

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

2016 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS



NFWF

On the cover: A black skimmer fishes in Florida.

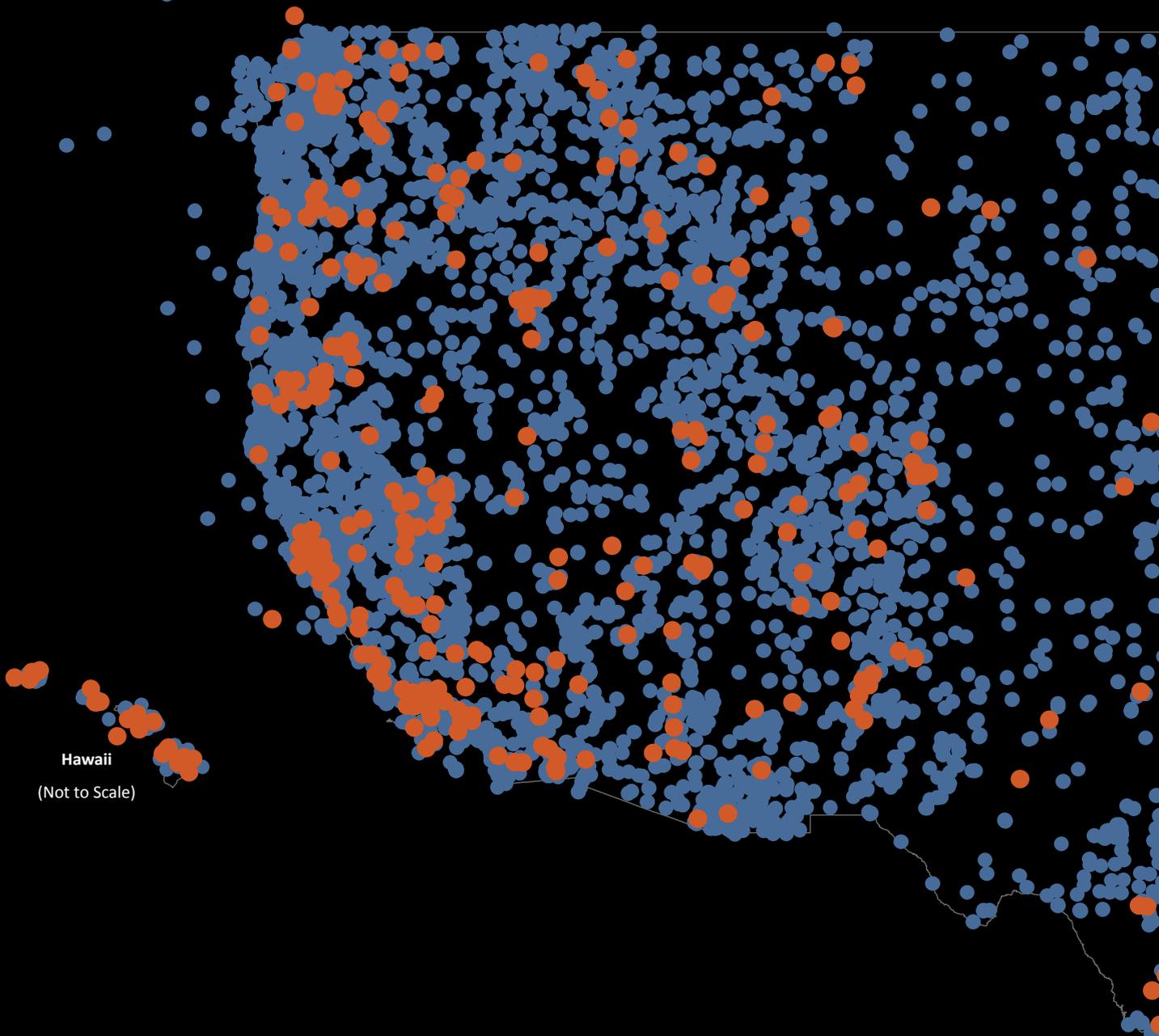
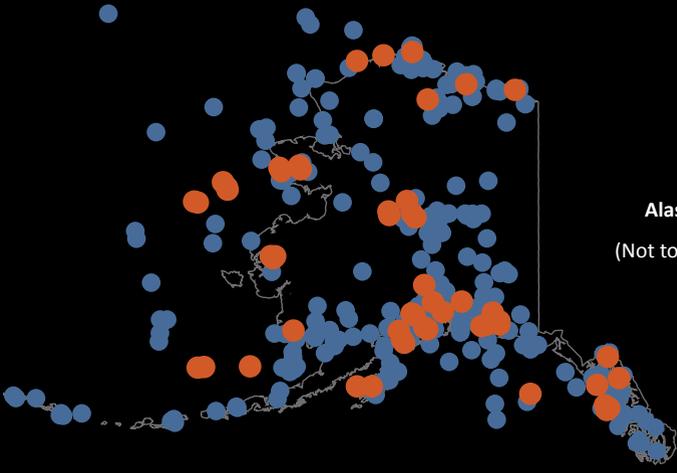
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is dedicated to sustaining, restoring and enhancing the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats for current and future generations.

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 2016, NFWF funded more than 860 conservation projects across the nation, generating an on-the-ground conservation impact of more than \$353.8 million.

KEY

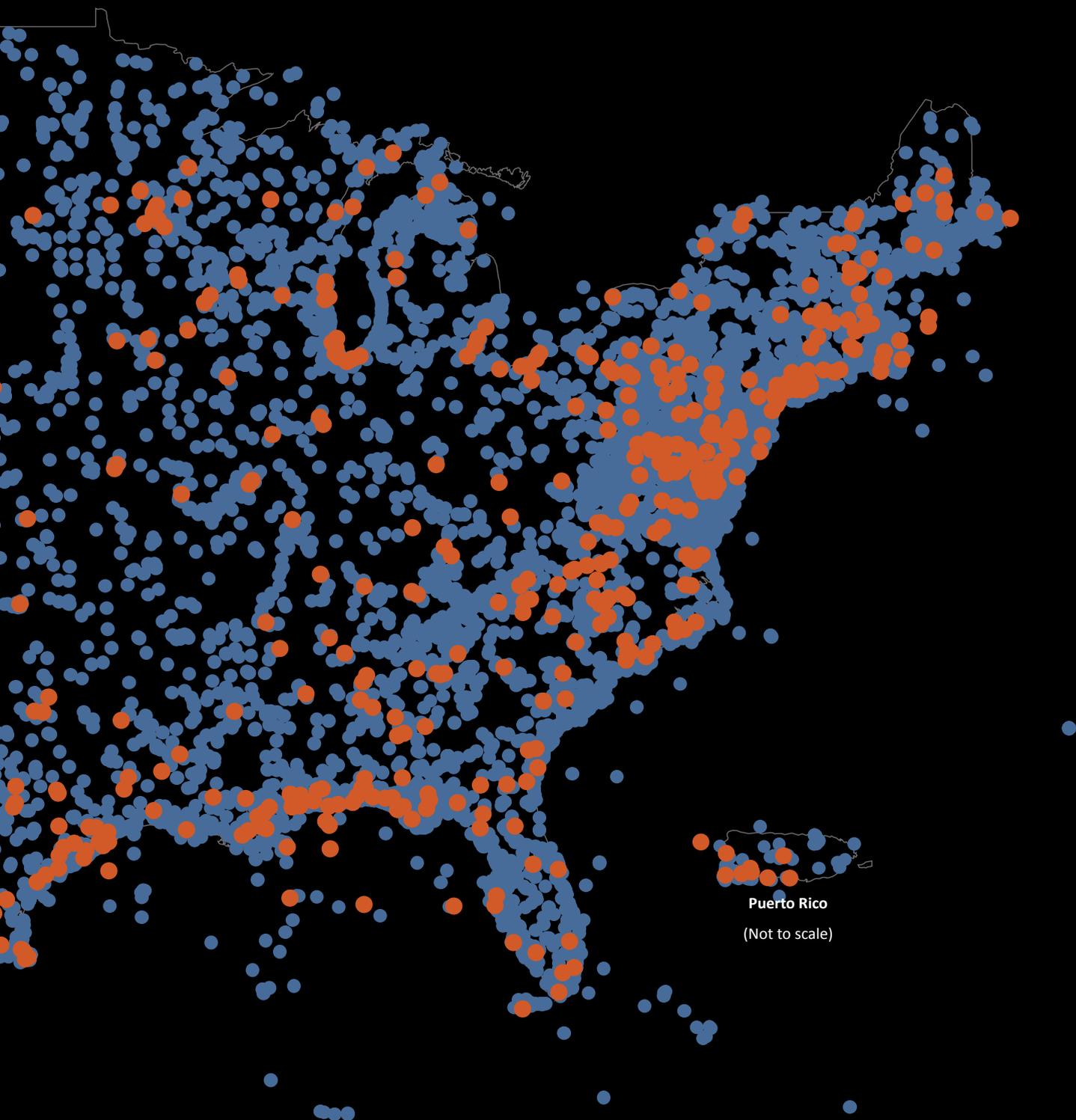
- Projects supported by NFWF in fiscal year 2016
- Projects supported by NFWF since founding in 1984



NOTE: Projects with multiple locations are represented once and some locations are approximate.

NFWF CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION FUNDED MORE THAN 860 CONSERVATION PROJECTS ACROSS THE NATION IN FISCAL YEAR 2016. NFWF HAS SUPPORTED MORE THAN 16,000 PROJECTS SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 1984.



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UNITED STATES AND U.S. TERRITORIES
FISCAL YEAR 2016 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

ALABAMA

Alabama Forestry Association Incentives for Planting Shortleaf Pine in the Alabama Cumberlands - II

Provide financial assistance to private landowners for site preparation and planting shortleaf pine. Project will establish 1,136 acres of shortleaf pine/upland savanna forest in the Cumberlands of Alabama.

\$150,000

American Forest Foundation Longleaf Restoration on Coosa Wildlife Management Area and Surrounding Areas (AL)

Restore 700 acres of longleaf pine on the Coosa County Wildlife Management Area and engage and educate 2,000 adjacent family forest owners on sustainable forest management practices and longleaf restoration. Project will provide technical assistance and conduct private landowner outreach activities including field days.

\$100,000

American Forest Foundation Shortleaf Pine Restoration on Lauderdale and Freedom Hills Wildlife Management Area (AL)

Restore 1,100 acres of shortleaf pine on Lauderdale and Freedom Hill Wildlife Management Area, which provides habitat for endangered and threatened species, including the red-cockaded woodpeckers and northern long-eared bats. Project will promote shortleaf restoration and sustainable forest management to family forest owners in the surrounding area on the Cumberland Plateau.

\$194,000

Audubon Nature Institute Reduced Impacts to Sea Turtles through Shrimp Industry Engagement (AL, LA, MS)

Increase sea turtle protection by expanding the "Tow the Time" education campaign for shrimp fishermen and implement community-based workshops for the skimmer fleet of the northern Gulf of Mexico in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Project will host industry workshops to educate fishermen on current and upcoming proposed regulations, the logistics and benefits of turtle excluder devices, and the importance of carrying observers on their vessels.

\$51,695

Birmingham-Southern College Long-Eared Bat and Darter Habitat Restoration and Education at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve (AL)

Remove invasives and replant natives on 9 acres of habitat at Turkey Creek to support habitat of the endangered vermilion darter, as well as bat populations including the only confirmed Alabama colony of threatened northern long-eared bats. Project will reduce stormwater runoff and enhance K-12 outdoor classroom opportunities through creation of a bioswale/native plant demonstration garden at the new Turkey Creek Classroom pavilion.

\$34,690

City of Birmingham Bertram A. Hudson K-8 School Bio-Retention System (AL)

Retrofit Bertram A. Hudson K-8 School with a bio-retention basin and pervious pavers. Project will include restoration planning and design, stream/site maintenance and monitoring, outdoor learning and community outreach. Project also will reduce pollutant loads into Village Creek, a priority watershed, help control the volume runoff exiting the site, and create educational opportunities for Birmingham City School students and the community about stormwater management.

\$36,781

City of Montevallo Shoal Creek Stream Enhancement (AL)

Restore and protect 3 acres of a heavily eroded section of Shoal Creek in Montevallo, Alabama. Project will engage students and volunteers in stabilizing creek banks through dredging, invasive plant removal and native replantings, and educate the public on watershed health and maintenance. A plant identification booklet produced by university students will assist volunteers in restoration and educate on the importance of native plantings to erosion control.

\$26,318

Forest Landowners Association Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.

\$100,000

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain Best Practices for Effective Land Conservation in the Gulf of Mexico Region (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Promote best practices and efficiencies among various practitioners to achieve land conservation goals of emerging state and federal conservation plans for the Gulf. Project will provide capacity building and technical assistance to partner organizations, identify best practices and efficiencies for implementing landscape level conservation, and assist in implementation by enhancing collaboration among public agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

\$247,500

Manomet Gulf of Mexico Coastal Waterbird Conservation Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Work with federal and state agency and nongovernmental organization experts to develop a framework to achieve long-term conservation and recovery goals for targeted species of coastal waterbirds across the Gulf. Project will build on existing business plans to create a set of strategies and associated actions and costs to guide coastal shorebird and waterbird conservation projects throughout the Gulf over the next decade.

\$203,746

Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium - Dauphin Island Sea Lab Establishing a Mobile Conservation and Resiliency Corps (AL)

Provide full-time, on-the-job education and training to a target population of 12 urban, disadvantaged young adults, ages 18 to 25 in the Mobile area. Project will put to work two team leaders and 10 Corps members, restoring 3 miles of stream, riparian buffer and wooded wetlands to benefit red belly turtles, yellow crowned night herons, wood ducks, alligators and other species.

\$250,000

National Wildlife Federation Alabama Longleaf Pine Restoration on Private Lands - IV

Restore and enhance 5,000 acres of longleaf and advance longleaf mapping and measurement in Alabama. Project will identify priority areas for longleaf restoration, provide landowners with technical assistance to develop conservation plans, and offer educational opportunities including workshops and field days.

\$125,000

Operation Migration-USA Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.

\$75,000

Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Conservation of Shoal and Redeye Bass through Native Black Bass Business Plan (AL, FL, GA, SC)

Evaluate, through a GIS threat assessment, the habitat condition in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin and portions of the Savannah that will provide a more strategic method to identify restoration priorities. Project will target high-priority sites for restoration to benefit shoal and redeye bass and will monitor populations through genetic techniques.

\$497,188

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Applied Biodiversity Sciences Conservation Scholars Program

Integrate undergraduates and graduates using a two-tiered program that will focus on local issues related to Gulf of Mexico ecosystems and broader questions on energy development, energy policy and impacts on biodiversity and natural resources. Project will appoint two graduate fellowships to mentor a small cohort of undergraduate interns as they develop their projects and internship proposals. Each intern will conduct baseline research to support a one-month summer internship opportunity.

\$200,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Longleaf Restoration in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership Landscape (AL, FL) - III Restore the longleaf pine ecosystem through longleaf plantings, prescribed fire, rare species recovery, and private landowner outreach and technical assistance. Project will plant 374 acres of longleaf pine and improve more than 36,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire and other management practices on public and private lands. Rare species recovery efforts will center on the red-cockaded woodpecker, reticulated salamander, eastern indigo snake and gopher tortoise.

\$300,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator; a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy

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

Accelerate and demonstrate longleaf pine conservation on more than 15,000 acres in west Georgia and east Alabama, with particular emphasis on privately owned land. Project will plant longleaf on 1,900 acres, implement prescribed fire on 13,800 acres, and contact more than 2,000 private landowners, with at least five landowners committed to enrolling in financial assistance programs that will enhance longleaf pine habitat.

\$275,000

The Nature Conservancy

Dugdown Montane Longleaf Private Landowner Outreach and Capacity Building (AL, GA)

Establish 236 acres of longleaf pine and improve 37,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire in the Dugdown corridor, which contains one of the largest remnant montane longleaf pine ecosystems in northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Project will increase capacity within the Dugdown corridor, support development of a conservation plan, increase partnerships with private landowners, and foster collaboration between conservation organizations and agencies across state lines.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy

Gulf Coast Prescribed Fire Mentoring Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Build upon a successful pilot project to train and provide 18 to 19 jobs to underserved urban youths as wildland firefighters and ecosystem restoration technicians working in each of the five Gulf states. Project will strongly emphasize longleaf pine management and prescribed fire and will impact greater than 105,000 acres.

\$499,631

The Nature Conservancy - Florida

Apalachicola Longleaf Restoration Initiative (AL, FL, GA) - IV

Plant 1,825 acres of longleaf pine and improve more than 21,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat through prescribed fire, invasive plant removal and native ground cover plantings. Project will educate private landowners on ground cover restoration, fire planning, invasive species management and cost-share incentives. Partners will also reintroduce the eastern indigo snake, a federally threatened species, and monitor its progress to inform habitat quality assessments.

\$325,000

University of Central Florida

Important Sea Turtle Habitat Identification through Genetic Indicators (AL, FL, LA, MS)

Sample, satellite tag and track oceanic stage sea turtles caught offshore in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Project results will inform research on environmental and genetic mechanisms driving sea turtle habitat use during their early developmental years, closing a major gap in the uncertainty surrounding recruitment dynamics from the oceanic stage.

\$122,079

ALASKA

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Gathering Shorebird Subsistence Harvest Estimates from Alaska Native Cultures

Compile and summarize available Alaska state and regional harvest data for shorebird species, including bar-tailed and marbled godwit, black oystercatcher, bristle-thighed curlew, and buff-breasted and semipalmated sandpipers. Project will gather local and traditional shorebird knowledge by conducting interviews in five communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region and conduct outreach activities promoting communication and collaboration in western Alaska Native communities.

\$69,576

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Statewide Coordination of National Fish Habitat Partnerships in Alaska

Support efforts to address fish habitat protection, restoration and enhancement needs throughout Alaska. Project will support Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships and continue efforts that build consensus around shared conservation actions such as anadromous fish conservation.

\$125,000

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Susitna Eulachon Biomass (AK)

Estimate the run timing, age, sex and size composition and biomass of eulachon spawning in the Susitna River watershed during May and June. Project will use an egg-larval production method to estimate the biomass of eulachon spawning in the watershed.

\$129,743

Alaska Marine Conservation Council

Building the Alaska Young Fishermen's Network

Develop the Alaska Young Fishermen's Network, a coalition of young Alaskan fishermen that are educated and empowered to operate successful, sustainable fishing businesses. Project will build the leadership capacity of next generation fishermen through the growth of a structured support network.

\$105,025

Alaska Sustainable Fisheries Trust**Local Fish Fund: Removing Barriers for Young Fishermen in the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery**

Grow the Local Fish Fund to facilitate the transfer of fishing rights from established to emerging fishermen in Alaska. Project will redress financial barriers to entry into the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery, increasing the number of young fishermen with access rights tied to sustainable fishing practices.

\$150,000

Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center**Center for Education at Bison Hall (AK)**

Become the "education central" for the wood bison reintroduction project in Alaska. Project will provide ongoing education, hands-on learning for the public on the conservation efforts it took to reintroduce the endangered wood bison to Alaska, how to keep it moving forward, and how this may serve as a model for other wildlife conservation efforts.

\$25,000

Chugach Regional Resources Commission**Develop Innovative Strategies for Assisting with Recovery of Hard-Shell Clam in South Central Alaska**

Establish sanctuaries at two barren beaches to examine the bottleneck in recruitment and population recovery of littleneck clams, butter clams and basket cockles. Project will aggregate three cornerstone clam species into a sanctuary to provide basic information on life stages.

\$78,200

City and Borough of Yakutat, Alaska**Yakutat Youth Community Corps (AK)**

Partner with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps and the Tongass National Forest Yakutat Ranger District to employ a youth crew in meaningful, hands-on conservation projects in coordination with multiple project partners. Project will expand community capacity to accomplish high-priority habitat restoration projects while engaging crew members in professional training and natural resource land management experiences within a remote and unique Alaskan landscape.

\$49,994

Ecotrust**Expanding Fishing Business Market****Opportunities for Fresh Frozen Seafood (AK, CA, OR)**

Address market barriers to fresh frozen fish using an innovative tool that measures seafood freshness. Project will partner with fishing communities from Alaska to California to increase consumer understanding in supply chain transparency, underutilized species, and seafood freshness and quality.

\$100,000

Environment for the Americas**Celebrate Shorebirds Latino Internship Program (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)**

Offer training, mentorship and career development for Latino youths seeking positions in natural resources, providing interns with valuable field experiences in shorebird research. The interns will serve as cultural bridges between host sites with federal and nongovernmental agencies and Latino communities, where they offer education programs about shorebirds and conservation.

\$91,839

Kenai Watershed Forum**Stream Watch Volunteers: Protecting Alaska's Native Fish**

Support a staff person to help implement Stream Watch, a volunteer-driven program that provides fish habitat education while completing restoration projects on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula. Project will leverage agency efforts by monitoring popular fishing sites, installing plant protective fencing, removing litter, completing restoration projects, and educating the public.

\$25,000

Manomet**Monitoring Shorebirds in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (AK) - II**

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, including red-necked phalarope, western sandpiper, dunlin, Wilson's snipe, pectoral sandpiper, ruddy turnstone and bar-tailed godwit.

\$95,395

Prince William Sound Science and Technology Institute**Copper River Delta Restoration at Snag Lake (AK)**

Restore 10.5 acres of wetland, plant 400 native trees, and aid migrating salmon by restoring a beaver dam, creating juvenile fish refuges, and revegetating unauthorized vehicle stream crossings at Snag Lake near Cordova, Alaska. Project will comprise the Delta Restoration Team, having youth volunteers participate in a learning camp at Snag Lake to complete restoration activities in the summer of 2016 in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service-Cordova Ranger District.

\$25,000

Saltwater**Pre-Implementation of Electronic Monitoring for Alaska's Pot Cod Fishery**

Support pre-implementation of electronic monitoring on up to 30 vessels in the Alaska Pacific cod fixed gear fishery. Project will build on successful pilot efforts to implement a cost-effective data collection and management infrastructure that will provide timely and accurate catch accounting data for fisheries managers and support full implementation of electronic monitoring in the Alaska pot cod fishery by 2019.

\$595,048

Sitka Sound Science Center**Community Seawater Heat Pump (AK)**

Construct the first seawater heat pump in the Sitka area, which will support sustainable agriculture practices and decrease fuel transport along the coastline. Project will provide an environmental solution for the community of Sitka and its region in Southeast Alaska by instituting a demonstration project at the Sitka Sound Science Center where job training, research and science education occurs.

\$40,000

The Nature Conservancy - Alaska**Shelikof Creek Stream Restoration (AK)**

Improve instream spawning and rearing habitat for juvenile coho salmon, as well as other non-anadromous fish in Shelikof Creek. Project will replace many of the logjams that form productive habitats using nearby trees to improve coho and steelhead trout abundance for recreational and commercial fishing opportunities, and strengthen their resilience to stream and watershed disturbances.

\$41,780

Trout Unlimited**Fish Habitat Conservation through the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**

Coordinate activities for the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) to perform over a two-year period to support fish habitat conservation efforts in southeast Alaska for all five Pacific salmon species, including coho. Project will fill key information gaps through a regional project inventory, conservation strategies for nearshore areas and estuaries in southeast Alaska, and SEAKFHP partner technical support.

\$58,220

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Kodiak**National Wildlife Refuge****Nesting Ecology of Kittlitz's Murrelet on Kodiak Refuge (AK) - IV**

Continue nesting ecology study of Kittlitz's murrelets on Kodiak Refuge, including using nest cameras to document nest survival, identify nest predators, and forage fish species fed to chicks. Project results will provide insights into how Kittlitz's murrelets might react to oceanic regime shifts and how their populations might have been affected by past regime shifts.

\$60,000

University of Alaska Anchorage
Advancing the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program

Partner with the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Alaska to provide conservation career exploration through academic enrichment activities and internships. Project will help students complete the science and math coursework in high school that is necessary for success at university and upon high school graduation, team them with practicing conservation professionals working in hands-on internships that continues throughout their university experience.
\$80,764

University of Alaska - Fairbanks
Optimizing Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Detecting and Monitoring Polar Bear Dens in the Arctic (AK)

Minimize negative human-polar bear interactions on the North Slope of Alaska by optimizing techniques for detecting and monitoring polar bears during the denning season, especially in areas near human activity. Project will conduct a proof-of-concept study that uses an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) equipped with an infrared camera to estimate statistical relationships among environmental conditions and den detection probability, and explore the utility of monitoring of bears with UAS.
\$129,118

University of California - Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment and establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.
\$174,488

Wildfish Marketing
Expand Market Opportunities for Bristol Bay Salmon Fishery through Fair Trade Certification (AK)

Apply the Fair Trade model to Bristol Bay salmon to expand market opportunities and support local fishing communities. Project will create demand with a well-recognized label and provide structure to guide fishermen and processors through pricing premiums and pre-season purchasing commitments.
\$114,449

Wildlife Conservation Society
Development of an Arctic Waterways Safety Plan through Multi-Stakeholder Engagement (AK)

Produce a planning document that will ensure the implementation of the best standards of care for maritime activities in the United States Arctic. Project will protect marine mammals including bearded and ringed seals, bowhead whales, polar bears and walrus, and indigenous subsistence hunters from the impacts of vessels transiting Alaska's arctic waters.
\$68,360

Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association
Yukon River Education and Outreach (AK)

Continue pre-existing education and outreach programs, while developing new efforts and approaches. Project will create educational workshops, produce educational materials regarding conservation practices and integration of Alaska Native people into western management systems, and will coordinate a riverwide meeting in an urban hub.
\$176,969

ARIZONA

Arizona Conservation Corps
Grand Canyon Ancestral Lands Crew (AZ)

Field an eight-person youth crew for 12 weeks to work on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon on interdisciplinary projects. Project will be an expansion of the 2015 Ancestral Lands program and address significant resource needs in the remote area of the North Rim.
\$74,401

Arizona Conservation Corps
Phoenix Ancestral Lands Crew (AZ)

Support Native American communities through the development of a Native American Conservation Corps in the Phoenix/Maricopa county metro area in Arizona. Project will provide jobs and conservation experience for Native American young adults by connecting youths to their heritage and cultural values, completing important conservation projects on tribal and neighboring public lands and waters, and exposing Native American youths to career pathways with public land management agencies.
\$48,400

Arizona Conservation Corps
Removal of Invasive Buffelgrass at Cibola Valley Conservation Area (AZ)

Train and employ eight youths to remove 75 acres of invasive buffelgrass at Cibola Valley Conservation Area in Arizona. Project will be critical to habitat creation targets at Cibola Valley Conservation Area under the Lower Colorado River Multi Species Conservation Program.
\$14,000

Arizona Conservation Corps
Riparian Restoration Practical Training and Support (AZ)

Restore 30 acres of riparian habitat in the Gila and Verde River watersheds in Arizona by engaging 16 young people on four crews. Project will provide crews with technical training and support from agency experts on species identification and the mechanical and chemical treatment of invasive species such as salt cedar, giant reed, tree of heaven and Russian olive and work to establish native species.
\$41,000

Arizona State University
Monitoring and Conservation of Urban Waterways and Recreational Lakes in Metro-Phoenix (AZ)

Monitor, restore and promote community stewardship for more than 85 acres of urban ponds/lakes, three canals and two river systems in the Phoenix-metro area. Project will help improve knowledge of the state of urban aquatic resources, survey and remove invasive crayfish and mussels from eight aquatic lakes/ponds, develop educational materials for students and the general public, and provide hand-on experience in conservation, mentoring and community outreach.
\$43,423

Arizona Game and Fish Department - Native Fish

Marijilda Wash Native Fish Refuge (AZ)
 Construct and maintain an aquatic refuge for endangered native fish including gila topminnow, desert pupfish, gila chub and razorback sucker. Project will provide an 8-acre pond that will be large enough to spawn and maintain millions of native fish for reintroduction and recovery efforts in eastern Arizona.
\$96,810

Cienega Watershed Partnership
Youth Engaged Stewardship at the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area in Southeast Arizona

Select youth to form a board, train in team-building skills, learn to assess site issues in critical grasslands of southeast Arizona, and design and implement restoration projects at the Bureau of Land Management Las Cienegas National Conservation Area. Project will monitor study plots and watershed health indicators, test specific treatments to restore threatened riparian sacaton grassland, and enhance habitats supporting species like the Chiracahua leopard frog and Mexican garter snake.
\$38,192

Friends of Buenos Aires NWR

Organizational Development for the Friends of Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (AZ)
Redesign the organization's website to receive online donations, make it more informative and grow membership in order to better support the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge's mission. Project will post video and pictures of endangered masked bobwhite quail and an Adopt-A-Quail opportunity so the public can contribute to the care of these birds, offer pictures and an Adopt-A-Pronghorn opportunity to support interior fence removal, and print a 1-year supply of rack cards and brochures.
\$6,630

Gila Watershed Partnership

Upper Gila Riparian Restoration (AZ)
Restore 200 acres of critical riparian habitat along the Upper Gila River by controlling tamarisk and reestablishing native habitat for threatened and endangered species. Project will create healthier and more resilient riparian ecosystems, reduce intense wildfire risks associated with tamarisk, enhance wildlife habitat for species of concern including Southwestern willow flycatcher and Western yellow-billed cuckoo, and provide a replicable example for similar efforts around the southwest.
\$144,421

Grand Canyon Association

Historic Trail Restoration Work Program (AZ)
Work with local youth development and conservation groups to restore historic trails, while developing a skilled workforce in Grand Canyon National Park. Project will employ an eight-person youth crew for 12 weeks for inner-canyon wilderness trail work including repairing or replacing trail features, drainage devices and rock walls, and delineating campsites.
\$30,000

National Audubon Society

Audubon Arizona's Conservation Workdays
Promote a sustainable future for Phoenix residents by facilitating community-based projects that create and enhance bird habitat, educate the diverse volunteer workforce about native plants and inspire participants to take personal action to benefit the shared environment. Project will occur at the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area in south Phoenix, as well as at other public spaces in the community.
\$35,000

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Genomic Sequencing of the Endangered Bakersfield Cactus (AZ, CA, NV, UT)
Partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Office biologists to genetically characterize the federally endangered Bakersfield cactus, endemic to the southern San Joaquin Valley, California. Project will clarify the relationship with the more widespread beavertail cactus, identify morphological traits correlated with different varieties, and provide needed insight for project-level consultations under the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan and the California High Speed Rail.
\$72,350

Southwest Monarch Study

Arizona State Parks and Milkweed Conservation Consortium
Expand monarch habitats in Arizona by planting seeds and seedlings of native milkweed in all 30 Arizona state parks and other Arizona locations and by training citizen scientists to monitor the plantings. Project will plant 18,000 seedlings of multiple milkweed species favored by monarchs across Arizona.
\$88,950

The Student Conservation Association

Student Conservation Association Arizona Field School Alumni Trail Interns
Field five interns to work 14 weeks in the construction of a new 8-mile trail, the Copper Mountain Loop, a part of the Black Canyon National Recreation Trail in Arizona. Project will involve youths using hand tools and chainsaws to clear vegetation from trail corridor, build dips and rolls, level, construct new tread consistent with required standards, install water drainage structures as necessary, and add new signage.
\$40,000

Trout Unlimited

Long-Range Planning and Vulnerability Assessment of Southwestern Trout (AZ, CO, NM)
Improve management effectiveness for native Southwest trout by developing a more effective multi-agency monitoring plan for Apache trout populations and habitats, and collecting stream temperature data from all available agencies and nongovernmental sources to develop a comprehensive network for the Southwest. Project will use spatial statistical models for stream networks data to develop a consistent set of high-resolution climate scenarios for all streams and reaches within streams.
\$84,109

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management - Rio Puerco Field Office Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program for Milkweed and Nectar Species (AZ, CO, NM, UT)
Increase seed collection of milkweed and other nectar-producing species in portions of the four corners states and will work with partners to increase commercial availability of seed and container plants. Project will produce a minimum of 12 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate more than 500 seedling plants.
\$86,916

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management - Safford Field Office Bureau of Land Management Riparian Studies and Habitat Restoration (AZ) - II

Employ youths while advancing their science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills at the college level and exposing them to mentorship opportunities with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) professionals. Project will give youths the opportunity to assist BLM in habitat restoration, natural resources inventory and condition assessment, prioritizing resources for conservation, and aiding in planning efforts to continue hands-on work and collaboration with area partners.
\$75,000

ARKANSAS**Keystone Policy Center**

Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)
Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch butterfly conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.
\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)
Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

Pollinator Partnership

Ecoregional Seed Program for Monarchs across Eastern Broadleaf Forest (AR, IL, IN, MO, OH)
Establish an ecoregional seed collecting program for the eastern broadleaf forest and provide technical assistance to public and private land managers in five states. Project will collect 300 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate 9,000 seedlings to support establishment of 4,700 acres of monarch butterfly habitat.
\$150,000

CALIFORNIA**American Conservation Experience****New Horizons: Steward Endangered Species in the Face of Climate Change (CA)**

Connect youths to public lands through an innovative conservation project that will provide jobs and applied job skills training to youths. Project will include radio tracking California condors, habitat restoration such as invasive plant control and out-planting, public speaking and presentations on conservation, and mentoring all youth participants to build their career skills.

\$74,231

American Rivers**Faith Valley Meadow Restoration (CA)**

Restore the hydrologic and ecological functions of Faith Valley by repairing headcuts, stabilizing the stream channel and raising the water table to maintain and expand wet meadow and riparian habitat. Project will fully assess the condition of the valley, initiate monitoring to quantify benefits of meadow restoration, complete permit-ready restoration designs, engage agencies and local stakeholder groups in the restoration process, and increase the local restoration and monitoring capacity.

\$113,351

American Rivers**McKenzie Ridge Fuel Treatment and Prescribed Fire (CA)**

Support prescribed burning on approximately 726 acres on the McKenzie portion of the Sequoia National Forest. Project will include making the project burn-ready, reducing fuels loads and wildfire risks, improving forest health and associated habitat for Pacific fisher, Northern goshawks and California spotted owls, demonstrating benefits through monitoring, and increasing Forest Service capacity to implement fuels reduction projects.

\$394,117

Arroyo Seco Foundation**Rainbow Trout Restoration Project for the Arroyo Seco of Southern California**

Enhance 12 miles of habitat for the rainbow trout in the greater Los Angeles River watershed. Project will revive stream habitat, remove invasive vegetation on 20 acres, monitor stream health, and involve community groups in this endeavor to enhance a vital piece of the watershed by conducting educational programs that will reach 1,000 community members.

\$50,000

Blue Tomorrow**Los Padres National Forest Stream Condition Inventory (CA)**

Survey up to 35 linear miles of stream in the southern Los Padres National Forest using stream condition inventory protocols. Survey data will be used to assess habitat conditions, including steelhead trout habitat, sedimentation impacts from the Zaca Fire and forest roads, stream restoration opportunities, and to track the effectiveness of restoration activities.

\$181,577

California Conservation Corps**California Conservation Corps:****Veterans Crews for Forest Restoration**

Provide training and hands-on work experience in forestry and firefighting skills and fire hazard reduction work for veterans. Project will be used to support on-the-ground work by veteran's crews to improve forest health. Veterans will gain valuable experience and career preparation. Crews will perform vegetation management work to improve forest health and resilience, with a focus on addressing tree mortality, hazardous fuels reduction and watershed protection.

\$96,000

California Conservation Corps**Engaging Youth in Fuel Breaks Restoration (CA)**

Partner with the Bureau of Reclamation, Folsom Dam Unit to engage young adults in developing a shaded fuel break at the Folsom Lake and Granite Bay State Recreation Areas to reduce the potential for fires. Project will provide fire protection to nearby homes and lessen the potential for habitat destruction and water quality by reducing the wildfire intensity.

\$59,001

California Institute of Environmental Studies**California Brown Pelican Post-Delisting Monitoring in the U.S. (CA)**

Track the status of the California brown pelican using metrics such as colony occupancy, numbers of nesting pairs and reproductive success to verify that pelicans remain secure from risk of extinction or extirpation for the next five years in the Channel Islands off the southern California coast. Project data will ensure that the species does not decrease to the point of again meeting the definition of endangered or threatened without an appropriate and timely response.

\$121,800

California Invasive Plant Council**Assessing Invasive Plant Vulnerability for Sierra Nevada Meadows (CA)**

Develop a meadow vulnerability index to categorize current and projected future damage from invasive plants in California's Sierra Nevada meadows. Project will guide prioritization of invasive plant management activities and best management practices for meadow restoration projects.

\$99,935

California Trout**June Mountain Ski Area Whitebark Pine Restoration (CA)**

Improve forest resiliency and decrease the risk of a large-scale, high-intensity wildland fire affecting the June Lake and downstream Grant Lake and Rush Creek watersheds. Project will implement existing treatments on 110 acres of National Forest System lands, which are critical to overall watershed health and forest resiliency and are strategically located atop a ridgeline which could impede the spread of a wildfire ignition in designated wilderness.

\$490,144

California Trout**Parks Creek Fish Passage Design and Planning: Cardoza Ranch (CA)**

Design a new means of diverting water that will provide continuous fish passage and reduce summer water temperatures in Parks Creek which will result in reduction of limiting factors facing Southern Oregon Northern California Coast coho salmon and provide sustainable and lasting ecological benefits.

\$160,984

California Trout**Prioritizing Meadow Restoration for Kern River Rainbow Trout Recovery (CA)**

Propose prioritization of future meadow management and restoration actions within a watershed, including the current and historical range of Kern River rainbow trout populations in the Sequoia National Forest. Project will apply a conservation strategy and prioritization framework, an integrated meadow assessment approach, to determine desired conditions, prioritize meadow restoration needs, and provide federal agencies with a planning tool applicable Sierra-wide.

\$115,844

Carson Water Subconservancy District**Carson River Watershed Integrated Management of Invasive Species (CA, NV)**

Manage invasive species treatment and restoration activities in riparian areas to improve Lahontan cutthroat trout, sage grouse and yellow-billed cuckoo habitat. Project will restore habitat through increased hand-pulling, chemical application, mechanical removal and revegetation by four cooperative weed management area partners in the Carson River Watershed.

\$83,613

Channel Islands Marine & Wildlife Institute**Response to Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Event in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties (CA)**

Elevate response and rehabilitation efforts associated with the California sea lion Unusual Mortality Event in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. Project will employ six full-time qualified and trained volunteers to fulfill lead roles in stranding operations, provide a dedicated hotline response, cover fish, gasoline and equipment costs, and build eight dry pens to accommodate 60 additional sea lion pups.

\$95,922

Channel Islands Restoration**Tamarisk Removal in the Sisquoc River Watershed (CA)**

Eradicate tamarisk from 61 miles of the Sisquoc River Watershed including the main stem of Manzanita Creek and the main stem of Sisquoc River and their tributaries. Project will be conducted by staff members and a team of volunteers in accordance with methods of treatment and eradication work laid out in the U.S. Forest Service's Environmental Impact Statement. Aquatic-registered herbicide will be applied by hand to tamarisk saplings and trees and tamarisk seedlings will be pulled out by hand.

\$138,815

City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks**Cabrillo Beach Pier Fishing Program (CA) - V**

Continue the Cabrillo Beach Pier Fishing Program for the summer of 2016 and provide 15 fishing sessions for 525 young people eight to 16 years old. Sessions 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

Concerned Resource & Environmental Workers**Upper Sisquoc River Trail Restoration (CA)**

Complete numerous trail repairs on the upper 20 miles of the Sisquoc River Trail, which parallels the river and has been significantly degraded due to Zaca fire impacts. Project will help with the restoration of this trail system and improve the ecosystem by reducing sediment runoff and contaminants and improving safety of passage.

\$55,966

Confluence Resource Consulting**Water Management Model Development and Evaluation (CA, OR)**

Collaboratively develop and evaluate modifications and improvements to the Klamath Basin Planning Model and related analytical components. Model and related products will be used by managers to understand and assess likely consequences of alternative water management strategies to threatened Coho salmon, endangered Lost River and shortnose suckers, national wildlife refuges, other trust resources of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Klamath Reclamation Project irrigators.

