



Sustain Our Great Lakes 2016 Grant Slate

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ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Lake Superior

OVERVIEW

Sustain Our Great Lakes is a public-private partnership that supports habitat restoration in the Great Lakes basin. Administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the program receives funding and other support from ArcelorMittal, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. A significant portion of program funding is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a federal program designed to protect, restore and enhance the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Sustain Our Great Lakes offers funding annually, with grant awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$1.5 million. Eligible recipients include non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and state, tribal and local governments.

The work funded in 2016 includes improving passage for fish and other aquatic organisms, controlling invasive species, permanently protecting important habitat, restoring wetland hydrology, and improving stream habitat structures. Collectively, the funded projects will:

- Reopen 65 miles of river for fish passage and restore 7 miles of stream and riparian habitat
- Remove or bypass 15 barriers to aquatic organism passage
- Restore and enhance more than 1,500 acres of wetlands and associated uplands
- Permanently protect 397 acres

(continued)

1) Restoring Wetland Bird Habitat in Calumet Coastal Wetlands (IN, IL)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

NFWF Award Amount: \$806,653

Matching Funds: \$865,019

Total Project: \$1,671,672

The Nature Conservancy will restore and enhance 178 acres of coastal wetland habitat at six sites within the Calumet region of southern Lake Michigan in order to restore and manage habitat for wetland birds. Project will treat invasive species on 138 acres, restore hydrology to 40 acres of wetland habitat, and monitor wetland bird species to document restoration impacts and inform adaptive management.

2) Sustaining Birds of the Great Lakes (IL, NY)

Grantee: National Audubon Society

NFWF Award Amount: \$449,790

Matching Funds: \$450,145

Total Project: \$899,935

The National Audubon Society will restore critical bird stopover and breeding habitat across coastal wetlands in two urban landscapes of the Great Lakes basin. Invasive species management and revegetation of native cover will be applied across a total of 196 acres in Chicago and Buffalo that will result in enhanced wetland habitat, improved habitat quality for threatened resident and migratory bird species, less sediment runoff, and improved resiliency.

3) Interdunal Wetland Restoration in the Indiana Dunes Region (IN) - II

Grantee: Shirley Heinze Land Trust

NFWF Award Amount: \$111,609

Matching Funds: \$39,869

Total Project: \$151,478

The Shirley Heinze Land Trust will treat invasive species on 60 acres of interdunal wetlands and marsh habitat across three sites along the southern coast of Lake Michigan in northwest Indiana. Project will build on previous restoration efforts to improve a high-quality interdunal wetland ecosystem and benefit a variety of rare plant species.

4) Hobart Marsh Restoration (IN) - II

Grantee: Shirley Heinze Land Trust

NFWF Award Amount: \$110,259

Matching Funds: \$39,344

Total Project: \$149,603

The Shirley Heinze Land Trust will expand work to enhance and restore 205 acres of wetland habitat in the Hobart Marsh

conservation complex. Project will continue to monitor and control invasive species on 85 acres of previously treated areas and treat an additional 120 acres of high-quality wetland habitat.

5) Improving Aquatic Connectivity along Minnehaha Creek (MI)

Grantee: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

NFWF Award Amount: \$289,019

Matching Funds: \$263,200

Total Project: \$552,219

The Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council will replace two road-stream crossings on the Minnehaha Creek, a designated trout stream in northern Michigan. Project will reconnect 8 stream miles to improve passage by brook trout and other aquatic organisms.

6) Duncan Bay Coastal Wetland Protection and Restoration (MI)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council

NFWF Award Amount: \$371,909

Matching Funds: \$359,913

Total Project: \$731,822

The Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council will protect and restore 317 acres of coastal wetland habitat and 3,500 feet of shoreline surrounding Duncan Bay along Lake Huron. Project will restore wetland hydrology, increase habitat diversity through invasive species control, and improve aquatic organism passage by removing two road-stream crossings.

7) Road-Stream Crossing and Riparian Restoration in the Muskegon River Watershed (MI)

Grantee: Muskegon River Watershed Assembly

NFWF Award Amount: \$214,850

Matching Funds: \$255,669

Total Project: \$470,519

The Muskegon River Watershed Assembly will restore connectivity to over 5 miles of Bigelow Creek and enhance riparian habitat throughout the Muskegon River Watershed. Project will replace two road-stream crossings on Bigelow Creek and plant 40 acres of forested riparian habitat along other coldwater streams within the watershed.



Northern pike

8) Restoring Aquatic Connectivity on the Pine River (MI)

Grantee: Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council

NFWF Award Amount: \$157,072

Matching Funds: \$277,219

Total Project: \$434,291

The Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council will reconnect 20 upstream miles of high-quality coldwater habitat and 500 feet of floodplain habitat on the Pine River in northeast Michigan. Project will restore the natural hydrology, nutrient transport and passage by fish and other aquatic organisms.

9) Reconnecting Sandborn Creek (MI)

Grantee: Conservation Resource Alliance

NFWF Award Amount: \$850,000

Matching Funds: \$870,000

Total Project: \$1,720,000

The Conservation Resource Alliance will replace the final four aquatic passage barriers on Sanborn Creek, a tributary to the Pere Marquette River. Project will reconnect 14.6 miles, resulting in complete passage by brook trout and other coldwater aquatic organisms throughout the entire length of Sanborn Creek.

