



NFWF

National Species Recovery Grants

NFWF CONTACTS

Sydney Godbey

Program Director,
National Programs
sydney.godbey@nfwf.org
202-595-2612

Ericka Popovich

Program Manager,
National Programs
ericka.popovich@nfwf.org
202-595-2451

Jesse Mills

Program Manager,
National Programs
jesse.mills@nfwf.org
202-888-1678

Zoey Apelt

Program Coordinator,
Regional Programs
zoey.apelt@nfwf.org
202-915-0971

PARTNER

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) works with partners to foster sustainable and impactful conservation solutions so that people and nature thrive together. Chartered by Congress in 1984, NFWF has grown to become the nation's largest conservation foundation. Since its founding, NFWF has funded more than 23,900 projects that have generated a total conservation impact of \$12 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org



Clark's nutcracker whitebark pine Glacier National Park, Glacier National Park/National Park Service, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced the first round of funding for the National Species Recovery Grants program. This inaugural round includes 110 recovery implementation grants totaling more than \$35.5 million, with an additional \$8.6 million in matching contributions from the grantees, bringing the total conservation impact to \$44.1 million.

The National Species Recovery Grants program (NSRG) was established in 2026 through a partnership between the NFWF and FWS to accelerate measurable recovery progress for endangered and threatened species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The program invests in conservation partners undertaking voluntary implementation of priority recovery actions identified by FWS, helping turn plans into recovery outcomes. Through targeted, science-based investments, NSRG addresses the barriers standing between listed species and recovery and will ultimately lead toward downlisting, delisting or long-term recovery of listed species across the nation.

(continued)

AMPHIBIANS**Developing Laboratory Methods to Analyze Environmental DNA for Neuse River Waterdogs (NC)**

Grantee: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Grant Amount:..... \$26,500

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$26,500

Develop an environmental DNA assay for range-wide distribution surveys and long-term monitoring of the Neuse River waterdog. Project will detect and analyze specific DNA sequences for insights in population health, inform occupancy modeling, develop a long-term monitoring plan and employ the collected occupancy data to assess the threat to Neuse River Waterdogs from invasive flathead catfish.

Conserve and Restore Federally Listed Salamanders (AL, FL, GA, MS, LA, SC)

Grantee: Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$250,000

Matching Funds:..... \$487,800

Total Project Amount:..... \$737,800

Bolster occupied habitat to restore aquatic and terrestrial habitats as well as augment populations through headstarting, translocation and reintroduction to quantify changes in populations of of frosted flatwoods salamanders, gopher tortoises, dusky gopher frogs and red hills salamanders. Project will advance recovery by increasing populations, boosting the number of occupied sites and expanding the sizes of suitable habitats, thereby enhancing resiliency, redundancy and representation in each species.

Evaluating Translocation as a Recovery Action for Llanero Coqui in Puerto Rico

Grantee: North Carolina State University

Grant Amount:..... \$75,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$75,000

Evaluate translocations to support recovery of the endangered coquí llanero, an endemic frog restricted to three wetlands in northern Puerto Rico. Project will refine the criteria for site selection, improve translocation methods and demonstrate feasibility of establishing new populations.

Reestablishment and Assessment of Dusky Gopher Frog Populations (MS)

Grantee: Western Carolina University

Grant Amount:..... \$55,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$55,000

Conduct studies to evaluate the success of supplementation, the demographic viability of the populations, and aquatic and terrestrial habitat selection and requirements. Project will head-start dusky gopher frogs for supplementation of existing populations and translocation to reestablish additional populations, which will help attain criteria for downlisting the dusky gopher frog.



Red hills salamander (*Phaeognathus hubrichti*), Jason Ross/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

BIRDS**Breeding Surveys for Inyo California Towhee at China Lake (CA)**

Grantee: Southern Sierra Research Station

Grant Amount:..... \$83,300

Matching Funds:..... \$1,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$84,300

Survey breeding Inyo California towhee populations within the southern Argus Mountains at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake to determine a rangewide population estimate. Project will coordinate efforts with adjacent Bureau of Land Management jurisdictions to deliver bird count data that will inform natural resource management plans.

Breeding Surveys for Inyo California Towhee (CA)

Grantee: Point Blue Conservation Science

Grant Amount:..... \$50,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$50,000

Conduct protocol breeding surveys across public and state lands to document abundance, water sources and habitat threats for the threatened Inyo California towhee. Project will author a unified range-wide population assessment integrating adjacent military land datasets to provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with necessary data for a recovery planning.

(continued)

Enhancing Central Platte River Habitat through Mechanical and Chemical Treatments (NE)

Grantee: Nebraska Community Foundation FBO Rainwater Basin Joint Venture

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Matching Funds: \$0

Total Project Amount: \$1,000,000

Conduct habitat-based mechanical treatment as well as chemical treatment on invasive species across the Central Platte River to improve and expand roosting habitat for whooping cranes, waterfowl and sandhill cranes. Project will follow a four-year return interval management schedule across 15 bridge segments, coordinating with the Platte Valley Water Management Authority to maximize habitat distribution, reduce crowding and limit whooping crane exposure to avian influenza.

Evaluating Cross-breeding for Genetic Rescue of Mississippi Sandhill Cranes (NC)

Grantee: Tangled Bank Conservation

Grant Amount: \$75,000

Matching Funds: \$0

Total Project Amount: \$75,000

Examine genetic divergence between the Mississippi sandhill crane and Florida sandhill crane to find pairs that maximize heterozygosity in the captive birds and to determine if there are likely adaptive outlier loci that would be lost by breeding the two subspecies together. Project will address Recovery Action for Mississippi Sandhill Crane and provide a direct road map to increase heterozygosity in the future.



Crested caracaras

Forecasting Effects of Future Land-use Change on Recovery of Audubon's Crested Caracara (FL)

Grantee: University of Florida

Grant Amount: \$29,900

Matching Funds: \$0

Total Project Amount: \$29,900

Evaluate how projected land-use change may influence habitat availability for Florida's Audubon's crested caracara using spatial projections of urban expansion, agricultural conversion and infrastructure development to integrate future land-use scenarios with recently developed habitat models. Project will identify landscapes where continued development could most strongly inform recovery criteria, guide habitat conservation strategies and inform future recovery efforts.

Habitat Enhancement and Native Revegetation for Least Bell's Vireo Recovery (CA)

Grantee: TreePeople

Grant Amount: \$475,700

Matching Funds: \$0

Total Project Amount: \$475,700

Install 1,650 native plant cuttings across 4.5 acres of post-treatment areas to restore native riparian habitat for the least Bell's vireo in the upper Santa Clara River watershed. Project will implement site maintenance and monitoring to prevent the return of invasives, reducing wildfire hazards and restoring feeding, nesting and breeding sites.