\$100,000

Conservation Legacy**Wildlife Restoration Improvement Plan (CA, MT, NM, SD)**

Employ five youths to sample salt ponds and survey birds on the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge in California. Project will include monitoring of mule deer, elk and mountain lion responses to large-scale forest restoration treatments, surveying aquatic invasive species in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and assessing sylvatic plague in small mammals and their fleas in grassland prairie environments of Badlands National Park to assist in black-footed ferret recovery.

\$53,560

Earth Island Institute**Davy Brown and Munch Creek Fish Passage Improvements (CA)**

Provide future access to over 3 miles of creek habitat to the federally endangered steelhead trout in the Manzanita Creek watershed by developing 65 percent engineering designs for the removal of three instream migration barriers. Project will work with the Los Padres National Forest and an engineering firm to address two steelhead barriers at Davy Brown creek and one barrier along Munch creek.

\$42,462

Ecotrust**Expanding Fishing Business Market Opportunities for Fresh Frozen Seafood (AK, CA, OR)**

Address market barriers to fresh frozen fish using an innovative tool that measures seafood freshness. Project will partner with fishing communities from Alaska to California to increase consumer understanding in supply chain transparency, underutilized species, and seafood freshness and quality.

\$100,000

Environment for the Americas**Celebrate Shorebirds Latino Internship Program (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)**

Offer training, mentorship and career development for Latino youths seeking positions in natural resources, providing interns with valuable field experiences in shorebird research. The interns will serve as cultural bridges between host sites with federal and nongovernmental agencies and Latino communities, where they offer education programs about shorebirds and conservation.

\$91,839

Fresno Metro Ministry**Valley Permaculture Farm (CA)**

Train small-scale farmers in intensive, permaculture agricultural methods that build soil, conserve water, require less land, produce higher yields, and reduce the need for chemical based fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides in Fresno. Project will teach small farmers about ecologically sound agricultural methods that they can apply to their own farms to improve the environmental and agricultural conditions of their small family farms.

\$75,000

Friends Of The San Pablo Bay**National Wildlife Refuge****Friends of San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge Capacity Building (CA)**

Increase the organization's ability to support the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, as well as the local San Pablo Bay, Antioch Dunes, and Marin Islands National Wildlife Refuges in the conservation, protection and restoration of public lands. Project will improve the website to better serve local communities, implement a customer relationship management system, upgrade accounting processes, and create a strategic plan to increase sustainability and effectiveness.

\$15,000

Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District**Green Valley Creek Rainwater Catchment Systems (CA)**

Construct four rainwater catchment systems at the Campbell and Redwood Hill Dairy to supply water for irrigation and stock watering during the summer dry season, eliminating all dry season water extraction for non-potable purposes from shallow alluvial wells along Green Valley Creek and its tributaries. Project will include construction of retaining walls, installation of steel water tanks, filtration and conveyance infrastructure, pumps, pressure tanks and distribution pipes for stored water.

\$130,000

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy**Restoring Endangered Butterfly Habitat and Engaging Youth through Restoration Efforts (CA)**

Improve the ecosystem health of the federally endangered mission blue butterfly on 9.8 acres of habitat at Milagra Ridge in San Mateo County, California by propagating and introducing host and nectar plants that are resistant to fungal pathogens that threaten this species. Project will engage 206 volunteers from the adjacent Oceana High School and other community organizations in education and volunteer activities from collecting seeds to introducing host plants to the project site.

\$32,791

Great Basin Institute**Vegetation and Sage-Grouse Habitat Monitoring in the Walker Basin and Watershed (CA, NV)**

Provide paid youth internship positions acquiring valuable skills in field research techniques related to monitoring and conservation. Project will collect data to guide proper treatment design, provide baseline data against which treatment effects may be measured, and enrich currently existing data sets.

\$19,998

Hometown Community Development Corporation
HomeStrong's Heroes Home Repair Program (CA)

Create healthier and safer homes for low-to-moderate income veterans and active duty homeowners while reducing their energy and water consumption in Riverside and San Bernardino County, California. Project will assist 30 veteran and active duty homeowners with critical home repairs in 2016.
\$100,000

Karuk Tribe
Middle Klamath Coho Refuge Habitat Enhancement - Planning and Design Team Support (CA)

Support planning and design efforts directed at the enhancement of coho refuges and off-channel refuge habitats along the middle Klamath River corridor.
\$60,000

Karuk Tribe
Six Rivers Forest Resiliency (CA)

Collaborate with the Mid Klamath Watershed Council to utilize existing fuels and fire crews as well as qualified, cost-effective contractors to treat fuel buildup that threatens the health of forests, watersheds and communities. Project will prioritize treatments according to established cultural and ecological values, wildland urban interface proximity, strategic location of units for future fire management activities, fuel conditions on the ground, and other practical considerations such as access.
\$500,000

Kate Wing Consulting
Accelerate Development of Automated Fish Identification for Electronic Monitoring Systems (Multiple States)

Build publicly available image datasets of fish species frequently caught in two major U.S. fisheries, the Eastern Tropical Pacific tuna fishery and the New England groundfish fishery. Project will host a competition among computer programmers to use the image datasets to write open source algorithms that efficiently automate data review, which will help increase accuracy while reducing cost and staff resources associated with reviewing electronically monitored fisheries data.
\$99,389

Lomakatsi Restoration Project
Southwest Oregon Monarch Habitat Restoration Initiative

Restore and enhance 300 acres of degraded monarch butterfly habitat including woodland edges, meadows, natural forest openings, riparian areas and landings/roadsides in southwestern Oregon. Project will unify monarch butterfly habitat restoration efforts in the region and expand the milkweed supply for restoration projects.
\$193,786

Los Molinos Mutual Water Company
Mill Creek Project Planning and Demonstration Investment (CA)

Produce a feasibility study and master plan to identify and describe projects to improve water use efficiency and to increase the amount of water left instream to benefit chinook salmon and steelhead trout migration. Project will develop information describing site-specific project components and associated costs and expected water savings, and support the acquisition of funding to accelerate water use efficiency improvements.
\$100,000

Los Padres Forest Association
Manzana and Sisquoc Archaeological Trail Surveys (CA)

Perform archaeological surveys of five trails providing the only access to important parts of the burned area of the Manzana Creek and Sisquoc River watersheds. Project will include hiking and examining the full length of each trail for archaeological evidence. Observations will be reported to support resource preservation and guide trail maintenance efforts.
\$24,776

Los Padres Forest Association
Zaca Fire Trail Maintenance and Conservation in the Los Padres National Forest (CA)

Restore and maintain 51.1 miles of level 1-2 trails along the 167-mile system of trails in the Santa Barbara Backcountry of the Los Padres National Forest that were damaged as a result of the 2007 Zaca Fire. Project will restore 10 trails to Forest Service trail standards to prevent erosion issues, isolate noise pollution, minimize vegetation loss, protect wildlife such as steelhead and reduce the potential of forest fires.
\$202,763

Marine Mammal Center
Marine Mammal Center Environmental Education and Community Volunteer Training Program (CA)

Train 52 community adult and youth volunteers to lead and assist with family and scout overnight programs, youth summer camp, and informal tours and interpretation at "NatureSpot," a 2-acre outdoor space in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, which will be restored for native habitat and outdoor programming. Project will inspire 1,000 children and adults to learn more about and care for the health of marine mammals and their coastal and ocean environment.
\$50,000

Mattole Restoration Council
King Range Stewards (CA)

Restore and manage coastal prairie, riparian and forest habitat in the King Range National Conservation Area and adjacent Mattole River Watershed. Project will give local, underserved young adults the chance to work with restoration professionals and agency staff to develop skills and implement restoration and stewardship projects.
\$49,964

Mid Klamath Watershed Council
Horse Creek Wood Loading (CA)

Create a suite of restoration plans for the upper 1.5 miles of the Horse Creek Valley and choose one of those plans to propose to funders for implementation.
\$99,429

Mid Klamath Watershed Council
Klamath National Forest Coho Habitat Enhancement in Horse, China and Little Horse Creeks (CA)

Provide high-quality rearing and spawning habitat for coho salmon and other salmonid species in the Horse, China and Little Horse creeks and provide direct and proven benefits to both natal and non-natal juvenile salmonids throughout the Middle Klamath.
\$184,497

Mid Klamath Watershed Council
Western Klamath Youth in Restoration (CA)

Partner with the Six Rivers and Klamath National Forests to hire six teenage stewardship interns, three college-aged and minority fisheries technicians, and one full-time restoration intern to participate in hands-on instream and upslope restoration projects occurring through the nationally recognized Western Klamath Restoration Partnership. Project will benefit salmon fish passage and habitat, remove priority invasive weeds from national forest lands, and implement prescribed burns.
\$44,262

Montague Water Conservation District
Development of Cold Water Habitat (CA)

Provide a dependable cold-water rearing habitat for coho salmon akin to cold spring water sources found throughout the Upper Shasta River.
\$235,573

Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust
Developing a Fish Hub to Improve Profits and Provide Local Sustainable Seafood to Monterey (CA)

Develop a business plan for a fish hub to manage the aggregation, processing and distribution of locally harvested seafood in Monterey, California. Project will increase market value of seafood for local fishermen by ensuring restaurants and consumers have access to fresh, locally caught seafood.
\$60,110

NatureBridge**Environmental Education and Stewardship for Underserved Youth (CA) - II**

Offer multi-day experiential environmental science programs in national park settings for underserved, diverse K-12 students from the Bay Area and the Central Valley of California. Project will teach students basic scientific principles and critical thinking skills by conducting hands-on scientific research in the field.

\$70,000

NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center Assess Persistent Organic Pollutant Transfer from Female Killer Whales to their Calves (CA, TX, WA)

Conduct research on killer whales in human care at SeaWorld San Diego and San Antonio to quantify the transfer of pollutants from female killer whales to their calves during gestation and lactation. Project will provide data on the percent reduction in female pollutant levels and percent increase in calf pollutant levels needed by managers to better predict contaminant levels in Southern Resident killer whales and assess potential risks associated with contaminant exposure.

\$114,857

Pacific Marine Mammal Center**California Sea Lion Unusual Stranding Event Support 2016 (CA)**

Aid and support the overall response to the 2016 California Sea Lion Unusual Stranding Event. Project will provide support to those organizations that have been identified as needing additional coverage in the West Coast Stranding Region.

\$100,000

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Steelhead Distribution and Life cycle Monitoring in Manzanita Creek (CA)

Research distribution, relative abundance and life cycle monitoring of steelhead in Manzanita Creek. Project will hire two crew leaders through Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission to lead four fisheries technicians and two California Conservation Corps members to complete snorkel and spawning surveys in and around the fire affected the area.

\$198,991

Plumas Corporation**Sierra Meadow Restoration Design (CA)**

Address limited organizational capacity in the Sierra Nevada for meadow restoration project planning, as well as limited data on the ecological capacity of functional meadows to address climate change. Project will complete design and data collection/analysis for three meadows, and environmental permitting for two meadows. Limited capacity of the region will be addressed with training and mentoring for local organizations in project design and planning.

\$219,347

Point Reyes Bird Observatory -**Point Blue Conservation Science****Farallon Ashy Storm-Petrel Population Status Evaluation (CA)**

Investigate the population impacts of a drought-caused reduction in burrowing owl abundance in 2015 on ashy storm-petrel (ASSP) survival and breeding success. Project will evaluate whether recent declines for ASSP have continued, will help strengthen overall support for management actions to benefit ASSP, and has the potential to provide strong scientific support for eradicating mice to reduce burrowing owls and thus increase ASSP survival and breeding success.

\$50,000

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden**Genomic Sequencing of the Endangered Bakersfield Cactus (AZ, CA, NV, UT)**

Partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Office biologists to genetically characterize the federally endangered Bakersfield cactus, endemic to the southern San Joaquin Valley, California. Project will clarify the relationship with the more widespread beavertail cactus, identify morphological traits correlated with different varieties, and provide needed insight for project-level consultations under the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan and the California High Speed Rail.

\$72,350

Regents of the University of California - San Diego, Scripps Inst. of Oceanography Strengthen Resilience of Fisheries through State Commercial Fisheries Apprenticeship Program (CA)

Develop a State Commercial Fisherman Apprenticeship Program to provide opportunities for new entrants into California's commercial fisheries. Project will develop a progressive curriculum of classwork and on-the-water training for students, and will recruit veteran fishermen as employers.

\$118,181

Robin Satnick**Channel Islands Seabird Lessons (CA)**

Develop a set of standards-based educational lesson plans to raise awareness and increase protection of seabirds on the Channel Islands. Project will serve as an educational resource to help teachers and students understand the reasons for restoring seabirds and the importance of this restoration to the future of the Channel Islands.

\$16,425

Sequoia Riverlands Trust**Carbon Farm Pilot at Kaweah Oaks Preserve (CA)**

Combine several ways of reducing atmospheric carbon dioxide by "sinking" it into the ground and plant material, increasing soil carbon, which provides multiple benefits for water effectiveness, biodiversity and forage production through a carbon farm pilot at Kaweah Oaks Preserve in California. Project will also have a composting trial component and capture stormwater using constructed and natural swales for flood control, groundwater recharge and seasonal wetlands.

\$50,000

Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District Parks Creek Fish Passage Implementation (CA)

Reestablish fish passage for all life stages of salmonids in Parks Creek, the last significant spawning and refugia area in the Shasta River watershed for coho salmon, by redesigning the current fish passage barrier.

\$114,980

Siskiyou Gardens, Parks and Greenways Association**Lower Yreka Creek Restoration (CA)**

Increase spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon and other salmonids in combination with the expansion of an existing beaver population.

\$96,000

Siskiyou Resource Conservation District Lower French Creek Off-Channel Habitat Development (CA)

Restore the natural channel form and function and increase the carrying capacity and condition of juvenile coho salmon by constructing an off-channel pond with coarse woody debris structures and associated riparian vegetation in the floodplain of lower French Creek.

\$74,981

Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs Invasive Tamarisk Removal from the Santa Maria and Santa Clara Watersheds (CA)

Remove tamarisk from the Rancho Nuevo Creek and Deal Canyons, and portions of the Cuyama River in the Cuyama River Watershed and in the Sespe River and Piru Creek of the Santa Clara River watersheds. Project will treat invasive tamarisk threatening habitat conditions for steelhead trout, arroyo toads, red-legged frogs, least Bell's vireo, and southwestern willow flycatcher within the Zaca and Piru Fire burn areas.

\$60,001

Sonoma Resource Conservation District
Rain Garden and Rainwater Catchment: Henry Property (CA)

Work with local landowners to reduce summer stream withdrawals through rainwater harvesting and storage project to benefit the endangered Central Coast coho salmon in four subwatersheds of the Russian River. Project will install a rainwater catchment system on the Henry property, including two 2,500-gallon water storage tanks. The stored water will be used for irrigation and animals and will reduce the amount of water pumped from a near-stream well.

\$21,000

Sportfishing Association of California
Expand Electronic Fishing Logbooks for Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessels in Southern California

Implement electronic logbook reporting among the entire recreational commercial passenger fishing vessel fleet in Southern California. Project will build on previous efforts that successfully equipped over 150 vessels by distributing an additional 40 electronic logbook tablets and providing extensive trainings to achieve complete electronic reporting coverage among the fleet.

\$50,679

The Student Conservation Association
Los Padres Forest Restoration (CA)

Restore forest structure, reduce the risk of catastrophic fire, improve management of 500 acres of forest land, and reduce the risk of future beetle infestations in the Mount Pinos Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest. Project will recruit and place a fuels management team, consisting of 10 team members and two project leaders, in the Los Padres National Forest for six months.

\$320,238

The Trust for Public Land
Carmel River Acquisition (CA)

Invest in the Rancho Cañada property acquisition in recognition of the water flow restored through an initial forbearance agreement and eventual 1707 dedication of the important water rights. Project will contribute to the capital acquisition costs of the Hatton and Lombardo properties.

\$200,000

The Watershed Project
Community Stewardship of San Pablo Bay Watersheds (CA)

Restore native riparian habitat and create small community-based rain gardens near the creeks, working at multiple locations that have been identified in the San Pablo Bay Watersheds Plans. Project will improve creek water quality and habitat for wildlife, and engage, educate and inspire residents of all ages in stewardship of their local creeks and watersheds.

\$55,000

Triple HS - H. T. Harvey & Associates
Ashy Storm-Petrel Population Size and Hot Spots at Sea (CA)

Analyze existing and extensive at-sea data for ashy storm-petrels to determine world population size, identify marine hot spots, and resolve the inconsistency between regional island- versus at sea-based population estimates. Project outcomes will enhance conservation by connecting population size to habitat availability and, for this highly-clumping species, identifying at sea areas where the species would be most vulnerable to ship traffic and oil spills.

\$34,922

Trout Unlimited
Bogus Creek Fish Passage (CA)

Improve fish passage in Bogus Creek by eliminating three flashboard irrigation dams and installing roughened channels that will provide year round fish passage and accommodate irrigation diversions.

\$61,006

Trout Unlimited
Cold Creek Coho Passage and Screening (CA)

Improve passage and habitat for adult and juvenile coho salmon in Cold Creek in the Klamath River Watershed.

\$116,055

Trout Unlimited
Flow Restoration on San Gregorio Creek: Klingman/Moty Farm (CA)

Design an 18.5 acre-foot off-channel pond that will eliminate a summer surface diversion and restore flow on San Gregorio Creek.

\$31,050

Trout Unlimited
Flow Restoration on San Gregorio Creek: Post/Muzzi Farm (CA)

Design an off-channel pond with a farm on San Gregorio creek that will enable forbearance of a summer surface diversion.

\$34,000

Trout Unlimited
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Conservation Work (CA, NV, OR)

Provide continued support for a Lahontan cutthroat trout coordinator to provide on-the-ground expertise, partner coordination, project management, oversight of Lahontan cutthroat trout fieldwork, and landowner and public outreach. Project will also support a range-wide field crew for two years to implement Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery activities and supports staff to continue important outreach and assess current brook trout eradication efforts in two Walker headwater streams.

\$235,601

Trout Unlimited
Meadow Restoration to Recover Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout (CA)

Accelerate the pace of meadow restoration in Pine Creek by developing a sound understanding of the opportunities and constraints for restoration and/or enhancement activities within the watershed. Project will restore the large meadows in the Pine Creek watershed to enable Eagle Lake rainbow trout to exhibit the full range of stream resident and ad-fluvial life history strategies to naturally reproduce.

\$117,492

Trout Unlimited
Russian River Watershed Flow Improvement (CA)

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.

\$500,000

Trout Unlimited
Silver/Slinkard Creek Brook Trout Removal (CA)

Assist in removal efforts after careful consideration with partnering agencies and review of removal methods. Project will proceed according to the best available science and proven techniques vetted elsewhere in Lahontan cutthroat trout streams of similar size.

\$162,794

Truckee Donner Land Trust
Carpenter Valley Acquisition (CA)

Acquire fee title to 600 acres of wetland and riparian habitat in Carpenter Valley, with the goal of acquiring the entire 1,317-acre valley floor. Project will conserve large connected corridors of high-quality habitat for wildlife, water quality and public recreation in the northern Sierra Nevada, provide habitat for the threatened willow flycatcher, potential Lahontan cutthroat trout, and other plant and animal species such as Pacific fisher, wolverine and mountain yellow-legged frog.

\$500,000

Tuolumne River Preservation Trust
Rim Fire Restoration (CA)

Provide seven internships to local young adults aged 18-25 years old in order to perform restoration work on areas within the Stanislaus National Forest that were adversely impacted by the 257,000 acre Rim Fire of 2013. Project will restore over 130 acres of ecologically sensitive areas, promoting watershed health while also helping to develop future leaders in forest stewardship.

\$25,000

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service - Los Padres National Forest, Mt. Pinos Ranger District Building Capacity for Monarchs and Other Native Pollinators on Public and Private Lands (CA)

Strengthen and expand the Native Plant Pollinator-Friendly Garden Program. Project will engage new cooperators and partners through workshops and increase direct seeding and plant propagation using locally collected seed from all three native milkweed species. **\$65,835**

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service - Klamath National Forest Lower Beaver Creek Coho Salmon Off-Channel Habitat Restoration (CA)

Reconnect and restore, enhance or create a continuum of off-channel habitats along the length of the Mid-Klamath River and select tributaries that provide important winter and summer rearing refugia critical for the recovery of Klamath River Southern Oregon Northern California Coast coho salmon populations. **\$72,428**

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

Acoustic Surveys to Monitor Ashy Storm-Petrels across the California Coastal National Monument
Use remote sensing to monitor ashy storm-petrels (ASSP), a crevice- and burrow-nesting seabird breeding in the California Coastal National Monument, at 17 known or suspected ASSP colonies. Project will determine presence/absence of ASSP and seasonal and inter-annual vocalization patterns using passive acoustic sensors; results will assist with developing a standardized technique to monitor and track attendance trends among crevice- and burrow-nesting seabirds. **\$203,853**

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Farallon National Wildlife Refuge Invasive House Mouse Eradication: Environmental Compliance (CA)

Complete the environmental compliance phase of the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge house mouse eradication effort. Project will contribute toward effort of removing house mice from the refuge to alleviate their impact on seabirds, including the rare ashy storm-petrel and other native species. **\$170,000**

University of California - Berkeley Restoration and Resilience of Endemic Bigcone Douglas-Fir after the 2007 Zaca Fire (CA)

Restore bigcone Douglas-fir after the Zaca Fire. Project will include mapping of forest stands and their condition, analysis of environmental factors important for regeneration, collection and propagation of local seed, out-planting and evaluation of survival in the field, and synthesis of findings for the long-term adaptive management of bigcone Douglas-fir. **\$171,606**

University of California - Santa Barbara Assessment and Management of Invasive Riparian Plants in Los Padres National Forest (CA)

Assess the status of weeds that are potential biocontrol targets in the Los Padres National Forest. Project will develop regulatory compliance for biocontrol of invasive tamarisk, implement release of the northern tamarisk beetle at infested sites, set up a monitoring protocol to evaluate beetle establishment and ecosystem responses, conduct surveys for other potential biocontrol targets, and develop a prioritization guide for planning and implementation of weed biocontrol. **\$98,170**

University of California - Santa Barbara Evaluation and Restoration of Degraded Chaparral within Piru Fire Perimeter (CA)

Assess impact of multiple overlapping fires and drought on chaparral condition within Piru fire perimeter to identify areas most susceptible to degradation and takeover by invasive species. Project will utilize Student Conservation Association and undergraduate volunteers and local K-12 students guided by graduate students, to implement restoration trials at an acre scale or larger in order to directly restore degraded habitat and provide viable methodology for future chaparral restoration. **\$195,669**

University of California - Santa Cruz Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners. **\$174,488**

WildAid U.S. Illegal Wildlife Demand Reduction Campaign (Multiple States)

Develop and implement a communications campaign to raise awareness of wildlife trafficking into the United States. Project will reduce the demand for illegal wildlife and the amount of illegal wildlife products smuggled into the U.S. contributing to lessening poaching pressure on endangered species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins. **\$270,000**

Yurok Tribe Increasing Rearing Capacity and Habitat Quality for Coho Salmon in a Lower Klamath Tributary (CA)

Evaluate the restoration effectiveness of beaver dam analogues (BDA) to increase the amount of slow velocity rearing habitat available to juvenile coho throughout the Klamath Basin and further inform development of BDA design and fish passage criteria in California. **\$108,911**

COLORADO

City and County of Denver Urban Refuge Partnership with Denver Natural Resources at First Creek (CO)

Engage youth corps and restore 200 acres of prairie grassland habitat by managing noxious weed and seeding native grass species. Project partners will remove an 8-foot perimeter fence, build a new parking lot and construct 6,600 feet of new trail, adding to the existing First Creek Trail. Project will revive an area of open space for the public that has been underutilized between Denver International Airport and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge. **\$50,000**

Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust JE Canyon Ranch Conservation Easement (CO)

Place a conservation easement on the 48,230-acre JE Canyon Ranch in southeast Colorado's canyon country. Project will ensure the protection of critical habitat for the state's largest population of bighorn sheep, as well as many other large native mammals including elk, mule deer, mountain lion, black bear and beaver. **\$500,000**

Colorado Youth Corps Association Putting Diverse Youth to Work for Conservation Statewide (CO)

Engage three Colorado Youth Corps Association-accredited youth crews in restoration projects in partnership with Bureau of Land Management field offices. Project will employ youths from diverse background in riparian and instream habitat restoration work. **\$75,860**

Eagle River Watershed Council**Eagle County Watersheds Inventory, Restoration and Enhancement (CO)**

Create two youth conservation internships, which will provide a hands-on experience conducting essential restoration and eDNA inventory work that will protect unique wildlife habitat for endangered Greenback cutthroat trout in rivers, remote streams and springs in Eagle County. Project will provide mentoring by Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Eagle County Open Space and Eagle River Watershed Council staff, while removing nonnative tamarisk and Russian olive trees.
\$12,189

Environment for the Americas**Celebrate Shorebirds Latino Internship Program (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)**

Offer training, mentorship and career development for Latino youths seeking positions in natural resources, providing interns with valuable field experiences in shorebird research. The interns will serve as cultural bridges between host sites with federal and nongovernmental agencies and Latino communities, where they offer education programs about shorebirds and conservation.
\$91,839

Founders and Friends of Two Ponds**National Wildlife Refuge**

Community and Capacity Building Project (CO)
Increase organizational capacity to more effectively support the goals of the Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge. Project will develop a website and sponsor outreach activities at the refuge, which will contribute to increasing volunteer support and forming partnerships with other local organizations.
\$9,664

Four Corners School of Outdoor Education**Dolores River Restoration: Building on Youth Corps Success (CO, UT) - II**

Partner with the Canyon Country Youth Corps and the Dolores River Restoration Partnership to finish the last stages of initial treatment of woody invasive species along the Dolores River in Utah and Colorado. Project will provide crew and volunteers with engagement opportunities through a watershed-level restoration project that improves wildlife habitat and forage, reduces wildfire risk, improves access to the river, increases visibility along highways, and improves campsites along the river.
\$73,500

Institute for Environmental Solutions**Wheat Ridge Greenbelt Restoration and Environmental Education Network Program (CO)**

Restore the ecological health of the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt open area and improve stormwater runoff, erosion and water quality for Clear Creek, a major tributary to the South Platte Watershed. Project will involve 100 volunteers, provide outreach to 1,000 community members, combine two innovative in-class workshops, a tree planting day and a 3-year stewardship program.
\$23,321

River Network**First Annual Colorado River Basin Water Transactions Workshop**

Build a water transactions-focused learning network for the Colorado River Basin. Project will plan and execute the 1st Annual Colorado River Basin Water Transactions Workshops and launch an online resource center to share files and other relevant tools to workshop participants.
\$53,051

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Integrating Science and Habitat Delivery Capacity for Birds across the Great Plains (MT, CO)**

Increase capacity for on-the-ground conservation delivery in a key area for grassland birds by hiring a biologist with range and grassland bird expertise to work with landowners and other partners in central/southeastern Montana to conserve and enhance habitat for Sprague's pipit, Baird's sparrow, chestnut-collared and McCown's longspur and other grassland species.
\$200,000

Rocky Mountain Field Institute**Actively Engaging Youth and Volunteers in the Protection of Natural Landscapes in Southern Colorado**

Provide opportunities for active community engagement in on-the-ground restoration and stewardship projects that enhance watershed health and function by restoring 20 acres of habitat while creating 100 jobs in the Southern Colorado and the Pikes Peak Region. Project will operate through meaningful and sustainable community partnerships, provide environmental education and training opportunities, and result in measurable ecological, educational and community benefits.
\$26,850

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps -Colorado**Remove Crown and Hardscrabble Fence and Build Fence on Vasten Homestead Common (CO)**

Employ 20 camping crew members to remove an old boundary fence and build a new one on the Vasten Homestead common to protect water resources and aid in the control of cattle. Project will help reduce conflict for wildlife movements between private hay fields in Colorado.
\$12,600

Tamarisk Coalition**Grand Junction Wildlife Area Cottonwood Habitat Improvement (CO)**

Employ youth crews to thin planted cottonwood trees on approximately 20 acres at Grand Junction Wildlife Area. Project will thin and plant shrubs to improve riparian wildlife habitat through increasing tree size, improving branching patterns, and diversifying the shrub understory.
\$45,052

Tamarisk Coalition**Restoration Tools for Riparian Landscapes Impacted by Invasive Woody Vegetation (CO, NM, OK, UT)**

Develop innovative tools for the removal of invasive vegetation and successful restoration of riparian lands across the western United States. Project will package these new tools and techniques dealing with invasive species removal, native plant revegetation, monitoring protocols, biocontrol mapping, and current restoration research and science information, and distribute them to land managers through workshops focused on regionally applicable species and techniques.
\$46,738

Trout Unlimited**Long-Range Planning and Vulnerability Assessment of Southwestern Trout (AZ, CO, NM)**

Improve management effectiveness for native Southwest trout by developing a more effective multi-agency monitoring plan for Apache trout populations and habitats, and collecting stream temperature data from all available agencies and nongovernmental sources to develop a comprehensive network for the Southwest. Project will use spatial statistical models for stream networks data to develop a consistent set of high-resolution climate scenarios for all streams and reaches within streams.
\$84,109

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service - Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest Burgess Creek Cutthroat Passage (CO)

Address risks to a genetically pure population of Colorado River cutthroat trout that exists in Burgess Creek. Project will reconnect the currently occupied habitat by replacing a culvert that is a complete aquatic passage barrier, and replacing it with a bottomless arch culvert using stream simulation design.
\$40,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management - Rio Puerco Field Office Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program for Milkweed and Nectar Species (AZ, CO, NM, UT)
Increase seed collection of milkweed and other nectar-producing species in portions of the four corners states and will work with partners to increase commercial availability of seed and container plants. Project will produce a minimum of 12 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate more than 500 seedling plants.
\$86,916

Western Governors Association Federal-State Sage Grouse Task Force (CO)
Facilitate and host meetings of the Sage Grouse Task Force and, upon direction from the Task Force, create a report and/or inventory of greater sage grouse conservation activities. Project will help to ensure that substantive progress continues to be made toward the protection and restoration of key habitat across the sagebrush ecosystem, leading to sustainable sage grouse populations and strong western economies.
\$20,000

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Fund for the Environment Green Infrastructure for Beardsley Zoo (CT)
Install green infrastructure including enhancing existing lawn areas with 2,000 square feet of bioretention gardens and tree pits, and replacing 4,000 square feet of impervious pavement with pervious pavers in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Project will capture and treat 1 million gallons of urban stormwater runoff annually.
\$149,834

Earthplace - The Nature Discovery Center Engaging Student Scientists for Long Island Sound (CT)
Engage 46 high school and undergraduate citizen scientists in four experiential learning programs about water quality and Long Island Sound ecology using rivers, harbors and the Sound as the classroom and make presentations about their research at public events in Fairfield County. Project will train student participants for careers in conservation science and improve public knowledge and understanding of the Sound.
\$32,829

Farmington River Watershed Association River Smart Community Stormwater Education in the Farmington River Watershed (CT)
Deliver "River Smart CT," an education and outreach program focused on personal actions to reduce polluted stormwater, to 4,000 people in the Farmington Valley. Project will increase the number and variety of citizens who understand the value of Long Island Sound and take local action to protect its water quality.
\$31,174

GreenWave Ocean Farm Start-Up Training Program: Bolstering Economic Development in New England (CT, MA, RI)
Create the Ocean Farm Start-Up Training Program to support up to five new kelp and shellfish ocean farms in New England. Project will develop a training program to educate farmers on proper ocean farming techniques in addition to permitting and leasing requirements.
\$100,000

National Audubon Society Advancing the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative (CT, NY, NC, FL)
Protect, restore, enhance and manage priority shorebird habitats at roughly 75 sites across Connecticut, New York, North Carolina and Florida. Project will eliminate harmful human disturbances using new and innovative techniques, protect the places that shorebirds need at critical times of their life cycles, assess the impact of predators at selected sites, advance the current knowledge of shorebird demography, and address key knowledge gaps.
\$150,000

National Audubon Society Audubon WildLife Guards – A Coastal Stewardship and Youth Conservation Training Program (CT)
Employ 10 students to encourage 3,000 members of the public to share about 10 acres of coast with beach-nesting coastal waterbirds, and provide coastal stewardship training to 25 municipal employees to add to student stewardship efforts at Pleasure Beach in Bridgeport. Project will allow residents to enjoy the beach and allow piping plover and least terns to nest successfully.
\$35,000

National Audubon Society Expanding Urban Oases in the New Haven Harbor Watershed (CT)
Employ a model of community-based urban land stewardship that engages multiple stakeholders in restoration of urban green spaces to improve watershed health and provide quality habitat for migratory birds while also addressing critical community needs in the most underserved, overburdened neighborhoods of greater New Haven. Project will enhance 16 acres of habitat, complete an Important Bird Area conservation plan, engage 3,500 people through outreach, and involve 900 volunteers.
\$49,997

New Haven Urban Resources Initiative GreenSkills Training to Benefit the Urban Watershed and Tree Canopy of New Haven (CT)
Plant 500 trees and maintain 17 bioswales as a vehicle for training 12 adult ex-offenders and 36 teens in urban forestry and green infrastructure maintenance skills. Project will enhance existing efforts to improve New Haven's community tree canopy through the development of training tools and workshops targeting multiple audiences.
\$28,715

North American Marine Environment Protection Association Coastal Youth Stewards (CT)
Educate and engage 150 K-12 youth in 10 beach cleanups and in an educational program about the marine environment and marine debris in the Southwest Coast Watershed. Project will prevent over 1,500 pounds of debris from entering Long Island Sound waters and encourage students to become environmental stewards through hands-on education about the impact of marine debris on the Sound as well as other waterways.
\$6,918

Norwalk Land Trust Village Creek Salt Marsh Restoration Demonstration (CT)
Develop the planning and design to support restoration of 5 to 8 acres of degraded intertidal salt meadows in Norwalk. Project will provide the foundation for a salt marsh restoration program with a focused project plan that increases the likelihood of restoration success in an important wildlife area.
\$20,000

Sacred Heart University Coastal Dune Restoration at Stratford Point (CT)
Restore 1.5 acres of coastal dune habitat in Stratford Point. Project will provide potential breeding habitat for piping plovers, least and roseate terns, American oystercatchers and tiger beetles.
\$115,199

Sea Research Foundation Sound Engagement for Families (CT)
Conduct six hands-on Long Island Sound-based conservation field programs, and a Long Island Sound Day celebration for 4,000 community members and 300 families in Mystic. Project will immerse families in hands-on learning and conservation activities that foster appreciation and stewardship of Long Island Sound.
\$9,300

Sea Research Foundation Stonington Harbors Water Quality Monitoring and Education Initiative (CT)
Monitor and identify local pollution sources in near-shore areas and conduct a public education program along the coastline of Stonington. Project will reduce sources of nitrogen pollution into the Stonington coast and Long Island Sound.
\$24,672

The Nature Conservancy - Connecticut
Planning for Restoring Fish Passage on the Falls River (CT)

Develop designs for fish passage at two dams on the Falls River a tributary to the lower Connecticut River in Centerbrook. Project will set the stage for runs of alewife and blueback herring, and raise community awareness of these projects, river health, and the critical connection between freshwater habitats and Long Island Sound.

\$59,983

Trout Unlimited

Conserving "Salter" Brook Trout in the Northeastern United States (Multiple States)

Conserve sea-run (salter) brook trout. Project will survey 80 streams where brook trout status is currently unknown, evaluate and identify up to 10 priority Salter Conservation Areas, and complete three model conservation projects that will expand salter brook trout populations in 20.5 miles of streams. Only one model project will be completed directly under this grant.

\$75,000

University of Connecticut

A Blue Marine Plan for Long Island Sound (CT, NY)

Engage scientists, government, industry and the public in development of maps and natural resource and human use information to become part of an online resource for the Long Island Sound Watershed of Connecticut and New York. Project will support the public process needed for development of a Blue Plan which looks at human activities in the marine environment to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives with an aim of protecting and restoring the Sound.

\$34,997

University of Mississippi

Understanding the Legal Framework for Removing Marine Debris and Placing Fishing Gear (Multiple States)

Support development of innovative, proactive management strategies to address derelict fishing gear and vessel interactions in New England. Project will improve awareness of state derelict fishing gear and vessel navigation laws and regulations and explore legal opportunities to prevent gear loss.

\$44,814

Wildlife Management Institute

Habitat Management to Benefit Young Forest Species in New England (CT, MA, ME, VT)

Implement a variety of forest management projects to benefit the young forest-dependent species and bird species normally associated with interior forests, which use young forest sites for brood rearing and in preparation for migration. Project will include non-commercial vegetation management, construction of roosting fields and singing grounds to benefit American woodcock, and planting of shrubs and the development of forage areas to benefit New England cottontail.

\$170,000

Wildlife Management Institute

Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

DELAWARE

Chesapeake Conservancy

Engaging Coastal Communities in the Protection and Restoration of the Choptank River (DE, MD)

Engage the Choptank River watershed's coastal communities and conservation organizations in developing and carrying out a joint vision for the Choptank to address the protection and restoration of coastal habitats. Project will build a foundation for collaboration by developing a shared understanding of the conservation landscape within the Choptank watershed, creating a collective impact framework for uniting conservation efforts.

\$104,868

Chesapeake Stormwater Network

Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training and Engagement (Multiple States)

Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.

\$125,000

Friends of Bellevue State Park

Delaware State Parks Youth Conservation Corps Green Teams

Sponsor a statewide Youth Conservation Corps program in 14 Delaware state parks for the summer of 2016 to assist the Environmental Stewardship Program in the eradication of invasive species. Project will employ young people in conservation projects benefiting the environment, supplemented with an environmental awareness curriculum, community service, and an exploration of the spectrum of career opportunities in the field of environmental sciences.

\$25,000

RESOLVE

Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policy makers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.

\$62,700

Ridge to Reefs

Accelerating Water Quality Improvements in the Nanticoke (DE, MD)

Track key sources of pollution within the Nanticoke watershed based on the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance's existing data set. Project will engage the agricultural community to expand the integration of effective, innovative best management practices on agricultural properties by creating conceptual restoration designs for possible restoration projects and conducting direct, targeted outreach with farmers and agricultural landowners.

\$49,998

Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

Comprehensive Spring and Fall Migratory Bird Assessment on the Gulf of Mexico (AL, FL, MS, TX)

Map the distribution, abundance, timing and habitat affiliations of birds during the spring and fall migrations around the Gulf of Mexico coast using weather radar and citizen-collected (eBird) data. Project will result in maps to be used as decision support tools by conservation planners and policymakers to develop Gulf-wide conservation priorities for North America's migratory birds.

\$321,155

Sustainable Chesapeake

Achieving Phosphorus Balance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Engage stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve farm and regional nutrient balance in high-density animal production areas. Project will expand markets for manure and its co-products to facilitate cost-effective transport of excess nutrients, facilitate Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Balance Sheet development, identify long-term solutions, engage 12,000 to 16,000 producers, and reduce 3,328,800 pounds of nitrogen, 124,564 pounds of phosphorus and 30,048 tons of sediment per year.

\$626,835

The Nature Conservancy

Brandywine Stream Stewards and Community Action in Support of Healthy Waters (DE)

Expand stream monitoring activities into a sustainable, volunteer-led restoration and monitoring program that will employ targeted data collection procedures and establish a community voice in the planning and management of Delaware's First State National Historical Park resources. Project will engage over 300 students and community residents, increasing awareness and understanding of water resources.

\$25,000

The Nature Conservancy

Deliver Advanced Nutrient Management Practices on the Delmarva Peninsula (DE, MD)

Provide assistance to Soil Conservation Districts and other partners by strengthening and expanding the network of practitioners delivering agricultural conservation practices on the Delmarva Peninsula. Project will continue to engage practitioners, including certified crop consultants and agricultural industry professionals, to better coordinate outreach and training for priority best management practices, and facilitate increased delivery and adoption of conservation practices by producers.

