



# Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund

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## PARTNERS

- Bayer Crop Science
- Danone North America
- The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service

## ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$8.1 billion.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Monarch butterflies in California

## OVERVIEW

In 2015, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) established the Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund to address recent population declines and ensure the survival of the monarch butterfly and other at-risk pollinators. In 2023, the program announced \$4.1 million in funding for 18 projects to improve habitat for pollinators and provide technical assistance to private landowners. Grantees committed an additional \$6.6 million in matching contributions for a total conservation impact of more than \$10.7 million. The fund is a public-private partnership administered by NFWF with funding and other support from Bayer Crop Science, Danone North America, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service. The 2023 projects address two key strategies:

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- Improving the availability of high-quality pollinator habitat
- Providing technical assistance to expand pollinator conservation efforts on private working lands

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**HABITAT IMPROVEMENT**

The goal of this conservation strategy is to create and sustain a connected patchwork of habitat that supports insect pollinators and the annual migration of the monarch butterfly. Emphasis is placed on restoring and enhancing land to support ample milkweed and nectar plants. Additionally, this strategy includes work to ensure an adequate supply of seed or plugs of native milkweed and nectar-producing plants to support habitat restoration efforts.

**Enhancing Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Habitat on the Ozark Plateau (AR)**

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy  
 Grant Amount:.....\$217,200  
 Matching Funds:.....\$218,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$435,200  
 Conduct prescribed burns, invasive species control, mowing, and interseeding on public lands and nature preserves to improve habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators on the Ozark Plateau in northwest Arkansas. Project will improve 2,420 acres.

**Expanding Seed Sources and Creating Pollinator Corridors in the Madrean Archipelago (AZ)**

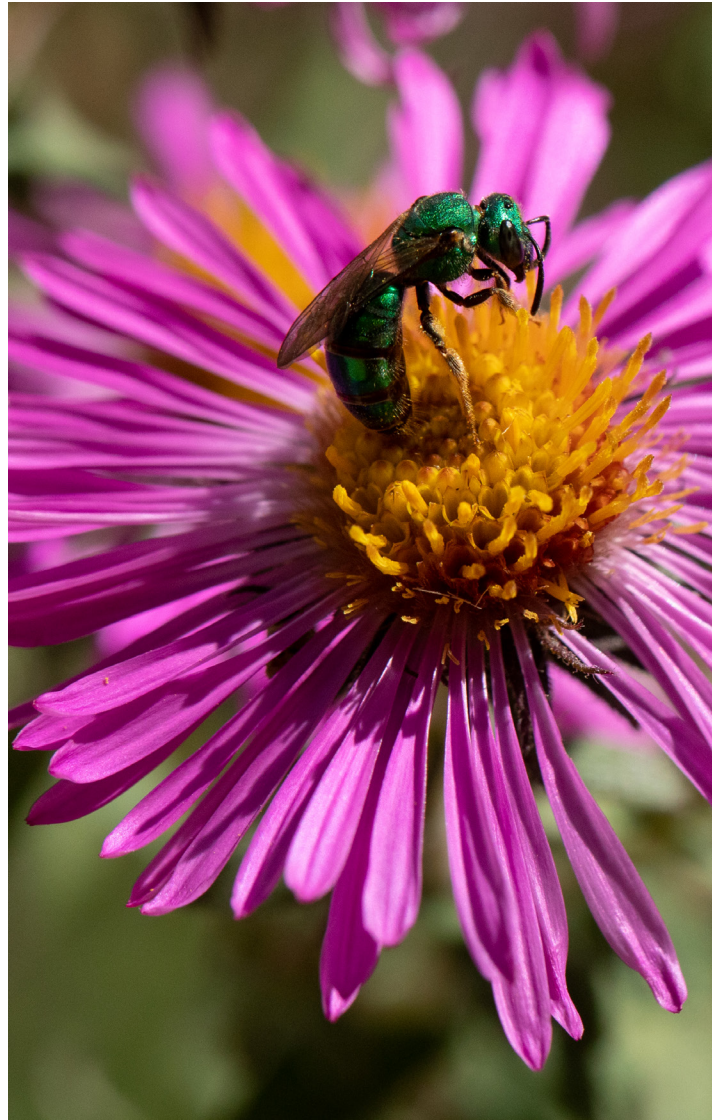
Grantee: Borderlands Restoration Network  
 Grant Amount:.....\$200,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$200,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$400,000  
 Establish a milkweed seed amplification plot to increase the availability of locally adapted seed and improve habitat connectivity for monarch butterflies and other pollinators at the Borderlands Wildlife Preserve in the Madrean Archipelago of southern Arizona. Project will restore 611 acres, improve 5 acres, collect 50 pounds of milkweed seed, propagate 2,000 milkweed seedlings, host seven events, reach 150 people and sustain 10 jobs.