Increasing Least Bell's Vireo Population in Santa Clara, Santa Ynez and Salinas Watersheds (CA)

Grantee: American Bird Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$500,200

Matching Funds: \$0

Total Project Amount: \$500,200

Increase brown-headed cowbird management in the central coast region of California to benefit least Bell's vireo. The project will create two jobs, sustain three jobs, develop one monitoring plan and one management strategy, and monitor 20 sites to increase the miles of habitat occupied by least Bell's vireo.

Land Protection for Golden-cheeked Warbler Habitat (TX)

Grantee: The Conservation Fund, A Nonprofit Corporation

Grant Amount: \$2,000,000

Matching Funds: \$100,000

Total Project Amount: \$2,100,000

Protect high-quality habitat for the golden-cheeked warbler and expand the Balcones Canyonlands protected landscape through priority property identification, landowners negotiations, and acquisition of conservation easements. Project will permanently protect high-quality nesting habitat and increased landscape connectivity within the refuge or preserve by consolidating large, contiguous habitat blocks.



Red-cockaded woodpecker

Recovering Northern Spotted Owls in National Forests (CA, OR)

Grantee: University of Wisconsin Madison
Grant Amount:..... \$1,358,400
Matching Funds:..... \$1,200,000
Total Project Amount:..... \$2,558,400
Recover habitat for spotted owls across in Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon, Marin and Sonoma counties in California, and Klamath National Forest in California to increase the population of northern spotted owls. The project will reduce the negative effects of barred owls on northern spotted owls by reducing their density and monitoring population sizes over time.

Recovering Northern Spotted Owls at the Warm Springs Reservation (OR)

Grantee: Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
Grant Amount:..... \$606,800
Matching Funds:..... \$0
Total Project Amount:..... \$606,800
Conduct barred owl monitoring and management, along with northern spotted owl surveys, to support conservation efforts on the reservation. Project will improve understanding of owl populations and support coordinated efforts to conserve northern spotted owl habitat.

Implementing Barred Owl Management Strategy in Washington

Grantee: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Grant Amount:..... \$1,358,400
Matching Funds:..... \$748,600
Total Project Amount:..... \$2,107,000
Remove invasive barred owls from northern spotted owl home ranges and focal management areas in accordance with the Barred Owl Management Strategy throughout Washington. Project will generate data and reports to evaluate the effectiveness of removal actions in reducing threats to northern spotted owl by providing habitat that is free of, or with reduced competition from, invasive barred owls.

Using Prescribed Fire to Restore Red-cockaded Woodpecker (AR)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
Grant Amount:..... \$289,900
Matching Funds:..... \$100,000
Total Project Amount:..... \$389,900
Treat red-cockaded woodpecker habitat with prescribed fire and thin timber to restore and enhance open-pine foraging habitat and connectivity corridors. Project will implement chemical and mechanical treatments on critical habitat in Arkansas to reduce competing shrubs and monitor fire-effect metrics to ensure long-term ecosystem health and fire resilient forests.

Habitat Restoration and Population Management for Red-cockaded Woodpecker (AR)

Grantee: Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Grant Amount:.....\$210,100

Matching Funds:.....\$30,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$240,100

Install 50 artificial nesting cavities, monitor reproductive success, translocate juvenile birds and conduct landowner outreach to support red-cockaded woodpecker populations in southern Arkansas. Project will expand available nesting habitat and increase treated bird populations by 5 percent annually, improving population connectivity across public and private timberlands.

CRUSTACEANS

Monitoring Populations and Habitat for Lee County Cave Isopod Recovery (VA)

Grantee: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Grant Amount:.....\$99,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$99,000

Perform quarterly population monitoring over three years and collect continuous groundwater data at known sites to assess the Lee County cave isopod. Project will conduct cave and spring inventories in adjacent habitat to confirm range boundaries and repeat historic water quality metrics to evaluate long-term habitat stability.

Recover Big Sandy Crayfish through Surveys, Head-Starting and Population Augmentation (KY, VA, WV)

Grantee: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Grant Amount:.....\$1,098,800

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$1,098,800

Accelerate recovery of Big Sandy crayfish over the next three years. Project will appreciably scale up survey, head-starting, and population augmentation and reintroduction efforts to establish connectivity between existing populations and increase the redundancy of the Big Sandy crayfish.



Big Sandy crayfish, Brett Billings/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)



Grotto sculpin courtesy of Justin M. Elden/Saint Louis Zoo, Justin M. Elden/Saint Louis Zoo, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

FISH

Advancing Priority Recovery Actions for the Grotto Sculpin in Missouri

Grantee: Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation

Grant Amount:.....\$831,300

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$831,300

Advance priority recovery actions for the federally listed grotto sculpin by reducing contaminant inputs, restoring degraded sinkholes, protecting sensitive cave habitat, and modernizing water-quality and population monitoring across Perry County, Missouri. Project will improve water quality, stabilize habitat structure, and increase resiliency across all Analysis Units, directly supporting progress toward population resilience.

Grotto Sculpin Monitoring and Movement in Caves Throughout Missouri

Grantee: The Curators of the University of Missouri

Grant Amount:.....\$176,700

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$176,700

Generate the scientific evidence needed to support future resilience of the grotto sculpin by resolving uncertainty in monitoring approaches and sculpin movement. Project will produce quantitative, repeatable metrics of population condition that provide defensible criteria to demonstrate population stability, resiliency and recovery progress.

Ecological and Genetic Monitoring for Grotto Sculpin Recovery in Caves Throughout Missouri

Grantee: University of Missouri, St. Louis

Grant Amount:.....\$325,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$325,000

Implement priority recovery actions for the grotto sculpin in Perry County, Missouri, by establishing the range-wide genetic, demographic and habitat baselines needed for recovery. Project will resolve uncertainty about recovery-relevant population structure, quantify genetic diversity and connectivity, and generate repeatable population and habitat monitoring data, which will support long-term recovery.

(continued)

Assessing Distribution of Moapa Dace Using eDNA (NV)

Grantee: BOR, NSHE obo Desert Research Institute

Grant Amount:.....\$100,900

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$100,900

Employ two environmental DNA methods to assess recovery of Moapa dace in the Muddy River in Southern Nevada.

Project will validate a new qPCR assay for Moapa dace and provide useful information about the distribution of dace in tributary and mainstem segments.

Evaluating Moapa Dace Recovery Status through Systematic Population Surveys (NV)

Grantee: Texas A&M University

Grant Amount:.....\$382,300

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$382,300

Conduct repeated minnow trap surveys across 100 sites throughout the range of the endangered Moapa dace, targeting occupied and unoccupied mainstem and tributary habitats to estimate current distribution, abundance and population structure of the species. Project will fit open population models to quantify detection, abundance and survival of Moapa dace across restored and unrestored stream reaches, producing data to directly inform future recovery efforts.

Assessing the Historical Recovery Data of Ash Meadows Amargosa Pupfish (NV)

Grantee: Texas A&M University

Grant Amount:.....\$234,700

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$234,700

Conduct quantitative abundance and distribution surveys across the historical range of the pupfish over three years to provide current population data needed to inform future recovery efforts. Project will deploy minnow traps across occupied and unoccupied spring systems during fall and spring survey seasons and fit open population models to quantify detection, abundance, recruitment and survival of the pupfish.