\$49,320

The Nature Conservancy

Increasing Nutrient Use Efficiency and Improving Water Quality on Delmarva (DE, MD)

Expand collaborations with Delmarva agribusinesses to improve water quality by increasing the adoption of advanced nutrient management practices. Project will develop public-private partnerships with at least two agricultural retailers, perform jointly-funded demonstration projects with farmers to purchase equipment and management tools, develop local case studies, and reduce annual loads of nitrogen by 105,250 pounds, phosphorus by 26,000 pounds and sediment by 791 tons.

\$195,953

The Trust for Public Land

Strategic Investment Plan for the Delaware River Watershed (DE, NJ, NY, PA)

Develop a business plan to guide and prioritize conservation and restoration throughout the entire watershed, integrating its programs, and developing overarching goals and strategies to address key threats to its fish and wildlife. Project will develop strategic conservation areas and statistics to support the report.

\$98,845

University of Delaware

Delmarva Choptank River Watershed Water-Column Habitat Restoration (DE, MD)

Quantify the effects of land use on water quality at restored oyster reefs. Project will establish a monitoring community to track the fate of nutrients across the watershed, develop continuous data standards across freshwater, groundwater, terrestrial and tidal monitoring stations, and deploy sensors in tributaries where oyster restoration is underway.

\$50,000

Wildlife Management Institute

Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

America's Wildlife Association for Resource Education

Conservation Law Educational Programming for Law Students

Expand conservation educational programs for law students to grow understanding and support for the North American model-based system of conservation and its legal underpinnings. Project will offer internships for law students, develop and offer conservation law courses and seminars, and develop publications on conservation law supported by and for law students.

\$50,000

Anacostia Waterfront Trust

Proving a New Model of Self-Sustaining Stormwater Management in the Anacostia River (DC)

Combine engineered bioretention-based stormwater treatment, stream restoration, stormwater job development, internships and educational activities in the Anacostia River MS4 area of the District of Columbia. Project will reduce nutrients, sediments and toxic pollutants flowing into the Anacostia River and Chesapeake Bay and demonstrate the value of the RainPay implementation model to leverage private capital to accelerate cost-effective stormwater management on private land in the Bay watershed.

\$200,000

Chesapeake Stormwater Network

Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training and Engagement (Multiple States)

Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.

\$125,000

Dantzker Consulting

Independent Evaluation of the Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Program

Independent, third party evaluation of the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund's Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Program.

\$234,990

Earth Conservation Corps

Partnership for Anacostia River Restoration and Urban Bird Education (DC)

Continue partner collaboration and facilitate water quality improvement and restoration programs focused on the Anacostia River, creating up to 8,500 square feet of new native wetlands along the Anacostia River with the help of 200 volunteers. Project will create workforce development for youths and engage and educate 60 members of the community while restoring riparian habitat along the Anacostia River.

\$49,988

Greening Urban

Restoring the Anacostia River through Stormwater Credits (DC)

Focus on developing a program that leverages the District of Columbia's Stormwater Retention Credit (SCR) Trading program to increase stormwater management in the Anacostia Watershed. Project will help prove the viability of SRC trading as a way to accelerate water quality restoration by targeting private investment in stormwater management to the areas of greatest need.

\$49,988

RESOLVE

Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policymakers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.

\$62,700

Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
Comprehensive Spring and Fall Migratory Bird
Assessment on the Gulf of Mexico
(AL, FL, MS, TX)

Map the distribution, abundance, timing and habitat affiliations of birds during the spring and fall migrations around the Gulf of Mexico coast using weather radar and citizen-collected (eBird) data. Project will result in maps to be used as decision support tools by conservation planners and policymakers to develop Gulf-wide conservation priorities for North America's migratory birds.
\$321,155

WildAid

Domestic Wildlife Trafficking Program
(Multiple States)

Support the development of a communications strategy which will include developing effective and coordinated messaging to targeted audiences on reducing the demand for ivory trade in the U.S. Project will implement a communication strategy through the U.S. Wildlife Trafficking Alliance, in which the organization is a partner.
\$100,000

WildAid

U.S. Illegal Wildlife Demand Reduction
Campaign (Multiple States)

Develop and implement a communications campaign to raise awareness of wildlife trafficking into the United States. Project will reduce the demand for illegal wildlife and the amount of illegal wildlife products smuggled into the U.S. contributing to lessening poaching pressure on endangered species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins.
\$270,000

FLORIDA

Conservation Legacy

Next Generation of Gulf Coast Environmental
Ambassadors and Leaders (FL, MS)

Provide paid internships and environmental conservation training to at least 30 socioeconomically disadvantaged students to gain workforce skills to encourage careers in wildlife conservation. Project will help protect sea turtles along 160 miles of Gulf Coast in Pensacola, Florida and Ocean Springs, Mississippi while also promoting public awareness by leading environmental conservation summer camps and citizen science activities.
\$100,000

Ding Darling Wildlife Society

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society 2017
Peer-to-Peer Conference (FL)

Host a Peer-to-Peer Workshop Conference. Project will include multiple workshop sessions covering everything from fund raising to board management to volunteer development.
\$15,000

East Coast Zoological Society
of Florida - Brevard Zoo

Indian River Lagoon Community Outreach-
Based Oyster and Estuary Restoration (FL)

Educate and utilize 2,000 community volunteers to improve water quality in Central Florida's Indian River Lagoon, one of North America's most biologically diverse estuaries. Project will train volunteers to restore an oyster reef.
\$50,000

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

The Million Orchid Research Initiative (FL)

Train students to plant and transplant seeds of rare, native orchids in sterile conditions, nurture seedlings in the mini botany labs housed in their classrooms, and collect and analyze scientific data in Miami-Dade county public schools. Project will allow the students to plant orchids around their schools, where growth and ecological interactions can be monitored as they grow.
\$100,000

Florida Atlantic University

Apple Snail Adoption Program:
Teaching Youth about Effect of Invasives
on Natural Ecosystems (FL)

Implement the Apple Snail Adoption Program (ASAP) with at least 500 students by restoring 50 acres of habitat and planting 2,500 trees in South Florida. ASAP will focus on propagating and restoring native Florida apple snail populations and the removal of invasive exotic snails in two locations: the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge and the Grassy Waters Everglades Preserve.
\$48,420

Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

Examining Habitat Use, Movement and Survival
of Juvenile Gulf Sturgeon in Pensacola Bay (FL)

Evaluate juvenile Gulf sturgeon recruitment and characterize large scale movements and seasonal habitat use within Pensacola Bay drainages. Project will develop techniques to capture young-of-the-year Gulf sturgeon. Results will be used to develop a program to monitor the status and trends of juvenile Gulf sturgeon populations and inform future conservation projects to protect and enhance spawning and rearing habitat.
\$174,881

Forest Landowners Association

Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest
Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.
\$100,000

Friends of the Florida Panther Refuge

Capacity Building for Friends of the
Florida Panther Refuge

Work with a strategic planner to strengthen the organization's ability to achieve its mission and to increase membership and capacity. Project will help strengthen operations for the organization and increase understanding of how to recruit members and diverse volunteers, expand education goals, and raise awareness for the Florida panther.
\$1,226

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain
Best Practices for Effective Land Conservation in
the Gulf of Mexico Region (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Promote best practices and efficiencies among various practitioners to achieve land conservation goals of emerging state and federal conservation plans for the Gulf. Project will provide capacity building and technical assistance to partner organizations, identify best practices and efficiencies for implementing landscape level conservation, and assist in implementation by enhancing collaboration among public agencies and nongovernmental organizations.
\$247,500

Manatee County Board of
County Commissioners

Robinson Preserve Oyster Reef Habitat
Enhancement (FL)

Enhance a larger habitat improvement effort occurring at Robinson Preserve in Manatee County by creating 2 acres of new oyster reef habitat within the preserve. Project will provide additional area for live oyster growth and facilitate the recovery of additional backwater fisheries habitat for snook and tarpon.
\$82,000

Manomet

Gulf of Mexico Coastal Waterbird
Conservation Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Work with federal and state agency and nongovernmental organization experts to develop a framework to achieve long-term conservation and recovery goals for targeted species of coastal waterbirds across the Gulf. Project will build on existing business plans to create a set of strategies and associated actions and costs to guide coastal shorebird and waterbird conservation projects throughout the Gulf over the next decade.
\$203,746

Mote Marine Laboratory

Gulf-Wide Electronic Monitoring for a Sustainable
Commercial Reef Fish Fishery (FL, LA, TX)

Advance implementation and integration of electronic monitoring on up to 20 commercial fishing vessels in the reef fish fishery in the Gulf of Mexico, to support improved data collection on commercially important species such as snapper and grouper. Project will build on successful pilots and expand to Gulf-wide implementation of electronic monitoring to improve catch and discard monitoring.
\$544,525

**Museum of Science dba
Miami Science Museum
Coastal Habitat Restoration in
Northeast Miami Dade County (FL)**

Restore 1.48 total acres of tropical hardwood hammock habitat near Oleta River State Park, in northeast Miami-Dade County. Project partners will engage 300 volunteers over a 1-year period, who will monitor restoration protocol, mechanically remove residual invasive exotic plants, and replant 400 trees and shrubs, all native to the tropical hardwood hammock biome.

\$25,640

**National Audubon Society
Advancing the Atlantic Flyway
Shorebird Initiative (CT, NY, NC, FL)**

Protect, restore, enhance and manage priority shorebird habitats at roughly 75 sites across Connecticut, New York, North Carolina and Florida. Project will eliminate harmful human disturbances using new and innovative techniques, protect the places that shorebirds need at critical times of their life cycles, assess the impact of predators at selected sites, advance the current knowledge of shorebird demography, and address key knowledge gaps.

\$150,000

**Northwest Florida State College Foundation
Restoring Oyster Reefs in Choctawhatchee Bay
through Community Stewardship (FL)**

Restore and populate 1 acre of oyster habitat in Choctawhatchee Bay. Community stewards will enhance the oyster population by constructing two new oyster reefs and colonizing new reefs with living oysters grown through the Choctawhatchee Oyster Gardeners and Spat On! Youth Outreach programs.

\$39,993

**Operation Migration-USA
Whooping Crane Reintroduction to
Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)**

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.

\$75,000

**School Board of Orange County Florida
Wekiva Aquaponics for Science, Technology,
Engineering and Mathematics Learning (FL)**

Enhance the agriculture, culinary arts, engineering and laser photonics career programs and allow students to discover the environmental and economic benefits in water conservation and the rate of production.

\$50,000

**Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife
Conservation of Shoal and Redeye Bass
through Native Black Bass Business Plan (AL,
FL, GA, SC)**

Evaluate, through a GIS threat assessment, the habitat condition in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin and portions of the Savannah that will ultimately provide a more strategic method to identify target restoration priorities. Project will target a number of high-priority sites for restoration to benefit shoal, redeye bass, and other species and will monitor populations of shoal and redeye bass through genetic techniques to determine the level of introgression over time.

\$497,188

**St. Andrew Bay Resource
Management Association
Community-Based Habitat Restoration
in St. Andrew Bay (FL)**

Implement community-based living shoreline habitat restoration programs in the St. Andrew Bay watershed. Project will restore and enhance a total of 0.4 acres of coastal wetlands and perform education and outreach activities. Outcomes include habitat restoration that will increase community resiliency and enhanced environmental stewardship.

\$88,000

**Texas A&M AgriLife Research
Applied Biodiversity Sciences
Conservation Scholars Program**

Integrate undergraduates and graduates using a two-tiered program that will focus on local issues related to Gulf of Mexico ecosystems and broader questions on energy development, energy policy and impacts on biodiversity and natural resources. Project will appoint two graduate fellowships to mentor a small cohort of undergraduate interns as they develop their projects and internship proposals.

\$200,000

**The Longleaf Alliance
Longleaf Restoration in the Gulf Coastal Plain
Ecosystem Partnership Landscape (AL, FL) - III**

Restore the longleaf ecosystem through longleaf plantings, prescribed fire, rare species recovery, and private landowner outreach and technical assistance. Project will plant 374 acres of longleaf pine and improve more than 36,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire and other management practices on public and private lands. Rare species recovery will center on the red-cockaded woodpecker, reticulated salamander, eastern indigo snake and gopher tortoise.

\$300,000

**The Longleaf Alliance
Team Capacity and Landowner Technical
Assistance and Outreach - II**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.

\$100,000

**The Nature Conservancy
Gulf Coast Prescribed Fire Mentoring Program
(AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Build upon a successful pilot project to train and provide 18 to 19 jobs to underserved urban youths as wildland firefighters and ecosystem restoration technicians working in each of the five Gulf states. Project will strongly emphasize longleaf pine management and prescribed fire and will impact greater than 105,000 acres.

\$499,631

**The Nature Conservancy
Increase Longleaf Restoration
and Management Capacity in the
Okefenokee/Osceola Landscape (FL, GA)**

Establish 300 acres of longleaf pine and improve management of an additional 61,250 acres of existing longleaf habitat on public and private lands, reducing hazardous fuel loads in a highly fire-prone area. Project continues a successful collaboration with the Jacksonville Job Corps Center to train young people classified as living below the poverty level to serve on longleaf restoration teams. Partners will also conduct restoration workshops for at least 200 private landowners.

\$300,000

**The Nature Conservancy
Ocala Local Implementation Team (FL) - III**

Establish longleaf pine on 472 acres and improve and maintain longleaf habitat on 5,200 acres of public and private lands. Project will support controlled burning and other management activities to assist partners managing longleaf habitat, refine spatial priorities for restoration and maintenance to guide future work, provide longleaf management workshops, and build on existing partnership capacity to increase efficiencies.

\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy - Florida**Apalachicola Longleaf Restoration Initiative (AL, FL, GA) - IV**

Plant 1,825 acres of longleaf pine and improve more than 21,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat through prescribed fire, invasive plant removal and native ground cover plantings. Project will educate private landowners on ground cover restoration, fire planning, invasive species management and cost-share incentives. Partners will also reintroduce the eastern indigo snake, a federally threatened species, and monitor its progress to inform habitat quality assessments.

\$325,000

University of Central Florida**Important Sea Turtle Habitat Identification through Genetic Indicators (AL, FL, LA, MS)**

Sample, satellite tag and track oceanic stage sea turtles caught offshore in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Project results will inform research on environmental and genetic mechanisms driving sea turtle habitat use during their early developmental years, closing a major gap in the uncertainty surrounding recruitment dynamics from the oceanic stage.

\$122,079

University of North Carolina at Asheville**Cape Fear River Basin and Southeast Atlantic Coastal Resiliency Assessment (GA, FL, NC, SC)**

Assess and map climate resiliency attributes of the Cape Fear River basin, but also of the broader Southeast Atlantic Coast, to inform priority areas for potential projects to protect communities from severe storms and floods, and enhance fish and wildlife and their associated habitats.

\$106,302

GEORGIA**Atlanta Audubon Society****Restoring Bird-Friendly Habitat in Peachtree Creek Watershed (GA)**

Engage 125 community volunteers and youth to restore and enhance 15 acres of bird habitat on two sites in the Peachtree Creek watershed and create baseline bird data to inform decision-making. Project will promote local awareness of birds and the importance of providing quality habitat.

\$33,000

Coastal WildScapes**Cay Creek Wetland Demonstration Landscape: A Coastal Model (GA) - II**

Improve the numbers and diversity of native plants that provide host plants and nectar for pollinators at the Cay Creek Wetland Demonstration garden. Project will provide the coastal community with a model for enhancing native floral and faunal diversity at the intersection of wetland habitats and urbanized areas.

\$30,000

Emerald Corridor Foundation**Proctor Creek Rain Garden Partnership (GA)**

Create a rain garden at Proctor Creek as a demonstration site and a platform for community education and engagement. The rain garden will use native vegetation and drainage techniques to restore habitat, support natural hydrology and reduce stormwater runoff flows. Project will showcase green infrastructure and land stewardship as tools for urban watershed restoration and conservation.

\$43,272

Forest Landowners Association**Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)**

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.

\$100,000

Georgia Department of Natural Resources**Coastal Georgia Invasive Species Regional Management Initiative**

Utilize a regional management approach to high-priority invasive species in coastal Georgia. Project will encompass a comprehensive approach to engaging student interns and landowners in identified high-priority areas to collectively manage the five priority invasive species: sand pine, common reed, salt cedar, Chinese tallow and water hyacinth.

\$50,000

Georgia Department of Natural Resources**Georgia Shorebird Alliance Red Knot, American Oystercatcher and Whimbrel Conservation Efforts**

Support a number of shorebird conservation efforts on the Georgia Coast focusing on priority species including red knot, whimbrel, American oystercatcher and Wilson's plover. Project will assist with predator control and shoreline change planning, which will address the emerging coyote depredation threat, and inlet dynamics in light of sea level rise, as well as establish beach stewards at several key foraging and breeding areas for priority shorebirds that are heavily used by beachgoers.

\$75,501

Georgia Department of Natural Resources**Sprewell Bluff - Alexander Tract Acquisition (GA)**

Acquire in fee title to 3,200 acres of mountain land in Georgia's Pine Mountain region, containing 2 miles of the Flint River, and examples of three recognized rare community types: hog plum glades, longleaf pine heath bluff and montane longleaf pine. Project will join Sprewell Bluff State Park to the Wildlife Management Area, and connect thousands of acres of private land.

\$500,000

Operation Migration-USA**Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)**

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.

\$75,000

Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife**Conservation of Shoal and Redeye Bass through Native Black Bass Business Plan (AL, FL, GA, SC)**

Evaluate, through a GIS threat assessment, the habitat condition in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin and portions of the Savannah that will ultimately provide a more strategic method to identify target restoration priorities. Project will target a number of high-priority sites for restoration to benefit shoal, redeye bass, and other species and will monitor populations of shoal and redeye bass through genetic techniques to determine the level of introgression over time.

\$497,188

The Longleaf Alliance**Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.

\$100,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Fort Stewart/Altamaha Longleaf Restoration Partnership (GA) - II**

Increase capacity and improve coordination among partners to establish 171 acres of longleaf pine and improve an additional 12,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire. Project will improve habitat for the gopher tortoise and other species on public and private lands. Partners will also build a network of public and private landowners focusing on native ground cover restoration through prescribed burns, as well as native seed collection and planting.

\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy

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

Accelerate and demonstrate longleaf pine conservation on more than 15,000 acres in west Georgia and east Alabama, with particular emphasis on privately owned land. Project will plant longleaf on 1,900 acres, implement prescribed fire on 13,800 acres, and contact more than 2,000 private landowners, with at least five landowners committed to enrolling in financial assistance programs that will enhance longleaf pine habitat.

\$275,000

The Nature Conservancy

Dugdown Montane Longleaf Private Landowner Outreach and Capacity Building (AL, GA)

Establish 236 acres of longleaf pine and improve 37,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire in the Dugdown corridor, which contains one of the largest remnant montane longleaf pine ecosystems in northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Project will increase capacity within the Dugdown corridor, support development of a conservation plan, increase partnerships with private landowners, and foster collaboration between conservation organizations and agencies across state lines.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy

Increase Longleaf Restoration and Management Capacity in the Okefenokee/Osceola Landscape (FL, GA)

Establish 300 acres of longleaf pine and improve management of an additional 61,250 acres of existing longleaf habitat on public and private lands, reducing hazardous fuel loads in a highly fire-prone area. Project continues a successful collaboration with the Jacksonville Job Corps Center to train young people classified as living below the poverty level to serve on longleaf restoration teams. Partners will also conduct restoration workshops for at least 200 private landowners.

\$300,000

The Nature Conservancy - Florida

Apalachicola Longleaf Restoration Initiative (AL, FL, GA) - IV

Plant 1,825 acres of longleaf pine and improve more than 21,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat through prescribed fire, invasive plant removal and native ground cover plantings. Project will educate private landowners on ground cover restoration, fire planning, invasive species management and cost-share incentives. Partners will also reintroduce the eastern indigo snake, a federally threatened species, and monitor its progress to inform habitat quality assessments.

\$325,000

Trees Atlanta

Enota Park and Proctor Creek Restoration (GA)

Remove invasives and plant native species on 6 acres to promote erosion control and habitat restoration at Enota Park and Proctor Creek. Project will incorporate public education through including the park site on Westside Trail walking tours and as an education site for KIPP STRIVE Academy students.

\$46,800

University of Georgia Foundation

Creating Connectivity in Gainesville (GA)

Create "green" crosswalk improvements that replace paved areas with planted medians and corner islands in downtown Gainesville that are designed to reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians and serve as bioswales to collect stormwater runoff. Project will build upon existing citizen engagement and educational programs about how green infrastructure is a cost-effective approach to improving water quality and benefit economic development, public health and community revitalization.

\$50,000

University of North Carolina at Asheville

Cape Fear River Basin and Southeast Atlantic Coastal Resiliency Assessment (GA, FL, NC, SC)

Assess and map climate resiliency attributes of the Cape Fear River basin, but also of the broader Southeast Atlantic Coast, to inform priority areas for potential projects to protect communities from severe storms and floods, and enhance fish and wildlife and their associated habitats. Project will include a report summarizing the tools, resources and datasets that were analyzed to inform the project and identify "Resiliency Hubs," "Communities At-Risk," and open space/working lands.

\$106,302

WildAid

U.S. Illegal Wildlife Demand Reduction Campaign (Multiple States)

Develop and implement a communications campaign to raise awareness of wildlife trafficking into the United States. Project will reduce the demand for illegal wildlife and the amount of illegal wildlife products smuggled into the U.S. contributing to lessening poaching pressure on endangered species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins.

\$270,000

HAWAII

American Bird Conservancy

Conserving the Endangered Seabirds of Hono a Na Pali Natural Area Reserve on Kauai (HI)

Support predator control work to protect three threatened seabird species, including the Hawaiian petrel and Newell's shearwater, at newly identified sites, Hanakapiai Mauka (Hanakapiai) and Hanakoa, and to develop a "rapid response team" to target control efforts throughout the Hono o Na Pali Natural Area Reserve on Kauai during the seabird breeding season where hot spots of predator activity are identified.

\$165,940

American Bird Conservancy

Establishing New Populations of Endangered Species at Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge (HI)

Translocate up to 10 Newell's shearwaters and up to 20 Hawaiian petrels to a newly fenced site on Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge. Project will restore habitat within the fenced site, identify additional donor Hawaiian petrel and Newell's shearwater chicks that can be translocated, rear the translocated chicks, and deploy social attraction which will attempt to bring in prospecting adult seabirds.

\$230,917

American Bird Conservancy

Saving Hawaii's Imperiled Forest Birds - VIII

Implement on-the-ground projects to conserve several priority Hawaiian birds including palila, Maui parrotbill, millerbird, 'akikiki, 'akeke'e and puaihoi, raise public awareness, and attract new support for Hawaiian birds.

\$300,000

Conservation International Foundation

Implementing a Multi-Fishery Seafood Traceability Program (HI)

Partner with Suisan Co., one of Hawaii's oldest and largest fresh seafood wholesale and retail operations, to develop and implement strategies that expand market opportunities and improve seafood traceability within the supply chain. Project will evaluate the market and non-market benefits and opportunities associated with providing traceable, sustainable, locally harvested seafood products in Hawaii.

\$80,129

Friends of Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Educational and Outreach Development (HI)

Develop outreach tools to bring awareness to the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge and to increase organizational capacity. Project will include brand development, designing of outreach materials for public distribution, website development, and creating an informational video to describe the natural and cultural importance of the refuge.

\$9,914

Gettysburg College

Develop Low-Cost Electronic Catch and Bycatch Monitoring in Small-Scale Fisheries (HI, NC)

Develop a low-cost electronic monitoring system to augment human observers in small-scale fisheries in Hawaii and North Carolina. Project will develop electronic monitoring technology and software to efficiently and cost-effectively gather accurate fisheries data, including target catch rates and bycatch rates of marine megafauna – such as sea lions, sharks and sea turtles – to assist in the management of U.S. small-scale fisheries.

\$65,813

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources

Seabird Recovery, Lehua Island Restoration (HI)
Restore Lehua Island and continue the work of the Lehua Island Restoration Steering Committee. Project will eradicate rats from Lehua Island to restore the island's full potential as a sanctuary for increased colonies of black-footed albatross, Laysan albatross, Newell's shearwater, Hawaiian petrel and other Pacific seabirds.
\$470,000

Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife **Restoring Seabird Breeding Habitat on Kure Atoll (HI) - III**

Continue a 10-year program on Kure Atoll to eradicate *Verbesina encelioides* from 188 acres, control invasive plants, increase native plants, and document seabird response to activities. Project will increase quality habitat for breeding seabirds, increase population abundance for Laysan and black-footed albatrosses and brown and masked boobies, increase biodiversity, and improve dune structure to buffer climate change effects.
\$550,000

Horsley Witten Group **Watershed Threat Assessment Tool Development (HI, PR)**

Develop a simplified decision support tool for improving the link between watershed management priorities and coral health.
\$80,900

Island Conservation **Kaho'olawe Island Seabird Restoration (HI)**

Follow up on priority action items from a business plan that includes several primary activities for the implementation of a project to eradicate feral cats and rodents from Kaho'olawe Island. Project will result in creation of 28,471 acres of seabird habitat that is free of invasive predators.
\$300,000

Kupu **Department of Interior Panel Discussion and Service Project at World Conservation Congress (HI)**

Host an outdoor panel discussing the corps model and what it does for youth and conservation. Project will bring in four speakers to speak on their experiences within the corps model and provide an opportunity for participants to pull invasive plants and plant native species along the Makiki Stream.
\$1,625

Napili Bay and Beach Foundation **Reducing Land-Based Pollutants to Napili Bay's Reef (HI)**

Reduce land-based pollutants that are discharged into the ocean waters of Napili Bay. Project will prepare engineering plans and implement best management practices to stabilize unimproved parking areas to reduce surface water volume and pollutant loads to nearshore coral reefs.
\$25,000

New York University **Comparative Environmental DNA Analysis of Hawaiian Coral Reef Fishes**

Analyze environmental DNA (eDNA) from water samples previously collected from 35 coastal marine sites throughout the main Hawaiian Islands as a potential new tool for fisheries management. Project will seek to detect priority fish such as the goatfish, surgeonfish and parrotfish complexes and invasive fish like the peacock grouper using eDNA, and investigate relationships between coral reef fish diversity, associated habitat and fisheries data in the wild.
\$53,655

Oceanic Libra/Kula Lawaia **Preserving Traditional Fishing Practices through a Multi-Fisheries Youth Training Program in Hawaii**

Preserve traditional fishing practices in Hawaii through the implementation of a Multi-Fisheries Training Program. Project will develop and implement a new training program with both classroom and on-the-water training to attract new entrants into traditional Hawaiian fisheries.
\$82,000

Oregon State University **Viewing Albatrosses From Space: Using Satellite Imagery to Count Nesting Birds (HI, OR)**

Use WorldView-3 satellite, the first commercial super-spectral, high-resolution satellite, to do remote sensing imagery to determine albatross nesting population sizes on breeding colonies. Project will test accuracy and develop correction factors using counts from satellite images and those by personnel on the ground.
\$119,605

Pacific Rim Conservation **Predator-Proof Fencing to Protect Translocated Laysan Albatross Chicks on Oahu (HI)**

Construct a predator-proof fence to protect the future nesting area of a newly created Laysan albatross colony at the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge on Oahu. Project will ensure that the new colony is secure from predators and located above predicted sea level rise.
\$55,000

Purdue University **Laser Technology for Seabird Bycatch Prevention in Commercial Fisheries (HI, IN)**

Determine the extent to which new laser technology, developed to prevent marine birds from entering areas around fishing vessels, may pose a danger to marine birds vulnerable to bycatch mortality. Project will provide sound scientific evidence for regulatory agencies to make decisions and recommendations about the use of laser technology around fisheries, and conduct outreach efforts to communicate directly with stakeholders and develop best practices for laser use.
\$179,965

San Diego State University **Research Foundation**

Socioeconomic Assessment of Coral Reef Dependent Communities (AS, HI)
Develop and implement socioeconomic assessments and monitoring programs in communities in Hawaii and American Samoa to improve sustainable coral reef fisheries management. Project will provide information necessary to gain a better understanding of social-ecological linkages, and to integrate project results into adaptive management of coral reef fisheries at the local level.
\$67,118

The Coral Reef Alliance **Measuring the Impact of Wastewater Pollution Management Action in South Kohala (HI)**

Ensure that the community of Puako has the long-term capacity to measure the impact of improvements to wastewater treatment practices on nearby coral reef systems. Project will establish baseline data according to specifications in the monitoring plan and build a constituency to conduct long-term monitoring.
\$50,000

The Kohala Center **Pelekane Bay Watershed Restoration and Recovery (HI)**

Implement mitigation techniques to reduce sediment runoff causing alteration to the coral reef community, fish habitat and food source after an August 2015 fire and flood. Project will empty 15 sediment check dams making them operational again, collect up to 500 tons of sediment, and remove feral goats that have reentered the system allowing for out planting of native species to help stabilize the soil and reduce runoff.
\$66,209

The Nature Conservancy **Enhancing and Expanding High-Elevation Maui Parrotbill Habitat in East Maui (HI)**

Secure the windward East Maui population of Maui parrotbill through enhancement and expansion of core native-dominant high-elevation parrotbill habitat. Project will include fence repairs, ungulate removal and surveys, restoration through invasive conifer removal, threat monitoring, and support of the Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project's small predator control project in Waikamoi Preserve.
\$70,000

The Nature Conservancy**Evaluate Role of Herbivores in Mediating Coral Bleaching Impacts on Health and Recruitment (HI)**

Conduct a study that evaluates the role of herbivores such as sea urchins or parrotfish in promoting coral health and recovery following the 2015 mass coral bleaching event along the west coast of Hawaii Island. Project will evaluate whether overgrowth by turf algae following a bleaching event degrades the health of adult coral colonies and inhibits the survival of coral juveniles, and will examine the role that herbivores play in mediating these interactions.
\$75,000

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

Eradicate yellow crazy ants from 260-hectare Johnson Atoll National Wildlife Refuge 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.
\$380,000

U.S. Department of the Interior,**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service****Study of Feral Pig Eradication Techniques (HI)**

Protect native birds by eradicating feral pigs at Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge through intensive trapping, snaring, hunting by staff and contractors, fence construction, and repair or replacement of existing fences. Project will focus on nine Feral Ungulate Management Units encompassing over 11,500 acres of the best native forest bird habitat in Hawaii.
\$285,000

University of California - San Diego**Identifying Local Drivers that Influence Coral Bleaching, Survivorship and Recovery (HI)**

Increase understanding of factors that contribute to resiliency and recovery of coral reefs in Maui at the molecular and reefscape scales. Project will examine local biological and environmental drivers with an emphasis on the impact of herbivore and watershed management on coral reef resilience and recovery to bleaching.
\$65,493

University of California - Santa Cruz**Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)**

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.
\$174,488

University of Hawaii**Big Island Early Detection and Rapid Response (HI)**

Provide hands-on training to empower communities to conduct invasive species removal efforts. Project will target four high-risk plants in key forest areas and support work on four of nine early detection target species prioritized based on Hawaii weed risk assessment scores, proximity and risk to native forest lands, and feasibility to control.
\$159,004

University of Hawaii - Manoa**Island-Wide Eradication of Long Thorn Kiawe on Kauai (HI)**

Complete an island-wide eradication effort of adult long-thorn kiawe. Project will remove the last large population of this species on state land, hand control seedling regeneration, and complete a full shoreline survey on private lands to locate and control remaining isolated plants.
\$59,522

IDAHO**Golden Eagle Audubon Society****Native Youth for Habitat Restoration (ID, NV)**

Provide habitat restoration training and education for native youth from the Duck Valley Reservation. Bureau of Land Management and local resource professionals will train and educate the youth on restoration techniques, ecology and conservation.
\$33,446

Friends of Camas National Wildlife Refuge**Monarch Butterfly/Milkweed Demonstration (ID)**

Install a pollinator garden at the Camas National Wildlife Refuge headquarters building with areas of native grasses and forbs, several semi-arid areas, and a moist area with water feature and hummingbird stations. Project will install an ADA accessible path that will circle the area, plant native trees along a feeder canal, encourage a variety of pollinating birds and insects through native planting, and construct six raised beds planted with species of milkweed native to this area.
\$7,050

Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge**Native Sagebrush Steppe Restoration at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (ID)**

Restore native sagebrush steppe vegetation on a 3-acre plot near the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Project will treat the area to inhibit cheat grass, purchase and plant native grass and forb seed mixes, gather and process native (onsite) shrub seed and have Lucky Peak Nursery, a USDA Forest Service facility, grow the containerized seedlings, and plant, water and weed the seedlings with volunteer help.
\$2,061

Idaho Department of Water Resources**Idaho Water Transactions Program FY17**

Work in a voluntary manner with water users in the Upper Salmon River basin and the Teton River Basin to improve tributary flows to benefit imperiled fish. Project will identify and implement new transactions.
\$260,575

Jannus**Global Gardens Sustainable Urban Agriculture for Refugee Growers (ID)**

Implement sustainable stewardship of privately and publicly owned agricultural lands, empower refugee growers to understand and use sustainable agricultural practices, engage volunteer, and create at least 12 family-owned small farm businesses. Project will help resettled refugees living in Boise, who wish to cultivate fresh, organic produce for home use and sale, including access to land and training in sustainable agriculture and marketing.
\$45,500

Nez Perce Tribe**Restore Wetland into Nature Park for Environmental Education (ID) - II**

Build off Phase I, restoring additional wetland areas and extending the interpretative trail located at Lapwai Nature Park. Project will eradicate invasive weeds, restore stream banks, plant trees and shrubs, educate tribal community members, engage student volunteers, and complete trail work.
\$49,794

Northwest Youth Corps**Boise Community Conservation Corps (ID)**

Partner with the Idaho Conservation Corps, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bogus Basin Recreational Association, and the Bureau of Reclamation to employ youths in high-priority conservation projects in natural areas near and in Boise. Youths will learn about natural resources, receive high school credit, and learn job skills to prepare them for careers in conservation.
\$29,849

Northwest Youth Corps**Lake Cascade Habitat Management and Youth Development (ID)**

Expand opportunities for five Idaho youths to carry out conservation project work in partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. Project will provide youths the opportunity to work alongside conservation resource professionals to implement critical habitat restoration work at Lake Cascade.
\$25,000

The Henry's Fork Foundation**Creating a Sustainable Future for the Henry's Fork Watershed (ID)**

Provide for the long-term sustainability and protection of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River, through a coordinated, watershed-wide effort to improve river access, collaboratively manage water resources, and educate and conduct community outreach to conserve a wild trout fishery. Project will fund on-the-ground restoration and monitoring, and foster community conservation stewardship, benefiting the river ecosystem. **\$25,000**

The Student Conservation Association**Perjue Canyon Trail Restoration (ID)**

Employ five youths to maintain 7 miles of the Perjue Canyon trail in Owyhee Canyonlands. Project will train youths to use hand tools to widen trail tread and repair segments of eroded trail that is significant to outdoor recreating in the Boise metro area. **\$6,000**

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Wolverine Monitoring in the U.S. Rocky Mountains and North Cascades (Multiple States)**

Define and implement a multi-state conservation strategy for wolverines. Project will implement a collaborative monitoring program to assess and establish a current baseline on distribution, occupancy and genetic characteristics of the metapopulation, maintain landscape connectivity among occupied, core wolverine habitats of the northern U.S. Rockies and north Cascades, and develop policies that address the socio-political needs for assisting wolverine population expansion with translocations. **\$384,961**

Wilderness Science Education**Idaho Snake River Birds of Prey Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Enhancement**

Involve six partners and over 180 southwest Idaho participants in immersive place-based learning about the sagebrush steppe habitat surrounding their communities, taking tangible steps to restore 15 acres of habitat through planting native vegetation, removing noxious weeds and trash, and discovering local natural resource career and education opportunities. Project will create native plant gardens at partner schools and organizations to provide local learning areas. **\$25,000**

Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative**Creating Habitat for Grizzly Bear Connectivity and Survival in the Cabinet-Yaak Region (ID, MT)**

Lead and coordinate over 60 partners to improve grizzly bear habitat and survival in the Cabinet-Yaak region, by growing the small, isolated population and reconnecting it with the larger Canadian Rockies' populations. Project will protect and restore prime habitat, reinforce ineffective barriers on disused roads, protect or replant suitable vegetation, reduce human-wildlife conflicts, facilitate highway crossings, acquire small private land parcels, and monitor movement patterns in the region. **\$234,581**

ILLINOIS**Chicago Public Schools, District 299****Space to Grow:****Greening Chicago Schoolyards (IL) - II**

Renovate three Chicago Public School campuses with green infrastructure features to capture approximately 500,000 gallons of stormwater and prevent 320,000 gallons of stormwater from entering Chicago's combined sewer system. Project will transform Chicago schoolyards into vibrant outdoor spaces that will help keep water resources clean, contribute to less neighborhood flooding, and benefit students and community members in underserved communities. **\$300,000**

Faith in Place**Organizing Communities to Implement Stormwater Management Strategies (IL)**

Partner with five Chicago faith communities to install stormwater management strategies and develop water conservation and management outreach programs for each community. Project will prevent approximately 43,000 gallons of stormwater from entering the area's waterways and will educate residents about the benefits of improved stormwater management. **\$250,689**

Friends of Crab Orchard Refuge**Pollinator Habitat Restoration and Interpretation (IL)**

Restore 12 acres of native prairie for the benefit of pollinator species. Project will increase plantings of native forbs and grasses that benefit pollinator species, both on the Crab Orchard Refuge and in the community, through direct plantings on the refuge and interpretive programs that encourage native plantings by private landowners **\$10,000**

Friends of the Chicago River**North Shore Channel and North Branch Vegetation Restoration (IL)**

Conduct a pilot project to install 2,500 water willow and 2,000 lizard's tail plants to enhance habitat for native fish species and other aquatic life in the North Shore Channel and at the north end of Goose Island in the Chicago River. Project will restore native plant species that were once abundant throughout the river system and provide key protection for growing fish and invertebrate species. **\$105,004**

Friends of the Forest Preserves**Centennial Network Restoration along the Chicago River (IL) - II**

Continue to build on the success of the now established Centennial Volunteers program at five sites, totaling 267 acres along the North Branch of the Chicago River and the Little Calumet River. Project will continue invasive species control work and restoration management by fortifying and expanding the volunteer groups. **\$270,000**

Illinois Corn Growers Association**Precision Conservation Management:****A Farm Enterprise Approach to Conservation Implementation (IL)**

Pilot precision conservation management in Illinois to help farmers adopt conservation practices that improve water quality, soil health and wildlife habitat. Anonymized farmer data will be used to assess effectiveness of conservation practices on agronomic, economic and environmental metrics. **\$209,886**

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement. **\$30,000**

Midwest Association of Fish**and Wildlife Agencies****Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level. **\$144,750**

National Audubon Society

Hemi-Marsh Restoration in the Calumet Region (IL)

Restore habitat and improve public use of 110 acres of wetlands along the Calumet River. Project will enhance habitat for wetland-dependent species and improve public use by restoring native plant communities, returning hydrologic regimes to more natural conditions, and developing interpretive signage on site.
\$273,348

National Audubon Society

Sustaining Birds of the Great Lakes (IL, NY)

Restore critical bird stopover and breeding habitat across coastal wetlands in two urban landscapes of the Great Lakes basin. Invasive species management and revegetation of native cover will be applied across a total of 196 acres in Chicago and Buffalo that will result in enhanced wetland habitat, improved habitat quality for threatened resident and migratory bird species, less sediment runoff, and improved resiliency.
\$449,790

Operation Migration-USA

Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.
\$75,000

Pollinator Partnership

Ecoregional Seed Program for Monarchs across Eastern Broadleaf Forest (AR, IL, IN, MO, OH)

Establish an ecoregional seed collecting program for the eastern broadleaf forest and provide technical assistance to public and private land managers in five states. Project will collect 300 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate 9,000 seedlings to support establishment of 4,700 acres of monarch butterfly habitat.
\$150,000

Sand County Foundation

Building Capacity for Monarch Recovery among Electric Utilities (IA, IL, MN, WI)

Build capacity within the energy industry to establish high-quality monarch habitat on lands dedicated to energy infrastructure and rights-of-way. Project will incorporate cost-effective habitat restoration strategies into energy industry standards of operation and restoring habitat at 400 sites.
\$98,769

The Conservation Foundation

Fox Valley Monarch Corridor Restoration (IL)

Create or improve 975 acres of monarch habitat along the Fox River Valley in Illinois, along with a coalition of 12 public and private land conservation organizations. Project will establish and restore 10 multi-acre sites and hundreds of smaller stepping-stone sites on private properties, creating a linked patchwork of habitats for the breeding and migration of monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
\$247,942

The Kitchen Community

Building Learning Gardens in Chicago Public Schools (IL)

Build Learning Gardens in Chicago public schools, add outdoor classrooms and community gathering places that connect kids to real food and empower them to make healthier food choices. Project will engage students through outdoor, experiential learning, increase students' preference for healthy fruits and vegetables, and strengthening the relationship between schools and their surrounding community.
\$50,000

The Nature Conservancy

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

Restore and enhance 178 acres of coastal wetland habitat at six sites within the Calumet region of southern Lake Michigan in order to restore and manage habitat for wetland birds including yellow rail and northern harrier. Project will treat invasive species on 138 acres, restore hydrology to 40 acres of wetland habitat, and monitor wetland bird species to document restoration impacts and inform adaptive management.
\$806,653

University of Illinois at Chicago

Little Prairie on the Campus: Restoring Prairie on University of Illinois at Chicago's West Campus

Restore .25 acres of prairie with help of 60 high school and college intern volunteers on "Little Prairie on the Campus," located on the west side of the University of Illinois at Chicago campus, in the Chicago River North Branch watershed. Project will provide training for campus project managers on incorporating and managing sustainable infrastructure and natural habitats and expand the campus stormwater management plan.
\$36,658

WildAid

U.S. Illegal Wildlife Demand Reduction Campaign (Multiple States)

Develop and implement a communications campaign to raise awareness of wildlife trafficking into the United States. Project will reduce the demand for illegal wildlife and the amount of illegal wildlife products smuggled into the U.S. contributing to lessening poaching pressure on endangered species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins.
\$270,000

INDIANA

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek Mill Creek Healthy People and River Program (IN, OH)

Restore and regenerate a total of 17 acres of wildlife habitat and wetlands for wildlife, including the black-crowned night heron and the Indiana bat, in Muscatatuck Wildlife Refuge in Indiana and in multiple Mill Creek riverine/riparian sites in Cincinnati, Ohio. Project will engage at least 960 participants, including 860 middle and high school students and 100 adult volunteers from Mill Creek neighborhoods and diverse organizations.
\$37,500

Keystone Policy Center

Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.
\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

Ohio River Foundation

Cooperative Weed Management Area of Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana

Create a Cooperative Weed Management Area in Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana to control and reduce nonnative invasive plant species in the Ohio River watershed. Project will establish a Cooperative Weed Management Area and use it as a template for creating others in the Ohio River watershed.
\$60,000

Operation Migration-USA

Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.
\$75,000

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\$150,000

Purdue University**Laser Technology for Seabird Bycatch Prevention in Commercial Fisheries (HI, IN)**

Determine the extent to which new laser technology, developed to prevent marine birds from entering areas around fishing vessels, may pose a danger to marine birds vulnerable to bycatch mortality. Project will provide sound scientific evidence for regulatory agencies to make decisions and recommendations about the use of laser technology around fisheries, and conduct outreach efforts to communicate directly with stakeholders and develop best practices for laser use.

