



# NFWF

## 2017 Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund Grant Slate

### NFWF CONTACT

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### PARTNERS

MONSANTO



Monarch butterflies

### OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and partners announce the third year of funding for the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund. 23 new grants totaling \$3.77 million were awarded. The projects funded will leverage more than \$5.85 million in matching funds, for a total of \$9.62 million to protect, conserve and increase habitat for the monarch butterfly.

In 2015, NFWF established the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund to reverse recent population declines and ensure the survival of the monarch butterfly. The program is a public-private partnership administered by NFWF with funding and other support from the Monsanto Company, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Land Management and USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The 2017 projects address two key strategies: 1) improving the availability of high-quality habitat and 2) increasing the capacity needed to expand conservation efforts into the future.

### 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](http://www.nfwf.org)

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Monarch butterfly on milkweed

**INCREASING THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF HABITAT**

The goal of this conservation strategy is to create and sustain a connected patchwork of monarch butterfly habitat across the species’ range to support its annual life cycle and migration. Emphasis is placed on restoring and enhancing land to support ample milkweed and nectar plants, as well as overwintering habitat. In addition, this strategy includes work to ensure adequate supply of seeds and plugs required by habitat restoration efforts.

**Establishing Urban Monarch Habitat through the Tri-Regional Monarch Flyway Strategy (TX)**

Grantee: Houston Wilderness  
 MBCF Award:.....\$236,344  
 Matching Funds:.....\$310,150  
**Total Project:..... \$546,494**

Houston Wilderness will increase the quality and connectivity of monarch butterfly habitat in three urban regions throughout southeast Texas. The project will build and coordinate a regional network to create or enhance approximately 110 acres across 50 different sites primarily by increasing the availability of milkweed and other nectar sources.

**Improving Private Lands through the Monarch Butterfly Habitat Exchange (TX)**

Grantee: Environmental Defense Fund  
 MBCF Award:.....\$128,467  
 Matching Funds:.....\$171,412  
**Total Project:..... \$299,879**

Environmental Defense Fund will improve monarch butterfly

habitat on private ranch lands through five pilot projects under the Monarch Butterfly Habitat Exchange. The project will enhance 3,426 acres through a combination of planting milkweed and other nectar plants, managed grazing, mowing, prescribed fire and invasive species control.

**Working with U.S. Military Base to Improve Monarch Butterfly Habitat (TX)**

Grantee: Compatible Lands Foundation  
 MBCF Award:.....\$235,992  
 Matching Funds:.....\$365,992  
**Total Project:..... \$601,984**

Compatible Lands Foundation will enhance monarch breeding and migratory habitat on or adjacent to four U.S. military bases. The project will plant native milkweed and nectar plants and control invasive species to improve 325 acres of habitat.

**Restoring Northern Monarch Butterfly Breeding Habitat (Canada)**

Grantee: Nature Conservancy of Canada  
 MBCF Award:.....\$80,000  
 Matching Funds:.....\$80,000  
**Total Project:..... \$160,000**

Nature Conservancy of Canada will restore 130 acres of former agricultural fields in the northern breeding range of the eastern monarch population’s migratory corridor. The project will establish 50 acres in the Southern Norfolk Sand Plain Natural Area and 80 acres in the Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve, expanding previously restored habitat.



## 2017 Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund Grants

### Enhancing Monarch Habitat on Private Lands in Texas

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MBCF Award: .....\$250,000

Matching Funds: .....\$530,000

**Total Project: ..... \$780,000**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will enhance more than 8,000 acres of monarch butterfly habitat through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. The project will work with private landowners to improve habitat and increase milkweed and nectar plant availability vital for monarch breeding as well as spring and fall migrations.

### Eastern North Dakota

#### Monarch Butterfly Habitat Restoration

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MBCF Award: .....\$110,184

Matching Funds: .....\$284,740

**Total Project: ..... \$394,924**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will restore and enhance native grasses, forbs and milkweed on private lands to benefit monarch butterfly breeding habitat. The project will plant approximately 600 acres with a diverse mix of regionally appropriate native forbs and grasses as well as implement rotational grazing systems on 5,660 acres of grassland habitat.