Establishing a High-Efficiency Sampling Protocol for Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish (NV)

Grantee: U.S. Geological Survey, Cooperative Research Units

Grant Amount:.....\$34,200

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$34,200

Develop an integrated monitoring plan and sampling protocol for Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish, a species restricted to the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Nevada. Project will determine the number of stable and sustaining populations to inform whether recovery goals are met, and develop a sampling protocol to assess populations in future years that can be implemented.



Desert NWR - Pahrump poolfish, USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

Establish New Refuge and Monitor Existing Populations for Pahrump Poolfish (NV)

Grantee: Nevada Department of Wildlife

Grant Amount:.....\$300,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$300,000

Finalize a programmatic Conservation Benefit Agreement and implement actions to establish one or more additional refuge populations for Pahrump poolfish in Nevada. Project will ensure existing refuge sites remain functional and free of invasive species while supporting expanded monitoring that directly advances the long-term recovery and resiliency of the species.

Evaluating the Smoky Madtom Population Status to Inform Delisting Decisions (TN)

Grantee: Conservation Fisheries

Grant Amount:.....\$60,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$60,000

Census all three smoky madtom populations to assess occurrence, range extent, and population structure and determine suitability for future recovery efforts. Project will collect demographic and genetic data from each population to evaluate long-term viability and directly inform recovery decision-making in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Adult razorback sucker, Mikaela Oles/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

Expanding Environmental DNA Sampling for Topeka Shiner Detection (IA, KS, SD)

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - La Crosse FWC
 Grant Amount:.....\$150,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$0
 Total Project Amount:.....\$150,000
 Expand the use of environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling to detect the Topeka shiner in priority streams across Iowa, Kansas and South Dakota population complexes. Project will use eDNA detection and targeted physical sampling to help partners direct monitoring efforts, better track where the species occurs and support recovery actions that contribute to long-term population stability and progress toward conserving the Topeka shiner.

Improve Smallmouth Bass Removal Strategies to Support Razorback Sucker Recovery (CO, UT, WY)

Grantee: Colorado State University
 Grant Amount:.....\$1,048,400
 Matching Funds:.....\$0
 Total Project Amount:.....\$1,048,400
 Develop spawning models, analyze flow spike data and track movements to improve removal strategies for invasive smallmouth bass in the upper Colorado River basin. Project will evaluate enhanced capture techniques like nighttime electrofishing to reduce nonnative predator populations, directly benefiting young life-stage survival and recovery of the razorback sucker.

Evaluating the Sex Determination System of Invasive Smallmouth Bass for Genetic Control (UT)

Grantee: Utah State University
 Grant Amount:.....\$523,900
 Matching Funds:.....\$0
 Total Project Amount:.....\$523,900
 Integrate whole-genome pool sequencing and gynogenetic offspring rearing to resolve the sex-determination system of invasive smallmouth bass in the Colorado River Basin. Project will identify male and female specific loci to evaluate whether Trojan sex chromosome eradication strategies are a viable, species-specific method for genetic control to reduce predation on the razorback sucker.

Improving Railroad Valley Springfish Habitat at Lockes Ranch (NV)

Grantee: Nevada Department of Wildlife
 Grant Amount:.....\$100,000
 Matching Funds:.....\$0
 Total Project Amount:.....\$100,000
 Improve Railroad Valley springfish habitat at Lockes Ranch in Nevada by removing a legacy ranching structure, decommissioning an unnecessary road, restoring modified springbrook channels and managing calcium carbonate deposition. Project will monitor one site and restore 5 acres with restored hydrology to address long-standing habitat threats and support recovery of the species.

(continued)

Monitoring and Management of Pygmy Madtom (TN, VA)

Grantee: Tennessee Tech University

Grant Amount:.....\$130,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$130,000

Outline five research objectives that will positively impact recovery efforts, with a focus on the Clinch River population that currently has the smaller known range of the two extant populations. Project will document the species' Clinch River range, description of habitat affinities in multiple seasons of the year, and evaluation of noninvasive survey techniques such as snorkeling to provide more options towards monitoring and management of this fish species.

Population Viability Analysis for Virgin River Chub (AZ, NV, UT)

Grantee: Washington County Water Conservancy District

Grant Amount:.....\$65,500

Matching Funds:.....\$10,300

Total Project Amount:.....\$75,800

Develop a stochastic population viability analysis over a 20-year horizon to evaluate population trajectories for the Virgin River chub. Project will calculate population growth rates, identify critical life-stage bottlenecks and assess self-sustenance capabilities to provide the empirical foundation needed for recovery planning.

Spotfin Chub Propagation and Restoration (TN, VA)

Grantee: Conservation Fisheries

Grant Amount:.....\$375,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$375,000

Captively propagate spotfin chub for establishment of populations in the Clinch River, Shoal Creek and either the Sequatchie River or Powell River in Tennessee. Project will restore populations of spotfin chub to streams and rivers in Virginia and potentially Tennessee to meet Species Recovery Plan Goals.

Upgrading the June Sucker Hatchery for Sustained Growth (UT)

Grantee: Central Utah Water Conservancy District

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$250,000

Upgrade the June sucker hatchery to propagation and population augmentation and reintroduction. Project will renovate the water supply lines, temperature control system and air control system to allow employees to better regulate the facility, respond to emergencies and monitor the conditions within the tanks to facilitate healthy species growth.

Microhabitat Studies and Population Care for Laurel Dace Recovery (TN)

Grantee: Tennessee Aquarium

Grant Amount:.....\$150,000

Matching Funds:.....\$99,500

Total Project Amount:.....\$249,500

Conduct microhabitat surveys across four creeks and propagate two assurance populations of the laurel dace on the Cumberland Plateau. Project will assess habitat health in historic laurel dace streams on the Cumberland Plateau in East Tennessee, propagation of two assurance populations of laurel dace, and outreach to timberland owners, teachers and forestry students to promote use of forestry best management practices in the state of Tennessee.

INSECTS**Assessing Ecosystem Sensitivity and Artificial Light Impacts on the American Burying Beetle (OK)**

Grantee: Oklahoma State University

Grant Amount:.....\$500,900

Matching Funds:.....\$114,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$614,900

Assess the effects of temperature fluxuations and artificial light at night on breeding and overwinter survival of the American burying beetle. Project will compare local adaptations among three remaining populations through captive breeding and provide information critical to conservation and reintroduction efforts.



American burying beetle, Cindy Maynard/
USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

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Hine's emerald dragonfly, Burton, Paul/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

Evaluating Ecology and Behavior of American Burying Beetles Using Stable Isotopes (IN, NE, RI)

Grantee: Purdue University Northwest

Grant Amount:.....\$631,900
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$631,900

Provide critical information about resources used by the American burying beetle during reproduction by using stable isotope analysis to determine current and historic patterns of resource use, specifically carrion used for reproduction and growth of larvae. Project will identify potential sites for reintroductions based on the presence of preferred reproductive resources.

