

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

2015 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS



NFWF

On the cover: A herd of mule deer moves down a ridge in Montana. NFWF's conservation investments in western states benefit not only imperiled species such as sage grouse and swift fox, but also more common species such as cutthroat trout, mule deer, elk and pronghorn.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is dedicated to sustaining, restoring and enhancing the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats for current and future generations.

NFWF will advance its mission through innovative public and private partnerships, and by investing financial resources and intellectual capital into science-based programs designed to address conservation priorities and achieve measurable outcomes.

In Fiscal Year 2015, NFWF funded more than 800 conservation projects across the nation, generating an on-the-ground conservation impact of more than \$378.1 million.

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UNITED STATES AND U.S. TERRITORIES

FISCAL YEAR 2015 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

ALABAMA

Alabama Forest Resources Center
Red-Cockaded Woodpecker and Longleaf Pine Restoration in Southeast Alabama
Maintain, enhance and expand ongoing recovery efforts for red-cockaded woodpeckers and other species on private quail plantations in southeast Alabama.
\$135,000

Alabama Forestry Association
Enhancing Longleaf Pine Ecosystems to Improve Black Pine Snake Habitat in Alabama and Mississippi
Engage landowners to form community-based burning networks; enlist mentors to work with landowners to provide training and on-the-ground experience; and provide education and coordinating access to technical and cost-share assistance. Project partners will restore 200 acres of longleaf pine and enhance 7,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat primarily by increasing the amount and frequency of prescribed burning in the 14 counties in Alabama and Mississippi historically occupied by the black pine snake.
\$149,804

Alabama Forestry Association
Incentives for Planting Shortleaf Pine in the Alabama Cumberlands
Work with private landowners identified during outreach efforts conducted through a related project to provide cost-share incentives for site preparation and planting of shortleaf pine. Incentives will overcome a major barrier to planting shortleaf pine and will result in the restoration of 1,136 acres of shortleaf pine/upland savanna forest in the Cumberlands of Alabama.
\$150,000

Alabama Wildlife Federation
Catalyzing Private Landowner Contributions to Alabama Gulf Coast Conservation
Use capacity building, expanded partnerships, technical assistance and outreach to increase landowner engagement and on-the-ground stewardship implementation on private lands in Alabama's Gulf Coast counties. Project will create, maintain, enhance and/or eliminate threats to habitats for shorebirds, waterbirds and waterfowl, as well as terrestrial birds and wildlife whose properly managed habitat contributes to positive downstream Gulf Coast water quality.
\$83,590

American Forest Foundation
Shortleaf Restoration on Alabama Lauderdale and Freedom Hills Forever Wild Tracts
Expand on an existing NFWF project and partner with the implementation team focused on shortleaf in the Alabama Cumberland Plateau by planting 1,193 acres of shortleaf pine on public lands in Lauderdale and Colbert counties.
\$150,000

Auburn University
Town Creek Watershed Restoration at Auburn University
Add three restorative features and educational signage to the headwaters of a tributary of Town Creek at Auburn University. The wetland restoration and riparian habitat project will provide restoration and educational activities for watershed residents, students and visitors on water quantity, water quality and community engagement.
\$46,780

Baldwin County Soil and Water Conservation District
Gulf Coast Gully Restoration Initiative
Restore classic gullies in Baldwin County using current engineering designs and practices combined with natural restoration techniques. Project will result in significant reductions in sediment and nutrient transport, peak discharge attenuation and increased time of concentration.
\$200,000

CLS America
Electronic Reporting in the Gulf of Mexico Charter Boat Fleet (AL, FL, MS)
Implement electronic reporting in approximately 275 recreational charter boat vessels in the Gulf of Mexico. Project will engage the fishing industry, federal and state managers, and scientists from Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to generate real-time, verifiable, and high-quality recreational fishing data.
\$1,700,000

Conservian
Restoring Shorebird Populations and Building Capacity on the Eastern Gulf (AL, MS)
Expand Coastal Bird Conservation/Conservian's on-the-ground presence in Alabama and Mississippi. Project will create a local volunteer steward base and assist with site manager and stakeholder relations. Strong partner relationships, science-based field expertise, and use of standardized monitoring methods and best management practices will help serve as a new "model of excellence" for comprehensive shorebird management on the Gulf Coast.
\$100,000

Conservian
U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Field Monitoring Manual (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Build a standardized training manual for field personnel and site stewards engaged in monitoring and protecting beach-nesting birds on the Gulf Coast. The field manual will be directed toward those actually working on the ground with beach-nesting birds, and will serve as the next logical step to implementing the recommendations of the U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Assessment and Management Guidelines.
\$75,000

Cumberland River Compact
Tennessee/Cumberland Strategic Plan for Barrier Removal and Aquatic Connectivity Improvement (AL, KY, TN)
Partner with The Nature Conservancy and American Rivers to improve aquatic connectivity in high-priority watersheds of the Cumberland and Tennessee River basins by strategically accelerating the momentum of barrier removals.
\$125,000

FishAmerica Foundation
Initiating Barotrauma and Mortality Reduction Strategies with Gulf of Mexico Recreational Anglers (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Advance the implementation of FishSmart best practices designed to reduce mortality of fish released during recreational fishing. Project will distribute descending devices on recreational for-hire vessels and select recreational anglers to assess the adoption of best practices and potential reduction of post-release mortality.
\$60,000

Friends of the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge
Native Habitat Restoration at Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge
Restore native habitat at two locations in the Cahaba National Wildlife Refuge. Volunteers will plant shade trees, shrubs and wildflowers to compliment longleaf pine restoration in the interior of the park.
\$6,000

Mississippi Land Trust
Veterans Prescribed Fire Crew (AL, MS)
Train and outfit a six-person prescribed fire crew composed of military veterans to conduct prescribed burns and other management activities in coastal Mississippi. Activities will take place on private and public lands to include open wet pine savannas and upland longleaf pine.
\$200,000

Mississippi State University
Gulf of Mexico Bird Monitoring Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Complete a structured decision-making effort to identify goals, objectives and values underpinning a Gulf-wide bird monitoring program. The resulting bird monitoring framework and decision support tools will provide a strong basis for increasing coordination and communication and the advancement of bird monitoring across the Gulf of Mexico.
\$222,635

Mobile County Soil and Water Conservation District
Mobile County Soil and Water Conservation District Habitat Incentive Program
Improve, restore and rehabilitate land to control or eradicate invasives that are detrimental to gopher tortoises and ground-nesting birds.
\$200,000

Ruffner Mountain Nature Coalition

Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve's Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Community Outreach for the Importance of Native Landscaping
Remove invasive plants and reseed with native plant species appropriate to specific habitats, encouraging wildlife to use the area. Project will educate the community about the importance of landscaping with native plant species.

\$25,000

The Conservation Fund

Coastal Headwaters Forest, Longleaf Conservation/Restoration (AL, FL)
Restore longleaf pine and permanently protect approximately 205,000 acres of working forestlands via a conservation easement. Project will provide significant benefits to longleaf-dependent species.

\$1,000,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach
Maintain a longleaf consul position responsible for coordination and exchange of information among the 17 multipartner local implementation teams, which are responsible for organizing, planning and delivering conservation actions to restore and enhance the longleaf pine ecosystem across the historic longleaf range. Project also will support the development and distribution of the Longleaf Leader, a quarterly publication.

\$31,886

The Longleaf Alliance

Cost-Effective Mapping of Longleaf Extent and Condition (AL, FL, GA)
Work to integrate existing longleaf ecosystem data and established databases using novel, high-resolution remote sensing and statistical methods developed by Rocky Mountain Research Station. Project will quantify current forest ecosystem characteristics for four significant longleaf pine geographic areas and develop methods and materials to facilitate the replication of these inventory and analysis techniques for other areas.

\$100,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Increasing Longleaf Restoration and Management on Public and Private Lands in the GCPEP Landscape (AL, FL)
Continue to collaborate with the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership (GCPEP) partners on priority longleaf restoration and management projects across the GCPEP landscape.

\$325,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Translocation Support for the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative: Years 13-14 (AL, FL, GA, MS)
Provide 30 red-cockaded woodpeckers annually for two years (total of 60 birds, 30 pairs) to the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative (SRTC). Based on previous years (2004-2014) of total SRTC available birds (averaged 55 pairs per year), 15 pairs from this grant will equal 27 percent of the annual total SRTC allocation.

\$165,000

The Nature Conservancy

Accelerate Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration on Private Lands on the Fall Line (AL, GA)

Promote longleaf pine conservation on private lands near Fort Benning Military Installation using a successful outreach and education program that will build on a network of model forest demonstrations, increase technical and financial assistance to landowners, and build community support for longleaf conservation efforts in the region. Project will implement conservation activities on over 22,000 acres of the longleaf pine ecosystem on the Fall Line.

\$311,000

The Nature Conservancy

Gulf Conservation Corps Restoration Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Support two new Conservation Corps and a Veterans Conservation Corps pilot demonstrations across the Gulf region to undertake projects that restore and protect natural resources. Project will make conservation progress on the ground to improve long-term habitat health for native plants and animals, build organizational strength to continue to use conservation corps as a significant strategy for Gulf restoration, and train young people to participate in the expanding Gulf restoration economy.

\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy

Strategic Longleaf Pine Restoration and Outreach in Alabama

Provide planting cost-share, prescribed fire assistance and technical assistance and outreach to private landowners within the range of longleaf pine in Alabama. Project will increase longleaf pine acreage, increase acres maintained with fire, engage private landowners in active forest management, and provide well-managed examples of longleaf pine habitat.

\$150,000

The Nature Conservancy

Talladega Mountains Longleaf Pine Restoration Project (AL, GA)

Further efforts by partners to expand and restore longleaf pine habitats, primarily with the use of prescribed fire, in northeast Alabama and northwest Georgia. Project will be geared towards restoring the historical fire regime throughout the mountain longleaf pine range.

\$200,000

The Red Mountain Park Fund

Educating Communities Through Riparian Restoration

Establish comprehensive ecosystem restoration programs for three threatened riparian zones on the largest post-industrial greenspace in the nation. Project partners will develop an informed populace that understands the importance of protecting the watersheds that sustain them.

\$30,000

The Red Mountain Park Fund

Red Mountain Park Forest Management and Sustainability Program

Restore and rehabilitate Red Mountain Park to its natural state while promoting healthy forest environments that can be enjoyed by visitors and help native flora and fauna thrive. Project will engage a broad base of volunteers, academic institutions, government agencies and nonprofit partners in forest restoration and education.

\$25,000

University of Georgia Research Foundation
Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)

Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.

\$138,692

ALASKA**Alaska Geographic Association**

Empowering Anchorage's Youth to Bring a Diversity of Perspectives and Citizen Engagement to Conservation

Restore 20 miles of Anchorage streams in an already designated Urban Bird Treaty city, provide a continuum of opportunities for urban youth and families to engage with wildlife and conservation, mentor a cohort of urban/rural youth ambassadors to promote shared perspectives and leadership, and engage non-traditional partners to achieve shared conservation and urban community development objectives.

\$30,001

Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
Integrating Electronic Monitoring in Alaska's At-Sea Monitoring of Fixed Gear Fisheries

Integrate electronic monitoring on up to 120 small vessels in the Gulf of Alaska's fixed-gear fisheries. Project will increase the portion of the fleet capable of providing fisheries-dependent data, reduce sampling errors, and inform the development of electronic monitoring regulations for the small-vessel, fixed-gear fleet.

\$492,553

Aleutians East Borough

Establishing a Community Fishing Association in the Gulf of Alaska to Provide Long-Term Fishing Community Access and Stability
Enhance community sustainability by developing a community fishing association inclusive of fishing dependent communities throughout the Gulf of Alaska. Project will draft a community sustainability plan for use in the Gulf of Alaska Trawl Bycatch Management program.

\$95,000

Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon
Build capacity among community leaders in the Kuskokwim drainage by developing a shared knowledge base about salmon population dynamics and management. Project will include regional workshops on salmon ecology and population dynamics, critical sources of uncertainty for fishery management, and how models inform decision-making.

\$83,000

City of Gustavus

Mountain View Drainage Fish Barrier Removal
Construct a bridge to replace the Lukes Driveway barrier culvert, one of five culverts in Mountain View Drainage that block or impede upstream passage of salmon, trout and char. Project will restore fish passage and natural flow, debris and sediment conveyance in the channel.

\$36,000

Environment for the Americas

Celebrate Shorebirds (Celebra las Playeras): Engaging Latino Youth in Natural Resource Careers (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)
Gather data on the movements, habitat use and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds. Project will engage Latino communities in learning about shorebirds and their conservation, as well as about the federal lands that provide educational and recreational opportunities.

\$80,000

LGL Alaska Research Associates

Photo-Identification of Beluga Whales in Upper Cook Inlet – VII

Continue to use photo-identification to assess and monitor individual and population characteristics of endangered Cook Inlet Beluga Whales in order to better understand them and their lack of recovery. Project results will help managers learn more about Cook Inlet beluga whales' use of critical habitat, survival, reproduction, incidence of disease and trauma, and frequency of exposure to human activities that may be impeding recovery.

\$185,000

Manomet

Monitoring Shorebirds in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

Complete the surveys designed under the Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, a critical shorebird nesting area. Project will help advance a broad scale and multi-national effort to monitor the size and trend of populations of shorebirds.

\$94,402

Native Village of Gambell

Supporting Marine Mammal Advisory Councils on St. Lawrence Island
Further tribal harvest management on St. Lawrence Island through marine mammal advisory committees and tribal monitors. Project will continue enforcement of local ordinances for subsistence Pacific walrus harvest and allow for the development of conservation and management goals.

\$100,000

Native Village of White Mountain

Ichupak River Instream Flow Reservation and Fish Documentation

Address strategies to protect the subsistence economy for residents of the Golovin Bay watershed. Project will gather instream flow data to use for establishing an instream flow reservation with the State of Alaska.

\$35,079

North Pacific Fisheries Association

Refining Electronic Monitoring for Implementation on Small, Fixed-Gear Pacific Cod Boats in Alaska

Test and gather electronic monitoring data on small pot boats fishing for Pacific cod in the Gulf of Alaska. Project will field-test two strategies to estimate discard weights and further refine a strategy to improve data capture and review efficiencies using electronic monitoring.

\$68,000

Northern Research Technical Assistance Center (NORTAC)

Pribilof Island Seabird Youth Network: Seabirds and Invasive Species

Develop integrated curricula for children to raise awareness about the importance of Alaska's biodiversity, the impact of introduced invasive species, and what can be done to prevent their introduction to the region.

\$45,000

Oregon State University

Seabird Bycatch Outreach to Alaska Longline Fisheries (AK, OR, WA)

Reach out to fisheries and provide seabird bycatch reduction training sessions at targeted ports in an effort to reduce and maintain seabird bycatch at or below the lowest levels observed. Project will analyze 20 years of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Groundfish Observer Program data to identify key sectors needed for outreach.

\$153,485

Prince William Sound Community College, University of Alaska

South Central Alaska Natural Resource Management Internship Program

Prepare youth and returning veterans for careers in natural resource management professions. Project will include an instructional component at Prince William Sound Community College and hands-on training and experiential learning at field locations throughout southcentral Alaska.

\$74,896

Saltwater

Development of Open-Source Software for Electronic Monitoring Data Review

Develop a foundation of open-source software for review of electronic monitoring data. Project will use an iterative design process to expand on the capabilities of existing review software in order to create freely available software that can be easily adapted to different fisheries.

\$88,000

Sea State

Open-Source Software Platform for Ship-board Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (AK, OR, WA)

Develop a suite of complementary software applications that will support electronic monitoring data acquisition, review, summarization and archival. Project will create an entirely open source and freely available software platform that can be adapted to the specific needs of any given fishery.

\$235,738

Seward Association for the Advancement of Marine Science (Alaska SeaLife Center)

Cook Inlet Beluga Ecosystem Data Portal Development

Develop a publicly accessible data portal to improve management and public awareness of Cook Inlet beluga whales. The portal will serve as a tool for integrating and visualizing Cook Inlet beluga sighting data with other regional biological, physical and socio-economic data.

\$80,000

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition
Improving Water Quality and

Restoring the Natural Habitat of Lower Jordan Creek in Juneau

Develop a manual for best management practices for stormwater on Jordan Creek. Project will include a demonstration project to treat stormwater using an L-shape bioswale, a barrier fence to prevent snow from being pushed into the stream, and the restoration of riparian habitat by controlling invasive plants and planting native trees and shrubs.

\$27,186

The Nature Conservancy

Hydrographic Mapping in the Mat-Su Basin
Develop an integrated hydrographic mapping platform as part of a collaborative effort to update the National Hydrographic Dataset and National Hydrographic Dataset Plus for the entire Matanuska-Susitna Basin. Project will set the standard for integrating the update of hydrography with stream and watershed mapping tools elsewhere in Alaska and will significantly benefit management and conservation of salmon and other aquatic resources.
\$75,000

The Nature Conservancy

Utilizing Young Growth to Restore Stoney Watershed
Restore about 1 mile of instream habitat and treat up to 200 acres of forest stands on Prince of Wales Island in southeast Alaska. Project will integrate aquatic and terrestrial restoration to improve wildlife and fisheries habitat.
\$75,000

The Student Conservation Association

Alaskan Youth Restoring Alaska's Parks: Nabesna Area Restoration Project
Recruit, train and lead Alaskan youth to restore and protect wildlife habitat, scenic quality and natural resources in the Nabesna area in response to resource degradation from overuse.
\$25,000

Third Sector New England

Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)
Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

Trout Unlimited

Salmon Habitat Conservation Through the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership
Work with the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership to implement three conservation projects to support salmon conservation efforts in southeast Alaska. Project will improve fish passage and habitat integrity for freshwater and anadromous fish species through regional coordination, access to improved assessment data, and compliance with functioning construction designs and management practices.
\$25,000

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District

Old Tyonek Creek Fish Passage Restoration
Design and replace a fish passage barrier in a subsistence area with an embedded culvert that passes the 100-year flood event and provides fish passage, opening up 8.3 miles of salmon habitat.
\$100,000

**U.S. Department of Agriculture,
U.S. Forest Service, Arctic Landscape
Conservation Cooperative**

Operational Polar Bear Den Mapping
Implement a SnowDens-3D polar bear snowdrift denning habitat mapping tool in a decision-support framework and make it available to end-users interested in polar bear management activities. Project will help reduce disturbance to polar bear dens by improving search and location efficiency through accurate mapping.
\$98,367

**U.S. Department of Agriculture,
U.S. Forest Service**

Assessing the Vulnerability to Climate in Prince William Sound Watersheds
Conduct a study to assess the vulnerability of watersheds in Prince William Sound to the potential effects of a changing climate. Project will continue ongoing field work and will begin an initial vulnerability assessment.
\$60,000

**U.S. Department of Commerce,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, Fisheries**

Establishing an Arctic Trajectory Analysis Planner in High-Risk Areas
Create a trajectory analysis planner in areas identified as high risk in an oil spill risk analysis created by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 2014 and in information collected from ongoing arctic studies.
\$215,000

**U.S. Department of Commerce, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
Alaska Fisheries Science Center**

Assessing the Genetic Structure of Arctic Ice Seals (AK, CA, WA)
Conduct a genetic analysis of spatial and temporal structure of ringed and bearded seals on breeding sites in the North Pacific. Project will provide useful information for identifying appropriate conservation and management strategies for these species to avoid future depletion and to promote sustainable harvest.
\$80,405

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
Bureau of Land Management**
Rearing the Next Fisheries Cohort (multiple states)

Host 20 high school student interns during the summer 2015 at 13 field offices of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working with American Fisheries Society, BLM will provide an eight-week, paid internship and a diverse conservation experience in the fisheries and aquatic habitat field and explore potential career options in the fisheries field.
\$100,000

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**
Evaluating Innovative Technology to Monitor Adult Salmon Returns

Test an innovative application for fisheries management: the use of non-lethal, graduated-field fish guidance technology to redirect returning adult salmon into counting chambers. Project will demonstrate a method that enhances the ability to enumerate and manage subsistence and other fisheries in Alaska with less costly and less labor-intensive approaches.
\$99,587

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

Steller's and Spectacled Eider Recovery
Recover Steller's and spectacled eiders in Alaska by using predator control methods to increase reproductive success and by monitoring eider nests. Project will include outreach programs that promote community involvement in conservation, reduce take of threatened eiders, and provide summer employment opportunities for local youths.
\$100,000

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge**
Building Polar Bear Conservation

Management Capacity at Barter Island
Develop a local strategy to reduce human-bear conflicts as use of coastal habitats increases for both polar bears and humans. Project will expand capacity to implement community-based polar bear management and conservation strategies, increase the role of local Alaska Native youth in natural resources management, and expand communication of critical safety and conservation messages.
\$120,000

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Division of Migratory Birds**

Post-Breeding Migratory Movements of the Red Knot in Western Alaska
Locate autumn staging areas in western Alaska used by red knots prior to a nonstop flight to wintering areas in Mexico. Project will monitor breeding productivity, attach up to 60 transmitters to adults breeding on the Seward Peninsula and their chicks, and track daily movements until departure.
\$59,578

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge**
Nesting Ecology of Kittlitz's Murrelet on Kodiak Refuge – III

Continue a successful nesting ecology study of Kittlitz's murrelets on Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge by adding a satellite telemetry component to locate at-sea foraging locations of breeding adults.
\$90,000

University of Alaska Anchorage
Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program in Partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Lewis, Gunn and Livingston Alaska Research Associates
Provide conservation career exploration through academic success and summer internships. Project will support students in the ANSEP Summer Bridge and University components who successfully complete internships with U.S. Forest Service professionals, preparing them to apply and compete for permanent federal job opportunities upon graduation.
\$75,000

University of California – Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)
Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.
\$174,934

Wildlife Conservation Society
Waterway Safety Committee for the Protection of Marine Mammals and Subsistence Fishing
Develop a Waterway Safety Committee, a multi-stakeholder group that includes the key parties using a specific waterway, for the arctic. An Arctic Committee will ensure the protection of marine mammals and subsistence activities.
\$101,238

ARIZONA

American Conservation Experience
Cerbat Foothills Recreation Area
Support a crew of seven youths and one crew leader for a period of two weeks to construct 3 miles of non-motorized multiple-use trail within the Cerbat Foothills Recreation Area.
\$10,000

American Conservation Experience
Harquahala Peak Pack Trail (Harquahala Wilderness) Maintenance and Restoration Project
Collaborate and work with the Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Hassayampa Field Office, to connect youths to public lands through volunteer internship opportunities in the Harquahala Wilderness.
\$20,000

Arizona Conservation Corps
Restoration of Public Use Trails in Saguaro National Park and the City of Tucson's "A" Mountain Park
Complete much-needed trail improvement and maintenance projects at Saguaro National Park and the City of Tucson's "A" Mountain Park, utilizing a crew of six members over a 10-week period.
\$40,000

Arizona Wilderness Coalition
Preserving Arizona's Desert Rivers
Restore two perennial stream corridors offering high potential for habitat improvement. Project will provide habitat for yellow-billed cuckoo and other sensitive species at these valuable streams in the Sonoran Desert.
\$41,334

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
Arizona Monarch Conservation Partnership
Facilitate the creation of the Arizona Monarch Conservation Partnership as a network of government agencies, NGOs, universities and citizen-scientists to advance monarch butterfly conservation in its western range in Arizona. Activities include Asclepias surveys, seed collection, increasing Asclepias seed availability and density, native plant propagation and habitat improvement, monarch monitoring in breeding areas, and tagging monarchs to determine migration flyways.
\$100,000

Conservation Legacy
The Arizona Conservation Corps San Pedro Project with the Bureau of Land Management
Provide cut-stump treatment of tamarisk on the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area with a youth crew of five members.
\$5,000

Gila Watershed Partnership
Developing Riparian Resiliency and Future Land Stewards Along the Upper Gila River
Employ local youth in Arizona Conservation Corps crews to mechanically remove the invasive tamarisk and restore native habitat. Project will create riparian habitat resiliency in advance of the anticipated arrival of the tamarisk leaf beetle, and provide career pathways for future land stewards.
\$75,000

National Audubon Society
Audubon Arizona's River Pathways – II
Engage hundreds of urban high-school students in riparian monitoring activities and hire four summer interns annually. Project will conduct surveys for the federally threatened yellow-billed cuckoo at up to eight priority drainages on public land in Arizona.
\$62,350

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Improve Detection of Invasive Brown Trout and Brook Trout in Apache Trout Habitat
Develop and implement environmental DNA tools to determine distribution and occupancy of invasive brown and brook trout throughout Apache trout habitat in the southwestern United States. Project will assess the efficacy of barriers to brown and brook trout movement, as well as the presence of these species after wildfires and eradication efforts.
\$29,526

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Fisheries Resources Office
Apache Trout Conservation and Recovery in Arizona
Conduct fish barrier monitoring and remove non-native fishes from six recovery streams to benefit native Apache trout populations. Project will conduct population and habitat monitoring to collect up-to-date population status information that can be used to determine if a delisting package should be developed.
\$100,000

University of Idaho
Dispersal patterns of Yuma Ridgway's Rail (AZ, CA)
Study the effect and impact of solar technologies on rails. Project will attach platform terminal transmitters to less than 30 Yuma Ridgway's rails to determine dispersal distances, and the conditions under which young birds move to find new habitat patches.
\$52,000

Watershed Management Group
Save Sabino Creek: Community Education and Restoration
Restore habitat and surface flow to Sabino Creek, located downstream of Sabino Canyon, the most visited natural area in Tucson. Project will create a long-term, multi-faceted program including an educational and awareness program with local residents, on-the-ground restoration efforts in private and public spaces, and partner collaboration to protect and enhance shallow groundwater areas.
\$30,000

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)
Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.
\$104,181

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Wildlife Officer's Association

Guy Bradley Award 2015, Federal Level – I

Award funds to the Arkansas Wildlife Officer's Association in honor of Darwin Huggins, assistant special agent in charge of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office, who was the federal level recipient of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's 2015 Guy Bradley Award.

\$500

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)

Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy

Devil's Eyebrow Protection – II

Acquire 410 acres of contiguous forestland along Beaver Lake harboring 27 rare species, protecting water quality and providing public access opportunities.

\$1,860,170

The Nature Conservancy

Kings River Nature Preserve Conservation – II

Complete the purchase of 608 acres lining significant segments of the Kings River. Acquisition will add over two miles of river and riparian corridor to the Kings River Preserve, Arkansas's longest privately owned stretch of river corridor that is open to the public.

\$300,000

CALIFORNIA

Acterra

San Francisco Peninsula Stewardship Project

Engage thousands of student and community volunteers to enhance and restore natural lands and creeks across the San Francisco Bay Area Peninsula, encompassing Santa Clara and Southern San Mateo Counties. Project will include 18 habitat restoration sites managed under contract with federal and state agencies, municipalities and corporations.

\$68,000

American Conservation Experience

John Muir National Historic Site Stewardship and Restoration

Combine efforts with the Conservation Corps, North Bay, to directly assist with various habitat restoration and site stewardship of the John Muir National Historic Site. Project will use trained conservation corps crews and long-term individual professional development internships.

\$41,490

American River Parkway Foundation

The Restoration of the American

River Parkway

Restore the parkway through diverse programs using volunteers and staff. Project will remove invasive plants, reduce waterway pollutants, increase the presence of native plants and rebuild decaying parkway infrastructure.

\$50,000

American Rivers

Critical Next Steps: Amplifying Capacity and Investment

Ensure the long-term success of meadow restoration throughout the Sierra Nevada by providing restoration training to key agencies engaged in meadow restoration and clarifying economic and natural benefits of meadow restoration to attract broader investment.

\$183,600

American Rivers

Improving Habitat for Steelhead in

Tributaries to the San Francisco Bay

Advance recovery of steelhead populations in several tributaries to the San Francisco Bay by advancing toward removal of three high-priority barriers to open access to 11 miles of high-quality habitat. Project will increase fish migration and import of ocean nutrients at the barrier sites, improve water quality and habitat conditions, and improve resiliency of aquatic species.

\$47,000

Audubon California

Conservation of Aechmophorus Grebe

Colonies at Six Northern California Lakes – IV

Increase population numbers and breeding success for Aechmophorus grebe and ensure lasting changes to support the species in the long-term. Project will begin Phase IV of this conservation effort focusing on population impacts from drought and human disturbance.

\$57,698

John C. Baker

2015 State Guy Bradley Award

Award the 2015 State Guy Bradley Award from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to Assistant Chief John Baker of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, who has been protecting wildlife and natural resources for 28 years.

\$1,000

Buccaneer Fishing

Operationalizing Electronic Monitoring in the West Coast Groundfish Fishery

Operationalize electronic monitoring for the Pacific groundfish fishery by defining costs and operational protocols of different catch handling requirements. Project will compare total costs, retention scenarios, validate logbook accuracy, and help develop third-party data review standards.

\$111,750

California Conservation Corps

CCC-BOR Folsom Lake Shaded Fuel Break

Partner with the Bureau of Reclamation, Folsom Dam Unit, to engage young adults to develop a shaded fuel break at the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area to reduce the potential for fires.

\$12,500

California Conservation Corps

New Melones Recreation and

Habitat Restoration

Partner with the Bureau of Reclamation to engage young adults in the restoration of a critical trail system at New Melones Lake. Project will improve public access, recreation, stewardship and restore wildlife habitat.

\$49,200

California Institute of Environmental Studies

Conservation Action Plan for the Ashy

Storm-Petrel (CA, Mexico)

Develop an ashy storm petrel conservation plan that will address primary threats and best practices to eliminate or mitigate threats to the species. Project will provide a framework for conservation of ashy storm petrel that will guide conservation and fundraising activities and obtain commitment from stakeholders to lead conservation and monitoring activities.

\$49,500

California Institute of Environmental Studies

Decline of Scripps's Murrelet at

San Miguel Island

Determine the current population size of Scripps's murrelet on San Miguel Island, a small and remote breeding colony for the species that has been threatened by several factors. Project will assess trends in population size from 1975 to 2014 and determine if the population on the island has extirpated.

\$35,000

California State Coastal Conservancy

Humboldt Bay Dunes and Tidal

Marsh Restoration

Restore 100 acres of tidal marsh and coastal dunes native communities as part of a coordinated regional eradication program for Chilean cordgrass and European beachgrass.

\$75,000

California State University

Long Beach Research Foundation

Restoration Program Outreach for the

Montrose Settlement Restoration Program

Provide outreach products and support on outreach activities for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program. Project will consist of outreach grants, social media tools, educational exhibits, multi-media products and a range of printed products that are used to reach various audiences.

\$31,069

California Trout

Fall River Native Trout Population Monitoring and Assessment

Work with partners to establish a long-term passive integrated transponder monitoring program to collect data on critical spawning locations, migration patterns and genetically distinct native trout sub-populations. Project will tag and measure 800 native Fall River trout, analyze genetic samples, install additional passive integrated transponder detection arrays, produce management recommendations, and coordinate quarterly meetings to oversee the project.

\$50,000

California Trout

Restoring Kern River Rainbow Trout and Amphibian Habitat in Osa Creek and Meadow

Restore 2,000 feet of stream habitat and surrounding Osa Meadow habitat for mountain yellow-legged frogs and improve water quality for Kern River rainbow trout. Project will support assessment and permitting, baseline monitoring, design and planning, field crew supervision, project coordination, creation of a plant bank for revegetation and a literature review of carbon dynamics in meadow systems. The next phase will complete restoration of Osa Meadow.

\$50,000

Center for Ecosystem

Management and Restoration

Russian River Keystone Flow Improvement

Combine scientific and legal strategies with outreach and on-the-ground projects to reduce the impact of diversions on coho salmon, thereby improving survival in the Russian River watershed. Project will measure streamflow at 22 locations, continue to monitor juvenile coho survival and complete feasibility analyses and/or designs at three locations.

\$500,000

City and County of San Francisco

Oak Woodland and Coastal Scrub

Restoration on Yerba Buena Island

Manage a bayside pygmy oak woodland on Yerba Buena Island by removing invasive plants and restoring habitat for native plant species, such as the fiesta flower that only grows on the island. Project will integrate island residents in the management and ecological stewardship of Yerba Buena Island.

\$40,000

City of Los Angeles,

Department of Recreation and Parks

Cabrillo Beach Pier Fishing Program – IV

Engage 450 youths from economically disadvantaged communities in the south and east areas of Los Angeles, in 15 hands-on fishing sessions. Project will raise awareness about safe fish consumption along the Los Angeles coastline, explain the impact of human activity on the Palos Verdes Shelf ecosystem, and provide a safe, hands-on fishing experience.

\$15,000

Conservation Legacy

Sampling Salt Ponds and Surveying Birds on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge

Engage an intern to conduct surveys for shorebirds and waterfowl abundance, distribution and behavior. Ongoing studies at these ponds will increase understanding of waterbird abundance in relation to salinity, depth and invertebrate composition, and will provide managers with key information to optimize ponds for wintering and migrating shorebirds.

\$6,250

Council for Watershed Health

Grown In LA: Los Angeles River Native

Plant Pipeline and Nursery Network

Address the critical shortage of native plants needed for local ecosystem restoration projects throughout the Los Angeles River's 834-square-mile watershed. The project will establish a network of six pilot teaching and research native plant nurseries on vacant and underutilized park land in disadvantaged communities.

\$50,000

County of Mono

California Environmental Quality

Act Analysis of Water Transfers

Prepare a California Environmental Quality Act analysis of water transfers related to Walker Lake restoration, participate in a pilot water transaction project, and amend the Mono County General Plan to address Walker Basin Restoration Program water transfers.

\$470,518

Ducks Unlimited

Cullinan Ranch Revegetation and Interpretive Sign Project

Enhance 10 acres of transition zone habitat, directly benefiting the habitat quality of 1,575 acres of tidal wetlands at Cullinan Ranch, and provide improved outdoor education opportunities by installing numerous educational interpretive signs. Native plant restoration activities will be conducted in areas disturbed by the Cullinan Ranch Restoration Project, including transition zone areas along levee slopes.

\$100,000

Earth Team

Sustainable Youth: Creating Green

Infrastructure Through Community-Based Urban Forestry

Recruit small teams (10-12) of low-income students from three partner public schools to work year long with Earth Team staff. Students will learn about the importance of urban forests, restore an artesian well on campus connected to the local watershed and plant 1,000 trees in and around campus locations to improve community livelihoods.

\$85,816

Environment for the Americas

Celebrate Shorebirds (Celebra las Playeras): Engaging Latino Youth in Natural Resource Careers (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)

Gather data on the movements, habitat use and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds. Project will engage Latino communities in learning about shorebirds and their conservation, as well as about the federal lands that provide educational and recreational opportunities.

\$80,000

Farallon Institute

Abundance Estimate for Northern Anchovy in the Central-Southern California Current

Initiate an abundance estimate for the central-southern Northern anchovy stock, essential forage for a diversity of predators and piscivorous seabirds in the California Current ecosystem. Project will share results with governing agencies and will recommend approaches for sampling to enhance full stock assessments in the future.

\$22,501

Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association

Seabird Protection Network – II

Reduce human disturbance to seabirds and other wildlife along the central California coast through an organized outreach and education program combined with law enforcement and seabird management actions.

\$161,186

Farmworker Institute of Education and Leadership Development (FIELD)

Joshua Tree National Park's Cottonwood/

Eagle Mountain District Assessment and

Restoration of Illegal Off-Road Routes

Restore areas of Joshua Tree National Park affected by illegal off-road routes. The work will incorporate 40 young corps members from rural communities in southern California.

\$58,000

Feather River Rowing Club

Forebay Aquatic Center Restoration

and Clean Water Science Ambassador

Restore riparian habitat of the Thermalito Forebay and Feather River and establish an outdoor classroom for disadvantaged schools. Project will educate students about riparian habitats, fish and wildlife, water quality, the importance of stormwater management.

\$27,949

Full Frame Productions

Seabird Disturbance Video Project

Produce a brief video for web distribution to increase awareness of the impact and potential solutions of human-caused disturbances on seabird colonies along the San Mateo County coastline, particularly during breeding season. This project is the preferred restoration alternative identified in the Luckenbach Restoration Plan.

\$19,993

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
One Tam Stewardship Program: Managing Mount Tamalpais as an Integrated Whole
 Support conservation, stewardship and public enjoyment of the nearly 10 square miles of local, state and national parklands that encompass the Mount Tamalpais region.
\$30,000

Great Basin Institute
Vegetation and Sage-Grouse Habitat Monitoring in the Walker Basin (CA, NV)
 Provide opportunities for youth to serve in paid internship positions while acquiring valuable skills in field research techniques related to monitoring and conservation. Project will collect data to guide proper treatment design and provide a baseline data set against which treatment effects may be measured.
\$50,000

Growing Solutions
Restoration Education Institute
Seabird Restoration on Santa Barbara Island in the Channel Islands – II
 Continue restoration projects on Santa Barbara Island, which include habitat restoration, monitoring and non-native weed removal. Project will focus on organizing and supervising volunteer trips for nursery construction, plant propagation, site planting and weeding.
\$7,800

Heal the Bay
Heal the Bay's Stream Team Program
 Focus on protecting and restoring riparian habitat in streams throughout the Malibu Creek Watershed in Los Angeles County. Project activities will include monitoring and improving water quality that impacts local waterways and beaches, training and empowering community-based volunteers to become environmental stewards, and engaging the local community through year-round stewardship and educational events.
\$56,114

Hoopa Valley Tribe
Research Barred Owl Impacts on Northern Spotted Owls – Hoopa Valley
 Research barred owl impact on Northern spotted owl at Hoopa Valley/Willow Creek study area.
\$135,127

Integral Ecology Research Center
Targeted Water Use Enforcement
 Partner with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to utilize existing local law enforcement data on illegal water use locations throughout northwestern California to model additional likely target enforcement sites based on habitat, land-use and anthropogenic features. The project will relate the likelihood of site presence to habitats essential for sensitive species, including the fisher, northern spotted owl, and Humboldt marten throughout northwestern California.
\$35,580

Koreatown Youth and Community Center
KYCC Urban Forestry Volunteer Leader Program
 Create an Urban Forestry Volunteer Leader Program to lead tree planting events that galvanize the entire community, including children, youth and adult community members. Project will bring trees to resource-poor and low-canopy areas of South Los Angeles, thereby improving both the environmental and socioeconomic profile of the low-income neighborhood.
\$50,000

Los Angeles Conservation Corps
Santa Monica Mountains Backbone Trail Restoration
 Restore approximately 5 miles of the Santa Monica Mountains Backbone Trail system.
\$26,018

Los Angeles Conservation Corps
SEA Lab's Fun Fishing Program
 Educate at-risk youth on safe fishing and consumption practices. Project will provide public information to restore lost fishing services as identified by the 2005 Montrose Settlements Restoration Program EIS-Restoration Plan.
\$20,015

Marina Del Rey Anglers
Marina Del Rey Anglers Youth Fishing – IV
 Educate 500 at-risk youths from Los Angeles, ages 10-16, and 100 counselors about local fish contamination and safe fishing practices with 22 fishing trips on the Betty-O out of Marina Del Rey in California.
\$15,000

Merkel and Associates
Eelgrass Restoration Program – II
 Perform restoration site identification and selection, project approvals and permitting, adaptive restoration, eelgrass transplant performance monitoring, and reporting and response to community concerns for the second year as identified by the Cosco Busan Trustees.
\$322,445

Mid Klamath Watershed Council
Collaborative Path to Eradication
 Work toward eradication and containment of targeted invasive plants. Project will integrate early detection/rapid response and public involvement.
\$50,000

Midwater Trawlers Cooperative
Integrating Electronic Monitoring into the West Coast Groundfish Fleet (CA, OR, WA)
 Implement electronic monitoring on up to 32 vessels in order to monitor compliance in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Rationalization Program. Project will evaluate the use of electronic monitoring systems as an alternative to the on-board human observer program.
\$271,710

Northcoast Marine Mammal Center
Emergency Funding to Support Response and Rehabilitation of Northern Elephant Seal Weaners
 Repair damage to compound, pen and rescue truck caused by northern elephant seal weaners, and provide for medical care and feeding of 29 northern elephant seal weaners.
\$13,522

Occidental College
Subtidal Reef Restoration – II
 Finalize the Palos Verdes Shelf Reef Design Plan with alternatives and associated physical and biological modeling and monitoring. Survey information identified about 250 acres of buried reef habitat for which restoration is feasible.
\$558,464

Oikonos – Ecosystem Knowledge
Año Nuevo Island Seabird Habitat Restoration – VI
 Increase the number of breeding rhinoceros auklets on Año Nuevo Island, Santa Cruz, by restoring and creating quality breeding habitat.
\$93,207

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Upper Klamath Basin Anadromous Reintroduction Planner (CA, OR)
 Hire a staff planner to lead the development and writing of an implementation plan for the re-introduction of anadromous fish into the upper Klamath Basin. The position will be the lead staff person for the monitoring and evaluation program which will involve the necessary investigations of anadromous fish life histories in the upper Klamath Basin that will inform the overall re-introduction strategies for the upper basin. This work supports implementation of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement.
\$120,000

Pacific Marine Mammal Center
California Sea Lion Unusual Stranding Event Support 2015
 Aide and support the overall response to the 2015 California Sea Lion Unusual Stranding Event. Project will provide support to those organizations that have identified needs of additional coverage in the West Coast stranding region.
\$100,000

Putah Creek Council
North Davis Riparian Greenbelt Restoration and Enhancements
 Add native vegetation and channel seeding to an existing community urban greening project in Davis, California. Project will enhance a 1.25-mile long stormwater/agricultural runoff channel by replacing weeds with native vegetation and wildlife habitat, improving water quality and educating the community about landscaping for wildlife habitat and water conservation.
\$40,000

Regents of the University of California – Davis**Developing a Killer Whale Standardized Health Assessment Protocol and Health Index (CA, OR, WA)**

Identify indices and establish a standardized health assessment for killer whales, create a record-keeping database that will be seamless with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's new Marine Mammal Health Map System, and create an individual animal health index. Project tools can be used with Southern resident and reference killer whale populations to assess individual animal and population fitness, identify spatial and temporal stresses, help guide research and assist with guidelines for potential intervention for individual animals.