\$179,965

Save the Dunes Conservation Fund**Improving Public Use of the Little Calumet River (IN)**

Improve the public use and riparian habitat of the Little Calumet River by installing three kayak launches and two pervious parking lots, controlling vegetation, and replanting riparian areas. Project will improve access, visitation, use and habitat quality of the waterways and natural areas of the Little Calumet River in northwest Indiana.

\$205,960

Shirley Heinze Land Trust**Hobart Marsh Restoration (IN) - II**

Expand work to enhance and restore 205 acres of wetland habitat in the Hobart Marsh conservation complex. Project will continue to monitor and control invasive species on 85 acres of previously treated areas and treat an additional 120 acres of high-quality wetland habitat.

\$110,259

Shirley Heinze Land Trust**Interdunal Wetland Restoration in the Indiana Dunes Region - II**

Treat invasive species such as red canary grass and purple loosestrife on 60 acres of interdunal wetlands and marsh habitat across three sites along the southern coast of Lake Michigan in northwest Indiana. Project will build on previous restoration efforts to improve a high-quality interdunal wetland ecosystem and benefit a variety of rare plant species.

\$111,609

The Nature Conservancy**Restoring Wetland Bird Habitat in Calumet Coastal Wetlands (IL, IN)**

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

\$806,653

IOWA**Friends of Neal Smith****National Wildlife Refuge****Restoring Monarch Habitat through the People for Pollinators Program (IA)**

Recruit and train individuals and organization to establish pollinator habitat in the greater Des Moines area of Iowa. Project will restore more than 3,100 acres of pollinator habitat across more than 660 sites, and propagate more than 60,000 pollinator plants.

\$87,000

Friends of Port Louisa**National Wildlife Refuge****Friends of Port Louisa Tour Training (IA)**

Create and implement a tour training opportunity for members of the organization. This volunteer training will demonstrate how to lead several unique, informative tours through the Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge.

\$4,930

Friends of the Neal Smith NWR**Prairie Vision (IA)**

Install permanent, weather-proof telescopes for viewing the surrounding 5,600 acres of established prairie on the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge. A video system compatible with the telescopes will assist with group viewing and support educators using Project Bluestem and other instructor-led curricula.

\$10,000

Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance**Accelerating Habitat-Water Quality Conservation and Enhancing Agricultural Return on Investment (IA)**

Improve conservation planning and delivery by using a sub-field scale economic and profitability platform to drive adoption of conservation practices as part of business and conservation planning in Iowa in the Cedar, Raccoon and Des Moines River basins. Farmers will greatly enhance their profitability by considering alternatives for their least profitable acres and implementing conservation practices, thereby improving water quality and enhancing habitat.

\$174,795

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation**Iowa Butterfly Flyway Conservation**

Work with a coalition of public and private land conservation and restoration organizations to coordinate a series of restorations that span Iowa from north to south. Project will restore a minimum of 360 acres of monarch habitat and harvest 180 pounds of local ecotype seed.

\$150,000

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.

\$30,000

Midwest Association**of Fish and Wildlife Agencies****Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

Practical Farmers of Iowa**Continuous Living Cover Expansion (IA)**

Work with cattle graziers and feedlot producers to increase the number of acres of continuous living cover (CLC) in the Upper Mississippi River Basin to improve water quality and increase wildlife habitat. Through on-farm research, educational events and robust outreach, farmers will report an increase in knowledge and implementation of CLC systems in Iowa.

\$179,755

Resource Conservation**and Development for Northeast Iowa****Increasing Farm Profitability and Conservation in the Turkey River Watershed (IA)**

Engage producers in northeast Iowa to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in the Turkey River Watershed by maximizing return on investment and conservation on their farms. Project will work with producers to find acres yielding a negative return on investment on their farms.

\$49,979

Resource Conservation and Development for Northeast Iowa

Postville Public-Private Partnership for Citywide Urban Conservation (IA)
Implement a diverse suite of urban stormwater best management practices on 2.35 acres of public and private land with the help of 15 volunteers in Postville, Iowa. Project will restore instream habitat and the riparian area of Williams Creek, a cold-water trout stream within city limits, and remove impermeable surfaces associated with high-use sidewalks and public and private parking areas to replace them with permeable pavers, an infiltration trench, bioswale, native prairie plants and trees.
\$33,761

Sand County Foundation

Building Capacity for Monarch Recovery among Electric Utilities (IA, IL, MN, WI)
Build capacity within the energy industry to establish high-quality monarch habitat on lands dedicated to energy infrastructure and rights-of-way. Project will incorporate cost-effective habitat restoration strategies into energy industry standards of operation and restoring habitat at 400 sites.
\$98,769

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Region 3

Restoring Midwest Monarch Habitat (IA, MN)
Establish monarch and other pollinator habitat on private, easement and fee-title lands in the prairie pothole region of Minnesota and Iowa. Project will restore and enhance 440 acres with local eco-type northern tallgrass prairie seed that is rich in native milkweed and nectar plant species.
\$104,342

KANSAS

Heartland Conservation Alliance

A Monarch's View of Urban Landscapes: Kansas City Proof of Concept (KS, MO)
Inform gaps in the Urban Monarch Landscape Conservation Design project and test engagement strategies within each metropolitan area through site monitoring, social surveys and outreach activities. Project will sample monarch habitat across different land use types and/or different scales to populate the model with real data and conduct surveys, interviews or focus groups with a range of stakeholders to inform best practices.
\$50,415

Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams Wetland Restoration at the Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita (KS)

Renovate an existing 2.6-acre wetland located at the Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita, Kansas with the help of 50 volunteers. Project partners will renovate the wetlands through dredging and installation of a water control structure to provide enhanced management ability. Project will result in habitat improvement, improved management of the wetland, and removal of invasive species from surrounding buffer and upland.
\$30,034

Keystone Policy Center

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Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.
\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)
Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

KENTUCKY

Cumberland River Compact Aquatic Habitat Improvement on the Cumberland Plateau (KY, TN)

Engage public and private landowners in restoration and enhancement to improve water quality and aquatic habitat. Project will advance riparian forest restoration and unimpeded flow in rivers and headwater streams in the project area to benefit amphibians such as eastern hellbender, four-toed and green salamander and hairyfoot crayfish, fish such as barrens and bluemask darter, barrens topminnow, flame chub and rosyface shiner, and mussels such as Cumberland pigtoe and rainbow mussel.
\$95,671

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

Wildlife Biologist in Eastern Kentucky - II
Fund a tobacco outreach coordinator who will work with farmers and tobacco growers in Kentucky. Project will encourage farmers and growers to incorporate farm bill programs, provide outreach to tobacco growers to help them implement conservation practices to protect local water quality and improve wildlife habitat through the use of cover crops and other associated practices, and focus on transitioning tobacco growers to conservation tillage practices and conservation practice implementation.
\$380,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)
Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

National Wild Turkey Federation Cumberland Plateau Shortleaf and Oak Restoration (KY, TN)

Restore shortleaf pine and oak woodlands/savannas on public lands in Tennessee and Kentucky. Project will result in 6,002 acres impacted through shortleaf plantings, prescribed fire and forest opening enhancements, and will engage over 700 people through public outreach events.
\$186,000

Ohio River Foundation

Cooperative Weed Management Area of Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana
Create a Cooperative Weed Management Area in Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana to control and reduce nonnative invasive plant species in the Ohio River watershed. Project will establish a Cooperative Weed Management Area and use it as a template for creating others in the Ohio River watershed.
\$60,000

Operation Migration-USA Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.
\$75,000

LOUISIANA**American Conservation Experience**

Texas Invasive Species Strike Team and Youth Development Program (LA, TX)
Connect 18 local youths to the outdoors through coastal restoration projects involving removing invasive species and restoring coastal landscapes on public lands located in the eastern Gulf region of Texas. Project will provide youth crew members a six month career development track composed of training, experiential learning and mentoring opportunities for the purpose of advancing into careers related to conservation and environmental stewardship.
\$183,001

American YouthWorks

American YouthWorks and U.S. Forest Service Collaboration for Gulf Habitat Restoration (LA, TX)
Hire 90 crew participants to restore 5,000 acres of prairies in Texas grasslands and 157 acres of prairies in the Winn Ranger District of Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana. Project will cut and remove eastern red cedar and Ashe juniper trees, implement prescribed burns, apply herbicides to unwanted woody vegetation, and perform basal bark treatment.
\$250,000

Audubon Nature Institute

Reduced Impacts to Sea Turtles through Shrimp Industry Engagement (AL, LA, MS)
Increase sea turtle protection by expanding the 'Tow the Time' education campaign for shrimp fishermen and implementing community-based workshops for the skimmer fleet of the northern Gulf of Mexico in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Project will host industry workshops to educate fishermen on current and upcoming proposed regulations, the logistics and benefits of turtle excluder devices (TEDs), and the importance of carrying observers on their vessels.
\$51,695

CLS America

Expanding Electronic Reporting to For-Hire Vessels in Louisiana to Support Gulf-Wide Implementation
Equip up to 100 charter for-hire fishing vessels in Louisiana with satellite-based electronic logbooks to efficiently and accurately collect recreational fisheries data for species such as red snapper and grouper. Project will expand upon an existing project to facilitate Gulf-wide implementation of electronic reporting, resulting in electronic data collection from over 350 charter vessels in all five Gulf states.
\$520,750

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

Southwest Louisiana Volunteer Marsh Habitat Restoration
Restore and enhance 100 acres of newly created marsh habitat by engaging 300 volunteers to plant 120,000 marsh grass plugs and conduct basic ecological monitoring along the western edge of Vermilion Bay. Project will maximize the ability to protect the bay from erosion, reverse wetland conversion to open water, and provide habitat for fish and both resident and migratory birds.
\$173,040

Ducks Unlimited

Chenier Plain Waterfowl Program (LA)
Restore and enhance 5,000 acres of coastal wetlands on priority lands in the Chenier Plain of Louisiana, one of the world's most valuable ecosystems and wintering habitat for crucial waterfowl including northern pintail, lesser and greater scaup, mottled duck, mallard, wood duck, American widgeon and ring-necked duck. Project will restore the hydrologic integrity of degraded tracts using water control structures, levee work, plantings and technical assistance through marsh management plans.
\$250,000

Forest Landowners Association

Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)
Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.
\$100,000

Groundwork New Orleans

Groundwork New Orleans Green Infrastructure Skills Training Program (LA)
Collaborate with Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve to work in high-visibility park locations in New Orleans neighborhoods. Project will involve 17 youths in green infrastructure expertise and skills training programs on current collaborative outreach programs.
\$60,000

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation

Coastal Wetland Restoration in Southeastern Louisiana
Restore swamp forest to establish habitat for 18 species of concern, including bald eagle, prothonotary warbler, swallow-tailed kite, Louisiana black bear, American alligator, alligator snapping turtle and southern dusky salamander, and increase storm surge protection for the largest urban areas in southeastern Louisiana. Project will plant 7,000 new swamp trees on a total of 36 acres, engage and educate 760 volunteers, and monitor a total of 220 acres including 184 previously planted acres.
\$70,000

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

Best Practices for Effective Land Conservation in the Gulf of Mexico Region (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Promote best practices and efficiencies among various practitioners to achieve land conservation goals of emerging state and federal conservation plans for the Gulf. Project will provide capacity building and technical assistance to partner organizations, identify best practices and efficiencies for implementing landscape level conservation, and assist in implementation by enhancing collaboration among public agencies and nongovernmental organizations.
\$247,500

Limitless Vistas

New Orleans Urban Youth Conservation Internship Program (LA)
Provide paid internships to local urban, disconnected, predominantly minority youths to assist in the ongoing restoration of the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge. Interns will develop basic skills, knowledge and experience to pursue a career and/or education in conservation and the ability to educate their community about the second largest urban wildlife refuge in the U.S., located in their own backyard. Project will create and expand a connected conservation community.
\$110,000

Manomet

Gulf of Mexico Coastal Waterbird Conservation Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)
Work with federal and state agency and nongovernmental organization experts to develop a framework to achieve long-term conservation and recovery goals for targeted species of coastal waterbirds across the Gulf. Project will build on existing business plans to create a set of strategies and associated actions and costs to guide coastal shorebird and waterbird conservation projects throughout the Gulf over the next decade.
\$203,746

Mote Marine Laboratory**Gulf-Wide Electronic Monitoring for a Sustainable Commercial Reef Fish Fishery (FL, LA, TX)**

Advance implementation and integration of electronic monitoring on up to 20 commercial fishing vessels in the reef fish fishery in the Gulf of Mexico, to support improved data collection on commercially important species such as snapper and grouper. Project will build on successful pilots and expand to Gulf-wide implementation of electronic monitoring to improve catch and discard monitoring.

\$544,525

National Wild Turkey Federation**Pineywoods Longleaf Restoration (LA) - IV**

Establish 800 acres of longleaf pine and improve an additional 2,000 acres of longleaf habitat through prescribed burning and other management practices. Project will focus on conservation investments to expand protected wildlife corridors linking public and private lands. In addition, project will support return site visits to existing longleaf landowners and provide small group outreach communication to new private landowners that may be interested in restoring longleaf pine.

\$300,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy**Calcasieu Lake and Sabine National Wildlife Refuge Oyster Reef Restoration (LA)**

Build 2,640 linear feet (.15 acres) of vertical oyster reef structure along rapidly eroding shorelines of Calcasieu Lake within Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. Project will directly protect 20 acres of critical coastal marsh that supports a high diversity of fish and wildlife populations, create fisheries habitat, enhance estuary water quality, and slow shoreline retreat, thereby increasing the resiliency of nearby coastal communities.

\$250,000

The Nature Conservancy**Gulf Coast Prescribed Fire Mentoring Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Build upon a successful pilot project to train and provide 18 to 19 jobs to underserved urban youths as wildland firefighters and ecosystem restoration technicians working in each of the five Gulf states. Project will strongly emphasize longleaf pine management and prescribed fire and will impact greater than 105,000 acres.

\$499,631

The Water Institute of the Gulf**Sustainable Restoration and Monitoring of Bayou Duplanier through Community Engagement (LA)**

Restore 26 acres of urban cypress wetlands along Bayou Duplanier in Baton Rouge, Louisiana with the help of 100 volunteers. Project will involve clearing invasive plant species from the 26 acres, planting 180 native wetland trees and 1,080 native wetland grasses, as well as assessing water quality and overall ecosystem condition, and establishing a sustainable water quality monitoring program for six new sites.

\$39,971

University of Central Florida**Important Sea Turtle Habitat Identification through Genetic Indicators (AL, FL, LA, MS)**

Sample, satellite tag and track oceanic stage sea turtles caught offshore in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Project results will inform research on environmental and genetic mechanisms driving sea turtle habitat use during their early developmental years, closing a major gap in the uncertainty surrounding recruitment dynamics from the oceanic stage.

\$122,079

University of New Orleans**Marsh Restoration for the Birds and Us (LA)**

Rebuild, renew and improve 25 acres of freshwater – intermediate marsh in Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Big Branch NWR in the Lake Pontchartrain estuary through on-the-ground marsh vegetation planting of native salt-tolerant species such as smooth cordgrass. Project will target 400 underserved middle and high school students from the urban center of New Orleans to cultivate plants used in the project and monitor the restoration effort over time.

\$42,214

MAINE**Atlantic Salmon Federation (U.S.)****Penobscot River Herring Restoration Plan Implementation (ME)**

Work with partners to continue river herring restoration in Maine's Penobscot River watershed. Project will aim to contribute an additional two million river herring to the population in the Penobscot watershed.

\$74,440

Atlantic Salmon Federation (U.S.)**Sheepsfoot River Barrier Removal (ME)**

Address community needs using a recently developed plan, while providing for watershed-scale restoration of the river's historic fisheries, if successfully implemented, fish will have significantly improved passage to 62 miles of rearing and spawning habitat and 827 acres of pond habitat for alewives. Project will improve access for river herring, Atlantic salmon, American eel and eastern brook trout by removing dams.

\$97,000

BioDiversity Research Institute**Increasing Aquatic and Terrestrial Connectivity for Key River Systems (ME)**

Advance the pace, scale and scope of connectivity work in Maine rivers. Project will restore aquatic connectivity at high-priority stream crossing sites through targeted technical assistance and will increase public support for restoring aquatic connectivity and implement 21 high-priority stream simulation design projects that will open 32.5 miles of high-quality brook trout and Atlantic salmon habitat and 225 acres of river herring habitat.

\$75,000

Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance**Strengthening Electronic Monitoring in the New England Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, NH)**

Expand participation and build upon a successful electronic monitoring program for the New England groundfish fishery – including Atlantic cod, flounder and other species. Project will continue to implement and evaluate electronic monitoring strategies that effectively improve accountability through enhanced video monitoring coverage, while simultaneously partnering with independent scientists to explore new opportunities to leverage electronic data into improved long-term fisheries management.

\$553,424

Downeast Salmon Federation**Increasing River Herring Monitoring and Restoration in Eastern Maine**

Coordinate a comprehensive river herring monitoring and restoration program across eastern Maine. Project will develop a citizen science program to mobilize local volunteers in fisheries investigation and management by collecting long-term population and habitat data to inform municipal harvests.

\$147,830

Friends of Maine Coastal Islands NWR**Increase Capacity via Social Media and Online Visibility (ME)**

Increase visibility and visitation to increase understanding of the work that the organization does in support of the Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge and how important the refuge is to conservation on the Maine Coast. Project will hire a contractor to produce high-quality advertising acceptable to Google.com, overhaul the website, and post to Facebook and Twitter accounts at least three times per week.
\$15,000

Friends of Sunhaze**Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Empower Trail Volunteers at Sunhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (ME)**

Provide hand-tools and a small shed installed near the Sunhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge trails and build capacity to conduct volunteer trail maintenance activities. Project will promote and organize 10 volunteer trail work days in 2017 and create a narrative for the social and traditional media about volunteerism at Sunhaze Meadows.
\$6,174

Gulf of Maine Research Institute**Using Incentives to Advance Electronic Monitoring in the New England Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, RI)**

Create incentives for fishermen to adopt electronic monitoring for catch accounting and compliance monitoring of species such as Atlantic cod, flounder and others in the New England groundfish fishery. Project will implement an innovative maximized retention model, which will provide improved accountability through 100 percent video monitoring coverage while allowing fishermen to minimize discards at sea and retain the majority of their catch.
\$596,493

Island Institute**Diversifying Working Waterfronts: Strengthening the Economic Resilience of Fishing Communities (ME)**

Implement a community sustainability plan for the state of Maine. Project will improve the economic sustainability of coastal communities via technical assistance, access to resources, and by providing a platform to share innovative solutions among communities in Maine and nationwide.
\$54,742

Town of Brownfield, Maine**Shepards River Renewal (ME, NH)**

Reconnect over 8 miles of known brook trout habitat upstream of the Shepards River in Brownfield to 27.6 miles of habitat downstream, the majority of which is located in New Hampshire. Project will directly apply the funds to replace a deteriorating, undersized culvert on the Shepards River in Brownfield, Maine with a fish-friendly, open bottom structure that will restore fish passage to the upper river.
\$100,000

Trout Unlimited**Conserving "Salter" Brook Trout in the Northeastern United States (Multiple States)**

Conserve sea-run (salter) brook trout. Project will survey 80 streams where brook trout status is currently unknown, evaluate and identify up to 10 priority Salter Conservation Areas, and complete three model conservation projects that will expand salter brook trout populations in 20.5 miles of streams. Only one model project will be completed directly under this grant.
\$75,000

University of Mississippi**Understanding the Legal Framework for Removing Marine Debris and Placing Fishing Gear (Multiple States)**

Support development of innovative, proactive management strategies to address derelict fishing gear and vessel interactions in New England. Project will improve awareness of state derelict fishing gear and vessel navigation laws and regulations and explore legal opportunities to prevent gear loss.
\$44,814

University of New Hampshire**Use of Transmission Line Rights-of-Way and New England Cottontail Clearcuts by Songbirds (ME, NH)**

Use Eversource transmission line rights-of-way and clear-cuts that benefit New England cottontails in southern Maine and New Hampshire to determine how vegetation management and the landscape surrounding these habitats influences use by conservation priority bird species. Project will assess a total of 445 acres of habitat and compare bird use in habitats maintained by mechanical mowing or selective herbicide treatment, and openings composed of different proportions of native and exotic shrubs.
\$197,983

Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve Provide Flexible Approaches**to Restoring New England Cottontail (ME)**

Restarting 300 acres over two years, with a special focus on industrial, commercial and public lands, with an eventual increase of about 150 New England cottontail rabbits, while benefiting breeding American woodcock, prairie warbler and many pollinators. Project will support a restoration coordinator for New England cottontail within approved focal areas in southern Maine.
\$60,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Habitat Management to Benefit Young Forest Species in New England (CT, MA, ME, VT)**

Implement a variety of forest management projects to benefit the young forest-dependent species and bird species normally associated with interior forests, which use young forest sites for brood rearing and in preparation for migration. Project will include non-commercial vegetation management, construction of roosting fields and singing grounds to benefit American woodcock, and planting of shrubs and the development of forage areas to benefit New England cottontail.
\$170,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)**

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.
\$504,012

MARYLAND**AECOM****Caroline County Public School Water Quality Retrofit Prioritization and Implementation Plan (MD)**

Assess and evaluate Caroline County Public Schools in order to identify opportunities for water quality retrofits and the disconnection of previously untreated impervious areas. Project will use GIS analysis and field investigations, as well as water quality modeling and cost estimates to develop a prioritization plan for the design and construction of water quality best management practices.
\$49,940

American Bird Conservancy**Create Habitat for Golden-Winged Warblers, American Woodcock and Others on Private Lands (MD, PA)**

Work to reverse the decline of the golden-winged warbler and American woodcock through technical assistance to private landowners. Project will result in 100 private landowners in Pennsylvania and Maryland contacted about Farm Bill programs, at least 40 landowners enrolled in Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, and at least 1,300 acres enrolled in programs to benefit the species.
\$229,795

American Fisheries Society**Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program - V**

Increase diversity within the fisheries profession through an educational program and stimulate interest in careers in fisheries science and management among groups underrepresented in the fisheries professions, including minorities and women. Project will provide a paid summer internship and mentoring program for students in grades 11 and 12 interested in pursuing science disciplines associated with natural resource and environment management.

\$60,000

Anacostia Riverkeeper**High-Volume Community Cisterns and Rain Garden Projects in Prince George's County (MD)**

Combat stormwater pollution runoff through the installation of one cistern and two rain garden projects that will prevent about 300,195 gallons of stormwater runoff annually in several areas of Maryland. Project will demonstrate best management practices for stormwater management that address urban infrastructure challenges caused by high percentages of impermeable surfaces.

\$50,000

**Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound
Creating Support for Migratory Birds through
Citizen Science in Baltimore (MD)**

Restore 3 acres of migratory bird habitat while involving 100 students in data collection in Gwynns Falls Leakin Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Project partners will remove invasives to enhance migratory bird habitat and the Gwynns Falls watershed.

\$49,993

Blue Water Baltimore**Urban Forestry and Workforce Development (MD)**

Create four or more green jobs in Baltimore City and scale-up restoration efforts through the planting of urban street trees. Project will support a new innovative partnership between environmental restoration and workforce development organizations, and leverage the investment under way by providing job placement sites for residents undergoing career and life transitions.

\$50,000

Carroll County Government -**Bureau of Resource Management****Implementing Environmental Site Design
to Improve Water Quality at Carroll County
Farm Museum (MD)**

Restore Carroll County Farm Museum's natural resources and engage museum visitors in enhancing local water quality. Project will implement five demonstration stormwater management practices at the museum by providing runoff storage and filtration, increasing stream buffer width, and enhancing the natural habitat to alleviate flooding on the premises.

\$150,000

Chesapeake Conservancy**Engaging Coastal Communities
in the Protection and Restoration
of the Choptank River (DE, MD)**

Engage the Choptank River watershed's coastal communities and conservation organizations in developing and carrying out a joint vision for the Choptank to address the protection and restoration of coastal habitats. Project will build a foundation for collaboration by developing a shared understanding of the conservation landscape within the Choptank watershed, creating a collective impact framework for uniting conservation efforts.

\$104,868

**Chesapeake Stormwater Network
Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training
and Engagement (Multiple States)**

Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.

\$125,000

Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage**Canterbury Farm Wetland Restoration (MD)**

Restore 15 acres of non-tidal wetlands at Canterbury Farm and educate 25 landowners in the region about their role in restoring wetlands. Project will restore 7 acres of shallow water emergent wetlands and 8 acres of wooded wetlands in the Choptank River watershed, reduce nitrogen by 3,195 pounds, phosphorus by 150 pounds and sediment by 40,000 pounds annually, and help achieve local and state Watershed Implementation Plan goals.

\$96,452

Council Fire**Nutrient Trading Feasibility
and Assessment (MD, PA, VA)**

Assess the feasibility of nutrient trading as a Bay restoration methodology. Project will specifically create a Pilot Nutrient and Sediment Credit Acquisition Bank to help spur market forces in the region, and examine a role as active trading partner in the ongoing marketplace.

\$20,540

Ducks Unlimited**Black Duck Decision****Support Tool Implementation (MD, VA)**

Implement the Black Duck Decision Support Tool, a model which incorporates current landscape condition and expected change due to urban growth and sea-level rise, to identify priority areas that have the highest habitat quality for American black ducks within the Chesapeake Bay. Project will focus on perpetual conservation of 300 acres of priority American black duck habitat on Maryland and Virginia's eastern shore to establish protected habitat corridors.

\$199,831

Eastern Shore Land Conservancy**Envision the Choptank: A Collaborative
Restoration for Oyster Success (MD)**

Develop a comprehensive program to accelerate the rate at which agricultural and residential best management practices are implemented in the lower Choptank watershed area, including the Harris and Broad Creek and the Tred Avon River watersheds. The partnership will prioritize restoration locations and engage landowners through a series of targeted workshops and one-on-one assistance. Project will reduce 155 pounds of phosphorus, 3,650 pounds of nitrogen and 40,800 pounds of sediment annually.

\$152,074

Friends of Blackwater NWR**Butterfly Garden Expansion (MD)**

Expand the existing Butterfly and Beneficial Insect Garden to tie into the new wing of the Visitor Center of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge by installing new paths, native plants including milkweed and buttonbush, plant labels, rain barrels and interpretive signage. The expansion will provide habitat for butterflies including monarchs, tiger and black swallowtails, clouded sulphurs, eastern tailed blues, bees and hummingbirds, as well as an increased wildlife viewing area for visitors.

\$9,250

George, Miles & Buhr**Town of Betterton Stormwater Retrofit:
Main Street Outfall (MD)**

Treat stormwater runoff on impervious surfaces by installing a stormwater step pool conveyance and a parking lot of permeable pavers that will cover an engineered subsurface reservoir with infiltration beds. Project will treat runoff from 13 acres by removing approximately 40 pounds of nitrogen, seven pounds of phosphorus, and 2,416 pounds of total suspended solids from entering the local waterways every year.

\$50,000

**Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
Cultivating Watershed Covenant Communities
(MD)**

Cultivate faith congregations from the Jones Falls watershed who embody Creation Care stewardship values, as demonstrated by visible actions and community leadership. Project will engage 15 congregations to install best management practices on their properties, form green ministries, sign a covenant pledging ongoing stewardship, and implement additional outreach to community members.
\$199,301

**Low Impact Development Center
Clean Water Partnership Stormwater
Management Retrofits Using High Flow Media
(MD)**

Retrofit five churches and one municipally-owned property in Prince George's County with enhanced micro-bioretenion facilities. Project will support the county's innovative Clean Water Program in its efforts to escalate the retrofit of uncontrolled urban development, evaluate the effectiveness of enhanced best management practices for use in highly urbanized/impervious settings where space for installation is limited, and support the county's Alternative Compliance Program.
\$609,455

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Oyster Management Public-Private Partnership
(MD)**

Enhance the long-term business and economic interests of Maryland's watermen. Project will increase spat on shell production for the development of an oyster fishery cooperative for Maryland's oystermen, ensure the viability of the state's commercial fishery by attracting a new generation of watermen and revitalizing Maryland's working waterfront communities, and establish oyster restoration, conservation and productivity as an integral part of Maryland's water quality and environmental markets.
\$200,000

**Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy
Urban Forest Restoration and Tree Canopy
Management in Greensboro (MD)**

Use urban forest restoration and tree canopy management to improve water quality and community engagement in the Choptank River. Project will identify urban forest baseline conditions through an inventory of trees and planting sites, create a Five Year Planting and Management Plan for the Town of Greensboro, conduct a historical urban tree canopy and water quality assessment, hold public meetings, and conduct stakeholder interviews.
\$43,248

**Morgan State Environmental Research Center
Quantifying Ecosystem Services
in the Choptank River (MD)**

Quantify and evaluate the major ecosystem services provided by key habitats in the Choptank River. Project will develop estimates of ecosystem services supported by key habitats, and those functions will be connected to economic analyses and models to enable valuation of those ecosystem services and ultimately estimate the socioeconomic benefits of habitat restoration and protection.
\$150,000

**Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
Cambridge Residential
Stewardship Initiative (MD)**

Engage homeowners and renters in Cambridge, Maryland in an initiative to explore barriers and benefits to implementing residential best management practices (BMPs) in a community with significant socio-economic challenges. A residential BMP cost-share program will address a barrier to getting residential BMPs implemented. BMPs will be installed on 10 residential properties, which include rain gardens, conservation landscaping, tree planting and rain harvesting devices such as rain barrels.
\$85,819

**National Aquarium
The Monarch Butterfly Community
Conservation Program (MD)**

Engage 800 community members and 120 volunteers in increasing monarch butterfly habitat in underserved communities in Baltimore City. Project will install 600 native plants in habitat gardens in three community green spaces totaling 1 acre.
\$40,313

**National Wildlife Federation
Schoolyard Habitats in Baltimore City (MD)**

Install a large-scale demonstration schoolyard habitat at Green Street Academy and design and install stormwater-focused best management practices at the Academy and nine other schools, creating a network of schoolyard habitats in Baltimore. Project will engage a cohort of 20 teachers and 10 facilities managers at a series of workshops and will remove 16,600 square feet of parking lot and transform approximately 3,600 square feet of compacted urban fill or compacted turf into pollinator habitat.
\$200,000

**RESOLVE
Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake
Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policy makers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.
\$62,700

**Ridge to Reefs
Accelerating Water Quality Improvements
in the Nanticoke (DE, MD)**

Track key sources of pollution within the Nanticoke watershed based on the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance's existing data set. Project will engage the agricultural community to expand the integration of effective, innovative best management practices on agricultural properties by creating conceptual restoration designs for possible restoration projects and conducting direct, targeted outreach with farmers and agricultural landowners.
\$49,998

**Ridge to Reefs
Assess Feasibility of a Denitrifying Bioreactor
to Treat a Community Septic System (MD)**

Conduct a feasibility analysis of employing bioreactor technology at a community septic system and a minor wastewater treatment plant in Anne Arundel County, MD. Project will deliver a feasibility report and, if projects are feasible, will develop a concept plan for the waste water treatment plant and an engineering plan for the community septic upgrade.
\$49,839

**Rock Creek Conservancy
Increased Participation in Stormwater
Management Programs through
Social Marketing (MD)**

Create a behavior change project in the Aspen Hill, Maryland community of Montgomery County to assess the barriers to adoption of the RainScapes program through a social marketing plan and implementation program. Project will share all lessons learned with the Montgomery Department of Environmental Protection to help adjust the RainScapes program to make it more accessible to all homeowners.
\$80,418

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

Continue the fourth year of consecutive run counts on the Choptank River and establish a new run count on the Patapsco River prior to the pending Bloede Dam removal. Project will also conduct spawning habitat use assessments in four additional watersheds, completing baseline assessments in a total of 10 watersheds.

\$95,271

Spa Creek Conservancy**Southwoods Community Stormwater Retrofit (MD)**

Implement a Watershed Action Plan developed for the Southwoods community, which enlists private property owners to reduce nutrient and sediment pollution and stormwater runoff, restore wetlands, streams and riparian forested buffers on working forests and farms, and store and treat stormwater runoff. Project will prevent a total of 21.35 pounds of nitrogen, 3.46 pounds of phosphorus, and 1,080 pounds of sediment from entering the local waterway.

\$192,518

Sustainable Chesapeake**Achieving Phosphorus Balance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Engage stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve farm and regional nutrient balance in high-density animal production areas. Project will expand markets for manure and its co-products to facilitate cost-effective transport of excess nutrients, facilitate Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Balance Sheet development, identify long-term solutions, engage 12,000 to 16,000 producers, and reduce 3,328,800 pounds of nitrogen, 124,564 pounds of phosphorus and 30,048 tons of sediment per year.

\$626,835

The Nature Conservancy**Deliver Advanced Nutrient Management Practices on the Delmarva Peninsula (DE, MD)**

Provide assistance to Soil Conservation Districts and other partners by strengthening and expanding the network of practitioners delivering agricultural conservation practices on the Delmarva Peninsula. Project will continue to engage practitioners, including certified crop consultants and agricultural industry professionals, to better coordinate outreach and training for priority best management practices, and facilitate increased delivery and adoption of conservation practices by producers.

\$49,320

The Nature Conservancy**Increasing Nutrient Use Efficiency and Improving Water Quality on Delmarva (DE, MD)**

Expand collaborations with Delmarva agribusinesses to improve water quality by increasing the adoption of advanced nutrient management practices. Project will develop public-private partnerships with at least two agricultural retailers, perform jointly-funded demonstration projects with farmers to purchase equipment and management tools, develop local case studies, and reduce annual loads of nitrogen by 105,250 pounds, phosphorus by 26,000 pounds and sediment by 791 tons.

\$195,953

U.S. Department of Agriculture,**U.S. Forest Service****Patch-Based Brook Trout Genetic Monitoring in the Headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Test novel monitoring metrics for eastern brook trout that include the number and size of brook trout occupied habitat patches, the number of patches with invasive trout, genetic diversity and effective population size. Project will compare the performance of each of these patch-based metrics, provide recommendations for those that are most informative, and build a model to predict values of these metrics in unsampled habitat patches.

\$110,224

University of Delaware**Delmarva Choptank River Watershed Water-Column Habitat Restoration (DE, MD)**

Quantify the effects of land use on water quality at restored oyster reefs. Project will establish a monitoring community to track the fate of nutrients across the watershed, develop continuous data standards across freshwater, groundwater, terrestrial and tidal monitoring stations, and deploy sensors in tributaries where oyster restoration is underway.

\$50,000

Wildlife Management Institute**Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)**

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

MASSACHUSETTS**BackTracker****Developing an Integrated Marketing Plan to Differentiate New England Groundfish Products (MA)**

Integrate a marketing, traceability and fishery improvement program to increase market access and promote local, underexploited resources of New England haddock, redfish and pollock. Project will provide a verified supply of local underutilized species, increasing domestic product market access.

\$199,995

Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance**Strengthening Electronic Monitoring in the New England Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, NH)**

Expand participation and build upon a successful electronic monitoring program for the New England groundfish fishery – including Atlantic cod, flounder and other species. Project will continue to implement and evaluate electronic monitoring strategies that effectively improve accountability through enhanced video monitoring coverage, while simultaneously partnering with independent scientists to explore new opportunities to leverage electronic data into improved long-term fisheries management.

\$553,424

Charles River Watershed Association**Stormwater Management and Habitat Stewardship at Magazine Beach (MA)**

Improve American shad and river herring habitat by preventing 70,580 gallons of annual stormwater runoff from entering the Charles River, restoring 1.5 acres of riparian habitat, 1.6 acres of beachfront and .3 acres of freshwater wetlands within the Magazine Beach area in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Project will work with volunteers to install and maintain rain gardens, control invasive common reed, false indigo and purple loosestrife, and replant the wetland with native plants.

\$34,027

Fish and Game, Massachusetts Department of/ Division of Ecological Restoration**Build Capacity for Culvert Replacement and Stream Connectivity in Deerfield River Watershed (MA)**

Creating a network of highly trained town road managers knowledgeable about practices for culvert replacement projects meeting upgraded design criteria. Project will build the capacity of 20 towns in the Deerfield River Watershed to replace undersized, unsafe culverts with culverts that will improve stream connectivity and critical habitat for eastern brook trout and reduce flood hazards.