Developing a Refined Habitat Assessment Protocol for Hungerford's Crawling Water Beetle (MI)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.

Grant Amount:.....\$350,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$350,000

Develop a refined habitat assessment protocol and population estimation methods for the Hungerford's crawling water beetle and survey at least 60 priority stream reaches in northern Michigan. Project will provide data on key habitat variables and population sizes to help the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determine a path forward for the beetle.

Environmental DNA Tools to Map the Distribution of Hungerford's Crawling Water Beetle (MI)

Grantee: University of Notre Dame

Grant Amount:.....\$150,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$150,000

Develop and validate the first environmental DNA assay for the endangered Hungerford's crawling water beetle and survey watersheds across northern Michigan to reveal undocumented populations. Project will provide sensitive, noninvasive monitoring tools and new genetic resources to support recovery and eventual delisting of the species.

Improving Habitat Management on Energy Lands for Insect Pollinator Recovery Nationwide

Grantee: The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Grant Amount:.....\$500,000
Matching Funds:.....\$104,600
Total Project Amount:.....\$604,600

Pilot integrated vegetation management and align rights-of-way best management practices with state wildlife plans to restore habitat for imperiled insect pollinators on energy lands. Project will maximize floral diversity and nesting resources across national energy corridors by delivering regional demonstration events and synthesizing applied research to support adaptive management.

Reconstructing Grassland Habitat and Assisting Landowners for Dakota Skipper (ND)

Grantee: Natural Resources Trust

Grant Amount:.....\$250,000
Matching Funds:.....\$262,500
Total Project Amount:.....\$512,500

Reconstruct up to 1,000 acres of highly productive native grasslands and provide technical assistance to private landowners to buffer threats and enhance connectivity for the Dakota skipper. Project will deliver targeted conservation actions, including grazing infrastructure and brush control, to maintain high-quality habitat and support federal recovery plan goals across North Dakota.

Surveying Populations and Assessing Habitat for Hine's Emerald Dragonfly (IL, MO)

Grantee: Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation

Grant Amount:.....\$150,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$150,000

Conduct adult, larval and environmental DNA surveys alongside groundwater assessments across fen wetlands to verify breeding sites for the endangered Hine's emerald dragonfly. Project will analyze larval refugia, evaluate site connectivity, and measure population genetics to build an integrated dataset that supports federal recovery and downlisting evaluations in Illinois and Missouri.

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Assessing Species Recovery Benchmarks for Hine's Emerald Dragonfly (IL, WI)

Grantee: University of Wisconsin - Parkside

Grant Amount:..... \$90,900

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$90,900

Conduct mark-recapture and crayfish burrow pumping surveys to estimate adult and larval populations of the endangered Hine's emerald dragonfly. Project will deploy novel solar-powered and bluetooth-enabled passive tracking tags across several locations in Illinois and Wisconsin to delineate subpopulation boundaries and track habitat use to support federal recovery criteria.

MAMMALS

Conserving Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse through Monitoring and Evaluation (WY)

Grantee: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Grant Amount:..... \$56,200

Matching Funds:..... \$15,200

Total Project Amount:..... \$71,400

Conduct targeted surveys of Preble's meadow jumping mouse within watersheds identified in the Recovery Plan in Wyoming through conventional live-trapping and noninvasive genetic sampling techniques. Project will collect data from 16 sites to inform future monitoring strategies.

Improving Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat (CO, WY)

Grantee: Colorado State University

Grant Amount:..... \$543,800

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$543,800

Facilitate the development and planning of site conservation teams to assist local communities as they identify Preble's meadow jumping mouse habitat in Colorado and Wyoming. Project will assess 25 acres to determine the best locations for habitat restoration, implement management plan activities for conservation, monitor sites and complete research studies to help recover the species population.

Ecosystem Services to Support Florida Panther Landscape Connectivity (FL)

Grantee: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Grant Amount:..... \$500,000

Matching Funds:..... \$532,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,032,000

Expand enrollment in a payment for ecosystem services pilot program to incentivize private landowners to maintain and enhance habitat for the endangered Florida panther. Project will utilize geographic information system analyses and field-based habitat evaluations to strengthen landscape connectivity across priority ecological greenway networks in south and central Florida.

Grizzly Bear Interaction Management in Montana

Grantee: Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks

Grant Amount:..... \$184,500

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$184,500

Reduce grizzly bear-human conflicts across Montana by expanding access to conflict-prevention tools, improving waste-management infrastructure, securing attractant sites and supporting applied research. Project will distribute conflict prevention supplies and outreach materials, upgrade key dumps and transfer stations, install electric fencing and support research to develop science-based recommendations that help landowners reduce bear presence near residences.

Grizzly Bear Population Monitoring to Support Recovery in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (WY)

Grantee: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Grant Amount:..... \$75,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$75,000

Monitor the grizzly bear population in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem in Wyoming by evaluating distribution, survival and reproductive rates, and investigate bear-livestock and bear-human interactions. Project will provide demographic data to inform population recovery goals and support mitigate conflict, and promote social tolerance of grizzly bears.

Implementing Human-Grizzly Interaction Prevention Projects in the Selkirk Recovery Area (WA)

Grantee: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Amount:..... \$100,000

Matching Funds:..... \$40,300

Total Project Amount:..... \$140,300

Deploy exclusion fencing, bear spray, education materials and specialized capture equipment to reduce human-grizzly bear conflicts and mortality in the Selkirk recovery area. Project will build local handling capacity by training six staff members at a grizzly bear-handling workshop to minimize negative human-wildlife interactions and protect the species from injury.

Monitoring Fishers to Inform Forest Management in the Southern Sierra Nevada (CA)

Grantee: Yosemite National Park

Grant Amount:..... \$500,000

Matching Funds:..... \$316,500

Total Project Amount:..... \$816,500

Live-capture and monitor federally endangered fishers using GPS collars and remote cameras to document habitat use across fire-altered landscapes in California. Project will integrate monitoring data into long-term datasets to estimate survival and reproduction rates, directly supporting federal partners in advancing adaptive forest management and species recovery.

(continued)

Evaluating Fisher Habitat Use of Forest Treatments on the Kern Plateau in the Southern Sierra Nevada (CA)

Grantee: Integral Ecology Research Center

Grant Amount:..... \$1,000,000

Matching Funds:..... \$26,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,026,700

Use GPS collars and hybrid, solar-powered bluetooth transmitters on up to 16 adult fishers across the Kern Plateau in Sequoia National Forest, southern Sierra Nevada, to assess fine-scale habitat use, behavioral responses and survival in relation to timber harvest and fuels reduction treatments. Project will produce treatment designs and schedules to benefit the Southern Sierra Nevada distinct population segment of fisher.