10) Wetland Restoration in Southern Sodus Coastal Wetlands (NY)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy, New York

NFWF Award Amount: \$193,521

Matching Funds: \$168,547

Total Project: \$362,068

The Nature Conservancy will restore and enhance over

115 acres of wetland habitat by constructing backwater potholes, reconnecting floodplain habitat, and assessing 10 road-stream crossings. Project will improve the access and habitat of northern pike spring spawning sites and enhance the nesting and feeding areas of waterfowl and other marsh nesting birds.

11) Restoring Native Brook Trout in Onondaga Creek (NY) - II

Grantee: Onondaga Environmental Institute

NFWF Award Amount: \$178,050

Matching Funds: \$200,000

Total Project: \$378,050

The Onondaga Environmental Institute will continue to improve habitat for brook trout and other aquatic species within Onondaga Creek by restoring and improving connectivity, instream habitat and water quality along the west branch. Project will replace two road-stream crossings to reconnect 6 miles of stream habitat and improve over 3 miles of instream habitat through the targeted removal of significant debris jams.

12) Huron River Wetlands Restoration (OH)

Grantee: Cleveland Museum of Natural History

NFWF Award Amount: \$78,242

Matching Funds: \$745,600

Total Project: \$823,842

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History will restore estuarine mudflats, emergent marsh, sedge meadow, riparian meadow and riparian forest habitat on a Lake Erie riverine marsh. Project will control 76 acres of *Phragmites australis* and other invasive species to benefit specialized plant species, migratory shorebirds and wading birds.

13) Mentor Marsh Invasive Plant Species Control (OH) - II

Grantee: Cleveland Museum of Natural History

NFWF Award Amount: \$116,658

Matching Funds: \$289,000

Total Project: \$405,658

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History will continue to restore emergent marsh and swamp forest habitat in Mentor Marsh, a National Natural Landmark. Project will control invasive plant species on 75 acres and plant 6,000 trees on native emergent marsh and swamp forest habitat to benefit 20 state-listed or rare species.

14) Expanding the Protection and Restoration of Hach-Otis Sanctuary and State Nature Preserve (OH)

Grantee: Western Reserve Land Conservancy

NFWF Award Amount: \$407,153

Matching Funds: \$409,500

Total Project: \$816,653

The Western Reserve Land Conservancy will permanently protect 80 acres of riparian and upland forest habitat along the Chagrin River, a Lake Erie tributary in northeastern Ohio. Project will preserve high-quality stream habitat for numerous native species including brook trout and lake sturgeon.

15) Restoration of Royal Botanical Gardens Wetlands in Ontario - II

Grantee: Royal Botanical Gardens

NFWF Award Amount: \$100,000

Matching Funds: \$318,598

Total Project: \$418,598

The Royal Botanical Gardens will continue to restore 3 acres of coastal wetland habitat, contributing to the delisting of Hamilton Harbour as a Great Lakes Area of Concern. Project will treat invasive plant species, install five carp exclusion structures, and restore 3 acres of wetland and riparian plant communities.

16) Improving Aquatic Connectivity in the Genesee River Watershed (PA)

Grantee: Potter County Conservation District

NFWF Award Amount: \$99,477

Matching Funds: \$216,219

Total Project: \$315,696

The Potter County Conservation District will replace a culvert to improve aquatic habitat connectivity and significantly reduce sediment input to a headwater tributary of the Genesee River. Project will reopen 10 stream miles and

stabilize 2.5 miles of an adjacent road to improve passage and instream habitat for brook trout and other aquatic organisms.

17) Green Bay Coastal Wetland Restoration (WI)

Grantee: Ducks Unlimited

NFWF Award Amount: \$396,779

Matching Funds: \$400,029

Total Project: \$796,808

Ducks Unlimited will restore and enhance over 100 acres of coastal wetlands at sites throughout Green Bay to provide long-term beneficial impacts to fish and wildlife. Project will create 5 acres of pike spawning habitat, enhance 17 acres of waterfowl habitat, seed 50 acres with native plant species, and control 100 acres of invasive species.

18) Controlling Invasive Species within the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands Ramsar Site (WI)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

NFWF Award Amount: \$186,249

Matching Funds: \$227,400

Total Project: \$413,649

The Nature Conservancy will restore and enhance 500 acres of coastal wetlands within the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands Ramsar Site. Project will treat known infestations, map and monitor invasive species populations, utilize early detection and rapid response efforts, and restore a 10-acre wetland site through fill removal and revegetation.

19) Mole Creek Stream and Riparian Enhancement (WI)

Grantee: Ozaukee County, Wisconsin

NFWF Award Amount: \$66,000

Matching Funds: \$66,000

Total Project: \$132,000

Ozaukee County will enhance 4,200 feet of stream channel, reconnect 103 acres of wetland and floodplain habitat, control invasive species, and plant native trees and shrubs. Project will increase and improve the habitat structure and diversity for both aquatic and avian species.