### Enhancing and Restoring

#### Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Eastern Nebraska

Grantee: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

MBCF Award: .....\$200,000

Matching Funds: .....\$280,000

**Total Project: ..... \$480,000**

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will enhance 10,000 acres and restore an additional 600 acres of native tallgrass prairie and oak savanna, benefiting monarch breeding, nectaring and migration habitat. The project will use a variety of techniques on public and private lands, including prescribed fire, invasive shrub and tree control, planned grazing and planting native milkweed and nectar plants.

### Restoring Overwintering and Breeding Habitat for the Monarch Butterfly's Western Population (CA)

Grantee: The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

MBCF Award: .....\$249,990

Matching Funds: .....\$252,894

**Total Project: ..... \$502,884**

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation will restore and enhance priority habitats in California to benefit the western monarch population. The project will work with public and private partners to restore and enhance 37 acres of coastal overwintering habitat and

over 600 acres of breeding habitat on working lands and natural areas in the Central Valley.

### Implementing the Missouri Monarch and Pollinator Conservation Plan

Grantee: Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation

MBCF Award: .....\$244,445

Matching Funds: .....\$312,763

**Total Project: ..... \$557,208**

Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation will begin implementing on-the-ground monarch habitat establishment and enhancement to meet habitat goals set in the Missouri Monarch and Pollinator Conservation Plan. The project will work with partners to restore and enhance nearly 300 acres throughout rural, urban and suburban landscapes across the state.

### Restoring Native Prairie Habitat for Monarch Butterflies (ND)

Grantee: Prairie Pothole Partners

MBCF Award: .....\$50,000

Matching Funds: .....\$55,500

**Total Project: ..... \$105,500**

Prairie Pothole Partners will connect existing and previously restored native prairie sites by restoring former cropland to diverse prairie habitat. The project will restore 200 acres and collect 50 pounds of native forb species, including four species of milkweed to use in the restoration.

### Creating Monarch Habitat in the Eastern Migratory Corridor through the Mayor's Monarch Pledge (VA)

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation

MBCF Award: .....\$141,366

Matching Funds: .....\$286,542

**Total Project: ..... \$427,908**

National Wildlife Federation will enhance 1,000 acres of urban monarch butterfly habitat in municipalities committed to the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. The project will provide technical assistance and pollinator seeds and plants to municipalities throughout the eastern migratory corridor to restore 150 acres and enhance 850 acres.

### Expanding Monarch Butterfly Habitat Connectivity (IA, MN)

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MBCF Award: .....\$103,137

Matching Funds: .....\$133,828

**Total Project: ..... \$236,965**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will improve and connect diverse native prairie sites for monarch butterfly breeding and migratory habitat. The project will restore and enhance over 460 acres on 14 permanently protected grassland sites.

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## 2017 Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund Grants

### **Increasing Monarch Habitat and Milkweed Availability at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (IL)**

Grantee: The Wetlands Initiative

MBCF Award:.....	\$166,497
Matching Funds:.....	\$183,713
<b>Total Project:.....</b>	<b>\$350,210</b>

The Wetlands Initiative will establish high-quality native prairie and wetland habitat containing significant milkweed resources and a diversity of nectar sources to benefit breeding and migrating monarchs. The project will restore and enhance 479 acres and collect 5 pounds of regionally adapted milkweed seed to use at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and other restoration sites in Illinois.

### **Enhancing Monarch Butterfly Habitat along the Mississippi River Corridor (WI)**

Grantee: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

MBCF Award:.....	\$69,800
Matching Funds:.....	\$106,785
<b>Total Project:.....</b>	<b>\$176,585</b>

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will restore and enhance critical monarch butterfly breeding, feeding and migratory stopover habitat on public and private lands along the Mississippi River. The project will use a variety of techniques including planting, prescribed burning and invasive species control to restore and enhance over 700 acres of habitat.

### **Monarch Butterfly Flyway Restoration (IA)**

Grantee: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

MBCF Award:.....	\$165,000
Matching Funds:.....	\$225,000
<b>Total Project:.....</b>	<b>\$390,000</b>

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation will continue and expand the restoration work begun under phase 1 and 2 of the Iowa Butterfly Flyway project by coordinating a series of restoration projects in central Iowa. The project will enhance 500 acres of habitat in the Wetland Management District and along the I-380 corridor by planting diverse milkweed and nectaring species, mowing and prescribed burning.