Monitoring Southern Sierra Nevada Fisher Expansion onto the Stanislaus National Forest (CA)

Grantee: U.S. Forest Service

Grant Amount:..... \$12,800

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$12,800

Provide remote cameras and lure dispensers to the Stanislaus National Forest to facilitate monitoring of the northern expansion zone of the southern Sierra Nevada fisher population. Project will help update occupancy and habitat models to reflect this expansion and will help facilitate necessary vegetation management on the Stanislaus National Forest.

Quantifying Forest Management Effects on Threatened Coastal Martens (CA, OR)

Grantee: NCASI Foundation

Grant Amount:..... \$586,000

Matching Funds:..... \$417,900

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,003,900

Quantify behavioral and demographic responses of the threatened coastal marten to forest management using GPS telemetry, noninvasive genetic monitoring, and acoustic and smoke monitoring in coastal Oregon and California. Project will produce the first empirical disturbance thresholds and demographic baselines to guide timber operations and fuels reduction while supporting marten recovery.

Supporting Coastal Marten Recovery in a Dynamic Landscape (CA)

Grantee: Oregon State University

Grant Amount:..... \$413,900

Matching Funds:..... \$30,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$443,900

Survey for coastal martens and estimate population density following recent mixed-severity wildfires in northwestern California. Project will evaluate post-disturbance genetic connectivity and model how historical forest management interacts with contemporary wildfire severity to provide critical data that supports federal recovery actions for this imperiled mammal.

Recovering Northern Idaho Ground Squirrels (ID)

Grantee: Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Grant Amount:..... \$210,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$210,000

Produce an accurate annual estimate of northern Idaho ground squirrel abundance through statistically sound, repeatable distance-based line-transect surveys. The project will monitor 210 sites to determine the spatial extent and abundance of populations to achieve the recovery goals outlined in the northern Idaho ground squirrel recovery plan.

Release and Monitoring of the Mexican Wolf in Mexico

Grantee: Arizona Game and Fish Department

Grant Amount:..... \$1,000,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,000,000

Recover Mexican wolves through release of species into the wild in Northern Mexico, monitoring the success of these releases, building coexistence measures within the local community and interacting with all of the appropriate state and federal agencies in Mexico. The project will capture data that will inform future recovery plans for the Mexican wolf.

Investigating Mexican Wolf Locations to Assess Livestock Depredation and Reduce Conflict (AZ, NM)

Grantee: Terra Novo

Grant Amount:..... \$499,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$499,000

Investigate clustered Mexican wolf GPS locations to improve understanding of livestock predation and inform conflict-management practices. Project will collaborate with the ranching community over two years of field data collection to develop a depredation likelihood model that strengthens working relationships and supports federal Mexican wolf recovery goals in Arizona and New Mexico.



Pacific marten, USFWS, Public Domain,
([original image](#))

(continued)

Strengthening Local Efforts to Mitigate Human-Polar Bear Conflict (AK)

Grantee: World Wildlife Fund

Grant Amount:.....\$299,800

Matching Funds:.....\$105,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$404,800

Provide fuel, supplies and technical assistance to expand monitoring and deterrence efforts to mitigate human-polar bear conflict. Project will enhance locally led safety programs, reduce polar bear defense-of-life takes, improve community resilience and contribute to long-term polar bear conservation.

Supporting Recovery Planning and Long-Term Monitoring for Chukchi Sea Polar Bears (AK)

Grantee: North Pacific Wildlife Consulting

Grant Amount:.....\$42,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$42,000

Enhance demographic data for the Chukchi Sea polar bear subpopulation in Alaska, aligning with the Polar Bear Conservation Management Plan's strategic monitoring actions. The project will develop an epigenetic aging tool for polar bear samples to analyze 168 samples over three years, strengthening a long-term genetic monitoring program and reducing the need for invasive tooth extractions.

Assessing Efficacy of Drones to Mitigate Conflict with Polar Bears (AK)

Grantee: University of Alaska Fairbanks

Grant Amount:.....\$381,300

Matching Funds:.....\$76,600

Total Project Amount:.....\$457,900

Assess the behavioral response of polar bears in Alaska to drone activity over a three-year period to reduce human-bear conflict and develop new management tools. Project will develop best practices for using drones to mitigate human-bear conflict in real-world situations.

Utah Prairie Dog Disease Prevention and Translocation Improvement (UT)

Grantee: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Grant Amount:.....\$500,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$500,000

Support conservation and management efforts for the Utah prairie dog in southwest Utah through plague control measures, trapping and translocation efforts, and by funding a diet and soil study on the species. This project will benefit the species by minimizing the impacts of disease, increasing translocation efforts and enhancing translocation methods.

MOLLUSKS

Inform Recovery of Federally-listed Aquatic Species in North Carolina

Grantee: North Carolina State University

Grant Amount:.....\$323,500

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$323,500

Inform recovery planning while addressing key uncertainties related to riparian management for seven federally listed aquatic species in North Carolina's Tar-Neuse River systems. Project will create datasets, improve understanding of habitat relationships, provide guidance for permitting and restoration, and strengthen collaboration with private landowners and the timber industry.

Population Density Survey and Impact of Invasive Zebra Mussel on Higgins Eye Mussel (IA, WI)

Grantee: U.S. Geological Survey

Grant Amount:.....\$311,100

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$311,100

Address recovery actions for Higgins eye mussel status and threats to inform future recovery efforts and tailor the location of future augmentation efforts. Project will use research that leverages more than 20 years of data on Higgins eye populations, zebra mussel density and infestation of native mussels, and water quality to provide insight into the current status of the species across its range and major ongoing threats to the species.

Population Modeling and Long-term Trend Analysis for the Endangered James Spinemussel (VA)

Grantee: Daguna Consulting

Grant Amount:.....\$10,000

Matching Funds:.....\$2,000

Total Project Amount:.....\$12,000

Analyze a capture-mark-recapture dataset started in 2010 to generate a comprehensive summary report on the population dynamics of the James spinemussel. Project will estimate population sizes, evaluate survival and recruitment parameters, and provide updated status trends across seven critical stream sites in Virginia to support recovery thresholds.

Propagation of James Spinemussel in the Upper Dan River Sub-Basin (NC)

Grantee: North Carolina State University

Grant Amount:.....\$335,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$335,000

Propagate juvenile James spinemussel using in-vitro techniques at the Yates Mill Aquatic Conservation Laboratory to augment populations in the Upper Dan River sub-basin. Project will release captive-reared juvenile mussels into the wild to increase population numbers, supporting future independent reproduction, recruitment and eventual species recovery.

(continued)



James spiny mussels in Virginia stream, USFWS,
Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

Restoring the James Spiny mussel through Habitat Assessment and Conservation Aquaculture (VA)

Grantee: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Grant Amount:..... \$595,000
Matching Funds:..... \$0
Total Project Amount:..... \$595,000

Restore the James spiny mussel in Virginia by completing comprehensive assessments of current distributions and enhancing populations through conservation aquaculture techniques. Project will provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with updated information on the distribution and status of wild and captive propagated populations.