\$60,000

Salmon River Restoration Council**Salmon River Mine-Tailing Restoration and Coho Refuge**

Work toward restoring floodplains and mine tailings in the Salmon River to improve riparian habitat, improve salmon rearing and refuge habitat, and reduce water temperatures as part of a strategy to ensure a long-term climate refuge for coho and spring-run Chinook salmon in the Klamath Basin. Project will assess restoration opportunities and constraints along with conceptual restoration designs for floodplain reaches.

\$47,497

San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society**Increasing Capacity Through Strategic Plan and Membership Development**

Undertake a one-day retreat involving the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society board of directors and key refuge personnel to jump-start a strategic plan and continue planning process.

\$3,453

Sanctuary Forest**Lost Coast Redwood and Salmon Initiative**

Place permanent protections on 5,300 acres of forestlands in Northern California's Humboldt and Mendocino counties. Project will protect land to provide a conservation bridge linking 140,000 acres of already protected, public and private lands.

\$350,000

Shannon Peterson Ciotti**Trial Water Transactions in the California Portion of the Walker River Basin**

Complete one or more short-term water leases to serve as pilot or trial transactions toward potential expansion of the Walker Basin Restoration Program into California. Phase 1 will research and select the most appropriate, beneficial and feasible transactions with which to move forward.

\$33,529

Solano Land Trust**Rush Ranch Upper Spring Branch Creek Tri-Colored Blackbird, California Tiger Salamander Habitat and Agricultural Enhancement and Citizen-Scientist Activity**

Connect upland grasslands to tidal marsh and connect people to the land, wildlife and beneficial grazing practices. Project will focus on enhancing Upper Spring Branch Creek to further the connection from the uplands to the tidal marsh.

\$69,000

The Bay Foundation**Palos Verdes Kelp Forest Restoration – III**

Continue urchin suppression and compliance and response monitoring. Unusually high densities of sea urchins will clear expanses of kelp forest, leaving reefs devoid of standing microalgae, which contributes to reduction in ecosystem structure and function. Project will focus on 54 acres of existing urchin barrens along the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

\$739,439

The Institute for Bird Populations**Willow Flycatcher Recolonization in Restored Meadows**

Use automated broadcasting of willow flycatcher songs, to facilitate recolonization of restored meadows in high-priority willow flycatcher management areas. Project will conduct surveys to fill important information gaps, help a declining species reoccupy its habitat, and expand the number of willow flycatcher breeding sites.

\$86,428

The Los Angeles Rod and Reel**Club Foundation****Youth Fishing Trips in Los Angeles**

Conduct several youth fishing programs during the summer of 2015. Project will charter four fishing boats to take at-risk youth from Los Angeles on half-day excursions to learn about safe fishing practices.

\$10,000

The Marine Mammal Center**Emergency Response to Stranded Otariids in Summer 2015**

Provide urgently needed funding for personnel, supplies and vehicle operations to respond to the increased number of stranded eared seals being admitted to The Marine Mammal Center.

\$66,506

The Nature Conservancy**Coastal Resilience in Los Angeles**

Identify places in coastal Los Angeles where conditions favor a nature-based approach to sea level rise adaptation, and deliver a result benefiting environment, economy and disadvantaged communities. Project will engage regional stakeholders in the assessment of shoreline management, identification of green infrastructure, and outreach.

\$86,899

The Nature Conservancy**Little Shasta River Restoration**

Work with partners and a landowner to design strategies for stream flow and habitat restoration on the Little Shasta River, an important element to the recovery of salmonids, including coho and Chinook salmon as well as steelhead. Project will implement planning activities that are necessary building blocks to achieve this recovery.

\$48,875

The Ocean Foundation**Ocean Connectors South Bay Clean Up: Youth-Led Habitat Restoration and Clean Up in South San Diego Bay**

Engage a targeted population of 500 underserved urban youths and 100 adults in habitat protection, resource management and coastal conservation. Planting of native vegetation, litter abatement and invasive plant removal will be conducted over 5 acres of critical upland, coastal wetland, beach and river corridor habitat.

\$25,500

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Triple HS/H. T. Harvey and Associates**Survey Protocol for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle**

Assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with developing a refined survey protocol for the federally threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle, using ecological detection dogs. Project will efficiently detect and accurately identify larvae in elderberry shrubs while overcoming the limitations of other methods such as visual surveys.

\$100,000

Trout Unlimited**Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Core Grant (CA, NV, OR) – II**

Provide continued support for a Lahontan cutthroat trout coordinator who hires, trains and supervises range-wide field crews, coordinates communication and collaboration among agency and other stakeholders in Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery, and works on public and private landowner outreach and education. Project continues non-native trout eradication in Independence Lake, a priority Lahontan cutthroat trout lake system.

\$331,006

Trout Unlimited

Little Truckee River Meadow Restoration
Increase instream cover and improve habitat conditions for juvenile and adult trout in the Stampede-Boca meadow in the Little Truckee River watershed. Project will restore the 360-acre meadow and 2 miles of river habitat, which is adaptively managed to evaluate responses to native fish communities and other meadow-associated flora and fauna.
\$90,000

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, WS, NWRC

Research Barred Owl Impacts on Northern Spotted Owls

Research barred owl impact on Northern spotted owl at Hoopa Valley/Willow Creek study area.
\$50,133

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station
Meadow Restoration for Sierra Nevada Amphibians

Investigate meadow restoration designs that benefit conditions for native amphibians that rely on wet meadows. Project will characterize habitat suitability requirements for the Yosemite toad and Cascades frog, and assess occupied, restored and degraded meadows to evaluate the hydrogeomorphic processes that create and maintain wet meadow habitat.
\$150,000

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, San Bernardino National Forest
Western Monarch Habitat Conservation, Restoration, Site Monitoring/Maintenance and Local Native Milkweed Seed Increase

Conserve, restore and monitor restoration success of occupied and suitable western monarch habitat in the San Bernardino National Forest by protecting existing milkweed populations, propagating, out-planting, and direct seeding three local milkweed species and five nectar species. Project will impact 4,166 acres at six locations in the San Bernardino National Forest recovering from wildfire.
\$100,000

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Alaska Fisheries Science Center
Assessing the Genetic Structure of Arctic Ice Seals (AK, CA, WA)

Conduct a genetic analysis of spatial and temporal structure of ringed and bearded seals on breeding sites in the North Pacific. Project will provide useful information for identifying appropriate conservation and management strategies for these species to avoid future depletion and to promote sustainable harvest.
\$80,405

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
Rearing the Next Fisheries Cohort (multiple states)

Host 20 high school student interns during the summer 2015 at 13 field offices of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working with American Fisheries Society, BLM will provide an eight-week, paid internship and a diverse conservation experience in the fisheries and aquatic habitat field and explore potential career options in the fisheries field.
\$100,000

University of California – Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)

Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.
\$174,934

University of Idaho
Dispersal patterns of Yuma Ridgway's Rail (AZ, CA)

Study the effect and impact of solar technologies on rails. Project will attach platform terminal transmitters to less than 30 Yuma Ridgway's rails to determine dispersal distances, and the conditions under which young birds move to find new habitat patches.
\$52,000

Urban Corps of San Diego County
Chicano Park Gateway Greening

Create a new green gateway to historic Chicano Park through impervious surface removal, tree planting, bioswale installation and landscaping. Project will improve stormwater infiltration, benefit air and water quality, sequester greenhouse gases, and train and employ local disadvantaged young adults.
\$421,556

Waldo Holt San Joaquin Wildlife Conservancy
Enhancing Nature and Community Through Education and Environmental Monitoring in San Joaquin County

Engage students in San Joaquin County to become stewards of the river running by their school through involvement in monitoring and restoration activities. They will also interact with professional scientists, educators and various nonprofit groups to broaden their career horizons and understanding of the natural world.
\$29,730

Watershed Conservation Authority

San Gabriel River Watershed Rangers Program
Deploy a crew of at-risk youths to conduct roaming outreach along high-use recreational corridors of the east, north and west forks of the San Gabriel River. Project will target the cumulative habitat impacts of trash and recreational uses (rock dam building) that results in stream modification by speaking with the public about the importance of sustainable recreation, best management practices and applicable regulations.
\$50,000

Western Rivers Conservancy
Blue Creek Salmon Sanctuary

Secure the most important thermal refuge for Klamath River salmon as part of a larger effort to acquire, restore and permanently protect 47,097 acres of land in the Lower Klamath Basin. Western Rivers Conservancy will work with the Yurok Tribe to establish a cold-water sanctuary along lower Blue Creek for coho, Chinook and steelhead.
\$92,750

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.
\$104,181

COLORADO

American Conservation Experience
Lake Estes Recovery Projects

Employ a crew of nine youths and one crew leader for a period of two weeks to undertake restoration work on the following two areas: Lake Estes Trail and flood recovery repairs sustained from September 2013 flood. Project will include rip-rap rock placement, backfilling, seeding, weed removal and cobblestone removal in native grass areas.
\$13,000

Colorado Mountain Club
Protecting and Improving Riparian Habitat in the Rio Grande Natural Area

Coordinate youth crews and a series of volunteer projects to complete native habitat restoration in the Rio Grande Natural Area. Project will include a number of partnerships with local nonprofit, academic and agency groups to improve riparian ecosystem health along the Rio Grande River in southern Colorado.
\$59,966

Colorado Youth Corps Association**Oil Well Flats Trail Project**

Assist the Bureau of Land Management in achieving their goal of enhancing the Oil Well Flats trail system to achieve economic, health and quality of life benefits for Canon City through activities such as corridor clearing, construction of new sustainable tread, and installation of appropriate erosion control structures.

\$11,000

Colorado Youth Corps Association**Penitente Canyon Trail Project**

Assist the Bureau of Land Management in planning and implementing sustainable improvements to Penitente Canyon's older trail system, through such activities as trail system survey and design, maintenance of existing sustainable trail infrastructure, closure of user-created and unsustainable sing-track trails, construction of new sustainable tread, corridor clearing, and installation of appropriate erosion control structures.

\$12,600

Colorado Youth Corps Association**Trail Maintenance in North Fruita Desert and Bangs Canyon**

Perform critical maintenance on the North Fruita Desert Special Management Area and Bangs Canyon Special Recreation Area. The trails in these areas undergo significant use year-round and are critical for drawing users to the region.

\$7,000

Colorado Youth Corps Association**Veteran Crew Tamarisk Removal in Dry Creek**

Utilize veterans from the Southwest Conservation Corps to remove tamarisk from Dry Creek Basin. Removal of tamarisk will be achieved through mechanical thinning followed by the application of herbicide to remaining stumps.

\$11,000

Colorado Youth Corps Association**West Delores Fire Project**

Create a shaded fuel break along a county road and supply firewood to local communities by hand-thinning of small diameter Ponderosa pine and bucking downed material. Project will directly support the priority needs to reduce fire regime condition class and prepare the area for the reintroduction of fire as a critical ecosystem component.

\$11,000

Conservation Legacy**Wildfire Restoration Tree Planting on the San Juan National Forest**

Replant 700 acres of forest area devastated by the Missionary Ridge Fire complex of 2002. Project will provide jobs for one intern and 24 young adult SCC corps members, and will plant 260,000 trees.

\$45,800

Denver Botanic Gardens**Chatfield Riparian Restoration**

Restore 5.5 acres of degraded riparian habitat at the Chatfield location, about 15 miles south of Denver. Project will take place along Deer Creek, a tributary to the impaired South Platte River, and will involve underserved youths in an initiative to monitor water quality and invasive species. An interpretive trail will educate visitors about the importance of native ecosystems and restoration.

\$35,000

Environment for the Americas**Celebrate Shorebirds (Celebra las Playeras): Engaging Latino Youth in Natural Resource Careers (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)**

Gather data on the movements, habitat use and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds. Project will engage Latino communities in learning about shorebirds and their conservation, as well as about the federal lands that provide educational and recreational opportunities.

\$80,000

Groundwork Denver**New Stewards for Conservation at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge**

Work with project partners to better engage the low-income Spanish-speaking population of Commerce City with the resources available at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge.

\$28,239

Larimer County Conservation Corps**Sustaining Accessible Trails With Youth-Based****Projects in Rocky Mountain National Park**

Deploy youth crews into Rocky Mountain National Park to improve accessibility trails as an integral activity in conserving the park's sensitive ecosystems while providing work preparedness for local youths. Project will employ 32 youths and improve accessibility to three popular trails while sustaining the integrity of the park's cultural and natural resources.

\$25,000

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Field Institute**Fountain Creek Watershed Fire Restoration Initiative – II**

Complete fire restoration and flood mitigation work in both the Waldo Canyon Fire burn scar and the Black Forest Fire burn scar. Work will promote healthy ecosystem recovery and community involvement.

\$32,102

The Greenway Foundation**Sustainable South Platte River Initiative**

Supplement flows in the South Platte River during the days of the year that the river currently receives no water from Chatfield Reservoir. Project will restore the biology of this urban river through improved flows.

\$50,000

The Nature Conservancy**Southern Great Plains Critical Habitat Restoration**

Restore grassland via holistically managed grazing to improve habitat of declining grassland bird species.

\$75,000

Trout Unlimited**Upper Armstrong Creek Restoration**

Benefit native aquatic species by improving stream health in a heavily degraded valley bottom by constructing a new stream channel that reconnects with the historic floodplain. Project will restore 4 acres of degraded riparian/wetland habitat, improve 0.8 miles of stream habitat, and directly benefit Colorado River cutthroat trout, mountain sucker, northern boreal toad and northern leopard frog.

\$50,000

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers**Community Flood Restoration and Dam Removal on the North Fork Big Thompson River**

Engage at least 300 volunteer-days to implement flood-plain reconnection, soft armor/bioengineering techniques, fisheries improvements and redirective measures where appropriate throughout a 2.5-mile riparian area. Project will integrate community engagement and low-income youth education with fish passage reconnection, aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement for trout and water quality protection.

\$49,767

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing
Best Management Practices to Sustain
Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands
of the Western U.S. (multiple states)

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.

\$104,181

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Forest and Park Association
Technical Assistance in Connecticut

Hire certified foresters to work closely with local landowners across the state to develop forest management plans for their properties. Working with these landowners will help inform them of management opportunities and issues present on their land. The plan will be the basis for future enhancement projects that will ultimately enhance the quality of wildlife habitat across Connecticut.

\$89,788

Connecticut Fund for the Environment

Restoring Fish Passage on the Noroton River
 Modify bridge culverts to restore 4.9 miles to fish passage on the Noroton River at I-95 between the Town of Darien and City of Stamford. Project will provide access to a riverine migratory corridor for migratory fish including river herring to critical upstream spawning and nursery habitat.

\$150,000

Earthplace – The Nature Discovery Center
Tracking Down Pollution Sources Impacting
Water Quality in Four Connecticut Rivers
and Long Island Sound

Conduct water quality monitoring and track down surveys to build datasets in watersheds in Fairfield County. Project will identify sources of water pollution, set water quality thresholds and help municipalities resolve pollution problems that affect Connecticut rivers and Long Island Sound.

\$44,558

Friends of Outer Island

Managing a WAVE of Environmental,
Historical and Research Activities
 Manage WAVE, a diverse series of events, and publish an instructional guide for future use. Events will include an art day, a natural history day, an urban refuge initiative, a research day and yoga at the refuge.

\$5,815

Housatonic Valley Association
Improving Eastern Brook Trout Habitat
and Infrastructure Resiliency in
Northwest Connecticut

Assess 586 road-stream crossings in seven towns in northwestern Connecticut to identify barriers to fish and wildlife movement and potential flood risks in five target watersheds known to support Eastern brook trout: Macedonia Brook, Salmon Kill, Furnace Brook, Hollenbeck River, and Sandy Brook. Project will prioritize these crossings for replacement based on the potential for successful habitat restoration and reduction of flood risks.

\$125,000

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Conservation
and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird
Conservation (multiple states)

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

National Audubon Society

Advancing Flyway Conservation of American
Oystercatchers (multiple states)

Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.

\$249,669

National Audubon Society

Creating a Network of Schoolyard Habitats
to Engage Students in Conservation of Long
Island Sound

Create and expand the network of schoolyard native wildlife habitats in New Haven and Stamford. Project will provide critical bird habitat for migratory songbirds in urban areas using school grounds as outdoor living classrooms to engage students in hands-on conservation and to increase knowledge about and connection to Long Island Sound habitats and wildlife.

\$34,994

National Audubon Society

Urban Oases for Migrating Songbirds
in the New Haven Harbor Watershed

Employ an innovative model of community-based land stewardship that engages multiple stakeholders in restoration of urban green spaces. Project provides quality stopover habitat for migratory songbirds.

\$49,994

New Haven Urban Resources Initiative
Citywide Green Infrastructure Siting,
Installation and Training

Develop a tool to optimize site selection and train community members who will install and maintain green infrastructure bioswales in New Haven. Project activities will support installation of 200 city-wide bioswales to treat 710,000 gallons of polluted stormwater flowing annually into New Haven Harbor to improve water quality in the harbor and Long Island Sound.

\$91,233

Sacred Heart University

Stratford Point Living Shoreline:
Restoring Coastal Habitats to Maintain
Resiliency and Function

Restore woodland, meadow and vernal pools at Stratford Point, Stratford. Project will restore the function and value of the 28 acre coastal ecosystem to add habitat structure for butterflies, resident and migratory birds, and other wildlife to feed, nest and take shelter.

\$148,754

Sea Research Foundation

Emergency Support for Stranding Operations for Mystic Aquarium 2014 Seal Rescue

Reimburse the costs of supplies, medications, equipment and food that the Mystic Aquarium's Seal Rescue Clinic accumulated during the rehabilitation of 20 stranded seals accepted from Maine from May to October 2014, double the amount normally seen at the clinic each year.

\$13,734

Sea Research Foundation

Sound Actions: Celebrate Long Island Sound
Through Community Stewardship

Host an event at the Mystic Aquarium educating visitors about how to be a steward for the Long Island Sound and conduct a community cleanup. Project will engage 6,500 people to take a pledge to improve the health of the Long Island Sound and pick up 400 pounds of debris.

\$9,980

SoundWaters

Student Urban Field-Study of Water Quality
and Species Diversity Along the Long Island
Sound Coast

Support a student-driven study and presentations comparing water quality and species diversity between two coastal sites: Cove Island Park, located on a coastal embayment in a residential neighborhood, and Boccuzzi Park, located on a commercial harbor in Stamford. Project will increase youth awareness about threats to Long Island Sound and skills to communicate information to increase awareness and participation among peers, public officials and community to maintain the sound as a healthy ecosystem.

\$33,936

Thames Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Fish Rehabilitation on the Versailles Pond Dam
Replace degraded components of the Versailles Pond Dam Fishway in the Village of Versailles. Project will restore passage for anadromous fish to 1.75 miles and 65 acres of spawning and nursery habitat.
\$22,001

The Nature Conservancy – Connecticut
Developing a Plan to Assess and Reduce Nitrogen in Saugatuck River Watershed Communities
Develop a nitrogen load model assessment and reduction plan for the Saugatuck River Watershed, Fairfield County. Project will assess the feasibility, cost and effectiveness of techniques that represent the most cost-effective, rapid and greenest approaches to measurably reducing nonpoint source Nitrogen loads into the watershed and Long Island Sound.
\$64,981

The Trust for Public Land
Johnson Oak Park
Partner with the City of Bridgeport to redesign and reconstruct Johnson Oak Park in Bridgeport. The transformation of the 4-acre site, which abuts the Jettie S. Tisdale School, from a dangerous and largely vacant urban lot to a verdant, safe and vibrant community amenity will provide recreational, economic and environmental benefits (including innovative green infrastructure components) to the underserved East End neighborhood of Bridgeport.
\$50,000

Third Sector New England
Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)
Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

Trout Unlimited
Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Wildlife Management Institute
Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)
Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

Wildlife Management Institute
Restoring Young Forests To Benefit New England Cottontail and American Woodcock (CT, NH)
Promote and implement young forest management activities on private land in northern and southern New Hampshire and Connecticut to benefit a suite of species, including New England cottontail and American woodcock. Project will provide technical assistance on private lands including lands owned by Wagner Woodlands and Plum Creek Timberlands, resulting in five new management plans and improved management practices that will increase habitat by 140 acres and assess 3,500 acres for improved management of American woodcock and New England cottontail.
\$200,000

DELAWARE

Dewberry Consultants
Watershed Assessment for the Bohemia River, Lower Elk River and Back Creek Watersheds
Develop a watershed-based plan that summarizes the visual assessment of current watershed conditions, identifies and ranks water quality problems, identifies and prioritizes water quality improvement projects, develops feasibility concepts and cost estimates for 25 prioritized projects. The watershed assessment will be Clean Water Act Section 319(h) compliant and will address the Environmental Protection Agency's nine minimum watershed plan elements.
\$48,196

Manomet
American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)
Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

RESOLVE
Delaware River Restoration Circuit Rider – Agriculture Technical Assistance – II
Increase effectiveness of Delaware River Watershed Cluster organizations in working together and coordinating activities with key partners of the Delaware River Restoration Fund, including agriculture companies and organizations, private consultants, conservation districts and NRCS county and state office staff.
\$55,360

Sussex Conservation District
Capturing an Opportunity: A Green Infrastructure Retrofit Demonstration Project in Delaware's Nanticoke River Watershed
Support a green infrastructure retrofit demonstration project at Seaford Village Shopping Center that will decrease quantity and improve water quality of stormwater flowing into Delaware's Nanticoke River.
\$172,522

The Nature Conservancy
Chesapeake 4R Alliance: Strengthening and Expanding the Network of Practitioners to Deliver Advanced Nutrient Management and Natural Filter Practices on Delmarva (DE, MD)
Provide assistance to soil conservation districts and other partners by strengthening and expanding the network of practitioners delivering conservation practices on Delmarva. Project will work through the Chesapeake 4R Alliance to engage current and new practitioners, including certified crop consultants and professionals from the agricultural industry, coordinate outreach and training, and facilitate increased delivery and adoption of priority conservation practices.
\$48,419

Wildlife Management Institute
Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)
Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Alice Ferguson Foundation
Chesapeake Bay Trash Trawl (DC, MD)
Use a manta trawl to sample the surface of the Chesapeake Bay to collect samples of microplastics, to better understand the level of plastic pollution in the watershed. Project will engage advocates, media and other stakeholders in both the sampling and the subsequent communications strategy to expand the reach in public education and policymaking to reduce and prevent trash pollution.
\$30,601

City Blossoms**City Blossoms' Community Green Space: Expansion to a Third Site in the Anacostia River Basin**

Replicate the success of the Community Green Spaces project by partnering with the D.C. Promise Neighborhood Initiative in the Mayfair neighborhood along the Anacostia River to design and develop a thriving new green space. Project will create community green spaces to reflect the combined social needs of the neighborhood with the environmental health potential of increasing habitat and community stewardship.
\$50,000

**Department of Energy and Environment
Fort Dupont Watershed Restoration**

Catch and filter stormwater on private property and public space and to restore degraded streams and wetland areas through a sub-watershed wide project.
\$500,000

Earth Conservation Corps**Partnership for Water Quality and Urban Bird Education**

Create water-quality improvement and restoration programs focused on the Anacostia River. Partners will work together to inspire conservation in our communities through hands-on urban bird programming.
\$50,000

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

FLORIDA**Alachua Conservation Trust****Less-Than-Fee Beachfront Acquisition Strategies to Protect and Enhance Sea Turtle Nesting Habitat**

Conduct a feasibility assessment for using coastal easements for sea turtle conservation in Florida. Project will evaluate the acquisition of conservation easements and other interests on priority beachfront locations in order to preserve nesting sites.
\$200,000

American Conservation Experience**Jupiter Inlet Outstanding Natural Area**

Construct 1 mile of trail on the newly realigned Lot 17 Trail located at Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area. Project will also focus on removing invasive plant species along the trail corridor.
\$15,000

Audubon Florida**Jay Watch: Growing Audubon Citizen Science in Southwest Florida's Unique Scrub Habitat**

Train and deploy more than 280 citizen-scientists in 17 counties to collect breeding success data for Florida's only endemic bird species, the Florida scrub-jay, which has declined by more than 90 percent in the past 100 years. Project will extend community engagement with the charismatic Florida scrub-jay as a symbol of habitat management needs.
\$25,000

Bonefish and Tarpon Trust**Bonefish and Tarpon Fisheries Restoration**

Use stock enhancement as part of a broader conservation and restoration approach for the recreational bonefish and tarpon fisheries in south Florida. Project will determine how to spawn and raise bonefish in captivity, identify release mechanisms that maximize bonefish survival, and implement controlled stock enhancement from a grow-out facility in the Florida Keys.
\$2,129,088

City of Gainesville**City of Gainesville Greenway Challenge**

Restore 47 acres of habitat by removing invasive non-native plants in eight nature parks utilizing volunteer, intern, staff and contractual labor. Project will engage and educate over 2,320 citizen volunteers in the removal of 15 aggressive invasive plant species.
\$60,890

CLS America**Electronic Reporting in the Gulf of Mexico Charter Boat Fleet (AL, FL, MS)**

Implement electronic reporting in approximately 275 recreational charter boat vessels in the Gulf of Mexico. Project will engage the fishing industry, federal and state managers, and scientists from Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to generate real-time, verifiable, and high-quality recreational fishing data.
\$1,700,000

Conservation Legacy**Ecology and Management of Invasive Pythons and Tegu Lizards in the Everglades Ecosystem**

Contribute to a research project on the detectability of Burmese pythons in Everglades National Park. These invasive snakes exert a large impact on the Everglades ecosystem, and the work carried out by the Environmental Stewards will directly inform and benefit management efforts.
\$6,250

Conservian**U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Field Monitoring Manual (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Build a standardized training manual for field personnel and site stewards engaged in monitoring and protecting beach-nesting birds on the Gulf Coast. The field manual will be directed toward those actually working on the ground with beach-nesting birds, and will serve as the next logical step to implementing the recommendations of the U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Assessment and Management Guidelines.
\$75,000

FishAmerica Foundation**Initiating Barotrauma and Mortality Reduction Strategies with Gulf of Mexico Recreational Anglers (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Advance the implementation of FishSmart best practices designed to reduce mortality of fish released during recreational fishing. Project will distribute descending devices on recreational for-hire vessels and select recreational anglers to assess the adoption of best practices and potential reduction of post-release mortality.
\$60,000

Florida House Foundation of Sarasota**Florida House Demonstration Landscape: Creating a Residential Market for Watershed-Friendly Practices and Urban Agriculture**

Create a compelling model residential yard, open to the public, and an accompanying educational program which demonstrates retention and treatment of stormwater via bioswales, porous paving and cisterns, use of stormwater to irrigate home food production, and integration of native thickets into home landscapes to create biodiversity, food and cover for wildlife.
\$75,000

Friends of Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex**Friends of Florida Refuges Peer-to-Peer Conference and Workshop**

Hold a two-day workshop for the 15 Florida Friends/Refuges to include up to 10 skill building workshops and a keynote speaker.
\$4,950

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

Manomet**Shorebird Recovery Business Plan**

Create a Florida shorebird recovery business plan built upon the work of the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Conservation Business Strategy and the American Oystercatcher Recovery Business Plan. The plan will strive to recover four imperiled species in the state: American oystercatcher, snowy plover, black skimmer and least tern.

\$50,768

Miami Science Museum**Virginia Key North Point Maritime****Hammock Restoration**

Engage 500 volunteers in restoring 3 acres of maritime hammock at Virginia Key, an uninhabited barrier island located off the coast of downtown Miami. Volunteers will also participate as citizen-scientists in measuring habitat health based on water quality, marine debris and biodiversity.

\$24,383

Mississippi State University**Gulf of Mexico Bird Monitoring Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Complete a structured decision-making effort to identify goals, objectives and values underpinning a Gulf-wide bird monitoring program. The resulting bird monitoring framework and decision support tools will provide a strong basis for increasing coordination and communication and the advancement of bird monitoring across the Gulf of Mexico.

\$222,635

National Audubon Society**Advancing Flyway Conservation of American Oystercatchers (multiple states)**

Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.

\$249,669

Northwest Florida State College Foundation**Coastal Habitat Restoration in****Northwest Florida**

Implement a community-based habitat restoration initiative that will restore 1.1 acres of oyster reef and salt marsh habitat over eight sites around Choctawhatchee Bay; manage exotic invasive plant species on 200 acres of coastal and wetland habitat by removing invasive plant species and revegetating where appropriate; and educate and involve 8,210 citizens through volunteer opportunities, youth technical training, educational handouts and public workshops.

\$70,237

Northwest Florida State College Foundation**Student-Led Coastal and Estuarine Restoration in the Choctawhatchee Watershed**

Educate and train 3,000 K-12 students in Okaloosa and Walton County School Districts. Students will restore 1.3 acres of dune habitat and 1.2 acres of salt marsh habitat in the coastal and estuarine areas around the Choctawhatchee Watershed and use their newfound knowledge of coastal and estuarine habitats to create educational outreach tools with guidance from outreach experts.

\$40,000

Sea Turtle Conservancy**Prioritizing Predation Management for Sea Turtles and Shorebirds**

Develop a coordinated and informed approach to allocating limited amounts of annual funding toward predation control programs for sea turtles and shorebirds throughout Florida. Project will facilitate the transferability of this approach to other Gulf States where shorebird and sea turtle nesting is impacted by predation.

\$35,098

State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry Management Experiments to Increase Beach-Nesting Bird Abundance at Gulf Islands National Seashore

Implement experimental vehicle speed reduction measures and provide shelters for snowy plover chicks in order to increase the population of beach-nesting birds on Gulf Islands National Seashore. The area contains large beach-nesting bird populations, including 20-25 percent of the Florida population of the snowy plover, but abundance is limited by poor reproductive success related to predators and mortality from vehicular collisions.

\$105,000

The Conservation Fund**Coastal Headwaters Forest-Longleaf Conservation/Restoration (AL, FL)**

Restore longleaf pine and permanently protect approximately 205,000 acres of working forestlands via a conservation easement. Project will provide significant benefits to longleaf-dependent species.

\$1,000,000

The Everglades Foundation**Cape Sable Restoration in Everglades National Park**

Install structures at four canals at Cape Sable, which is threatened by accelerated tidal erosion and the collapse of freshwater marsh soil. The Cape contains critical wading bird habitat for the coastal Everglades and is the largest wintering shorebird habitat in North America.

\$2,000,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Cost-Effective Mapping of Longleaf Extent and Condition (AL, FL, GA)**

Work to integrate existing longleaf ecosystem data and established databases using novel, high-resolution remote sensing and statistical methods developed by Rocky Mountain Research Station. Project will quantify current forest ecosystem characteristics for four significant longleaf pine geographic areas and develop methods and materials to facilitate the replication of these inventory and analysis techniques for other areas.

\$100,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Increasing Longleaf Restoration and Management on Public and Private Lands in the GCPEP Landscape (AL, FL)**

Continue to collaborate with the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership (GCPEP) partners on priority longleaf restoration and management projects across the GCPEP landscape.

\$325,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Translocation Support for the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative: Years 13-14 (AL, FL, GA, MS)**

Provide 30 red-cockaded woodpeckers annually for two years (total of 60 birds, 30 pairs) to the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative (SRTC). Based on previous years (2004-2014) of total SRTC available birds (averaged 55 pairs per year), 15 pairs from this grant will equal 27 percent of the annual total SRTC allocation.

\$165,000

The Nature Conservancy**Gulf Conservation Corps Restoration Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Support two new Conservation Corps and a Veterans Conservation Corps pilot demonstrations across the Gulf region to undertake projects that restore and protect natural resources. Project will make conservation progress on the ground to improve long-term habitat health for native plants and animals, build organizational strength to continue to use conservation corps as a significant strategy for Gulf restoration, and train young people to participate in the expanding Gulf restoration economy.

\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy**Ocala Local Implementation Team – II**

Grow Implementation Team centered on the Ocala Landscape involving public and private partners to accelerate longleaf pine restoration, building on the success of 2014-2015, and use Florida Longleaf Ecosystem Geodatabase to set priorities for management and restoration.

\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy

Okefenokee/Osceola Longleaf Implementation Team Longleaf Pine Restoration and Hazard Fuel Reduction Project (FL, GA)
Facilitate public/private multi-state longleaf establishment and hazard fuel reduction on public and private lands in the Okefenokee/Osceola Significant Geographic Area.
\$300,000

The Nature Conservancy – Florida

Apalachicola Longleaf Initiative – III
Support eight Apalachicola Regional Stewardship Alliance Update partners in longleaf pine habitat restoration, as well as in prescribed fire and timber stand improvement in existing longleaf stands. A new private lands financial assistance program and educational outreach will aim to bring novel communication tools to the region.
\$325,000

U.S. Department of the Interior,**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

Beach Profile Design in Beach Nourishment to Mimic the Native, Optimal Sea Turtle Nesting Beach

Design a beach profile within each proposed beach nourishment project that better mimics the optimal sea turtle nesting beach for that area of beach. Following the data collection, the agencies will analyze the performance of that beach profile template and recommend modifications, if needed, for future events along the coastline.
\$418,000

University of Georgia Research Foundation

Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.
\$138,692

GEORGIA**Atlanta Audubon Society**

Creating Bird-Friendly Communities in Atlanta's Urban Tributaries
Create bird-friendly communities in two green spaces along urban tributaries of the Chattahoochee River watershed. Project will provide on-the-ground restoration and citizen science opportunities for the local community as well as educational programs that bring awareness to bird conservation and the importance of providing quality habitat to residential and migratory birds.
\$25,608

Chattahoochee Nature Center

Chattahoochee River Wetland Restoration and Watershed Education Program at the Chattahoochee Nature Center
Restore 4 acres of wetlands along the Chattahoochee Nature Center's river boardwalk and establish teaching plots to demonstrate best practices for safely and efficiently removing invasive species from an environmentally sensitive area. Project partners will remove invasive species, restore native plants, create test plots and deliver education programs.
\$40,000

Conservation Legacy**Chattahoochee River Turkey Creek Restoration Education Area**

Restore floodplain wetlands to create a conservation and education venue for residents of western Georgia by removing invasive plants and planting bird-attractant species, building two spur trails for wildlife viewing, and increasing existing accessibility to the area for education opportunities. Partners will utilize this natural resource for education activities through interpretive hikes, field trips, signage and brochures.
\$30,160

Dunwoody Nature Center**Wildcat Creek Restoration**

Eliminate stream bank erosion in Wildcat Creek by replacing a failed weir and restoring the downstream portion of the creek using natural channel design principles. Project will restore about 350 linear feet of creek, resulting in a living classroom for park visitors and program participants to learn about the natural world.
\$40,000

Georgia Land Trust**Replenishing Freshwater to Nature Through Forestland Protection and Restoration (GA, TN)**

Protect 200 acres of biodiverse shortleaf and riparian forestland systems and restore 50 acres of riparian habitat and shortleaf types in the Cumberland Plateau priority protection area, where 6,000 acres have been preserved to date providing habitat for plant, mammal, amphibian, reptile, fish and invertebrate species.
\$100,000

Georgia Natural Resources Foundation

Guy Bradley Award 2015, Federal Level – II
Award funds to the Georgia Natural Resources Foundation in honor of Darwin Huggins, assistant special agent in charge of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office, who was the federal-level recipient of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's 2015 Guy Bradley Award.
\$500

Golden Triangle RC&D

Community Outdoor Education Area at Fannie Askew Williams Park
Foster conservation stewardship through creating a new outdoor education area, providing watershed training and recruiting committed community volunteers. Project will engage and educate the community on natural resource issues and provide local citizens an outlet for self exploration of nature.
\$23,707

Greening Youth Foundation**Blue Ridge Diverse Youth****Conservation Exposure**

Introduce youths to conservation and natural resource management careers. Project will engage six youth in sustainable trail restoration activities, native plant restoration, non-native plant removal and eradication, trout habitat restoration, black bear habitat assessment, dispersed recreation site assessments and rehabilitation along trout streams, interpretive education, and general maintenance activities.
\$45,832

Greening Youth Foundation**Historic Preservation Crew of Local, Diverse Young Adults**

Recruit five young adults local to the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site with some basic qualifications and an interest in conservation. Project will create a team that receives basic education on historic preservation techniques from preservation experts, The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Cultural Resources Specialist from the Southeast Regional Office of the National Park Service.
\$49,000

Island Conservation**Caribbean Prioritization Workshop**

Identify suitable Caribbean islands where invasive species eradication can effectively protect nesting seabirds. Project will plan and host a workshop with key experts in eradication and seabird biogeography within the Caribbean region to assess potential eradication projects.
\$25,000

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

National Audubon Society**Advancing Flyway Conservation of American Oystercatchers (multiple states)**

Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.

\$249,669

Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Shoal Bass Conservation in the Chattahoochee, Flint Basin

Restore one of the most important springs in the lower Flint River that provides substantial flow and cooling benefits to a key rearing area for shoal bass. Project will help foster understanding of shoal bass spawning distribution and behavior to help design effective conservation and management measures in the future.

\$266,765

The Longleaf Alliance**Building on Conservation Success and Restoring the Longleaf Ecosystem in Southeast Georgia**

Continue restoring priority areas to longleaf pine, identify private lands for restoration, offer restoration and management training opportunities and share best practices widely within Southeast Georgia. Project will initiate restoration on a longstanding conservation priority area, Sansavilla Wildlife Management Area, and it will plant longleaf pine on another protected area, the Orianne Indigo Snake Preserve.

\$350,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Cost-Effective Mapping of Longleaf Extent and Condition (AL, FL, GA)**

Work to integrate existing longleaf ecosystem data and established databases using novel, high-resolution remote sensing and statistical methods developed by Rocky Mountain Research Station. Project will quantify current forest ecosystem characteristics for four significant longleaf pine geographic areas and develop methods and materials to facilitate the replication of these inventory and analysis techniques for other areas.

\$100,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Translocation Support for the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative: Years 13-14 (AL, FL, GA, MS)**

Provide 30 red-cockaded woodpeckers annually for two years (total of 60 birds, 30 pairs) to the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative (SRTC). Based on previous years (2004-2014) of total SRTC available birds (averaged 55 pairs per year), 15 pairs from this grant will equal 27 percent of the annual total SRTC allocation.

\$165,000

The Nature Conservancy**Accelerate Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration on Private Lands on the Fall Line (AL, GA)**

Promote longleaf pine conservation on private lands near Fort Benning Military Installation using a successful outreach and education program that will build on a network of model forest demonstrations, increase technical and financial assistance to landowners, and build community support for longleaf conservation efforts in the region. Project will implement conservation activities on over 22,000 acres.

\$311,000

The Nature Conservancy**Okefenokee/Osceola Longleaf Implementation Team Longleaf Pine Restoration and Hazard Fuel Reduction Project (FL, GA)**

Facilitate public/private multi-state longleaf establishment and hazard fuel reduction on public and private lands in the Okefenokee/Osceola Significant Geographic Area.

\$300,000

The Nature Conservancy**Talladega Mountains Longleaf Pine Restoration Project (AL, GA)**

Further efforts by partners to expand and restore longleaf pine habitats, primarily with the use of prescribed fire, in northeast Alabama and northwest Georgia. Project will be geared towards restoring the historical fire regime throughout the mountain longleaf pine range.

\$200,000

The South Fork Conservancy**Who's Home on the Confluence?**

Collect and analyze data on plant and animal populations and water quality at the degraded confluence of the South and North forks of Peachtree Creek. Project will build creek access and engage underserved communities in monitoring and sustaining current restoration and green infrastructure efforts.

\$28,910

Trees Atlanta**Chosewood Park Forest Restoration**

Work with partners to restore 5.5 acres of urban forest and parkland by removing invasive plants and planting native understory trees and shrubs in the park. Project activities will include the installation of an acidic cove forest and two bioswales.

\$50,000

Trees Atlanta**Hahn Forest Restoration at South Peachtree Creek**

Restore 2 acres of forest and 750 linear feet of creek bank within the Hahn Forest at Emory University through invasive plant removal and native tree planting. Project also will promote public education through a school-assisted tree propagation project, volunteerism and a specialized tree walk.

\$25,080

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

University of Georgia Research Foundation**Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.

\$138,692

HAWAII**American Bird Conservancy****Saving Hawaii's Imperiled Forest Birds – VII**

Implement on-the-ground projects, raise public awareness and attract new support for Hawaiian birds as part of a long-term initiative to save Hawaii's threatened native birds. Project will outline critical next steps for the conservation of Palila and Maui parrotbills while reducing monitoring activities for Millerbirds.

\$291,588

Colorado State University**Demography of Black-Footed and Laysan Albatross**

Assess survival, breeding probability and reproductive success for black-footed and Laysan albatrosses for Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, Laysan Island and Tern Island. Project will evaluate the effectiveness of current monitoring protocols, with respect to management objectives.