**Increasing Habitat for Monarchs at Puma Canyon Ecological Reserve (CA)**

Grantee: Transition Habitat Conservancy  
 Grant Amount:.....\$230,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$30,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$260,000  
 Conduct invasive species control, broadcast seeding, plug planting, and seedling propagation to improve habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators at Puma Canyon Ecological Reserve in southern California. Project will restore 120 acres, propagate 350 milkweed seedlings, reach 325 people and host nine events.

**Monarch Wings Across California (MWAC) and Almond Producers Creating Habitat for Pollinators (CA)**

Grantee: Pollinator Partnership  
 Grant Amount:.....\$300,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$74,800  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$374,800  
 Assist private working lands to meet criteria for the Bee



A native bee feeding on a New England Aster flower.

Friendly Farming Certified program and enhance the quality and quantity of habitat for the western monarch butterfly and other pollinators in the San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento Valley regions of California. Project will improve 10,000 acres, collect 30 pounds of milkweed seed, propagate 2,800 milkweed seedlings, host 10 training sessions, reach 50 people, sustain one job and create one job.

**Restoring North Trinity River Habitat to Benefit Monarchs and Franklin Bumble Bees (CA)**

Grantee: Trinity County Resource Conservation District  
 Grant Amount:.....\$233,700  
 Matching Funds:.....\$71,400  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$305,100  
 Conduct invasive species control and survey for monarch butterflies, Franklin bumble bee, and other bumble bees on public lands in Trinity County, California. Project will restore 2 acres, improve 98 acres, host two events and propagate milkweed seedlings.

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### Restoring Pollinator Habitat on Fire Scars at Angeles National Forest (CA)

Grantee: TreePeople

Grant Amount:.....\$249,600  
 Matching Funds:.....\$225,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$474,600

Conduct invasive species control and expand restoration efforts to create habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators on fire scar areas at Angeles National Forest in California. Project will restore 80 acres, improve 206 acres, collect 1 pound of milkweed seed, propagate 6,000 milkweed seedlings, reach 4,000 people and sustain five jobs.

### Expanding Pollinator Habitat for Monarch Butterflies and Rusty Patched Bumble Bees (IA)

Grantee: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Grant Amount:.....\$211,700  
 Matching Funds:.....\$348,600  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$560,300

Conduct planting, prescribed burning, mowing, and invasive species control to improve habitat for monarch butterflies, rusty patched bumble bees, and other pollinators across Iowa. Project will restore 1,008 acres, improve 2,000 acres and propagate 2,500 milkweed seedlings.

### Creating Corridors for Monarch Butterflies, Rusty Patched Bumble Bees and American Bumble Bees (MN)

Grantee: Anoka Conservation District

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$1,024,700  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$1,274,700

Engage community and tribal partners to improve dry prairie, oak savanna, and other habitats through prescribed burning, invasive species control, and seeding to create habitat for monarch butterflies, rusty patched bumble bees, American bumble bees, and other pollinators in the Anoka Sand Plain near the Twin Cities Metro Area in Minnesota. Project will restore 201 acres, improve 902 acres, collect 8 pounds of milkweed seed, develop 50 plans, host 10 events, reach 300 people and sustain two jobs.

### Improving Habitat for Monarchs and Rusty Patched Bumble Bees in the Twin Cities (MN)

Grantee: Friends of the Mississippi River

Grant Amount:.....\$233,300  
 Matching Funds:.....\$247,500  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$480,800

Conduct prescribed burning, invasive species control, mowing, planting, and seeding to improve habitat for monarch butterflies, rusty patched bumble bees, and other native pollinators near the Mississippi River across the Twin Cities Metro Area in Minnesota. Project will restore 5 acres, improve 600 acres, develop two plans, host two events and reach 100 people.



Karner blue butterfly

### Lawns to Legumes: Improving Pollinator Habitat in the Lower St. Croix River Watershed (MN)

Grantee: Chisago Soil & Water

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$2,402,500  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$2,652,500

Scale the Lawns to Legumes program and work with private landowners and public land managers to improve pollinator habitat through prescribed burning, invasive species control, conservation grazing, mowing, planting, and interseeding to benefit monarch butterflies, Karner blue butterfly, rusty patched bumble bee, and other pollinators across the Lower St. Croix River watershed in Minnesota. Project will restore 800 acres, improve 400 acres and reach 1,000 people.