Using Environmental DNA to Inform Conservation and Recovery of the James River Spiny mussel (VA)

Grantee: Randolph-Macon College
Grant Amount:..... \$60,400
Matching Funds:..... \$0
Total Project Amount:..... \$60,400

Apply probe-based and metabarcoding environmental DNA (eDNA) approaches to survey the James spiny mussel across historically occupied and under-surveyed watersheds in Virginia. Project will improve detection efficiency, update distribution maps and provide critical data to guide recovery planning.

PLANTS

Determine Taxonomy of Fragrant Prickly Apple and Impact on Listing Status (FL)

Grantee: University of Florida
Grant Amount:..... \$10,000
Matching Funds:..... \$0
Total Project Amount:..... \$10,000
Determine the taxonomic status of the fragrant prickly-apple. Project will conduct genetic analyses and morphological analyses at the University of Florida herbarium to provide information about the genetic relationships and morphological characters to determine if the fragrant prickly apple is a unique species.

Advancing Recovery of Florida Perforate Cladonia and Fragrant Prickly-apple

Grantee: Florida State University
Grant Amount:..... \$50,000
Matching Funds:..... \$0
Total Project Amount:..... \$50,000
Monitor Florida perforate cladonia populations across five sites and translocate the lichen to protected rosemary scrub habitat, while verifying the status of the fragrant prickly-apple through field surveys and outreach. Project will support U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovery criteria to establish stable, protected populations of both species.

Advancing Recovery of Serpentine Manjack from Assessment to Implementation (PR)

Grantee: The Atlanta Botanical Garden
Grant Amount:..... \$125,000
Matching Funds:..... \$0
Total Project Amount:..... \$125,000
Implement coordinated surveys, habitat suitability modeling, propagation, outplanting and seed banking to advance recovery of Varronia bellonis to Puerto Rico. Project will increase population size and connectivity, improve pollination and recruitment, and deliver measurable gains in population stability and resilience.

Advancing Whitebark Pine Recovery across the Northern Rockies (ID, MT, OR, WA, WY)

Grantee: American Forests
Grant Amount:..... \$500,000
Matching Funds:..... \$500,000
Total Project Amount:..... \$1,000,000
Expand whitebark pine blister rust resistance screening capacity for the species in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. Project will conduct annual health, and cone counts for parent trees that are genetically resistant to blister rust across four Northern Rockies seed zones and develop validated best management practices for direct seeding in wilderness areas and other remote sites.

(continued)

Monitoring Bird Communities and Clark's Nutcracker Movements in Whitebark Pine Forests of Idaho

Grantee: Boise State University

Grant Amount:..... \$99,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$99,000

Monitor bird communities at whitebark pine monitoring and restoration sites across Idaho and deploy satellite transmitters on Clark's nutcrackers to track movement and seed-caching behavior. Project will provide land management agencies with standardized data to guide whitebark pine restoration and inform future research on the species' primary seed disperser.

Assessment of Gypsum Wild Buckwheat and Seed Amplification for Population Augmentation (NM, TX)

Grantee: Institute for Applied Ecology

Grant Amount:..... \$371,300

Matching Funds:..... \$91,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$463,000

Advance conservation of gypsum wild buckwheat through habitat modeling, private landowner outreach, demographic survey, comprehensive soil analysis and experimental propagation efforts to determine appropriate techniques and amplifying seed for future augmentation efforts. Project will provide a better understanding of the overall population of the species as well as its specific habitat and propagation requirements, allowing for more precise planning for population augmentation efforts.

Augmenting and Introducing Populations of Wenatchee Mountains Checker-mallow (WA)

Grantee: University of Washington, Washington Rare Plant Care and Conservation

Grant Amount:..... \$250,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$250,000

Seed and plant Wenatchee Mountains checker-mallow at six introduction sites over two planting seasons and monitor establishment, survival and site suitability. Project will expand the number of populations within the species' historical range and increase plant numbers at introduction sites, making significant progress toward recovery and delisting of this endangered plant.

Building Resilience for the Wenatchee Mountains Checker-Mallow and Showy Stickseed (WA)

Grantee: University of Washington, Washington Rare Plant Care and Conservation

Grant Amount:..... \$250,000

Matching Funds:..... \$28,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$278,000

Determine the causes for decline in the showy stickseed native population, increase the population and establish a new population to reduce extinction risk. This project will develop a protocol to increase seed and improve

outplanting survival by watering and will conduct vegetation management activities at two Wenatchee Mountains checker-mallow populations to improve habitat conditions and reduce nonnative species.

Conducting a Population Genetics Study of Cobana Negra for Informed Recovery (GA, PR)

Grantee: The Atlanta Botanical Garden

Grant Amount:..... \$60,000

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$60,000

Conduct a range-wide population genetics study of *Stahlia monosperma* in Puerto Rico and Vieques using field sampling and genome-wide sequencing to assess genetic diversity, inbreeding and population structure across natural and restored populations. Project will inform seed sourcing, restoration design and recovery planning to support the development of genetically robust, self-sustaining populations and advance long-term conservation efforts for the species.

Conservation Genomics and Mapping for Santa Cruz Island Bushmallow Recovery (CA)

Grantee: Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Grant Amount:..... \$149,100

Matching Funds:..... \$0

Total Project Amount:..... \$149,100

Map occurrences and extract genomic DNA to assess genetic composition and health across wild and planted populations of the endangered Santa Cruz Island bushmallow. Project will utilize whole genome resequencing data to evaluate and generate explicit management recommendations to advance delisting goals.



Wenatchee Mountains checker-mallow, A. LaValle/
USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

(continued)

Conservation of Relict Trillium in Alabama

Grantee: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Grant Amount:..... \$70,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$70,000
 Maintain off-site populations and increase gardens for each of the three Alabama ecotypes of the relict trillium to preserve genetic variety. Project will generate plant material for future outplantings and establishment of new populations on protected conservation lands.

Data Collection to Determine Priority Habitat Protection for Relict Trillium (SC)

Grantee: South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
 Grant Amount:..... \$75,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$75,000
 Accelerate the recovery of the Relict Trillium in South Carolina by addressing critical data gaps through surveying that currently hinder recovery efforts. Project will use survey data to locate priority restoration sites and leverage partnerships with the Aiken Land Conservancy to secure voluntary conservation easements and provide the monitoring data and threat reduction necessary to meet federal recovery criteria.

Developing a Regional Management Plan to Conserve the Small Whorled Pogonia (GA, NC, SC)

Grantee: The Atlanta Botanical Garden
 Grant Amount:..... \$173,400
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$173,400
 Develop a regional management plan for priority National Forest landscapes to conserve the small whorled pogonia in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina through distribution modeling, a viability-based prioritization framework and targeted field surveys. Project will improve habitat management, increase efficiency in detecting new populations, and provide decision-support tools that enhance long-term persistence and recovery of small whorled pogonia at its southern range limit.