\$39,000

Conservation Metrics**Acoustic Surveys for 'Ua'u and 'A'o in Hanakapiai**

Deploy automated acoustic and visual sensors at a remote seabird breeding colony in Hanakapiai, Kaua'i. Project will use sensors to document the status of seabirds through time and document non-native predators in the colony.

\$12,935

Feed The Hunger Foundation**Building Capacity and Economic Viability of Hawaii Fishing Operations**

Improve the economic viability of fishing operations through business planning, improved access to capital, and retention of a greater share of product price premiums. Project will offer critical technical assistance and support to the Hawaiian commercial fishing sector.

\$110,000

Kupu**Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps:****Haleakala National Park Service Summer Internship Program**

Improve the ecosystem of Haleakala National Park by engaging young people in activities that benefit the park's natural and cultural resources.

\$57,000

Lanikai Beach and Park Foundation**Reef Resilience and Seafood Security: Quantifying and Addressing Fishing Impacts to 'A'alapapa Reef, Lanikai, Oahu**

Work to address a gap in the community's efforts to address fishing impacts by collecting data on fishing effort, catch and practices, in response to community concerns over the condition of 'A'alapapa reef. Project will be used together with ongoing ecological surveys to develop targeted management actions necessary to improve fish biomass and diversity for seafood security.

\$39,900

Ohu Ohu Koolau**Detection and Control of Tibouchina Herbacea on Oahu**

Facilitate the implementation of an eradication program for the highly invasive plant, cane ti, at Poamoho at the summit of the Koolau mountain range.

\$75,000

Pacific Rim Conservation**Laysan Albatross Translocation**

Prevent the destruction of up to 240 albatross eggs by translocating them from the U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai to James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge on Oahu and raise the chicks by hand. Project will present a unique opportunity to place unwanted albatross eggs in unoccupied nesting habitat and help solve a human-wildlife conflict.

\$395,248

Ridge to Reefs**Application of Vegetative and Bioengineering Approaches in West Maui to Help Control Sediment Transport**

Implement mitigation projects to reduce sediment runoff in West Maui watersheds that contribute a number of stressors to the near-shore reefs, including the erosion of stream banks that contain pollutants.

\$74,225

Safina Center**Mitigating Seabird Bycatch in Hawaii Longline Fisheries**

Conduct two studies to investigate methods of mitigating bycatch of albatrosses and other seabird species in Hawaii longline fisheries. Project will identify opportunities to change fishing gear or methods that would be globally applicable to pelagic longline fisheries with problematic seabird bycatch.

\$133,860

The Coral Reef Alliance**Advancing Reef Sustainability to****Reduce Land-Based Pollution in the West Maui Watershed**

Advance watershed conservation that complements the Wahikuli-Honokowai Watershed Management Plan by targeting shoreline properties in reducing land-based sources of pollution. Project will spread knowledge about low-impact development alternatives and engage 10 property owners in implementing 10 new sustainability measures.

\$50,000

The Nature Conservancy**Fisheries and Human-Use Surveys to Inform the Sustainable Use of the Coral Reef Fisheries Resources of Polanui, Maui**

Support the effective management of the coral reef ecosystem and fisheries of Polanui, Hawaii by working with the community to provide accurate information on local fishing activities. Project will directly inform targeted management efforts that the Polanui Hui community group is developing in collaboration with the State of Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources.

\$67,371

The Nature Conservancy**Quality-Assured Community Water Quality Monitoring**

Implement a community-based, quality-assured water quality monitoring program for the reefs of Wahikuli-Honokowai. Project will produce a quality assurance plan, standardized methods, training modules and baseline data.

\$108,395

Tri-Isle Resource Conservation and Development Council**East Maui Watershed Partnership Invasive Ginger Control**

Conduct systematic control of Himalayan ginger throughout the 53.6-acre project site.

\$60,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**Eradication of Yellow Crazy Ants on Johnston Atoll National Wildlife Refuge**

Eradicate yellow crazy ants from 260-hectare Johnston Atoll National Wildlife Refuge by 2017 to restore and conserve a vital insular ecosystem and seabird colony. Project will result in a return of seabirds in increasing numbers to successfully nest in the area.

\$272,600

University of California – Santa Cruz**Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)**

Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.

\$174,934

Zoological Society of San Diego**Restoration of the 'Alala or Hawaiian Crow to Hawaii Island**

Work with the 'Alala Restoration Working Group to implement an intensive captive propagation and reintroduction program for the 'Alala (or Hawaiian crow). Project will produce approximately 15 'Alala chicks per year in the captive breeding program and release 11-13 birds each year.

\$186,875

IDAHO**Council School District No. 13****Council Rural Environmental Stewardship Team Program: Gateway to Natural Resource Employment and Conservation Leadership**

Engage 226 K-12th grade students in conservation volunteerism and employ 16 students in the Council Summer Work Crew. The crew will improve habitat for threatened Northern Idaho ground squirrels, bull trout, endangered Chinook salmon and Snake River steelhead.

\$34,410

Friends of the Teton River**Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Range-Wide Prioritization**

Address urgent data gaps concerning Yellowstone cutthroat trout in one of their remaining strongholds and help guide future management efforts. Project will benefit overall understanding of trout movements, life histories, non-native pressures, trends in abundance and genetic issues, habitat utilization and reactions to a changing climate.

\$60,000

Great Basin Institute**Croy Creek Trail Maintenance and Restoration**

Re-establish 8.8 miles of trail, of which 8.3 miles are purpose-built, cross-country mountain biking trails and 0.5 miles are a mountain bike-specific flow trail.

\$15,000

Great Basin Institute**Croy Creek Trail Reconstruction**

Re-establish 8.8 miles of trail, of which 8.3 miles are purpose-built cross-country mountain bicycling trails and 0.5 miles is a mountain bike-specific flow trail.

\$12,000

Idaho Department of Water Resources**Idaho Water Transactions Program**

Work with water users in the Upper Salmon and Teton river basins to improve tributary flows for the benefit of fish species. Project will identify and assess new transaction opportunities.

\$260,575

Northwest Youth Corps**Bureau of Reclamation-Lake Cascade****Habitat Management and Youth Development**

Create a youth conservation program based on education, conservation and habitat management. Project will provide eight weeks of paid conservation work for crews to restore up to 35 acres of habitat around Lake Cascade as part of a larger wetland restoration, erosion control and habitat improvement project.

\$47,195

Northwest Youth Corps**The Lake Cascade Habitat Management and Youth Development Project**

Allow five youths to experience an educational job training opportunity during the 2015 field season. Goals will include the reduction of hazardous fuels, reduction of diseased trees, and introduction of participants to land-management agencies.

\$14,985

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

The Youth Employment Program**Upper Salmon Basin Habitat Restoration, Conservation Education and Youth Opportunity**

Provide youth crews and interns with experiential education in habitat restoration and conservation activities benefiting rare, candidate and listed species in the Upper Salmon Basin in central Idaho.

\$82,190

Trout Unlimited**Rock Creek Restoration and Reconnection**

Improve stream connectivity to allow salmonid species access to additional spawning and rearing habitat in Rock Creek, and improve the overall health of the Big Wood River watershed. Project will include stream restoration and reconnection efforts that will enhance a depleted fishery.

\$150,000

University of Idaho**Bi-State Interpretive Clean Water Trail (ID, WA)**

Build an urban interpretive trail, themed around clean water and stormwater pollution prevention. Project will allow planting riparian native plants at several demonstration stormwater swale and riparian buffer demonstration projects, developing an outdoor classroom and demonstration area for K-12 and college/university students, and connecting community clean water-based projects in a cohesive outreach campaign.

\$36,737

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation**Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)**

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.

\$104,181

ILLINOIS**Chicago Park District****Developing a Riverfront Park Along the Chicago River**

Develop a 4-acre riverfront park along the south branch of the Chicago River. The new park will create access to the Chicago River, provide an underserved community with neighborhood green space, offer recreation opportunities, and retain water on site through the installation of green infrastructure practices.

\$259,000

Forest Preserve District of Cook County**Chicago Urban Treaty Alliance**

Restore 22 acres of migratory bird habitat in LaBagh Forest Preserve, as well as 16 acres in the Burnham Wildlife Corridor, and enhance three small community stopover habitat sites surrounded by urban development on the south side of the city. Project will host a series of events that introduce people to birding and nature, and will create a citizen-science tool to monitor migratory birds' habitat use.

\$50,000

Friends of the Chicago River**Chicago River Downtown Foundation****Habitat Project**

Install artificial substrates and habitat structures on seawalls and other edifices along half a mile of the Chicago River in downtown Chicago. Project will provide a foundation for plant life, algae and macroinvertebrates and improve the quantity and quality of habitat for native fish and other aquatic species in the Chicago River system by mimicking natural habitats.

\$175,000

Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation**Driftless Area Monarch Habitat Restoration and Education**

Restore and maintain 94 acres of monarch habitat on protected conservation lands in the milkweed restoration corridor. Project will also conduct outreach and education to local and regional landowners to establish additional acres of monarch habitat on private lands.

\$83,640

Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation**Invasive Species Strike Team and Cooperative Weed Management Area**

Eradicate invasive plant species on high-quality protected natural areas in northwest Illinois.

\$106,169

Lake County Forest Preserve District**Restoring Native Habitat and Ecosystem Function at Middlefork Savanna**

Lead a public-private partnership to restore wetland hydrology, control invasive species and reestablish native species on 178 acres along the north branch of the Chicago River at Middlefork Savanna. Project will improve ecosystem function and enhance habitat complexity.

\$171,442

National Wildlife Federation**Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)**

Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.

\$100,000

South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association**Creating Naturalized Water Retention Along the Calumet River Corridor**

Construct 6 acres of wetland habitat to improve stormwater retention in the city of Blue Island as part of the larger Calumet River Corridor Green Infrastructure Flood Mitigation Program. Project will enable greater on-site stormwater infiltration and reduce flooding and stormwater runoff.

\$235,295

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)
Mobilize monarch conservation across the public and private sectors in the Upper Midwest through the Rights-of-Way at Habitat Working Group, related partnerships and targeted outreach. These activities will promote habitat restoration by utilities, transportation authorities, and other interested organizations by primarily focusing on opportunities to utilize rights-of-way and other working landscapes to support monarch conservation.
\$75,000

INDIANA

City of Gary

Implementing Green Stormwater Infrastructure in the Grand Calumet River Area of Concern
Install 43,200 square feet of green stormwater infrastructure on public areas and city-owned properties in the city of Gary. Project will significantly increase stormwater storage capacity, expand neighborhood green space, raise public awareness and build support for green stormwater infrastructure.
\$259,263

Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center

Advancing Watershed Education, Action and Attitude Change in Underserved Communities in the Lake Michigan Watershed
Provide environmental education programs to 4,500 students and 400 community members that foster community connections to local bodies of water. Project will support the expansion of place-based outreach programs that will occur at Wolf Lake, Marquette lagoons, and Lake George.
\$50,000

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

Reconnecting to Our Indianapolis Waterways: Community-Based Habitat Restoration Along Pleasant Run
Engage Indianapolis residents in restoring habitat along Pleasant Run waterway. Project will improve water quality and increase habitat for native plants and wildlife, creating a beautiful, healthy asset to revitalize the city, and to reconnect neighbors to their waterways.
\$49,400

Little River Wetlands Project

Invasive Species Removal, Land Stewardship and Nature Education for Conservation in Metropolitan Fort Wayne
Enhance natural habitats at three of Little River Wetlands Project's restored wetland nature preserves (971 acres total) to enhance the preserves' capacities to improve local water quality and provide wildlife habitat.
\$75,000

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Restoration and Preservation of Boreal Habitat at Ambler Flatwoods
Control invasive species and purchase land to restore and preserve critical boreal habitat located within the Trail Creek and White Ditch watersheds.
\$117,338

The Nature Conservancy

Fawn River Fen Restoration
Improve fen, sedge meadow and adjacent upland habitat for pollinators, reptiles and other species by removing invasive species and establishing native species. Project will restore at least 83 acres of high quality fen, sedge meadow and adjacent upland habitat.
\$57,259

IOWA

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Monarch Butterfly Flyways Project in Iowa
Create or improve monarch habitat on more than 7,000 acres along two major north-south migration corridors. Project will establish, expand, restore, diversify and manage 10 80-acre core monarch and pollinator sites and 100-125 satellite sites.
\$249,999

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Pathfinders Resource Conservation and Development

Collaborating Within the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to Establish Monarch Habitats
Establish monarch habitat on 3,311 acres of privately owned land in Iowa. Project will enhance four existing programs that establish wildlife habitat on Iowa's private lands.
\$227,400

Pheasants Forever

Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership (multiple states)
Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.
\$250,000

Resource Conservation and Development for Northeast Iowa

Building the Organizational Capacity and Regionally Adapted Native Plant Seed Supply of County Land Managers
Establish over 400 acres of seed banks on public lands adjacent to roadways in nine counties to develop regionally adapted native seed supplies that will be used to enhance or create monarch habitat on thousands of acres of public land in county parks and roadsides. Project will also enhance Conservation Reserve Program seed mixes with milkweed and nectar seed for plantings on 10,000 acres of agricultural lands.
\$165,000

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)
Mobilize monarch conservation across the public and private sectors in the Upper Midwest through the Rights-of-Way at Habitat Working Group, related partnerships and targeted outreach. These activities will promote habitat restoration by utilities, transportation authorities, and other interested organizations by primarily focusing on opportunities to utilize rights-of-way and other working landscapes to support monarch conservation.
\$75,000

Tree Des Moines

Des Moines Urban Forest Management Project
Facilitate a community health assessment of trees, stumps and planting sites on public lands and city parks in Des Moines, resulting in the creation of a long-term master plan for the management, protection and care of Des Moines' urban forest. Project will conduct education and outreach programs to train local volunteers as "tree stewards" and work with community partners to launch a planting initiative to begin replacing trees lost to the emerald ash borer and other invasive pests and diseases.
\$50,000

KANSAS

Burroughs Audubon of Greater Kansas City Kansas City Metropolitan Area Monarch Butterfly Conservation: A Multi-Sector Partnership (KS, MO)

Implement a series of strategically chosen, on-the-ground native habitat restorations critical for monarch butterfly conservation. Project will result in 1,400 acres of restored monarch habitat on both public and private lands, and will serve as a model regional effort to stimulate native plantings and conservation.
\$229,868

Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition

Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition Monarch Conservation Partnership
Work with private landowners and managers to develop conservation plans to benefit monarch butterflies on grazing lands. Project will result in 12,000 acres of improved or created habitat for the monarch butterfly by restoring native mixed-grass and tallgrass ecosystem functions.
\$125,000

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Pheasants Forever

Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership (multiple states)
Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.
\$250,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)
Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.
\$100,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)
Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.
\$100,000

KENTUCKY

Cumberland River Compact

Tennessee/Cumberland Strategic Plan for Barrier Removal and Aquatic Connectivity Improvement (AL, KY, TN)
Partner with The Nature Conservancy and American Rivers to improve aquatic connectivity in high-priority watersheds of the Cumberland and Tennessee River basins by strategically accelerating the momentum of barrier removals.
\$125,000

The Nature Conservancy

Upper Green River Riparian Corridor Protection Project
Protect and restore approximately 2.5-5 linear miles of critical riparian corridors along the upper Green River and several key tributaries within the NFWF Green River Freshwater Focal Area in central Kentucky. Project will improve habitat for a range of aquatic and terrestrial species including freshwater mussels, fish, amphibians, grassland birds, bats, bobwhite quail and pollinators.
\$100,000

University of Georgia Research Foundation

Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund.
\$138,692

University of Kentucky Research Foundation

Restoring Previously Mined Private Lands in the Cumberland Plateau (KY, TN)
Restore 45 acres of previously mined private land in Kentucky and Tennessee by planting native shortleaf pine, hickory and oak species, and American chestnut that were historically present on the Cumberland Plateau. Project will benefit species including bobwhite quail, golden-winged warbler, prairie warbler, and cerulean warbler.
\$149,384

LOUISIANA

American Bird Conservancy

Gulf Beach Nesting Bird Conservation Enhancement (LA, TX)
Increase protection, monitoring and public awareness at important nesting locations of beach-nesting birds to facilitate continued and increased breeding success. These activities will aid in the recovery of at least two species that were among the top negatively impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: black skimmers and least terns. Project will also directly contribute to setting goals for Wilson's and snowy plovers locally and region-wide.
\$199,992

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

Community-Based Oyster Reef Restoration
Engage 500 volunteers and utilize 700 tons of shell from Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana's Oyster Shell Recycling Program to help construct a half-mile reef in Biloxi Marsh in Breton Sound. Project will support critical gaps in Gulf Coast conservation by demonstrating the effectiveness of using recycled oyster shell to build self-sustaining oyster reefs along the Louisiana Coast.
\$249,973

Conservian

U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Field Monitoring Manual (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Build a standardized training manual for field personnel and site stewards engaged in monitoring and protecting beach-nesting birds on the Gulf Coast. The field manual will be directed toward those actually working on the ground with beach-nesting birds, and will serve as the next logical step to implementing the recommendations of the U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Assessment and Management Guidelines.
\$75,000

Ducks Unlimited

Gulf Stewardship Program (LA, TX)
Use increased staff time, technical assistance, programmatic support and increased adoption of technology to restore, enhance and protect 8,600 acres of agriculture and coastal marsh lands. Project will assemble a diverse team to work with local National Resources Conservation Service offices and landowners, supporting critical gaps in Gulf Coast conservation and catalyzing conservation solutions through innovation and technology.
\$500,000

Ducks Unlimited

Marsh Creation, Waterfowl Habitat Enhancement and Shoreline Stabilization in Lafourche Parish
Restore up to 4 miles of embankment along both sides of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Lafourche Parish, near the city of Larose, where rates of erosion have doubled.
\$250,000

FishAmerica Foundation

Initiating Barotrauma and Mortality Reduction Strategies with Gulf of Mexico Recreational Anglers (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Advance the implementation of FishSmart best practices designed to reduce mortality of fish released during recreational fishing. Project will distribute descending devices on recreational for-hire vessels and select recreational anglers to assess the adoption of best practices and potential reduction of post-release mortality.
\$60,000

Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges

Restoring the Ridge: A New Orleans Maritime Forest Habitat Restoration Project at Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge
Coordinate a series of restoration projects to restore and renew the once vibrant maritime forest at Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge. Project will reforest 15 acres of the maritime forest on the ridge and will provide habitat for generations of migratory and resident birds that use this area for food, shelter and rest.
\$44,958

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Sea Turtle Population Monitoring in Louisiana Nearshore and Offshore Waters
Utilize trawl capture methods to monitor changes in demographics of sea turtle populations. Project will initiate a pilot program for sea turtle monitoring in Louisiana in nearshore and offshore waters to establish the baseline for a Gulf-wide program.
\$192,405

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Shellstock Budgets for Oyster Management
Locate, review and analyze existing oyster data sets to provide updated information on oyster growth and natural oyster mortality. Project will combine efforts with the University of New Orleans and Louisiana State University.
\$119,612

Louisiana State University Agricultural Center Training Applied Conservation Scholars

Train undergraduate and graduate students in applied and policy-relevant conservation biology. The emphasis for undergraduate students will be on real-world experience with management agencies, regulatory agencies, nongovernmental agencies (NGOs) and private industry on how conservation biology is used in public and private decision making and policy formulation. The emphasis for graduate students on applied research that supports the missions of governmental agencies and NGOs.
\$75,000

Mississippi State University

Gulf of Mexico Bird Monitoring Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Complete a structured decision-making effort to identify goals, objectives and values underpinning a Gulf-wide bird monitoring program. The resulting bird monitoring framework and decision support tools will provide a strong basis for increasing coordination and communication and the advancement of bird monitoring across the Gulf of Mexico.
\$222,635

National Audubon Society

Rainey Preserve Wetland Restoration
Use a commercial dredge to restore 5-10 acres of marsh at Audubon's Rainey Sanctuary. Project will increase the integrity of 200 acres of the surrounding marsh and benefit various species of marsh birds of concern, as well as other wildlife and estuarine species.
\$249,986

Restore the Earth Foundation

Montegut Bald Cypress Forest Marsh Restoration at Pointe-aux-Chenes Wildlife Management Area
Restore the first 200 acres of a 4,000 acre degraded coastal bald cypress forest marsh in Pointe-aux-Chenes Wildlife Management Area in Montegut, Louisiana. Partners and volunteers will plant 20,000 native bald cypress trees on the tract, which will be monitored and evaluated annually by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
\$225,500

The Nature Conservancy

Gulf Conservation Corps Restoration Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Support two new Conservation Corps and a Veterans Conservation Corps pilot demonstrations across the Gulf region to undertake projects that restore and protect natural resources. Project will make conservation progress on the ground to improve long-term habitat health for native plants and animals, build organizational strength to continue to use conservation corps as a significant strategy for Gulf restoration, and train young people to participate in the expanding Gulf restoration economy.
\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy – Louisiana

Pineywoods Longleaf Restoration Project – II
Work with the West-Central Louisiana Ecosystem Partnership to improve delivery of Farm Bill cost-share programs, guide ongoing efforts of the local implementation team, support longleaf pine management field days for private landowners, and hold technical workshops for longleaf restoration practitioners, all resulting in restoration of at least 3,000 acres of longleaf pine.
\$251,900

Third Sector New England

Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)
Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

MAINE**Atlantic Salmon Federation (U.S.)**

Blackstone Brook Fish Passage Restoration for Atlantic Salmon
Replace an 8-foot concrete box culvert with a 51-foot bridge that crosses Blackstone Brook, an important headwater stream in the Piscataquis River watershed. Project will restore access for Eastern brook trout and Atlantic salmon to 9 miles of high-quality habitat while also restoring natural stream morphology and eliminating a source of sedimentation.
\$60,000

Atlantic Salmon Federation (U.S.)

Restore Fish Passage for River Herring on the Sabattus River
Restore fish passage at two dam sites in the Sabattus River to benefit alewives, blueback herring, Atlantic salmon, American shad, American eel, sea lamprey and numerous resident aquatic species. Project will help restore access to 2,320 acres of lake and pond habitat and 53 miles of river and stream habitat.
\$95,000

Maine Coast Fishermen's Association

Enabling Boat-to-Plate Seafood Traceability and Product Differentiation of New England Groundfish
Create a traceability system that enables point-of-sale product differentiation for Maine seafood. Project will improve the quality, quantity and timeliness of fisheries-dependent data used for science, management and fishermen's business purposes.
\$175,009

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)
Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

Passamaquoddy Tribe – Pleasant Point**Improving the Operating Efficiency of Fish Ladders for River Herring Passage in the St. Croix River**

Improve monitoring and passage of alewife river herring across the Milltown Dam. Project will establish more robust and less labor-intensive monitoring techniques to establish accurate river herring run counts and will gather data on barriers to fish passage across the dam.

\$75,400

Penobscot Indian Nation**WaYS Forward: Restoring Native Habitat**

Provide employment, training and mentoring to six to nine Wabanaki youths. Participants will monitor and control invasive plants in a habitat restoration project in the Penobscot Experimental Forest, providing tangible benefits to the U.S. Forest Service and enabling native students to assess their prospects in conservation science as a full-time career.

\$45,733

Project SHARE**Science-Based Habitat Restoration of the Upper Narraguagus River Watershed**

Restore instream and riparian habitat on 80 square miles of the upper Narraguagus River watershed in Hancock and Washington counties to benefit Atlantic salmon, Eastern brook trout, river herring, and American eel. Project will replace six road-stream crossings, remove five remnant barriers to fish passage, construct five large wood structures, and hold at least two habitat restoration workshops attracting 100 participants.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy**Electronic Monitoring for New England's Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, NH)**

Implement an electronic monitoring program on New England groundfish fishing vessels from two or more sectors in Fishing Year 2016. Project will achieve individual accountability and improve catch share monitoring.

\$300,000

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

University of Massachusetts**Measuring Reproductive Success of River Herring in New England Coastal Waters (MA, ME, NH)**

Combine historic techniques and newer genetic methods to provide a more accurate and cost-effective methodology for evaluating the spawning activity and juvenile population size of river herring in key coastal waters. The data collected will provide novel and necessary data to enhance monitoring and population modeling of the species and will directly link with ongoing bycatch, age and growth, and productivity studies that characterize the river herring populations.

\$174,304

University of New Hampshire**Improving Gulf of Maine Groundfish Fishing Opportunities Through Fishing Gear Modifications (MA, ME, NH)**

Reduce Atlantic cod bycatch by constructing, distributing and evaluating raised gillnets throughout the Gulf of Maine. Project will work with groundfish sectors and sector managers to distribute and test the gear among 20 regional fishermen in four Gulf of Maine communities.

\$126,339

Vermont Center for Ecostudies**Mapping Abundance and Estimating Population Size of Bicknell's Thrush (ME, NH, VT)**

Produce two population estimates of Bicknell's thrush and other montane forest birds in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont to predict how abundance, population size and distribution may change in response to forest succession and disturbance events. Project will fill critical information gaps and help identify priority habitat areas for future conservation by recruiting 100 volunteers and monitoring 650 stream and forest sites.

\$78,588

Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve**Salt Marsh Creation in the York River**

Create 5.5 acres of salt marsh habitat by restoring tidal flow to an area impounded since the 1890's involving six organizations in a new public-private partnership.

\$35,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)**

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.

\$548,000

MARYLAND**Alice Ferguson Foundation****Chesapeake Bay Trash Trawl (DC, MD)**

Use a manta trawl to sample the surface of the Chesapeake Bay to collect samples of microplastics, to better understand the level of plastic pollution in the watershed. Project will engage advocates, media and other stakeholders in both the sampling and the subsequent communications strategy to expand the reach in public education and policymaking to reduce and prevent trash pollution.

\$30,601

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Healthy Streams Farm Stewardship Program: Leveraging RCPP

Leverage U.S. Department of Agriculture funding to accelerate farm conservation planning and implementation of best management practices. Project will provide assistance to farmers based on their willingness to implement riparian forest buffers and exclude livestock from streams.

\$302,986

Baltimore Tree Trust**Harris Creek Watershed Trees for Public Health**

Expand the urban tree canopy and remove impervious surface in Baltimore City. Project will focus on the continuation of the installation of trees along streets in areas identified as concrete-laden with critically low tree coverage.

\$199,917

Blue Water Baltimore**Deep Blue**

Seek a comprehensive approach to identifying and implementing stormwater management practices within five targeted neighborhoods in Baltimore City. The Deep Blue program is an innovative partnership with the City of Baltimore and the Neighborhood Design Center.

\$500,000

Carroll County Government,**Bureau of Resource Management Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter to Accelerate Phosphorus Removal in Stormwater**

Test an innovative performance enhancement design to accelerate nutrient removal in stormwater.

\$351,868

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Upper Potomac Farm Stewardship Program (MD, WV)

Work with farmers to adopt agricultural best management practices to improve water quality, increase productivity of farming operations and enhance wildlife habitat. Project will help farmers install stream exclusion fencing, implement riparian buffer and wetland restoration projects, transition to grazing systems.

\$200,000

Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia

C&O Canal Towpath Cleanup (MD, VA, WV)

Beautify, remove vegetation and maintain the CandO Canal towpath, which extends into the states of West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia.

\$31,633

Civic Works

Retrofit Baltimore Resource Conservation and Community Restoration Project

Implement stormwater and energy efficiency measures in 400 homes in Baltimore City, empowering homeowners to assume conservation leadership roles within their social networks. Project will contribute to Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts by annually reducing stormwater runoff by 200,000 gallons.

\$25,000

Conservation Partners

Maryland Resource Improvement Procedure Field Support

Provide technical assistance to Maryland's 24 soil conservation districts to help implement the final refinement of the Maryland Department of Agriculture's procedures to verify and record the environmental impact of conservation best management practices installed by nongovernmental organizations and producers without technical or financial assistance.

\$50,000

Dewberry Consultants

Watershed Assessment for the Bohemia River, Lower Elk River, and Back Creek Watersheds in Maryland and Delaware

Develop a watershed-based plan that identifies and ranks water quality problems and improvement projects, and develops feasibility concepts and cost estimates for 25 prioritized projects.

\$48,196

Earth Data

Agricultural Stormwater Cascading System (ASCS) in Hambleton Creek, Queen Anne's County

Create a Design Guidance Manual for the siting of an innovative agricultural best management conservation practice titled Agricultural Stormwater Cascading System.

\$49,720

Earth Data

Breaking Down Barriers to Conservation: Targeted Outreach to Increase the Adoption of Woodchip Bioreactors on Farms

Engage the agricultural community, targeting landowners and farmers who have property in agricultural easement. Project will include holding workshops to explain project goals and the benefits of bioreactors, conducting intensive remote analysis on eight to ten farms, and identifying sites where bioreactors and other innovative conservation practices could be installed.

\$49,998

Gunpowder Valley Conservancy

Clear Creeks: Our Water, Our Heritage, Our Pride

Mobilize residents to install stormwater best management practices, plant trees and clean up streams in the Middle River, Tidal Gunpowder and Bird River watersheds to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff, improve water quality, and restore forests and streams.

\$200,000

Howard County

CleanScape Communities

Increase the buy-in and adoption of residential best management practices (BMPs) in a pilot geographic area in Howard County. Project will attempt to eliminate barriers to implementation identified in studies of BMP adoption and aims to include low-income residents. Project will also encourage the development of a more robust BMP landscaping community within Howard County.

\$20,090

Living Classrooms Foundation

Hispanic Environmental Awareness and Action at Masonville Cove Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership

Connect with local Baltimore City church leaders and engage the local Hispanic church congregations in education and conservation activities centered on urban watershed issues and the monarch butterfly and its habitat.

\$36,110

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Nutrient Incentive Payment – A Maryland Chesapeake Bay Pilot Program to Target Long-Term Nutrient Reduction/Ecological Services for Riparian Forest Buffers and Wetlands

Pilot a nitrogen incentive payment (NIP), an innovative method to incentivize wetland and riparian forest buffer enrollments, re-enrollment and permanent easements in high-priority areas to reduce sediment and nutrient loadings in order to improve water quality, wildlife habitat, and help meet Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load Watershed Implementation Plan goals.

\$499,937

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Restoring Forests and Riparian Buffers on Previously Mined Land in Western Maryland

Improve forest conditions on previously mined land in the Allegheny Plateau, Valley and Ridge, and Blue Ridge provinces, focusing on opportunities to improve golden-winged and cerulean warbler habitat and restore riparian buffers on streams containing Eastern brook trout. Project will include tree and shrub planting, forest improvement practices for cerulean and golden-winged warbler habitat, removal of invasive species, and development of forest stewardship plans.

\$120,000

Microwave Telemetry

Satellite Transmitters for USGS – Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

Provide satellite transmitters for U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

\$16,250

National Aquarium

The Use of Environmental Education Programs and Activities to Improve Environmental Conditions in an Urban Community

Improve environmental conditions within the Brooklyn neighborhood in Baltimore and connect residents to the natural environment by engaging them in local habitat and wildlife conservation efforts. Project will enable residents to make environmentally friendly decisions due to an increased sense of environmental awareness.

\$25,000

Outward Bound Baltimore

Baltimore's Birds, Habitat and People:

Essentials for a New Urban Bird Treaty City

Restore forest and shrub habitat, reduce collision hazards for birds, and create awareness for migratory birds in the City of Baltimore.

\$35,000

Oyster Recovery Partnership

Accelerating Long-Term Oyster Restoration Through Innovative Nutrient Management Strategies

Restore 20 acres of oyster reefs in the Tred Avon River and build community support.

\$174,850

Parks and People Foundation**Baltimore City's Gwynns Falls Urban Watershed: Improving Water Quality and Access to Nature Through Green Infrastructure**

Use best management practices to improve water quality in Gwynns Falls, while improving access to one of the largest urban woodland parks in the eastern United States.

\$153,738

Parks and People Foundation**Building Resources and Nurturing Community Health and Environmental Stewardship**

Support young people working 10 hours per week during after-school hours under the supervision of an adult team leader and an assistant team leader to complete green projects.

\$49,000

Parks and People Foundation**Sarah's Hope Site Improvement Project**

Support Sarah's Hope Site Improvement Project, a green infrastructure retrofit in the Sandtown-Winchester community of Baltimore. The effort is associated with the \$1.3 million Baltimore City Department of General Services Capital Improvement Program for Sarah's Hope, the largest homeless shelter designated for families in Baltimore City.

\$200,000

Smithsonian Institution**River Herring Spawning Run Monitoring in Chesapeake Bay (MD, VA)**

Provide scientifically rigorous imaging sonar run counts of river herring in key Chesapeake Bay spawning streams. Project will augment run counts with watershed-scale habitat use surveys.

\$96,873

Spa Creek Conservancy**Hawkins Cove Small-Watershed Restoration and Sustainability Program**

Install nine upland Hawkins Cove watershed projects that include bioretention cells, filtration systems, bioswales, sand filters and conservation landscaping. Volunteer services will come from engaging the two public housing communities in the watershed.

\$477,507

The Anne Arundel County Watershed**Stewards Academy Riverwise Congregations**

Engage underrepresented large/mega congregations in Anne Arundel County in stormwater restoration on congregation property and at the homes of its members. Project will do this by designing and delivering a compressed Watershed Steward course for up to 75 people from congregations and supporting these Congregational Stewards to create green ministries in their congregations.

\$199,406

The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water**Preventing Commercial Fishing Debris by Educating Recreational Boaters Nationwide**

Educate recreational boaters about specific means of preventing entanglement with fixed fishing gear and provide best practices to explain how to responsibly respond when entanglements occur. Project will explore the user conflicts between recreational boaters and the commercial fishing community and develop effective practices and messages to enhance debris prevention efforts through boater education.

\$105,699

The Nature Conservancy**Chesapeake 4R Alliance: Strengthening and Expanding the Network of Practitioners to Deliver Advanced Nutrient Management and Natural Filter Practices on Delmarva (DE, MD)**

Provide assistance to soil conservation districts and other partners by strengthening and expanding the network of practitioners delivering conservation practices on Delmarva. Project will work through the Chesapeake 4R Alliance to engage current and new practitioners, including certified crop consultants and professionals from the agricultural industry, coordinate outreach and training, and facilitate increased delivery and adoption of priority conservation practices.

\$48,419

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center**Municipal Stormwater Management Training and Outreach Center**

Establish a Stormwater Management Training and Outreach Center that will help communities bridge the gap in needed technical and financial resources through a comprehensive training program that will provide pathways to financing, managing programs and creating political and government leadership at the local level.

\$350,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)**

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.

\$548,000

MASSACHUSETTS**American Rivers****Assessing Fish Barrier Priority Modifications in the Connecticut River Tributaries of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts (MA, NH, VT)**

Identify priority removals of barriers to fish passage and provide engineering designs for selected projects in the Connecticut River tributaries of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts. Project will identify landowners, reach out to them, and complete preliminary engineering studies to advance up to six barrier removals that will, when implemented, restore access and connectivity to more than 60 miles of stream with critical upstream habitat for native Eastern brook trout, river herring, and Atlantic salmon. Partners include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, and the Connecticut River Watershed Council.

\$50,324

City of Revere**Oak Island Salt Marsh Restoration**

Restore 1.2 acres of salt marsh in a significant urban estuary at the Oak Island site. This is the preferred alternative restoration project selected by the Island End River Trustee Council based on the 2009 settlement.

\$265,000

Connecticut River Watershed Council**Getting Conservation on the Ground – Outreach and Assistance for Limited Resource Landowners in the Connecticut River Watershed (MA, NH, VT)**

Provide design, technical and financial assistance to at least six private landowners with working lands in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont who are unable to meet cost-share requirements for improving riparian and instream habitats on their land. Project will target priority watersheds by restoring 12 miles of riparian and instream habitat.

\$64,540

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Suffolk County**Development of a Regional Windowpane and Yellowtail Flounder Bycatch Hotspot Mapping and Avoidance Network in New England (MA, NJ, NY, RI)**

Create an additional avoidance network to focus on the reduction of windowpane and yellowtail flounder bycatch. Project will establish a communication network allowing fishermen to avoid bycatch “hot spots” in scup, whiting, squid and groundfish fisheries in New England.

\$130,681

Georges Bank Cod Fixed Gear Sector Implementing Electronic Monitoring to Achieve Individual Accountability and Improve Monitoring in the New England Groundfish Fishery

Develop and implement an innovative electronic monitoring program for the GB Cod Fixed Gear Sector as part of a larger implementation effort in multiple New England groundfish sectors. Project will document the first year of a fully functional electronic monitoring program for up to seven vessels.

\$166,216

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries**Development of Side-Scan Sonar Methodology to Survey Derelict Lobster Pots in Sandy and Rocky Habitats in Massachusetts**

Estimate derelict lobster pot density in western Cape Cod Bay using a side-scan sonar pilot survey. Project will develop a derelict lobster pot detection rate by using side-scan sonar on a known number of pots over both featureless and complex habitats.

\$66,723

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Reducing Derelict Gear Through Educational Tools for Recreational Pot Fishermen

Create a series of educational videos for recreational pot fishermen in New England. Project will demonstrate best management practices for recreational fishermen and provide the educational tools needed to reduce the incidence of derelict fishing gear.

\$41,344

Merrimack River Watershed Council**Expanding Riparian Forest Buffers to Improve Water Quality Using a Precision Stormwater Approach (MA, NH)**

Restore riparian forest buffers in four sub-watersheds of the Merrimack River to improve water quality and habitat for Eastern brook trout and other aquatic species. Project will provide training and technical assistance to landowners and municipalities in Hillsborough, Merrimack and Rockingham counties in New Hampshire and Essex county in Massachusetts, resulting in the planting of 1,500 mixed native seedlings on nine demonstration sites by 10 trained volunteers over two years.

\$103,971

Mystic River Watershed Association**Reclaiming the Mystic: Community Invasive Water Chestnut Removal on the Mystic River**

Engage 2,000 volunteers from membership, clubs, teams and businesses to paddle and remove the invasive water chestnut from the Mystic River in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Project will seek 95 percent removal of water chestnut from 4 miles of river and renewed community engagement of the river.

\$50,000

Regreen Springfield**A Coalition of Action: Youth, Community and Partners Engaged in Environmental Education and Restoration**

Engage students and community members to participate in environmental education and urban restoration projects which seek to create a network of conserved habitats in the Connecticut River watershed.

\$39,126

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy**Growing the Greenway: Expanding Green Parks and Public Understanding of Green Land Management in Downtown Boston**

Restore 12 small deteriorating parks (1.3 acres in total) up to the Greenway's high standards of excellence in sustainability and beauty. Project will install green irrigation infrastructure and rehabilitate trees and landscaping, while educating volunteers and community members about sustainable land management practices.

\$25,000

The Nature Conservancy**Electronic Monitoring for New England's Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, NH)**

Implement an electronic monitoring program on New England groundfish fishing vessels from two or more sectors in Fishing Year 2016. Project will achieve individual accountability and improve catch share monitoring.

\$300,000

The Trust for Public Land**Tommy's Rock Farm**

Work with Boston officials, local citizens and a variety of community development organizations to create Boston's newest urban farm in the low-income neighborhood of Roxbury. Project will provide important stormwater mitigation benefits while also generating employment and economic activity in Mattapan and surrounding neighborhoods.

\$25,000

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

Trout Unlimited**Kinne Brook Aquatic Connectivity Restoration**

Restore aquatic and riparian habitat by designing road-stream crossings and replacing two undersized culverts on Kinne Brook, a tributary to the Middle Branch of the Westfield River, a National Wild and Scenic River in Massachusetts. Project will restore access to more than 30 miles of interconnected cold-water habitat for brook trout, sculpin and other native cold-water species, and install and monitor the effects of installing large woody habitat along 4,000 feet of channel in Kinne and Skunk brooks by using 400 volunteers.

\$134,429

University of Massachusetts**Measuring Reproductive Success of River Herring in New England Coastal Waters (MA, ME, NH)**

Provide a more accurate and cost-effective methodology for evaluating the spawning activity and juvenile population size of river herring in key coastal waters. Data collected will enhance monitoring and population modeling of the species and will directly link with ongoing studies of bycatch, age and growth, and productivity.

\$174,304

University of New Hampshire**Improving Gulf of Maine Groundfish Fishing Opportunities Through Fishing Gear Modifications (MA, ME, NH)**

Reduce Atlantic cod bycatch by constructing, distributing and evaluating raised gillnets throughout the Gulf of Maine. Project will work with groundfish sectors and sector managers to distribute and test the gear among 20 regional fishermen in four Gulf of Maine communities.

\$126,339

Wildlife Management Institute**Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)**

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.

\$548,000

MICHIGAN**Creating Early Successional Forest to Maximize Forest Productivity for Wildlife (MI, MN, WI)**

Plan and create early successional forest on public and private lands in Minnesota and Wisconsin that meets the habitat needs of the golden-winged warbler, American woodcock and over 50 other species of conservation concern. Project will contact more than 600 private landowners to create over 1,000 acres of habitat and establish plans for 3,000 acres within golden-winged warbler and American woodcock focal areas.

\$399,907

Conservation Resource Alliance**Restoration of Aquatic Connectivity and Stream Channel Configuration in Northern Lower Michigan**

Remove 23 passage barriers, stabilize 1,000 feet of stream bank, and install woody habitat structures along 2,400 feet of stream in four northern Michigan watersheds. Project will create 1,800 feet of new stream channel, reduce sediment inputs by 180 tons per year, and reconnect 24 stream miles for the passage of brook trout and other aquatic organisms.

\$500,000

Great Lakes Fishery Commission**Strategic Coordination of an Aquatic Habitat Connectivity Collaborative (MI, Canada)**

Provide strategic coordination to the Great Lakes Region Aquatic Habitat Connectivity Collaborative. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide technical coordination.

