monitor previously restored coastal salt marsh habitat.
\$2,000
Federal Criminal Case
U.S. v. Lagoon Landing, LLC

HAWAII

Pacific Rim Conservation

Kaua'i Seabird Habitat Conservation Plan Mitigation Site (HI)
Establish a seabird mitigation site. Project will perform near term mitigation activities including installing predator proof fencing, promoting seabird social attraction, controlling barn owl and feral cats, and project management activities such as annual reporting and coordination with agencies.
\$240,101
Mitigation

State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources

Building Ungulate Excluding Fencing to Reduce Sediment Loading to Coral Reefs in West Maui (HI)
Protect 7,000 acres of forests from non-native hooved animals, maintain firebreaks, and replant eroding areas upland of West Maui's coral reefs near Olowalu. Project will reduce land-based sources of pollution by improving native vegetation cover, ultimately improving water quality for coral reef habitat.
\$200,000
Federal Criminal Case
U.S. v. Princess Cruise Lines, LTD

LOUISIANA

Delta Land Services

Delta Land Services, LLC Construction Account - Oak Land Mitigation Bank (Phase 2) (LA)
Short-term management of mitigation land in Natchitoches, Louisiana.
\$8,569
Mitigation

ESP Tunica Opportunities

United States Army Corps of Engineers
Endowment - Tunica Swamp-Silos Mitigation Area (LA)
Long-term land management of mitigation land in West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana.
\$5,437
Mitigation Endowment

MARYLAND**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**

Maryland Natural Resources Police Equipment Purchases (MD)
Fund equipment purchases for the Maryland Natural Resources Police. Project will aid and enhance ongoing surveillance investigations focused on protection of the fish and wildlife resources of the State of Maryland.
\$7,550
Other

Trout Unlimited

Protecting and Restoring Brook Trout Habitat in the Savage River Watershed (MD)
Permanently protect a high-quality riparian corridor and restore riparian buffers, in-stream habitat, and aquatic organism passage within the Savage River Watershed eastern brook trout stronghold. Project will increase habitat integrity and reduce sediment and nutrient runoff destined for the Chesapeake Bay.
\$27,500
Federal Criminal Case
U.S. v. Hachiuma Steamship, Co. LTD

MONTANA**River Design Group**

Lost Trail Wildlife Refuge Restoration (MT)
Fund project management and coordination for Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge Restoration Stream and Wetland Design.
\$2,704
Mitigation

River Design Group

Swan River National Wildlife Refuge Wetland Restoration (MT)
Fund project management and coordination for Swan River National Wildlife Refuge Wetland Restoration project.
\$31,915
Mitigation

NEVADA**Alice E. Karl and Associates**

Desert Tortoise Use of Altered Habitat in Solar Fields (NV)
Investigate the utility of leaving altered habitat in the Gemini solar facility available to Mojave desert tortoises, instead of eliminating the habitat entirely and excluding tortoises permanently, which will help inform conservation and mitigation efforts in the desert southwest.
\$5,516,299
Mitigation

Bio-West

Fish Surveys for the Muddy River (NV)
Collect information on the abundance and distribution of native and non-native fishes inhabiting the Muddy River to inform management decisions for the endangered Moapa dace in Clark County, Nevada.
\$5,340
Mitigation

Brenneman, Melissa dba TopoWorks

Tonopah Survey Databases (NV)
Create two final databases from 2021 Mojave desert tortoise surveys to help evaluate potential project impacts within the Tonopah Field Office jurisdiction in southern Nevada.
\$18,060
Mitigation

Climate Conservation

Desert Tortoise Transportation Ecology Task Force (AZ, CA, NV, UT)
Develop a set of guidelines that provide technical and policy Best Management Practices to overcome barriers to the implementation of mitigation measures, improve interagency collaboration and coordination, and ultimately result in consistent implementation of the most effective transportation mitigation measures for the reduction of desert tortoise road mortality and improvement of habitat permeability across its range.
\$57,874
Mitigation

Great Basin Institute

Deployment of Field Cameras to Estimate Raven Predation on Tortoises (NV)
Deploy field cameras to monitor tortoise decoys and record predation attempts by common ravens, which will contribute to a larger project funded by the Bureau of Land Management to estimate raven densities, analyze the camera images, and estimate raven predation pressure on juvenile tortoises, across southern Nevada.
\$5,000
Mitigation