Establish Habitat Management Programs to Protect the Small Whorled Pogonia (NH)

Grantee: NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
 Grant Amount:..... \$166,700
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$166,700
 Coordinate with landowners to write management plans, monitor and conduct new surveys for the small whorled pogonia for seven conservation landscapes in New Hampshire. Project will develop 13 management plans to support species recovery and future delisting of the species.



Small-whorled pogonia, Gary Peeples/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

Use Updated Monitoring Guides to Confirm Small Whorled Pogonia Recovery (MD, PA, VA, WV)

Grantee: Smithsonian Institution
 Grant Amount:..... \$160,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$160,000
 Unify monitoring guides, integrate results of research and develop and apply a new habitat suitability model to guide survey efforts for the small whorled pogonia. Project will combine results into management plans for all eight conservation landscapes, and this will encompass all remaining activities needed to delist the species, including evaluating past demographic data, developing improved habitat suitability models, and conducting model-guided surveys for new populations.

Establishing a Conservation Orchard for Virginia Round-leaf Birch Recovery (VA)

Grantee: The American Chestnut Foundation
 Grant Amount:..... \$90,000
 Matching Funds:..... \$0
 Total Project Amount:..... \$90,000
 Establish a 300-tree conservation orchard for the federally threatened Virginia round-leaf birch at Meadowview Research Farms through seed collection, propagation, and intensive site preparation and vegetation management across 3 acres. Project will create a genetically diverse source population to support augmentation and establishment of additional wild populations while enabling controlled crosses and research on restoration strategies critical to long-term species recovery.

(continued)

Population Maintenance and Expansion through Natural Regeneration for Virginia Round-Leaf Birch (VA)

Grantee: Norfolk State University

Grant Amount:.....\$558,900
Matching Funds:.....\$149,600
Total Project Amount:.....\$708,500

Control competing vegetation, implement regeneration treatments and monitor adult tree health to expand populations of the threatened Virginia round-leaf birch. Project will develop a database management system to organize recovery data and evaluate seedling growth within the Cressy Creek watershed, supporting long-term species recovery and federal delisting targets.

Enhancing Population Viability and Conservation Resilience for Virginia Round-leaf Birch (MI)

Grantee: Michigan Technological University

Grant Amount:.....\$100,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$100,000

Use genomic tools to understand the genetic health of the Virginia round-leaf birch tree and guide conservation decisions. Project will provide results that help identify the best individuals for seed collection, support population augmentation, ensure that recovery efforts maintain or enhance genetic variety, and improve the effectiveness of ongoing conservation actions and help advance the species toward long-term sustainability, downlisting and eventual delisting.

Implementing Robust Monitoring Protocols of Manzanita on Santa Rosa Island (CA)

Grantee: California Institute of Environmental Studies

Grant Amount:.....\$100,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$100,000

Develop and implement a stratified random sampling design to survey all potential habitat on Santa Rosa Island, Santa Barbara County, California, for the Santa Rosa Island manzanita to evaluate the species for future delisting. Project will monitor four sites across Santa Rosa Island and create a report to track stability in the manzanita population over time.

Monitoring Four Imperiled Populations of Applegate's Milk-vetch near Klamath Falls (OR)

Grantee: Cal Poly Humboldt Sponsored Programs Foundation

Grant Amount:.....\$85,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$85,000

Monitor four extant populations of Applegate's milk-vetch near Klamath Falls, Oregon, to assess abundance, survival, recruitment and population dynamics. Project will contribute two years of consecutive monitoring data toward

the goal of improve knowledge of the species' biology and population dynamics.

Monterey Spineflower Monitoring Surveys in Monterey and Santa Cruz, California

Grantee: Denise Duffy & Associates

Grant Amount:.....\$150,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$150,000

Conduct focused surveys for Monterey spineflower within known populations or areas of suitable habitat in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties to address recovery criteria that the species is stable or increasing throughout its range. Project will develop a database of populations to generate a comprehensive overview of the Monterey spineflower populations that can be added to over time.

Population Monitoring and Seed Banking for Rough Popcornflower Recovery in Oregon

Grantee: Oregon Department of Agriculture

Grant Amount:.....\$100,000
Matching Funds:.....\$4,400
Total Project Amount:.....\$104,400

Conduct population monitoring and seed banking for the endangered rough popcornflower in vernal pools near the town of Sutherlin in Douglas County, Oregon. Project will progress species toward reaching population monitoring goals and attaining seed-banking goals.

Protecting Kodachrome Bladderpod Habitat in Kane County (UT)

Grantee: Utah State University

Grant Amount:.....\$150,000
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$150,000

Protect Kodachrome bladderpod habitat in Kane County, Utah, by reducing illegal travel and camping using physical barriers and monitoring of plant population and longevity. Project will implement two management plans, monitor four sites and assess at least 80 acres of habitat.

Recovery Implementation for Kral's Water-plantain and Tennessee Yellow-eyed Grass (AL, GA, MS, TN)

Grantee: Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Grant Amount:.....\$385,200
Matching Funds:.....\$0
Total Project Amount:.....\$385,200

Conduct surveys, habitat suitability modeling, seed banking and genetic sampling for the federally protected Kral's water-plantain and Tennessee yellow-eyed grass in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee. Project will fill key knowledge gaps, build regional conservation capacity and develop a standardized monitoring protocol to support long-term recovery of these imperiled plants.

(continued)



Lyrate bladderpod - *Lesquerella lyrata*, Rob Hurt/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

Recovery Implementation for Price's Potato Bean (AL, KY, MS, TN)

Grantee: Office of Kentucky Nature Preserves

Grant Amount:.....\$130,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$130,000

Implement coordinated, range-wide recovery actions for Price's potato bean, a federally threatened species, across Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee. Project will sustain up to 10 jobs, monitor 20 sites, restore 20 acres, and develop and apply standardized monitoring protocols and best management practices across states and partners to support recovery.

Restoring Habitat to Advance Recovery of Mohr's Barbara's Buttons and Lyrate Bladderpod (AL, GA)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:.....\$162,500

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$162,500

Restore habitat for the at-risk Mohr's Barbara's buttons and lyrate bladderpod in Alabama and Georgia through prescribed fire, invasive species removal, monitoring, research and seed banking. Project will increase population sizes by 20-25 percent, improve habitat quality and establish scientifically informed strategies for lasting recovery of the two species.

Restoring Kincaid's Lupine and Willamette Daisy Across Their Historical Ranges (OR, WA)

Grantee: Institute for Applied Ecology

Grant Amount:.....\$194,400

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$194,400

Maintain seven native seed production fields for Kincaid's lupine and Willamette daisy, produce 8,000 Willamette daisy plugs, and restore prairie habitat at priority sites across the species' historical ranges in Oregon and Washington. Project will reduce the spread of invasive species, improve ecological function and build an interconnected network of prairie habitat to move both species.

Status Surveys and Genomic Sampling of Louisiana Quillwort (AL, LA, MS)

Grantee: Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Grant Amount:.....\$39,700

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$39,700

Inventory and update all known records of Louisiana quillwort throughout known range, conduct surveys to locate new populations within the possible range, and use genomic analysis to identify and demarcate distinct populations of the species. Project will conduct an up-to-date comprehensive inventory of what is identified as *Isoetes louisianensis* in the state to better understand and conserve populations of the species.