\$179,620

Friends of Monomoy**Nest Camera: Bird Life in a Wilderness Metropolis (MA)**

Set up a nest camera on South Monomoy Island to stream video into the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center during the tern breeding season (May to August). Project will provide the public with a low-impact, unobtrusive way to observe a unique and very active tern colony directly from the visitor center and web pages.

\$8,985

Friends of the Oxbow**National Wildlife Refuge Pollinator Garden at Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge (MA)**

Establish a pollinator garden at the recently opened Bill Ashe Visitor Facility located on the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge in Massachusetts. Project will provide labor to install and maintain the garden and plant 27 native New England wildflowers that were carefully chosen for the garden to support the foraging, reproduction and sheltering of a variety of pollinator species.

\$2,669

GreenWave**Ocean Farm Start-Up Training Program: Bolstering Economic Development in New England (CT, MA, RI)**

Create the Ocean Farm Start-Up Training Program to support up to five new kelp and shellfish ocean farms in New England. Project will develop a training program to educate farmers on proper ocean farming techniques in addition to permitting and leasing requirements.

\$100,000

Groundwork Lawrence**Groundwork Lawrence Youth Programs Expansion (MA)**

Build on existing partnership with the National Park Service to design and implement an archeology curriculum for eight youths in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Project will support Urban Archaeology Corps's goal of engaging youths from diverse communities in explorations of urban and community cultural heritage and conservation.

\$50,000

Gulf of Maine Research Institute**Using Incentives to Advance Electronic Monitoring in the New England Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, RI)**

Create incentives for fishermen to adopt electronic monitoring for catch accounting and compliance monitoring of species such as Atlantic cod, flounder and others in the New England groundfish fishery. Project will implement an innovative maximized retention model, which will provide improved accountability through 100 percent video monitoring coverage while allowing fishermen to minimize discards at sea and retain the majority of their catch.

\$596,493

Kate Wing Consulting**Accelerate Development of Automated Fish Identification for Electronic Monitoring Systems (Multiple States)**

Build publicly available image datasets of fish species frequently caught in two major U.S. fisheries, the Eastern Tropical Pacific tuna fishery and the New England groundfish fishery. Project will host a competition among computer programmers to use the image datasets to write open source algorithms that efficiently automate data review, which will help increase accuracy while reducing cost and staff resources associated with reviewing electronically monitored fisheries data.

\$99,389

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Recovery (MA, NJ, NY, RI, SC) - VI**

Conserve and manage coastal habitat designed to recover the population of American oystercatchers and associated beach nesting bird species in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey and South Carolina. Project will elevate oystercatcher productivity across the sites where conservation efforts are occurring, contributing to a 30% target increase in Atlantic Flyway American oystercatcher.

\$149,865

Massachusetts Audubon Society Demonstrating Forest Management for Bird Habitat (MA)

Develop a long-term forest management demonstration program at one of the 800-acre wildlife sanctuaries to educate professional foresters, agency staff, conservation professionals, the land trust community, members and the public at large. Project will enhance the technological resources available for this work by partnering with researchers from the U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station- Amherst Field Location to develop a decision support tool for creating early successional habitat.

\$45,000

Mystic River Watershed Association Park Restoration through Invasive Plant Management in the Mystic River Watershed (MA)

Organize an invasive plant assessment and management program along a 4.7-mile stretch of urban park space in the Mystic River Reservation in Medford, Massachusetts. Project will bring together state, municipal and organizational partners to identify the most important sites to manage invasives for habitat restoration, organize volunteer events for the cutting and removal of Oriental bittersweet, plan and execute native plantings, and educate and engage community members and corporate employees.

\$49,975

Regreen Springfield**Springfield Urban Bird Treaty (MA)**

Inform 200 community members and 800 students about migratory bird conservation and urban restoration projects aimed at creating and restoring 50 acres of bird habitat while employing 30 area youths in Springfield, Massachusetts. Project will enable students to participate in habitat restoration, curricula-based bird education, population monitoring and bird conservation awareness.

\$46,400

The Trust for Public Land**Northfield Forest Conservation (MA)**

Permanently protect via fee title acquisition 1,650 acres of forest and wetland habitat as state and municipal conservation land in the Connecticut River Valley of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Project will protect one of the largest unprotected tracts in Massachusetts and will become part of a larger network of conservation land spanning 25,000 acres.

\$250,000

Town of Falmouth, MA**Coonamessett River Restoration in Falmouth (MA)**

Remove two dams and restore 1600 feet of instream and riparian habitat along the Lower Coonamessett River. Project will greatly improve passage for river herring and American eel to the 158-acre Coonamessett Pond, a natural kettle-hole lake, and restore instream habitat, cover, and riparian trees and shrubs, all of which are necessary for eastern brook trout habitat.

\$200,000

Town of Framingham**Beaver Dam Brook Stream Restoration and Education Program (MA)**

Restore approximately 800 linear feet of riparian buffers, remove 1 acre of invasive species, engage 600 people in the local community at the Beaver Dam Brook watershed in Framingham, Massachusetts. Project will hold workshops that will teach principles of ecology and sustainability through interactive and innovative approaches.

\$23,825

Trout Unlimited**Conserving "Salter" Brook Trout in the Northeastern United States (Multiple States)**

Conserve sea-run (salter) brook trout. Project will survey 80 streams where brook trout status is currently unknown, evaluate and identify up to 10 priority Salter Conservation Areas, and complete three model conservation projects that will expand salter brook trout populations in 20.5 miles of streams. Only one model project will be completed directly under this grant.

\$75,000

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**
**Coordinated Predation Management
for Focal Temperate Breeding Shorebirds
in the Atlantic Flyway**

Bring together shorebird conservation partners from Atlantic Canada to Florida to meet conservation targets for breeding American oystercatchers, piping plovers, Wilson's plovers and snowy plovers. Project will maximize broad-scale effectiveness of predation management by producing detailed guidance for managers in the form of best management practices for how, when and where to initiate predator management.
\$341,862

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**
Shorebird Harvest along the Atlantic Flyway
Build and expand on current accomplishments by strengthening law enforcement where shorebird harvest is illegal or restrictions are in place, develop harvest management tools by collecting more and better information, establish and maintain no-shooting reserves, develop incentives as an alternative to hunting, and improve education and communication in all regions exposed to harvest pressure.
\$249,674

University of Connecticut
Vegetation Management in Transmission Line Corridor and Implications for Native Pollinators (MA, NH)
Extend previous study to native bees and butterflies, building on existing infrastructure and findings about species composition and vegetation structure along a transmission line. Project will document the importance of early successional habitats to the species diversity and abundance of wildlife in New Hampshire, adjacent states, and other forested landscapes, and will assess the effects of mowing and herbicide employed by northeastern utility companies on dependent pollinator communities.
\$111,077

University of Mississippi
Understanding the Legal Framework for Removing Marine Debris and Placing Fishing Gear (Multiple States)
Support development of innovative, proactive management strategies to address derelict fishing gear and vessel interactions in New England. Project will improve awareness of state derelict fishing gear and vessel navigation laws and regulations and explore legal opportunities to prevent gear loss.
\$44,814

Wildlife Management Institute
Habitat Management to Benefit Young Forest Species in New England (CT, MA, ME, VT)
Implement a variety of forest management projects to benefit the young forest-dependent species and bird species normally associated with interior forests, which use young forest sites for brood rearing and in preparation for migration. Project will include non-commercial vegetation management, construction of roosting fields and singing grounds to benefit American woodcock, and planting of shrubs and the development of forage areas to benefit New England cottontail.
\$170,000

Wildlife Management Institute
Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)
Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.
\$504,012

MICHIGAN

Conservation Resource Alliance
Reconnecting Sandborn Creek (MI)
Replace the final four aquatic passage barriers on Sandborn Creek, a tributary to the Pere Marquette River. Project will reconnect 14.6 miles, resulting in complete passage by brook trout and other cold-water aquatic organisms throughout the entire length of Sandborn Creek.
\$850,000

Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council
Duncan Bay Coastal Wetland Protection and Restoration (MI)
Protect and restore 317 acres of coastal wetland habitat and 3,500 feet of shoreline surrounding Duncan Bay along Lake Huron to benefit species including dwarf lake iris, black tern, osprey, brook trout and steelhead. Project will restore wetland hydrology, increase habitat diversity through invasive species control, and improve aquatic organism passage by removing two road-stream crossings.
\$371,910

Huron Pines Resource Conservation & Development Council
Restoring Aquatic Connectivity on the Pine River (MI)
Reconnect 20 upstream miles of high-quality cold-water habitat for native brook trout, northern hogsucker, channel darter, wild brown and rainbow trout, and steelhead, and 500 feet of floodplain habitat on the Pine River in northeast Michigan. Project will restore the natural hydrology, nutrient transport and passage by fish and other aquatic organisms.
\$157,073

International Wildlife Refuge Alliance
It's Time for a Nature Store! (MI)
Assist in the start-up of a Nature Store in the newly constructed Visitor Center at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. Project will provide educational materials that will enhance the educational, interpretive and conservation mission of the refuge and create a new revenue stream to sustain the organization and further support the refuge's needs.
\$15,000

Keystone Policy Center
Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)
Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.
\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)
Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

Muskegon River Watershed Assembly
Road-Stream Crossing and Riparian Restoration in the Muskegon River Watershed (MI)
Restore connectivity to over 5 miles of Bigelow Creek and enhance riparian habitat throughout the Muskegon River Watershed. Project will replace two road-stream crossings on Bigelow Creek and plant 40 acres of forested riparian habitat along other cold-water streams within the watershed, to benefit brook and brown trout, chinook salmon, steelhead, mottled sculpin, blacknose dace, central mudminnow, creek chub, johnny darter, northern redbelly dace and white sucker.
\$214,850

Seney Natural History Association
Building Rural Community Support (MI)
Recruit new members during community meetings and improve outreach to the rural communities that surround the Seney National Wildlife Refuge by creating a new responsive web site, preparing a 15-minute video presentation, preparing and printing a newly designed pamphlet, and engaging a publicity/presentation training resource. Project will provide the refuge with increased manpower, volunteer program support, and physical property improvements once the active membership has grown.
\$6,415

Superior Watershed Partnership**Employing Youth to Promote Conservation and Implement Restoration at Hiawatha National Forest (MI)**

Employ targeted regional (including tribal) youth (ages 18-25) to complete restoration and stewardship-based priority projects in the Hiawatha National Forest. The Great Lakes Conservation Corps crews will work with U.S. Forest Service staff to implement cost-effective priority conservation projects involving stream restoration, riparian restoration, and trail construction and improvement throughout the forest.

\$34,431

The Greening of Detroit**Maheras Gentry Native Island Restoration and Youth Education (MI)**

Provide outreach and education to 725 community members, including 240 Detroit Public School youths in grades four through eight, 285 volunteers, including 120 youths, who will engage in hands-on community stewardship activities. Project will restore 1 acre of native prairie riparian habitat through invasive species removal and management at Maheras Gentry Park, a City of Detroit park located on the waterfront of the Detroit River in Wayne County, Michigan.

\$45,087

The Greening of Detroit**Urban Youth: The Future of Conservation Leadership (MI)**

Employ underserved youth in conservation positions to assist with the restoration of essential wildlife habitats at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge's Gateway and adjacent Humbug Marsh Units, federally protected lands along the Detroit River. Project will improve habitat quality and biological diversity while teaching essential green industry labor skills and conservation education to urban youth.

\$39,962

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council Improving Aquatic Connectivity along Minnehaha Creek (MI)

Replace two road-stream crossings on the Minnehaha Creek, a designated trout stream in northern Michigan. Project will reconnect 8 stream miles to improve passage by brook trout and other aquatic organisms.

\$289,019

Wildlife Management Institute Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

MINNESOTA**City of Minneapolis - Health Department Conservation of Minneapolis Bees (MN)**

Plant 200 Healthy Bee Healthy Life pollinator patches of Minnesota native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees on commercial, multi-family residential and community spaces throughout the City of Minneapolis. Project will not only increase native habitat drastically lacking in the urban center and provide food and nesting materials for pollinators but also provide a forum for education and outreach to increase community awareness to the dwindling bee and pollinator population.

\$80,000

Friends of Crex**St. Croix Valley Monarch Habitat Partnership (MN, WI)**

Coordinate numerous partners to plan and implement monarch butterfly conservation on public and private lands throughout the St. Croix River watershed. Project will engage local organizations and volunteers to restore and enhance more than 939 acres and create eight acres of seed plots.

\$199,576

Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge Strategic Planning (MN)

Review, refine and reach consensus about organizational vision, mission and values. Project will use the expertise, experience and outside perspective of a mentor team while also retaining the services of a local consulting group that works with nonprofits and is familiar with the organization.

\$5,476

Great River Greening**Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in the Anoka Sandplain and Twin Cities Metro (MN)**

Conduct a series of shovel-ready restoration projects to improve monarch habitat on more than 500 acres in the greater Twin Cities areas of Minnesota. Project will enhance seed mixes and sustainable seed collections, engage the community in local work, and restore milkweed and other pollinator plants for monarch butterflies.

\$110,917

Hmong American Farmers Association Sustainable Hmong Farming in Minnesota

Train and educate low-income, immigrant farmers and the larger Twin Cities metropolitan-area community about sustainable agricultural practices. Project will implement a multi-year cover crop research project aimed at examining and evaluating the long-term effects of cover crops on water and soil quality in a mixed-vegetable production operation and implement a pollinator habitat enhancement plan.

\$70,000

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.

\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

Refuge Friends**Reinvent Refuge Friends: Mission, Goals, Objectives and Strategies (MN)**

Host a 2-day facilitated retreat, with follow-up support, to create a document that includes a vision, revised mission, goals, objectives, strategies, tactics and timelines to guide the organization for the next 10 years. Project will increase community awareness and engagement with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

\$2,709

Regents of the University of Minnesota Monarch's View of Urban Landscapes: Productivity and Habitat Monitoring in Minnesota

Monitor different types of habitats along the gradient of urban landscapes to identify what habitat types monarch butterflies are using in cities by characterizing "attractiveness," patch size and connectivity of urban sites for monarchs. Project will gain a better understanding of monarch productivity across the gradient of the urban landscape and inform more effective conservation efforts in these areas.

\$44,585

Sand County Foundation**Building Capacity for Monarch Recovery among Electric Utilities (IA, IL, MN, WI)**

Build capacity within the energy industry to establish high-quality monarch habitat on lands dedicated to energy infrastructure and rights-of-way. Project will incorporate cost-effective habitat restoration strategies into energy industry standards of operation and restoring habitat at 400 sites.

\$98,769

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Region 3

Restoring Midwest Monarch Habitat (IA, MN)

Establish monarch and other pollinator habitat on private, easement and fee-title lands in the prairie pothole region of Minnesota and Iowa. Project will restore and enhance 440 acres with local eco-type northern tallgrass prairie seed that is rich in native milkweed and nectar plant species.

\$104,342

Wilderness Inquiry

Discovering Our Urban Wildlife Refuges (MN)

Introduce 1,200 urban youths and families to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, through place-based education and recreation activities and restoration of 15-acres along the Minnesota River. Project will provide environmental education to urban youths from Minneapolis and Saint Paul schools and teach technical job skills while exposing the youth to the refuge, hiking, restoring native plants and engaging with refuge rangers.

\$29,972

Wildlife Management Institute

Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

MISSISSIPPI

American Conservation Experience

Employing America's Youth to Restore Critical Habitat in the Delta National Forest (MS)

Create job and educational opportunities for 13 youths. Project will create 6 miles of multi-use trails focusing on the Blue Lake, Little Sunflower River, and Mud Lake trails, install proper drainage features, and repair trail surfaces and 3 miles of fencing to create a sustainable trail system in the Delta National Forest and aid U.S. Forest Service personnel in the removal of invasive plant species like kudzu and oriental bittersweet.

\$100,000

Audubon Nature Institute

Reduced Impacts to Sea Turtles through Shrimp Industry Engagement (AL, LA, MS)

Increase sea turtle protection by expanding the 'Tow the Time' education campaign for shrimp fishermen and implementing community-based workshops for the skimmer fleet of the northern Gulf of Mexico in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Project will host industry workshops to educate fishermen on current and upcoming proposed regulations, the logistics and benefits of turtle excluder devices (TEDs), and the importance of carrying observers on their vessels.

\$51,695

Conservation Legacy

Next Generation of Gulf Coast Environmental Ambassadors and Leaders (FL, MS)

Provide paid internships and environmental conservation training to at least 30 socio-economically disadvantaged students to gain workforce skills to encourage careers in wildlife conservation. Project will help protect sea turtles along 160 miles of Gulf Coast in Pensacola, Florida and Ocean Springs, Mississippi while also promoting public awareness by leading environmental conservation summer camps and citizen science activities.

\$100,000

Forest Landowners Association

Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.

\$100,000

Friends of Noxubee Refuge

Plugging in to Unplug (MS)

Engage a larger, more diverse and younger population in the many activities and valuable resources of the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge that promotes the conservation of animal species, including the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, and their habitats. Project will enhance the organization's presence on the internet and develop an app for iPhone and Android devices in an effort to enhance the lives of patrons through conservation.

\$14,200

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

Best Practices for Effective

Land Conservation in the Gulf of Mexico Region (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Promote best practices and efficiencies among various practitioners to achieve land conservation goals of emerging state and federal conservation plans for the Gulf. Project will provide capacity building and technical assistance to partner organizations, identify best practices and efficiencies for implementing landscape level conservation, and assist in implementation by enhancing collaboration among public agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

\$247,500

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

Restore and Enhance Upland and Connecting Critical Habitat for the Endangered Dusky Gopher Frog (MS)

Restore and enhance 527 acres of longleaf pine on the DeSoto National Forest and the Gopher Frog Tract (GFT) to support the endangered dusky gopher frog. Project will remove invasive species, thin trees, implement a fire regime, and plant longleaf pine to promote better survival of endangered and threatened species. In addition, partners will provide a conservation area for translocated gopher tortoises on the GFT when conditions become satisfactory for their return.

\$100,000

Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

Training Southern Mississippi Youth in Restoring Critical Habitat for Endangered Species

Recruit and train 20 underserved youth from southern Mississippi on the restoration and research of endangered species critical habitat. Project will provide youth with mentorship opportunities from university researchers and U.S. Forest Service biologists while mapping and restoring critical upland habitat adjacent to one of the last remaining breeding ponds of the endangered dusky gopher frog in DeSoto National Forest.

\$49,576

Manomet

Gulf of Mexico Coastal Waterbird

Conservation Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)

Work with federal and state agency and nongovernmental organization experts to develop a framework to achieve long-term conservation and recovery goals for targeted species of coastal waterbirds across the Gulf. Project will build on existing business plans to create a set of strategies and associated actions and costs to guide coastal shorebird and waterbird conservation projects throughout the Gulf over the next decade.

\$203,746

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Applied Biodiversity Sciences Conservation Scholars Program

Integrate undergraduates and graduates using a two-tiered program that will focus on local issues related to Gulf of Mexico ecosystems and broader questions on energy development, energy policy and impacts on biodiversity and natural resources. Project will appoint two graduate fellowships to mentor a small cohort of undergraduate interns as they develop their projects and internship proposals. Each intern will conduct baseline research to support a one-month summer internship opportunity.

\$200,000

The Longleaf Alliance**Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy**Gulf Coast Prescribed Fire Mentoring Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Build upon a successful pilot project to train and provide 18 to 19 jobs to underserved urban youths as wildland firefighters and ecosystem restoration technicians working in each of the five Gulf states. Project will strongly emphasize longleaf pine management and prescribed fire and will impact greater than 105,000 acres.

\$499,631

University of Central Florida**Important Sea Turtle Habitat Identification through Genetic Indicators (AL, FL, LA, MS)**

Sample, satellite tag and track oceanic stage sea turtles caught offshore in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Project results will inform research on environmental and genetic mechanisms driving sea turtle habitat use during their early developmental years, closing a major gap in the uncertainty surrounding recruitment dynamics from the oceanic stage.

\$122,079

University of Mississippi**Understanding the Legal Framework for Removing Marine Debris and Placing Fishing Gear (Multiple States)**

Support development of innovative, proactive management strategies to address derelict fishing gear and vessel interactions in New England. Project will improve awareness of state derelict fishing gear and vessel navigation laws and regulations and explore legal opportunities to prevent gear loss.

\$44,814

University of Southern Mississippi**Study of Yazoo and Goldline Darters of the Yocona and Tallahatchie River Drainages (MS)**

Conduct a population genomics and fish assemblage study of yazoo and goldline darters throughout the Yocona and Tallahatchie drainages. Project will aim to identify previously unidentified yazoo darter populations, and future mitigation aimed at improving connectivity and fish passage.

\$80,714

MISSOURI**Blue River Watershed Association****CPR: Communities Protecting Rivers (MO)**

Conduct water quality monitoring, hold community charrettes to determine outcomes, engage 675 community participants in vacant lot cleanups, and convert three vacant lots into green spaces utilized for native plantings, community gardens and recreational spaces in Kansas City, Missouri. Project will reduce impacts of storm water runoff to the Blue River.

\$50,000

Forest Park Forever**Nature Works Collaborative to Educate Urban Youth and Restore Wildlife Habitat in Forest Park (MO)**

Facilitate a cooperative, conservation education and workforce development program that engages, educates and trains urban youth in restoring and enhancing riparian forest and prairie habitat in St. Louis's Forest Park. Project will participate in conservation education and restoration activities that engender broad-based environmental stewardship and provide valuable natural resource job training while improving the biodiversity of Forest Park's unique and important 170-acre wildlife corridor.

\$40,000

Forest Releaf of Missouri**Engaging St. Louis Neighborhoods to Replant Trees Lost to the Invasive Emerald Ash Borer (MO)**

Remove thousands of ash trees along streets and in parks in St. Louis, due to the newfound presence of emerald ash borer, an invasive insect that slowly kills ash trees. Project will provide community education and outreach in advance of tree removal, provide replacement trees and implement a model that will engage residents in replanting healthy native trees.

\$60,000

Heartland Conservation Alliance**A Monarch's View of Urban Landscapes: Kansas City Proof of Concept (KS, MO)**

Inform gaps in the Urban Monarch Landscape Conservation Design project and test engagement strategies within each metropolitan area through site monitoring, social surveys and outreach activities. Project will sample monarch habitat across different land use types and/or different scales to populate the model with real data and conduct surveys, interviews or focus groups with a range of stakeholders to inform best practices.

\$50,415

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.

\$30,000

Little Blue River Watershed Coalition**Blue Valley Park, Blue River Remnant Oxbow and Riparian Corridor Restoration (MO)**

Restore a remnant oxbow of the Blue River in urban Kansas City that will remove invasive honeysuckle from 20 acres of forested riparian corridor that includes 3,400 feet of remnant oxbow wetted edge. Project will directly engage a diverse group of community partners in removal of invasive plants and planting of native vegetation to improve water quality.

\$38,500

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation**Missourians for Monarchs Habitat and Landowner Outreach Implementation**

Work with multiple partners to implement on-the-ground monarch habitat restoration and disseminate training materials to landowners. Project will restore more than 434 acres of monarch habitat and will help fulfill the objectives of the Missouri Monarch and Pollinator Conservation Plan.

\$249,966

Pollinator Partnership**Ecoregional Seed Program for Monarchs across Eastern Broadleaf Forest (AR, IL, IN, MO, OH)**

Establish an ecoregional seed collecting program for the eastern broadleaf forest and provide technical assistance to public and private land managers in five states. Project will collect 300 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate 9,000 seedlings to support establishment of 4,700 acres of monarch butterfly habitat.

\$150,000

Sustainable Chesapeake

Achieving Phosphorus Balance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Engage stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve farm and regional nutrient balance in high-density animal production areas. Project will expand markets for manure and its co-products to facilitate cost-effective transport of excess nutrients, facilitate Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Balance Sheet development, identify long-term solutions, engage 12,000 to 16,000 producers, and reduce 3,328,800 pounds of nitrogen, 124,564 pounds of phosphorus and 30,048 tons of sediment per year.
\$626,835

MONTANA

Bitter Root Land Trust

Bitterroot Valley

Cooperative Weed Management (MT)

Conduct integrated weed management within critical wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors within the Bitterroot Valley that support elk, moose, white-tailed and mule deer, bobcats, mountain lions, black bears, coyotes, foxes, bald eagles, bobolinks, Clark's nutcrackers, Lewis's woodpeckers, westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout. Project will improve over 8,000 acres of important wildlife and agricultural resources through invasive species management.
\$63,210

Clark Fork Coalition

Community Water Marketing Program FY17 (MT)

Identify, implement and monitor water transactions in the Clark Fork basin of Montana.
\$159,439

Clemson University

Northern Great Plains Swift Fox Connectivity (MT)

Live-trap and track at least 20 adult and 20 juvenile foxes on federal, private, state and tribal lands in Blaine, Phillips and Valley Counties, Montana. Project will use tracking, survivorship and recruitment data to build models of both population dynamics and dispersal/movement potential. This analysis will identify the biggest influences on the population dynamics in the region, and build upon state-wide monitoring to create a meta-population model to assess dynamics at a landscape scale.
\$158,207

Conservation Legacy

Wildlife Restoration Improvement Plan (CA, MT, NM, SD)

Employ five youths to sample salt ponds and survey birds on the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge in California. Project will include monitoring of mule deer, elk and mountain lion responses to large-scale forest restoration treatments, surveying aquatic invasive species in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and assessing sylvatic plague in small mammals and their fleas in grassland prairie environments of Badlands National Park to assist in black-footed ferret recovery.
\$53,560

Ducks Unlimited

Inform, Strengthen and Monitor Farm Bill Delivery in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)

Stem the conversion of native grasslands and declines of associated bird species such as Sprague's pipit, Baird's sparrow, long-billed curlew, chestnut-collared and McCown's longspurs, through stewardship efforts on private rangelands in portions of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. Project will track rates of conversion to assess conservation success and implement adaptive management for future conservation action.
\$112,223

Flathead Community Foundation

Crown of the Continent Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention (MT, Canada)

Coordinate efforts to keep harmful aquatic invasive species out of the Crown of the Continent region. Project will combine two successful pilot programs to establish an innovative regional Aquatic Invasive Species prevention strategy.
\$168,655

Montana Association of Land Trusts

Agricultural Land Easement Program (MT)

Cost-share a vital new shared position to assist in securing a significant new array of Agricultural Land Easement applications and helping facilitate the smooth flow of these applications through what can be a cumbersome Natural Resources Conservation Service administrative process.
\$125,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Big Sky Watershed Corps Drought Resiliency (MT)

Work closely with local stakeholders to promote drought resiliency in Montana watersheds. Project will expand restoration activities to address the decline and degradation of native ecosystems and provide drought specific education to local stakeholders.
\$10,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Pompey's Pillar National Monument and Billings Recreation Sites (MT) - II

Employ five youths to stain .25 miles of boardwalk at Pompey's Pillar National Monument and maintain 5 miles of mountain bike trail at Acton Recreation Area north of Billings, Montana. Project will install 10 miles of route signage in several areas of the Pryor Mountains on the Montana/Wyoming border to control access and protect critical habitat.
\$18,000

Montana Conservation Corps

Restoring the Last Best Place (MT, SD, WY)

Engage 79 youth in hands-on conservation projects with the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation at various locations in Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota. Project will include treating invasives, building new trails to help concentrate recreational impact, and reconnecting habitat corridors.
\$76,600

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Support for Water Transfers Capacity FY17 (MT)

Assist Montana qualified local entities with review and coordination on water transactions.
\$42,125

Montana Discovery Foundation

Youth Forest Monitoring Program (MT)

Engage youth in a 7-week summer internship program where they will train alongside forest scientists, working in teams to monitor forest health, and present their observations and recommendations in a final report and presentation. Project will equip youth with the skills and knowledge needed for seasonal and permanent employment with the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest.
\$25,000

Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks

Mulherin Creek Fish Screen and Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Entrainment Prevention (MT)

Install a fish screen at an irrigation diversion on Mulherin Creek, a major source of recruitment of fluvial Yellowstone cutthroat trout fry to the Yellowstone River. Project will contribute to meeting high-priority conservation goals including protecting migratory life history strategy and protecting non-hybridized Yellowstone cutthroat trout.
\$35,870

Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks

Reducing Human-Caused Grizzly Bear Mortalities in the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem (MT)

Support a Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem bear specialist to be on-call to resolve bear conflicts quickly, using methods that attempt to prevent the death of bears, and to provide free bear-resistant and electrified fencing loan programs, which provide the public with a quick solution for securing common bear attractants. Project will include public programs and workshops that increase community awareness of grizzly bear behavior and biological needs.
\$50,000

Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation**Grizzly and Wildlife Management from Cut Bank to Yaak (MT)**

Support grizzly bear and other key megafauna research, monitoring, conflict resolution and education of residents, visitors and businesses. Project will focus on seasonal, specialized help and tools biologists need to effectively manage threatened grizzly bear, mountain lion, wolverine and wolf populations in this key area for their survival and growth.

\$100,000

National Wildlife Federation**Engaging Youth to Reduce Sage Grouse Mortality through Livestock Fence-Flagging (MT)**

Employ tribal youth conservation teams whose field work will measurably improve habitat and reduce mortality for the greater sage grouse in Montana. Project will reduce the extensive mortality associated with sage grouse collisions with wire fences through a concentrated fence-flagging initiative with the Bureau of Land Management and Natural Resources Conservation Service's Sage Grouse Initiative and give crew members supplemental experiential learning and exposure to conservation careers.

\$55,006

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**Integrating Science and Habitat Delivery Capacity for Birds across the Great Plains (MT, CO)**

Increase capacity for on-the-ground conservation delivery in a key area for grassland birds by hiring a biologist with range and grassland bird expertise to work with landowners and other partners in central/southeastern Montana to conserve and enhance habitat for Sprague's pipit, Baird's sparrow, chestnut-collared and McCown's longspur and other grassland species.

\$200,000

Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana**Provide Technical Expertise in Planning and Monitoring to Protect and Enhance Montana's Rangelands**

Place two rangeland technicians in eastern and central Montana to promote rangeland monitoring and help producers develop individual ranch management plans. Project technicians will work directly with landowners to initiate rangeland monitoring that meets the needs of agencies and provide a support network to ensure monitoring efforts are sustainable.

\$399,738

The Nature Conservancy - Montana**Protecting Wildlife Habitat and Corridors in the High Divide (MT)**

Establish a 32,447-acre conservation easement on a ranch located in the heart of the Blacktail-Sage Creek landscape of the High Divide. Project will protect critical habitat and migratory corridors for a rich variety of wildlife, including grizzly bears, greater sage-grouse, wolverine and mule deer, while also ensuring public access to public lands in a heavily used recreational area.

\$250,000

Trout Unlimited**Montana Water Project FY17**

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

\$109,540

Trout Unlimited**Reese Creek Flow Enhancement (MT)**

Maintain instream flows in Reese Creek, a tributary to the Yellowstone River, to benefit spawning and rearing Yellowstone cutthroat trout. Project will install two pipelines to eliminate seepage loss up to 3.84 cubic feet per second and ensure instream flow targets are met while supplementing instream flow rights. Project will also change the points of diversion for three minor irrigators to the new pipelines system to eliminate the need for two downstream diversions.

\$50,000

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Wolverine Monitoring in the U.S. Rocky Mountains and North Cascades (Multiple States)**

Define and implement a multi-state conservation strategy for wolverines. Project will implement a collaborative monitoring program to assess and establish a current baseline on distribution, occupancy and genetic characteristics of the metapopulation, maintain landscape connectivity among occupied, core wolverine habitats of the northern U.S. Rockies and north Cascades, and develop policies that address the socio-political needs for assisting wolverine population expansion with translocations.

\$384,961

Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative Creating Habitat for Grizzly Bear Connectivity and Survival in the Cabinet-Yaak Region (ID, MT)

Lead and coordinate over 60 partners to improve grizzly bear habitat and survival in the Cabinet-Yaak region, by growing the small, isolated population and reconnecting it with the larger Canadian Rockies' populations. Project will protect and restore prime habitat, reinforce ineffective barriers on disused roads, protect or replant suitable vegetation, reduce human-wildlife conflicts, facilitate highway crossings, acquire small private land parcels, and monitor movement patterns in the region.

\$234,581

NEBRASKA**Keystone Policy Center****Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.

\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

Nebraska Community Foundation**FBO Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Maximizing Habitat for Wetland and Grassland Dependent Birds in the Rainwater Basin (NE)**

Establish grazing infrastructure on 800 acres, and evaluate forage yields and nutritional quality of dominant vegetation communities, under different grazing regimes. Project will develop an informational pamphlet for producers and work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to update the Field Office Technical Guide and State and Transition Models highlighting best management practices to achieve desired foraging resources and wildlife habitat.

\$180,795

NEVADA**Carson Water Subconservancy District****Carson River Watershed Integrated Management of Invasive Species (CA, NV)**

Manage invasive species treatment and restoration activities in riparian areas to improve Lahontan cutthroat trout, sage grouse and yellow-billed cuckoo habitat. Project will restore habitat through increased hand-pulling, chemical application, mechanical removal and revegetation by four cooperative weed management area partners in the Carson River Watershed.

\$83,613

Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition
Develop Cooperative Weed Management Area to Protect Sage Grouse (NV)
Develop the Southern Nevada Cooperative Weed Management Area and the expansion of the green fountain grass removal, outreach and education efforts. Project will increase capacity of a new Cooperative Weed Management Area covering more than 15,000 square miles in Nevada, protect riparian areas, water resources, and sage grouse habitat through removal of invasive weeds across approximately 230 acres.
\$55,500

Golden Eagle Audubon Society
Native Youth for Habitat Restoration (ID, NV)
Provide habitat restoration training and education for native youth from the Duck Valley Reservation. Bureau of Land Management and local resource professionals will train and educate the youth on restoration techniques, ecology and conservation.
\$33,446

Great Basin Institute
Vegetation and Sage-Grouse Habitat Monitoring in the Walker Basin and Watershed (CA, NV)
Provide paid youth internship positions acquiring valuable skills in field research techniques related to monitoring and conservation. Field technicians will learn contemporary habitat sampling techniques by collecting vegetation and habitat data using the Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring protocol. Project will collect data to guide proper treatment design, provide baseline data against which treatment effects may be measured, and enrich currently existing data sets.
\$19,998

League to Save Lake Tahoe
Protecting Lake Tahoe from Clarity Loss and Aquatic Invasive Species (NV)
Prove successful in filling important management gaps for monitoring and control of Lake Tahoe's two biggest threats to water clarity: fine sediment loading and aquatic invasive species. Project will provide vital information for locating hot spots of sediment loading from stormwater outfalls and early detection and rapid response for new and/or spreading infestations of aquatic invasive species, while also educating the community about these threats.
\$35,000

Outside Las Vegas Foundation
Increasing Community Engagement and Volunteering in Southern Nevada (NV)
Plan, organize and execute volunteer events throughout Las Vegas Valley and Southern Nevada. Project will plant 400 trees, engage 360 volunteers and remove 7.4 acres of invasive plants such as palm sprouts, spotted knapweed and cheatgrass.
\$40,000

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Invasive Noxious Weed Species Reduction (NV)
Provide employees of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe an opportunity to learn treatment and control measures for the infestation of invasive weed species in the Lower Truckee River. Project will provide employees of the tribe to learn the importance of treatment techniques and conservation efforts.
\$50,003

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Genomic Sequencing of the Endangered Bakersfield Cactus (AZ, CA, NV, UT)
Partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Office biologists to genetically characterize the federally endangered Bakersfield cactus, endemic to the southern San Joaquin Valley. Project will clarify the relationship with the more widespread beavertail cactus, identify morphological traits correlated with different varieties, and provide needed insight for project-level consultations under the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan and the California High Speed Rail.
\$72,350

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Developing the Next Generation of Conservationists at Summit Lake (NV)
Engage youths in internship opportunities offering training in data collection and field survey techniques through participation in a variety of natural resource conservation projects at the Summit Lake Reservation. Project will include a variety of restoration projects including Lahontan cutthroat trout population assessments, sage grouse monitoring, watershed and rangeland assessments, noxious weed identification/management, water quality monitoring, or riparian restoration.
\$50,000

The Nature Conservancy
Soldier Meadows Water Rights and Conservation for Desert Dace and Other Endemic Species (NV)
Hire and oversee a water rights surveyor to review formal documents associated with real estate, water rights and desert dace within Soldier Meadows. Project will conduct a hydrographic survey and oversee the construction of a perimeter fence while working with Bureau of Land Management.
\$95,000

Trout Unlimited
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Conservation Work (CA, NV, OR)
Provide continued support for a Lahontan cutthroat trout coordinator to provide on-the-ground expertise, partner coordination, project management, oversight of Lahontan cutthroat trout fieldwork, and landowner and public outreach. Project will also support a range-wide field crew for two years to implement Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery activities and supports staff to continue important outreach and assess current brook trout eradication efforts in two Walker headwater streams.
\$235,601

Walker Basin Conservancy
Yerington Conservation Crew: Connecting Youth with Nature (NV)
Partner with the Yerington Conservation Crew to engage youth in restoration projects within the Walker Basin. Youth will implement numerous restoration, revegetation and trail maintenance projects while developing teamwork skills and a lasting connection to the outdoors.
\$50,000

Walker River Paiute Tribe
Agai Dicutta Youth Working to Enhance the Walker River for Agai Pah, Walker Lake (NV)
Engage tribal youth in the removal of willows and trees from the bank along the Walker River, the planting and monitoring of native plants, the removal of small tamarisk plants, and the collection of seeds for replanting. Project will allow for better surface water flows, enhanced water quality, and efficient monitoring of planted areas and birds.
\$50,000

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Audubon Vermont
Managing New England Forests and Early Successional Habitats for Priority Bird Species (NH, VT)
Engage landowners, land managers and foresters on their properties and at demonstration sites to promote management practices that benefit priority bird species in New England. Project will improve habitat through on-the-ground conservation action and by authoring forest and early successional habitat management plans and case studies.
\$70,000

Belknap County Conservation District
Gunstock Brook Restoration and Gunstock Area Habitat Improvement and Outreach (NH)
Implement Gunstock Watershed Plan stream bank restoration at Route 11B Mass Failure/Wasting Site, identified as most critical to restoring native trout and smelt habitat. Project will provide outreach and education about habitat restoration and revise a forest plan to address habitat improvements for target species such as American woodcock and brook trout, future habitat work, 120 feet of boardwalk repair, pollinator habitat, and outreach.
\$70,033

Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance
Strengthening Electronic Monitoring
in the New England Groundfish Fishery
(MA, ME, NH)

Expand participation and build upon a successful electronic monitoring program for the New England groundfish fishery – including Atlantic cod, flounder and other species. Project will continue to implement and evaluate electronic monitoring strategies that effectively improve accountability through enhanced video monitoring coverage, while simultaneously partnering with independent scientists to explore new opportunities to leverage electronic data into improved long-term fisheries management.

\$553,424

Connecticut River Watershed Council
Seven Dam Removals in New Hampshire
and Vermont Opening Eastern Brook Trout
Habitats (NH, VT)

Secure dam owners' approval to proceed with seven high-priority dam removal projects in New Hampshire and Vermont. Project will open 140 miles of high-quality native eastern brook trout spawning grounds and thermal refuge and will help reduce flood elevations and the potential for infrastructure failures in six New Hampshire and Vermont communities.

\$199,165

Stephen G Perry

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
Coordination and Operations FY15 (NH)

Assist with refining the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture's strategic objectives and key conservation priorities using the results of the recently completed status assessment of wild brook trout at the catchment scale.

\$67,500

Town of Brownfield, Maine

Shepards River Renewal (ME, NH)

Reconnect over 8 miles of known brook trout habitat upstream of the Shepards River in Brownfield to 27.6 miles of habitat downstream, the majority of which is located in New Hampshire. Project will directly apply the funds to replace a deteriorating, undersized culvert on the Shepards River in Brownfield with a fish-friendly, open-bottom structure that will restore fish passage to the upper river.