Rogers State University

Desert Tortoise Population Augmentation Strategy Model (NV, CA)
Conduct a spatially-explicit, individual based population model using the program HexSim, to further understand the long-term population viability of and potential recovery actions for the Mojave desert tortoise throughout its range.
\$20,521
Mitigation

Southwest Decision Resources

Desert Tortoise Management Oversight Group Facilitation (NV)
Support two virtual Desert Tortoise Management Oversight Group meetings in 2022 in coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the State of Nevada.
\$5,000
Mitigation

U.S. Geological Survey

Biological Coordinator – Monitoring of Mojave Desert Tortoises Associated with the Moapa Solar Complex (NV)
Assist the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Indian Affairs in coordinating scientific monitoring and research objectives related to Mojave Desert Tortoises and renewable solar energy infrastructure within the Moapa River Indian Reservation solar complex (Moapa Complex) in Clark County, Nevada.
\$108,639
Mitigation

NEW JERSEY**The Trust for Public Land**

Installing Stormwater Reduction System at Jesse Allen Park (NJ)
Support the installation of a slow-release stormwater catchment system to reduce the volume of stormwater entering the combined sewer system in Newark, New Jersey. Project will improve water quality and enhance the health and living resources of aquatic species in Newark Bay.
\$700,000
Federal Criminal Case
U.S. v. D'Amico Shipping Italia, S.P.A.

NEW MEXICO

Advanced Telemetry Systems

Purchase of Radio Tags to Track Spawning Activity of Nonnative Channel Catfish in the San Juan River (CO, NM, UT)
Fund the purchase of radio tags to evaluate temporal and spatial patterns of channel catfish spawning in the San Juan River with the goal of disrupting spawning or displacing larvae. Channel catfish are opportunistic feeders known to consume fish and are considered a leading factor contributing to the decline of native fishes in the Colorado River Basin.
\$28,873
Mitigation

American Southwest Ichthyological Researchers

Determining Daily Growth Rates of Larval Colorado Pikeminnow Razorback Sucker in the San Juan River (NM, UT)
Determine daily growth rates and spawning rates of Colorado Pikeminnow and Razorback Sucker. Project will investigate relationship between fish length and daily age, between spawning dates of larval Colorado Pikeminnow and Razorback Sucker and Growing-Degree Days, between spawning dates and water temperature, and between spawning dates and river discharge.
\$74,812
Mitigation

American Southwest Ichthyological Researchers

San Juan River Larval Endangered Fish Monitoring (NM)
Fund endangered fish larval monitoring upstream of the intake for the Four Corners Power Plant water intake structure on the San Juan River.
\$22,077
Mitigation

Ecosystems Research Institute Inc.

San Juan River Habitat Assessment - II (NM)
Assess important habitats for endangered fishes in the San Juan River.
\$138,426
Mitigation

Lutgen & Associates dba Document Technologies

Printers for Fish Hatchery II (NM)
Fund the purchase of printers for fish hatchery in Dexter, New Mexico.
\$3,420
Mitigation

M&S

Purchase of Traps and Netting for Endangered Fish Rearing Facilities (NM)
Fund the purchase of traps and netting for endangered fish rearing facilities on the Navajo Nation.
\$11,327
Mitigation

Reid Enterprises

Endangered Fishes Transport - San Juan River(NM)
Purchase flat bed trailer for use at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Southwestern Native Aquatic Resources Recovery Center to transport endangered fishes for stocking into the San Juan River.
\$16,729
Mitigation

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Pilot Study to Assess Accumulation of Dietary Methylmercury in Colorado Pikeminnow (CO, NM, UT)
Provide funds to investigate the reproductive effects of mercury in Colorado Pikeminnow in the San Juan River.
\$13,384
Mitigation

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Quantify mRNA for the Assessment of Temperature Effects on Razorback Sucker Development (AZ, CO, NM, UT)
Fund the quantification of mRNA for the assessment of temperature effects on Razorback Sucker development. Project will provide a greater understanding of how unnatural temperature depressions affect susceptible life-stages of Razorback Sucker will be necessary for aiding recovery of the species.
\$6,290
Mitigation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Staff Biologist for San Juan River Recovery Actions (NM)
Contribute towards a San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program staff biologist to conduct Recovery Actions.
\$58,724
Mitigation

NEW YORK

Bronx River Alliance

Combating Invasive Plants: Restoring the Bronx River's Native Habitat (NY)
Combat invasive plants and replant native plants engaging volunteers from a newly created Riparian Invasive Plant Patrol along the shoreline of the lower Bronx River, Bronx, New York. Project will restore healthy, functioning riparian habitat.
\$17,029
Other