\$60,000

Huron Pines Resource Conservation**and Development Council****Protecting and Reconnecting Alpena's Coastal Wetlands and Rare Species**

Restore more than 350 acres of wetland and shoreline habitat near Alpena by controlling invasive species, planting native buffers, and reconnecting upland and wetland habitat complexes. Project will improve habitat for rare coastal species, reduce nutrient inputs to Lake Huron, and improve resilience of the natural community.

\$115,000

Huron Pines Resource Conservation**and Development Council****Restoring Fish Habitat and Enhancing Water Quality in the Au Gres River Watershed**

Replace five road/stream crossings, install instream habitat structures, and implement conservation practices on agricultural lands in the Au Gres River Watershed. Project will reconnect 15 upstream miles, reduce sediment inputs and improve habitat for brook trout, Lake Huron migratory fish and other aquatic species.

\$235,000

Manistee County Government**Restoring Aquatic Organism Passage and Stream Function in Arquilla Creek**

Remove the final passage barrier in a portion of the upper Manistee River drainage by replacing a perched culvert with a timber bridge along Arquilla Creek. Project will restore stream function, improve aquatic habitat and reconnect 3 stream miles to allow passage by brook trout and other aquatic organisms.

\$90,000

Mason-Lake Conservation District**Improving Connectivity and Habitat on the Pere Marquette River**

Restore a former log-roll site and replace three failing road-stream crossings along the Pere Marquette River and its tributaries. Project will significantly reduce sediment input, reconnect 14 miles to allow passage of fish and other aquatic organisms, and enhance two miles of drowned river-mouth wetland habitat.

\$424,888

National Wildlife Federation**Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)**

Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.

\$100,000

Oceana County Road Commission**Reconnecting the North Branch****of the White River**

Replace a failing culvert with a timber bridge to improve connectivity and reduce sediment inputs along the North Branch of the White River. Project will reconnect 8 miles of stream to improve passage for brook trout and other aquatic organisms, and it will reduce sediment inputs by 35 tons per year.

\$70,000

SEEDS**21st Century Conservation and Service Corps, Metamorphosis! Helping to Turn Youth Into the Next Generation of Conservationists**

Provide jobs for two crews of six restoring and protecting wildlife habitat and native plant communities through seeding, planting, weeding, installation of barriers and informational signs, conducting wildlife surveys, and helping with the construction of a non-motorized trail and pedestrian boardwalk. Youth will receive mentorship and training from land managers and volunteers.

\$42,142

Superior Watershed Partnership**Enhancing Monarch Butterfly Habitat in the Hiawatha National Forest**

Restore monarch habitat in the Central Upper Peninsula of Michigan in cooperation with the Hiawatha National Forest and other project partners through non-native invasive species removal on 83 acres, plant 26,000 native milkweed and nectar plants, and harvest 50 pounds of native plant seeds. Project will improve peninsular and open coastal sites along the Upper Peninsula's primary migratory flyway.

\$59,321

The Board of Trustees of the**University of Illinois****Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)**

Mobilize monarch conservation across the public and private sectors in the Upper Midwest through the Rights-of-Way at Habitat Working Group, related partnerships and targeted outreach. These activities will promote habitat restoration by utilities, transportation authorities, and other interested organizations by primarily focusing on opportunities to utilize rights-of-way and other working landscapes to support monarch conservation.

\$75,000

The Nature Conservancy – Michigan Erie Marsh Preserve Coastal Wetlands Restoration – II

Continue to restore and enhance coastal wetland habitat as part of the larger effort to improve 946 acres of coastal wetland habitat in western Lake Erie. Project will restore 65 acres of wetlands through the improvement of a diked management unit, which will provide habitat for coastal wildlife, improve long-term control of invasive *Phragmites australis*, and contribute to the long-term ecosystem function of an imperiled coastal wetland.
\$881,628

Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council Upper Peninsula Invasives Council: Building Sustainability (MI, WI)

Expand collaboration around invasive species education and management across jurisdictional boundaries of five cooperative weed management areas in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and in northern Wisconsin. Project will survey 30 lakes for aquatic invasive species using environmental DNA techniques.
\$75,000

Wildlife Management Institute Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

MINNESOTA

American Bird Conservancy

Creating Early Successional Forest to Maximize Forest Productivity for Wildlife (MI, MN, WI)
Plan and create early successional forest on public and private lands in Minnesota and Wisconsin that meets the habitat needs of the golden-winged warbler, American woodcock and over 50 other species of conservation concern. Project will contact more than 600 private landowners to create over 1,000 acres of habitat and establish plans for 3,000 acres within golden-winged warbler and American woodcock focal areas.
\$399,907

Centershot Ministries

2014 Guy Bradley Award – Federal Level
Award funds to the Centershot Ministries in honor of Agent Leo Suazo, the 2014 Guy Bradley federal level recipient.
\$1,000

Conservation Corps

Restoring Relations Youth Corps
Support Native American youth and communities through the development of the Restoring Relations Youth Corps which will provide jobs and conservation experience for Native American youth in the St. Paul-Minneapolis metro area while connecting the youth to their heritage and cultural values.
\$25,000

Conservation Legacy

Monarch Conservation Science Partnership – Milkweed Density Estimation (MN, OK, TX)
Collect key information on milkweed densities on and near public lands to help inform national strategies for milkweed restoration.
\$37,501

Friends of Rice Lake Refuge

Constructing an Interactive Nature Discovery Area at Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Install three projects: a nature discovery area for children, an interpretive pollinator garden, and a photo blind. Project will provide families with opportunities to connect with nature and enhance learning in an outdoor setting.
\$10,000

Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge

Constructing a Wetlands Education Dock at Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge
Construct a wetlands education dock at the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge consisting of a floating dock, gangway and trail. Project will provide wetland access for education, wildlife observation and sample collection and study.
\$9,604

Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge

Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge Peer-to-Peer Coaching
Host a 2-day workshop for Regional Friends group members, including speakers and interactive sharing sessions.
\$5,000

Great River Greening Conservation for Underserved in Minneapolis Saint Paul

Bring conservation to underserved communities through new parks, non-traditional partnerships, local volunteer engagement and youth job training. Project will develop 125 new natural acres in underserved areas in Saint Paul, engage 1,000 local volunteers, and engage 68 at-risk and minority urban youth.
\$60,000

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Foundation On the Frontlines of Conservation: Citizen-Scientists Restore Pollinator Habitat (MN, ND, SD)

Provide education to and engage with a wide range of people and communities in creating needed habitat for pollinators. Project will focus on preserving, protecting and propagating two species of native flowering plants: milkweed and prairie clovers.
\$51,352

Minnesota Trout Unlimited

Fish Habitat and Watershed Restoration of Blackhoof River
Restore 1 mile of stream through bank stabilization, planting of native vegetation, and installation of instream habitat structures. Project will improve geomorphological processes, restore coniferous bank cover, and improve habitat for brook trout and other aquatic organisms.
\$280,000

National Audubon Society

Revisiting, Reviving, Expanding and Sustaining Urban Bird Treaty Goals
Complete a restoration project, pilot an urban education program with the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, and create a municipal recognition program for bird-friendly communities. Project will engage at-risk youth to remove invasive species and create bird habitat in the Mississippi River corridor, pilot an urban birding program to engage at-risk youth, and celebrate municipal efforts to educate citizens about birds while implementing sound conservation practices.
\$35,000

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Pheasants Forever

Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership (multiple states)
Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.
\$250,000

Prairie Pothole Partners

Northern Friends Peer-to-Peer

Mentoring Workshop (MN, ND, SD)

Host a mentoring workshop with engaging and educational sessions designed to foster capacity building, encourage sharing and create a network of Friends in the upper Midwest.

\$5,000

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)

Mobilize monarch conservation across the public and private sectors in the Upper Midwest through the Rights-of-Way at Habitat Working Group, related partnerships and targeted outreach. These activities will promote habitat restoration by utilities, transportation authorities, and other interested organizations by primarily focusing on opportunities to utilize rights-of-way and other working landscapes to support monarch conservation.

\$75,000

The Food Group

City of Roseville Urban

Orchard Demonstration Project

Plan and install a community orchard demonstration program in an urban location. Project will provide long-term fresh food access to those in need, engage residents in learning and practicing tree care and harvesting techniques, improve the health of Roseville's residents and environment, and assemble lessons learned for sharing with other communities interested in starting publicly accessible edible landscapes.

\$40,500

Upper Mississippi River Interpretive Association

Revvig-Up the La Crosse District Friends Group for New Challenges

Allow the Friends group to lay the foundation for their organization's future of creating opportunities, increasing capacity and developing partnerships.

\$5,598

Wildlife Management Institute

Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.

\$548,000

MISSISSIPPI

Alabama Forestry Association

Enhancing Longleaf Pine Ecosystems to Improve Black Pine Snake Habitat in Alabama and Mississippi

Engage landowners to form community-based burning networks and enlist mentors to work with landowners to provide training and on-the-ground experience as well as providing education and coordinating access to technical and cost-share assistance. Project partners will restore 200 acres of longleaf pine and enhance 7,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat primarily by increasing the amount and frequency of prescribed burning in the 14 counties in Alabama and Mississippi historically occupied by the black pine snake.

\$149,804

CLS America

Electronic Reporting in the Gulf of Mexico Charter Boat Fleet (AL, FL, MS)

Implement electronic reporting in approximately 275 recreational charter boat vessels in the Gulf of Mexico. Project will engage the fishing industry, federal and state managers, and scientists from Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to generate real-time, verifiable, and high-quality recreational fishing data.

\$1,700,000

Conservian

Restoring Shorebird Populations and Building Capacity on the Eastern Gulf (AL, MS)

Expand Coastal Bird Conservation/Conservian's on-the-ground presence in Alabama and Mississippi. Project will create a local volunteer steward base and assist with site manager/stakeholder relations. Strong partner relationships, science-based field expertise, and use of standardized monitoring methods and best management practices will help serve as a new "model of excellence" for comprehensive shorebird management on the Gulf Coast.

\$100,000

Conservian

U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Field Monitoring Manual (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Build a standardized training manual for field personnel and site stewards engaged in monitoring and protecting beach-nesting birds on the Gulf Coast. The field manual will be directed toward those actually working on the ground with beach-nesting birds, and will serve as the next logical step to implementing the recommendations of the U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Assessment and Management Guidelines.

\$75,000

FishAmerica Foundation

Initiating Barotrauma and Mortality Reduction Strategies with Gulf of Mexico Recreational Anglers (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Advance the implementation of FishSmart best practices designed to reduce mortality of fish released during recreational fishing. Project will distribute descending devices on recreational for-hire vessels and select recreational anglers to assess the adoption of best practices and potential reduction of post-release mortality.

\$60,000

Friends of Noxubee Refuge

Rookery Cam 360 at Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge

Install a rookery cam over Bluff Lake and a waterfowl rookery. The camera will allow viewers to see numerous species and will serve as a tool for increasing education, research, partnerships and membership recruitment at the refuge.

\$8,030

Institute for Marine Mammal Studies

Survey of Incidental Sea Turtle Catch by Recreational Anglers

Characterize the recreational fishery at access points in Mississippi to assess the rate of incidentally caught turtles and identify potential drivers of these interactions. Project will use angler count data, surveys and rehabilitation data to quantify fishing effort and identify spatial and temporal factors related to angler behavior and common gear and bait types against records of turtle hooking to infer how turtle interactions may be reduced in the Mississippi Sound and other areas in the Gulf of Mexico.

\$94,490

Jackson County Board of Supervisors

Pascagoula River Audubon Marsh Mitigation

Develop and provide first-hand educational experiences to public and private land managers about practical tidal wetland mitigation methods and practices. Project will also provide opportunities for engagement and interaction among local, state and federal natural resource agency partners that together will direct what is expected to be large-scale marsh restoration associated with RESTORE funding.

\$15,000

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain
Coastal Streambank and Wetland Habitat Restoration at Weeks Bayou

Offer the coastal community a restored green space for scientific and educational activities that will ultimately improve the environment and quality of life in the community. Project will provide opportunities to educate and inspire community youth through environmental stewardship.

\$30,000

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain
Protection of Upland and Connecting Habitat for the Endangered Dusky Gopher Frog
Permanently protect 57 acres of private lands, including critical upland forested habitat that is essential to the survival of the federally endangered dusky gopher frog, through fee acquisition.
\$250,000

Mississippi Land Trust
Mississippi Coastal Watershed Initiative
Place a full-time coastal watershed coordinator in coastal Mississippi to help educate landowners about water quality-oriented Farm Bill programs. Project will assist landowners with sign-up and implementation for programs in order to greatly increase participation throughout the region.
\$249,200

Mississippi Land Trust
Veterans Prescribed Fire Crew (AL, MS)
Train and outfit a six-person prescribed fire crew composed of military veterans to conduct prescribed burns and other management activities in coastal Mississippi. Activities will take place on sensitive, threatened and endangered species habitat located on private and public lands to include open wet pine savannas and upland longleaf pine on federal, state and private lands.
\$200,000

Mississippi State University
Gulf of Mexico Bird Monitoring Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Complete a structured decision-making effort to identify goals, objectives and values underpinning a Gulf-wide bird monitoring program. The resulting bird monitoring framework and decision support tools will provide a strong basis for increasing coordination and communication and the advancement of bird monitoring across the Gulf of Mexico.
\$222,635

The Crosby Arboretum Foundation
Crosby Arboretum Quaking Bog Educational Exhibit
Create a Quaking Bog wetland exhibit and environmental educational program to serve as an outdoor classroom for area schools and the visiting public. Visitors will experience the feeling of a quaking bog through an ADA-accessible floating bridge that will be designed over the exhibit.
\$21,938

The Longleaf Alliance
Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Translocation Support for the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative: Years 13-14 (AL, FL, GA, MS)
Provide 30 red-cockaded woodpeckers annually for two years to the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative. Based on previous years of total available birds, 15 pairs from this grant will equal 27 percent of the annual total SRTC allocation.
\$165,000

The Nature Conservancy
Gulf Conservation Corps Restoration Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Support two new Conservation Corps and a Veterans Conservation Corps pilot demonstrations across the Gulf region to undertake projects that restore and protect natural resources. Project will make conservation progress on the ground to improve long-term habitat health for native plants and animals, build organizational strength to continue to use conservation corps as a significant strategy for Gulf restoration, and train young people to participate in the expanding Gulf restoration economy.
\$250,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee Refuge Land Acquisition
Purchase a tract of bottomland hardwood acreage to add to the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi and honor the memory of Sam D. Hamilton. Sam Hamilton was the 15th director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
\$125,000

University of Georgia Research Foundation
Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans to identify priority geographies and priority actions.
\$138,692

MISSOURI

Burroughs Audubon of Greater Kansas City
Kansas City Metropolitan Area Monarch Butterfly Conservation: A Multi-Sector Partnership (KS, MO)
Implement a series of strategically chosen, on-the-ground native habitat restorations critical for monarch butterfly conservation. Project will result in 1,400 acres of restored monarch habitat on both public and private lands, and will serve as a model regional effort to stimulate native plantings and conservation.
\$229,868

City Garden Montessori School
Creating an Innovative Outdoor Environmental Institute for Pre-Kindergarten Through Eighth Grade Students
Create an outdoor learning space for City Garden students that will provide an extension of the Montessori classroom where students will use the space to learn mathematics, environmental ethics, science, cultural and social economic lessons.
\$74,327

City of St. Louis
The St. Louis Riverfront Butterfly Byway Project
Create urban monarch butterfly habitat within a 19-mile pollinator pathway along the Mississippi River. Project will bring together local, state and federal partners to establish monarch habitat, build capacity through volunteer stewardship and staffing additions, improve the seed supply of native milkweed, conduct community outreach and engagement, and serve as a national model for urban monarch conservation ecology.
\$154,500

Heartland Conservation Alliance
Kansas City Municipal Farm Restoration and Stewardship
Restore habitat and establish compatible and productive use of land significant to the health of the Blue River Watershed. Project will support and build capacity for partners, engage and educate youth and neighbors in habitat stewardship and create detailed plans to guide restoration and care for habitat today and for the next generation.
\$49,803

Missouri Department of Conservation
Habitat Improvement in Missouri's White River Reservoirs
Improve reservoir habitat and fishing in three White River Reservoirs in Missouri. Project will involve habitat enhancement activities in the Table Rock, Bull Shoals and Norfork lakes watersheds.
\$250,000

National Wildlife Federation
Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Pheasants Forever
Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership (multiple states)
Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.
\$250,000

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)

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\$75,000

The Nature Conservancy

Dunn Ranch and Pawnee Prairie

Restoration, Enhancement and Maintenance

Restore approximately 75 acres, enhance roughly 960 acres, and maintain around 3,860 acres of prairie habitat at Dunn Ranch and Pawnee Prairies within the Grand River Grasslands of northern Missouri. Project will also result in the harvest, cleaning and planting more than 1,000 pounds of milkweed and nectar seeds on 1,035 acres.

\$104,154

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Missouri Grasslands for Monarchs on National Wildlife Refuges and Private Lands Along the I-35 Monarch Flyway

Restore 293 acres of cropland to wet-mesic bottomland prairie at Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge and 40 acres of grassland will be enhanced at Squaw Creek National Refuge to benefit monarchs and other pollinators. In addition to restoration, the project will conduct habitat practices on private lands including field preparation, and facilitate local seed collection for monarch habitat restorations.

\$200,000

MONTANA

Alberta Conservation Association

Restoring Connectivity for Pronghorn in the Northern Steppe in Montana and Alberta

Implement a project in the northern sagebrush-steppe in northern Montana and southern Canada that serves as the terminus of the pronghorn range and where populations of pronghorn have difficulty negotiating barbed wire fences. Project will provide insights into which fence modifications allow for the most successful movements by pronghorn and costs associated with those modifications.

\$199,070

American Bird Conservancy

Implementing Highly Productive Grassland Management (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Continue to assist landowners in conservation planning and enrolling in Natural Resources Conservation Service programs where sustainable management practices for grasslands will result in habitat conservation on private lands for at least 10 declining or at-risk bird species. Project will target up to 142,000 acres of priority grasslands.

\$248,865

Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

Wilderness Conservation Corps, Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex

Employ youth crews to maintain trails, remove invasive species in critical habitat areas, and conduct campsite impact monitoring in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. Trail maintenance will mitigate sediment run off from trails adjacent to rivers with habitat for endangered westslope cutthroat and bull trout.

\$50,000

Chippewa Cree Tribe of the

Rocky Boy's Reservation

Rocky Boy Grassland Features

Identify and classify natural features associated with grasslands to contribute to grassland conservation decisions. Project findings will also address cultural protocol and proprietary information.

\$57,000

Clark Fork Coalition

Community Water Marketing Program

Identify, implement and monitor water transactions in the Clark Fork basin of Montana.

\$159,439

Fort Peck Tribes

Evaluation of Swift Fox

and Sage Grouse Populations

Implement a program to survey and assess current status of swift fox and sage grouse on Fort Peck Reservation to identify potential conservation needs and restoration sites.

Project will be part of an international and multi-region, tribal and agency conservation effort to conserve swift fox and sage grouse.

\$150,000

Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument

Restoring Central Montana's Upper

Missouri River Breaks National Monument

Restore and improve vital riparian habitat in the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. Project will remove 80-100 percent of salt cedar in target areas, plant at least 100 cottonwood saplings, and fence at least two riparian enclosures to protect naturally occurring cottonwoods.

\$149,952

Montana Conservation Corps

21st Century Nature Corps

Engage 56 diverse youth from urban, rural and tribal communities across Montana in critical hands-on, habitat restoration projects on the Northern Great Plains and Rocky Mountain Front portion of the Crown of the Continent ecosystem in Montana. Project will equip youth with the knowledge, skills and values to serve as the next generation of conservationists.

\$55,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Acton and Four Dances Recreation Trails

Partner with the Bureau of Land Management, Billing Field Office, to engage 11 youth in projects to develop 3 miles of recreational trails at Four Dances Natural Area and Acton Recreation Area. The new trails will be developed in response to the high demand for additional hiking and mountain biking opportunities in the Billings area.

\$7,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Montana and Wyoming Tribal Corps Partnership

Engage 20 Native youths, ages 16-25, through paid 21st Century Conservation Service Corps positions. Project will develop conservation work skills, learn about local lands and cultural traditions, and practice skills to be leaders and contributing members of their crew and community.

\$50,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Pompey's Pillar National Monument and Billings Recreation Sites

Engage young people in conservation corps programs to develop and protect natural, historic and cultural resources at Pompey's Pillar National Monument and other Bureau of Land Management recreational sites near Billings, Montana.

\$15,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Willow Creek Bitterbrush Restoration

Partner with Bureau of Land Management to engage five to seven youths in a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps restoration project to improve bitterbrush habitat for elk and deer in the upper Willow Creek watershed of western Montana.

\$4,500

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

French Creek Fish Barrier Installation

Install a fish barrier on French Creek, remove non-native fish, and restore native westslope cutthroat trout and Arctic grayling to 38 miles of stream. Project will help establish one of the largest interconnected populations of westslope cutthroat trout in the upper Missouri River drainage.

\$32,500

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

New Incentives to Conserve Montana's Priority Grasslands

Offer 30-year conservation leases to private landowners to protect priority grasslands and wetland-grassland complexes from conversion to cropland agriculture. Project will protect approximately 30,000 acres in the Prairie Pothole Region of Montana from being converted.

\$180,000

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Support for Water Transfers Capacity

Assist Montana qualified local entities with review and coordination on water transactions

\$39,176

Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation

Grizzly Bear Management Along the Railway Corridor

Provide tools for biologists to effectively manage a threatened grizzly bear population in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem, an area that is significant for grizzly bear survival and growth. Project will monitor bear activity while working to educate and establish systems that will improve relationships between humans and grizzly bears.

\$80,000

National Wildlife Federation

Fence-Flagging to Reduce Conflicts Between Sage Grouse Conservation and Livestock Grazing

Reduce extensive mortality associated with sage grouse collisions with wire fences through a concentrated fence-flagging initiative that applies proven methods on a large scale in north-central Montana. Project will produce tangible conservation benefits for sage grouse in a way that is compatible with grazing.

\$125,000

Oregon State University

Swift Fox Distribution Assessment and Reintroduction Strategy

Use camera traps to survey swift fox in grassland habitat on five tribal lands and surrounding property. Project results will be used to develop occupancy, connectivity, and metapopulation models which will be used to develop a 20-year reintroduction strategy for swift fox in the study area.

\$127,619

Park Conservation District

Shields River Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Conservation – II

Protect and increase the Yellowstone cutthroat trout population in the Upper Shields River basin by installing non-native fish barriers and physically removing non-native brook trout, a known threat to cutthroat trout population persistence in the basin.

\$73,371

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

At-Risk Bird Conservation in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Increase landowners' interest in enrolling in habitat enhancement projects that include practices such as grazing management and enrollment in conservation easements. Project will leverage partner funding to enhance more than 10,000 acres of mixed grass habitat and help reverse negative population trends of at-risk grassland bird species.

\$168,106

Soil and Water Conservation

Districts of Montana

Transition Agriculture

Use a web portal and transition agriculturalist to overcome barriers producers face in making changes to their operations or making the most of available programs/resources to address water issues.

\$75,000

The Trust for Public Land

Story Mill Community Park – II

Create a 30-acre nature sanctuary at the site of the future 55-acre Story Mill Community Park, located in Bozeman. Project will include on-the-ground restoration activities, ongoing monitoring, and outreach and education with local college students and community members.

\$75,000

Trout Unlimited

Clark Fork Watershed Restoration

Remove existing stressors to increase bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout resistance and resilience to a changing climate. Project will restore riparian and hydrologic function and reconnect spawning and rearing habitats.

\$97,500

Trout Unlimited

Montana Water Project

Develop and complete instream flow water transactions in the upper Columbia River Basin. Project will monitor flows in order to assure the delivery of water in the protected reach.

\$109,539

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office

Dace Research and Conservation

Investigate conservation status, distribution, abundance and threats, and make management prescriptions for three sensitive and declining dace species in northern Montana. Project will provide quantitative baseline information to land and non-game managers to help them make informed management decisions.

\$75,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office

Nickwall Fish Barrier Removal

Remove a large fish barrier on the Redwater River in northeast Montana and replace it with a fish-passable device. Project will allow fishes unimpeded access to over 25 miles of the Redwater River, where over 21 native fish species have been documented.

\$70,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Rearing the Next Fisheries Cohort (multiple states)

Host 20 high school student interns at 13 field offices of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working with American Fisheries Society, BLM will provide an eight-week, paid internship and a diverse conservation experience in the fisheries and aquatic habitat field to explore career options in the fisheries field.

\$100,000

U.S. Department of the Interior,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6

Prairie Pothole Region Community Outreach and Education (MT, ND, SD)

Launch a comprehensive outreach and education program that illuminates the value of wetlands and grasslands in the Prairie Pothole Region. Project will inform landowners about the availability of conservation programs that will allow them to maintain working landscapes that sustain native prairie ecosystems.

\$100,000

World Wildlife Fund

Conserving Black-Footed Ferrets in the Northern Great Plains (MT, SD, WY, Canada)

Improve the status of the black-footed ferret and black-tailed prairie dog habitat within the Northern Great Plains. Project will mitigate the impacts of disease, expand habitat for the ferret and its prey, and evaluate the effectiveness of tools used to protect both species.

\$350,000

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing
Best Management Practices to Sustain
Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of
the Western U.S. (multiple states)

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.
\$104,181

NEBRASKA

Center for Rural Affairs
Enhancing Partnerships
in Sandhills Conservation

Raise awareness of the conservation importance of Nebraska's Sandhills mixed grass prairie for grassland birds, endemic species and the High Plains Aquifer. Project will host activities and develop resources to enable greater understanding and implementation of best practices for Sandhills conservation.
\$66,252

City of Omaha, Nebraska
Prospect Village Gardens

Create community gardens on city-owned vacant lots in northeast Omaha, an identified food desert. Project will build four to six temporary community gardens and one to two permanent community gardens with environmentally positive impacts in the Prospect Village neighborhood.
\$39,490

National Wildlife Federation
Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in
the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach
(multiple states)

Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Nebraska Community Foundation FBO
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture
Grassland and Wetland Enhancement
in Nebraska's Sandhills

Work to protect and restore habitat in Nebraska's Sandhills through wetland restoration, grassland enhancement, and removal of Eastern red cedar. Project will positively impact 49,550 acres of wetland and grassland habitat in Nebraska's Sandhills on both public and private lands.
\$300,000

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
Restoration of Pollinator Habitat in Nebraska
Restore 140 acres of low-quality grasslands adjacent to the Cowboy Trail to high-quality monarch habitat. Project will collaborate with multiple monarch conservation groups, facilitate workshops for plug planting, and maintain and monitor additional habitat acreage.
\$140,900

Pheasants Forever
Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly
Partnership (multiple states)

Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.
\$250,000

University of Nebraska
The Nebraska Watershed Network and the
Lower Platte River Management Plan

Fulfill components of the Lower Platte River Management Plan by engaging citizens and high school students from underrepresented populations in an environmental program aimed at developing the capacity for community-based, environmental stewardship. Project will empower the community to participate in environmental stewardship programs.
\$39,997

NEVADA

Friends of Red Rock Canyon
Southern Nevada Milkweed Mapping, Seed Production and Distribution Project
Locate, map and collect seeds of native milkweed on federal and state partner lands in Southern Nevada, with a portion of the collected seeds contributed to the Bureau of Land Management Seeds of Success Program and planted on federal and state partner lands.
\$135,347

Great Basin Institute
Copper Basin, Shoshone
and Hickison Campgrounds
Provide maintenance to trails and campgrounds in the Bureau of Land Management Battle Mountain District by engaging a five-person youth Nevada Conservation Corps crew.
\$10,000

Great Basin Institute
Pinyon-Juniper Removal Project
Utilize Nevada Conservation Corps youth crews to restore 750 acres of critical greater sage-grouse habitat through the removal of Pinyon-Juniper encroachment in the Desatoya Mountains.
\$49,838

Great Basin Institute
Las Vegas Area Desert Cleanup
Assist Bureau of Land Management in managing public lands by removing illegally dumped waste materials from public lands adjacent to developed areas. Project will remove waste materials from sites and take them to a proper waste disposal and recycling center.
\$3,000

Great Basin Institute
Las Vegas Desert Cleanup
Engage restoration crews to assist the Bureau of Land Management in managing public lands by removing illegally dumped waste materials from public lands adjacent to developed areas.
\$5,000

Great Basin Institute
Vegetation and Sage-Grouse Habitat
Monitoring in the Walker Basin (CA, NV)
Provide opportunities for youth to serve in paid internship positions while acquiring valuable skills in field research techniques related to monitoring and conservation. Project will collect data to guide proper treatment design and provide a baseline data set against which treatment effects may be measured.
\$50,000

Great Basin Institute
Wetlands Park Fuels Reduction, Cultural
Site Protection and Road Restoration
Focus on the removal of invasive species such as tamarisk, planting of native seeds and plants, and maintenance of trails and roads within the Wetlands Park. Project will be conducted by youth through the Nevada Conservation Corps AmeriCorps program.
\$13,500

Humboldt Watershed
Cooperative Weed Management Area
Humboldt Watershed Invasive
Plant Management
Work in partnership with several agencies on the Humboldt River to treat weeds and restore treated areas to functioning vegetative communities creating more suitable wildlife habitat.
\$70,000

Mason Valley Conservation District
Developing the Next Generation
of Conservationists in Mason Valley
Control tall whitetop, a noxious weed on the Walker River Corridor, using herbicides along 70 miles of the river. Youth will participate in weed control and assist with abandoned farmland restoration in Mason and Smith Valleys.
\$49,563

Pitchfork Ranch
Pitchfork Ranch Acquisition
Acquire the Pitchfork Ranch property and associated water rights in the Walker Basin, Nevada.
\$8,058,645

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal. **\$100,000**

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands. **\$100,000**

Trout Unlimited**Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Core Grant (CA, NV, OR) – II**

Provide continued support for a Lahontan cutthroat trout coordinator who hires, trains and supervises range-wide field crews, coordinates communication and collaboration among agency and other stakeholders in Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery, and works on public and private landowner outreach and education. Project will also continue non-native trout eradication in Independence Lake, a priority Lahontan cutthroat trout lake system. **\$331,006**

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management**Youth Restoration of Forests and Rangelands**

Partner with the Nevada Conservation Corps and local Native American tribes to employ, train and mentor native and non-native youth to restore forests and rangelands in Northern Nevada. Project will employ a 10-person Nevada Conservation Corp crew to enhance sage-grouse habitat. **\$74,974**

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office
Fountaingrass Control Initiative

Assist in the development of a southern Nevada cooperative weed management area and implement a project to control invasive green fountaingrass. Project will substantially reduce or eradicate invasive fountaingrass from about 1,000 acres and prevent further invasion to surrounding lands. **\$75,000**

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lahontan National Fish Hatchery Complex
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Monitoring Within the Truckee River

Observe the movement and habitat selection of adult Lahontan cutthroat trout during the spawning season. Project will provide resource managers with valuable information to help guide management decisions for the recovery of the species. **\$75,000**

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey**Long-Term Hydrologic Monitoring in the Walker River Basin**

Complete critical long-term hydrologic infrastructure monitoring needed to evaluate and track Walker River Basin restoration efforts. Monitoring includes various stream and lake sites, groundwater levels, total dissolved solids and major ion samples. **\$1,065,389**

Walker Basin Conservancy

Establishment of Walker Basin Conservancy
Establish the Walker Basin Conservancy, an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit, which will manage the lands and properties acquired by NFWF through the Walker Basin Restoration Program. **\$1,920,000**

West Fork Ranches

Walker River Ranch Water Rights Acquisition
Acquire water rights related to the Walker River Ranch. **\$1,500,000**

William Barron Hilton Trust U/D/T
March 16, 1992

Acquisition of Flying M Properties
Acquire properties related to the Flying M Ranch, including associated land and water rights. **\$20,000,000**

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands. **\$104,181**

NEW HAMPSHIRE**American Rivers****Assessing Fish Barrier Priority Modifications in the Connecticut River Tributaries of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts (MA, NH, VT)**

Identify priority removals of barriers to fish passage and provide engineering designs for selected projects in the Connecticut River tributaries of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts. Project will identify landowners, and complete preliminary engineering studies to advance up to six barrier removals that will restore access and connectivity to more than 60 miles of stream. **\$50,324**

Connecticut River Watershed Council
Eastern Brook Trout Passage

Use natural stream simulation design techniques to replace barriers to fish passage in an Eastern brook trout watershed whose tributaries flow off of the White Mountain National Forest and into the Connecticut River watershed. **\$50,050**

Connecticut River Watershed Council
Outreach and Assistance for Limited Resource Landowners in the Connecticut River Watershed (MA, NH, VT)

Provide design, technical and financial assistance to at least six private landowners with working lands in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont who are unable to meet cost-share requirements for improving riparian and instream habitats on their land. Project will target priority watersheds by restoring 12 miles of riparian and instream habitat. **\$64,540**

Connecticut River Watershed Council
Restoring Connectivity Through Fish Barrier Modifications on Oliverian Brook
Replace an undersized, perched culvert on Oliverian Brook in Haverhill by providing design, engineering and permitting assistance. Project will open and connect .25 miles of stream and riparian buffer habitat to benefit Eastern brook trout and other aquatic species. **\$65,000**

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date. **\$274,313**

Merrimack River Watershed Council**Expanding Riparian Forest Buffers to Improve Water Quality Using a Precision Stormwater Approach (MA, NH)**

Restore riparian forest buffers in four sub-watersheds of the Merrimack River to improve water quality and habitat for Eastern brook trout and other aquatic species. Project will provide training and technical assistance to landowners and municipalities, resulting in the planting of 1,500 mixed native seedlings on nine demonstration sites by 10 trained volunteers over two years.
\$103,971

The Nature Conservancy**Electronic Monitoring for New England's Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, NH)**

Implement an electronic monitoring program on New England groundfish fishing vessels from two or more sectors in Fishing Year 2016. Project will achieve individual accountability and improve catch share monitoring.
\$300,000

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

Trout Unlimited**Connecticut and Merrimack River Basins Reconnection (NH, VT)**

Implement aquatic organism passage assessment, prioritization and restoration of severe instream barriers that threaten the long term stability of high quality native brook trout habitat within priority areas. Project will include a suite of assessment, design and implementation work located in four major watersheds in the Connecticut and Merrimack River basins.
\$90,000

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

University of Massachusetts**Measuring Reproductive Success of River Herring in New England Coastal Waters (MA, ME, NH)**

Provide a more accurate and cost-effective methodology for evaluating the spawning activity and juvenile population size of river herring in key coastal waters. The project will enhance monitoring and population modeling of the species and will link with ongoing studies on bycatch, age and growth, and productivity.
\$174,304

University of New Hampshire**Improving Gulf of Maine Groundfish Fishing Opportunities Through Fishing Gear Modifications (MA, ME, NH)**

Reduce Atlantic cod bycatch by constructing, distributing and evaluating raised gillnets throughout the Gulf of Maine. Project will work with groundfish sectors and sector managers to distribute and test the gear among 20 regional fishermen in four Gulf of Maine communities.
\$126,339

University of New Hampshire**The Stewardship Network: New England – Mobilizing Volunteers for Forest and Riparian Habitat Restoration in New Hampshire**

Increase the capacity of local conservation organizations, public agencies and local communities to work with volunteers on conservation of New Hampshire's lands and waters.
\$100,000

Vermont Center for Ecotudies**Mapping Abundance and Estimating Population Size of Bicknell's Thrush (ME, NH, VT)**

Produce two population estimates of Bicknell's thrush and other montane forest birds in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont to predict how abundance, population size and distribution may change in response to forest succession and disturbance events. Project will fill critical information gaps and help identify priority habitat areas for future conservation by recruiting 100 volunteers and monitoring 650 stream and forest sites.
\$78,588

Wildlife Management Institute**Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)**

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Restoring Young Forests to Benefit New England Cottontail and American Woodcock (CT, NH)**

Promote and implement young forest management activities on private land in New Hampshire and Connecticut to benefit a suite of species, including New England cottontail and American woodcock. Project will provide technical assistance on private lands, resulting in five new management plans and improved management practices that will increase habitat by 140 acres and assess 3,500 acres for improved management.
\$200,000

NEW JERSEY**American Littoral Society****Bridgeton Community Aquifer Initiative Project**

Develop a series of demonstration storm-water management projects along the Cohansey River, in a variety of academic and community settings. The demonstrations will also address cleanup of the Cohansey River and involve a major focus on community outreach and engagement.
\$120,654

Association of New Jersey**Environmental Commissioners****Enhancing a Model for Local Green Infrastructure Practices and Inspiring Land Stewardship Practices in the Kirkwood-Cohansey Watershed**

Increase the capacity of local government to adopt green infrastructure and accelerate adoption of such practices on private lands. Project will protect and restore local water quality by installing green infrastructure as models for private landowners and municipalities.
\$90,000

Burlington County Soil Conservation District**Burlington and Camden County Soil Conservation District Agricultural Soil Health Initiative**

Install multi-species crop mix and other practices included in the Natural Resources Conservation Service New Jersey Soil Health Initiative. Project will serve as demonstration farms (fields) to use as examples in a series of outreach and educational events.
\$50,000

Cape Atlantic Soil Conservation District**Cape Atlantic Soil Conservation District Delaware Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program Implementation**

Assist with the implementation of the five-year Regional Conservation Partnership Program in the Delaware River Watershed by providing technical assistance and support for best management practice delivery to improve water quality in portions of Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties.
\$335,000

Cooper's Ferry Partnership

Camden City Hall Interactive Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project
Install a highly-visible, unique, interactive and educational "pop-up" rainwater harvesting system in Roosevelt Plaza Park at the doorstep of Camden City Hall. Project will educate residents and visitors about the benefits of green infrastructure, remove gallons of stormwater from the city's overtaxed combined sewer system, thereby reducing sewer overflows and localized flooding, and improve both the quality of life of Camden residents and the water quality of neighboring waterways.
\$50,000

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Suffolk County

Development of a Regional Windowpane and Yellowtail Flounder Bycatch Hotspot Mapping and Avoidance Network in New England (MA, NJ, NY, RI)
Create an additional avoidance network to focus on the reduction of windowpane and yellowtail flounder bycatch. Project will establish a communication network allowing fishermen to avoid bycatch "hot spots" in scup, whiting, squid and groundfish fisheries in New England.
\$130,681

Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Reverend Evers Park and Newton Creek – Riparian Corridor Restoration and Green Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements
Planning and installation of riparian woodland restoration including bio-swailes adjacent to the riparian woodland, job-training, community outreach and involvement, volunteer events, increased urban tree canopy, a watershed issues presentation/tour for school children, integration of up-stream and downstream communities, and improved park aesthetics, for the benefit of this distressed community.
\$36,542

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)
Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

New Jersey Audubon Society

Agricultural Best Management Practices in the Kirkwood-Cohansey Cluster – II
Build on the momentum and lessons learned from Phase I and continuing to conduct outreach, enrolling landowners and producing agricultural best management practices (BMPs). Project will reduce impacts to streams, wetlands and ground-water resources. New Jersey Audubon will apply acquired information and use strong partnerships with federal, regional and local partners to make use of key BMPs more feasible to producers in targeted focal areas.
\$107,391

New Jersey Audubon Society

Expanding the Cape May Habitat Restoration Task Force
Expand the successfully coordinated weed management area to include all of Cape May County, develop local capacity for education and outreach, and control noxious emergent weeds such as kudzu and other non-native invasive plants. Project will continue and expand on-going restoration projects.
\$33,550

North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development Program

Delaware River Watershed Working Lands Conservation in New Jersey Highlands Watersheds
Implement additional agricultural best management practices, thereby improving water quality in the New Jersey Highlands region and for the Delaware Watershed. Project will improve customer service and to ensure the resource concern and water quality objectives of the landowner and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program are met.
\$175,000

Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Off-Road Vehicle Restoration in Wharton State Forest
Create a model for preventing and restoring the damage caused by off-road vehicles on state-owned lands. Project will block access, apply restoration practices to stabilize sites, and organize volunteer groups to maintain restoration, monitor sites and effectively limit illegal off-road vehicle use on sensitive lands.
\$77,500

Princeton University

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Training Program
Develop a unique training program in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Princeton University with the goal of training and supporting the next generation of female leaders in conservation biology. Program will focus on undergraduate and graduate students and will combine multidisciplinary coursework in ecology, conservation biology and environmental policy.
\$100,000

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Wildlife Management Institute

Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)
Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

NEW MEXICO**Amigos de la Sevilleta**

Volunteer Naturalist Training and Refuge Awareness Outreach
Train selected volunteers through lectures, field experiences and role-playing to conduct interpretive tours. Project will target two pools of potential refuge visitors and future members of Amigos.
\$3,364

Arizona Conservation Corps

Trail Maintenance in Picacho Mountain Recreation Area
Complete priority trail maintenance and signage projects in the Picacho Mountain Recreation Area at the newly designated Bureau of Land Management Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.
\$10,000

Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District

Rio Grande Riparian Corridor Ecology Education and Restoration
Restore 10-18 acres of Southwestern willow flycatcher habitat in the Rio Grande riparian corridor over two years, in partnership with City of Albuquerque Open Space. Project will give young citizens a broad understanding of how the restoration effort fits in with larger watershed issues.
\$44,090

Conservation Legacy**Maintaining and Restoring Keystone Ecosystem Functions at Bandelier National Monument**

Focus on the effects fires, prolonged drought and beetle outbreaks are having on the landscapes of northern New Mexico. Project will seek to understand the patterns of post-disturbance ecosystem recovery.