### **Utilizing Prescribed Fire to Enhance Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Central Texas**

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MBCF Award:.....	\$175,000
Matching Funds:.....	\$350,000
<b>Total Project:.....</b>	<b>\$525,000</b>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will conduct prescribed burning to enhance monarch habitat on private lands through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. The project will

improve 7,000 acres of habitat to support the monarch's fall and spring migration.

### **Reforestation Monarch Butterfly Overwintering Habitat in Central Mexico**

Grantee: La Cruz Habitat Protection Project

MBCF Award:.....	\$60,000
Matching Funds:.....	\$60,000
<b>Total Project:.....</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>

La Cruz Habitat Protection Project will restore monarch butterfly overwintering habitat within the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve in central Mexico. The project will produce and distribute 120,000 native tree seedlings to reforest an estimated 267 acres.

### **Enhancing Monarch Habitat through Technical Assistance (IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, OK, TX, WI)**

Grantee: Pheasants Forever

MBCF Award:.....	\$80,000
Matching:.....	\$603,980
<b>Total:.....</b>	<b>\$683,980</b>

Pheasants Forever will provide private landowners with technical assistance to enroll lands into the Conservation Stewardship Program and Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The project will use the organization's Farm Bill biologist team to deliver high quality monarch migratory and breeding habitat across eight states.

### **COORDINATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

The goal of this conservation strategy is to increase organizational capacity and coordination among organizations, states and regions engaged in monarch butterfly conservation. Grant funding supports work to develop regional strategies and plans, build capacity and expertise, maximize information exchange, and distribute information about on-the-ground conservation practices.

### **Coordinating Monarch Conservation in Transportation and Utility Rights-of-Way (IL)**

Grantee: The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

MBCF Award:.....	\$250,000
Matching Funds:.....	\$359,088
<b>Total Project:.....</b>	<b>\$609,088</b>

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois will coordinate monarch butterfly habitat conservation in transportation and utility rights-of-ways through the Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group. The project will continue to build the capacity of the Working Group and develop a national geospatial database to measure the extent and condition of monarch habitat managed by rights-of-way organizations.

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Monarch caterpillar

**Advancing Monarch Butterfly Conservation in Texas Cities**

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation

MBCF Award: .....	\$250,000
Matching Funds: .....	\$342,644
<b>Total Project: .....</b>	<b>\$592,644</b>

National Wildlife Federation will work with large cities across Texas to finalize and implement monarch conservation plans that will improve breeding and migratory habitat and engage millions of citizens. The project will build capacity through technical and organizational support within each city to shift from planning to on-the-ground implementation of their action plans.

**Implementing the Monarch Conservation Science Partnership’s Integrated Monitoring Strategy (MN)**

Grantee: Regents of the University of Minnesota

MBCF Award: .....	\$222,392
Matching Funds: .....	\$223,240
<b>Total Project: .....</b>	<b>\$445,632</b>

Regents of the University of Minnesota will strengthen capacity and coordination of multiple partners across the nation in implementing a unified monitoring strategy for monarch butterflies and their habitats. The project will generate information to improve Monarch Conservation Science Partnership’s models that inform national monarch population and habitat targets, identify and quantify the relative magnitude of potential threats to monarchs, and inform strategies for implementing habitat enhancement.

**Coordinating Monarch Butterfly Conservation Strategies across the Central United States (KS)**

Grantee: Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

MBCF Award: .....	\$156,201
Matching Funds: .....	\$175,000
<b>Total Project: .....</b>	<b>\$331,201</b>

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies will coordinate and track the implementation of conservation strategies and actions identified in the Mid-America Monarch Conservation Strategy. The project will provide capacity for regional coordination to translate the Strategy into on-the-ground conservation actions that are efficient, organized and targeted.

**Expanding Strategic Urban Habitat Conservation Approaches for Monarchs (IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, WI)**

Grantee: Field Museum of Natural History

MBCF Award: .....	\$147,988
Matching Funds: .....	\$162,299
<b>Total Project: .....</b>	<b>\$310,287</b>

Field Museum of Natural History will engage small and mid-sized metropolitan areas along the monarch eastern migratory corridor to develop strategic urban conservation planning tools tailored to smaller municipalities. The project will continue the ongoing work under the Monarch’s View of the City: Urban Monarch Landscape Conservation Design project and help urban practitioners identify the best locations and practices for creating monarch butterfly habitat at the local scale.