Innovasea Marine Systems Canada

St. Lawrence River Multispecies Telemetry Project (NY)
Fund the purchase of equipment and materials for establishing a telemetry array throughout the St. Lawrence River and a multispecies tagging and movement study.
\$68,504
Mitigation

National Audubon Society For the Birds! Environmental Education Program (NY)

Deliver hands-on environmental education programing to students and community members living within the Coney Island Creek Watershed. Project will inspire a culture of lifelong environmental stewardship in Coney Island through programs and activities that build awareness of local ecosystems and human impacts.
\$2,307
Other

New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

Hook Creek Park Project (NY)
Fund a non-interior marshland restoration project within a tributary of Hook Creek Park, at the head end of Jamaica Bay, New York.
\$125,000
Mitigation

The Research Foundation for the State University of New York

Status of Mooneye in the Oswegatchie River Project: 2022 Field Season (NY)
Fund field work that will provide background information to inform conservation, restoration, and enhancement efforts that may be necessary to recover Mooneye, a Fish Enhancement, Mitigation and Research Fund focal species. Project will determine sampling areas, time of spawning, and develop a set of best practices for surveying Mooneye.
\$10,413
Mitigation

The Wetland Trust

Bog Turtle Habitat Restoration (NY)
Provide funds for bog turtle habitat restoration and monitoring.
\$9,250
Mitigation

The Wetland Trust

Completion of Year Two Bog Turtle Monitoring Surveys (NY)
Fund bog turtle habitat monitoring surveys at The Wetland Trust Moskowitz Easement in Dutchess County, New York.
\$2,500
Mitigation

Thousand Islands Land Trust**Water Control Infrastructure Maintenance Program Project (NY)**

Fund the maintenance of two water control structures in the St. Lawrence watershed. Project will facilitate five maintenance visits per control structure per year for three years.

\$34,485

Mitigation

Thousand Islands Land Trust**Mullet Creek Conservation Implementation Project (NY)**

Fund the acquisition of 225 acres and about 15,000 linear feet of Mullet Creek in Omar, New York. Project will provide opportunities for current and future research, enhancement and restoration activities, and ensure that riparian land use does not degrade water quality in this tributary of the St. Lawrence River.

\$398,000

Mitigation

NORTH CAROLINA**Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina****Bobs Creek State Natural Area Acquisition (NC)**

Fund the acquisition of approximately 2,249 acres of forested lands in McDowell County, North Carolina, with NFWF funds being used to purchase 85.19 acres.

Project will permanently protect over four miles of surface waters in the Broad and Catawba River Watersheds of Western North Carolina.

\$115,000

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Duke Energy Carolinas; U.S. v. Duke Energy Progress

Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina**Pinnacle Mountains East Acquisition (NC)**

Fund acquisition related costs to support the acquisition of approximately 940 acres of undeveloped, forested property in the Pinnacle Mountains of North Carolina.

Project will protect surface waters, a wetlands complex, natural areas, and habitats for native plants and animals of conservation concern in North Carolina.

\$60,000

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Duke Energy Carolinas; U.S. v. Duke Energy Progress

OHIO**Magnolia OH****Eagle Creek Mitigation: Site Approval (OH)**

Fund mitigation site approval for 76.7 acres of Indiana bat and northern-long-eared bat mitigation at the Eagle Creek Mitigation Site in Ohio.

\$136,910

Mitigation

OREGON**Curry County Soil and Water Conservation District****Elk Mainstem Streambank Restoration (OR)**

Restore 1,000 feet of eroding streambank and riparian habitat on the Elk River mainstem channel in Curry County, Oregon to enhance instream habitat for coho and other native salmonids, while preserving the river's developing meander bend morphology, and protecting and preserving valuable pastureland.

\$47,599

Federal Criminal Case

Multiple prosecutions

Rogue River Watershed Council**Salt Creek RM 3.0 – Ecological Restoration (OR)**

Improve water quality, stream processes, and coho salmon habitat in Salt Creek in Jackson County, Oregon, through the placement of 30 large woods, rehabilitation of 15.1 acres of riparian forest, and addition of 2.5 miles of livestock exclusion fence.

\$83,699

Federal Criminal Case

Multiple prosecutions

Upper Nehalem Watershed Council**Tweedle Creek Channel Meander Construction and Wetland Restoration (OR)**

Restore Lower Tweedle Creek and reconnect it with the associated floodplain and wetlands, two small fish bearing tributaries, and an off-channel pond, to enhance coho salmon habitat within the Nehalem River Watershed.