\$12,500

Conservation Legacy**Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project: Building Partnerships with Reclamation to engage Navajo Youth in Vegetation Monitoring**

Engage a five-person Native American crew in vegetation monitoring and habitat assessment prior to construction of portions of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. Project will support 10 weeks of crew work (400 hours per crew member) to complete pre-project vegetation monitoring and habitat assessments on 28 miles of right-of-way in northwest New Mexico.

\$40,143

First Choice Community Healthcare**South Valley Community Farm and Indoor/Outdoor Learning Center**

Reclaim a vacant lot and adjacent storm drainage ponding area to reestablish the agricultural tradition of the South Valley. Project will engage community members in water conservation.

\$25,000

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

Middle Rio Grande Urban Conservation Corps Inspire the next generation of conservationists by connecting youth to public lands and meaningful opportunities to play, learn, serve and work outside through conservation youth employment opportunities. Project will focus on the highly urbanized Middle Rio Grande and utilizing an array of federally protected public lands including national wildlife refuges, national monuments, a national historic trail, and a national forest all within commuting distance of the urban center.

\$50,000

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps**Sierra Vista National Recreation Trail**

Provide additional restoration activities on the Pine Loop Trail in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument. Project will develop water bars, cribbing and remove additional rocks from trail tread.

\$10,000

Santa Fe Watershed Association

Santa Fe River Demonstration Rain Gardens Plan, design and construct bio-retention basins in the Santa Fe River watershed to capture surface water runoff prior to it reaching the river bed in order to filter out contaminants including chemicals, minerals and sediment. Project will support implementation efforts with ongoing instruction and outreach, and will engage community volunteers.

\$25,000

Talking Talons Youth Leadership**Giving Youth Voice Through Participation and Education in Conservation**

Employ, train and educate a Youth Conservation Crew by providing them with compensation and resume-building experience. Project will employ a Youth Summit and Recruitment Coordinator who will involve area high school and college level students in conservation related discussions and hands-on fieldwork.

\$50,000

WildEarth Guardians**Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge Wetland and Native Riparian Habitat Restoration to Improve Migratory Bird Habitat**

Reestablish natural ecosystems and processes to benefit migratory and resident birds, wildlife and their associated habitats. Project will construct a series of trail systems for recreation opportunities, so that visitors may view wildlife in natural environments in close proximity to an urban setting and provide an educational component.

\$49,980

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation**Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)**

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.

\$104,181

NEW YORK**American Littoral Society****Long Island Sound Component of the 2015 New York Beach Cleanup**

Organize beach cleanups for 80 miles of shoreline in Queens, Suffolk, Nassau and Bronx counties, New York. Volunteers will receive education about how to prevent pollution and the data from the cleanups will be used to devise strategies for combating marine pollution.

\$6,000

Bronx River Alliance**Engaging the Public in Reducing Floatable Pollution in the Bronx River and Long Island Sound**

Collect floatable debris through eight paddle and pickup canoe trips, one on-shore trash collection at a boom site, and one on-shore coastal cleanup event. Project will collect 4,500 pounds of debris.

\$10,000

City of Glen Cove**Summer Youth Marine Education Program for Long Island Sound**

Manage a summer youth marine education program for 500 campers and 116 counselors about the Long Island Sound environmental resources. Project will engage campers in hands-on activities and demonstrations at local beaches, which will create awareness of beach ecology and promote stewardship of the sound.

\$7,750

City Parks Foundation**Coastal Habitat Restoration at Alley Pond**

Restore tidal wetland, coastal forest, and vernal pool habitat at Alley Creek, Alley Pond Park, Queens. Project will establish salt marsh habitat on 0.23 acres of tidal pools to reduce marsh loss and fragmentation; and remove invasive plants on 5.5 acres of coastal forest and vernal pools to expand their size and ecological function for invertebrates, amphibians and wildlife.

\$149,938

Cornell Cooperative**Extension Association of Suffolk County Development of a Regional Windowpane and Yellowtail Flounder Bycatch Hotspot Mapping and Avoidance Network in New England (MA, NJ, NY, RI)**

Create an additional avoidance network to focus on the reduction of windowpane and yellowtail flounder bycatch. Project will establish a communication network allowing fishermen to avoid bycatch “hot spots” in scup, whiting, squid and groundfish fisheries in New England.

\$130,681

Friends of the Upper Delaware River Sands Creek Restoration Project – West Branch of the Upper Delaware River

Improve water quality and aquatic habitat in one of the most productive trout spawning tributaries of the Upper Delaware River, Sands Creek. Restoration work will include stream bank stabilization, placement of woody material and gravel bar repair in strategic locations.

\$99,954

Friends of Van Cortlandt Park Wetland Stewardship in the Bronx

Reduce the amount of water that flows from Van Cortlandt Lake and Tibbetts Brook into the sewer, thus reducing sewer overflow into local rivers during heavy storm-water events. Project will be a combination of classroom study, hands-on participatory group work, and outdoor service projects which will stimulate eager students to become involved in planting, invasive removal and other activities that will benefit Tibbetts Wetland and therefore the Harlem River and East River watersheds.

\$29,494

Groundwork Hudson Valley**Three Rivers Public Pathways**

Engage youth from low-income, minority communities in environmental projects that tangibly improve local streams and invest youth in their communities. Project will build stewardship around and improve access to amenities along the Muchattoes Lake and Quassaick Creek for the pleasure, recreation and spiritual and physical health of the communities around it.

\$30,000

Group for the East End**All for Wildlife: Discovering Art in Coastal Cleanups Around Long Island Sound**

Organize educational coastal cleanups for 750 volunteers along 10 miles of shoreline. Project will document and deliver the collected debris to local artisans to be repurposed into wildlife sculptures that will be on display in public spaces, festivals and events to generate community awareness.

\$10,000

Incorporated Village of Sea Cliff, New York Hempstead Harbor 2015 Water Quality Monitoring Program

Conduct water quality monitoring of physical, chemical and biological indicators of pollution in outer and inner Hempstead Harbor, New York. Project will collect water quality data, track improving and declining water quality, and produce and disseminate a report to assist in management efforts.

\$45,000

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District**Planting for Clean Water Program**

Deliver an educational program for residents, visitors and municipalities about development and installation of rain gardens in Nassau County. Project will directly improve water quality by educating the public about the benefits of green infrastructure to help treat polluted stormwater before it enters Long Island Sound.

\$34,514

National Audubon Society**Advancing Flyway Conservation of American Oystercatchers (multiple states)**

Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.

\$249,669

National Audubon Society**Gardeners of the Sound**

Install a native habitat garden at Sagamore Hill with information about the Long Island Sound. Project will engage five to 10 volunteers to install the native habitat, engage a total of nine classes from three schools, and hold two lecture and field workshops. The demonstration garden will engage approximately 75,000 annual visitors.

\$10,000

Rockaway Waterfront Alliance

Project Underway: Green Infrastructure, Local Jobs and Community Stewardship for a Healthier Jamaica Bay Watershed Mitigate the pollution of Jamaica Bay Watershed and the Atlantic Ocean from stormwater runoff and trash debris through maintenance and community stewardship of upland areas.

\$46,754

Rocking the Boat**Student Scientist Monitoring of American Eel and River Herring on the Bronx River**

Engage 185 students in monitoring river herring and American eel, which indicate the biological health of Long Island Sound in Bronx, New York. Project will increase local community awareness of the Bronx River as habitat for river herring and American eels.

\$35,000

The Nature Conservancy – Connecticut**Restoring Fish Passage at Beaver Lake and Beaver Brook**

Install an engineered steep-pass fishway at Beaver Lake on Beaver Brook in Mill Neck. Project will restore passage for fish including alewife to 1.5 miles of upstream riverine spawning habitat.

\$150,000

The Research Foundation of State University of New York**Restoration of a Lake Ontario Coastal Wetland Through Cattail Control**

Implement cattail control techniques developed specifically for Lake Ontario coastal wetlands to improve and expand the area of lake-connected fen, a rare community type on Lake Ontario. Project will increase the biodiversity of the area and provide habitat for introductions of rare species.

\$93,865

The Whaling Museum and Education Center of Cold Spring Harbor**Creating Long Island Sound Stewards**

Host a one-day event to engage and inform children and adults about how to play active roles in preserving the Long Island Sound through hands-on activities. Project will reach 400 participants and recruit approximately 75 families to volunteer with local alewife and water quality monitoring.

\$6,903

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District
Upper Susquehanna Coalition I-4 Program (NY, PA)

Work with seven watersheds and their communities to reduce stream channel nutrient and sediment contributions through the survey. The project also will identify, design and implement practices and projects on over 7,000 feet of stream corridor and build local capacity through direct education and technical assistance to local governments.
\$199,291

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District
USC Integrated Approach to Nutrient Management (NY, PA)

Develop a coordinated, integrated and comprehensive nutrient management planning process which includes development of a resource team and the use of nutrient reduction tools. Project will improve the way nutrients are managed, tracked and verified in the field and on the farmstead in the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed.
\$317,520

Town of Huntington, New York
Green Infrastructure to Reduce Stormwater Pollution at the Centerport Beach Recreation Facility (NY)

Install 6,700 square feet of green infrastructure in the Town of Huntington, Village of Centerport, New York. Project will treat 314,697 gallons of polluted stormwater flowing from the Centerport Beach Recreation Facility into Northport Bay to improve water quality in the bay and Long Island Sound.
\$137,320

Town of Mamaroneck
Green Infrastructure at Mamaroneck Town Center to Improve Water Quality in Long Island Sound

Install 8,400 square feet of green infrastructure in the Town of Mamaroneck. Project will result in treatment of 698,662 gallons of polluted stormwater runoff and prevent 319.6 pounds of floatables flowing annually from the Mamaroneck Town Center into Mamaroneck Harbor to improve water quality in the harbor and Long Island Sound.
\$149,876

Trout Unlimited
Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Trout Unlimited
Spring Brook Aquatic Organism Passage Improvement (NY)

Replace a road-stream crossing on the only State of New York designated trout stream that accesses the Finger Lakes National Forest. Project will reconnect 4.4 upstream miles, increase flood resiliency, and improve and expand potential habitat for brook trout reintroduction.
\$211,350

Trout Unlimited
Watershed Students and Stewards
Engage Trout in the Classroom students and teacher from underserved New York City (NYC) schools to travel to the NYC watershed streams to release fingerling trout which were raised in classrooms throughout the school year. Project will include the removal of invasive plant species, replanting of native plants, removal of litter from the riparian areas, and stream bank restoration.
\$32,817

Wildlife Management Institute
Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)
Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

NORTH CAROLINA

Manomet
American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)
Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

National Audubon Society
Advancing Flyway Conservation of American Oystercatchers (multiple states)
Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.
\$249,669

National Audubon Society
Native Plants for Birds and People: Working with Nurserymen to Promote Native Plants
Increase supply of native plants by engaging nursery owners in Audubon's Local Roots marketing program and increase demand for native plants through a communications campaign. Project will plant bird-friendly native-plant gardens in public and private spaces for the benefit of birds and people alike.
\$36,996

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Technical Solutions to Reduce Bycatch in the North Carolina Shrimp Trawl Fishery
Identify and test prototype bycatch reduction devices capable of achieving significant bycatch reduction compared to present-day shrimp trawl bycatch levels. Project will form an industry work group to prioritize new bycatch reduction devices to be tested onboard commercial shrimp trawl vessels.
\$118,110

Sandhills Area Land Trust
Longleaf Restoration on Private Lands in the North Carolina Sandhills SGA
Target a six-county region of the North Carolina Sandhills for the purpose of longleaf restoration on private lands. Working through the Sandhills Partnership, the land trust will use its extensive network of collaborators to provide education, outreach and technical assistance to support private landowner engagement in longleaf restoration.
\$150,000

Tar River Land Conservancy
Restoring Native Species and Creating Community Access, Ledge Creek Forest Conservation Area
Restore 30 acres of abandoned farm fields to native shortleaf pine and warm-season grasses to improve wildlife habitat and protect water quality on the 220-acre Ledge Creek Forest Conservation Area located outside Raleigh and Durham. Improvements will be made to invite and allow public access to this Conservation Area for hiking, nature photography and educational tours by local residents, visitors and school groups.
\$33,050

The Nature Conservancy – North Carolina Chapter
Cape Fear Arch Longleaf Initiative – II
Increase the establishment of longleaf pine habitat, enhance and maintain existing longleaf habitat, expand a nascent private landowner outreach program, restore and enhance bottomland hardwood habitat, and protect in perpetuity both upland and bottomland hardwood habitat.
\$300,000

Third Sector New England

Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Town of Cary

Working Together to Promote Conservation: Cary Green Neighborhood Program

Promote conservation of land and water resources within the Town of Cary, encouraging residents to adopt behaviors that will reduce household environmental impacts. Project will integrate outreach and volunteer engagement to promote new wildlife programming, train future sustainability leaders, integrate existing conservation programs, and protect and restore local ecosystems.

\$54,078

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide

Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

University of Georgia Research Foundation
Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)

Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.

\$138,692

University of North Carolina – Wilmington
Beach Vitex Eradication and Coastal Habitat Restoration

Aim to achieve the control and eradication of the non-native invasive species *Vitex rotundifolia* from coastal ecosystems, and the subsequent restoration of those same systems by native plant species. Project will include the re-planting of native sea oats where deemed necessary.

\$68,561

NORTH DAKOTA**American Bird Conservancy**

Implementing Highly Productive Grassland Management (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Continue to assist landowners in conservation planning and enrolling in Natural Resources Conservation Service programs where sustainable management practices for grasslands will result in habitat conservation on private lands for at least ten declining or at-risk bird species. Project will target up to 142,000 acres of priority grasslands.

\$248,865

Conservation Corps

Restoration and Protection of Bureau of Reclamation Lands in the Dakotas:

Buford-Trenton Project and Dickinson and Shadehill Reservoirs

Engage youth people in the restoration of reservoirs and canals in the Dakotas that are vital to the region's water supply, agricultural industry and outdoor recreational opportunities. Primary activities will include fencing installation and repair that will allow rotational grazing, resource protection and improved resource management.

\$28,020

Ducks Unlimited

Conserving the Missouri Coteau Grasslands and Wetlands (ND, SD)

Work with landowners to protect 625 acres of vital prairie and wetland habitat in the Prairie Pothole Region of North Dakota and South Dakota using conservation easements. Project will acquire grassland and wetland easements that will be donated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and become part of the National Wildlife Refuge system.

\$500,000

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Foundation
On the Frontlines of Conservation:

Citizen-Scientists Restore Pollinator Habitat (MN, ND, SD)

Provide education to and engage with a wide range of people and communities in creating needed habitat for pollinators. Project will focus on preserving, protecting and propagating two species of native flowering plants: milkweed and prairie clovers.

\$51,352

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)

Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.

\$100,000

Pheasants Forever

Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership (multiple states)

Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.

\$250,000

Prairie Pothole Partners

Northern Friends Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Workshop (MN, ND, SD)

Host a mentoring workshop with engaging and educational sessions designed to foster capacity building, encourage sharing and create a network of Friends in the upper Midwest.

\$5,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

At-Risk Bird Conservation in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Increase landowners' interest in enrolling in habitat enhancement projects that include practices such as grazing management and enrollment in conservation easements. Project will leverage partner funding to enhance more than 10,000 acres of mixed grass habitat and help reverse negative population trends of at-risk grassland bird species.

\$168,106

Standing Rock Indian Reservation

Ferret and Prairie Dog Habitat Management on Standing Rock Reservation (ND, SD)

Protect and enhance habitat and populations of black-footed ferrets and black-tailed prairie dogs on 2.3 million acres of tribal and private land in the Missouri Coteau Region of North and South Dakota. Project will use a multi-focal approach to engage diverse stakeholders, build cooperation between stakeholders, and drive conservation reinvestment in both species-specific and general habitat programs on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

\$160,956

The Nature Conservancy

Piping Plover Habitat Improvement in Central North Dakota

Enhance and restore over 50 acres of degraded piping plover habitat to a condition which will support plover nesting by renovating gravel nesting sites, removing predator perches and eliminating encroaching vegetative species.

\$50,968

Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold

Baseline Wildlife Surveys and Habitat Assessment on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (ND)

Implement baseline wildlife surveys and identify key wildlife habitats for select species occurring on the Fort Berthold Reservation. Project will focus on assessing the health and degree of threat to key habitats and identifying conservation measures needed for their protection.

\$99,000

U.S. Department of the Interior,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6 Prairie Pothole Region Community Outreach and Education (MT, ND, SD)

Launch a comprehensive outreach and education program that illuminates the value of wetlands and grasslands in the Prairie Pothole Region. Project will inform landowners about the availability of conservation programs that will allow them to maintain working landscapes that sustain native prairie ecosystems.

\$100,000

OHIO

Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Mentor Marsh Invasive Plant Species Control

Restore emergent marsh and swamp forest habitat in Mentor Marsh, a National Natural Landmark. Project will control 265 acres of *Phragmites australis* and then plant native vegetation in treated areas to provide the structural diversity required by native flora and fauna.

\$126,366

Green Forests Work

Reforestation Previously Mined Land

Restore 53 acres of previously mined land to native hardwood forest in the Egypt Valley Wildlife Management Area.

\$34,500

Ohio Soybean Council

Development of Best Management Practices Manual for Producers

Develop a new manual to identify best management practices for use by Ohio producers to assure water quality improvement in the state. Project will also focus on delivering the information contained in the manual to producers throughout the state.

\$330,010

Ohio State University

Resources for Nutrient Management Plan Development in the Lake Erie Watershed

Provide additional personnel resources in the western Lake Erie Watershed of Ohio to work with farmers to develop nutrient management plans that can help improve water quality and prevent harmful algal blooms.

\$531,142

Partners for Clean Streams

Clean Your Streams: Preventing Trashy Drinking Water in Toledo

Organize more than 850 volunteers to remove more than 15,000 pounds of stream litter from five major watersheds across northwest Ohio that feed into Maumee Bay.

\$36,274

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate.

\$150,318

Wildlife Management Institute

Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public-private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail.

\$548,000

Winous Point Marsh Conservancy

Coastal Wetland Restoration in Lake Erie

Restore 175 acres of coastal wetland by rebuilding a former diked wetland in western Lake Erie. The wetland will provide additional habitat that is highly utilized by waterfowl, marshbirds and shorebirds.

\$950,000

OKLAHOMA

Conservation Legacy

Monarch Conservation Science Partnership –

Milkweed Density Estimation (MN, OK, TX)

Collect key information on milkweed densities on and near public lands to help inform national strategies for milkweed restoration.

\$37,501

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)

Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners.

\$100,000

University of Kansas Center for Research

Building Capacity for Milkweed/Monarch Habitat Restoration in Eastern Oklahoma

Coordinate with seven Native American tribes in eastern Oklahoma to increase capacity to restore monarch habitats on tribal lands. Project will provide the training needed to plant donated milkweed plugs, to collect, process, store and propagate seeds of milkweed and native forbs, and will include the establishment of seed production plots, creation of demonstration plots and the development of conservation plans.

\$248,007

OREGON

Audubon Society of Portland

Increasing Awareness and Protecting Portland Oregon Metropolitan Area Native Birds by Advancing Bird-Friendly Building Design and Lighting Guidelines

Raise awareness of migratory birds and the bird strike hazards they face in Portland's metropolitan region. Project will directly engage the architecture/developer community, work with iconic building owners to join a "light out" program and conduct other efforts to promote bird-friendly building design and lighting practices.

\$50,000

Curry County Soil and Water Conservation District

New River Watershed Aquatic Restoration
Work with partners to implement 15 watershed restoration projects in the New River-Floras Creek watershed. Project will address water quality impairment, simplified instream rearing and spawning habitat for native salmonids.
\$63,000

Deschutes River Conservancy

Annual Water Leasing Program
Support annual temporary instream leases for up to 25 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water to the middle Deschutes River and up to 10 cfs of water to the lower Deschutes River through the Deschutes River Conservancy's Annual Water Leasing Program.
\$64,735

Deschutes River Conservancy

Deschutes River Conservancy FY16
Restore stream flows throughout Oregon's Deschutes Basin through incentive-based water rights transactions.
\$249,260

Deschutes River Conservancy

Whychus Creek Water Acquisition – III
Acquire water instream use in Whychus Creek. The project also involves the removal of a 5-foot concrete dam and passage barrier, opening up 13 miles of upstream habitat for ESA listed steelhead and Chinook salmon.
\$202,000

Environment for the Americas

Celebrate Shorebirds (Celebra las Playeras): Engaging Latino Youth in Natural Resource Careers (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)
Gather data on the movements, habitat use and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds. Project will engage Latino communities in learning about shorebirds and federal lands that provide educational and recreational opportunities.
\$80,000

Friends of Haystack Rock

Website Redevelopment and Optimization
Develop a website which enables mobile access, allows for easy updating and provides content management capabilities to more effectively support preservation and protection activities.
\$4,900

Friends of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

Soaring Higher: Region One Peer-to-Peer Workshop
Meet at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge with Friends groups from Region 1 for a workshop that will improve their knowledge and skills with organizational capacity and build stronger partnership with their refuges.
\$5,000

Friends of Trees

Portland Eastside Greening Project
Increase the urban forest canopy in the neediest and lowest income neighborhoods in northeast and southeast Portland by offering tree planting subsidies to homeowners. Project will identify underserved neighborhoods that have low canopy cover and reduce tree costs for homeowners.
\$25,000

Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses

High School Tidepool Guide and Leadership Program
Engage four high school students as Tidepool Cadet Rangers to educate visitors to Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area's Cobble Beach.
\$7,000

General Klamath Tribal Administration

Klamath Basin Restoration Support 2015
Assist the Klamath Tribes with implementing portions of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement and the related Upper Klamath Basin Comprehensive Agreement.
\$328,000

Kearns and West

West Coast Ocean Summit Facilitation
Provide neutral facilitation and coordination services to support the West Coast Governors Alliance on Ocean Health's West Coast Ocean Summit.
\$38,927

Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust

Improving Habitat and Reducing Entrapment for Klamath Fish Species
Reconnect Sun Creek to the Wood River to improve stream connectivity, instream and riparian habitat, and water quality in priority areas within the Upper Klamath Basin. Project will improve the distribution and abundance of redband trout, Lost River sucker and shortnose sucker.
\$154,941

Klamath Soil and Water Conservation District

Modoc Point Shoreline Restoration and Treatment Wetland
Install two test plots to determine the most feasible restoration solution to shoreline erosion on Upper Klamath Lake in Modoc Point. Restoration will benefit an array of fish and wildlife species and assist in the maintenance of water quality in the area.
\$8,500

Klamath Soil and Water Conservation District

Spring Reconnect and Habitat Restoration in Ish Tish Creek
Restore habitat for endangered Lost River and shortnose suckers and native redband trout in Ish Tish Creek. Project will address factors that have degraded the system, including fish passage barriers.
\$4,931

Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Integrating Electronic Monitoring into the West Coast Groundfish Fleet (CA, OR, WA)
Implement electronic monitoring on up to 32 vessels in order to monitor compliance in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Rationalization Program. Project will evaluate the use of electronic monitoring systems as an alternative to the on-board human observer program.
\$271,710

North Fork John Day Watershed Council

Blue Mountain Youth Ride for Bull Trout
Integrate federally threatened bull trout habitat restoration with trail maintenance, by teaching conservation-employed youth about bull trout habitat, species requirements, and techniques for site enhancement on a candidate first-in-the-nation scenic gravel bike trail. Project participants will improve gravel and single-track bike trails, improve stream bank stability, and construct sediment-reducing crossing features.
\$31,084

Northwest Youth Corps

Bureau of Land Management Rogue River Valley Youth Development and Vegetation Management Project
Restore over 40 acres of habitat around the communities of Wimer and Rogue River in southwestern Oregon. Project will combine education, conservation and habitat management to provide job skills training for youth from minority and urban backgrounds.
\$47,195

Northwest Youth Corps

21st CSC Mountain of the Rogue Trail and Youth Development Project
Partner with the Medford District BLM and International Mountain Biking Association to create a youth conservation program based around education, conservation and land management.
\$10,000

Northwest Youth Corps

Northwest Youth Corps: Native Conservation Corps Program
Strive to support Native American communities through the development of a Native American Conservation Corps.
\$25,000

Northwest Youth Corps

Oregon Coast Stewardship Project
Engage 100 teenagers between the ages of 15 and 18 in high-priority conservation projects in natural areas near and in Oregon coastal communities. Teenagers from Astoria, Seaside, Newport, Lincoln City, Coos Bay and Bandon will have the opportunity to learn about natural resources, train for a job and receive high school credit, while earning a stipend.
\$50,915

Northwest Youth Corps**Portland Stewardship Corps**

Serve 40 teenagers between the ages of 15 and 18 while they complete high priority conservation projects at Tualatin River and Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuges, near Portland. Project will provide training, education and a stipend for diverse youth coming from varied and underrepresented communities in the Portland metro area.

\$100,000

Northwest Zen Sangha**Urban Landfill Restoration as Garry****Oak Savanna and Forest in Portland**

Utilize invasive removal, native plantings, stormwater management, pollution control and extensive community engagement and education to restore 3 acres of endangered native oak savanna and 4 acres of mixed riparian forest at the site of a former landfill in a highly distressed neighborhood.

\$30,000

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**Upper Klamath Basin Anadromous****Re-Introduction Planner (CA, OR)**

Hire a staff planner to lead the development and writing of an implementation plan for the reintroduction of anadromous fish into the upper Klamath Basin. The position will initially be the lead staff person for a monitoring and evaluation program that will inform the overall re-introduction strategies for the upper basin. This work supports implementation of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement.

\$120,000

Oregon State University**Seabird Bycatch Outreach to Alaska Longline Fisheries (AK, OR, WA)**

Reach out to fisheries and provide seabird bycatch reduction training sessions at targeted ports in an effort to reduce and maintain seabird bycatch at or below the lowest levels observed. Project will analyze 20 years of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Groundfish Observer Program data to identify key sectors needed for outreach.

\$153,485

Oregon Water Resources Department**Oregon Water Resources Department Flow Restoration Program Support**

Provide support for Oregon Water Resources Department flow restoration staff and Oregon Qualified Local Entities on water transactions.

\$14,745

Oregon Water Resources Department**Water Transaction Coordination****and Monitoring**

Assist Oregon Qualified Local Entities on water transactions. Project will also provide for continued monitoring for an on-going transaction on the Lostine River.

\$63,123

Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council**Early Detection/Rapid Response Citizen-****Science Invasive Plant Program (OR, WA)**

Train citizen-scientists to identify, document and eradicate invasive species. Project will aid in helping to maintain healthy ecosystems and habitat value throughout designated cooperative weed management areas, national forests and parks and other targeted public lands.

\$20,000

Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers**Camp Creek Whole Watershed Restoration**

Place 3,000 boulders throughout four miles of mainstem Camp Creek in southwest Oregon to restore habitat for native salmonids.

\$49,280

Phoenix School of Roseburg**Umpqua Natural Resources Pathway**

Recruit local youth to serve on Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management lands, performing technical field surveys related to ecosystem restoration planning and wildlife habitat monitoring. Project will provide youth with the opportunity to earn professional experience, complete college credits and establish a pathway to a natural resources related career.

\$55,235

Regents of the University of California – Davis**Developing a Killer Whale Standardized Health Assessment Protocol and Health Index (CA, OR, WA)**

Identify indices and establish a standardized health assessment for killer whales, create a record keeping database that will be seamless with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's new Marine Mammal Health Map System, and create an individual animal health index. Project tools can be used with Southern resident and reference killer whale populations to assess individual animal and population fitness, identify spatial and temporal stresses, help guide research and assist with guidelines for potential intervention for individual animals.

\$60,000

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Rogue Workforce Partnership**Preserving the Endemic Dwarf Woolly Meadowfoam and Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp Habitats on the Table Rocks**

Restore habitat areas in the Rogue River Basin with priority given to vernal pool and oak savanna restoration at the Table Rocks Management Area. Project aims to support special status plants and endemic species by reducing the spread of invasive species.

\$74,480

Sea State**Open-Source Software Platform for****Shipboard Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (AK, OR, WA)**

Develop a suite of complementary software applications that will support electronic monitoring data acquisition, review, summarization and archival. Project will create an open source and freely available software platform.

\$235,738

The Blueprint Foundation**Omicron Theta Sigma Urban Youth-Driven Fish Habitat Restoration Initiative**

Educate and empower minority youth regarding fish habitat protection practices. Project will combine onsite competency development and citizen-scientist programs to promote watershed health.

\$49,691

The Freshwater Trust**Fifteenmile Action Plan to Stabilize Temperatures 2014**

Support development and implementation of the Fifteenmile Action Plan to Stabilize Temperatures, a unique plan aimed at reducing stream temperatures lethal to fish by temporarily restoring streamflow to Fifteenmile Creek and its tributaries.

\$57,740

The Freshwater Trust**Innovative Transactions to Restore Flows (CTUIR Accord) – III**

Implement voluntary, cooperative and market-based instream flow transactions throughout the CTUIR Accord areas within the Columbia River Basin in Oregon.

\$92,250

The Freshwater Trust**Innovative Transactions to Restore Flows – XIII**

Implement voluntary, cooperative, market-based instream flow transactions throughout the Columbia River Basin in Oregon.

\$190,084

The Nature Conservancy**Cottonwoods Wetland Restoration**

Restore 5 acres of off-channel rearing habitat for endangered Lost River and shortnose suckers near Upper Klamath Lake. Project will fill a remnant agricultural toe drain with excavated materials to provide an additional 3.8 acres of restored emergent wetland habitat.

\$50,000

Third Sector New England

Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)
Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

Tillamook School District No. 9

Nestucca Wildlife Habitat Management Project
Provide employment and educational opportunities for local youth in conservation activities. Students will collect and analyze wildlife habitat data on several Bureau of Land Management forest stands in Nestucca watershed.
\$60,375

Tri-County Cooperative Weed Management Area

Baker County Invasive Weed Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation
Restore and protect critical sage grouse habitat located in Baker County Oregon. Project will target invasive plant species including rush skeletonweed and leafy spurge that are quickly encroaching upon native grassland steppe species critical to sage grouse habitat.
\$60,000

Trout Unlimited

Flow Restoration Priority Assessment and Pilot Project Development in the Rogue Basin
Lead an effort to develop a Flow Restoration and Water Transaction Program in the Rogue Basin to address the limiting factor of inadequate streamflows. Project will prioritize where in the basin flow restoration is most ecologically valuable, determine the value of water rights should water acquisition be a necessary part of the program, and develop pilot projects for implementation.
\$10,000

Trout Unlimited

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Core Grant (CA, NV, OR) – II
Provide continued support for a Lahontan cutthroat trout coordinator who hires, trains and supervises range-wide field crews, coordinates communication and collaboration among agency and other stakeholders in Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery, and works on public and private landowner outreach and education. Project also will continue non-native trout eradication in Independence Lake, a priority Lahontan cutthroat trout lake system.
\$331,006

Trout Unlimited

Tillamook-Nestucca Fish Passage Partnership
Work with partners to launch a priority fish passage project identified and prioritized by the Tillamook-Nestucca Fish Passage Partnership. Project will open up 4 miles of high-priority trout and salmon habitat and work toward restoring fish passage to 95 percent of historically available habitat for six anadromous fish species by 2025.
\$98,600

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S Forest Service

Collaborative Restoration of Monarch Butterfly Habitat on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
Enhance and restore about 500 acres of meadows and other suitable areas of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest with native milkweeds and other native nectar producing plants to provide habitat for monarch caterpillars and adults.
\$40,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Rearing the Next Fisheries Cohort (multiple states)
Host 20 high school student interns during the summer 2015 at 13 field offices of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working with American Fisheries Society, BLM will provide an eight-week, paid internship to youths to explore potential careers in the fisheries field.
\$100,000

University of California – Santa Cruz

Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)
Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.
\$174,934

Upper Klamath Landowners Corp.

Support of Landowner Entity Organizational Formation
Create capacity for organizational development and management of the water use program and riparian management agreements.
\$45,222

Upper Klamath Water Users Association

Upper Klamath Water Users Association Off-Project Water Settlement
Develop a network of landowners to work with Klamath Tribes to enact water and riparian land management to benefit Upper Klamath Lake and endangered suckers and redband trout.
\$35,000

Woape

Wildwood Recreation: Youth Outdoor Learning Through Work and Play
Support Wildwood Recreation and the Sandy Ridge Trail System sites through trail maintenance and support learning projects through the interpretive trails and boardwalks. Project will allow for local youth to engage in work readiness training.
\$7,000

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)
Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.
\$104,181

PENNSYLVANIA**Allegheny College**

Comparing Land Use and Fish Communities in the French Creek Watershed – II
Conduct at least 20 fish bioassessment surveys in tributaries of French Creek and nearby tributaries of the Upper Allegheny River to determine fish community composition, including the presence of wild trout. Project will combine this data with GIS information on land use and physical and chemical measurements at sample sites to build a regional Fish Index of Biotic Integrity.
\$5,215

Berks County Conservancy

Schuylkill Action Network/Middle Schuylkill Agriculture Best Management Practices
Reduce environmental water stressors associated with intense agriculture practices to measurably improve the water quality of drinking water. Project will improve water quality by installing agricultural best management practices on targeted farms in critical headwaters areas.
\$300,000

Berks County Conservation District

Delaware River Watershed Working Lands Conservation and Protection Partnership
Assist with the implementation of the 5-year Regional Conservation Partnership Program in the Delaware Watershed to improve water quality in portions of Berks County, Pennsylvania. Project will implement best management practices on agricultural operations that meet the necessary requirements of the Delaware River Watershed Working Lands Conservation and Protection Partnership program.
\$340,000

Bradford County Conservation District
A Regional Approach to Post-Flood
Emergency Stream Intervention in Northern
Tier Pennsylvania

Provide a pilot for the systemic approach to train Pennsylvania State's post-flood responders in techniques to reestablish channel capacity, identify where and when not to work and the necessity to maintain floodplain connection.

\$132,875

Bradford County Conservation District
Comprehensive Watershed Conservation
in Dairy and Livestock Landscapes of the
Chesapeake Bay

Implement stream, agricultural, and dirt and gravel road projects in the Wysox Creek watershed (with priority being Parks and Bullard Creeks) to achieve water quality improvements which address local, state and federal standards.

\$422,683

Brandywine Valley Association
Expanding Water Quality Improvements
in the Brandywine/Christina Basin

Continue the restoration of the upper west branch Brandywine and upper east branch Red Clay watersheds through best management practices delivery. Project will improve water quality in a critical targeted subwatershed.

\$80,000

Brian S. Auman/Landscape Architecture
Upper Kish Creek Watershed: A Community
Watershed Restoration Strategy for the
Upper Kishacoquillas Watershed

Update Watershed Implementation Plan while developing a working model for outreach and collaboration with the plain sect Amish community. The project will employ a participatory planning process emphasizing cross-cultural understanding.

\$50,000

Bucknell University
2015 Bucknell Surveys of
Pennsylvania Unassessed Waters – II
Survey at least 40 unassessed streams in priority watersheds of central Pennsylvania for Eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project data will inform decisions made by state agencies regarding the management of trout waters under Pennsylvania commonwealth statutes.

\$11,000

California University of Pennsylvania
Eastern Brook Trout Sampling in Westmore-
land and Fayette Counties – II

Sample at least 20 previously unassessed streams in priority areas along the Chestnut Ridge in southwestern Pennsylvania. Project will identify, count and release fish, collect physical habitat data and water quality data, and use the data in the state permitting process for new development.

\$4,968

Carnegie Institute
Habitat Restoration and Citizen Science
Based Bird-Building Collision Monitoring
and Reduction in Pittsburgh

Improve backyard habitat at 75 homes and restore mixed-hardwood forests at Dead Man's Hollow Conservation Area in McKeesport. Project will have citizen-scientists monitor for bird-building collisions throughout Pittsburgh and assist with the application of collision reducing window treatments at 150 homes.

\$40,000

Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Juniata River Basin Whole Farm Project:
Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Use a "whole farm" approach to target three agriculturally impacted waters in the Juniata River Basin of Pennsylvania that would link implementation of best management practices with incentives for habitat improvements such as forested buffers. Project will include work with 15-20 farmers to implement an estimated 75 best management practices that help resolve targeted issues.

\$265,842

Chester County Conservation District
Delaware River Watershed Working Lands
Conservation and Protection Partnership
Implementation in Chester County

Assist with the implementation of the five-year Regional Conservation Partnership Program in the Delaware Watershed by providing technical assistance and support for implementation of best management practices on agricultural operations that meet the necessary requirements of the program to improve water quality in portions of Chester County.

\$440,000

Ducks Unlimited
Presque Isle Coastal Wetland Restoration

Restore 400 acres of coastal wetland habitat at Presque Isle State Park through the control of invasive species and planting of native vegetation. Project will improve habitat structure and complexity, hydrologic connectivity, and water quality, which will benefit the park's species of fish, amphibians, reptiles, marsh birds and native plants.

\$565,626

Green Forests Work
Flight 93 National Memorial Youth Initiative
Mined-Land Reforestation Project

Partner with the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative and the Appalachian Coal Country OSMRE/VISTA and DOI/VISTA Teams to create a youth leadership team to assist with a three-day tree-planting event involving volunteers of all ages on reclaimed mine lands at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania.

\$25,000

Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Research Institute
Survey of Wild Trout in Unassessed Waters
of the Potato Creek Watershed

Survey 40 previously unassessed streams in the Potato Creek watershed for wild trout populations. Project will help fisheries managers, by gathering information, establishing adequate water quality protection and improving the likelihood that wild trout will persist in the future.

\$11,000

Juniata College
Assessing Streams for the Presence of Wild
Brook Trout – II

Assess at least 40 streams in central and northwestern Pennsylvania, including the Little Juniata River watershed, the headwaters region of Shaver Creek, the Standing Stone (Rothrock State Forest), and the Lost Creek watershed. Project will determine abundance of wild brook and brown trout in these streams and the data will be used in the state permitting process for new development.

\$11,000

Juniata County Conservation District
Lost Creek Restoration Initiative: A Water-
shed-Wide Community Collaboration to
Extend Eastern Brook Trout Range

Construct a watershed restoration site to serve as a community showcase restoration project. Project will coincide with the restoration project to raise awareness about watershed enhancement opportunities and identify future project possibilities.

\$199,990

Lancaster Farmland Trust
Assessing Agricultural Best Management
Practices and Modeling in East Lampeter
Township, Lancaster County

Conduct assessments on all farms within East Lampeter Township to determine baseline compliance and collect data about current best management practices, land use cover and agricultural operations. Project will use data collected during assessments to run a MapShed model that will identify pollutant loading areas, focus areas for strategic improvements, and a list of agricultural best management practices to be implemented.

\$48,543

Lancaster Farmland Trust
Data Driven BMP Implementation in the
UNT Mill Creek Watershed, Upper Leacock
Township, Lancaster County – II

Implement 20 terrain-specific best management practices (BMPs) on four strategic farms in Upper Leacock Township. The nutrient and sediment reductions associated with the implementation of BMPs will improve water quality in the Mill Creek Watershed and in the Chesapeake Bay.