(continued)

Surveys, Habitat Protection, and Restoration for Uinta Basin Hookless and Pariette Cacti (UT)

Grantee: Manzanita Botanical Consulting

Grant Amount:.....\$299,900

Matching Funds:.....\$25,200

Total Project Amount:.....\$325,100

Survey four high-priority populations of the Uinta Basin hookless cactus and Pariette cactus in Utah, install fenced exclosures around cacti, and restore habitat with ground cover and structural features. Project will define population density and extent, protect plants from disturbance, and quantify the success of exclosures and habitat restoration.

Translocation and Monitoring of Gentner's Fritillary in Southwest Oregon

Grantee: Oregon Department of Agriculture

Grant Amount:.....\$100,000

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$100,000

Conduct transplant and natural population monitoring of Gentner's fritillary in the oak woodlands, chaparral and forest ecotone habitat where it occurs Jackson and Josephine counties of southwest Oregon. Project will use population data to inform progress toward reaching the minimum number of plants recommended in recovery criteria.

White Bluffs Bladderpod Recovery at Hanford Reach National Monument (WA)

Grantee: Benson Farms

Grant Amount:.....\$515,800

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$515,800

Propagate seeds, outplant 5,000 plugs, and remove invasive cheatgrass to restore the federally threatened White Bluffs bladderpod at Hanford Reach National Monument. Project will establish new populations, augment existing outplantings and clear invasive species to support independent population reproduction and advance recovery plan targets.

Modeling White Bluffs Bladderpod Population Viability in Response to Environmental Variables (WA)

Grantee: Institute for Applied Ecology

Grant Amount:.....\$37,900

Matching Funds:.....\$0

Total Project Amount:.....\$37,900

Leverage a long-term monitoring dataset to model population trends and estimate a minimum viable population size for the threatened White Bluffs bladderpod. Project will evaluate the impacts of weather, wildfire and cheatgrass invasion to project future population values under various invasive species control scenarios, directly advancing federal recovery actions.



Yellow-blotched map turtle, Ryan Poplin, Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0, ([original image](#))

REPTILES

Assessing the Current Conservation Status for Yellow-blotched Map Turtle in Southeastern Mississippi

Grantee: Millsaps College

Grant Amount:.....\$70,000

Matching Funds:.....\$33,700

Total Project Amount:.....\$103,700

Estimate population sizes and basking densities, conduct surveys, gather relevant biometric data from captured individuals, collect new genetic material from all sites and species, and gather additional information for the yellow blotched map turtle. Project will contribute to a long-term status assessment of the species, with the possibility that data will support the delisting of the species.

Evaluate Habitat Restoration and Translocation Opportunities for Dunes Sagebrush Lizard Recovery (NM)

Grantee: Center for Environmental Health Monitoring and Management

Grant Amount:.....\$2,500,000

Matching Funds:.....\$1,889,600

Total Project Amount:.....\$4,389,600

Study the microhabitat needs and feasibility of habitat restoration and reclamation for the dunes sagebrush lizard. Project will obtain a thorough quantification of the microhabitat needs of the dunes sagebrush lizard, assess the feasibility and implementation of different restoration strategies, and develop a decision-based framework and establish protocols for dunes sagebrush lizard conservation translocations.

(continued)

Evaluating Population Status and Headstart Success of the Northern Red-bellied Cooter (MA)

Grantee: University of Massachusetts

Grant Amount: \$500,000
 Matching Funds: \$0
 Total Project Amount: \$500,000

Evaluate the distribution, demography and population status of the endangered northern red-bellied cooter in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, including populations established through the headstart program. Project will establish baseline occupancy, confirm new occurrences, and evaluate population genetics to inform status determinations by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state of Massachusetts.

Monitoring and Conserving Eastern Indigo Snakes (AL, FL, GA)

Grantee: The Orianne Society

Grant Amount: \$136,200
 Matching Funds: \$60,700
 Total Project Amount: \$196,900

Apply new technologies, leverage long-standing partnerships and build on existing programs to advance the conservation of indigo snakes in Alabama, Florida and Georgia. Project will create up to six jobs and support three monitoring programs, complete three research studies and monitor eight sites.

Recovering Louisiana Pinesnake through Captive Breeding, Reintroduction and Monitoring (LA, TN, TX)

Grantee: Memphis Zoo

Grant Amount: \$250,000
 Matching Funds: \$1,006,800
 Total Project Amount: \$1,256,800

Support captive breeding, biosecurity and the monitoring of reintroduced Louisiana pinesnake and existing population viability through partnerships with private landowners. Project will include habitat management, genetic variety expansion, research and population monitoring.

SNAILS

Addressing Distribution Gaps to Inform Recovery of the Endangered Rough Hornsnail (AL)

Grantee: Jacksonville State University

Grant Amount: \$60,000
 Matching Funds: \$0
 Total Project Amount: \$60,000

Combine habitat suitability modeling with targeted field surveys to detect additional populations and identify reintroduction habitats for the endangered rough hornsnail in the Coosa River basin. Project will validate models using flow, substrate, depth and bank slope measurements to guide surveys at predicted hotspots, providing critical data to support federal recovery and downlisting planning.

Compare Monitoring Strategies to Recover Noonday Globe Snail in the Nantala River Gorge (NC)

Grantee: Forest Stewards

Grant Amount: \$75,000
 Matching Funds: \$0
 Total Project Amount: \$75,000

Evaluate and compare current monitoring strategy for noonday globe snail to other techniques, including defined length transects, quadrat sampling and cover board deployment. Project will identify the most effective and efficient methods for reliable population monitoring of this species and will collect microhabitat to help fill knowledge gaps.

Conservation Genomics and Population Assessment for Royal Snail Recovery (OH, TN)

Grantee: The Ohio State University

Grant Amount: \$64,700
 Matching Funds: \$0
 Total Project Amount: \$64,700

Assess the conservation genetics of the endangered royal snail at all currently known occupied sites using a genome-scale sequencing approach. Project will provide metrics on effective population size; full assessments of species counts, representation and resiliency; and broad scientific data for supporting downlisting decisions of royal snail.

Site Enhancement, Protection Analysis and Management Planning for Royal Snail Recovery (TN)

Grantee: Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Division of Natural Areas

Grant Amount: \$160,000
 Matching Funds: \$0
 Total Project Amount: \$160,000

Improve and maintain habitat for the royal snail through vegetation management, improved erosion control measures at public access points, installation of fencing to prevent encroachment and detrimental use, and updating the site management plan to include an analysis of USGS dye trace data of the recharge area. Project will evaluate and prioritize private land conservation priorities in the surrounding spring watershed for water quality and address the recovery objectives for the royal snail.



Noonday globe, Gary Peeples/USFWS, Public Domain, [\(original image\)](#)

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