

National Coastal Resilience Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

Erika Feller

Director,
Marine and Coastal Conservation
202-595-3911
erika.feller@nfwf.org

Kaity Goldsmith

Manager,
Marine Conservation
202-595-2494
kaitlin.goldsmith@nfwf.org

PARTNERS

- NOAA
- Shell Oil Company
- TransRe

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 4,500 organizations and generated a conservation impact of more than \$4.8 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
202-857-0166



Rising sea levels and intense storms threaten coastal habitats, wildlife and communities.

OVERVIEW

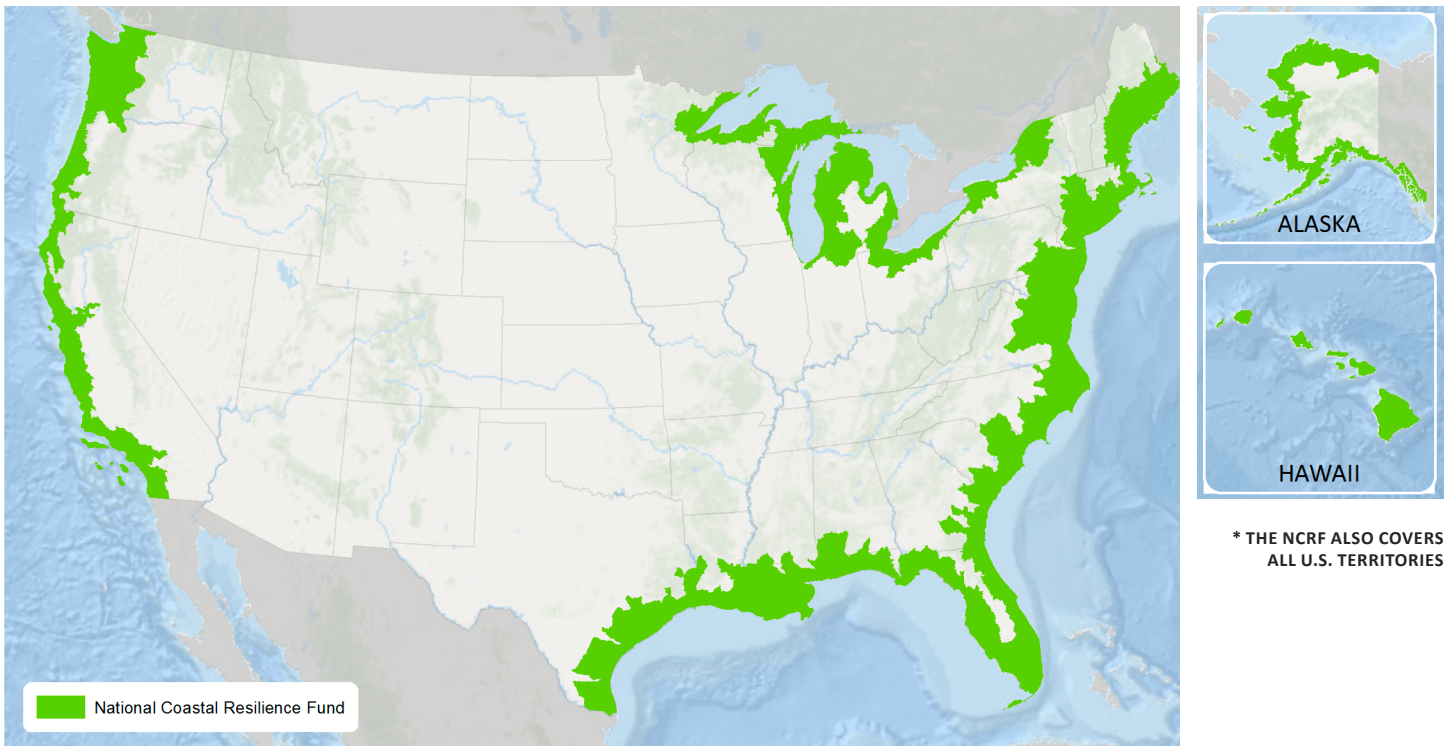
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) National Coastal Resilience Fund restore, increase and strengthen natural infrastructure — the landscapes that help absorb the impacts of storms and floods — to protect coastal communities while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife.

In partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Shell Oil Company and TransRe, NFWF will invest up to \$30 million in 2019 toward the restoration or expansion of natural features such as coastal marshes and wetlands, dune and beach systems, oyster and coral reefs, forests, coastal rivers, and barrier islands that minimize the impacts of storms and other naturally occurring events on nearby communities. With the addition of this year's awards, the National Coastal Resilience fund will provide close to \$60 million over two years.

Between 2018 and 2019, the National Coastal Resilience Fund provided funding to enhance, build, or restore more than 11,900 acres of coastal habitat. Projects will provide enhanced protection to more than 98,000 properties and 2,400 critical facilities or pieces of infrastructure.

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

(continued)



NFWF's National Coastal Resilience Fund will focus on the nation's entire coastline. NFWF and NOAA have developed a new tool to conduct in-depth resilience assessments of the coast along the contiguous United States. This assessment tool and other data will be used to assist in grant selection.

NATIONAL OUTLOOK WITH REGIONAL FOCUS

This fund has been implemented as a national program focused on enhancement of resilience for coastal communities across the United States, based on consideration of differing regional circumstances, needs and priorities.

Restoration projects that help reduce regional threats are a key component of this program. Examples include storm surge along the East and Gulf Coasts, subsidence in the Gulf and Mid-Atlantic Coasts, stormwater management in the Great Lakes, inland flooding that directly impacts the west coasts, and the combination of inland flooding and ocean surge for islands such as Hawaii.

Building on the significant coordination and planning that has already been done in many of the nation's coastal communities and recognizing the need for action, NFWF is focusing investments on a regionally diverse portfolio of projects that have been prioritized in existing community or regional resilience plans. Priority is given to:

- Implementation of design-ready restoration projects that enhance resilience and reduce threat risk
- Project site assessment, design, and permitting in at-risk communities to position them for future implementation
- Projects that demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative approaches to enhance coastal resilience with natural infrastructure

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND COASTAL RESILIENCE

NFWF partnered with NOAA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the University of North Carolina-Asheville's National Environmental Modeling Analysis Center, and NatureServe to develop a National Coastal Resilience Assessment. The assessment identifies public and private lands ideal for restoration and analyzes the potential to provide benefit for both human community resilience and fish and wildlife. Using this tool, NFWF identified specific areas with the greatest potential to provide protection to human communities while also restoring or improving habitat for fish and wildlife. The public can access the Assessment through the online [Coastal Resilience Evaluation and Siting Tool](#).

AN OUTCOME-BASED APPROACH

NFWF combines its outcome-based approach with the information gained from the Hurricane Sandy program and new insights from the National Coastal Resilience Assessment to set goals and monitor project investments. Projects are evaluated using criteria that support the goal of the National Coastal Resilience Fund, including:

- Benefits to coastal communities, from reducing the impact of coastal flooding and associated threats to property and key assets such as hospitals and emergency routes
- Benefits to fish and wildlife from enhancing the ecological integrity and functionality of coastal and inland ecosystems
- Other economic benefits to coastal communities