\$198,920

Lycoming College**Sampling Unassessed Waters in the Upper Pine, Headwaters Allegheny and White Deer Hole Creek Watersheds**

Sample at least 20 previously unassessed streams in north and north-central Pennsylvania for the presence of Eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will provide important data for stream classification in the Upper Allegheny watershed and provide data on benthic macroinvertebrates and water quality.
\$5,500

Mifflin County Conservation District**Continued Outreach and Technical Assistance: Juniata River Basin Agricultural Communities**

Build upon previous outreach and technical assistance efforts to broader “underserved” agricultural communities, including the Plain Sect, farmers, residents and landowners in Mifflin County. Project will focus on the implementation and adoption of riparian best management practices that emphasize comprehensive stream buffer models.
\$113,176

National Audubon Society**Philly Wild, Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship and Action**

Implement a community conservation engagement project in Philadelphia, providing innovative programs and habitat restoration work at the refuge, at schools and in neighborhoods.
\$49,108

Pennsylvania Environmental Council**Beyond Early Adopters: Increasing Green Stormwater Infrastructure Investment on Greater Philadelphia Commercial Properties**

Improve water quality benefits, enhance habitat and reduce pollutant loadings to streams by engaging and encouraging new commercial landowners to adopt Green Stormwater Infrastructure.
\$52,301

Pennsylvania State University**Chiques Creek Re-Envisioned: A Collaborative Watershed Restoration Initiative to Support Pennsylvania’s Pilot Alternative Total Maximum Daily Load Approach**

Facilitate a diverse, dynamic, public-private partnership that will assist landowners, municipalities and other local stakeholders in meeting water-quality improvement objectives for Chiques Creek.
\$499,463

Pennsylvania State University**Survey of Brook Trout in Unassessed Waters – II**

Survey at least 40 previously unassessed sites in 2015 that are considered priority areas by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Project will determine presence of Eastern brook trout and other wild trout.
\$11,000

Pittsburgh Botanic Garden**Kentucky Hollow Restoration**

Conduct botanic and biotic surveys that must precede trail building to delineate and protect important native species. Project will allow access for site clean-up, survey work and a design for an acid mine drainage treatment system.
\$33,858

Stroud Water Research Center**Delivering NFWF’s Regional Conservation Partnership Program in Lancaster County**

Provide technical assistance for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program for Lancaster County. Project will accelerate project identification, planning and development of applications, incentive inclusion of forested buffers, and perform related tasks.
\$499,990

Stroud Water Research Center**Leveraging Farm Bill Funds for Water Quality in the Brandywine-Christina Cluster**

Leverage federal funding to implement agriculture best management practices on a whole farm basis, including a focus on forested buffers. Project will deliver two Regional Conservation Partnership Program awards to the region, one sponsored by Stroud Water Research Center and one by American Farmland Trust.
\$200,000

Stroud Water Research Center**Leveraging USDA Funds for Water Quality in Middle Schuylkill Cluster**

Leverage federal funding to implement agriculture best management practices on a whole farm basis, with a focus on forested buffers. Project will manage Regional Conservation Partnership Program efforts, cover technical assistance costs for best management practices, and provide outreach to drive landowner enrollment.
\$299,984

Susquehanna University**Wild Trout Sampling in the Susquehanna River Basin – II**

Sample at least 40 unnamed tributaries of the Susquehanna River in north central Pennsylvania for the presence of Eastern brook trout and other wild trout.
\$22,000

The Kingsley Association**Negley Run Watershed Coalition and Community Outreach Project**

Replicate the community outreach and education program through the Living Waters of Larimer Project with the other neighborhoods within the watershed. Through a series of four community water workshops and aggressive collaboration, a Negley Run Watershed Coalition will be created that will guide the development of a distributed green infrastructure system.
\$40,000

The Student Conservation Association

Student Conservation Association Crews and Interns at Heinz National Wildlife Refuge Engage 108 high school and college students through hands-on service projects to enhance the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge’s environmental education program and community greening projects.
\$100,000

Tioga County Conservation District**Salt Spring Run Aquatic Organism Passage and Sediment Reduction**

Inventory and rank culverts on Salt Spring Run and select two culverts for replacement. Project will open 10.8 miles of habitat and reduce sediment and nutrient delivery to downstream waters.
\$200,000

Tioga County Soil and Water**Conservation District****Upper Susquehanna Coalition I-4 Program (NY, PA)**

Work with seven watersheds and their communities to reduce stream channel nutrient and sediment contributions through the survey. The project also will identify, design and implement practices and projects on over 7,000 feet of stream corridor and build local capacity through direct education and technical assistance to local governments.
\$199,291

Tioga County Soil and**Water Conservation District****USC Integrated Approach to Nutrient Management (NY, PA)**

Develop a comprehensive nutrient management planning process which includes development of a resource team and the use of nutrient reduction tools. Project will improve the way nutrients are managed, tracked and verified in the field and on the farmstead in the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed.
\$317,520

Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership**Jenkintown Creek Restoration Project: Abington Meeting House**

Install a bioretention area, rain garden and establish a riparian buffer along 350 feet of the Jenkintown Creek headwaters near the Abington Meeting House. Project will improve water quality by reducing and infiltrating suburban stormwater flows.
\$75,600

Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership**Jenkintown Creek Restoration Project: McKinley Elementary School Stream Restoration**

Restore eroded streambanks, enhance vernal pools, enhance wooded wetlands, and include riparian plantings at the McKinley School located on a tributary to the Jenkintown Creek.
\$54,251

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Trout Unlimited**Restoring Brook Trout Habitat in Kettle Creek**

Build the capacity of the Kettle Creek Watershed Association to implement on-the-ground restoration projects. Project will result in a prioritized list of fish passage barriers and the selection, design and permitting for 10 stream bank stabilization, five riparian restoration, and two dirt and gravel road improvement projects.
\$43,656

Trout Unlimited**Surveying Unassessed Streams in Priority Watersheds of the Delaware River Basin – II**

Complete fishery surveys on at least 40 previously unassessed streams in the Bear, Tobyhanna, Stony, Lizard and Mahoning Creek watersheds in the Delaware River basin. Project will collect important data in priority watersheds so they can be classified for use in the state permitting process for development.
\$11,000

Trout Unlimited**Surveying Unassessed Streams in Priority Watersheds of the West Branch Susquehanna Headwaters – II**

Complete at least 20 fishery surveys, using Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission protocols, focused in the following watersheds: West Branch Susquehanna River, Chest Creek and Clearfield Creek. Project will collect important data for use in the state permitting process for development and potentially identify seed populations of Eastern brook trout for abandoned mine land restoration.
\$5,500

Upper Gwynedd Township**Green Infrastructure and Stream Buffer Restoration in the Wissahickon Watershed Headwaters**

Install green stormwater infrastructure to capture flows from impervious areas at various locations within the headwaters of the Wissahickon Watershed, an important tributary to the Schuylkill River in suburban Philadelphia.
\$300,000

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Completing Native Brook Trout Habitat Restoration Through Riparian Restoration in the Upper Kettle Creek Watershed**

Work to implement restoration activities identified during our work in the upper Kettle Creek Watershed in the past three years. Restoration projects will include riparian reforestation at locations directly impacting streams that support native Eastern brook trout.
\$29,860

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Permanent Protection of Critical Habitat and Water Quality in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed**

Permanently protect riparian buffers, wetlands, forestland and prime agricultural land in priority watersheds in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay watershed over the next two years by partnering with private landowners to acquire conservation easements on working farms and forests. Project will focus on the Juniata River, West Branch Susquehanna River, Potomac River, and certain smaller-order tributaries to the Susquehanna River.
\$196,988

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Sinnemahoning-Portage Creek and Potomac River Unassessed Waters Sampling**

Sample a minimum of 75 previously unassessed streams for the presence of Eastern brook trout and other wild trout in the Sinnemahoning-Portage Creek watershed of the West Branch Susquehanna and in the Evitts, Willis, and Pigeonroost Creek sub-watersheds of the Potomac River. Project will collect important data for use in the state permitting process for development and GIS mapping of newly discovered salmonid populations.
\$21,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)**

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
Wissahickon Headwaters Stream and Riparian Restoration

Design, permit, create construction plans and establish bid forms for the restoration of a stable stream channel and floodplain reconnection for the Wissahickon headwaters. Restoration will result in reduced sedimentation and nutrient loading, restored creek connection of the stream and floodplain, and enhanced stormwater infiltration.
\$190,000

Wrightsville Borough**Wrightsville Borough Riverfront Restoration Project**

Construct water quality improvements and landscape restoration/reforestation for Riverfront Park bordering the Lower Susquehanna River. Project will restore native wetlands, forest and meadow areas, as well as construct new bioretention facilities within the urban park.
\$200,000

RHODE ISLAND**Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation**
Developing New Market Opportunities for Scup, an Underutilized Species in the Northeast

Facilitate the market development of scup, a locally underutilized species in New England. Project will compile baseline marketing information to determine new domestic and foreign market opportunities and evaluate the best consumer marketing approaches.
\$59,684

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association
of Suffolk County**Development of a Regional Windowpane and Yellowtail Flounder Bycatch Hotspot Mapping and Avoidance Network in New England (MA, NJ, NY, RI)**

Create an additional avoidance network to focus on the reduction of windowpane and yellowtail flounder bycatch. Project will establish a communication network allowing fishermen to avoid bycatch "hot spots" in scup, whiting, squid and groundfish fisheries in New England.
\$130,681

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Wildlife Management Institute

Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)
Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council
Green Infrastructure Demo for Urban Wildlife Refuge
Create a green infrastructure retrofit demonstration project in the neighborhood surrounding Riverside Park in Providence. Project will study, model and retrofit homes and an elementary school that contribute stormwater to the Woonasquatucket River.
\$50,000

SOUTH CAROLINA**Chesterfield County Soil and Water Conservation District**

Sandhills Longleaf Pine Conservation Partnership – III
Establish or enhance 1,350 acres of longleaf pine habitat on private land, continue funding coordinator position, continue education/outreach activities, and purchase burn equipment for landowner use.
\$250,000

Congaree Land Trust

Milliken South Carolina Coastal Plain Longleaf Conservation
Manage and restore longleaf pine stands on 14 South Carolina properties in the Mid- and Atlantic Coastal Plain ecoregions, 5,028 acres of prescribed burning, 418 acres of hardwood midstory control and 165 acres of longleaf planting. All properties will be located within the historic range of the longleaf pine ecosystem.
\$100,000

Lowcountry Open Land Trust

Cooper-Santee Longleaf Conservation
Restore longleaf pine habitats and permanently protect critical lands between the Santee and Cooper Rivers in the coastal plain of South Carolina. These lands harbor diverse wildlife habitat, healthy forests, wetland complexes, and working farms. Project will buffer and enhance the vast lands of the Francis Marion National Forest and protect water quality associated with the Santee and Cooper river watersheds with a contiguous greenbelt of protected properties along the western edge of the corridor.
\$100,000

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)
Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

National Audubon Society

Advancing Flyway Conservation of American Oystercatchers (multiple states)
Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.
\$249,669

Pee Dee Land Trust

Black Creek Bio-Blitz
Coordinate a year-long Bio-Blitz, a high-profile, community-based inventory of the native flora, fauna and aquatic life of the nature preserves to engage public and private school students, Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, and area residents in becoming more aware of their role as stewards of biodiversity and water quality.
\$25,000

S.C. Department of Natural Resources
Assessing Blueback Herring Run Counts in the Cooper River

Support effective management of blueback herring throughout the Santee Cooper system by monitoring annual spring run counts in the Cooper River, using imaging sonar. Project will provide data that will help complete the picture of blueback herring runs into the Santee Cooper System and run count data will be used to assess blueback herring population trends.
\$118,730

S.C. Department of Natural Resources

Reducing Derelict Crab Trap Generation in South Carolina Through Engagement of Recreational Boaters and Commercial Crabbers
Characterize crab trap float losses in South Carolina as a result of vessel strikes and engineer solutions to reduce the rate of annual derelict fishing gear accrual. Project will engage both recreational boaters and commercial crabbers to reduce the probability of severing crab trap floats when a boat collision cannot be avoided.
\$49,324

The Longleaf Alliance

SoLoACE Longleaf Partnership – II
Educate private landowners and natural resource professionals through workshops and academies and assist in longleaf planting and management through fires and herbicide.
\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy – South Carolina
Winyah Bay Longleaf Conservation Cooperative – TNC

Investigate longleaf pine restoration and maintenance in the Winyah Bay area, which includes Georgetown and Williamsburg counties. Project will expand longleaf conservation cooperative work by coordinating partner projects involving longleaf restoration, invasive work, education, data collection and mapping.
\$100,000

Third Sector New England

Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)
Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.
\$44,000

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

University of Georgia Research Foundation
Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
 Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.
\$138,692

SOUTH DAKOTA

American Bird Conservancy
Implementing Highly Productive Grassland Management (MT, ND, SD, WY)
 Continue to assist landowners in conservation planning and enrolling in programs where sustainable management practices for grasslands will result in habitat conservation on private lands for at least 10 declining or at-risk bird species. Project will target up to 142,000 acres of priority grasslands.
\$248,865

Conservation Corps
Restoration and Protection of Bureau of Reclamation Lands in the Dakotas: Buford-Trenton Project and Dickinson and Shadehill Reservoirs
 Engage youths in the restoration of reservoirs and canals in the Dakotas that are vital to the region's water supply, agricultural industry and outdoor recreational opportunities. Primary activities will include fencing installation and repair at Dickinson and Shadehill Reservoir lands.
\$28,020

Ducks Unlimited
Conserving the Missouri Coteau Grasslands and Wetlands (ND, SD)
 Work with landowners to protect approximately 625 acres of vital prairie and wetland habitat in the Prairie Pothole Region of North Dakota and South Dakota using conservation easements. Project will acquire grassland and wetland easements that will be donated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and become part of the National Wildlife Refuge system.
\$500,000

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
Conserving Prairie Wildlife in Central South Dakota
 Implement a large multi-species project focused on the conservation of grassland birds, pronghorn, black-tailed prairie dogs, black-footed ferrets and pollinators. Project will lead to increased knowledge and improved conservation of imperiled species, identification of areas for targeted conservation, and increased tribal capacity.
\$250,000

National Wildlife Federation
Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
 Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Pheasants Forever
Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership (multiple states)
 Hire a coordinating wildlife biologist in the central flyway to facilitate 20 unique demonstration sites, habitat tours, workshops and additional outreach events to engage private landowners in monarch conservation. Project will restore or enhance 375 acres of high-quality monarch habitat by enrolling 345 acres of private and 30 acres of public lands into the Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership. Private lands will be put into multi-year enrollments to maximize benefits.
\$250,000

Prairie Pothole Partners
Northern Friends Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Workshop (MN, ND, SD)
 Host a mentoring workshop with engaging and educational sessions designed to foster capacity building, encourage sharing and create a network of Friends in the upper Midwest.
\$5,000

Resources First Foundation
Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)
 Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.
\$100,000

Resources First Foundation
Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)
 Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.
\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
At-Risk Bird Conservation in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)
 Increase landowners' interest in enrolling in habitat enhancement projects that include practices such as grazing management and enrollment in conservation easements. Project will leverage partner funding to enhance more than 10,000 acres of mixed grass habitat and help reverse negative population trends of at-risk grassland bird species.
\$168,106

South Dakota Grassland Coalition
Enhancing Rangeland Ecology by Improving Ranch Management Options
 Implement a rangeland improvement project focused on enhancing ecological function, habitat, forage quality, grazing distribution and management of South Dakota's grazing lands while reducing negative impacts associated with poor fence designs, inadequate water resources and inappropriate grazing strategies.
\$200,000

Standing Rock Indian Reservation
Ferret and Prairie Dog Habitat Management on Standing Rock Reservation (ND, SD)
 Protect and enhance habitat and populations of black-footed ferrets and black-tailed prairie dogs on 2.3 million acres of tribal and private land in the Missouri Coteau Region of North and South Dakota. Project will use a multi-focal approach to engage diverse stakeholders, build cooperation between stakeholders, and drive conservation reinvestment in habitat programs on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.
\$160,956

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois
Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)
 Mobilize monarch conservation across the public and private sectors in the Upper Midwest through the Rights-of-Way at Habitat Working Group, related partnerships and targeted outreach. These activities will promote habitat restoration by utilities, transportation authorities, and other interested organizations by primarily focusing on opportunities to utilize rights-of-way and other working landscapes to support monarch conservation.
\$75,000

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Wetland Restoration on the Fort Pierre National Grassland
 Restore breached stockponds on the Fort Pierre National Grassland in central South Dakota to facilitate livestock grazing, waterfowl production, and recreational fishing and hunting.
\$30,000

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6
Prairie Pothole Region Community Outreach
and Education (MT, ND, SD)**

Launch a comprehensive outreach and education program that illuminates the value of wetlands and grasslands in the Prairie Pothole Region. Project will inform landowners about the availability of conservation programs that will allow them to maintain working landscapes that sustain native prairie ecosystems.

\$100,000

World Wildlife Fund

**Conserving Black-Footed Ferrets in the
Northern Great Plains (MT, SD, WY, Canada)**

Improve the status of the endangered black-footed ferret and black-tailed prairie dog habitat within the Northern Great Plains. Project will mitigate the impacts of sylvatic plague, expand habitat for the ferret and its prey, and evaluate the effectiveness of tools used to protect both species in the wild.

\$350,000

TENNESSEE

American Conservation Experience

Rehabilitation of the Alum Cave Trail

Employ a crew of 12 youth for a period of 17 weeks to undertake extensive trail reconstruction using traditional skills and natural materials. Project will include preventing erosion and building trail structures in order to create a sustainable trail and a safe hiking environment.

\$120,000

Cumberland River Compact

**Tennessee/Cumberland Strategic Plan for
Barrier Removal and Aquatic Connectivity
Improvement (AL, KY, TN)**

Partner with The Nature Conservancy and American Rivers to improve aquatic connectivity in high-priority watersheds of the Cumberland and Tennessee River basins by strategically accelerating the momentum of barrier removals.

\$125,000

Georgia Land Trust

**Replenishing Freshwater to Nature
Through Forestland Protection and
Restoration (GA, TN)**

Protect 200 acres of biodiverse shortleaf and riparian forestland systems and restore 50 acres of riparian habitat and shortleaf types in the Cumberland Plateau priority protection area, where 6,000 acres have been preserved to date providing habitat for plant, mammal, amphibian, reptile, fish and invertebrate species.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy

**Shortleaf Restoration in the Cumberland
Plateau – II**

Reverse declining trend in shortleaf and pine-oak health by demonstrating, promoting and implementing shortleaf restoration practices and combining innovative market-based conservation approaches on private and public lands in the Cumberland Plateau, Tennessee.

\$100,000

Town of Collierville

Sustainable Collierville

Educate the community about environmental sustainability with hands-on activities directly related to improving water quality and preserving habitat in the Wolf River and Nonconah Creek watersheds. Project will not only educate the public, but provide measurable improvements to these water bodies through water testing and habitat assessments.

\$20,000

Trout Unlimited

**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conser-
vation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and
Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

University of Georgia Research Foundation

**Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conser-
vation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.

\$138,692

University of Kentucky Research Foundation

**Restoring Previously Mined Private Lands in
the Cumberland Plateau (KY, TN)**

Restore 45 acres of previously mined private land in Kentucky and Tennessee by planting native shortleaf pine, hickory and oak species, and American chestnut that were historically present on the Cumberland Plateau. Project will plant shortleaf pine as half of the total planting mix, along with a variety of native oaks and hickories, and six hundred blight resistant American chestnuts to benefit species including bobwhite quail, golden-winged warbler, prairie warbler, and cerulean warbler.

\$149,384

TEXAS

American Bird Conservancy

**Gulf Beach Nesting Bird Conservation
Enhancement (LA, TX)**

Increase protection, monitoring and public awareness at important nesting locations to facilitate continued and increased breeding success. These activities will aid in the recovery of at least two species that were among the top negatively impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: black skimmers and least terns.

\$199,992

American YouthWorks

**Texas Conservation Corps
at San Antonio Missions**

Recruit, train and equip two teams of eight young adults from across the country to work with Texas Conservation Corps on the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park in San Antonio, Texas.

\$26,140

City of Denton

**Nature Explore Classroom at Clear Creek
Natural Heritage Center**

Construct the Nature Explore Classroom at Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center, designed to help preschool to first-grade children connect with nature. Project will connect underserved populations to over 2,900 acres of bottomland hardwood forest, upland prairie and diverse aquatic habitats.

\$40,806

City of McAllen

Urban Bird Conservation

Restore land at the McAllen Nature Center, a 20-acre urban site, in addition to raising awareness of nature spaces and conservation throughout the City of McAllen and surrounding Rio Grande Valley area.

\$35,000

Conservation Legacy

**Monarch Conservation Science Partnership –
Milkweed Density Estimation (MN, OK, TX)**

Collect key information on milkweed densities on and near public lands to help inform national strategies for milkweed restoration.

\$37,501

Conservian

**U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Field
Monitoring Manual (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Build a standardized training manual for field personnel and site stewards engaged in monitoring and protecting beach-nesting birds on the Gulf Coast. The field manual will be directed toward those actually working on the ground with beach-nesting birds, and will serve as the next logical step to implementing the recommendations of the U.S. Gulf Coast Beach-Nesting Bird Assessment and Management Guidelines.

\$75,000

Ducks Unlimited**Gulf Stewardship Program (LA, TX)**

Use increased staff time, technical assistance, programmatic support and increased adoption of technology to restore, enhance and protect 8,600 acres of agriculture and coastal marsh lands. Project will assemble a diverse team to work with local National Resources Conservation Service offices and landowners, supporting critical gaps in Gulf Coast conservation and catalyzing conservation solutions through innovation and technology.
\$500,000

El Paso Community Foundation

Supporting Watershed Protection and Walkability Through the Use of Permeable Pavers and an Urban Tree Canopy Assessment
Conduct an urban tree canopy assessment and permeable paver demonstration that will be the gateway to sustainably revitalizing our downtown and moving from gray to green infrastructure.
\$21,792

FishAmerica Foundation

Initiating Barotrauma and Mortality Reduction Strategies with Gulf of Mexico Recreational Anglers (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Advance the implementation of FishSmart best practices designed to reduce mortality of fish released during recreational fishing. Project will distribute descending devices on recreational for-hire vessels and select recreational anglers to assess the adoption of best practices and potential reduction of post-release mortality.
\$60,000

Friends of Aransas and Matagorda Island National Wildlife Refuges

Creating an Interpretive Pollinator Garden at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge
Plant a small pollinator garden, designed to attract monarch butterflies and other native pollinators. A large interpretive sign will be installed to educate the public on the importance of pollinators and the relationship between native plants and pollinators.
\$4,270

Friends of Balcones Canyonlands**National Wildlife Refuge**

Nonprofit Management Education, Technological Training and Software Upgrades
Send board members to attend online training courses covering nonprofit governance, social media management, accounting programs, and new software for public outreach materials regarding conservation efforts for golden-cheeked warblers and black-capped vireos. Software will be purchased or upgraded with the purpose of creating better brochures, flyers and online ads as well as better managing budgets and tracking merchandise inventory and sales for special events.
\$4,764

Friends of Big Bend National Park

Rio Grande Village Wetlands Restoration and Interpretation
Rehabilitate more than 55 acres of wetlands along the Rio Grande river, providing an improved home for nesting and migrating birds, and properly interpret the area for visitors.
\$35,000

Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge Foundation

Capacity Building: Developing Financial Savvy About Quickbooks and Point of Sale Software
Train Board of Directors and volunteers with an overview of the financial documents necessary to the organization and the formats provided by Quickbooks, as well as specific training on Quickbooks basics and use of point-of-sale software in the gift and book shop.
\$1,884

Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge Foundation

Community Media Blitz for Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge
Implement a media blitz designed to inform the community about the Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, increase interest in the refuge, inform the community of volunteer opportunities, and increase the capacity of the Friends organization.
\$5,000

Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance Urban Edwards Aquifer Awareness and Protection Project

Engage citizens and students in the creation of 10 community rain gardens. Project will establish protocol for identifying and implementing techniques to enhance the function of existing, state-mandated best management practices and monitoring to assess water quality improvement.
\$52,650

Houston Wilderness**Bringing the Prairie Back to Houston**

Develop sustainable habitat restoration solutions and alternatives to help communities find, value and care for nature.
\$40,000

Mississippi State University

Gulf of Mexico Bird Monitoring Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Complete a structured decision-making effort to identify goals, objectives and values underpinning a Gulf-wide bird monitoring program. The resulting bird monitoring framework and decision support tools will provide a strong basis for increasing coordination and communication and the advancement of bird monitoring across the Gulf of Mexico.
\$222,635

National Wildlife Federation

Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

National Wildlife Federation

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Championing the Development of Conservation Plans for Monarch Recovery in Mid-America
Work with networks of state, federal and tribal governments, NGOs, industry and academia to facilitate the development of a regional monarch conservation plan and strategy. Project will result in conservation actions to positively impact the monarch butterfly in the central flyway.
\$75,000

National Wildlife Federation

Texas Environmental Flows Initiative Assessment, Negotiation and Analysis Support
Launch a water-transaction market in Texas that benefits bays and estuaries by developing and executing a water transaction in at least one bay system and paving the way for viable transactions in two other systems. Project will assess the reliability of candidate water rights, assist in developing and negotiating a successful transaction, and analyze various options related to the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority.
\$365,791

North American Butterfly Association**Southernmost Monarch Waystations**

Create 67 acres of native nectar plant and milkweed habitat across Hidalgo County. Project will significantly increase the availability of native milkweed seeds and plants by surveying and collecting on refuge tracts and build capacity for new monarch habitat through stakeholder workshops and pilot projects.
\$199,271

Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas

Restoring Habitat and Increasing Conservation Capacity for Monarch Butterflies
Enhance or restore 14,910 acres of habitat for monarch butterflies within the monarch's migratory flight path through Texas. Restoration will occur on 160 acres of public land in five wildlife management areas and 14,750 acres of private land.
\$244,080

Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas
Texas Powderhorn Ranch Land Acquisition – II
 Acquire Powderhorn Ranch on Matagorda Bay in Texas to conserve 17,351 acres of tidal bay shoreline, emergent wetlands and wet prairies. Project will support waterfowl, raptors, terns, skimmers and wading birds.
\$525,000

REAL School Gardens
School Gardens: Strengthening Conservation and Education in North Texas
 Lead a community effort to establish three school-based learning gardens in North Texas in spring 2016. These gardens will provide much needed green infrastructure to enhance the environmental and educational impact of neighborhood schools.
\$30,000

Resources First Foundation
Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)
 Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.
\$100,000

Resources First Foundation
Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)
 Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.
\$100,000

Texas A&M Forest Service
Accelerating Longleaf Restoration and Enhancement in Texas
 Focus on on-the-ground longleaf restoration and enhancement efforts, coordinate education and technical assistance, and extend organizational capacity for the Texas Longleaf Implementation Team to promote longleaf conservation in Texas.
\$300,000

Texas A&M Foundation
Applied Biodiversity Sciences Conservation Scholars Program – II
 Continue Applied Biodiversity Sciences Conservation Scholars Program to train students in decision making, conflict resolution and integration of natural and social sciences to better understand the application of scientific knowledge to policy matters and governance.
\$200,000

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Optimizing Rapid Recompression Strategies for Increasing Survival of Discarded Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico
 Evaluate barotrauma impairment and analyze methods for reducing discard mortality of red snapper. Project will link barotrauma-related impairment indices to release conditions, evaluate the utility of two rapid recompression devices, and determine best practices for implementing descender devices.
\$176,372

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Texas Environmental Flows Initiative Ecological Benefit Analysis of Candidate Water Rights
 Launch a water-transaction market in Texas that benefits bays and estuaries by developing and executing a water transaction in at least one bay system and paving the way for viable transactions in two other systems. Project will analyze the reliability of a given water right, and assess the ecological benefits of the water right including species, plant productivity, salinity, water temperature and others.
\$248,873

Texas Rice Industry Coalition
for the Environment
Clark West Wetland Restoration on Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge
 Create 252 acres of high quality wetlands/ moist soil unit habitat on the Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. Project will eliminate invasive and exotic species from former rice farmland, construct levees and install water control structures to hold shallow freshwater, creating exceptional habitat for shorebirds, wading birds and waterfowl.
\$90,000

Texas Rice Industry Coalition
for the Environment
Texas Coastal Wetland Habitat Creation and Restoration
 Create, restore and enhance 2,055 acres of wetlands on two national wildlife refuges, a Wildlife Management Area and important private lands on the upper and middle Texas coast. Project will create excellent migratory bird habitat for a multitude of species, many of which are species of concern.
\$130,000

Texas State University – San Marcos
Texas Environmental Flows Initiative Metric Tracking and Analysis
 Launch a water transactions market in Texas that benefits bays and estuaries by developing and executing a water transaction in at least one bay system and paving the way for viable transactions in two other systems. Project will define, track, evaluate and interpret metrics for each analysis conducted.
\$9,957

The Conservation Fund
Dolan Tract Acquisition, Neches River National Wildlife Refuge
 Acquire 80 acres that will protect a pivotal tract of forested river frontage within the Neches River National Wildlife Refuge. Project will connect two previously protected parcels of 6,715 acres totaling 8 river miles.
\$120,000

The Nature Conservancy
Gulf Conservation Corps Restoration Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
 Support two new Conservation Corps and a Veterans Conservation Corps pilot demonstrations across the Gulf region to undertake projects that restore and protect natural resources. Project will make conservation progress on the ground to improve long-term habitat health for native plants and animals, build organizational strength to continue to use conservation corps as a significant strategy for Gulf restoration, and train young people to participate in the expanding Gulf restoration economy.
\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy
Texas Environmental Flows Initiative Acquisition Scenarios Viability Assessment and Transaction Negotiation
 Launch a water transactions market in Texas that benefits bays and estuaries by developing and executing a water transaction in at least one bay system and paving the way for viable transactions in two other systems. Project will assess current water rights within the system, assess the potential viability of specific acquisition scenarios, and negotiate transactions.
\$303,442

The Student Conservation Association
Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge Habitat Protection and Restoration Program in Houston Parks
 Support two citywide conservation internships and a two-week crew of high school students to enhance and guide a natural resource management strategy for the City of Houston's park system. The strategy will enhance the operations and inventory of urban natural areas within the city limits, as well as improve access to environmental education and stewardship opportunities for urban youth.
\$27,000

Town of Little Elm
Tree Planting and Stewardship Project at Cottonwood Park and Trail
 Plant 80 native and water-wise trees and install a water-efficient irrigation system along the 0.35-mile concrete linear bicycle and pedestrian trail that leads to Cottonwood Park. Project will engage two local Boy Scout troops in tree planting activities and grand opening events, fostering community involvement in the ongoing stewardship of Little Elm's trees.
\$40,000

Treefolks

Bastrop County Community Reforestation Program

Provide free comprehensive reforestation services to private landowners affected by the devastating 2011 complex wildfire in Bastrop. Project will assist in planting 420,000 native loblolly pine trees on privately owned property to allow for county-wide recovery, and eventual restoration, of the unique Lost Pines ecosystem.

\$50,000

University of Houston, Clear Lake Environmental Institute of Houston Rain Barrel/Rain Garden Community Education Workshops

Implement a series of community education workshops to address the many benefits of rain gardens and rain barrels for water conservation and pollution prevention. Project will save thousands of gallons of water and reduce pollution from stormwater runoff.

\$16,700

UTAH

American Conservation Experience

Beaver River Riparian Enhancement Project
Continue to enhance the riparian areas of the Beaver River through removing and treating areas of Tamarisk and Russian Olive. Project will be augmented by Native American youth volunteers that will further this important work and by doing so will obtain valuable outdoor work skills and training.

\$18,400

Grand Staircase Escalante Partners

Escalante Watershed Restoration – Youth Corps Helping with Woody Invasive Control
Engage 13 Native American and urban youth in restoration work that will provide a unique outdoor experience and conservation job training. 30 acres of the Escalante river corridor will be restored by removing invasive Russian olive trees, directly benefiting native plant and animal species habitat.

\$75,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

River Restoration Adventures for Tomorrow 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Called to Action Along the Colorado River

Improve the health and resiliency of the riparian corridor along the Colorado River in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Project will include a GPS-supported plant community survey along 112 miles of riparian habitat, followed by the creation of a management plan and a series of restoration projects focused on protecting the health and diversity of critical river habitat.

\$43,253

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management Rearing the Next Fisheries Cohort (multiple states)

Host 20 high school student interns during the summer 2015 at 13 field offices of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working with American Fisheries Society, BLM will provide an eight-week, paid internship for youths to explore potential career options in the fisheries field.

\$100,000

Utah State University/Utah Conservation Corps

White River Clean-Up

Partner with the Bureau of Land Management's Vernal Field Office to remove Russian olive on 2.5 acres along the White River in northeastern Utah. Project will take place over three weeks in summer 2015 and will employ four UCC AmeriCorps members.

\$10,000

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.

\$104,181

VERMONT

American Rivers

Assessing Fish Barrier Priority Modifications in the Connecticut River Tributaries of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts (MA, NH, VT)

Identify priority removals of barriers to fish passage and provide engineering designs for selected projects in the Connecticut River tributaries of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts. Project will identify landowners, reach out to them, and complete preliminary engineering studies to advance up to six barrier removals that will, when implemented, restore access and connectivity to more than 60 miles of stream with critical upstream habitat for native Eastern brook trout, river herring, and Atlantic salmon. Partners include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, and the Connecticut River Watershed Council.

\$50,324

Bennington County Conservation District Batten Kill Watershed Invasive Species Initiative

Spearhead an invasive species initiative in the Vermont portion of the watershed by creating a cooperative weed management area, hiring a part-time coordinator, and undertaking demonstration treatments.

\$36,721

Connecticut River Watershed Council Getting Conservation on the Ground – Outreach and Assistance for Limited Resource Landowners in the Connecticut River Watershed (MA, NH, VT)

Provide design, technical and financial assistance to at least six private landowners with working lands in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont who are unable to meet cost-share requirements for improving riparian and instream habitats on their land. Project will target priority watersheds by restoring 12 miles of riparian and instream habitat.

\$64,540

Trout Unlimited

Connecticut and Merrimack River Basins Reconnection (NH, VT)

Implement aquatic organism passage assessment, prioritization and restoration of severe instream barriers that threaten the long term stability of high quality native brook trout habitat within priority areas. Project will include a suite of assessment, design and implementation work located in four major watersheds in the Connecticut and Merrimack River basins.

\$90,000

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Vermont Center for Ecostudies**Mapping Abundance and Estimating Population Size of Bicknell's Thrush (ME, NH, VT)**

Produce two population estimates of Bicknell's thrush and other montane forest birds in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont to predict how abundance, population size and distribution may change in response to forest succession and disturbance events. Project will fill critical information gaps and help identify priority habitat areas for future conservation by recruiting 100 volunteers and monitoring 650 stream and forest sites.
\$78,588

Vermont Land Trust**Central Vermont Clear Waters Conservation Initiative (VT)**

Improve riparian habitat in 13 sub-watersheds in east-central Vermont by leveraging landowner relationships, regional partnerships and technical expertise to increase conservation outcomes on private land. Project will focus on watersheds, including the Wells, Waits and Ompompanoosuc River watersheds, that are rated as intact, high priority watersheds for Eastern brook trout and at least two projects will establish permanent riparian buffers, resulting in one mile of protected river and stream frontage.
\$75,000

Vermont Land Trust**Five Peaks, Four Rivers Conservation Easement**

Permanently protect, through conservation easements, a 2,965 acre property adjacent to Willoughby State Forest, Bald Hill Wildlife Management Area, and the Lake Willoughby National Natural Landmark in Vermont. Project will protect more than 8 miles of frontage on 22 cold-water streams that form the headwaters of four rivers in the Memphremagog watershed, providing riparian connectivity with 50 foot buffers and water-quality benefits for Eastern brook trout.
\$53,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)**

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

VIRGINIA**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Healthy Yards, Living Waters, Healthy People: Learning How to Protect Your Local Streams by Improving Your Back Yard**

Reduce stormwater pollution in two areas within the James River Watershed through implementation of green infrastructure best management practices on properties in the Thomas Jefferson SWCD service area and the City of Richmond. Implementation will be targeted in areas that present the greatest opportunity for stormwater pollution reductions and highest potential to influence long-term behavior change among community members.
\$199,529

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Partnership to Restore Hampton Waterways
 Spur oyster restoration efforts in Virginia's Hampton River watershed, help manage stormwater pollution in the city of Hampton, and remediate impairments to the river and its tributaries by working with an array of public and private partners to accomplish targeted goals.
\$200,000

Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia C&O Canal Towpath Cleanup (MD, VA, WV)

Beautify, remove vegetation and maintain the C&O Canal towpath, which extends into the states of West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia.
\$31,633

College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Coastal Hazard Management Planning for Fourteen Middle Peninsula Public Access Authority Properties
 Improve the technical capacity for the Middle Peninsula Public Access Authority to deliver water quality and stewardship implementation projects through site assessment and identification of coastal hazards at 14 of the properties along tidal waterways. Project will assess, plan, prioritize and design for each site so that investment of restoration and protection project funding can be better targeted.
\$49,335

College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science**Monitoring River Herring Stocks in the Pamunkey River**

Use sonar to monitor spawning stock of river herring in the Pamunkey River, a York River tributary. Project will provide data currently unavailable for a river of historical importance to the herring fishery in Virginia.
\$128,049

County of Albemarle**Prioritization and Implementation of Large-Scale BMP Retrofits on Private Lands: A County Perspective**

Develop procedures to identify and prioritize privately-owned stormwater best management practices for retrofitting in order to address TMDL pollutant reduction requirements. Project will also include the design and construction of three top-ranking retrofits. The knowledge gained from the process will be disseminated through a guidebook and workshop.
\$191,000

Ducks Unlimited**Hog Island Coastal Wetland Restoration and Resiliency Project**

Restore 1,300 acres of coastal wetlands that are critical to numerous migratory bird species along with hundreds of other fish and wildlife species in southeast Virginia. Project will protect managed wetlands from the potential impacts of sea-level rise while providing a reliable source of wetlands for wildlife in the face of continuing coastal wetland loss from conversion, degradation and climate change.
\$30,000

Ecosystem Services**The Linville Creek Watershed Restoration Initiative**

Implement the actions outlined in the Linville Creek Watershed Implementation Plan. Project will conduct a stream corridor and watershed assessment, develop a Multi-criterion Decision Assessment tool, design green infrastructure projects to include rain garden/bio-filtration facilities and 3,000 feet of stream restoration.
\$49,908

James River Association

Engaging the Community to Restore the James River in the Richmond Region
 Advance the restoration goals for the James River that have been identified by Virginia's Capital Region Collaborative. Project activities will include volunteer work within the watershed that focus on invasive species removal and riparian buffer restoration, both large-scale and self-led cleanup events, educational opportunities specifically geared toward high school students on Presquile Island, and the creation of an overall vision, with the identification of specific projects to meet the vision.
\$50,000

James River Association**Maximizing Sediment Reductions in the James River With Cost-Effective Strategies**

Capitalize on an existing partnership as part of the Envision the James initiative to reduce sediment through an innovative, community-based, multi-faceted proposal. Project will work with five soil and water conservation districts located in areas identified as producing the highest sediment yields within the James River watershed to implement cost-effective projects that achieve maximum sediment reductions.

\$498,780

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

Maymont Foundation**Children's Farm Water Quality Treatment Plan**

Provide the required nutrient and sediment reductions through the water quality treatment train which was proposed near the Children's Farm and Entrance Plaza. The treatment train will consider a bioretention practice, followed by an infiltration step pool conveyance system, and ultimately drain to a floodplain wetland area.

\$200,000

**Northern Virginia Regional Commission
Shoreline and Tidal Marsh Restoration at Leesylvania State Park**

Stabilize and protect approximately 800 feet of eroding shoreline along the Potomac River in Leesylvania State Park with a living shoreline. In addition, project will restore .64 acres of riparian buffer and create tidal marsh.

\$174,637

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

Smithsonian Institution**River Herring Spawning Run Monitoring in Chesapeake Bay (MD, VA)**

Provide scientifically rigorous imaging sonar run counts of river herring in key Chesapeake Bay spawning streams. Project will augment run counts with watershed-scale habitat use surveys.

\$96,873

The Student Conservation Association**Conservation Interns at Richmond National Battlefield Park**

Place five interns at the Richmond National Battlefield park to work on important conservation issues.

\$28,470

The Trust for Tomorrow**The Upper Rapidan Brook Trout Initiative**

Continue building a comprehensive partnership with the goal of sustaining native populations of Eastern brook trout. Project will work through the Technical Capacity Grants Program to jump-start this initiative through the preparation of stream and riparian buffer restoration assessments and designs for the Kinsey Run Stream Restoration Project.

\$50,000

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Town of Kilmarnock**Town of Kilmarnock Sediment Reduction and Stream Restoration**

Restore nearly 1,000 linear feet of badly eroded headwater streams using Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance step-pool designs. In addition to improving physical habitat and reducing immediate risks to infrastructure, this restoration effort will annually prevent 800 tons of sediment, 700 pounds of Nitrogen, and 280 pounds of Phosphorus from flowing towards the Chesapeake Bay.

\$200,000

Trout Unlimited**A Regional Approach to Conserving the Aquatic Resources of the Potomac and Shenandoah Headwaters (VA, WV)**

Accelerate the reduction of sediment and nutrients entering the Chesapeake Bay via the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers using a regional approach by increasing both the participation in Farm Bill Conservation Programs, and the implementation of riparian and instream restoration practices.

\$403,899

Trout Unlimited**Comprehensive Watershed Conservation in Agriculture and Livestock Landscapes of Rockingham County**

Implement targeted, comprehensive, watershed scale restoration in Rockingham County. Project will improve water quality in three small watersheds identified as high-priority for Eastern brook trout habitat restoration.

\$332,608

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.

\$150,318

**University of Georgia Research Foundation
Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)**

Develop a business plan for a new Southeastern Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Fund to help improve stewardship of freshwater resources in the Southeast. Project will synthesize existing conservation plans for the region to identify priority geographies and priority actions, identify additional funding opportunities, and develop a framework for a public-private fund modeled on other successful initiatives.

\$138,692

University of Virginia**Conservation Interns and Conservation Scholars Support – II**

Support summer conservation internships for University of Virginia (UVA) students at Virginia conservation organizations. Project will also support a graduate-level Conservation Scholar Fellowship for traditionally under-represented groups through UVA's Department of Environmental Sciences, and will host an annual meeting of interns and graduate fellows from other universities participating in the National Conservation Scholars Program.

\$100,000

Virginia Department of Forestry**Virginia's Cooperative Initiative to Restore Longleaf Pine**

Develop, establish and improve longleaf on state-owned and protected private lands in core areas in southeast Virginia. Project will include outreach and assistance to private forest landowners and work to develop prescribed burning capacity on public and private lands.

\$150,000

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Conservation Credit for Agroforestry Production: Agroforestry Nonpoint Nutrient Offsets in Virginia's Region of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Accelerate nutrient management innovation through a public-private partnership that advances nutrient trading of non-point offset water quality credits from agroforestry land use such as multifunctional riparian forest buffers and other upland tree-crop combinations. Project will establish agroforestry conservation projects at a 377-acre farm and a 900-acre farm in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed to demonstrate nutrient management design and evaluate nutrient flow, water quality, financial cost, benefits and values associated nutrient and assess their market value in Virginia's Water Quality Trading Program.

\$250,897

Wildlife Management Institute

Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.

\$548,000

WASHINGTON

Colville Confederated Tribes

Haley Creek Sharp-Tailed Grouse Area Native Grass and Forb Establishment

Enhance and restore Haley Creek to link state and tribal populations of sharp-tailed grouse, a threatened and culturally significant species in Washington State. Project will result in recovered habitats that offer adequate hiding, nesting and brood rearing habitat, as well as provide forage for sharp-tailed grouse.