\$82,000

Federal Criminal Case

Multiple prosecutions

PENNSYLVANIA**Conor Gillespie****Pennsylvania Wetlands In-Lieu Fee Document Review Payment (PA)**

Provide funds for the final review of quality assurance functional document and services to bring the Pennsylvania Wetlands In-Lieu Fee Program into compliance with the 2008 Mitigation Rule.

\$7,571

Mitigation

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Construction Services for Little Arnot Run in the Allegheny National Forest (PA)**

Fund construction services for the Little Arnot Run in the Allegheny National Forest.

\$38,014

Mitigation

SOUTH DAKOTA**Lake Area Zoological Society****Bramble Park Zoo Eagle Flight Cage Expansion (SD)**

Support the conservation of golden and bald eagles in South Dakota through rehabilitation efforts at Bramble Park Zoo. Project will increase the size of the eagle flight cage to help eagles re-gain flight strength during rehabilitation.

\$10,000

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Belitz

TEXAS**United States Fish and Wildlife Service - Region 2****Acquisition of Keith Badeaux (102) Parcel (TX)**

Acquisition of 42.6 acres of land in Trinity County, Texas for the Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge.

\$64,000

Mitigation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Region 2**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southwest Region 2 Endowment - Houston Toad Captive Breeding Long-Term Support (TX)**

Long-term support of a captive breeding program for the federally endangered Houston toad.

\$31,539

Mitigation Endowment

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge Acquisition (TX)

Provide funds to acquire nearly 5,000 acres of contiguous, high quality river bottom forest along the San Bernard River near Wharton, Texas. Land tract will eventually be added to the federal San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge.

\$225,000

Mitigation

UTAH

Advanced Telemetry Systems

Purchase of Radio Tags to Track Spawning Activity of Nonnative Channel Catfish in the San Juan River (CO, NM, UT)
Fund the purchase of radio tags to evaluate temporal and spatial patterns of channel catfish spawning in the San Juan River with the goal of disrupting spawning or displacing larvae. Channel catfish are opportunistic feeders known to consume fish and are considered a leading factor contributing to the decline of native fishes in the Colorado River Basin.

\$28,873

Mitigation

American Southwest Ichthyological Researchers

Determining Daily Growth Rates of Larval Colorado Pikeminnow Razorback Sucker in the San Juan River (UT, NM)

Determine daily growth rates and spawning rates of Colorado Pikeminnow and Razorback Sucker. Project will investigate relationship between fish length and daily age, between spawning dates of larval Colorado Pikeminnow and Razorback Sucker and Growing-Degree Days, between spawning dates and water temperature, and between spawning dates and river discharge.

\$74,812

Mitigation

Climate Conservation

Desert Tortoise Transportation Ecology Task Force (AZ, CA, NV, UT)

Develop a set of guidelines that provide technical and policy Best Management Practices to overcome barriers to the implementation of mitigation measures, improve interagency collaboration and coordination, and ultimately result in consistent implementation of the most effective transportation mitigation measures for the reduction of desert tortoise road mortality and improvement of habitat permeability across its range, which includes parts of Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and California.

\$57,874

Mitigation

Eagle Electrocution Solutions

Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Electrocution Prevention In-lieu Fee Program (UT)

Purchase credits from the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Electrocution Prevention In-lieu Fee Program in the State of Utah. Project will fund the retrofitting of 24 high-risk power poles to an avian-friendly standard and maintain each such retrofitted pole to that standard for a period of 30 years.

\$132,000

Mitigation

HawkWatch International

Roadkill Relocation for Golden Eagle Mortality Reduction (UT)

Relocate roadkill in Utah to benefit golden eagles in an area with high eagle-vehicle strikes. Project will conserve eagles directly through mortality reduction and demonstrate the effectiveness of roadkill relocation in eagle conservation efforts across the West.

\$79,258

Mitigation

HawkWatch International

Golden Eagle Nestling Multi-Stressor Health Assessment (UT)

Assess how landscape, diet and exposure to stressors impact golden eagle nestling immune health and post-fledge survival across western Utah. Project will provide a better understanding of the reproductive status and output of the West Desert golden eagle population.