\$100,000

Trout Unlimited

Brook Trout Habitat Restoration and
Reconnection in the Upper Connecticut River
Watershed (NH, VT)

Reconnect and restore brook trout habitat in the Upper Connecticut River watershed with an emphasis on the Paul Stream, Indian Stream, Brandy Brook and Nulhegan River watersheds. Project will replace nine culverts to reconnect 22 miles of habitat, restore 7 miles of instream habitat, and monitor water temperatures and brook trout response to instream habitat improvement.

\$86,000

Trout Unlimited

Conserving "Salter" Brook Trout in the
Northeastern United States (Multiple States)

Conserve sea-run (salter) brook trout. Project will survey 80 streams where brook trout status is currently unknown, evaluate and identify up to 10 priority Salter Conservation Areas, and complete three model conservation projects that will expand salter brook trout populations in 20.5 miles of streams.

Only one model project will be completed directly under this grant.

\$75,000

University of Connecticut

Vegetation Management in Transmission Line
Corridor and Implications for Native Pollinators
(MA, NH)

Extend previous study to native bees and butterflies, building on existing infrastructure and findings about species composition and vegetation structure along a transmission line. Project will document the importance of early successional habitats to the species diversity and abundance of wildlife in New Hampshire, adjacent states, and other forested landscapes, and will assess the effects of mowing and herbicide employed by northeastern utility companies on dependent pollinator communities.

\$111,077

University of Mississippi

Understanding the Legal Framework
for Removing Marine Debris and Placing
Fishing Gear (Multiple States)

Support development of innovative, proactive management strategies to address derelict fishing gear and vessel interactions in New England. Project will improve awareness of state derelict fishing gear and vessel navigation laws and regulations and explore legal opportunities to prevent gear loss.

\$44,814

University of New Hampshire

Use of Transmission Line Rights-of-Way
and New England Cottontail Clear-cuts
by Songbirds (ME, NH)

Use Eversource transmission line rights-of-way and clear-cuts that benefit New England cottontails in southern Maine and New Hampshire to determine how vegetation management and the landscape surrounding these habitats influences use by conservation priority bird species. Project will assess a total of 445 acres of habitat and compare bird use in habitats maintained by mechanical mowing or selective herbicide treatment, and openings composed of different proportions of native and exotic shrubs.

\$197,983

Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve

Provide Flexible Approaches to Restoring
New England Cottontail

Restarting 300 acres over two years, with a special focus on industrial, commercial and public lands, with an eventual increase of about 150 New England cottontail rabbits, while benefiting breeding American woodcock, prairie warbler and many pollinators. Project will support a restoration coordinator for New England cottontail within approved focal areas in southern Maine.

\$60,000

Wildlife Management Institute

Habitat Management to Benefit
Young Forest Species (NH)

Implement a variety of forest management projects to benefit American woodcock, young forest-dependent species, and bird species normally associated with interior forests which use young forest sites for brood rearing and in preparation for migration. Project will include low value and non-commercial vegetation management and construction of woodcock roosting fields or singing grounds, technical assistance to forest landowners, and identify high-quality young forest projects.

\$145,000

Wildlife Management Institute

Technical Assistance Coordinators
for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

NEW JERSEY

American Littoral Society

Reducing Agricultural and Stormwater Impact
at Barrett's Run in Cumberland County (NJ)

Evaluate existing conditions within Barrett's Run and assess potential restoration opportunities. Project will reduce the impact of runoff and protect waterway from sedimentation by implementing a vegetated buffer area on agriculture land, revegetate native plants on 2.5 acres of farm edge, and develop bioswales adjacent to farm fields and a parking lot.

\$90,000

Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority

Camden City Rain Barrel Program (NJ)

Design, prioritize and implement a stormwater management program that will install 600 rain barrels throughout the city of Camden. Project will help reduce the amount of stormwater entering the system and will address frequent flooding and combined sewer overflow problems.

\$67,150

Groundwork Elizabeth
Greenway Renewal along
Elizabeth's Urban Waters (NJ)

Engage youth from low-income, minority communities in environmental projects that improve local streams and riparian habitats in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Project will build stewardship around and improve access to amenities along the Elizabeth River and Travers Branch. Youth will improve habitat with native planting to benefit pollinators and songbirds. Three youth will be provided with jobs and training to help restore 25 acres of habitat.
\$24,500

Groundwork Hudson Valley
Fish and Wildlife Youth Conservation
Training Program (NJ, NY)

Engage 100 volunteers, plant 20 native trees, and restore more than .25 miles of urban river habitat in a section of Saw Mill River in Westchester County, New York, that is relatively undisturbed by development and thus a critical habitat area for local fish populations within the watershed. Project will help prepare students from elementary to high school for careers in fish and wildlife restoration.
\$36,292

Manomet
American Oystercatcher Recovery
(MA, NJ, NY, RI, SC) - VI

Conserve and manage coastal habitat designed to recover the population of American oystercatchers and associated beach nesting bird species in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey and South Carolina. Project will elevate oystercatcher productivity across the sites where conservation efforts are occurring, contributing to a 30 percent target increase in Atlantic Flyway American oystercatcher.
\$149,865

Natural Lands Trust
Livestock Farm Roof Runoff
Management Outreach (NJ)

Promote and assist in implementing agriculture best management practices for roof runoff by conducting outreach to over 30 livestock farmers about the Natural Resources Conservation Service Roof Runoff Structure practice. Implementation of roof runoff management techniques will reduce nutrients from entering the water and overall improve water quality by placing a storage tank for stormwater that will be reused as drinking water for livestock.
\$50,000

New Jersey Audubon Society
Synergistic Conservation Strategies
in the Highlands (NJ) - II

Build on a previous grant by improving, enhancing and restoring land that provides both habitat and natural resource protection opportunities. Project will assist in the implementation of restoration work such as riparian plantings, invasive removals, and stewardship of restored areas to improve water quality.
\$215,887

The Nature Conservancy
Restoring Paulins Kill Floodplain Forests
and Functions (NJ) - II

Collaborate with the Walkkill River Watershed Management Group to maintain and enhance a 20-acre, 1-mile riparian restoration and vegetative stream bank stabilization project. Project will improve water quality and floodplain function by reducing nutrient loading and connecting a riparian corridor habitat across agricultural, commercial and state-preserved properties.
\$176,278

The Trust for Public Land
Strategic Investment Plan for
the Delaware River Watershed (DE, NJ, NY, PA)

Develop a business plan to guide and prioritize conservation and restoration throughout the entire watershed, integrating its programs, and developing overarching goals and strategies to address key threats to its fish and wildlife. Project will develop strategic conservation areas and statistics to support the report.
\$98,845

Wildlife Management Institute
Technical Assistance Coordinators
for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.
\$504,012

NEW MEXICO

Conservation Legacy
Wildlife Restoration Improvement Plan
(CA, MT, NM, SD)

Employ five youths to sample salt ponds and survey birds on the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge in California. Project will include monitoring of mule deer, elk and mountain lion responses to large-scale forest restoration treatments, surveying aquatic invasive species in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and assessing sylvatic plague in small mammals and their fleas in grassland prairie environments of Badlands National Park to assist in black-footed ferret recovery.
\$53,560

Friends of Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge
Southwest Friends Peer-to-Peer Workshop
(NM)

Host a Peer-to-Peer Workshop with the Friends of the High Plains National Wildlife Refuge that will include interactive, interest-driven sessions that engage, educate and invigorate the Friends of the Southwest Region.
\$6,725

National Audubon Society
Middle Rio Grande Pilot Water Transactions
(NM)

Assist Audubon New Mexico in pursuing three water transaction opportunities to benefit the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow, the threatened Southwest willow flycatcher, and other at-risk species. Project will include a one-time purchase of up to 600 acre feet (AF) of stored water from six pueblos, a 3-year lease of senior natural flow rights within the boundaries of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, and a 3-year instream lease of agricultural water rights on the Middle Rio Chama.
\$39,770

New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
Conserving and Restoring Critical Land
and Water Resources in the Santa Fe National
Forest (NM)

Engage the community in volunteer stewardship projects including monitoring and restoring 1 acre of land by removing invasive weeds and plants to support natural habitat, species and ecosystems that are important to community livelihoods. Project will recruit diverse community members to participate in the Santa Fe National Forest Planning process which encourages public input to inform management of forest resources for the next 20 years.
\$20,000

Rio Puerco Alliance
Continuing Restoration along Torreon Wash
(NM)

Provide 25 youth jobs, engage 40 volunteers, plant 1,000 cottonwoods and approximately 1,000 willows along the Torreon Wash in the Ojo Encino and Torreon Chapters of the Eastern Navajo Nation, in Sandoval and McKinley Counties, New Mexico. Project will use a summer youth crew to install a mile of fencing to protect the plantings from livestock and wildlife.
\$24,952

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
Middle Rio Grande Urban Conservation Corps
(NM)

Provide conservation employment opportunities for youth in the Albuquerque metropolitan area through the Middle Rio Grande Urban Conservation Corps. Project will introduce youths to a breadth of conservation-related service opportunities and learning experiences including trail building and ecological restoration.
\$150,000

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge and Bureau of Reclamation Partnership (NM)
Engage the next generation of urban youth in a breadth of conservation-related service opportunities and learning experiences. Project will install 3.5 miles of wildlife-friendly fencing on the Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge and adjacent Bureau of Reclamation property to protect low-flying birds, such as grouse, owls and waterfowl.
\$60,000

Talking Talons Youth Leadership

Giving Youth Voice through Participation and Education in Conservation (NM) - II
Partner with the U.S. Forest Service to provide urban, minority and tribal youth ages 16 to 25 with conservation employment and participation opportunities in connection with the Cibola National Forest. Project will employ a 5-person youth conservation crew to participate in habitat and species restoration projects, a conservation workshop, four field trips to the Talking Talons Biological Field Study Station, and a youth summit.
\$50,000

Tamarisk Coalition

Restoration Tools for Riparian Landscapes Impacted by Invasive Woody Vegetation (CO, NM, OK, UT)
Develop innovative tools for the removal of invasive vegetation and successful restoration of riparian lands across the West. Project will package these new tools and techniques dealing with invasive species removal, native plant revegetation, monitoring protocols, biocontrol mapping, and current restoration research and science information, and distribute them to land managers through workshops focused on regionally applicable species and techniques.
\$46,738

Trout Unlimited

Long-Range Planning and Vulnerability Assessment of Southwestern Trout (AZ, CO, NM)
Improve management effectiveness for native Southwest trout by developing a more effective multi-agency monitoring plan for Apache trout populations and habitats, and collecting stream temperature data from all available agencies and nongovernmental sources to develop a comprehensive network for the Southwest. Project will use spatial statistical models for stream networks data to develop a consistent set of high-resolution climate scenarios for all streams and reaches within streams.
\$84,109

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management - Rio Puerco Field Office
Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program for Milkweed and Nectar Species (AZ, CO, NM, UT)
Increase seed collection of milkweed and other nectar-producing species in portions of the four corners states and will work with partners to increase commercial availability of seed and container plants. Project will produce a minimum of 12 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate more than 500 seedling plants.
\$86,916

NEW YORK**American Farmland Trust**

Cultivating Champions for Healthy Soil and Clean Water for Long Island Sound (NY)
Conduct five on-farm pilots of soil health practices, document the crop, economic and environmental results, and share information about the practices and results farmer-to-farmer in Suffolk County. Project will catalyze the use of soil health practices among Suffolk County's 140 vegetable farms and reduce nitrogen from farms in the Long Island Sound drainage.
\$83,941

Bronx River Alliance

Reducing Floatable Litter and Debris Pollution in the Bronx River and Long Island Sound (NY)
Collect floatable debris through 10 paddle and pickup canoe trips, one on-shore litter collection at a trash collection boom site, and one on-shore coastal cleanup event in the Bronx. Project will prevent 4,420 pounds of floatables debris and other trash from entering Long Island Sound waters.
\$10,000

Chesapeake Stormwater Network

Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training and Engagement (Multiple States)
Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.
\$125,000

City of New Rochelle

Green Infrastructure Planning Initiative in the City of New Rochelle (NY)
Prepare a green infrastructure program plan for the City of New Rochelle. The project will fully integrate green infrastructure into the work practices and policies of the city to reduce stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution to improve water quality in Long Island Sound.
\$55,000

City of New York Parks and Recreation
Alley Creek Shoreline and Coastal Forest Restoration (NY)

Construct living shoreline to enhance reestablishment of up to 1 acre of salt marsh, and enhance coastal forest and upland habitat in Alley Pond Park, Douglaston, New York. Project will arrest the continued loss of urban salt marsh.
\$150,000

Connecticut Fund for the Environment

Water Quality Monitoring Initiative for Long Island Sound Embayments (NY)
Develop a pilot of common standards and methods and produce guidance to inform water quality monitoring of ecological and eutrophic conditions by citizen-science groups working in Long Island Sound embayments and harbors. Project will help citizen-based water quality monitoring groups collect data in the same way, improving the understanding and regional management of water quality in local bays and harbors of Long Island Sound.
\$58,937

Cornell University

Improving Brook Trout Conservation by Predicting Responses to Climate (NY)
Develop a high-throughput genotyping tool to evaluate genetic diversity and thermal tolerance in brook trout populations throughout their native range. Project will be vital for planning and enhancing resilience to future climate changes in imperiled brook trout populations.
\$63,061

Council on the Environment d/b/a GrowNYC
Commitment to Conserving Water, Preventing Pollution and Providing Education (NY)

Provide environmental solutions in New York City by installing green infrastructure projects in six high-use community gardens located in vulnerable areas and training gardeners and volunteers in green infrastructure techniques at two workshops and through outreach. Project will educate the public through an online toolkit and on-site educational signage.
\$50,000

Friends of Van Cortlandt Park

Wetland Stewardship in the Bronx (NY) - II
Continue second part of a two-year project, hiring 14 high school students who will plant 300 trees, restore, monitor and learn about the Tibbetts Wetland within Van Cortlandt Park, located in the Northwest Bronx watershed. Project will increase the overall health of the wetland and decrease the amount of water leaving the wetland and entering the New York City sewer system.
\$28,287

Groundwork Hudson Valley**Fish and Wildlife Youth****Conservation Training Program (NJ, NY)**

Engage 100 volunteers, plant 20 native trees, and restore urban river habitat in a section of Saw Mill River in Westchester County that is relatively undisturbed by development and thus a critical habitat area for local fish populations. Project will help prepare students from elementary to high school for careers in fish and wildlife restoration.

\$36,292

Groundwork USA**Historic Restoration at Gateway****National Recreation Area (NY)**

Restore the ceiling of the western half of Bay 9 at Jacob Riis Beach and improve the staircase to the bunker observation platform at Fort Tilden National Historic Site. Project will allow for three Groundwork Trusts to work together on a joint project and involve 10 youths from a national park youth outreach program in New York City in the restorations.

\$59,000

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Recovery****(MA, NJ, NY, RI, SC) - VI**

Conserve and manage coastal habitat designed to recover the population of American oystercatchers and associated beach nesting bird species in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey and South Carolina. Project will elevate oystercatcher productivity across the sites where conservation efforts are occurring, contributing to a 30 percent target increase in Atlantic Flyway American oystercatcher.

\$149,865

National Audubon Society**Advancing the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird****Initiative (CT, NY, NC, FL)**

Protect, restore, enhance and manage priority shorebird habitats at roughly 75 sites across Connecticut, New York, North Carolina and Florida. Project will eliminate harmful human disturbances using new and innovative techniques, protect the places that shorebirds need at critical times of their life cycles, assess the impact of predators at selected sites, advance the current knowledge of shorebird demography, and address key knowledge gaps.

\$150,000

National Audubon Society**Share the Shore and Be a Good Egg (NY)**

Provide a multifaceted environmental education program which includes public and school programming, direct on-the-beach public outreach, delivering stewardship projects on the coast for birds, and securing pledges from people committing to share the shore with shorebirds on the North Shore of Long Island. Project will reduce threats to coastal habitats and shorebirds including piping plover, least tern, common tern, American oystercatcher and black skimmer.

\$34,988

New York Botanical Garden**The Green Zone (NY)**

Mitigate damage from stormwater runoff, improve habitat for native flora, fauna and animal species, and improve public awareness and education around urban clean water management in the Bronx and along the Bronx River. Project will reduce peak storm flows to the Bronx River, thereby significantly reducing soil and shoreline erosion along the steep landscaped slopes of the Green Zone storm shed.

\$50,000

New York City Audubon Society**Restoration, Stewardship and Monitoring****to Benefit Shorebirds in the Jamaica Bay Watershed (NY)**

Protect migratory and nesting shorebirds in Jamaica Bay, New York City by engaging 390 volunteers, restoring 22 acres of habitat, organizing two beach cleanups, a marsh planting event, and a dune-planting event. Project will provide an educational component that will teach a three-part unit to Brooklyn middle schoolers, some from underserved areas, and continue a citizen science program of monitoring shorebirds and horseshoe crabs.

\$35,115

North Shore Land Alliance**Long Island Sound Water Education****for Elementary School Students (NY)**

Deliver a three-session water quality education program to 1,850 elementary school students in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Project will educate students about Long Island's groundwater quality, the connection to Long Island Sound, and how students can protect local water resources.

\$30,500

Onondaga Environmental Institute**Restoring Native Brook Trout****in Onondaga Creek (NY) - II**

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

\$178,050

Peconic Green Growth**Demonstrate Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems for Clean Water at R.E. Reid Recreation Center (NY)**

Design and install a pilot, soil-based wastewater treatment system in Shoreham. Project will reduce nitrogen by 85-90 percent and treat for other contaminants of emerging concern in Long Island Sound.

\$86,430

RESOLVE**Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policy makers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.

\$62,700

Rocking the Boat**Student Scientist Monitoring of American Eel and River Herring on the Bronx River (NY) - II**

Engage 265 middle and high school students in monitoring river herring and American eel in the Bronx. Project will increase local community awareness of the Bronx River as habitat for river herring and American eels and contribute to the development of a management plan for these Long Island Sound species.

\$35,000

Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute Comprehensive Spring and Fall Migratory Bird Assessment on the Gulf of Mexico**(AL, FL, MS, TX)**

Map the distribution, abundance, timing and habitat affiliations of birds during the spring and fall migrations around the Gulf of Mexico coast using weather radar and citizen-collected (eBird) data. Project will result in maps to be used as decision support tools by conservation planners and policymakers to develop Gulf-wide conservation priorities for North America's migratory birds.

\$321,155

The Maritime Explorium at Port Jeff Harbor My Yard, Our Sound: Planting for Clean Water and Wildlife (NY)

Engage 1,600 people in a program that delivers an exhibit and workshops for families to transform their yards and gardens with native plants in Port Jefferson. Project will provide natural landscaping guidance to homeowners to encourage the use of alternatives to chemical and nutrient-intensive landscaping to benefit water quality and living resources of Long Island Sound.

\$25,366

The Nature Conservancy - Long Island
Demonstrate Onsite Wastewater Treatment
Systems for Clean Water at Uplands Farm
Sanctuary (NY)

Construct and publicize the results of the first nitrogen-reducing vegetated wastewater treatment system in Cold Spring Harbor. Project will demonstrate a system that treats wastewater in a natural manner, reduces nitrogen discharges, and safely removes pathogens providing an alternative to traditional waste treatment in cesspools which contributes nitrogen and other pollutants into Long Island Sound.
\$100,075

The Nature Conservancy, New York
Wetland Restoration in Southern Sodus
Coastal Wetlands (NY)

Restore and enhance over 115 acres of wetland habitat by constructing backwater potholes, reconnecting floodplain habitat, and assessing 10 road-stream crossings. Project will improve the access and habitat of northern pike spring spawning sites and enhance the nesting and feeding areas of waterfowl, including black ducks and green winged teal, and other marsh nesting birds, such as black tern and least bittern.
\$193,521

The Trust for Public Land
Strategic Investment Plan for the Delaware
River Watershed (DE, NJ, NY, PA)

Develop a business plan to guide and prioritize conservation and restoration throughout the entire watershed, integrating its programs, and developing overarching goals and strategies to address key threats to its fish and wildlife. Project will develop strategic conservation areas and statistics to support the report.
\$98,845

Trout Unlimited

Conserving "Salter" Brook Trout in the Northeastern United States (Multiple States)
 Conserve sea-run (salter) brook trout. Project will survey 80 streams where brook trout status is currently unknown, evaluate and identify up to 10 priority Salter Conservation Areas, and complete three model conservation projects that will expand salter brook trout populations in 20.5 miles of streams. Only one model project will be completed directly under this grant.
\$75,000

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

Patch-Based Brook Trout Genetic
Monitoring in the Headwaters of the
Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)
 Test novel monitoring metrics for eastern brook trout that include the number and size of brook trout occupied habitat patches, the number of patches with invasive trout, genetic diversity and effective population size. Project will compare the performance of each of these patch-based metrics, provide recommendations for those that are most informative, and build a model to predict values of these metrics in unsampled habitat patches.
\$110,224

University of Connecticut
A Blue Marine Plan for Long Island Sound
(CT, NY)

Engage scientists, government, industry and the public in development of maps and natural resource and human use information to become part of an online resource for the Long Island Sound Watershed of Connecticut and New York. Project will support the public process needed for development of a Blue Plan which looks at human activities in the marine environment to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives with an aim of protecting and restoring the Sound.
\$34,997

Village of Port Chester
Green Infrastructure Planning Initiative
in Port Chester (NY)

Develop a drainage manual and prepare conceptual designs and costs for green infrastructure projects for future implementation. Project will enhance the ability of the community to reduce urban runoff and flooding and advance environmental green and gray infrastructure projects village-wide.
\$47,000

Westchester Land Trust
Restoring Coastal Forest
at Otter Creek Preserve (NY)

Restore a 12-acre coastal forest through removal of nonnative invasive plants and planting native trees, shrubs and herbs in the Village of Mamaroneck. While some of the preserve forest is in good ecological condition, invasive plants are degrading the ecosystem. Project will focus on reversing forest fragmentation and degradation.
\$55,393

Whaling Museum Society
SOUNDoff Event! Creating Long Island Sound
Stewards (NY) - II

Host a one-day event to engage and inform children and adults about how to play an active role in preserving the Long Island Sound through hands-on activities in Cold Spring Harbor. Project will reach 400 visitors who will leave the event with a stronger understanding of their relationship to the Sound and with practical ways to contribute to a cleaner Sound.
\$7,398

WildAid
Domestic Wildlife Trafficking Program
(Multiple States)

Support the development of a communications strategy which will include developing effective and coordinated messaging to targeted audiences on reducing the demand for ivory trade in the U.S. Project will implement a communication strategy through the U.S. Wildlife Trafficking Alliance, in which the organization is a partner.
\$100,000

WildAid
U.S. Illegal Wildlife Demand
Reduction Campaign (Multiple States)

Develop and implement a communications campaign to raise awareness of wildlife trafficking into the United States. Project will reduce the demand for illegal wildlife and the amount of illegal wildlife products smuggled into the U.S. contributing to lessening poaching pressure on endangered species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins.
\$270,000

Wildlife Management Institute
Technical Assistance Coordinators
for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.
\$504,012

NORTH CAROLINA

Alliance Medical Ministry
Alliance Medical Ministry
Community Garden (NC)

Engage patients, volunteers and community leaders through exercise, volunteer opportunities and education in North Carolina. Project will support sustainable agricultural practices and private lands stewardship, facilitate investments in green infrastructure, renewable energy and energy efficiency, and encourage broad-based citizen participation in project implementation.
\$25,000

Dial Cordy & Associates
Cape Fear and Southeast Atlantic Fish
and Wildlife Habitat Assessment (NC)

Identify areas that are critical to fish, wildlife and ecosystem health in the Cape Fear River basin, as well as throughout the state of North Carolina and the rest of the Southeast Atlantic Coast, and develop a spatial map product. Project will include geospatial map/data in an ESRI ArcMap format of highest priority areas for fish, wildlife and habitat tagged with attribute information, full metadata, and a final report summarizing the plans and documents analyzed.
\$95,401

Forest Landowners Association**Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)**

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.
\$100,000

Gettysburg College**Develop Low-Cost Electronic Catch and Bycatch Monitoring in Small-Scale Fisheries (HI, NC)**

Develop a low-cost electronic monitoring system to augment human observers in small-scale fisheries in Hawaii and North Carolina. Project will develop electronic monitoring technology and software to efficiently and cost-effectively gather accurate fisheries data, including target catch rates and bycatch rates of marine megafauna – such as sea lions, sharks and sea turtles – to assist in the management of U.S. small-scale fisheries.
\$65,813

National Audubon Society**Advancing the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative (CT, NY, NC, FL)**

Protect, restore, enhance and manage priority shorebird habitats at roughly 75 sites across Connecticut, New York, North Carolina and Florida. Project will eliminate harmful human disturbances using new and innovative techniques, protect the places that shorebirds need at critical times of their life cycles, assess the impact of predators at selected sites, advance the current knowledge of shorebird demography, and address key knowledge gaps.
\$150,000

North Carolina Wildlife Federation**Charlotte Community Alliance for Wildlife Habitats Project (NC)**

Create new community wildlife habitats in areas that are currently underserved by conservation initiatives in Charlotte, North Carolina. Project will create new urban wildlife habitats, provide opportunities for environmental education for community residents through a Wildlife Stewards program, and establish a new conservation coalition called the Charlotte Community Alliance for Wildlife.
\$50,000

Sustainable Chesapeake**Achieving Phosphorus Balance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Engage stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve farm and regional nutrient balance in high-density animal production areas. Project will expand markets for manure and its co-products to facilitate cost-effective transport of excess nutrients, facilitate Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Balance Sheet development, identify long-term solutions, engage 12,000 to 16,000 producers, and reduce 3,328,800 pounds of nitrogen, 124,564 pounds of phosphorus and 30,048 tons of sediment per year.
\$626,835

The Longleaf Alliance**Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach – II (Multiple States)**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.
\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy**North Carolina Sandhills Longleaf Restoration Task Force - III**

Establish 441 acres of longleaf pine and improve nearly 12,000 acres of additional longleaf habitat with prescribed fire. Project will conduct longleaf restoration and management on properties including the North Carolina Sandhills Game Land that buffer the installation and provide habitat for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. Partners will also provide prescribed fire training and support to empower private landowners to burn longleaf on their own properties.
\$300,000

The Nature Conservancy**Onslow Bight Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration (NC) - III**

Restore and manage longleaf pine habitat on State of North Carolina and Nature Conservancy-owned lands that adjoin or are in close proximity to Camp Lejeune, providing encroachment protection and improving habitat for numerous species including the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. Project will plant 300 acres of longleaf pine and manage existing longleaf habitat on more than 5,800 acres of public and private lands.
\$300,000

University of North Carolina at Asheville**Cape Fear River Basin and Southeast Atlantic Coastal Resiliency Assessment (GA, FL, NC, SC)**

Assess and map climate resiliency attributes of the Cape Fear River basin, but also of the broader Southeast Atlantic Coast, to inform priority areas for potential projects to protect communities from severe storms and floods, and enhance fish and wildlife and their associated habitats. Project will include a report summarizing the tools, resources and datasets that were analyzed to inform the project and identify "Resiliency Hubs," "Communities At-Risk," and open space/working lands.
\$106,302

University of North Carolina**Environmental Finance Center****Building Support for Local Watershed Protection and Clean Water Funding Programs in Raleigh (NC)**

Strengthen and expand local capacity for watershed protection efforts in Raleigh through a series of community-based watershed education and outreach initiatives carried out in partnership with the City of Raleigh. Project will aim to strengthen the city's efforts to conserve critical water resources and improve local water supply by facilitating investments in green infrastructure and encouraging broad-based citizen support for watershed protection efforts.
\$25,000

Yadkin Riverkeeper**Yadkin River Watershed Protection Task Force (NC)**

Review current land protection and water quality models and refine the model so that it applies to the Yadkin River Watershed in North Carolina. Project will apply the model to identify and conserve important vegetated buffers and reduce nutrient and sediment runoff from non-point sources into the river.
\$50,000

NORTH DAKOTA**Ducks Unlimited****Inform, Strengthen and Monitor Farm Bill Delivery in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Stem the conversion of native grasslands and declines of associated bird species such as Sprague's pipit, Baird's sparrow, long-billed curlew, chestnut-collared and McCown's longspurs, through stewardship efforts on private rangelands in portions of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. Project will track rates of conversion to assess conservation success and implement adaptive management for future conservation action.
\$112,223

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.

\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

South Dakota State University**Survey Swift Fox in the Northern Great Plains (ND, SD)**

Survey swift fox to develop predictive occupancy and connectivity models in the Northern Great Plains to be used to identify priority reintroduction and conservation areas. Project will assess potential impacts of sylvatic plague on swift fox, analyze genetic diversity of resident foxes, and develop a swift fox den-site model for the region.

\$177,339

OHIO**City of Akron****Cascade Park Cuyahoga River Stream Bank Restoration (OH)**

Restore a .07-mile section of stream bank in the Cascade Valley Metro Park in Akron, Ohio, utilizing natural stabilization methods, which will protect over 10 acres of forested wetlands. Project will educate and engage the community through a permanent interpretative sign and holding a volunteer planting event for up to 100 volunteers.

\$30,000

Cleveland Museum of Natural History**Huron River Wetlands Restoration (OH)**

Restore estuarine mudflats, emergent marsh, sedge meadow, riparian meadow and riparian forest habitat on a Lake Erie riverine marsh. Project will control 76 acres of Phragmites australis and other invasive species to benefit specialized plant species such as leafy blue flag and black willow, migratory shorebirds and wading birds, including ruddy duck, gadwall, green-winged teal, redhead, red knot, and Wilson's phalarope.

\$78,242

Cleveland Museum of Natural History**Mentor Marsh Invasive Plant Species Control (OH) - II**

Continue to restore emergent marsh and swamp forest habitat in Mentor Marsh, a National Natural Landmark. Project will control invasive plant species on 75 acres and plant 6,000 trees such as Freeman maple, buttonbush, black willow and peach-leaf willow on native emergent marsh and swamp forest habitat to benefit 20 state-listed or rare species, including American bittern, least bittern, sora rail and spotted turtle.

\$116,658

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress**Advancing Composting as Neighborhood-Based Environmental Sustainability Strategy (OH)**

Integrate composting into the teaching and training curriculum of neighborhood-based climate resilience strategies included in a larger citywide initiative, and incentivize residents' adoption of composting as an environmental sustainability practice. Project will result in increased community engagement and awareness around composting and climate resilience in Cleveland.

\$50,000

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek**Mill Creek Healthy People and River Program (IN, OH)**

Restore and regenerate a total of 17 acres of wildlife habitat and wetlands for wildlife, including the black-crowned night heron and the Indiana bat, in Muscatatuck Wildlife Refuge in Indiana and in multiple Mill Creek riverine/riparian sites in Cincinnati, Ohio. Project will engage at least 960 participants, including 860 middle and high school students and 100 adult volunteers from Mill Creek neighborhoods and diverse organizations.

\$37,500

Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center**Cherry Street Legacy Neighborhood Conservation (OH)**

Implement a tree canopy plan and support urban agriculture by establishing pollinator and rain gardens within the Cherry Street Legacy neighborhood in downtown Toledo. Project will provide support to 20 neighborhood youth interns and two youth leaders, provide rain barrels and soil and water testing to 40 residents, engage 25 volunteers, provide education to at least 50 residents on water and soil quality issues, and engage 100 households in a dialogue about water and soil quality issues.

\$26,526

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

Ohio River Foundation**Cooperative Weed Management Area of Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana**

Create a Cooperative Weed Management Area in Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana to control and reduce nonnative invasive plant species in the Ohio River watershed. Project will establish a Cooperative Weed Management Area and use it as a template for creating others in the Ohio River watershed.

\$60,000

Pollinator Partnership**Ecoregional Seed Program for Monarchs across Eastern Broadleaf Forest (AR, IL, IN, MO, OH)**

Establish an ecoregional seed collecting program for the eastern broadleaf forest and provide technical assistance to public and private land managers in five states. Project will collect 300 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate 9,000 seedlings to support establishment of 4,700 acres of monarch butterfly habitat.

\$150,000

Rocky River Watershed Council**Restoring Lower Abram Creek at NASA-Glenn Research Center (OH)**

Engage 200 volunteers, restore and enhance 1.25 acres of habitat adjacent to a headwater tributary of Abram Creek located on NASA-Glenn Research Center property in Brook Park and enhance habitat along 750 lineal feet of the same headwater tributary. Project will complete minor stream bank grading, excavate small areas of floodplain, add large woody debris to the stream channel, plant native floodplain and wetland trees and shrubs, and sow native vernal pool and floodplain seed mixes.

\$30,000

Western Reserve Land Conservancy**Expanding the Protection and Restoration of Hach-Otis Sanctuary and State Nature Preserve (OH)**

Permanently protect 80 acres of riparian and upland forest habitat along the Chagrin River, a Lake Erie tributary in northeastern Ohio. Project will preserve high-quality habitat for numerous native species including brook trout, lake sturgeon, steelhead, clearwater crayfish, queen snake, yellow-bellied sapsucker, cerulean warbler, bobolink, meadowlark, northern harrier and fringed gentian.

\$407,153

Wildlife Management Institute**Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)**

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

OKLAHOMA**Association of Friends of the Wichitas Nature Store Project (OK)**

Take over the operation of the Nature Store at the visitor center in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. Project will help support improved visitor services and programs, and provide an opportunity to deliver higher quality merchandise in the Nature Store that will further public appreciation of the natural, cultural and historic resources of the refuge.

\$9,952

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.

\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.

\$144,750

Tamarisk Coalition**Restoration Tools for Riparian Landscapes Impacted by Invasive Woody Vegetation (CO, NM, OK, UT)**

Develop innovative tools for the removal of invasive vegetation and successful restoration of riparian lands across the western United States. Project will package these new tools and techniques dealing with invasive species removal, native plant revegetation, monitoring protocols, biocontrol mapping, and current restoration research and science information, and distribute them to land managers through workshops focused on regionally applicable species and techniques.

\$46,738

The Learning Center**at the Euchee Butterfly Farm Restoration of Milkweed and Monarch Habitats in Eastern Oklahoma**

Implement milkweed and monarch butterfly conservation in eastern Oklahoma by training Native American youths in the production of milkweed and creating native plant demonstration sites. Project will include the production of 10,000 milkweed plugs, the restoration of 400 acres of monarch habitat, and the creation of seven native plant demonstration sites by 140 youth program participants.

\$50,000

OREGON**City of Wilsonville****Bee Stewards in Wilsonville (OR)**

Restore two acres of city and school district lands to vibrant and healthy pollinator habitat and safeguard pollinator health within Wilsonville. Project will expand community awareness and stewardship of pollinators by involving diverse partners, volunteers and students in project planning, implementation and maintenance, establishing interpretive signs next to public plantings, and providing residents with education and tools to create habitats in their own yards.

\$37,000

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation**Water Rights Accord FY17 (OR, WA)**

Work with the Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership and The Freshwater Trust to support and develop innovative voluntary water transactions.

\$167,251

Confluence Resource Consulting Water Management Model Development and Evaluation (CA, OR)

Collaboratively develop and evaluate modifications and improvements to the Klamath Basin Planning Model and related analytical components. Model and related products will be used by managers to understand and assess likely consequences of alternative water management strategies to threatened Coho salmon, endangered Lost River and shortnose suckers, national wildlife refuges, other trust resources of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Klamath Reclamation Project irrigators.

\$100,000

Coos Watershed Association Gorse Action Group: Development of a Strategic Cooperative Weed Management Area (OR)

Develop a Cooperative Weed Management Area to reduce areas impacted by gorse, a highly invasive and flammable plant on the southern Oregon coast. Project will control and manage gorse to improve habitat and ecological function for several rare, threatened and endangered species including western lily, coho salmon and spotted owl.

\$41,386

Coos Watershed Association**Natural Resource Youth Leaders in the Coos Watershed (OR)**

Host two summer youth programs that focus on habitat restoration, endangered coho salmon life cycles, and natural resources on the Oregon coast in Coos Bay. Project will provide local at-risk youths with conservation employment and education opportunities within their local watershed while fostering a sense of environmental stewardship and conservation.

\$41,931

Deschutes River Conservancy**Deschutes River Conservancy Water Transactions Program FY17 (OR)**

Restore stream flow in the Oregon's Deschutes Basin through water transactions.

\$249,260

Ecotrust**Expanding Fishing Business Market Opportunities for Fresh Frozen Seafood (AK, CA, OR)**

Address market barriers to fresh frozen fish using an innovative tool that measures seafood freshness. Project will partner with fishing communities from Alaska to California to increase consumer understanding in supply chain transparency, underutilized species, and seafood freshness and quality.

\$100,000

Environment for the Americas**Celebrate Shorebirds Latino Internship Program (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)**

Offer training, mentorship and career development for Latino youths seeking positions in natural resources, providing interns with valuable field experiences in shorebird research. The interns will serve as cultural bridges between host sites with federal and nongovernmental agencies and Latino communities, where they offer education programs about shorebirds and conservation.

\$91,839

Freshwaters Illustrated**Building a Broader Base for Brook Trout: A Film to Communicate Conservation Needs (Multiple States)**

Address a fundamental conservation challenge facing eastern brook trout – lack of awareness and lack of broad support among both angling and non-angling members of the public. Project will create an accessible film that celebrates these beautiful native fish and their habitats, and will tell the stories of those who work passionately to protect and restore them.

\$48,223

Friends of Zenger Farm**Habitat Restoration at Zenger Farm (OR)**

Engage more than 1,000 volunteers in removing invasive blackberry, ivy and celandine plants on Zenger Farm property in outer southeast Portland. Project will train community members, partners and volunteers about sustainable practices related to urban farming, invasive species removal and native species planting.

\$40,000

Heart of Oregon Corps**Deschutes River Stewardship (OR)**

Engage eight-10 youth corps members through education and conservation activities on a river rafting trip on the Deschutes River in Central Oregon. Project will engage youth through hands-on learning and exploration of natural resources while completing restoration and recreation maintenance activities on the river.

\$6,200

Johnson Creek Watershed Council**North Fork Johnson Creek Open Migration (OR)**

Replace or repair seven culverts on the North Fork of Johnson Creek that are near or full anadromous passage barriers. Project will open fish migration to 2 miles of rearing and refuge habitat and improve health for salmonids including coho salmon, steelhead and chinook salmon.

\$29,392

Lomakatsi Restoration Project**Southwest Oregon Monarch Habitat Restoration Initiative**

Restore and enhance 300 acres of degraded monarch habitat including woodland edges, meadows, natural forest openings, riparian areas and landings/roadsides in southwestern Oregon. Project will unify monarch butterfly habitat restoration efforts in the region and expand the milkweed supply for restoration projects.

\$193,786

McKenzie Watershed Alliance**Deer Creek Floodplain Enhancement (OR)**

Restore 1.6 miles of stream habitat and 42 acres of floodplain through large wood augmentation on Deer Creek in the McKenzie River sub-basin of the Willamette River Basin. Project will benefit two threatened fish species, spring chinook salmon and bull trout, along with rainbow trout, cutthroat trout and other native aquatic species.

\$59,522

North Fork John Day Watershed Council**Prairie City: Conservation Youth Crew (OR)**

Employ six youths to protect and conserve 50 acres of aspens, 6 miles of riparian habitat, 5 miles of degraded recreation trails, and motor-vehicle impaired habitats in the Prairie City Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest. Project will result in wildlife surveys of the American pine marten and other species and comprehensive habitat enhancement for anadromous fish species, neotropical songbirds and large game animals.

\$42,023

Northwest Youth Corps**Native American Conservation Corps (OR)**

Collaborate with multiple partners, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs and federal land management agencies, to develop a Native American Conservation Corps in Oregon. Project will employ, train and educate 23 Native American youths and restore 6 acres of land by removing invasive plants.

\$51,599

Oregon Water Resources Department**Oregon Water Resources Department Flow Restoration Program Support FY17**

Provide support for Oregon Water Resources Department flow restoration staff and Oregon Qualified Local Entities on water transactions.