\$15,360

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Building Cultural and Environmental Learning Opportunities on the Colville Indian Reservation

Restore riparian vegetation and install beaver dam support structures and hawk perches to improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and hydrologic function, as part of a management plan to convert a former agricultural ranch of 334 acres to a cultural and environmental learning space. Project will also include development of the reservation's first interpretive trail.

\$23,919

Conservation Northwest

Community Outreach, Habitat Restoration, Focal Species Monitoring, and Partner Coordination in the Okanogan Valley

Address critical habitat connectivity needs between the Cascade and Kettle mountain ranges in Washington State, regions vital to the long-term recovery of Canada lynx, mule deer and sharp-tailed grouse. Project will help conserve working lands and open space, restore forest health and wildlife habitats, and reduce wildlife conflicts with livestock and humans.

\$211,550

EarthCorps

Stormwater Pollution Solutions in My Neighborhood

Create a model program for regional replication that coaches secondary-level teachers on fully integrating stormwater education in the core curriculum, using real-world content, outdoor classrooms, field investigations, community stewardship campaigns and salmon habitat restoration to drive academic excellence.

\$42,000

Environment for the Americas

Celebrate Shorebirds (Celebra las Playeras): Engaging Latino Youth in Natural Resource Careers (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)

Gather data on the movements, habitat use and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds. Project will engage Latino communities in learning about shorebirds and federal lands that provide educational and recreational opportunities.

\$80,000

Friends of Dungeness National

Wildlife Refuge

Dungeness 100: The Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge Centennial Celebration

Design a year-long, multi-faceted series of educational events celebrating the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge's 100th anniversary. Project will increase awareness of the Refuge and its purpose while fostering collaboration amongst stakeholders and promoting the mission of the Friends of Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge.

\$4,410

Long Live the Kings

Advancing Salmon Recovery and Hood Canal Ecosystem Health

Advance the development and implementation of management tools and address the high-level priorities that these tools have identified to move toward a healthy Hood Canal for salmon and steelhead populations.

\$25,000

Long Live the Kings

Salish Sea Marine Survival Project - Project Coordination (WA, Canada)

Coordinate a comprehensive, international effort involving over 40 entities to determine why juvenile Chinook, coho and steelhead are dying in the combined marine waters of Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia. Resolving this uncertainty will result in significant improvements in prey availability for the Southern resident killer whale population.

\$50,000

Madrona Institute

San Juan Islands National Monument and San Juan Island National Historical Park Youth Initiative: A Partnership with Urban Tribal and Island Youth to Conserve Cultural and Natural Heritage

Gather and share Coast Salish Peoples stories associated with conservation topic areas to inform new signage on Department of Interior lands. Primary activities will include using GPS/GIS to model traditional Salish Peoples place and resource names, forage fish spawning sites, clam gardens and salmon population monitoring.

\$44,750

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

Yakima Basin Restoration Stewards

Engage 16 youth in habitat restoration, monitoring, stewardship and community outreach on USDA Forest Service, state and private lands. Project will provide economically-disadvantaged youth with hands-on, meaningful employment opportunities including job training in natural resources and opportunities to network with federal, state and tribal entities.

\$50,000

Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Integrating Electronic Monitoring into the West Coast Groundfish Fleet (CA, OR, WA)

Implement electronic monitoring on up to 32 vessels in order to monitor compliance in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Rationalization Program. Project will evaluate the use of electronic monitoring systems as an alternative to the on-board human observer program.

\$271,710

National Forest Foundation

Restoration of Goat Creek Complexity for Bull Trout and Other Salmonids

Restore 0.9 miles of instream critical habitat in Goat Creek to benefit bull trout, rainbow trout and westslope cutthroat trout. Project will add resiliency and enhance instream complexity by adding instream multi-log structures and single logs, block unauthorized stream crossings, and build fencing to protect newly created habitat from cattle encroachment.

\$12,000

Okanogan Land Trust**Working for Wildlife: Local Habitat Conservation**

Use agricultural conservation easements in the Tunk Valley to preserve migration paths and enhance habitat connections for wildlife including lynx, mule deer and sharp-tailed grouse. Project will leverage resources and involve collaboration with diverse stakeholders. **\$268,535**

Oregon State University**Seabird Bycatch Outreach to Alaska Longline Fisheries (AK, OR, WA)**

Reach out to fisheries and provide seabird bycatch reduction training sessions at targeted ports in an effort to reduce and maintain seabird bycatch at or below the lowest levels observed. Project will analyze 20 years of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Groundfish Observer Program data to identify key sectors needed for outreach. **\$153,485**

Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council**Early Detection/Rapid Response Citizen-Science Invasive Plant Program (OR, WA)**

Train citizen-scientists to identify, document and eradicate invasive species. Project will aid in helping to maintain healthy ecosystems and habitat value throughout designated cooperative weed management areas, national forests and parks and other targeted public lands. **\$20,000**

Port of Ilwaco**Strengthening Resilience of Commercial Fisheries in Ilwaco via the Development of a Community Fishing Association**

Assess the feasibility of establishing a Community Fishing Association in the Port of Ilwaco. Project will facilitate organizational capacity and help maintain dockside infrastructure and fishing access in the community. **\$49,999**

Regents of the University of California – Davis
Developing a Killer Whale Standardized Health Assessment Protocol and Health Index (CA, OR, WA)

Identify indices and establish a standardized health assessment for killer whales, create a record keeping database that will be seamless with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's new Marine Mammal Health Map System, and create an individual animal health index. Project tools can be used with Southern resident and reference killer whale populations to assess individual animal and population fitness, identify spatial and temporal stresses, help guide research and assist with guidelines for potential intervention for individual animals. **\$60,000**

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal. **\$100,000**

Resources First Foundation**Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)**

Continue to expand conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal, resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for declining species on private lands. **\$100,000**

Sea State**Open-Source Software Platform for Shipboard Electronic Monitoring of Fisheries (AK, OR, WA)**

Develop a suite of complementary software applications that will support electronic monitoring data acquisition, review, summarization and archival. Project will create an entirely open source and freely available software platform that can be adapted to the specific needs of any given fishery. **\$235,738**

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group**Upper Skagit Knotweed and Invasive Weed Control Program**

Implement a strategic approach to controlling noxious weeds in the Upper Skagit watershed. **\$45,000**

The Trust for Public Land

Hood Canal Landscape Conservation Initiative Protect 6,361 acres of priority forest and riparian habitat in northwest Washington State to safeguard habitat and provide connectivity for federally threatened fish species, support the local economy and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities. **\$450,000**

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple states)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct-marketing arrangements. **\$44,000**

Trout Unlimited

Columbia Cascade Water Transaction Strategy Identify, prioritize and develop water transactions in the Methow, Entiat, Yakima, Okanogan, Wenatchee and Snake subbasins of Washington, with a focus on bringing larger projects closer to completion. **\$204,840**

Trout Unlimited**Okanogan Basin Water Transactions**

Build upon the foundation of developing and negotiating water transactions in the Okanogan Basin of Washington. **\$75,680**

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Alaska Fisheries Science Center
Assessing the Genetic Structure of Arctic Ice Seals (AK, CA, WA)

Conduct a genetic analysis of spatial and temporal structure of ringed and bearded seals on breeding sites in the North Pacific. Project will provide useful information for identifying appropriate conservation and management strategies for these species to avoid future depletion and to promote sustainable harvest. **\$80,405**

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Portfolio Effects in Historic Chinook Hatchery Practices on Prey Availability for Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA, Canada)

Conduct the first synthesis of coastwide hatchery practices of Chinook salmon, 1950-present, and identify trends and changes in variance that may be used to target particular actions that would result in increases in a more robust prey base for killer whales. **\$117,296**

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Understanding Noise Exposure, Sound Use and Subsurface Behavior of Southern Resident Killer Whales

Investigate fine-scale details of sub-surface acoustic and movement behavior during difference activities, especially those predictive of foraging to then determine potential effects of vessel and noise on Southern resident killer whale behaviors. Results will inform adaptive management and mitigation measures needed to reduce sound exposure, vessel impacts, their effects on killer whale behavior and habitat, and evaluate existing regulations. **\$112,000**

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Restoring, Expanding and Connecting High-Quality Shrub-Steppe on Hanford Reach National Monument

Planting sagebrush and other native shrub seedlings in areas with high-quality understory grassland vegetation to create ideal shrub-steppe habitat conditions as shrubs grow and mature. Seedlings will be produced using locally collected seed and/or seed sourced solely from the Columbia Basin ecoregion.

\$180,000

University of California – Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)

Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.

\$174,934

University of Idaho

Bi-State Interpretive Clean Water Trail (ID, WA)

Build an urban interpretive trail, themed around clean water and stormwater (non-point source) pollution prevention. Project will allow planting riparian native plants at several demonstration stormwater swale and riparian buffer demonstration projects, developing an outdoor classroom and demonstration area for K-12 and college/university students, and connecting community clean water-based projects in a cohesive, multi-media educational and outreach campaign.

\$36,737

University of Idaho

Bi-State Interpretive Clean Water Trail (ID, WA)

Build an urban interpretive trail, themed around clean water and stormwater pollution prevention. Project will allow planting of riparian native plants at several buffer demonstration projects, developing an outdoor classroom and demonstration area for K-12 and college/university students, and connecting community clean water-based projects in a cohesive, multi-media educational and outreach campaign.

\$36,737

University of Washington

Training Women in Conservation Science – II

Continue leveraging an existing grant to significantly increase the number of students participating as conservation scholars at the University of Washington. Project will help increase the number of undergraduates, specifically women, choosing careers in conservation work.

\$100,000

Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre

Northern and Southern Resident Killer Whales: Research on the Impacts of Seasonal Prey Availability and Contaminants on Body Condition (WA, Canada)

Carry out a conservation-focused study on Northern and Southern resident killer whales off the coasts of southern British Columbia, Vancouver Island and Washington State. The multi-year study will assess killer whale body condition using aerial photogrammetry to determine annual and intra-annual variations in body condition in relation to prey abundance.

\$250,000

Walla Walla Watershed

Management Partnership

Watershed Management Partnership

Implement water rights transactions in the Washington portion of the Walla Walla Basin as part of the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program.

\$75,444

Washington Department of Ecology

Washington State Water Rights

Acquisition Program

Assist in the selection, assessment, coordination and management of water right acquisitions by Washington Water Trust, Trout Unlimited and Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership.

\$13,6814

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Carter Mountain Wildlife Area Habitat

Improvement

Restore shrub-steppe habitat within the Carter Mountain Wildlife Area, a fire-dependent ecosystem, to benefit sharp-tailed grouse and mule deer within the Okanogan linkage corridor.

\$30,000

Washington Water Trust

Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program

– General Acquisitions

Identify, develop and implement water transactions, focused on salmon recovery in the Wenatchee, Methow and Yakima basins. Project team will work with willing landowners, community groups, tribes, irrigators, conservation districts and businesses.

\$181,052

Washington Water Trust

Columbia Water Transactions Program

Acquisitions

Identify, develop and implement water transactions, focused on salmon recovery in the Okanogan Basin. WWT works collaboratively with willing landowners, conservation districts, irrigation districts, community groups, tribes and businesses.

\$46,689

Washington Water Trust

Technical Assistance to Natural Resources Conservation Service for Salmon Recovery
 Generate a “backlog” list of prioritized landowners in targeted sub-watersheds which can be used to support EQIP financial assistance requests for salmon recovery funding in future years.

\$54,125

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)

Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.

\$104,181

WEST VIRGINIA

Biohabitats

Wardensville Community Green

Infrastructure Assessment and Pilot Project

Evaluate and prioritize green infrastructure opportunities in Wardensville, including the design of four green infrastructure pilot projects. Project will include two boat access points on the Cacapon River.

\$49,549

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Upper Potomac Farm Stewardship Program (MD, WV)

Work with farmers to adopt agricultural best management practices to improve water quality, increase productivity of farming operations and enhance wildlife habitat. Project will help farmers install stream exclusion fencing, implement riparian buffer and wetland restoration projects, transition to grazing systems.

\$200,000

Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia
C&O Canal Towpath Cleanup (MD, VA, WV)

Beautify, remove vegetation and maintain the C&O Canal towpath, which extends into the states of West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia.

\$31,633

Eastern Panhandle Planning and Development Council
Branching In Native Nursery

Transform an impervious brownfield site into a plant nursery to cultivate native species for local green infrastructure projects. Irrigation for the nursery will be provided by treated effluent from a local waste water treatment plant.

\$81,500

Friends of the 500th
Endangered Cheat Mountain
Salamander Overpass

Construct a boardwalk to protect the endangered Cheat Mountain salamander by allowing them to safely under. The boardwalk will also be used for educational activities, as well as for monitoring the boardwalk for Cheat Mountain salamander activity.
\$7,650

Trout Unlimited

A Regional Approach to Conserving the Aquatic Resources of the Potomac and Shenandoah Headwaters (VA, WV)
Accelerate the reduction of sediment and nutrients entering the Chesapeake Bay via the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers using a regional approach by increasing both the participation in Farm Bill Conservation Programs, and the implementation of riparian and instream restoration practices.
\$403,899

Trout Unlimited

Eastern Brook Trout Range-Wide Conservation Portfolio and Focal Area Risk and Opportunity Analysis (multiple states)
Conduct a broad-scale assessment of existing Eastern brook trout diversity compared to historical levels to set strategic goals, identify conservation needs, and identify risk to a changing climate. Project will develop fine-scale assessments of priorities within four current focal areas while integrating societal benefits, ecosystem services, and potential conservation gains.
\$150,318

Wildlife Management Institute
Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.
\$548,000

WISCONSIN

American Bird Conservancy
Creating Early Successional Forest to Maximize Forest Productivity for Wildlife (MI, MN, WI)
Plan and create early successional forest on public and private lands in Minnesota and Wisconsin that meets the habitat needs of the golden-winged warbler, American woodcock and over 50 other species of conservation concern. Project will contact more than 600 private landowners to create over 1,000 acres of habitat and establish plans for 3,000 acres within golden-winged warbler and American woodcock focal areas.
\$399,907

Bad River Watershed Association
Fish Passage Barrier Removal and Sedimentation Control in the Bad River Watershed
Replace five road-stream crossings to enhance habitat for native brook trout and other aquatic organisms. Project will reconnect more than 19 miles of upstream habitat and reduce sediment inputs by 68 tons per year.
\$229,160

Ducks Unlimited

Northern Pike and Waterfowl Habitat Enhancement in Sensiba Marsh
Repair a failing dike to enhance the hydrology and habitat structure of the Suamico River Area Coastal Wetland. Repairs will allow sustainable and efficient water-level management, enriching the wetland's ecological value by decreasing monotypic invasive species and allowing northern pike and other fish access to spawning areas.
\$163,279

Friends of Horicon National Wildlife Refuge
Building an Innovative Nature Exploration Area at Horicon National Wildlife Refuge
Enhance visitor experiences for children and families with the installation of innovative exploration areas along a new visitor center trail. Project will provide children with hands-on experiences and help them develop an awareness and passion for the natural world.
\$10,000

Friends of Trempealeau Refuge
Constructing a Natural Playscape Outdoor Classroom at Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
Construct a natural playscape to extend and compliment the outdoor learning experience. Project will increase imagination and learning by stimulating curiosity, creativity and discovery of visitors to the refuge.
\$10,000

Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps Bureau of Land Management
Island Restoration Initiative
Recruit urban, minority youth from high-poverty neighborhoods in the cities of Milwaukee and Racine to serve in 20 Corps member positions designated as next-generation conservationists. Participants will work over 18 months to improve access to and maintain 10 acres collectively within the native ecosystem of Bureau of Land Management islands in the Milwaukee River and nearby inland lakes.
\$20,000

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Foundation
On the Frontlines of Conservation: Citizen-Scientists Restore Pollinator Habitat (MN, ND, SD)
Provide education to and engage with a wide range of people and communities in creating needed habitat for pollinators. Project will focus on preserving, protecting and propagating two species of native flowering plants: milkweed and prairie clovers.
\$51,352

National Wildlife Federation
Launching Monarch Butterfly Recovery in the Central Flyway Through Urban Outreach (multiple states)
Build capacity within cities and towns in the central flyway to take appropriate, effective action on behalf of monarchs. Project will support outreach efforts in hundreds of cities, towns, schools and school districts, as well as garden clubs, nurseries and the National Wildlife Federation's National Pollinator Garden Network.
\$100,000

Ozaukee County, Wisconsin
Restoring Aquatic Connectivity on Mineral Springs Creek
Remove two passage barriers along Mineral Springs Creek to restore the aquatic connection between Lake Michigan and one mile of stream and wetland habitat. Project will improve instream and riparian habitat and allow northern pike and other Lake Michigan fish to access to high-quality upstream spawning habitat.
\$185,000

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois
Collaborative, Industry-Driven Monarch Conservation Strategy Targeting Critical Landscape Categories in the Upper Restoration Corridor (multiple states)
Mobilize monarch conservation across the public and private sectors in the Upper Midwest through the Rights-of-Way at Habitat Working Group, related partnerships and targeted outreach. These activities will promote habitat restoration by utilities, transportation authorities, and other interested organizations by primarily focusing on opportunities to utilize rights-of-way and other working landscapes to support monarch conservation.
\$75,000

Trout Unlimited
Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Coldwater Habitat Reconnection
Replace seven culverts to improve aquatic habitat connectivity on and adjacent to the Nicolet National Forest. Project will reconnect 30 stream miles to improve passage by brook trout and other aquatic organisms.
\$275,000

Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council

Upper Peninsula Invasives Council: Building Sustainability (MI, WI)

Expand collaboration around invasive species education and management across jurisdictional boundaries of five cooperative weed management areas in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and in northern Wisconsin. Project will survey 30 lakes for aquatic invasive species using environmental DNA techniques.

\$75,000

Urban Ecology Center

Implementation of the Strategic Urban Forestry Plan in the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum

Implement the Strategic Urban Forestry Plan, a cost-effective and community-supported strategy for maintaining the arboretum as an urban oasis with diverse native Wisconsin plant communities. Project will address the threats of 40 percent of trees greater than 10 centimeters in diameter at chest height in the 38-acre arboretum that are ash and vulnerable to emerald ash borer, which has already been detected on the northern end of the arboretum.

\$27,100

Wildlife Management Institute

Enhancing Habitat for Early Successional Species (multiple states)

Engage highly skilled and networked professionals in a public/private partnership to reduce the decline in young forest habitat and support restoration efforts for American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and New England cottontail. Project will increase American woodcock and New England cottontail population levels and work toward halting the decline of golden-winged warbler.

\$548,000

WYOMING

American Bird Conservancy

Implementing Highly Productive Grassland Management (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Continue to assist landowners in conservation planning and enrolling in Natural Resources Conservation Service programs where sustainable management practices for grasslands will result in habitat conservation on private lands for at least ten declining or at-risk bird species. Project will target up to 142,000 acres of priority grasslands.

\$248,865

Grand Teton National Park Foundation

Inspiring Journeys: An Initiative for Jenny Lake 2015 Backcountry Restoration

Restore trails, bridges, key destinations and a visitor complex at Jenny Lake, Grand Teton's most popular destination, for the National Park Service centennial in 2016. Project will reverse accumulated trail damage and work toward the creation of a sustainable trail network.

\$75,000

Medicine Bow Conservation District

Shirley Basin Habitat Enhancement and Management

Increase infrastructure which will allow landowners to implement best management practices on two ranches near Medicine Bow, Wyoming. Project will promote a healthy and diverse landscape for critical species such as sage-grouse, ferruginous hawk and swift fox, while maintaining agricultural production.

\$60,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Montana and Wyoming Tribal Corps Partnership

Engage 20 Native youths, ages 16-25, through paid 21st Century Conservation Service Corps positions. Project will develop conservation work skills, learn about local lands and cultural traditions, and practice skills to be leaders and contributing members of their crew and community.

\$50,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build state conservation center web portals, for The Lone Star Conservation Connection and The Idaho Conservation Center, to provide comprehensive in-depth and region-specific conservation tools for private landowners. Project will also continue to expand sage grouse conservation information on the Conservation Habitat Management Portal.

\$100,000

Resources First Foundation

Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation (multiple states)

Continue to build and expand the conservation center websites for Colorado, Idaho, Texas and Virginia and the Conservation Habitat Management Portal; resulting in an increase in the adoption of best conservation management practices that will provide the essential ecosystem services of air and water purification, nutrient recycling, soil formation and intact habitat for threatened, endangered or declining species on private lands.

\$100,000

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

At-Risk Bird Conservation in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Increase landowners' interest in enrolling in habitat enhancement projects that include practices such as grazing management and enrollment in conservation easements. Project will leverage partner funding to enhance more than 10,000 acres of mixed grass habitat and help reverse negative population trends of at-risk grassland bird species.

\$168,106

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Rearing the Next Fisheries Cohort (multiple states)

Host 20 high school student interns during the summer 2015 at 13 field offices of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Working with American Fisheries Society, BLM will provide an eight-week, paid internship and a diverse conservation experience in the fisheries and aquatic habitat field and explore potential career options in the fisheries field.

\$100,000

University of Wyoming

Whoop Up ACEC

Assist BLM to complete maintenance and conservation work along the routes used for public educational guided tours that interpret the Whoopup Canyon ACEC petroglyphs and their cultural context. The petroglyphs belong to the Early Hunting rock art tradition, and the oldest panels are over 12,000 years old.

\$11,500

Utah State University/Utah

Conservation Corps

Dump Clean-Up and Campsite Enhancements

Employ four AmeriCorps crew members for dump clean up and campground enhancements. Project will restore 320 acres of public lands, recreational and aesthetic values for this site.

\$6,000

Utah State University/Utah

Conservation Corps

Warren Bridge and Scab Creek Trails

Employ four AmeriCorps crew members for 14 miles of maintenance on the Warren Bridge and Scab Creek Trails. Project will aim to enhance public safety, a renewed visitor experience and a reduction of resource damage due to runoff and use.

\$6,000

World Wildlife Fund

Conserving Black-Footed Ferrets in the Northern Great Plains (MT, SD, WY, Canada)

Improve the status of the endangered black-footed ferret and black-tailed prairie dog habitat within the Northern Great Plains. Project will mitigate the impacts of sylvatic plague, expand habitat for the ferret and its prey, and evaluate the effectiveness of tools used to protect both species in the wild.

\$350,000

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Filling Information Gaps and Developing Best Management Practices to Sustain Monarchs and Milkweed in Public Lands of the Western U.S. (multiple states)
Build capacity of public land managers to implement conservation practices that benefit the western population of monarch butterflies by accounting for current management practices and addressing information gaps on the distribution and management of milkweed. Project will develop best management practices and disseminate recommendations for monarch conservation on 250,000 acres of publicly managed lands.
\$104,181

U.S. TERRITORIES

AMERICAN SAMOA

American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources
Rain Garden Installations for the Priority Watersheds of American Samoa
Engage local communities to install rain gardens in four priority watersheds on the islands of Tutuila and Aunu'u. Project will reduce land-based sources of pollution to coral reefs while improving surface water quality.
\$44,310

Conservation Metrics

Acoustic Monitoring of Seabirds on Ta'u Island – II
Analyze acoustic data collected in the National Park of American Samoa on Ta'u Island to describe acoustic activity of four seabird species thought to breed within the park. Project will document the diversity of species breeding in the park and compare rates of activity across the eight survey sites.
\$24,080

San Diego State University Research Foundation
Capacity Building for On-Island Impact Assessment of Sediment Load Reduction in Faga'alu Watershed
Build capacity for sediment load reduction monitoring in the Faga'alu watershed. Project will provide an assessment of the impact of mitigation activities recently completed to address run-off from an active quarry.
\$45,262

University of California – Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)
Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.
\$174,934

GUAM

University of California – Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)
Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.
\$174,934

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

University of California – Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple states)
Protect threatened seabird species by developing population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific Ocean. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.
\$174,934

PUERTO RICO

Manomet
American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple states)
Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.
\$274,313

Protectores de Cuencas
Reduction and Control of Sediment-Laden Runoff at Playa Jaboncillo, Guánica
Implement sediment control practices in Guánica, Puerto Rico to reduce runoff to coral reefs from a public beach park. Project will result in several restoration projects that will reduce beach contamination and improve capacity of local managers to provide maintenance and sustain outcomes.
\$77,986

Sociedad Ambiente Marino
Actual Status of Endangered Species Act-Listed Elkhorn Coral, Staghorn Coral and Star Corals Across the Northeast Reserves and Culebra Island
Support a quantitative characterization of remnant populations of imperiled corals from six localities across the Northeast Reserves and Culebra Island. Project will advance knowledge and will help fill critical information gaps about five of the seven Endangered Species Act-listed species across the U.S. Caribbean.
\$74,984

Villanova University
A Toolkit for Managing River Inputs to Coral Reefs
Create a cost-effective, transferrable and easy-to-use toolkit consisting of models and a management guide that will support watershed management. Project will use a multi-tiered sequential approach combining analyses of instantaneous water quality and coral health, riparian buffer efficacy, and the record of historic land use in coral and sediment cores to identify land-based sources of pollution and to reduce specific acute and/or chronic stressors on coral reefs in the Guánica watershed.
\$125,454

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Horsley Witten Group
Stabilization of Green Cay Gut to Significantly Reduce Sediment Loadings to St. Croix East End Marine Park and Chenay Bay – VI
Coordinate a multi-agency effort to implement a stream restoration project to stabilize an actively eroding headcut on the East End of St. Croix that was identified as a significant contributor of sediment to the East End Marine Park. Project will involve obtaining the necessary permits, securing additional funding and overseeing construction activities.
\$131,400

UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONAL FISCAL YEAR 2015 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

ASIA, INDIA AND THE PACIFIC

Conservation International Foundation **Spreading the Reach of Community-Based Coral Reef Management in Milne Bay, Papua New Guinea**

Develop and deliver efficient approaches for coral reef conservation and fisheries management with scientifically valid, easy-to-use guidance. Project will create and distribute management guidance tools designed for community-use to enable them to make informed decisions about their marine resources and initiate cost-effective management actions.

\$49,650

Conservation International Foundation **Strengthening Community-Based Coral Reef Management in the Solomon Islands**

Disseminate newly available guidance for communities to engage in marine area management in the Solomon Islands. Project will empower communities to make informed marine management decisions to strengthen the health and resiliency of their coral reef ecosystems and resources.

\$49,687

Indonesia Locally Managed Marine Area Foundation

Expanding the Delivery of Coral Reef Conservation Support in Eastern Indonesia
Provide coral reef conservation outreach and management support to over 100 communities in Eastern Indonesia. Project will create a sustainable approach to reaching a broader number of communities that are interested in engaging in local management.

\$41,000

Marine Applied Research

Integrating Resiliency Information into Coral Reef Management Planning in Pohnpei (Micronesia)

Inform the protected area planning process in Pohnpei by integrating information on historic and projected future exposure to climate disturbances with the recent resilience assessments. Project will combine information on exposure to climate disturbances with resilience potential to help managers and conservationists in Pohnpei to assess vulnerability and preferentially protect sites with lower relative vulnerability.

\$50,000

Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation

Philippines In-Country Coordination Services
Coordinate in-country services to support the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-USAID partnership efforts in the Philippines that strengthen the governance and resilience of coastal ecosystems and fisheries.

\$31,850

PT Pet Norton Consulting International
Indonesia In-Country Services for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Provide in-country coordination services to facilitate the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's partnership with USAID and the Indonesia Ministry of Marine Affairs to build capacity for MPA management and fisheries management.

\$84,600

University of California – Santa Cruz **Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple)**

Protect threatened seabird species by developing spatially explicit population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.

\$174,934

Wildlife Conservation Society

Building Provincial and Community Capacity for Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries Management in New Ireland, Papua New Guinea
Continue and extend efforts to build provincial and community capacity for sustainable small-scale fisheries management in New Ireland Province, Papua New Guinea. Project will improve awareness and appreciation among stakeholders for fisheries management strategies, improve capacity of stakeholders to co-manage their marine resources, and, ultimately, improve fisheries yield.

\$74,994

Zoological Society of London

Helping Conserve Tigers in the Dangku Landscape, Indonesia

Improve law enforcement activities across the Dangku Landscape through the use of a spatial monitoring and reporting tool and conduct research into tiger populations and movements across the landscape using camera trapping and GPS-tracking of individual tigers.

\$175,000

CANADA

Alberta Conservation Association

Restoring Connectivity for Pronghorn in the Northern Steppe in Montana and Alberta
Implement a project in the northern sagebrush-steppe in northern Montana and southern Canada that serves as the terminus of the pronghorn range and where populations of pronghorn have difficulty negotiating barbed wire fences. Project will provide insights into which fence modifications allow for the most successful movements by pronghorn and costs associated with those modifications.

\$199,070

Alberta Wilderness Association

Healthy Silver Sagebrush and Resilient Ranching in Alberta

Develop and implement ranch planning and document oral history of ecosystem changes and management approaches on ranches. Project will lead to restored/maintained habitat for at-risk species to meet recovery needs, and positive working relationships between conservation organizations and local communities with respect to habitat protection and endangered species recovery.

\$25,000

Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Strategic Coordination of an Aquatic Habitat Connectivity Collaborative (MI, Canada)

Provide strategic coordination to the Great Lakes Region Aquatic Habitat Connectivity Collaborative. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide technical coordination.

\$60,000

Long Live the Kings

Salish Sea Marine Survival Project Coordination (WA, Canada)

Coordinate the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project: a comprehensive, international effort involving over 40 entities to determine why juvenile Chinook, coho and steelhead are dying in the combined marine waters of Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia. Resolving this uncertainty, especially for stocks such as Fraser River Chinook, Puget Sound Chinook, and to some extent, steelhead, will result in significant improvements in prey availability for the Southern resident killer whale population.

\$50,000

Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation

Restoring Hydraulic Connectivity Between Long Point Bay and Big Creek Marsh
Restore hydraulic connections between the Long Point Bay and the Big Creek Marsh, a significant Great Lakes coastal wetland. Project will restore water circulation and silt dispersion, allow storm surges from the bay into the marsh, improve hundreds of hectares of fish spawning habitat, and provide safe passage for amphibians and reptiles.

\$200,000

Manomet

American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple)

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

Nature Conservancy of Canada**Investing in Planning and Community Pastures in Saskatchewan**

Merge and expand two existing but outdated Natural Area Conservation Plans into one plan that allows for identification of priority restoration/conservation sites and connectivity priorities. Project will complement the existing plans written for adjacent regions in the grasslands.

\$55,043

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Northwest Fisheries Science Center**Portfolio Effects in Historic Chinook Hatchery Practices on Prey Availability for Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA, Canada)**

Conduct the first synthesis of coastwide hatchery practices of Chinook salmon, 1950-present, and identify trends and changes in variance that may be used to target particular actions that would result in increases in a more robust prey base for killer whales.

\$117,296

Passamaquoddy Tribe, Pleasant Point
Improving the Operating Efficiency of Fish Ladders for River Herring Passage in the St. Croix River

Improve monitoring and passage of alewife river herring across the Milltown Dam. Project will establish more robust and less labor-intensive monitoring techniques to establish accurate river herring run counts and will gather data on barriers to fish passage.

\$75,401

Third Sector New England**Supporting the Visibility and Viability of Community Supported Fisheries and Small-Scale Fishermen Nationwide (multiple)**

Improve LocalCatch.org so that it can be managed more efficiently and continue to serve fishermen as the number of direct-marketing arrangements increases. Project will help fishermen gain access to the information and technical resources necessary to engage in community supported fisheries and similar direct marketing arrangements.

\$44,000

Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre**Northern and Southern Resident Killer Whales: Research on the Impacts of Seasonal Prey Availability and Contaminants on Body Condition (WA, Canada)**

Carry out a conservation-focused study on Northern and Southern resident killer whales off the coasts of southern British Columbia, Vancouver Island and Washington State. The multi-year study will assess killer whale body condition using aerial photogrammetry in order to determine how annual and intra-annual variations in body condition vary in relation to the abundance of prey.

\$250,000

World Wildlife Fund**Conserving Black-Footed Ferrets in the Northern Great Plains (MT, SD, WY, Canada)**

Improve the status of the endangered black-footed ferret and black-tailed prairie dog habitat within the Northern Great Plains. Project will mitigate the impacts of sylvatic plague, expand habitat for the ferret and its prey, and evaluate the effectiveness of tools used to protect both species in the wild.

\$350,000

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**American Bird Conservancy****Eliminating Threats to Priority Seabirds – VI**

Protect priority seabirds on their breeding islands and at sea by reducing the impacts of habitat loss, fisheries bycatch and a range of other threats. Project will use vegetation restoration and construction of a meso-mammal-proof fence to protect pink-footed shearwater and other seabird species.

\$286,542

Bahamas National Trust**Demarcation of the Boundaries of Five Priority Caribbean Marine Protected Areas (Bahamas, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines)**

Train management field staff from three countries and five priority areas in the construction of demarcation buoys, signage and maintenance. Project will address high priority capacity building needs identified in the Caribbean and fill gaps in boundary demarcation that are acting as an impediment to effective enforcement.

\$19,000

BirdLife International**Building Capacity in the Caribbean to Conserve the Black-Capped Petrel**

Work with Grupo Jaragua to develop and support a project manager in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The project manager will increase capacity such that Grupo Jaragua can sustain a full leadership role in Hispaniolan black-capped petrel conservation as part of a comprehensive portfolio of biodiversity conservation initiatives within the Jaragua-Bahoruco-Enriquillo Biosphere Reserve and neighboring Haiti.

\$162,869

Fauna and Flora International**Dog Island Restoration: Post-Eradication Monitoring, Lesser Antilles**

Strengthen the capacity of the Anguilla National Trust to help keep the Dog Island, an important bird area, rodent-free. Project will monitor seabirds and other wildlife to elucidate the short and longer term impacts of eradicating rats.

\$12,000

Fauna and Flora International**Strengthening Regional Eastern Pacific Leatherback Conservation (multiple)**

Strengthen regional integration of eastern Pacific leatherback conservation actions through the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Conservation Network. Project outcomes will include a developed regional information sharing platform for standardized bycatch assessments and nesting beach monitoring data.

\$102,310

Fondation pour la Protection**de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM)****Hawksbill Sea Turtle Bycatch Assessment (Haiti) – II**

Analyze bycatch mitigation needs based on hotspots identified in a country-wide assessment. Project will begin to develop protective measures for sea turtles by educating local communities and work with management to prepare new laws.

\$69,000

Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
Caribbean MPA Partnership

Build upon previous National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration funded peer-to-peer capacity building activities with priority Caribbean MPAs. Project will address desired follow-up on sustainable financing, monitoring, enforcement, SocMon, and management planning. Additional activities will include website maintenance, travel logistical support and project coordination.

\$117,000

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Conservation and Decision-Making Tools for Shorebird Conservation (multiple)**

Contribute directly to goal of increasing the population size of American oystercatchers coastwide within the United States by 30 percent by 2019 and to increase shorebird populations throughout the Atlantic Flyway by 10 percent within 10 years. Project will consolidate and increase the success of an existing American oystercatcher business plan and will build upon this approach to facilitate success for the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative that has evolved from oystercatcher work to-date.

\$274,313

MPA Enforcement International**Enhancing Enforcement Capacity for Coral Reef Management in the Bahamas and Saint Lucia**

Deliver tailored enforcement training for three Caribbean marine protected areas and build capacity for more effective management and coral reef conservation in two countries/territories. Project will strengthen local agency partnerships for enforcement, reinforce best practices and include a site-specific assessment of enforcement needs.

\$32,500

National Audubon Society**Advancing Flyway Conservation of American Oystercatchers (multiple)**

Address the most serious threats to American oystercatcher nesting populations. Project will minimize harmful disturbances, reduce the impact of predators, and engage Audubon's extensive network of chapters to conduct work that will directly benefit oystercatchers.

\$249,669

The Ocean Foundation**Poaching and Bycatch Reduction to Recover Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Turtles in El Salvador and Nicaragua**

Improve Eastern Pacific hawksbill populations through bycatch reduction and nesting beach protection. Project will protect hawksbill nests and maximize hatchling recruitment at Bahía Jiquilisco, a major nesting site for hawksbills in the eastern Pacific. Project will reduce bycatch in artisanal lobster gill-net fisheries in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

\$149,944

University of California – Santa Cruz**Endangered Seabird Population Viability Analysis and Outcomes Monitoring (multiple)**

Protect threatened seabird species by developing spatially explicit population viability analysis models for priority seabird species in the Pacific. Project will determine where and how to establish new colonies of threatened seabird species and will provide cost-effective monitoring of seabird project outcomes to guide future conservation decisions.

\$174,934

OTHER INTERNATIONAL**The Nature Conservancy**

Build Coral Reef Resource Practitioner Skills, Knowledge and Comfort with Tools Used to Implement Coastal Ecosystem Adaptation Strategies in the Western Indian Ocean
Design and provide participatory, hands-on training on tools to help coral reef managers from at least eight countries in the Western Indian Ocean region to build management capacity. Project will train up to 25 managers as pilot to be sustained with support from the Reef Resilience Network.

\$30,000

MEXICO**American Bird Conservancy****Protecting Townsend's Shearwaters on Isla Socorro, Mexico – IV**

Restore the sole breeding habitat for the Townsend's shearwater and other endangered species on Isla Socorro, Mexico by removing non-native sheep and cats. Project will monitor nesting activities of the critically endangered Townsend's shearwater and other native and threatened wildlife to determine their response to cat removal.

\$249,061

California Institute of**Environmental Studies****Conservation Action Plan for the Ashy Storm-Petrel (CA, Mexico)**

Develop an ashy storm petrel conservation plan that will address primary threats and best practices to eliminate or mitigate threats to the species. Project will provide a framework for conservation of ashy storm petrel that will guide conservation and fundraising activities and obtain commitment from stakeholders to lead conservation and monitoring activities.

\$49,500

Fauna & Flora International**Strengthening Regional Eastern Pacific Leatherback Conservation (multiple)**

Strengthen regional integration of eastern Pacific leatherback conservation actions through the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Conservation Network. Project outcomes will include a developed regional information sharing platform for standardized bycatch assessments and nesting beach monitoring data.

\$102,310

Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza**Seabird Restoration on Baja California Pacific Islands, Mexico – II**

Complete seabird restoration actions for Cassin's auklet, Brandt's cormorant, double-crested cormorant, California brown pelican, ashy storm petrel, and Scripps's sur-relet on seven Baja California Pacific islands in Mexico. Restoration activities will occur on Coronado, Todos Santos, San Martín, San Jerónimo, Natividad, Asunción and San Roque Islands.

\$765,036

Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C.**Seabird Conservation on Guadalupe Island, México – II**

Monitor and protect seabird populations on Guadalupe Island. Project will increase available breeding sites on the island by employing techniques to encourage seabirds to nest in places that are free from feral cats. Project will also incorporate environmental education related to the minimization of reintroduced feral cats on the island.

\$400,000

GULF ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT FUND

FISCAL YEAR 2015 PROJECT COMMITMENTS

In the wake of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, BP Exploration and Production, Inc. and Transocean Deepwater, Inc. each pled guilty to criminal violations of federal law. The plea agreements in those cases require BP and Transocean, among other things, to make certain monetary payments to NFWF that are designated to fund projects benefitting Gulf Coast natural resources injured as a result of the spill. NFWF has established the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund to receive and administer these funds. Funding was committed to the following projects under the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund during Fiscal Year 2015 in accordance with the terms of the plea agreements. Since its inception in 2013, NFWF has awarded approximately \$400 million to projects in Gulf States.