\$37,074

Mitigation

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Pilot Study to Assess Accumulation of Dietary Methylmercury in Colorado Pikeminnow (CO, NM, UT)

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\$13,384

Mitigation

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

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\$6,290

Mitigation

VIRGINIA

College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Monitoring PBDEs and Alternative-FRs in Fishes from the Dan and Roanoke River Systems (VA)

Fund a study that measures contemporary flame-retardant levels in fishes of the Dan and Roanoke Rivers and their tributaries by analyzing archived fish tissue samples for polybrominated diphenyl ethers and their alternatives. Project will provide data that can be used to inform human health and ecological risk assessments.

\$49,999

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Duke Energy Carolinas; U.S. v. Duke Energy Progress

Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke

Kiwanis Horton Branch Watershed Improvement Project (VA)

Restore riparian vegetation and create upland wildlife habitat at the Horton's Branch Site in the Melrose neighborhood in Roanoke, Virginia. Site improvements include: planting trees, shrubs, and flowers to protect the stream bank and attract wildlife, creating a "no-mow zone" along the stream bank, and performing wildlife habitat improvements.

\$50,000

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Duke Energy Carolinas; U.S. v. Duke Energy Progress

WASHINGTON

Oceans Initiative

Protecting Puget Sound Chinook Salmon from Harbor Seal Predation (WA)

Implement a proven pinniped predation reduction strategy at Tumwater Falls to increase passage of Puget Sound Chinook salmon through fish ladders on their return migration to Deschutes River spawning grounds. Project will mitigate a major threat to the recovery of endangered Puget Sound Chinook salmon which will increase long-term abundance of this preferred prey species of Endangered southern resident killer whales.

\$110,000

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Princess Cruise Lines, LTD

UNITED KINGDOM

Blue Marine Foundation

Reviving Ecosystem Health Through Oyster Restoration (UK)

Re-seed of two of the largest native oyster beds in the United Kingdom, which have declined drastically as a result of historic over-fishing, disease and invasive species. Project will enhance biodiversity, improve water quality, and restore the health of an entire ecosystem.

\$54,900

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Princess Cruise Lines, LTD.

Pink skunk clownfish
at Finger Reef, Guam



GUAM

Bureau of Statistics and Plans

Engaging Guam Residents to Reduce Land Based Sources of Pollution and Promote Habitat Restoration for Coral Health (GU)

Expand firebreak protection around multiple sites in Guam to reduce the spread and intensity of future fires, convert grasslands to forests, and reduce erosion that harms nearshore coral reefs thereby improving water quality and shoreline protection.

\$127,650

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Pacific International Lines (Private) Limited

The University of Guam

A Pilot Study to Implement a Crown-of-Thorns Outbreak Mitigation Plan in Guam, Micronesia (GU)

Conduct a pilot study to implement and test the efficacy of Guam's sustainable, community-driven crown-of-thorns seastar outbreak rapid response strategy and a pilot test of coral outplanting in an effort to address crown-of-thorns seastar as the leading cause of coral decline in Guam.

\$209,851

Federal Criminal Case

U.S. v. Pacific International Lines (Private) Limited

ⁱOne class of IDEA Accounts is "Mitigation Endowment." Mitigation Endowments are perpetual funds held by NFWF in a fiduciary capacity to pay for the long-term management of lands or other long-term activities benefiting fish and wildlife habitats and/or species. NFWF makes an annual disbursement from each active Mitigation Endowment to a designated recipient to pay for the recipient's performance of the applicable work in the upcoming year. In its annual reports for prior years, NFWF has included every Mitigation Endowment that made a disbursement in the applicable year (even those that had been included in prior years' reports). However, going forward, NFWF will include individual Mitigation Endowments in its annual reports on a one-time basis for the year in which each such Mitigation Endowment makes its initial disbursement. As a bridge between the approach taken in prior years and the approach going forward, this year's report includes all active Mitigation Endowments that requested and received an annual disbursement, including those for which this year's disbursement is not its first.

Cascade red fox
in Washington

PHOTOGRAPHY

Donald M. Jones, Minden
(cover, rufous hummingbird),
Mark Raycrof, Minden (p. 1, black
bear cub), Elizabeth Acevedo
(p. 3, red-cockaded woodpecker),
Amar and Isabelle Guillen, Blue
Planet Archive (p. 79, rock hind),
Mac Nagata, Blue Planet Archive
(p. 92, clownfish), Gretchen Kay
Stuart (inside back cover, Cascade
red fox), Lia Barrett, Blue Planet
Archive (back cover, coral reef)





NFWF

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FRONT COVER

Rufous hummingbird
in Montana

BACK COVER

Coral reef off
the Florida Keys