\$14,709

Oregon Water Resources Department**Water Transaction Coordination and Monitoring FY17 (OR)**

Assist Oregon Qualified Local Entities with water transactions. Project will also provide for continued monitoring of an on-going transaction on the Lostine River.

\$63,122

The Freshwater Trust**Innovative Transactions to Restore Flows FY17 (OR)**

Implement voluntary, cooperative, market-based instream flow transactions throughout the Columbia River Basin in Oregon.

\$190,085

The Freshwater Trust**Innovative Transactions to Restore Flows: Oregon Umatilla Accord FY17**

Implement voluntary, cooperative and market-based instream flow transactions throughout the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Accord areas within the Columbia River Basin in Oregon.

\$90,038

The Freshwater Trust**Upper Sandy River Basin Aquatic Habitat Restoration (OR)**

Improve watershed function and fish habitat in the Salmon River and Still Creek, ecologically significant tributaries of Oregon's Sandy River. Project will reactivate flow to six historic side channels, construct 51 large wood habitat structures, restore two alcoves, and place additional large wood in side channels and on stream margins.

\$64,000

The Freshwater Trust**Upper Sandy River Basin Habitat Restoration (OR)**

Benefit salmon and steelhead in the Sandy River basin by accelerating the recovery of naturally functioning conditions within the stream channels and floodplain areas of Salmon River and Still Creek. Project will support the reactivation of flow to six historic side channels, construction of 49 large wood habitat structures, boulder placement, and placement of additional large wood in side channels and on stream margins.

\$65,511

Tillamook Estuaries Partnership**Growing Job Skills for Youth through Native Plants Restoration (OR) - II**

Teach young adults from local communities in northwest Oregon job skills and receive positive input from conservation minded role models. Project will give them the opportunity to grow native plants for watershed restoration projects on public, state and private lands, benefiting species including the American bald eagle, band-tailed pigeon, Caspian tern, olive-sided flycatcher, coastal tailed frog, Columbia torrent salamander, Oregon silverspot butterfly, and anadromous salmonids.

\$76,269

Tillamook Estuaries Partnership**Mapes Creek Culvert Replacement (OR)**

Finalize designs and specification, replace an existing 4.5-foot culvert with a 32-foot long concrete bridge in Mapes Creek, and construct approximately 100 feet of stream simulation channel and a temporary vehicle bypass structure. Project will allow for complete access to all suitable anadromous fish habitats in the watershed, including Oregon coast coho, chum and chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

\$50,000

Trout Unlimited**Developing Water Transactions in the Klamath Basin FY16 (OR)**

Work with landowners to develop and implement water transactions in the Klamath basin.

\$10,500

Trout Unlimited

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Conservation Work (CA, NV, OR)

Provide continued support for a Lahontan cutthroat trout coordinator to provide on-the-ground expertise, partner coordination, project management, oversight of Lahontan cutthroat trout fieldwork, and landowner and public outreach. Project will also support a range-wide field crew for two years to implement Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery activities and supports staff to continue important outreach and assess current brook trout eradication efforts in two Walker headwater streams.

\$235,601

Trout Unlimited

Umatilla Basin Water Transactions Support FY17 (WA)

Partner with the Umatilla Tribe to implement water transactions in the Umatilla Basin including Birch Creek. Project will prioritize reaches for project implementation to ensure best benefits for instream flow, analyzing data and pre- and post monitoring, and providing reports.

\$59,516

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

South Fork Steelhead Creek Aquatic Organism Passage and Habitat Reconnection (OR)

Remove a culvert from the South Fork of Steelhead Creek, a large key watershed and regional stronghold for wild summer steelhead in the North Umpqua River. Project will reconnect the upper 0.7 miles of high-quality steelhead, cutthroat and resident rainbow trout habitat with a stream-simulation designed road crossing.

\$50,000

Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

Whychus Canyon Restoration (OR)

Restore reaches of Whychus Creek as part of the regional effort to restore habitat for reintroduced salmon, steelhead, native redband and bull trout. Project will restore 1 mile of stream/floodplain, increase dominant and side channel length, increase large wood pieces per mile, increase floodplain connectivity and flood accessible wetland and riparian habitat, and plant over 60,000 riparian plants.

\$70,000

Upper Klamath Landowners Corp.

Upper Klamath Basin Comprehensive Agreement Implementation (OR)

Assist the landowner entity with implementation of the Upper Klamath Basin Comprehensive Agreement. Project will include further development of the riparian management and water use programs, enrollment of additional properties in the riparian and water programs, education and training with the National Riparian Service Team on properly functioning conditions for riparian corridors, and operation of any rotational water-use programs necessary to meet required instream flows.

\$193,320

PENNSYLVANIA

Allegheny College

Locate Unidentified Wild Trout

Populations in Headwater Streams in Northwestern Pennsylvania

Sample at least 40 previously unassessed streams in the French Creek, Oil Creek and Brokenstraw Creek watersheds of northwestern Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and the data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.

\$11,000

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Prioritizing Conservation Plan Implementation to Protect the Octoraro Reservoir (PA)

Prioritize existing conservation plans for implementation on primarily Plain Sect farms in a subwatershed contributing to drinking water supplies in the Octoraro Creek watershed. Project will synthesize and analyze existing information, along with data contained in the Chester Water Authority Source Water Protection Plan, to target a subwatershed for agricultural best management practice implementation that will reduce nitrates in the drinking water of the Octoraro Reservoir.

\$49,914

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Restoring the Octoraro Reservoir: Plain Sect Conservation Action (PA)

Achieve pollutant reductions in subwatersheds contributing to drinking water supplies in the Octoraro Creek Watershed through outreach and agricultural best management practice installation on Plain Sect farms. Project will build upon existing local efforts through the creation of a Source Water Protection Collaborative and development of a sustainable regional financing plan for ongoing implementation.

\$749,676

American Bird Conservancy

Create Habitat for Golden-Winged Warblers, American Woodcock and Others on Private Lands (MD, PA)

Work to reverse the decline of the golden-winged warbler and American woodcock through technical assistance to private landowners. Project will result in 100 private landowners in Pennsylvania and Maryland contacted about Farm Bill programs, at least 40 landowners enrolled in Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, and at least 1,300 acres enrolled in programs to benefit the species.

\$229,795

American Rivers

Reconnecting Historic Migratory Fish Habitat in Chiques Creek (PA)

Remove a fish barrier to restore access to 2.9 miles of upstream headwaters for spawning brook trout in Chiques Creek. Project will benefit migratory and resident fish in the Susquehanna River Basin and remove a deteriorating safety hazard from this high-priority brook trout creek.

\$199,916

Berks Nature

Implementing Agriculture Best Management Practices in the Middle Schuylkill (PA)

Develop conservation and nutrient plans and install agriculture best management practices including manure storage, stormwater and barnyard controls, riparian buffers, cover crops, and stream bank fencing. The installed BMPs will improve water quality by reducing nutrients available to surface, ground, storm and drinking waters.

\$250,000

Borough of Carlisle

Carlisle Urban Stormwater Park (PA)

Reduce flooding by implementing stormwater best management practices integrated with park and recreation facilities located in the disadvantaged northwest quadrant in Carlisle. Project will provide the needed stormwater detention capacity to serve runoff from the planned redevelopment of an adjacent brownfield site, while preventing nutrients and other pollution from entering the vulnerable LeTort Spring, which feeds into Conodoguinet Creek and the Chesapeake Bay.

\$599,452

Borough of Spring Grove

Campus Avenue Stream Restoration (PA)

Restore approximately 1,250 linear feet of Codorus Creek to correct eroding stream banks and channels, thereby reducing sediment discharge to the Lower Susquehanna watershed by 6,000 pounds annually. Spring Grove Borough and Jackson Township are urban landscapes with several direct stormwater discharges to the stream. Project will identify measures to move back the direct discharge points and create a natural buffer through man-made wetland areas to dissipate concentrated upstream runoff.

\$185,000

Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art

Multi-Municipal Stormwater Management Program in Oxford Region of Pennsylvania

Develop a regional stormwater management program in the Oxford Region to help restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay. Five municipalities will collaborate to assess existing stormwater management strategies and prioritize implementation of best management practices to meet water quality goals.

\$50,000

Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art Watershed Restoration**in the Brandywine Headwaters (PA)**

Protect and restore 15.5 square miles of the headwaters of the West Branch Brandywine River in Salisbury Township and Honey Brook Township. Project will restore surface water quality by educating and incentivizing farmers, providing technical assistance, and implementing agricultural best management practices, including 1.5 miles of fencing, riparian buffers and completed farm conservation plans that will result in measurable improvements.

\$496,718

Brandywine Red Clay Alliance**A Collaboration to Model Water Quality Restoration in the Brandywine/Christina Basin (PA)**

Provide a model for collaboration among municipalities to achieve water quality improvements mandated through the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System and Total Maximum Daily Loads programs by designing and developing restoration programs in pilot target areas. Project will accelerate water quality restoration and improve cost efficiencies of best management practice implementation for reducing runoff volume by using the pilot target areas as models for municipalities and other partners.

\$99,998

Brian S. Auman / Landscape Architecture Sylvan Dell Park Green Infrastructure Plan (PA)

Design a plan, "Integrating Conservation, Stewardship and Resource Protection with Active Recreation," for a nature park and trail system creating a strategic landscape connection between the Susquehanna River and Bald Eagle Ridge. Project will be a park and trail system implementing a full range of green infrastructure features that improve and protect water quality, create wildlife habitat, while enhancing the recreational user experience.

\$50,000

California University of Pennsylvania Sampling for Eastern Brook Trout in Four Counties of Southwestern Pennsylvania

Sample at least 20 previously unassessed streams in southwestern Pennsylvania for the presence or absence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.

\$4,995

Center for Watershed Protection**Technical Assistance for Lebanon County Cooperative Restoration Strategy (PA)**

Provide technical assistance to the Lebanon County Planning Department, the Lebanon County Conservation District and the 18 municipalities which form the Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance (LCCWA). Project will build the capacity of the LCCWA to develop a cohesive county-wide plan for reducing stormwater pollution.

\$49,995

Chesapeake Conservancy**Implementing Precision Conservation in the Susquehanna River Watershed (PA)**

Collaborate and harness newly available high-resolution GIS datasets and tools to conduct precision conservation and better focus restoration efforts and best management practice implementation on the ground. Project will demonstrate improved efficiency, effectiveness and returns on investment through better site selection prioritization and support technology transfer to broaden adoption across multiple regions.

\$562,237

Chesapeake Stormwater Network Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training and Engagement (Multiple States)

Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.

\$125,000

Clarion University of Pennsylvania**Sampling for Eastern Brook Trout in the Headwaters of the Allegheny River Watershed (PA)**

Sample at least 40 previously unassessed streams in the Redbank and Hemlock Creek watersheds of northwestern Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage students in the field and data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout and that designation provides additional protection in the permitting process for proposed development activities.

\$10,989

Council Fire**Nutrient Trading Feasibility and Assessment (MD, PA, VA)**

Assess the feasibility of nutrient trading as a Bay restoration methodology. Project will specifically create a Pilot Nutrient and Sediment Credit Acquisition Bank to help spur market forces in the region, and examine a role as active trading partner in the ongoing marketplace.

\$20,540

Darby Creek Valley Association**Installing Darby Road Median Rain Gardens in Naylor's Run Micro-Watershed (PA)**

Build highly visible Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) in an urban and suburban landscape within the Naylor's Run Watershed in Delaware County, including rain gardens on medians of a major thoroughfare and 10 other rain gardens within the watershed. The installed rain gardens and GSI will collect, treat, detain and recharge stormwater runoff from impervious areas which will reduce peak flow and pollutant load to the upper reaches of Naylor's Run.

\$99,500

Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest Meeks Run Restoration Project (PA)

Improve trail conditions, remove invasive species and plant 300 native trees over three planting seasons on 30 acres in Montour Woods Conservation Area in Moon Township, Pennsylvania. 25-50 volunteers will provide support, and 25 students from Operation Better Block's Jr. Green Corps will participate in four service-learning activities to learn about forest ecology and gain hands-on experience in forest restoration by removing invasive species, improving trail conditions and planting trees.

\$18,951

Greensgrow Philadelphia Project**Greensgrow West Community Garden Center (PA)**

Turn an abandoned site in west Philadelphia into a community garden, programming space and local food retail operation. Project will provide a new market for locally sourced food, teach community members about locally sourced foods, mitigate stormwater runoff, and increase the amount of green space available in an underserved community.

\$50,000

Horsham Township**Stormwater Collection, Filtration, Storage and Infiltration at Lukens Park (PA)**

Collaborate with Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust and Temple University's Center for Sustainable Communities to install two infiltration trenches and a rain garden at Lukens Park. Project will help with water quality and quantity by storing water and then letting it infiltrate directly into the ground.

\$50,000

**Indiana University
of Pennsylvania Research Institute**
Trout Assessment in Mahoning, Indian,
Knapp and Potato Creek Watersheds of
Northwestern Pennsylvania

Sample at least 40 previously unassessed streams in the Mahoning, Indian, Knapp and Potato Creek watersheds of northwestern Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and the data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.
\$13,500

Juniata College
Detecting Eastern Brook Trout Populations
in the Trough, Standing Stone and Moshannon
Basins (PA)

Sample at least 40 previously unassessed streams in the Trough, Standing Stone and Moshannon watersheds of central Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and the data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.
\$11,798

Lancaster Farmland Trust
Driving Best Management Practice
Implementation in East Lampeter Township
(PA)

Implement stream corridor and livestock management best management practices on strategic farms in East Lampeter. Project will utilize data collected during farm assessments completed on all farms in the township and MapShed modeling results, which identified riparian corridors and livestock as the two leading contributors to nutrient and sediment pollution in the township, to identify and implement cost-effective, site-specific best management practices on six farms.
\$328,329

Lancaster Farmland Trust
Transforming a Community
into Resource Stewards (PA)

Assist three conservative Mennonite farmers in Eastern Lancaster County with implementing strategic field-based and structural practices that address nitrate levels. Project will engage the conservative Mennonite farming community in the conservation of natural resources on their farms and will expand on existing education and outreach efforts. Project will reduce 1,783 pounds of phosphorus, 9,807 pounds of nitrogen and 56,000 pounds of sediment annually.
\$187,662

LandStudies
Addressing Water Quantity
and Quality through Watershed Restoration
in Union County (PA)

Develop a comprehensive watershed implementation plan for the 8-square-mile watershed. Project will address water quality and quantity issues, raise public awareness of stormwater, and develop the multi-municipal partnerships necessary for effective action.
\$50,000

LandStudies
Treating Stormwater through Green
Infrastructure Practices for the City
of Wilkes-Barre (PA)

Improve stormwater management in Wilkes-Barre and reduce pollution transported by stormwater runoff from discharging into the Susquehanna River. Project will educate residents on watershed issues and environmentally sound stormwater management practices, as well as develop a stormwater infrastructure master plan to evaluate and target problem areas.
\$39,663

Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Sample for Eastern Brook Trout in Unassessed
Streams of South Branch Tionesta Creek
Drainage (PA)

Sample at least 20 previously unassessed streams in the South Tionesta Creek drainage between the towns of Tionesta and Sheffield for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage students in the field and data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which provides additional protection in the permitting process for proposed development activities.
\$4,995

Lycoming College
Sample for Eastern Brook Trout in Middle
West Branch Susquehanna and Tioga River
Watersheds (PA)

Sample at least 40 previously unassessed streams in the middle West Branch of the Susquehanna river for the presence of Eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and the data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.
\$12,100

National Audubon Society
Philly Wild: Neighborhood Environmental
Stewardship and Action (PA)

Directly enhance 15 acres of habitat through planting 3,700 trees and shrubs, removing invasive plants on 23 acres, working on enhancing 2 miles of riparian corridor, and engaging 2,500 people in conservation projects in targeted watersheds in Philadelphia. Project will educate citizens about the importance of natural areas and healthy waterways in urban environments while providing them with the tools and opportunities to take conservation action.
\$49,974

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Pennsylvania Adaptive Toolbox for
Conservation Saturation
Pilot the Pennsylvania Adaptive Toolbox for
Conservation Saturation. Project will achieve
100 percent livestock stream exclusion, seek
greater participation in conservation planning
and practice implementation, and demonstrate
a correlation between conservation efforts,
herd health and farm profitability.
\$632,320

Pennsylvania Resources Council
A Match for a Healthy Environment Utilizing
Green Roofs and Public Transit (PA)
Retrofit three bus shelters with green roofs
in the underserved and densely urbanized
communities that compose the Eastern
Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative.
Project will provide volume reduction to the
impaired Darby and Cobbs Creek watersheds
and serve as education and outreach tools to
increase knowledge of the connection between
stormwater and creek pollution for residents,
school students, businesses, elected officials
and visitors.
\$40,000

Pennsylvania Resources Council
Stream Smart Stormwater House Call (PA)
Engage residents in the Darby Cobbs watershed
through completion of property audits and
assistance with installation of simple, low-cost
household stormwater best management
practices (BMPs) such as rain barrels and rain
gardens. Project will include development
of a website, educational materials and a
database of relevant watershed/stormwater
information generated through the audit
process that will help residents implement
BMPs to improve water quality.
\$91,015

Potter County Conservation District
Improving Aquatic Connectivity
in the Genesee River Watershed (PA)
Replace a culvert to improve aquatic habitat
connectivity and significantly reduce sediment
input to a headwater tributary of the Genesee
River. Project will reopen 10 stream miles
and stabilize 2.5 miles of an adjacent road
to improve passage and instream habitat for
brook trout and other aquatic organisms.
\$99,477

RESOLVE
Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake
Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policy makers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.
\$62,700

Susquehanna University**Detecting Eastern Brook Trout Presence in Loyalsock, Penns and Sinnemahoning Creeks (PA)**

Sample at least 75 previously unassessed streams in the Loyalsock, Penns and Sinnemahoning watersheds of Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and the data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.

\$29,600

Sustainable Chesapeake**Achieving Phosphorus Balance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Engage stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve farm and regional nutrient balance in high-density animal production areas. Project will expand markets for manure and its co-products to facilitate cost-effective transport of excess nutrients, facilitate Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Balance Sheet development, identify long-term solutions, engage 12,000 to 16,000 producers, and reduce 3,328,800 pounds of nitrogen, 124,564 pounds of phosphorus and 30,048 tons of sediment per year.

\$626,835

The Pennsylvania State University**Detecting Eastern Brook Trout Presence in Selected Focal Watersheds of Pennsylvania**

Sample at least 75 previously unassessed streams in priority watersheds of Pennsylvania for the presence of Eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage students in the field and the data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout and that designation provides additional protection in the permitting process for proposed development activities.

\$26,821

The Trust for Public Land**Strategic Investment Plan for the Delaware River Watershed (DE, NJ, NY, PA)**

Develop a business plan to guide and prioritize conservation and restoration throughout the entire watershed, integrating its programs, and developing overarching goals and strategies to address key threats to its fish and wildlife. Project will develop strategic conservation areas and statistics to support the report.

\$98,845

Tookany/Tacony-Frankford**Watershed Partnership****Jenkintown Creek Restoration at Ethel Jordan Park (PA)**

Implement two green stormwater infrastructure techniques, a bio-retention feature and a grassed swale, and implement stream bank stabilization. Project will prevent approximately 977,544 gallons of stormwater from entering the water body.

\$86,308

Trout Unlimited**Assessing Eastern Brook Trout Presence in the Clearfield and Chest Creek Watersheds (PA)**

Sample at least 75 previously unassessed streams in the Clearfield and Chest Creek watersheds of the West Branch of the Susquehanna River for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.

\$24,850

Trout Unlimited**Canoe Camp Creek Stream Bank Protection and Cost-Share Program Development (PA)**

Provide assistance to build the capacity for the Tioga County Conservation District, reduce nonpoint source sediment and nutrient pollution loading through strategically implementing stream corridor restoration in the Canoe Camp Creek watershed in northcentral Pennsylvania. Project will help to build and expand capacity to implement the recently launched Stream Bank Protection and Cost Share Program with private landowners and townships.

\$25,400

Trout Unlimited**Eastern Brook Trout Surveys in the Black and Aquashicola Creeks and Lehigh River Watersheds (PA)**

Sample at least 40 previously unassessed streams in Black and Aquashicola Creeks and Lehigh River watersheds of the Delaware River Basin in Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout and provide additional protection in the permitting process for proposed development activities.

\$11,000

Trout Unlimited**Sediment Reduction and Fish Passage in the Kettle Creek Watershed (PA)**

Open 1.6 miles of cold-water habitat and reduce sediment pollution by 6,780 pounds a year to benefit the eastern brook trout in Kettle Creek. Project will provide related training and educational outreach to targeted audiences who can help to plan and implement similar projects to benefit eastern brook trout in their respective watersheds of the Chesapeake Bay.

\$163,232

U.S. Department of Agriculture,**U.S. Forest Service****Patch-Based Brook Trout Genetic Monitoring in the Headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Test novel monitoring metrics for eastern brook trout that include the number and size of brook trout occupied habitat patches, the number of patches with invasive trout, genetic diversity and effective population size.

Project will compare the performance of each of these patch-based metrics, provide recommendations for those that are most informative, and build a model to predict values of these metrics in unsampled habitat patches.

\$110,224

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Chest Creek Watershed Restoration (PA)**

Implement agricultural best management practices (BMPs) and sediment reduction measures, and install riparian buffers in the Chest Creek Watershed. Project will work with two agricultural producers to reduce sediment and nutrient pollution in the watershed. Specific BMPs will include 3,850 feet of exclusion fencing, two manure management plans, two heavy-use protection areas, one stabilized livestock crossing and 1 acre of riparian restoration.

\$178,708

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Coordinate Data Collection and Prioritize Sampling Targets for Eastern Brook Trout Populations (PA)**

Coordinate data collection and guide prioritization of streams never sampled for eastern brook trout by providing geospatial technology and data management for contracted partners and state agency staff. Project will monitor sampling progress and rate to ensure sampling goals are met, adjust priorities as needed year to year and educate the public through outreach presentations, publications, and facilitated collaboration.

\$119,900

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Juniata River Agricultural Technical Assistance and Best Management Practice Implementation (PA)**

Work with farmers in the Juniata River watershed to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff in the Yellow Creek subwatershed and ensure that they will have nutrient/manure management and agricultural erosion and sediment control plans to meet state regulatory requirements.

\$158,847

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Searching for Eastern Brook Trout in Tionesta, Sinnemahoning, and Little Mahoning Creeks (PA)**

Sample at least 75 previously unassessed streams in five watersheds of northwestern Pennsylvania for the presence of eastern brook trout and other wild trout. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and data collected will be used by the state to designate streams as supporting the natural reproduction of trout, which is one factor in the sustainable planning process for the state.

\$26,053

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**Using eDNA Technology to Detect Eastern Hellbender Populations in Prioritized Watersheds (PA)**

Utilize environmental DNA (eDNA) technology in a pilot project to sample at least 25 previously unassessed streams for the presence of the Eastern hellbender salamander, which indicates exceptional water quality and appropriate habitat structure. Project will engage volunteers and interns in the field and demonstrate the ability of eDNA sampling to significantly lessen labor costs and improve search efficiency, compared to traditional sampling with large teams to turn over large rocks.

\$23,335

Wildlife Management Institute**Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)**

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

York County Planning Commission**York County Stormwater Authority (PA)**

Create a County Stormwater Authority to expand on the current success of regional stormwater efforts to more cost effectively manage common elements of municipal MS-4 permits, to improve the impaired streams in York County, and to consider actions to address agricultural compliance within the county.

\$203,420

RHODE ISLAND**Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island Next Generation Commercial Fishing Crew Apprenticeship Program (RI)**

Establish the Next Generation Commercial Fishing Crew Apprenticeship Program to support new entrants to the New England groundfish fishery. Project will provide hands-on and classroom-based trainings by experienced commercial fishermen, shoreside businesses and university fishery experts.

\$105,500

GreenWave**Ocean Farm Start-Up Training Program: Bolstering Economic Development in New England (CT, MA, RI)**

Create the Ocean Farm Start-Up Training Program to support up to five new kelp and shellfish ocean farms in New England. Project will develop a training program to educate farmers on proper ocean farming techniques in addition to permitting and leasing requirements.

\$100,000

Gulf of Maine Research Institute**Using Incentives to Advance Electronic Monitoring in the New England Groundfish Fishery (MA, ME, RI)**

Create incentives for fishermen to adopt electronic monitoring for catch accounting and compliance monitoring of species such as Atlantic cod, flounder and others in the New England groundfish fishery. Project will implement an innovative maximized retention model, which will provide improved accountability through 100 percent video monitoring coverage while allowing fishermen to minimize discards at sea and retain the majority of their catch.

\$596,493

Partnership for Providence Parks**Revitalizing Urban Green Spaces through Education, Stewardship and Creating Habitats (RI)**

Establish a schoolyard habitat in Providence, reaching over 1,200 students. Project will offer after-school programs and nature camps at neighborhood parks, and hire urban youth, while connecting underserved families with their natural surroundings.

\$49,989

Trout Unlimited**Conserving "Salter" Brook Trout in the Northeastern United States (Multiple States)**

Conserve sea-run (salter) brook trout. Project will survey 80 streams where brook trout status is currently unknown, evaluate and identify up to 10 priority Salter Conservation Areas, and complete three model conservation projects that will expand salter brook trout populations in 20.5 miles of streams. Only one model project will be completed directly under this grant.

\$75,000

University of Mississippi**Understanding the Legal Framework for Removing Marine Debris and Placing Fishing Gear (Multiple States)**

Support development of innovative, proactive management strategies to address derelict fishing gear and vessel interactions in New England. Project will improve awareness of state derelict fishing gear and vessel navigation laws and regulations and explore legal opportunities to prevent gear loss.

\$44,814

Wildlife Management Institute**Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)**

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

SOUTH CAROLINA**Chesterfield County Soil****and Water Conservation District Sandhills Longleaf Pine Conservation Partnership (SC) - IV**

Establish 950 acres of longleaf pine, improve 500 acres of existing longleaf habitat with prescribed fire, and continue site-specific understory seed collection and establishment of native grasses and forbs. Project will engage at least 185 private landowners through outreach and education. In addition, a project coordinator will administer cost-share agreements with private landowners, promote a sustainable prescribed fire program, and manage outreach and education activities.

\$250,000

Congaree Land Trust**Longleaf Restoration on Private Lands in the South Carolina Coastal Plain - II**

Manage and restore longleaf pine habitat on 10 private properties in the coastal plain of South Carolina. Project will conduct prescribed burns on 3,200 acres and hardwood mid-story control on 400 acres, and plant 250 acres of longleaf pine. Project will protect these properties, which are part of a larger matrix of state, federal and privately-owned conservation properties that contain longleaf pine and provide important habitat to rare species, including the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.

\$90,000

Forest Landowners Association**Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)**

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.

\$100,000

Manomet**American Oystercatcher Recovery (MA, NJ, NY, RI, SC) - VI**

Conserve and manage coastal habitat designed to recover the population of American oystercatchers and associated beach nesting bird species in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey and South Carolina. Project will elevate oystercatcher productivity across the sites where conservation efforts are occurring, contributing to a 30% target increase in Atlantic Flyway American oystercatcher. **\$149,865**

Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife**Conservation of Shoal and Redeye Bass through Native Black Bass Business Plan (AL, FL, GA, SC)**

Evaluate, through a GIS threat assessment, the habitat condition in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin and portions of the Savannah that will ultimately provide a more strategic method to identify target restoration priorities. Project will target a number of high-priority sites for restoration to benefit shoal, redeye bass, and other species and will monitor populations of shoal and redeye bass through genetic techniques to determine the level of introgression over time. **\$497,188**

The Longleaf Alliance**Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits. **\$100,000**

The Longleaf Alliance**Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Private Lands Conservation Initiative (SC)**

Translocate 20 to 30 red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCWs) from the Francis Marion National Forest to selected private lands in South Carolina as part of the RCW Safe Harbor Program. Project will engage priority area landowners in hosting "safe harbor" RCW groups, resulting in the conservation of existing small RCW populations and establishing new populations. In addition to RCW recovery the project contributes directly to longleaf pine management, restoration and long-term conservation. **\$109,645**

The Longleaf Alliance**South Lowcountry-ACE Basin Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Partnership (SC) - III**

Establish 500 acres of longleaf pine and implement prescribed burns on an additional 9,600 acres of longleaf pine on public and private lands to improve wildlife habitat. Project will educate landowners on available financial assistance programs and the use of prescribed fire to restore and manage longleaf habitat through workshops and academies. Partners will specifically target underserved landowners for assistance. **\$215,000**

University of North Carolina at Asheville**Cape Fear River Basin and Southeast Atlantic Coastal Resiliency Assessment (GA, FL, NC, SC)**

Assess and map climate resiliency attributes of the Cape Fear River basin, but also of the broader Southeast Atlantic Coast, to inform priority areas for potential projects to protect communities from severe storms and floods, and enhance fish and wildlife and their associated habitats. Project will include a report summarizing the tools, resources and datasets that were analyzed to inform the project and identify "Resiliency Hubs," "Communities At-Risk," and open space/working lands. **\$106,302**

SOUTH DAKOTA**Conservation Legacy****Wildlife Restoration Improvement Plan (CA, MT, NM, SD)**

Employ five youths to sample salt ponds and survey birds on the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge in California. Project will include monitoring of mule deer, elk and mountain lion responses to large-scale forest restoration treatments, surveying aquatic invasive species in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and assessing sylvatic plague in small mammals and their fleas in grassland prairie environments of Badlands National Park to assist in black-footed ferret recovery. **\$53,560**

Ducks Unlimited**Inform, Strengthen and Monitor Farm Bill Delivery in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)**

Stem the conversion of native grasslands and declines of associated bird species such as Sprague's pipit, Baird's sparrow, long-billed curlew, chestnut-collared and McCown's longspurs, through stewardship efforts on private rangelands in portions of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. Project will track rates of conversion to assess conservation success and implement adaptive management for future conservation action. **\$112,223**

Keystone Policy Center**Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement. **\$30,000**

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level. **\$144,750**

Montana Conservation Corps**Restoring the Last Best Place (MT, SD, WY)**

Engage 79 youth in hands-on conservation projects with the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation at various locations in Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota. Project will include treating invasives, building new trails to help concentrate recreational impact, and reconnecting habitat corridors. **\$76,600**

South Dakota Grassland Coalition**Expanding the Influence of the South Dakota Grassland Coalition**

Expand programs focusing on impacts to grassland species and their habitats throughout South Dakota through the development of an improved operating structure for administering the mission via a new executive position and through expanded roles and existing outreach programs. Project will influence on-the-ground private lands conservation decisions for the benefit of important grassland species. **\$150,000**

South Dakota State University**Survey Swift Fox in the Northern Great Plains (ND, SD)**

Survey swift fox to develop predictive occupancy and connectivity models in the Northern Great Plains to be used to identify priority reintroduction and conservation areas. Project will assess potential impacts of sylvatic plague on swift fox, analyze genetic diversity of resident foxes, and develop a swift fox den-site model for the region. **\$177,339**

TENNESSEE

Cumberland River Compact Aquatic Habitat Improvement on the Cumberland Plateau (KY, TN)

Engage public and private landowners in restoration and enhancement to improve water quality and aquatic habitat. Project will advance riparian forest restoration and unimpeded flow in rivers and headwater streams in the project area to benefit amphibians such as eastern hellbender, four-toed and green salamander and hairyfoot crayfish, fish such as barrens and bluemask darter, barrens topminnow, flame chub and rosyface shiner, and mussels such as Cumberland pigtoe and rainbow mussel.
\$95,671

Friends of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center Hiking Trail

at Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge
Provide a safe trail in close vicinity to the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center for outdoor education opportunities to the general public. Project will enhance the trail with nine Animal Olympic stations targeting school groups, but which will be appropriate for all hikers to improve their experience and boost their activity level.
\$4,000

National Wild Turkey Federation Cumberland Plateau Shortleaf and Oak Restoration (KY, TN)

Restore shortleaf pine and oak woodlands/savannas on public lands in Tennessee and Kentucky. Project will result in 6,002 acres impacted through shortleaf plantings, prescribed fire and forest opening enhancements, and will engage over 700 people through public outreach events.
\$186,000

Operation Migration-USA Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)

Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.
\$75,000

The Nature Conservancy Cumberland Plateau Working Woodlands Program (TN)

Launch a Working Woodlands program on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee to engage private landowners. Project will improve 50 acres of shortleaf pine-oak habitat, protect 1,500 acres of forest habitat with conservation easements, and reach 75 key landowners.
\$100,000

**University of Tennessee
Bridgestone/Firestone Wildlife Management
Area Prescribed Fire Demonstration Area (TN)**
Demonstrate the effects of prescribed fire on the establishment and maintenance of naturally regenerated shortleaf pine and oak savanna/woodland, providing habitat for species such as northern bobwhite quail, prairie warbler, and red-headed woodpecker. Project will take place on 156 acres of the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness Wildlife Management Area.
\$70,000

**Wolf River Conservancy
Wolf River Greenway Restoration (TN) - IV**
Remove 65 acres of invasives and plant 1,500 trees at four target properties along the Wolf River in urbanized sections of the City of Memphis, Tennessee. Project will protect and restore the watershed features and hydrological functions of sites currently impacted by invasive plant species, stormwater runoff, erosion, pollution and illegal dumping, especially along the urban sections of the Wolf River.
\$29,532

TEXAS

**American Bird Conservancy
Restoring Monarch Habitat in South Texas**
Restore approximately 500 acres of degraded native grassland to high-quality monarch habitat in the core of its migratory route through south Texas. Project will increase quality, quantity and connectivity of suitable habitat for the species as well as increase organizational coordination and capacity for monarch conservation in the region.
\$249,988

**American Conservation Experience
Texas Invasive Species Strike Team
and Youth Development Program (LA, TX)**
Connect 18 local youths to the outdoors through coastal restoration projects involving removing invasive species and restoring coastal landscapes on public lands located in the eastern Gulf region of Texas. Project will provide youth crew members a six-month career development track composed of training, experiential learning and mentoring opportunities for the purpose of advancing into careers related to conservation and environmental stewardship.
\$183,001

**American YouthWorks
American YouthWorks and U.S. Forest Service
Collaboration for Gulf Habitat Restoration
(LA, TX)**
Hire 90 crew participants to restore 5,000 acres of prairies in Texas grasslands and 157 acres of prairies in the Winn Ranger District of Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana. Project will cut and remove eastern red cedar and Ashe juniper trees, implement prescribed burns, apply herbicides to unwanted woody vegetation, and perform basal bark treatment.
\$250,000

**Ducks Unlimited
Rice Stewardship Partnership (TX)**
Sustain 7,500 acres of working rangelands while improving water resources and wildlife habitat in Texas. Project will help decrease water and fertilizer use, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide wildlife habitat for wintering waterfowl and other birds, and animals.
\$20,000

**Ducks Unlimited
Texas Environmental Flows Initiative
Acquisition Viability Assessment
and Transaction Negotiation**
Conduct a range of scientific and technical analyses to set the stage for successful voluntary water transactions in Tres Palacios and Carancahua, Trinity/Galveston, and San Antonio Bays along the Gulf Coast and to secure support for one or more environmental water transactions from funds allocated to Texas. Project will provide science, engineering and governance expertise in developing scenarios for water transactions to restore overland flow.
\$45,416

**Ducks Unlimited
Texas Playa Restoration Initiative**
Restore 34 drained playas on private lands within a two-county focus area in the Texas Panhandle. Project will restore increased recharge to the High Plains Aquifer and restore 510 acres of freshwater wetland habitat for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds such as the northern pintail, whooping crane and piping plover; grassland birds such as the mountain plover, short-eared owl and scaled quail; and amphibians such as the Great Plains and spadefoot toads.
\$90,000

**Ecology Action of Texas
Montopolis Wetland and Creek Rehab (TX)**
Rehabilitate and revitalize 10 acres of riparian and wetland habitat in the Country Club Creek East Watershed in southeast Austin, Texas, while engaging, educating and empowering the underserved community of Montopolis. Project will bolster the Montopolis wetland's health by monitoring and testing stormwater runoff, designing a low-impact biofiltration infrastructure, and restoring the integrity of the upstream Country Club Creek East through invasive species removal and native plantings.
\$46,339

**Forest Landowners Association
Fostering Large-Scale Working Forest
Landowner Collaboration (Multiple States)**

Target working-forest landowners, as well as companies that manage large forestland holdings for family owners, to identify opportunities for longleaf pine restoration and management. Project will foster communication between the Forest Landowner Association's member network, longleaf stakeholders and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help landowners understand and address regulatory barriers or disincentives to planting and maintaining longleaf pine.
\$100,000

**Friends of Attwater Prairie-Chicken Refuge
Attwater Prairie-Chicken Digital Media
Development (TX)**

Update and create new video, audio and photographic documentation of the recovery efforts for the federally endangered Attwater prairie-chicken. The high-quality digital content will enhance the organization's ability to effectively engage and educate the public about prairie-chicken recovery efforts.
\$10,000

**Friends of Caddo Lake
National Wildlife Refuge**

**Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Walking Trail, Bird Blind and E-Bird Kiosk (TX)**
Bring recognition to the Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge as a birding gem in the wetlands. Project will create a new ADA accessible nature trail and install an E-Bird Kiosk in the visitor center and a revamped ADA accessible bird blind, in order to increase visitation to the refuge for birding activities.
\$11,480

**Friends of the Wildlife Corridor
Educational Signs for Native Plants (TX)**

Provide reusable weather-proof educational signs describing the properties of specific native plants, their uses in landscaping, and their importance to the local wildlife, as well as a sign outlining the ongoing accomplishments of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge re-establishing regional native habitat. Project will use signs for public outreach activities, specifically the new annual Friends of the Wildlife Corridor native plant sale in Weslaco, Texas.
\$4,950

Galveston Bay Foundation

Galveston Bay Watershed Conservation (TX)
Provide two youths with jobs and skilled services that promote conservation and restoration within the Galveston Bay watershed and along the Texas Coast. Project will involve habitat monitoring and collecting basic data related to flora and fauna throughout the watershed.
\$250,000

**Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
Motus Tower Network for Western Gulf Avian
Resource Assessment (TX)**

Establish 15 Motus Wildlife Tracking System towers across the mid and upper Texas coast to collect data on a variety of migratory bird species across the western Gulf. Project will help determine the use and importance of various landscapes to the species throughout their annual cycle, aiding in more effective conservation and management strategies for migratory birds, including American oystercatcher, yellow rail, black rail and LeConte's sparrow.
\$137,698

**Harte Research Institute -
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
iSnapper: Electronic Data Collection in the Gulf
of Mexico Red Snapper Recreational Fishery
(TX)**

Implement the smart device application iSnapper as an electronic data collection tool in the red snapper recreational fishery in the Gulf of Mexico. Project will recruit private anglers to electronically log their catch and effort information in order to supplement data collection and improve the timeliness and robustness of recreational catch data.
\$241,088

**Houston Wilderness
Gulf-Houston Monarch Flyway Program (TX)**

Increase monarch butterfly and other pollinator habitat, improve partner capacity, and build seed supply of regionally adapted native plants in the greater Houston area. Project will incorporate best management practices recommended by the Monarch Joint Venture to engage partners, propagate 250,000 milkweed seedlings, and support restoration on 290 acres of monarch habitat.
\$248,900

**Houston Wilderness
Houston Regional Urban Riparian Restoration
(TX)**

Restore 20 acres of wetland, move 50 acres of invasive species, plant 200 trees and monitor 12 streams in the Greater Houston region. Project will allow for a variety of improved ecosystem services that provide a thriving habitat for the abundance of wildlife, migratory birds and butterflies in the region, and provide improved air and water quality, flood control, recreation and erosion control to millions of residents.
\$50,000

**Houston Wilderness
Houston Urban: Providing
and Developing Careers in Conservation (TX)**

Develop and enhance wildlife conservation and education efforts in the urban core by engaging youths in on-the-ground conservation job opportunities, innovative technological outreach and mentorship programs. Project will give the opportunity to youth to develop a connection to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through exposure in the urban environment.
\$120,000

**Keep Austin Beautiful
Adopt-a-Creek (TX)**

Encourage citizens to make a lasting commitment to protect local creeks by adopting a stretch of creek in Austin for two years. Project will continue program outreach and recruitment, lead three educational trainings and support a minimum of 35 volunteer workdays with supplies and tools.
\$25,000

**Keystone Policy Center
Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural
Landscapes (Multiple States)**

Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.
\$30,000

**Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain
Best Practices for Effective Land Conservation
in the Gulf of Mexico Region
(AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Promote best practices and efficiencies among various practitioners to achieve land conservation goals of emerging state and federal conservation plans for the Gulf. Project will provide capacity building and technical assistance to partner organizations, identify best practices and efficiencies for implementing landscape level conservation, and assist in implementation by enhancing collaboration among public agencies and nongovernmental organizations.
\$247,500

**Manomet
Gulf of Mexico Coastal Waterbird Conservation
Framework (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Work with federal and state agency and nongovernmental organization experts to develop a framework to achieve long-term conservation and recovery goals for targeted species of coastal waterbirds across the Gulf. Project will build on existing business plans to create a set of strategies and associated actions and costs to guide coastal shorebird and waterbird conservation projects throughout the Gulf over the next decade.
\$203,746

**Midwest Association
of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Developing a Central Flyway Monarch
Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)**

Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

Mote Marine Laboratory

Gulf-Wide Electronic Monitoring for a Sustainable Commercial Reef Fish Fishery (FL, LA, TX)

Advance implementation and integration of electronic monitoring on up to 20 commercial fishing vessels in the reef fish fishery in the Gulf of Mexico, to support improved data collection on commercially important species such as snapper and grouper. Project will build on successful pilots and expand to Gulf-wide implementation of electronic monitoring to improve catch and discard monitoring.