### Restoring Working Lands and Public Lands for Monarch Butterflies and Dakota Skipper (SD)

Grantee: Pheasants Forever

Grant Amount:.....\$224,900  
 Matching Funds:.....\$274,300  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$499,200

Improve conservation grazing systems and conduct prescribed burning and planting on private working lands and public lands to increase high-quality habitat for monarch butterflies, Dakota skipper, and other pollinators in eastern South Dakota. Project will restore 540 acres, improve 2,100 acres, develop 25 plans, host 10 events and reach 100 people.

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### **Conserving Coastal Prairie Habitat for Monarchs and Pollinators on the Katy Prairie Preserve (TX)**

Grantee: Katy Prairie Conservancy

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$110,500  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$360,500

Plant native species and conduct invasive species control to enhance coastal prairie grasslands and wetlands on public lands and private working lands that support monarch butterflies and other native pollinators on the Katy Prairie Preserve in Texas. Project will restore 50 acres, enhance 1,983 acres, collect 1 pound of milkweed seed, propagate 20,000 milkweed seedlings and reach 1,000 people.

### **Utah Pollinator Habitat Program: Increasing Floral Resources for Monarchs and Bumble Bees (UT)**

Grantee: Utah State University

Grant Amount:.....\$210,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$309,600  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$519,600

Expand the Utah Pollinator Habitat Program to distribute 220 pollinator kits to private landowners to support monarch butterflies, Sonoran bumble bee, Morrison bumble bee and other pollinators across Utah. Project will improve 500 acres, collect 5 pounds of milkweed seed, propagate 5,000 milkweed seedlings, host 12 events and reach 2,000 people.

### **Improving Habitat for Karner Blue Butterfly, Poweshiek Skipperling and Other Pollinators (WI)**

Grantee: Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$350,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$600,000

Conduct prescribed burning, invasive species control, mowing, and interseeding on private working lands and public lands to increase habitat for monarch butterflies, rusty patched bumble bee, Karner blue butterfly, Poweshiek skipperling, regal fritillary, and other pollinators across Wisconsin. Project will restore 665 acres, improve 335 acres, develop 25 plans, collect 20 pounds of milkweed seed, host three workshops, reach 150 people, sustain two jobs, and create one job.

### **Project Wingspan: Community Connections to Enhance Monarch Habitat (IA, IL, IN, OH)**

Grantee: Pollinator Partnership

Grant Amount:.....\$234,700  
 Matching Funds:.....\$116,500  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$351,200

Expand Project Wingspan and facilitate volunteer seed collection teams, including in urban and suburban communities, on private working lands and public lands to improve habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. Project will improve 3,000 acres, collect 30 pounds of milkweed seed, propagate 7,000 milkweed seedlings, host 12 workshops, reach 800 people, create one job and sustain one job.

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The following projects provide technical assistance on private working lands to help working lands managers and producers develop management plans, implement conservation practices, and enroll in Farm Bill programs to improve working lands functions and enhance pollinator habitat across an array of land ownership.

#### **Pollinator Patchwork: Enrolling Private Working Lands into Monarch Butterfly Habitat (IA)**

Grantee: Prairie Rivers of Iowa Resource Conservation and Development

Grant Amount:.....\$96,900  
 Matching Funds:.....\$96,900  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$193,800

Provide technical assistance and enroll women landowners, small farms and other private landowners in Farm Bill programs to create high-quality habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators in central Iowa. Project will restore 200 acres, improve 450 acres, develop 130 conservation plans, host nine events, reach 1,000 people and sustain two jobs.

#### **Providing Technical Assistance for Landowners Using Prescribed Fire to Benefit Monarchs (TX)**

Grantee: Pheasants Forever

Grant Amount:.....\$300,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$300,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$600,000

Hire a Prescribed Fire Coordinator to provide technical assistance to private working lands and educate private landowners and public land managers in the use of prescribed fire to enhance habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators in Texas. Project will improve 7,500 acres, host 18 workshops, reach 500 people, develop 30 plans, and create one job in Texas.

#### **Midwest Technical Assistance to Improve Pollinator Habitat on Working Lands (IA, IL, IN, KS, MN, MO, OH, OK, TX, WI)**

Grantee: Monarch Joint Venture

Grant Amount:.....\$200,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$200,000  
 Total Project Amount:.....\$400,000

Expand technical assistance to private landowners to establish or manage pollinator habitat across the Midwest (IA, IL, IN, KS, MN, MO, OH, OK, TX, WI). Project will add 1,650 acres improved, 80 plans developed, 1,500 people reached and 10 workshops hosted.