



NFWF

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# Resilient Communities 2019 Grant Slate

## NFWF CONTACTS

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Community members plant trees at Lake Sammamish State Park, WA | Credit: Mountains to Sound Greenway

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Wells Fargo announced a 2019-year round of funding for Resilient Communities projects. Eleven new or continuing resilience grants totaling \$2.9 million were awarded, leveraging \$5.8 million in match from the grantees, generating a total conservation impact of \$8.6 million.

In 2017, Wells Fargo and NFWF partnered to create the Resilient Communities program. Through improvements to natural features and enhanced community capacity, the program helps communities prepare for future impacts associated with sea level rise, water quantity and quality and forest conservation. By taking advantage of natural features like wetlands, resilient shorelines, urban tree canopies, natural forests and healthy upstream watersheds, communities can accrue quality of life benefits today, enhance fish and wildlife resources, and help prepare for foreseeable resilience challenges.

The program places special emphasis on inclusion and helping traditionally underserved, low- and moderate-income communities build capacity for resiliency planning and investments in “greener” infrastructure. Lower income communities are often most vulnerable, communities are stronger and bounce back more quickly after an impact/disaster when people work together and have the skills, knowledge and capacity to rebuild.

### Parking Lot to Dunescape Conversion (CT)

Grantee: SoundWaters

Grant Award: .....\$347,371

Matching Funds: .....\$740,000

**Total Amount: .....\$1,087,371**

Remove a 40,000-square-foot, waterfront parking lot at John J. Boccuzzi Park and replace it with a dunescape of naturally resilient sea grass and other native species. Project will engage

(continued)

## 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)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street NW  
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Wells Fargo Volunteers improve a neighborhood in San Bernardino County, California | Credit: Hometown Community Development Corporation

300 diverse community volunteers to help plant the new dunescape and restore three acres.

## Building Community Resilience through Collaboration in Native Villages in Southeast Alaska (AK)

Grantee: Spruce Root

Grant Award: ..... \$249,926

Matching Funds: ..... \$1,500,000

**Total Amount: ..... \$1,749,926**

Increase collaboration by building relationships within and across tribal communities in Southeast Alaska to give all interested parties a voice when making decisions about the natural resources and infrastructure that Alaska Native and rural communities rely upon for their livelihoods. Project will train 20 community catalysts and engage 60 community members in the Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Sitka and Yakutat tribes.

## Rattlesnake Creek Stream Restoration for Fish, Flood and Drought Resilience (MT)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Award: ..... \$315,540

Matching Funds: ..... \$700,000

**Total Amount: ..... \$1,015,540**

Protect public safety, improve native fish habitat, restore natural floodplain processes and enhance public recreation opportunities through improving fish passage, stream restoration and water management. Project will result in more than 10 miles reconnected for native fish, 15 acres of wetland and floodplain restoration and preservation, 0.5 miles of stream habitat reconstruction, 45 acres of new open space, and 20 cfs of protected water rights for improved streamflow and stream temperatures.

## Enhancing Forest Reserve Resiliency through Fuels Management in Pohakea Watershed (HI)

Grantee: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council

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

Matching Funds: ..... \$430,478

**Total Amount: ..... \$605,478**

Establish and improve fuel breaks in strategically placed corridors to mitigate the pervasive cycle of wildfire and protect 3,414 acres of Forest Reserve in Ma'alaea. Project will engage more than 10 partner organizations and community volunteers to create fuel breaks and establish fire resistant plants.

## Community Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience in the San Bernardino Mountains (CA)

Grantee: American Forests

Grant Award: ..... \$202,072

Matching Funds: ..... \$205,000

**Total Amount: ..... \$407,072**

Accelerate resilience focused forest restoration and engage vulnerable communities in planning and decision-making surrounding managing wildfire risk while building local capacity. Project will use a participatory process to develop a regional conservation plan, plant 80,000 drought- and fire-resilient trees, restore 100 acres impacted by wildfire and engage 400 community members.

## Scaling Green Infrastructure Investments in Cities (II)

Grantee: CDP North America

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

Matching Funds: ..... \$330,000

**Total Amount: ..... \$580,000**

Build capacity of communities in an additional 15 cities across the United States to help them implement sustainable



infrastructure for storm water management, urban wildlife habitats and tree canopy improvement. Project will perform targeted outreach to cities to increase knowledge of sustainable infrastructure financing, develop cities' use of online tools to document green infrastructure and habitat benefits and facilitate knowledge-sharing and capacity-building across cities.

### Restoring Great Dismal Swamp to Improve Flood Resilience and Wetland Habitat (NC)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

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

Matching Funds: ..... \$263,515

**Total Amount: ..... \$503,515**

Restore forested wetlands within a portion of Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge which were previously ditched and drained for logging roads to increase precipitation storage capacity and slow the runoff rate towards communities after storm events. Project will restore 12,000 acres and improve the hydrologic conditions supportive of the once-diverse wetlands while simultaneously improving the resilience of adjacent, low elevation agricultural and residential areas to flooding.

### Nez Perce Tribe Restoration of Wet Meadows (ID)

Grantee: Nez Perce Tribe

Grant Award: ..... \$201,300

Matching Funds: ..... \$238,939

**Total Amount: ..... \$405,839**

Protect, restore and inventory culturally and ecologically important wet meadow habitat in the Lolo Creek watershed to benefit unique vegetation communities and improve water quality. Project will restore 70 acres through invasive species management and stream buffer enhancements and provide sustainable management education opportunities to youth in five different schools within undeserved communities.

### Rio Grande Riparian Restoration Project (CO)

Grantee: Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation

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

Matching Funds: ..... \$275,373

**Total Amount: ..... \$475,373**

Improve the health and resilience of the Rio Grande in Alamosa County, CO by restoring streambanks and riparian areas and removing noxious weeds, thereby reducing sediment load to the river; improving riparian and aquatic habitat, reconnecting the river to its floodplain and revitalizing riparian wetlands. Project will restore 25 acres through noxious weed removal, restore 1.2 miles of instream habitat and plant 1380 willows and cottonwood trees.

### Hanning Flat Acquisition Project (CA)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Award: ..... \$400,000

Matching Funds: ..... \$1,047,703

**Total Amount: ..... \$1,447,703**



Volunteers remove invasive plants in the James River Watershed, Virginia

Credit: James River Association

Increase resilience to wildfire for rural communities in Kern County, California by conserving a 3,806-acre block of forest and grassland and developing a management plan that enhances fire resilience, ecological health and outdoor recreation. Project will improve the health of native imperiled species, enhance opportunities for outdoor recreation, working lands and other local industries and disseminate the lessons of a fire resilient approach to land conservation and management.

### Leadership in Community Resilience Program (III)

Grantee: National League of Cities Institute

Grant Award: ..... \$249,161

Matching Funds: ..... \$110,000

**Total Amount: ..... \$359,161**

Expand the Leadership in Community Resilience program with a cohort of eight additional cities throughout the United States, providing additional technical assistance and peer learning to complete a local resilience project in each city. The project will make 16 staff site visits, complete eight local implementation or demonstration projects, host a national Resilient Cities Summit and deliver new education and leadership training workshops for dozens of additional cities beyond the cohort.