ALABAMA

Alabama Barrier Island Restoration Assessment

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Develop a science-based feasibility study of Dauphin Island to effectively evaluate the costs and benefits associated with a variety of restoration activities and alternatives. The study will include modeling the island to evaluate options for the beneficial use of dredged material and other sand placement activities; and the most resilient and sustainable restoration activities to ensure the long-term ecological functioning of the barrier island.
\$4,197,600

Alabama Marine Mammal Conservation and Recovery Program Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium /Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Support marine mammal recovery and conservation in the northern Gulf of Mexico by building capacity and enhancing function of the Alabama Marine Mammal Stranding Network. The project will increase recovery of populations impacted by natural and anthropogenic factors by improving marine mammal stranding response, data collection, analyses and reporting for Alabama waters, and by enhancing mutual aid and collaboration to augment capability of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service efforts in the region.
\$1,281,600

Coastal Habitat Restoration Planning Initiative

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program will produce high-resolution maps of Alabama's coastal habitats; develop comprehensive management plans for priority intertidal watersheds based on science and community input; prepare a habitat restoration plan focusing on streams/rivers and riparian buffers, wetlands, and intertidal marshes and flats – the three most stressed coastal habitats; and develop an inventory of priority restoration and conservation opportunities for the Alabama coast.
\$2,839,900

D'Olive Watershed Restoration (Amendment)

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Amendment to 2013 project award to address increased costs associated with restoration activities in the D'Olive watershed following historic rain event in coastal Alabama in 2014. Project will restore highly-degraded streams to limit sediment loading from the watershed to D'Olive and Mobile Bays.
\$5,587,501

Multifaceted Fisheries and Ecosystem Monitoring in Alabama's Marine Waters Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division

Monitor recreationally and commercially important reef and estuarine species in waters of interest to Alabama through fishery-independent (trawls, bottom long lines, vertical lines) and fishery-dependent surveys (recreational red snapper harvest, commercial blue crab harvest rates). Data will be used to improve ecosystem-based management capabilities, assess the recovery of reef fish stocks in association with other fisheries restoration efforts, and improve and expand single-species stock assessments for managed fish species. The project also will incorporate habitat characterization through side-scanning sonar, water-quality monitoring and acoustic tracking of tagged fish species.
\$1,800,000

FLORIDA

Bayou Chico Restoration Escambia County

Complete a suite of stormwater treatment and stream restoration projects intended to assist in the restoration of Bayou Chico, consistent with priority restoration activities identified in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's restoration plan for the Bayou. Expected outcomes include restored and greatly improved benthic habitat quality; increased biological diversity and productivity; and improved water quality in the Bayou.
\$11,032,250

Benthic Habitat Mapping, Characterization and Assessment University of South Florida

Provide critical information on the extent and species utilization of offshore fishery habitats along the West Florida Continental Shelf. The project will identify essential habitats of reef fish species and two turtle species using towed cameras and multi-beam/side-scan sonar technologies along the West Florida Shelf from Panama City, Florida to the Dry Tortuga Islands.
\$4,477,863

Boggy Bayou Watershed Water Quality Improvement – 31st St./First Baptist Church Stormwater Improvements City of Niceville

Implement one of several major elements of the City of Niceville's existing plans for comprehensive stormwater management and habitat restoration to improve and maintain water quality and wildlife habitat in Boggy Bayou and Choctawhatchee Bay. This project will install sediment collection and treatment facilities at the outfall into Boggy Bayou located on 31st Street at First Baptist Church.
\$370,057

Destin Harbor, Joe's Bayou, and Indian Bayou Water Quality Improvement City of Destin

Restore and maintain the ecological integrity of Joe's Bayou, Indian Bayou, and Destin Harbor in southwestern portion of Choctawhatchee Bay through the accelerated implementation of the final six projects identified in the City of Destin's Master Stormwater Management Plan. The projects will result in greatly improved benthic habitat quality, increased biological diversity and productivity, and improved water quality to assist seagrass recovery in the Bay.
\$3,593,600

Enhanced Assessment of Gulf of Mexico Fisheries – Phase II

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Improve marine fisheries data collection for enhancement of stock assessments and fisheries management of important species along the Florida Gulf Coast.
\$2,709,715

Florida Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund Restoration Strategy Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Develop a comprehensive vision for investment of Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund resources in Florida in a manner that achieves meaningful conservation outcomes for habitats, species and related resources of the type impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
\$1,691,431

Florida Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund Restoration Strategy – Restoration Planning for the Florida Panhandle
Northwest Florida Water Management District
Update the Northwest Florida Water Management District's existing watershed plans for each of the major estuarine watersheds of the Florida Panhandle for integration into the Florida Gulf Environmental Benefit Restoration Strategy. The plans will establish goals and objectives for each watershed and will include and describe priority projects to support accomplishment of the established goals and objectives.
\$695,000

Florida Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund Restoration Strategy – Submerged Habitat Assessment

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute Assess, map and model natural and human stressors and limiting factors to submerged aquatic vegetation recovery in six priority estuaries in Florida's Panhandle and Big Bend regions: Perdido, Pensacola, Choctawhatchee, St. Andrew, Econfina and Suwannee. The Submerged Habitat Assessment will develop a GIS-based Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Recovery Potential model to prioritize restoration activities, identify new activities, and assess the impacts of estuarine and watershed restoration projects on submerged aquatic vegetation communities. **\$1,786,467**

Florida Shorebird Conservation Initiative Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Replenish and protect Florida's Gulf Coast shorebird and seabird populations affected by the Deepwater Horizon Spill through monitoring, posting, stewarding and rooftop nest management. **\$731,566**

Florida Shorebird Conservation Initiative National Audubon Society

Steward beach-nesting and rooftop-nesting shorebirds and seabirds, and monitor wintering shorebird populations in Collier, Sarasota, Pinellas, Franklin, Gulf, Bay, Walton, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Escambia counties. **\$758,234**

Oyster Reef Habitat Restoration in the Saint Andrew Bay

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Create 2.67 acres of non-contiguous oyster reef habitat in West Bay designed to protect and promote the expansion of over 200 acres of degraded seagrass habitat. **\$1,973,500**

Restoration of Florida's Coastal Dune Lakes Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Restore structure, species diversity and ecological processes to wetlands in the watershed of coastal dune lakes at three Florida state parks to improve groundwater discharge to the Gulf of Mexico for the benefit of shorebirds and nearshore benthic habitats. This will be accomplished by removal of invasive woody plants, and the supplemental planting of rare plant species following invasive species treatment and removal, introduction of prescribed fire, and conducting supplemental predator removal in adjacent beach dune habitat to increase nesting shorebird success. **\$2,387,445**

Restoration of Florida's Coastal Dune Lakes Atlanta Botanical Garden

Restore structure, species diversity and ecological processes to wetlands in the watersheds of coastal dune lakes at three Florida state parks to improve groundwater discharge to the Gulf of Mexico for the benefit of shorebirds and nearshore benthic habitats. This will be accomplished by removal of invasive woody plants, and the supplemental planting of rare plant species following invasive species treatment and removal and introduction of prescribed fire. **\$657,955**

LOUISIANA

Adaptive Management: Louisiana River Diversions and Barrier Islands

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Conduct adaptive management activities related to river diversions and barrier islands in Louisiana. This project will provide data, modeling and analyses to support the development, design and operation of river diversions and barrier island restoration projects. **\$13,247,800**

MISSISSIPPI

Invasive Species

Management on Coastal State Lands

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Remove and manage invasive species on state lands in coastal Mississippi, including coastal preserves, wildlife management areas and state parks, utilizing fire and mechanical and chemical control techniques that will enhance natural ecosystem functioning and ensure a sustainable coastal environment. **\$2,676,700**

Reef Fish Assessment for Mississippi Coastal and Near-Shore Gulf Waters

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Perform an assessment of reef fish in coastal Mississippi and nearshore Gulf waters through biological, environmental and fishery-dependent components that will provide necessary data resolution for reducing scientific uncertainty of factors influencing red snapper and reef fish population structures. **\$4,582,500**

Utilization of Dredge Material for Marsh Restoration in Coastal Mississippi Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Use dredge material in the sustainable restoration and creation of marsh habitat within St Louis Bay, Back Bay Biloxi, and the Escatawpa Watershed. The effort will enhance overall ecosystem function and the ecological integrity and sustainability of priority bays and estuaries of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. **\$21,582,200**

TEXAS

Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Marsh Acquisition

The Conservation Fund

Acquire 1,011 acres containing estuarine emergent wetlands, tidal flats and other coastal habitat to become part of Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. Facilitate a donated conservation easement on 930 adjacent acres. **\$4,343,572**

Coastal Heritage Preserve Initiative: Bayside Acquisition and Protection

The Artist Boat

Purchase 99 acres of coastal habitat, secure the protection and management of the designated 54-acre mitigation reserve, and begin implementation of early land management strategies. **\$2,632,500**

Dollar Bay-Moses Lake Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Galveston Bay Foundation

Conduct engineering and design for a project to protect up to 4,000 feet of vulnerable shoreline and adjacent habitat along the western shoreline of Moses Lake from continued erosion and habitat conversion, and restore approximately 30 acres of degraded estuarine marsh habitat in Dollar Bay to intertidal and high marsh complex. **\$130,300**

Egery Flats Marsh Restoration

Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program Restore hydrology and reduce salinity to about 600 acres of emergent marsh, submerged aquatic vegetation and tidal flats by replacing two 24-inch culverts with three 6-by-3-foot box culverts in two locations at Egery Flats adjacent to Copano Bay. **\$1,587,000**

Greens Lake Protection and Marsh Restoration Project – Phase I: Engineering & Design

Ducks Unlimited

Provide preliminary engineering services for project planning, permitting, coastal land leasing and budget estimation. The project will protect and restore coastal habitats for fisheries, birds and other marsh-associated species. **\$125,000**

Nueces Bay Rookery Islands**Restoration Project****Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program**

Restore three rookery islands in Nueces Bay by placing material between the islands' current shorelines and existing geotextile tubes to create an additional 1.22 acres of nesting habitat for populations of colonial water birds such as black skimmers, roseate spoonbills and egrets.

\$1,145,000

Oyster Lake Shoreline Protection and Restoration**Galveston Bay Foundation**

Protect and restore coastal wetlands within Oyster Lake and West Bay by reducing wave energies and restoring marsh along the shoreline between the two systems.

\$1,200,000

Powderhorn Ranch Land Acquisition – Phase II**Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas**

Acquire the second parcel from The Nature Conservancy and The Conservation Fund for the second phase of the Powderhorn Ranch Acquisition.

\$11,000,000

Virginia Point Shoreline Protection and Estuarine Restoration**Texas General Land Office**

Protect coastal wetlands, prairies and other important habitats within the Virginia Point Preserve from severe erosion. Gradually restore approximately 25 acres of intertidal wetland habitat, establishing a stable transitional shoreline between terrestrial and aquatic habitats.

\$2,000,000

West Galveston Bay Conservation Corridor Habitat Preservation**Scenic Galveston**

Acquire and permanently protect a tract of land containing approximately 3,200 acres of estuarine emergent marsh, open water, prairie depressional wetlands and upland prairie.

\$4,075,000

IMPACT-DIRECTED ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTS (IDEA)

FISCAL YEAR 2015 PROJECT COMMITMENTS

NFWF's IDEA department serves as a manager and trustee for funds arising from legal and regulatory actions involving natural resources and the environment. These funds originate primarily from court orders, settlements of legal cases, regulatory permits, licenses, and conservation and mitigation plans.

ALASKA

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Round Island Support, Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary

Fund staff time to carry out duties related to four components: (1) Pacific walrus disturbance monitoring and enforcement, (2) visitor education and interpretation on walrus viewing conservation measures, (3) instruction and training for Bristol Bay Native Association Bristol Bay Summer Youth Stewardship Program interns and 4) collection of mortality based and beach cast ivory.
\$3,500, Other

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Western Arctic Caribou Herd Telemetry Program

Use VHF and satellite telemetry techniques to estimate population size, adult mortality, calf production and recruitment, sex and age composition, movement patterns, and distribution of Western arctic herd caribou on the Kobuk River. The Western Arctic Caribou Herd, the largest in Alaska, is a critically important subsistence resources for dozens of villages. The herd has recently declined and the impact of this decline on subsistence users will be extensive.
\$4,500, Federal Criminal Case

Bristol Bay Native Association

Bristol Bay Summer Youth Stewardship Program 2014

Provide Alaska Native students with the opportunity to experience the science and research of natural resources management.
\$5,708, Other

CALIFORNIA

American River Conservancy Spivey Pond Invasive Species Management and Habitat Enhancement

Remove and manage invasive plants at the Spivey Pond red-legged frog reproductive habitat site in Pollock Pines. Pond edges and basking habitat will be increased and improved through habitat management activities, including planting of local native species.
\$27,883, State Criminal Case

Audubon California

Lake Isabella Willow Flycatcher Restoration
Restore 1,150 acres of Southwestern willow flycatcher habitat lost from the long-term operations of the Lake Isabella reservoir, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
\$81,111, Mitigation

Audubon California

Sonoma Creek Wetland Enhancement Project
Enhance 260 acres of impounded tidal wetland in the Sonoma Creek Marsh to benefit species and improve water quality in the San Francisco Bay Estuary.
\$175,000, Federal Criminal Case

Bajada Ecology

Raven Studies in the Chemehuevi DWMA
Research on the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in the Chemehuevi Desert Wildlife Management Area.
\$92,223, Mitigation

Bay Area Air Quality Management District Reduction in Emissions from Lawn and Garden Equipment in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

Replace commercial internal combustion lawn and garden equipment with cordless, battery-electric, zero-emission and low-emission lawn and garden equipment in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, and evaluate and quantify resulting reductions in emissions and health benefits.
\$470,000, Federal Criminal Case

**California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wister Pond Operation and Maintenance**
Operate and maintain Wister Pond in the long-term in San Diego County.
\$80,458, Mitigation

**California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wister Pond Water Source**
Purchase up to 500 acre-feet of water annually from the Imperial Irrigation District to benefit Wister Pond in San Diego County.
\$20,340, Mitigation

California State Parks

**Morro Shoulderband Snail Habitat -
Annual Management**
Manage mitigation land for Morro Shoulderband Snail habitat in the short-term in San Luis Obispo County.
\$6,679, Mitigation

California State Parks

McGrath Restoration Activities – V
Undertake McGrath Lake restoration activities.
\$40,000, Federal Civil Case

California State Parks

Santa Clara River Estuary Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Feasibility Study
Complete task 3 of the Santa Clara River Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Feasibility Study.
\$25,000, Federal Civil Case

Central Coast Aquarium

San Luis Marine Science Education Facility
Build and furnish a marine science education facility in San Luis Obispo for school and public education and outreach activities, as part of the Avila Beach Restoration Plan and as requested by the California Department of Fish and Game.
\$50,000, State Civil Case

City of Guadalupe

**Guadalupe – Office of Spill Prevention
and Response Trust Activities**
Fund grant committee expenses.
\$32, State Civil Case

Corvus Ecological Consulting

Raven Studies in the Chuckwalla Desert Wildlife Management Area and Superior-Cronese Desert Wildlife Management Area and Fort Irwin Conservation Area
Research on the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in the Chuckwalla Desert Wildlife Management Area and Superior-Cronese Desert Wildlife Management Area and Fort Irwin Conservation Area.
\$256,047, Mitigation

County of San Luis Obispo

Avila to Harford Pier Pathway

Construction of a bike/pedestrian corridor connecting Avila Beach to Harford Pier.
\$172,000, State Civil Case

Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee

**Initial Land Management and Maintenance –
Manzana Wind**
Manage mitigation land at Manzana Wind in the short-term in Kern County.
\$66,360, Mitigation

Earth Island Institute

**Atascadero and Maria Ygnacio Creek
Fish Passage Restoration Design**
Conduct surveys and develop fish passage designs for six major barriers on Atascadero and Maria Ygnacio Creeks in Santa Barbara County.
\$370,768, Federal Criminal Case

Friends of Sonny Bono

**Salton Sea National Wildlife
Refuge Fund Activities**
Enhance the public's awareness, appreciation, and enjoyment of the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge's biological resources by providing opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent recreational uses.
\$2,000, Federal Criminal Case

Great Basin Institute

**Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge
Complex Condor Tracking Project**
Collect data for the management of the free-flying population of California condors, which reside in the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex, by engaging AmeriCorps in tracking this population using radio telemetry and by ground truthing GPS transmitter data.
\$30,000, Federal Criminal Case

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

**2015-2016 Dunes Center Education,
Outreach and Volunteer Program**
Fund an education coordinator, support and expand the organization's visibility and name recognition in the region; allow for the distribution of marketing materials developed in 2014; provide the Dunes Center with the funding needed to create a recreational map; and expand outreach to the region's Latino communities. The project will also support Visitor Serving Task Force coordination activities.
\$166,557, State Civil Case

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center **Dunes Center Exhibit**

Provide administrative staffing needed to implement the fabrication and installation portion of a new exhibit for the Dunes Center.
\$121,700, State Civil Case

Habitat Restoration Sciences

Long-term Land Management of JAL Preserve
Manage mitigation land at JAL Preserve in the long-term in San Diego County.
\$8,136, Mitigation

Habitat Restoration Sciences

Long-term Land Management of Greenhills Ranch
Manage mitigation land at Greenhill Ranch in the long-term in San Diego County, California.
\$18,686, Mitigation

Heritage Environmental Consultants

Habitat Assessment and Mapping
Complete a habitat assessment and mapping of one parcel in Imperial County to determine its suitability for flat-tailed horned lizard habitat mitigation.
\$5,500, Mitigation

HPR II

Land Management at
California Valley Solar Ranch
Manage mitigation land at California Valley Solar Ranch in the short-term and long-term in San Luis Obispo County.
\$187,717, Mitigation

Institute for Wildlife Studies

Non-Lead Ammunition Outreach and Education
Implement a program to provide non-lead outreach and education to hunters within the southern California region, focusing on the Tehachapi and Transverse Ranges.
\$84,000, Mitigation

The Land Conservancy **of San Luis Obispo County**

2015 Invasive Species Removal Project
Control veldt grass and promote native revegetation at the Land Conservancy's Black Lake property and critical Nipomo lupine areas at State Park-managed property owned by Phillips 66.
\$115,387, State Civil Case

The Land Conservancy **of San Luis Obispo County**

Kathleen's Canyon Overlook Interpretive Opportunities and Visit Service Amenities
Offer interactive education about this special ecosystem within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes through an interpretive viewing platform, ADA-accessible boardwalk and parking spaces, looped walking trail, rest areas for educational talks, a raptor pole, native plant restoration areas, a picnic area with tables and benches, and a children's playground. .
\$421,588, State Civil Case

The Living Desert

Desert Tortoise Information and Youth Education Program
Complete public education to reduce threats to the desert tortoise and for the recovery of this population in the wild in California.
\$41,586, Mitigation

Marin Audubon Society

Corte Madera Ecological Reserve Expansion
Acquire 5.2 acres of filled tidal marsh to benefit the California clapper rail (also known as the Ridgway's rail) in the San Francisco Bay Estuary.
\$175,000, Federal Criminal Case

Marine Applied Research and Exploration

Post-Processing and Analysis of Data Collected from Santa Barbara Channel Islands Marine Protect Areas (MPAs)
Post-process and analyze deepwater Remotely Operated Vehicle video taken at the 10 historic sites inside and outside marine reserves of the northern Santa Barbara Channel Islands of California.
\$50,000, Federal Criminal Case

McBain Associates

Upper San Joaquin River 2-0 Flow Habitat Analysis Pilot Project
Conduct field data collection and coordinate development of flow-habitat relationships for Chinook salmon habitat in Reach 1.
\$20,000, Other

Mid Klamath Watershed Council

Coho Habitat Enhancement and Monitoring Project
Construct one and monitor 14 coho off-channel sites.
\$148,160, Mitigation

Mid Klamath Watershed Council

Mid Klamath Coho Rearing Habitat Enhancement Project – II
Enhance cover complexity through placement of small woody debris and willow plantings within pools of the lower reaches of Klamath River tributaries.
\$50,188, Mitigation

Mid Klamath Watershed Council

Mid Klamath Tributary Fish Passage Improvement Project
Create fish passage at the mouths and in the lower reaches of 72 mid Klamath sub-basin tributaries in California for anadromous fish passage into upstream channels and off-channel rearing habitat.
\$66,446, Mitigation

Mid Klamath Watershed Council

Stanshaw Creek Water Conservation Assessment
Ensure proposed alternatives are implemented based on the water rights evaluation. Project will begin addressing the limiting factors for coho in the Stanshaw Creek area of the Klamath Basin.
\$15,000, Mitigation

Mojave Desert Land Trust

Long-term Land Management at Hidden Valley
Manage mitigation land at Hidden Valley in the long-term in San Bernardino and Imperial Counties, California.
\$69,955, Mitigation

Newfields Companies

Flow Scheduling Tool Development
Develop an improved flow scheduling tool on behalf of the restoration administrator and the San Joaquin River Restoration Program Technical Advisory Committee to improve user-friendliness and incorporate additional data and analytics in the regular flow scheduling tasks required of the RA.
\$37,490, Other

Point Millerton Ranch

Long-term Land Management at Point Millerton
Manage mitigation land at Point Millerton, also known as Tract 4870, in the long-term in Madera County.
\$17,663, Mitigation

Port of San Luis Harbor District

Port of San Luis Pier Crane Purchase
Purchase a lattice boom crane for use on Avila and Harford Piers to replace existing outdated machinery. This replacement will reduce the chances of serious pier accidents occurring and thereby protect local habitat which may be affected by such accidents.
\$8,600, State Civil Case

Salmon River Restoration Council

Salmon River Coho Rearing Habitat Enhancement Project
Improve critical coho rearing habitat by increasing cover, pool depth and habitat complexity, with manual modifications and small and large wood and brush bundle additions at priority side/off-channel sites. These habitats will provide cold water refuge habitat in the summer and slow water refuge habitat during peak flows in the winter and spring. Project will enhance the quality of these essential habitats, increase the structural complexity of the system, and improve the connectivity between these habitats.
\$15,000, Mitigation

Santa Barbara Zoo

Web-Based Video Nest Monitoring of the California Condor
Set-up the equipment and systems needed to stream nest-camera video from Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge to the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Camarillo, where the video will be easily accessible to researchers, volunteers and the public.
\$20,014, Federal Criminal Case

Scott River Water Trust**French Creek Coho Enhancement Through Flow Augmentation**

Enhance in-stream conditions for coho salmon through seasonal water leases in the French Creek drainage and maintain a positive and constructive working relationship with landowners and water-users.

\$48,620, Mitigation

Scott River Watershed Council**Juvenile Coho Habitat Improvement Using Beaver Dams**

Work with beaver to increase the quality and quantity of juvenile coho salmon summer and winter rearing habitat in the Scott River and its tributaries.

\$28,454, Mitigation

Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District**Novy/Rice Fish Passage Project Design**

Design proposed rock diversion structure, fish screen and pipeline project.

\$125,194, Mitigation

Siskiyou Resource Conservation District**Sugar Creek Off-Channel Enhancement for Coho Salmon**

Partner with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to construct an off-channel pond on lower Sugar Creek, a key coho salmon bearing tributary to the Scott River, to provide improved winter and summer rearing habitat for juvenile coho.

\$63,323, Mitigation

Sonoma Land Trust**Sears Point Tidal Wetland Restoration Project**

Restore 955 acres of tidal marsh in the San Francisco Bay Estuary and construct 125 marsh mounds to hasten marsh development.

\$150,000, Federal Criminal Case

Southwest Ecology**Conservation Corridors for Desert Tortoises**

Complete monitoring studies of the desert tortoise in California's Mojave Desert to address genetic and demographic connectivity; changes in the health status of populations in response to changes associated with development projects; and the effects of climate and habitat on connectivity between populations.

\$1,593,703, Mitigation

SunPower Corporation**Initial Land Management at****California Valley Solar Ranch**

Manage mitigation land at California Valley Solar Ranch in the short-term in San Luis Obispo County.

\$96,458, Mitigation

Thomas K. Moss**Long-term Land Management****at Pletz Residence**

Manage mitigation land at Pletz Residence in the long-term in Monterey County.

\$4,870, Mitigation

Topic Productions**Raven Documentary Film**

Produce public education materials, including a 30-minute film discussing the story of the relationship between the desert, the tortoise and the raven, and provide marketing assistance.

\$800, Mitigation

Transition Habitat Conservancy**Black Mountain Signing with Some****Restoration Project**

Install "open route" signs and "closed route" signs in the areas of the Bureau of Land Management's Barstow Resource Area closest to a golden eagle nest site and implement rehabilitation using methods like vertical mulching, ripping and re-seeding, or other techniques.

\$50,000, Mitigation

Transition Habitat Conservancy**Long-Term Land Management at****Fremont-Kramer**

Manage mitigation land at Fremont-Kramer in the long-term in San Bernardino County.

\$97,488, Mitigation

Urban Wildlands Group**Laguna Mountain Skipper Captive Rearing**

Determine whether captive propagation is a viable technique to produce "surplus" individuals for release into suitable habitat.

\$4,462, Other

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal**and Plant Health Inspection Service****Raven Management for Desert****Tortoise Protection**

Conduct wildlife damage management activities to control ravens for the protection of the federally listed desert tortoise in the Mojave and Colorado Deserts located within California.

\$35,000, Mitigation

West Virginia University**Research Corporation****California Condor Flight Response in a Variable Meteorological and Topographic Environment**

Record movements of California condors to understand how their flight behavior (especially altitude above ground level) responds to variations in topography and weather.

\$30,000, Mitigation

Westervelt Ecological Services**Consultant Services for the Sacramento****District California In-Lieu Fee Program**

Provide technical consultant services for the Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program.

\$19,673, Other

Wishtoyo Foundation**McGrath Lake Feasibility Studies**

Conduct feasibility studies related to the Santa Clara River Estuary Habitat Restoration, Enhancement, and Campground Relocation.

\$75,000, Federal Civil Case

Yurok Tribe**Lower Klamath Coho Rearing****Habitat Case Studies**

Create high quality winter rearing habitat for natal and non-natal juvenile coho salmon in a priority coastal tributary of the Klamath River. Project tasks include (1) creating a 3.4-acre off-channel habitat feature in lower Terwer Creek, (2) rehabilitating associated riparian habitats (7.4 acres) to increase habitat resiliency and productivity, and (3) conducting physical and biological assessments of constructed off-channel features to develop case studies for the Lower Klamath sites to help document coho recovery actions and assess restoration effectiveness. Project will provide immediate and long-term benefits to natal and non-natal coho populations and collect/share valuable monitoring data to help further understanding of project performance and to help guide future coho recovery actions.

\$18,983, Mitigation

COLORADO**A. Lawrence Kolz****Electrofishing Standardization for Upper Colorado River**

Provide technical assistance to standardize Upper Colorado River Fish Recovery Program's electrofishing fleet.

\$1,000, Species Recovery

Aqua Systems 2000**Inline Cleaners for Public Service Company of New Mexico Fish Diversion**

Install inline cleaners and trash rack extension for Public Service Company of New Mexico Fish Diversion to benefit fish in the San Juan River basin.

\$99,000, Species Recovery

Pat Martinez**Electrofishing Standardization for the Upper Colorado River**

Provide technical assistance to standardize Upper Colorado River Fish Recovery Program's electrofishing fleet.

\$575, Species Recovery

Stantec Consulting**Feasibility of Yampa River Walton Creek Confluence Reconstruction**

Investigate the feasibility of performing bank realignment on the Yampa River above and into Steamboat Springs.

\$13,167, Species Recovery

SWCA Environmental Consulting**Upper Colorado Fish Recovery****Goal Development**

Assist the authorized agencies in developing recovery goals for the four endangered Colorado River fish species. Once developed, these goals will be implemented by involved agencies and stakeholders to facilitate management plans and strategies for delisting.

\$18,394, Species Recovery

Various Recipients

San Juan River Fish Recovery Program
Ongoing implementation of the San Juan River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. Recovery strategies include research, habitat restoration and management, in-stream flow acquisitions, and raising fish in hatcheries for stocking.
\$36,343, Species Recovery

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources - US
Conserving and Recovering Diversity in the Gulf of Mexico (Nationwide)
Improve identification of conservation priorities and disaster preparedness through completion of Red List Assessments for Gulf species and spatial modeling capacity development.
\$12,000, Federal Criminal Case

FLORIDA

National Audubon Society
Alafia Bank Bird Island Oyster Reef Habitat Creation
Install a near-shore breakwater at Bird Island. The breakwater will protect habitat from erosion, provide oyster substrate, promote marshgrass and mangrove recruitment, and provide fish and bird forage structure.
\$70,600, Federal Criminal Case

Waterland Manufacturing
Boat Rehabilitation for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Law Enforcement
Restore, maintain, and upgrade a forfeited boat and bring it to serviceable condition.
\$6,731, Federal Criminal Case

WIDECAST: Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
Protected Species Campaign PSA in Miami International Airport
Produce and print a Protected Species Campaign public service announcement in Miami International Airport.
\$1,000, Federal Criminal Case

HAWAII

Ho'ilina Ranch
Fence Maintenance and Ungulate Control at Kona Forest Unit
Fence conservation lands and remove feral ungulates from the Kona Forest Unit of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge.
\$39,650, Other

ILLINOIS

Natural Resource Insight
Ginseng Conservation in the State of Illinois
Design and publish a Ginseng pocket guide for Illinois Law Enforcement divisions.
\$4,200, Federal Criminal Case

KANSAS

Alexander Pump & Services
Installation of Pump Station at Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge
Install electric pump for supplying water to 500 acres of wetlands within the Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge.
\$60,000, Mitigation

Comanche Pool
Prairie Resource Foundation
Comanche Pool Lesser Prairie Chicken Conservation via Prairie Restoration
Restore mixed-grass prairie and sand sagebrush ecosystem structure and function in order to benefit grassland and aquatic species' habitat, including Federal Trust species.
\$38,001, Federal Criminal Case

LOUISIANA

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Development of a Method for DNA-Based Identification of Black Corals from Skeleton Fragments
Develop method to extract and sequence DNA from CITES-protected black coral skeletons used in jewelry and art. The successful method will be used for genetic identification to support enforcement efforts of wildlife inspectors.
\$12,443, Federal Criminal Case

MAINE

State of Maine
Kennebec River Restoration Fund
Facilitate the restoration of anadromous and catadromous fish to the Kennebec River.
\$303,608, Mitigation

Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve
Restoration of Fish Passage in Two Coastal Maine Rivers
Restore fish passage for sea-run fishes in Branch Brook, monitor use of the Branch Brook fish ladder by target species, and develop pre-restoration assessment of Goff Mill Brook fish passage
\$1,700, Federal Criminal Case

MONTANA

River Design Group
Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge Restoration Project
Provide project management and coordination for Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge Restoration Stream and Wetland Design
\$121,101, Mitigation

Swan Ecosystem Center
Kerr Mitigation Work
Conduct mitigation work within the Flathead River Drainage, specifically on McGregor Meadows, Lost Train National Wildlife Refuge and the Swan River National Wildlife Refuge.
\$48,000, Mitigation

NEVADA

Ducks Unlimited
Carson Lake and Pasture Wetland Habitat Improvement
Enhance approximately 1,200 acres of wetlands by providing improved water delivery to Sprig Pond. Project activities will include repairing ditch banks and replacing control structures.
\$2,100, Federal Criminal Case

Various Recipients
Nevada National Wildlife Refuge Land and Water Acquisition Fund
Assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the acquisition of suitable replacement lands, waters, or interests in them, for the benefit of the National Wildlife Refuge System in Nevada.
\$1,059,379, Other

NEW JERSEY

American Littoral Society
SpillSpotters: Coastal Stewardship and Education – II
Expand citizen oil-spill response and protection network by adding Sandy impacts, technology and training to the work of learning about and protecting New Jersey's coastal wildlife and habitat.
\$55,300, Federal Criminal Case

Rutgers University Foundation
Identifying the Impacts of Commercial Oyster Aquaculture on Foraging Efficiency of Red Knots in Delaware Bay
Conduct focused behavioral observations of foraging red knots; link foraging behaviors with specific aquaculture activities; and quantify the effect that those activities have on foraging efficiency of individual knots. Project will collect field data at one large (production of 500,000 market oysters) and one small (100,000 market oysters) farm during the 4-week window (May-June) corresponding to red knot arrival in 2015, and will process and analyze data in the weeks following field data collection.
\$21,986, Federal Criminal Case

State University of New York, College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Factors Limiting Reproductive Success in Piping Plovers in New Jersey
Understand the degree to which predators and habitat interact to limit reproductive success of piping plovers in New Jersey and determine the effect of habitat quality and the effectiveness of different management strategies in promoting a high population growth rate. Project will compare weekly adult survival, nest and chick survival, and the proportions of nests and chicks lost to different sources among sites that vary in habitat quality and management strategies, including predator exclosures and predator removal.
\$150,000, Federal Criminal Case

Martin, Ottaway, van Hemmen & Dolan
Maritime Waste Stream Management Studies (NJ, NC)
 Complete a multi-source survey and analysis of maritime waste stream management from ships. The resulting report will provide a consolidated state of the art status of Maritime Waste Management for ships, with a special focus on Oily Water Separator systems.
\$160,000, Federal Criminal Case

NEW MEXICO

All American Technical Team
Installation of Inline Cleaners for Public Service Company of New Mexico Fish Diversion
 Install inline cleaners for the Public Service Company of New Mexico Fish Diversion.
\$35,793, Species Recovery

NEW YORK

Brooklyn Greenway Initiative
West Street Watershed Stormwater Project
 Install 54 right-of-way bioswales and green street bump-outs covering 4,845 square feet on 11 streets that slope toward the East River between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street in the West Street watershed. Project will capture 6,411,631 gallons of stormwater annually and benefit 10,910 people by reducing chronic flooding and sewer backups.
\$1,917,717, Other

Brooklyn Public Library
Greenpoint Library Environmental Education Center
 Retrofit the Greenpoint Library to LEED Silver standards by adding a floor to house a community environmental education center providing over 50 hours of access each week and 300 programs yearly to promote environmental awareness, installing 8,500 square feet of intensive green roof, and replacing 10,700 square feet of impervious surfaces with permeable pavers and rain gardens. Project will capture, store and treat 85% more stormwater annually than current levels and store 70,000 gallons of rainwater annually.
\$5,000,000, Other

Cardno
Technical Assistance for the Greenpoint Chamber of Commerce
 Assist the Greenpoint Chamber of Commerce in completing a Quality Assurance Project Plan for its "Curb Your Litter" project under the Greenpoint Community Environmental Fund.
\$3,850, Other

Carleton University
St. Lawrence River Fish Habitat Conservation Strategy: Evaluation of Habitat Enhancements and Development of Novel Restoration Approaches – Carleton – II
 Continue to develop the St. Lawrence Fish Habitat Conservation Strategy.
\$118,560, Mitigation

Center for Educational Innovation - Public Education Association
Brooklyn Native Wildlife Restoration Project at MS 126 K
 Create Wildlife Demonstration Sites using native plants, shrubs and shade trees at two locations at MS 126.
\$24,998, Other

City Parks Foundation
Greening Greenpoint: An Urban Forestry Plan
 Implement a full inventory of trees and associated canopy cover, develop a comprehensive urban forestry plan on the neighborhood scale, and implement the plan, which will plant new trees and protect existing trees to maintain and increase canopy cover and reduce the amount of impervious surface. Project will plant 500 new trees that will capture 787,500 gallons of stormwater annually, sequester 13,000 pounds of carbon dioxide, install 325 tree guards around existing trees, remove up to 25,000 square feet of impervious concrete and reduce local air pollution.
\$1,950,719, Other

Greenpoint Chamber of Commerce
Curb Your Litter: Greenpoint
 Implement a 3-step process to reduce the volume of litter and other waste in the entire neighborhood through an assessment of current conditions, a coordinated education and outreach campaign and the implementation of infrastructure upgrades to replace and/or complement current containers. Project will train a core group of 15 students as mentors to engage students and citizens in the issue, leading to the installation of five 3-bin solar compactors and 2-bin recyclers, along with new litter containers on underserved streets.
\$569,145, Other

Greenpoint Waterfront Association for Parks and Planning
Greenpoint Environmental Public Panel Forums
 Organize and conduct four public panel discussions in partnership with local ecological and environmental advocacy organizations.
\$12,400, Other

National Wildlife Federation
Greenpoint Eco-Schools: Creating a Legacy of Sustainability
 Reduce water use, energy use and solid waste at four public schools using the Eco-Schools USA model to build environmental awareness, leadership and stewardship among more than 1,800 students, 125 staff and thousands of community residents. Project will reduce solid waste by 25%, water use by at least 5% and energy use by at least 10%, providing measurable environmental benefits to the community.
\$1,646,777, Other

Research Foundation of the City University of New York
Intertidal Wetland Project
 Develop conceptual designs, with community participation, for construction of intertidal wetlands at two shoreline sites on Newtown Creek, the foot of North Henry Street; and either the end of Apollo Street or at the Greenpoint Manufacturing and Development Center building, with one of these plans then pursued to completion of an engineered design. Project will potentially increase the number and linear extent of sites with intact standing bulkhead that support suspended wetland habitat units and increased populations of filter-feeding ribbed mussels that improve water quality.
\$130,178, Other

State University of New York – Brockport
Population and Habitat Characteristics of the Pugnose Shiner in Embayments of the St. Lawrence River
 Perform research to advance understanding of habitat conditions of the pugnose shiner population in the St. Lawrence River
\$123,635, Mitigation

U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Science Center
Evaluation of Threatened, Endangered and Declining Species of the Major Tributaries to St. Lawrence River (USGS) – II
 Continue characterizing the locations and distributions of threatened and endangered fish species within the aquatic habitat in and adjacent to the St. Lawrence River.
\$318,400, Mitigation

Various Recipients
St. Lawrence Fish Enhancement, Mitigation and Research Fund Activities
 Address impacts to fish resources in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River basin.
\$435,992, Mitigation

NORTH CAROLINA

Martin, Ottaway, van Hemmen & Dolan
Maritime Waste Stream Management Studies (NJ, NC)
 Complete a multi-source survey and analysis of maritime waste stream management from ships. The resulting report will provide a consolidated state of the art status of Maritime Waste Management for ships with a special focus on OWS systems.
\$160,000, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Water Quality Monitoring for River Herring
 Monitor trends in water quality throughout Albemarle Sound and its tributaries to enhance fisheries management for river herring and all finfish species.
\$10,500, Federal Criminal Case

NORTH DAKOTA

Dakota Zoological Society

Eagle Flight Pen Repair and Replacement
Repair eagle flight pen, add two receiving pens, and replace the top mesh on the eagle exhibit pen at the Dakota Zoo.
\$17,000, Federal Criminal Case

SOUTH DAKOTA

Black Hills Raptor Center

Black Hills Raptor Center (BHRC) Facility Construction
Build a facility for an expanded group of educational avian ambassadors, and create a raptor rehabilitation facility. The rehab portion will serve western South Dakota, North Dakota and eastern Wyoming.
\$45,000, Federal Criminal Case

TEXAS

Thomas E. Smith

Land Acquisition Consulting
Support habitat consultant work throughout the Southwest on various projects in partnership with landowners and agencies.
\$84,663, Mitigation

UTAH

SWCA Environmental Consulting

Rare Cactus Monitoring in the Uinta Basin – II
Continue to conduct range-wide demographic and habitat monitoring for rare cactus to statistically quantify habitat conditions and population processes.
\$11,787, Mitigation

SWCA Environmental Consulting

Rare Cactus Monitoring in the Uinta Basin – III
Continue to conduct range-wide demographic and habitat monitoring for rare cactus to statistically quantify habitat conditions and population processes.
\$59,980, Mitigation

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area J-Dike Project
Repair the J-dike at Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area (FBWMA). Approximately 16,000 cubic yards of material will be used to build this dike and at least four water control structures will be installed, so managers can control water to the optimal depth. Project will improve conditions for waterfowl and shorebird use.
\$5,000, Federal Criminal Case

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Price-San Rafael Utah Wildlife Habitat
Address impacts from surface disturbance of big game in the critical winter range caused by gas exploration in Utah.
\$20,000, Mitigation

VIRGINIA

North Carolina State University

Great Dismal Swamp Fund
Support for the 2016 Atlantic White Cedar symposium on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Great Dismal Swamp.
\$2,500, Federal Civil Case

WASHINGTON

American Farmland Trust

Conservation Actions Leading to Water Quality Improvement in the Newaukum Creek Watershed
Work with farmers in the Newaukum Creek watershed to improve water quality through the implementation of on-farm conservation practices. Project will be documented and shared for wider replication throughout the watershed and Puget Sound region.
\$29,000, Federal Criminal Case

WYOMING

Teton Raptor Center

Eagle Rehabilitation and Conservation
Support for eagle rehabilitation in Wyoming.
\$2,107, Federal Criminal Case

INTERNATIONAL

AMERICAN SAMOA

Samoa Maritime Company

American Samoa Faga'alū Quarry Design Implementation
Fill in any gaps in funding for implementing the engineering plans for the Faga'alū Quarry.
\$21,076, Federal Criminal Case

PUERTO RICO

Greater Caribbean Energy and Environment Foundation

Quantitatively Assessing the Status and Health of Puerto Rican Seagrasses in South Coast Areas Impacted by River Runoff and Other High-Turbidity Sites
Assess seagrass sustainability in relation to riverine turbidity effects of specified south-central Puerto Rican rivers. Project will analyze seagrass standing stock, key benthic macro-algae and seagrass health in relation to anthropogenic and natural catastrophic events.
\$64,418, Federal Civil Case

HJR Reefscaping

Study of Pollution and Macroalgal Blooms Over Seagrass Habitats on the South Coast of Puerto Rico

Monitor water quality parameters including bacteriology, environmental conditions and ecological characteristics in two seagrass areas that have been subject to algal blooms that may be an indicator of coastal pollution. Multiple analyses will be conducted monthly at Manglillo near Guanica Bay and at El Tuque in Ponce to provide spatio-temporal variability in water quality, algal nutrient content, seagrass abundance and distribution, as well as bacteria associated with anthropogenic stressors.
\$80,917, Federal Civil Case

Institute for Socio-Ecological Research

Advancing the Conservation of Seagrass Habitats at an Anthropogenically-Impacted Location in Southern Puerto Rico

Establish vegetative buffers and habitat enhancement through green infrastructure to reduce stormwater, sediment and nutrient run-off for the benefit of seagrass habitats in southern Puerto Rico.
\$112,090, Federal Civil Case

Protectores de Cuenclas

Restoration of Vegetation Buffers Along Coastal Areas to Mitigate Erosion and Sediment Discharges Into Nearshore Seagrass Habitats in Guánica Bay
Delimit public access areas in public beach areas in Guánica, stabilize the public dirt parking lot of the San Jacinto Boating concessionary and the dirt road adjacent to Guanica Bay at La Pieza; and establish a reforestation program to restore vegetation buffers along the coast surrounding Guánica Bay.
\$150,982, Federal Civil Case

ASIA, INDIA AND THE PACIFIC

World Wildlife Fund

Development of Russia's Sturgeon Conservation Strategy
Develop an action plan for conservation and restoration of sturgeons. Project activities will include working to understand the status quo of sturgeons in Russia, agreeing on main threats, developing a structure and basic principles of a strategy, and setting up a group of experts.
\$15,000, Other

Photography: Tony Bynum
(cover, mule deer)

Design: ripe



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