\$544,525

NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Assess Persistent Organic Pollutant Transfer from Female Killer Whales to their Calves (CA, TX, WA)

Conduct research on killer whales in human care at SeaWorld San Diego and San Antonio to quantify the transfer of pollutants from female killer whales to their calves during gestation and lactation. Project will provide data on the percent reduction in female pollutant levels and percent increase in calf pollutant levels needed by managers to better predict contaminant levels in Southern Resident killer whales and assess potential risks associated with contaminant exposure.

\$114,857

REAL School Gardens

Creating Learning Gardens to Foster Environmental Stewards in North Texas

Install five learning gardens at high-poverty elementary schools in the Dallas-Fort Worth area of northern Texas, which is comprised of the Blackland Prairie and Cross Timbers and Prairies ecoregions. Project will raise environmental awareness, restore native plant and animal habitats, and conserve stormwater by bringing conservation education to non-traditional audiences, including high-poverty and minority communities, all while supporting regional water and land conservation efforts.

\$70,000

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Applied Biodiversity Sciences Conservation Scholars Program

Integrate undergraduates and graduates using a two-tiered program that will focus on local issues related to Gulf of Mexico ecosystems and broader questions on energy development, energy policy and impacts on biodiversity and natural resources. Project will appoint two graduate fellowships to mentor a small cohort of undergraduate interns as they develop their projects and internship proposals. Each intern will conduct baseline research to support a one-month summer internship opportunity.

\$200,000

Texas A&M Forest Service

Facilitating Longleaf Conservation in the Longleaf Ridge Significant Geographic Area (TX) - II

Restore 750 acres to longleaf pine and enhance more than 3,800 acres of existing longleaf through prescribed burns to improve rare and natural plant communities. Project will educate 100 private landowners on longleaf ecology and related resources through county landowner association meetings, training workshops and a redesigned website. Targeted technical assistance will engage five to 10 private landowners in stewardship programs that promote longleaf restoration and enhancement.

\$300,000

Texas A&M Forest Service

Fostering Longleaf Conservation in the Big Thicket SGA (TX) - II

Establish 650 acres of longleaf pine and enhance over 3,200 acres of existing longleaf through prescribed burning to improve rare and endemic plant communities. Project will educate 100 private landowners through county landowner association meetings, training workshops, and a redesigned and updated website. In addition, targeted technical assistance will engage five to 10 private landowners in stewardship programs that benefit longleaf pine ecosystem restoration and enhancement.

\$150,000

Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi

Connecting Youth to Coastal Habitat Restoration (TX)

Train and employ 10-12 urban and underserved youth in oyster reef planning, restoration, data collection and analysis, and monitoring efforts that will provide valuable skills and conservation experience. Project will restore 2,400 linear feet and 4.5 acres of oyster reef in St. Charles Bay.

\$249,293

Texas Agricultural Land Trust

Conservation of Working Lands on the Texas Gulf Coast

Conduct intensive outreach on the importance of conserving working lands along the Texas Gulf Coast to accelerate conservation easement transactions in the region. Project will accomplish goals through landowner meetings and workshops, targeted outreach, and partnerships with other conservation organizations including the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

\$195,000

Texas Discovery Gardens

Monarchs for Dallas Parks (TX)

Restore and establish monarch habitat on approximately 37 acres of Dallas city park lands. Project will propagate and distribute regionally appropriate milkweed and other pollinator plants to partners in support of the habitat restoration work.

\$125,000

Texas Rice Industry Coalition for the Environment

West Galveston Bay Watershed Wetlands (TX)

Create 190 acres of freshwater wetlands on the Halls Bayou Ranch, one of the principal watersheds for the north side of West Galveston Bay. Project will provide high-value habitat to a diverse number of species of wading birds, shorebirds and waterfowl, including whimbrel, white ibis, yellow rail, black rail, along with redhead, canvasback and mottled ducks.

\$40,000

Texas State Soil

and Water Conservation Board Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat (TX)

Work with 143 Soil and Water Conservation Districts located within the Monarch Restoration Corridor to enhance or restore 1,646 acres of monarch butterfly habitat on rural lands, and to install 30 monarch butterfly gardens in Texas.

\$480,000

The Heard Natural Science Museum

& Wildlife Sanctuary

Wetland Improvement on the Heard Sanctuary (TX)

Restore selected parts of Bullfrog Pond's swamp, planting 96 new trees, maintaining existing trees and preventing beaver damage. Project will improve Texas's Bullfrog Pond water quality.

\$25,000

The Longleaf Alliance

Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.

\$100,000

The Nature Conservancy

Conservation Easement Acquisition in the Laguna Madre Watershed (TX)

Acquire conservation easements on two adjacent parcels in the Laguna Madre watershed in south Texas, totaling 562 acres. Project will take place immediately adjacent to Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Conservation Corridor, an ecologically important area for waterfowl such as northern shoveler and blue-winged teal, raptors such as Mississippi kite, waterbirds such as sanderling, and endangered and threatened species including ocelots and aplomado falcons.

\$556,014

The Nature Conservancy**Gulf Coast Prescribed Fire Mentoring Program (AL, FL, LA, MS, TX)**

Build upon a successful pilot project to train and provide 18 to 19 jobs to underserved urban youths as wildland firefighters and ecosystem restoration technicians working in each of the five Gulf states. Project will strongly emphasize longleaf pine management and prescribed fire and will impact greater than 105,000 acres.

\$499,631

Trinity University**Pollinator Education and Action for Sustainability (TX)**

Promote healthy communities of pollinators, plants and people by facilitating local relationships between communities by selling live Texas native grasses, forbs and trees that are not commercially available in any market from a farmer's market platform. Project will link food consumption with wildlife conservation in San Antonio's inner city by establishing five pollinator sanctuaries in low-income, low-access areas.

\$35,000

WildAid**U.S. Illegal Wildlife Demand Reduction Campaign (Multiple States)**

Develop and implement a communications campaign to raise awareness of wildlife trafficking into the United States. Project will reduce the demand for illegal wildlife and the amount of illegal wildlife products smuggled into the U.S. contributing to lessening poaching pressure on endangered species, including elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins.

\$270,000

UTAH**American Conservation Experience****Virgin River Riparian Improvement (UT)**

Engage three youth conservation corps crews and local volunteers in restoration work to survey, identify and treat populations of three target exotic and invasive weed species in the Virgin River. Project will provide meaningful training and experiential learning opportunities for youth conservation corps.

\$57,650

American Conservation Experience**Youth Conservation Corps Trails Construction (UT)**

Employ and train 36 youths in on-the-ground resource management and provide learning opportunities, while creating 2.65 miles of trail near the town of Cedar City, Utah. Project will provide youths with job skills, communication skills and technical training in the safe and efficient use and maintenance of trail building tools.

\$67,200

Four Corners School of Outdoor Education**Dolores River Restoration: Building on Youth Corps Success (CO, UT) - II**

Partner with the Canyon Country Youth Corps and the Dolores River Restoration Partnership to finish the last stages of initial treatment of woody invasive species along the Dolores River in Utah and Colorado. Project will provide crew and volunteers with engagement opportunities through a watershed-level restoration project that improves wildlife habitat and forage, reduces wildfire risk, improves access to the river, increases visibility along highways, and improves campsites along the river.

\$73,500

Grand Staircase Escalante Partners**Escalante Watershed Restoration and Empowering Youth through Conservation Work (UT)**

Engage 13 Native American and underserved youth in restoration work while providing a unique outdoor experience and conservation job training. Project will restore 117 acres of riparian corridor along the Escalante River by removing invasive Russian olive trees, directly benefiting native plant and animal habitats.

\$74,976

Grand Staircase Escalante Partners**Escalante Watershed Restoration for Healthy Communities (UT)**

Restore 46 acres of high-priority riparian habitat and monitor 17 streams within the Escalante Watershed, the communities of Escalante and Boulder, and within Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument. Project will create a healthy watershed; a healthy watershed creates more opportunities for tourism tied to recreation and travel, as well as economic development in local communities including increasing the economic value and ecological value of restored private lands.

\$29,440

Jordan River Commission**Role of Wetlands, Jordan River Ecology, Water Quality and Community Program (UT)**

Restore wetlands in Riverton City by restoring 10 acres of habitat, planting 240 trees and monitoring the Jordan River. Project will improve water quality along the Jordan River by restoring habitat, and by providing field training and an education curriculum for elementary school students along the river in low-income communities in West Valley City, South Salt Lake and Salt Lake City.

\$29,550

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden**Genomic Sequencing of the Endangered Bakersfield Cactus (AZ, CA, NV, UT)**

Partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Office biologists to genetically characterize the federally endangered Bakersfield cactus, endemic to the southern San Joaquin Valley. Project will clarify the relationship with the more widespread beavertail cactus, identify morphological traits correlated with different varieties, and provide needed insight for project-level consultations under the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan and the California High Speed Rail.

\$72,350

Southern Utah University**Color Country Conservation Youth Initiative (UT)**

Engage youths in wildlife and conservation career experiences on U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered public lands in southwestern Utah. Youth crews will carry out wildlife and conservation projects on Dixie National Forest land and lands administered by the Cedar City and Grand Staircase Escalante BLM Field Offices.

\$79,009

Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter, Utah State University**Swaner Preserve Watershed Restoration (UT)**

Address East Canyon Creek's status as a State of Utah impaired water body by improving the condition of wetlands critical to the watershed's health, and bolster community understanding and support for the protection of these crucial resources. Project will focus on the problems including pollutants of concern, invasive weeds, and the reintroduction of the Columbia spotted frog.

\$25,000

Tamarisk Coalition**Restoration Tools for Riparian Landscapes Impacted by Invasive Woody Vegetation (CO, NM, OK, UT)**

Develop innovative tools for the removal of invasive vegetation and successful restoration of riparian lands across the western United States. Project will package these new tools and techniques dealing with invasive species removal, native plant revegetation, monitoring protocols, biocontrol mapping, and current restoration research and science information, and distribute them to land managers through workshops focused on regionally applicable species and techniques.

\$46,738

Trout Unlimited

Spanish Fork River Habitat Enhancement within Spanish Fork City Limits (UT)
Initiate in-channel habitat diversification to improve natural channel morphology and function, recreational fishing and aesthetics along 1 mile of the Spanish Fork River in the City of Spanish Fork, Utah. Project will improve trout populations and provide opportunities for volunteers to participate in habitat restoration by reconnecting the river with the floodplain, diversifying fish habitat, planting native riparian trees, and removing invasive riparian species along the Spanish Fork River.
\$25,000

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management - Rio Puerco Field Office Colorado Plateau Native Plant Program for Milkweed and Nectar Species (AZ, CO, NM, UT)
Increase seed collection of milkweed and other nectar-producing species in portions of the four corners states and will work with partners to increase commercial availability of seed and container plants. Project will produce a minimum of 12 pounds of milkweed seed and propagate more than 500 seedling plants.
\$86,916

Utah State University/Utah Conservation Corps

Jordanelle State Park 2016 (UT)
Employ a four-person Utah State/Utah Conservation Corps crew to spend two weeks removing vegetation from 50 campsites on an estimated 5 acres, in partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation and Jordanelle State Park. Project will include removing fallen trees with chainsaws, treating for noxious weeds, repairing 3,100 feet of boardwalk, and clearing campsite concrete pads of debris.
\$6,000

VERMONT

American Forest Foundation Enhancing and Promoting Bird and Wildlife Habitat on Family Woodlands in Southern Vermont

Enhance and promote bird and wildlife habitat by creating a landscape mosaic of diverse, healthy habitat using Audubon's "Bird Friendly Management Recommendations," targeted marketing and sustained engagement. Project will move 400 landowners (responsible for more than 20,000 acres total) toward management for wildlife, 100 of which will implement activities on portions of their property within the project time frame, restoring 2,200 acres.
\$47,000

Audubon Vermont

Managing New England Forests and Early Successional Habitats for Priority Bird Species (NH, VT)
Engage landowners, land managers and foresters on their properties and at demonstration sites to promote management practices that benefit priority bird species in New England. Project will improve habitat through on-the-ground conservation action and by authoring forest and early successional habitat management plans and case studies.
\$70,000

Connecticut River Watershed Council Seven Dam Removals in New Hampshire and Vermont Opening Eastern Brook Trout Habitats (NH, VT)

Secure dam owners' approval to proceed with seven high-priority dam removal projects in New Hampshire and Vermont. Project will open 140 miles of high-quality native eastern brook trout spawning grounds and thermal refuge and will help reduce flood elevations and the potential for infrastructure failures in six New Hampshire and Vermont communities.
\$199,165

Trout Unlimited

Brook Trout Habitat Restoration and Reconnection in the Upper Connecticut River Watershed (NH, VT)

Reconnect and restore brook trout habitat in the Upper Connecticut River watershed with an emphasis on the Paul Stream, Indian Stream, Brandy Brook and Nulhegan River watersheds. Project will replace nine culverts to reconnect 22 miles of habitat, restore seven miles of instream habitat, and monitor water temperatures and brook trout response to instream habitat improvement.
\$86,000

Trout Unlimited

Restoring Wild Brook Trout Ponds (VT)

Expand work with Vermont partners on conserved lands in the Nulhegan River, Paul Stream, and Dennis Pond watersheds, that support self-sustaining populations of wild brook trout. Project will allow partners to continue current restoration work, expand work into wild brook trout pond tributaries, and support long-term, ongoing efforts throughout the upper Connecticut River watershed.
\$80,631

Wildlife Management Institute

Habitat Management to Benefit Young Forest Species in New England (CT, MA, ME, VT)
Implement a variety of forest management projects to benefit the young forest-dependent species and bird species normally associated with interior forests, which use young forest sites for brood rearing and in preparation for migration. Project will include non-commercial vegetation management, construction of roosting fields and singing grounds to benefit American woodcock, and planting of shrubs and the development of forage areas to benefit New England cottontail.
\$170,000

Wildlife Management Institute

Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)
Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.
\$504,012

VIRGINIA

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Chesapeake RiverWise Education (VA)
Reduce stormwater pollution in the City of Richmond by implementing green infrastructure best management practices on school properties through the RiverWise Education program. Project will focus on reducing stormwater on the grounds of Binford Middle School, expanding the curriculum to different classes, and establishing green teams to maintain these education projects all over the city.
\$199,973

Center for Watershed Protection

Building Capacity to Eliminate Discharges from Grey Infrastructure in Hampton Roads (VA)
Provide practical, hands-on training and technical resources for Hampton Roads Planning District Commission jurisdictions to develop illicit discharge detection and elimination programs. Project will design protocols that exceed minimum permit requirements, so that discharges from grey infrastructure that would not otherwise be detected can be identified and eliminated, thus promoting pollutant reductions in local waters and the Chesapeake Bay.
\$45,595

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Hopewell Restoration (VA)
Reduce polluted stormwater runoff in Hopewell, educate the community on the benefits of conservation practices, and increase green infrastructure in the aging urban area. Project will include constructing five rain gardens, putting in 45 rain barrels, installing a bioretention basin and permeable pavers at a city-owned parking lot, erecting 10 pet waste stations, and planting 100 trees to increase the city's tree canopy.
\$199,673

Chesapeake Stormwater Network
Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training
and Engagement (Multiple States)

Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.
\$125,000

Conservation Concepts
Program Development
for Implementing Stormwater Management
for the Chesapeake Bay (VA)

Address the challenges of Chesapeake Bay water quality, natural resource management, and emerging regulatory requirements, such as Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Day Load goals. Project will update and implement the regional Green Infrastructure Plan by integrating its findings and recommendations into local watershed implementation plans, comprehensive plans, zoning/subdivision ordinances and site plan review.
\$50,000

Council Fire
Nutrient Trading Feasibility
and Assessment (MD, PA, VA)

Assess the feasibility of nutrient trading as a Bay restoration methodology. Project will specifically create a Pilot Nutrient and Sediment Credit Acquisition Bank to help spur market forces in the region, and examine a role as active trading partner in the ongoing marketplace.
\$20,540

Dana York - Green Earth Connection
Building Capacity to Empower Virginia
Women Landowners for Conservation

Implement new agricultural and forest best management practices on under-treated land through capacity building assistance. Project will provide the Virginia Women and Land Program with a systematic work plan to identify, recruit and provide on-farm conservation planning assistance through whole-farm planning assessments that will reduce nutrient and sediment loads and improve habitats.
\$50,000

Ducks Unlimited
Black Duck Decision Support Tool
Implementation (MD, VA)

Implement the Black Duck Decision Support Tool, a model which incorporates current landscape condition and expected change due to urban growth and sea-level rise, to identify priority areas that have the highest habitat quality for American black ducks within the Chesapeake Bay. Project will focus on perpetual conservation of 300 acres of priority American black duck habitat on Maryland and Virginia's eastern shore to establish protected habitat corridors.
\$199,831

Ecosystem Services
Prioritizing Obstructions to Trout Movement in
the Upper Rappahannock River Watershed (VA)

Remove obstructions to fish passage, restore habitat and improve water quality through a long-term program to restore brook trout populations in the Upper Rapidan watershed. Project will develop a Multi Criteria Decision Assessment tool to prioritize and analyze the stream crossings data set, develop conceptual designs for two fish passage projects, rectify problematic stream crossings, and continue site searching and landowner outreach.
\$49,517

Ecosystem Services
Southwood Mobile Home Park Community
Stewardship and Restoration (VA)

Build on existing environmental inventories to identify and provide conceptual designs for high-priority restoration projects as well as an interconnected multi-purpose trail system. Project will also integrate with existing efforts of community involvement, stewardship and environmental literacy.
\$45,517

Ecosystem Services
Town of Glasgow Watershed Restoration (VA)

Create and implement a strategy for addressing legacy stormwater best management practices that will reduce sediment and nutrient deposits in local waterways. Project will conduct a comprehensive, field-based study characterizing the town's watershed conditions, create an inventory of stormwater retrofit projects, and complete two preliminary designs for the highest-ranked retrofit projects.
\$47,593

Friends of the Rappahannock
Kinsey Run Stream Restoration (VA)

Collaborate with partners in an effort to incorporate and build on stakeholder priorities, data sets and localized restoration techniques to implement stream restoration practices throughout a portion of Kinsey Run. Project will plant a 30-foot riparian buffer, restore/enhance 808 linear feet of instream habitat, reconnect to upstream habitat by removing fish blockage, monitor progress, engage regional partners, promote science, and keep nutrients and sediment from entering local waterways.
\$193,083

ICF Incorporated
Measure Conservation Impact, Innovation
and Fishermen Wellbeing (VA)

Assist with the final development and implementation of an impact evaluation strategy for NFWF's Fisheries Innovation Fund. A preliminary evaluation strategy was developed with the goal of measuring the impact of the program's investments in fisheries innovations. Project will use quantitative, analytically robust measurement approaches that will facilitate effective evaluation of program impacts and will assist NFWF in strengthening and applying the preliminary evaluation strategy.
\$170,000

King & Queen County Board of Supervisors
County Courthouse Green Infrastructure
Improvements (VA)

Address the drainage issues caused by stormwater runoff in and around the courthouse complex. Project will remove the asphalt in the existing parking lot areas, address the grade issues, and resurface with a permeable pavement material. Two grass swales, which help to treat stormwater runoff, will be installed along the outskirts of the parking lot areas.
\$200,000

Middle Peninsula
Planning District Commission
Oyster Bag Sill Construction
and Monitoring at Sites in Chesapeake Bay
(VA)

Construct a living shoreline with oyster bag sills and monitor those sills at two publicly-owned properties on Virginia's Middle Peninsula. The oyster bag sills will protect the marsh edge from erosion, reducing sediment and nutrient input to the Bay and maintaining wetland shellfish and finfish habitat.
\$92,637

Northern Neck Planning District Commission
Northern Neck Living Shorelines (VA)

Install a living shoreline, bank stabilization and runoff reduction landscaping in each of the four counties of Virginia's Northern Neck. Project will focus on outreach and public education to more than 500 property owners to promote the installation of living shorelines and other runoff reduction treatments on their property.
\$196,504

Randolph-Macon College**Mechumps Creek Regenerative Wetlands Demonstration (VA)**

Implement a stream restoration and regenerative wetland project aimed at improving aquatic habitat and promoting infiltration and nutrient reduction along approximately 1,200 linear feet of Mechumps Creek in Ashland. Project will integrate a central stream channel with contiguous regenerative stormwater wetlands and will prevent approximately 520 tons of sediment, 1.2 tons of soil-based nitrogen and 0.6 tons of phosphorus from reaching the Chesapeake Bay over a 20-year period.
\$200,000

Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends Group Rappahannock Water Trail App (VA)

Develop a water trail app to increase community awareness of the importance of protecting the Rappahannock River resources including the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge boundary area. Project will add interactive capabilities to the app, allowing visitors to learn about local tourist opportunities and share their experiences on social media in real time.
\$15,000

RESOLVE**Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policy makers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.
\$62,700

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

Continue the fourth year of consecutive run counts on the Choptank River and establish a new run count on the Patapsco River prior to the pending Bloede Dam removal. Project will also conduct spawning habitat use assessments in four additional watersheds, completing baseline assessments in a total of 10 watersheds.
\$95,271

Sustainable Chesapeake**Achieving Phosphorus Balance in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Engage stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve farm and regional nutrient balance in high-density animal production areas. Project will expand markets for manure and its co-products to facilitate cost-effective transport of excess nutrients, facilitate Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Balance Sheet development, identify long-term solutions, engage 12,000 to 16,000 producers, and reduce 3,328,800 pounds of nitrogen, 124,564 pounds of phosphorus and 30,048 tons of sediment per year.
\$626,835

The Elizabeth River Project Restoring the "Lost Branch" of the Elizabeth River (VA)

Accelerate nutrient and sediment reductions for the Elizabeth River's Eastern Branch. Project will carry out a subwatershed plan to improve the Indian River and Broad Creek tributaries of the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River from scores of F to at least D for Enterococcus bacteria, and improve the overall water quality score for the Eastern Branch from D to C.
\$742,887

The Longleaf Alliance**Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach - II (Multiple States)**

Support the Local Implementation Team (LIT) coordinator, a unique, cross-cutting position that builds and improves partnership capacity across longleaf pine's historic range to restore and enhance the longleaf ecosystem. Project will increase communication and collaboration among the 17 LITs and provide technical assistance support for developing strategic conservation plans, helping to target limited resources toward the greatest conservation benefits.
\$100,000

The Potomac Conservancy**Potomac Priority Lands (VA, WV)**

Complete at least four conservation easements that will protect 600 acres of forest and agricultural land and 3 miles of existing forested riparian buffers. Where applicable, easements will require livestock stream exclusion fencing and riparian restoration to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, fecal coliform and sediment loading.
\$68,038

Trout Unlimited**Improving Water Quality and Brook Trout Habitat in the Upper James River (VA)**

Improve water quality and brook trout habitat in the Upper James River watershed by focusing on priority watersheds with a high likelihood of expanding brook trout habitat. Project will take conservation action on targeted stream reaches in heavy agricultural areas in these watersheds where the benefits extend to better water quality and expanded brook trout patch habitat. Project will reduce annual sediment load by 40 tons, nitrogen by 120 pounds and phosphorus by 32 pounds.
\$190,335

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service**Patch-Based Brook Trout Genetic Monitoring in the Headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)**

Test novel monitoring metrics for eastern brook trout that include the number and size of brook trout occupied habitat patches, the number of patches with invasive trout, genetic diversity and effective population size. Project will compare the performance of each of these patch-based metrics, provide recommendations for those that are most informative, and build a model to predict values of these metrics in unsampled habitat patches.
\$110,224

University of Virginia -**Institute for Environmental Negotiation Catalyzing and Assisting Local Governments to Take Action to Improve Resilience (VA)**

Develop The Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool, a robust assessment tool that builds on existing tools to improve coastal resilience through better management of recurring flooding and associated pollution reduction. Project will include a report card to catalyze local government action to improve resilience to flooding while remaining economically viable and socially relevant, prioritize actions for increasing resilience, and locate sources for funding and technical assistance.
\$49,996

University of Virginia -**Institute for Environmental Negotiation Expanding Farmer Participation in Developing Nutrient Management Plans (VA)**

Identify barriers to farmer involvement in and implementation of nutrient management plans (NMPs) and best management practices. Project will analyze information obtained from regional focus groups, comprised of farmers and nutrient management planners, to develop recommendations and strategies for better engaging farmers in development of NMPs.
\$30,000

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**Move to Sustainable Phosphorus Mass Balance to Reduce Phosphorus Inputs to the Bay (VA)**

Tie dairy farm phosphorus mass balance with milk production per acre to attain sustainable phosphorus mass balance on dairy farms in the Shenandoah Valley. Project will include poultry farms, small unregulated dairies, larger regulated dairies and some combined dairy and poultry operations.

\$367,208

**Wildlife Management Institute
Technical Assistance Coordinators
for Young Forests (Multiple States)**

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

WASHINGTON**Confederated Tribes
of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Water Rights Accord FY17 (OR, WA)**

Work with the Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership and The Freshwater Trust to support and develop innovative voluntary water transactions.

\$167,251

Conservation Northwest**Working for Wildlife: Community Outreach,
Habitat Restoration and Focal Species
Monitoring (WA)**

Provide capacity for continued coordination of the Working for Wildlife initiative in north-central Washington, critical community communication and outreach objectives, land conservation, decision support system tool development and utilization, and focal species monitoring. Project will leverage support for additional land conservation and habitat restoration activities.

\$350,000

**Duwamish River Cleanup
Coalition/Technical Advisory Group
Building Capacity for Community
Stewardship in South Park (WA)**

Remove 4.5 acres of invasive species, prevent 150,000 gallons of stormwater from entering waterways, plant 50 trees, and create seven jobs in the Seattle neighborhood of South Park. Project will focus on on-going restoration and stewardship of native chinook salmon and steelhead trout habitat, as well as the local air and water quality issues alongside the Duwamish River Superfund Site.

\$28,239

Environment for the Americas**Celebrate Shorebirds Latino Internship
Program (AK, CA, CO, OR, WA)**

Offer training, mentorship and career development for Latino youths seeking positions in natural resources, providing interns with valuable field experiences in shorebird research. The interns will serve as cultural bridges between host sites with federal and nongovernmental agencies and Latino communities, where they offer education programs about shorebirds and conservation.

\$91,839

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Expanding Partnerships in the
Upper Yakima (WA)**

Conduct invasive weed surveys and control efforts in the 48,000-acre Central Cascade Forest in the Upper Yakima watershed in Kittitas County. Project will survey, prioritize and treat high-priority habitat and recreational areas for invasive species such as knapweeds and orange hawkweed.

\$35,000

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Issaquah Creek Restoration
at Lake Sammamish State Park (WA)**

Engage local schools, students, community members and AmeriCorps 21st Century Conservation Corps members in an effort to continue ecological restoration efforts at Lake Sammamish State Park. Project will support native salmon recovery efforts and overall watershed restoration within the Lake Sammamish Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership.

\$50,000

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Tolt River Restoration (WA) - II**

Work in partnership with local organizations to restore 4 acres of riparian floodplain by removing 2 acres of invasive weeds, planting 1,000 native conifers and 2,000 native shrubs, engaging 250 volunteers, and working with local elementary schools to achieve community-based restoration success and education. Community members will be involved with tree plantings, outdoor education and service learning opportunities. Project will create eight jobs and sustain three jobs.

\$50,000

**NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Assess Persistent Organic Pollutant Transfer
from Female Killer Whales to their Calves
(CA, TX, WA)**

Conduct research on killer whales in human care at SeaWorld San Diego and San Antonio to quantify the transfer of pollutants from female killer whales to their calves during gestation and lactation. Project will provide data on the percent reduction in female pollutant levels and percent increase in calf pollutant levels needed by managers to better predict contaminant levels in Southern Resident killer whales and assess potential risks associated with contaminant exposure.

\$114,857

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission**Tribal Electronic Fish Ticket System:
Transitioning from Paper to Electronic
Reporting (WA)**

Modernize seafood catch data collection among 20 treaty tribes in western Washington through a transition from paper-based fish tickets to electronic fish ticket reporting in all fisheries under the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission jurisdiction. Project will outfit over 200 seafood buyers with electronic reporting capabilities, while providing training to ensure faster and more accurate reporting of Tribal catch data.

\$100,120

**Northwest Youth Corps
American Sign Language Program (WA)**

Collaborate with multiple partners, including Mount Rainier National Park and Olympic National Park, to support deaf and hard-of-hearing youth and young adult participants through the development of American Sign Language conservation crews. Project will employ 18-24 deaf and hard-of-hearing youths to work on recreation facility maintenance, trail maintenance and habitat restoration.

\$100,000

**Okanogan Conservation District
Carlton Fire Weed Control and Recovery (WA)**

Coordinate and implement post-fire weed control within the burn area at the Carlton Complex Fire of 2014. Project will manage 200 acres of Scotch thistle, 10 acres of hoary alyssum, and 40 acres of leafy spurge.

\$98,346

Restore Americas Estuaries**Increase Killer Whale Prey Base
by Creating Rearing Habitat for Salmon
in Upper Skagit River (WA)**

Increase prey availability for the Southern Resident killer whale population by creating juvenile rearing habitat for salmon in the Upper Skagit River. Project will enhance historic and existing side channel habitat in Pressentin Park to restore connectivity and floodplain function, thereby increasing the amount of spawning habitat and winter rearing habitat available to chinook, steelhead, bull trout and other salmonids.

\$143,326

**Seattle Tilth Association
Rainier Beach Wetlands Restoration
and Education (WA)**

Provide opportunities for volunteers and community members to support a wetland restoration project and engage in water quality service-learning activities. Project will restore a natural wetlands, enhance water quality within the Lake Washington watershed, support green infrastructure demonstration projects, and offer service learning and skill development opportunities to at-risk youth, veterans and special education students as well as other community members and volunteers.

\$30,000

Snohomish Conservation District**Puget Sound Starts at My School (WA)**

Involve over 1,000 students, staff and families in the design, installation and maintenance of four rain garden projects on four high school campuses in Everett and Mill Creek. Project will divert an estimated total of 250,000 gallons of stormwater into rain gardens instead of flowing unfiltered into storm drains and salmon-bearing waterways.

\$42,565

The Mule Deer Foundation**Guy Bradley 2016 Federal Award Winner**

Receive funds awarded on behalf of 2016 Guy Bradley Award federal-level winner, Senior Special Agent Steven Furrer for his superior law enforcement career accomplishments in the protection of wildlife and natural resources.

\$1,000

Trout Unlimited**Columbia Cascade Water****Transaction Strategy FY17 (WA)**

Identify, prioritize and develop water transactions in the Methow, Entiat, Yakima, Wenatchee and Snake subbasins, with a focus on completing several significant projects.

\$204,935

Trout Unlimited**Lake Sammamish Kokanee Restoration (WA)**

Advance ongoing collaborative efforts to employ a holistic and community-based approach to restore imperiled kokanee salmon in the Lake Sammamish watershed. Project will include development and coordination of habitat restoration projects, community outreach, youth education and citizen science activities that support recovery of Lake Sammamish kokanee salmon.

\$50,000

Trout Unlimited**Lake Sammamish Kokanee Restoration (WA)**

Increase imperiled Lake Sammamish kokanee salmon populations 25-35 percent per year, restore 1 mile of stream and 10 acres of riparian habitat, and engage 150 volunteers and 5,500 community members, including 500 youth. Project will include habitat restoration projects, community outreach and partnerships, youth education, and citizen science activities that support recovery of kokanee salmon and raise community awareness of the long-term benefits of these actions.

\$47,629

Trout Unlimited**Okanogan Basin Water Transactions FY17 (WA)**

Identify, prioritize and develop water transactions in the Methow and Okanogan subbasins of Washington, working closely in collaboration with the Colville Tribe

\$75,740

Trout Unlimited**Umatilla Basin Water Transactions Support FY17 (WA)**

Partner with the Umatilla Tribe to implement water transactions in the Umatilla Basin including Birch Creek. Project will include working closely with the Umatilla's to prioritize reaches for project implementation to ensure best benefits for instream flow, analyzing data and pre- and post monitoring, and providing reports.

\$59,516

University of Washington**Understand Nutrition and Toxin Impacts on Pregnancy Health in Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA)**

Analyze whale feces located by detection dogs to evaluate pregnancy and nutritional status as well as toxin loads in Southern Resident killer whales. Project will assess the occurrence and causes of miscarriage in the population to guide management actions.

\$146,106

University of Washington**University of Washington****Conservation Scholar Internships**

Provide internships for second year students in the Conservation Scholars Program at the University of Washington. Students will work in partnership with environmentally focused agencies and other organizations on conservation projects.

\$170,000

University of Washington, Washington Rare Plant Care and Conservation**Training the Next Generation of Plant Conservationists (WA)**

Hire two undergraduates or recent graduates with a background in natural resources to work on rare plant conservation and management. Project will give interns valuable experience with rare plant monitoring including Whited's milkvetch, Thompson's clover and long-sepal globemallow, weed identification and management, seed collecting and testing protocols, and propagation of rare plants for reintroductions.

\$60,235

Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre**Understand the Effects of Reduced Prey and High Contaminant Levels on Killer Whales (WA, BC)**

Compare standard skin/blubber biopsy measures of health to photo-based measures of condition for Northern and Southern Resident killer whales in coastal British Columbia and Washington State. Project will inform recovery-based management actions by using cutting-edge techniques to deliver insight into two of the three major threats to killer whales: prey availability and contaminants.

\$98,718

Walla Walla Watershed**Management Partnership****Walla Walla Watershed****Management Partnership (WA)**

Complete water rights transactions in the Washington portion of the Walla Walla Basin.

\$55,439

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 Washington Water Project and the Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership.

\$136,814

Washington Water Trust**Okanogan Basin Water Acquisitions (WA)**

Identify, develop and implement water transactions, focused on salmon recovery in the Okanogan Basin. Project will work collaboratively with willing landowners, community groups, conservation districts, irrigation districts, local governments, tribes and businesses.

\$47,906

Washington Water Trust**Walla Walla and Tucannon Basin Water Transactions Support (WA)**

Identify, develop and implement water transactions in the Walla Walla and Tucannon basins. Project will work collaboratively with willing landowners, community groups, tribes and businesses.

\$47,584

Washington Water Trust**Washington Water Trust General Acquisitions**

Identify, develop and implement water transactions, focused on salmon recovery in the Wenatchee, Methow, Walla Walla and Yakima Basins. Project team will work collaboratively with willing landowners, community groups, irrigators, conservation districts, municipalities, counties and businesses. Project team will also coordinate with groups conducting other types of habitat restoration to leverage greater outcomes for both flows and associated riparian areas.

\$181,243

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Wolverine Monitoring in the U.S. Rocky Mountains and North Cascades (Multiple States)

Define and implement a multi-state conservation strategy for wolverines. Project will implement a collaborative monitoring program to assess and establish a current baseline on distribution, occupancy and genetic characteristics of the metapopulation, maintain landscape connectivity among occupied, core wolverine habitats of the northern U.S. Rockies and north Cascades, and develop policies that address the socio-political needs for assisting wolverine population expansion with translocations.

\$384,961

WEST VIRGINIA

Chesapeake Stormwater Network Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Training and Engagement (Multiple States)

Increase the capacity of four target training populations to accelerate the adoption of cost-effective stormwater practices to reduce sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. Project will include training staff at more than 500 small municipal separate storm sewer system communities, stormwater managers in larger communities who are responsible for stormwater education and outreach, local stormwater inspectors, and industrial compliance managers at more than 2,500 permitted sites.

\$125,000

City of Charles Town, WV

Evitts Run Green Infrastructure Park (WV)

Protect water quality, restore the aquatic ecosystem, and create a park and recreational area along Evitts Run Creek, in an economically distressed downtown neighborhood, through green infrastructure and low-impact facilities including a stormwater lake, retrofitted stormwater basin, three large rain gardens, constructed wetlands, pervious parking, and a native nursery. Project will reduce 46,000 pounds of sediment, 588 pounds of phosphorus and 412 pounds of nitrogen per year.

\$725,001

Friends of The National Conservation Training Center

Refuge Volunteers Scholarship Program (WV)

Continue a decade-old program providing scholarships to National Wildlife Refuge System volunteers to take appropriate training courses at the National Conservation Training Center that allow capacity building in a peer-to-peer setting for National Wildlife Refuge System Friends groups. Project will provide relevant training that includes organization-building, leadership, social media, communications, connecting people with nature, nature interpretation and grant-writing.

\$5,000

Partnerships for Ecological Restoration

Sleepy Creek Stream bank Stabilization Design in Morgan County (WV)

Design approximately 800 feet of stream bank stabilization along Sleepy Creek downstream of Spriggs Road in Morgan County, West Virginia. Project will complete a topographic survey of the creek and adjacent upland area, conduct a detailed geomorphic assessment that will provide detailed data on the dimension, pattern, and profile of the creek and identify departures from the stable state, and prepare construction documents that will be used by a contractor to implement the design.

\$47,470

RESOLVE

Agricultural Conservation in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Assess the current capacity, needs and opportunities for agricultural conservation partners to provide watershed project management and technical assistance to meet clean-water goals for the Virginia Piedmont, while enhancing the economic and environmental sustainability of farms. Project will increase the knowledge and awareness of program managers, policy makers and funders about technical capacity issues and options for agricultural conservation partners in the Chesapeake Bay region.

\$62,700

The Conservation Fund

Logan: Acquiring West Virginia Land for Elk Reintroduction

Permanently protect 32,396 acres of working forestland in southern West Virginia's coal counties to serve as core habitat for elk reintroduction. Project will expand prime habitat for elk and facilitate elk reintroduction, permanently conserve more than 10,000 acres of currently leased Wildlife Management Area lands, enhance connectivity with other Wildlife Management Area lands, increase public access and tourism, and support working forests and forestry based jobs.

\$250,000

The Potomac Conservancy

Potomac Priority Lands (VA, WV)

Complete at least four conservation easements that will protect 600 acres of forest and agricultural land and 3 miles of existing forested riparian buffers. Where applicable, easements will require livestock stream exclusion fencing and riparian restoration to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, fecal coliform and sediment loading.

\$68,038

Trout Unlimited

Expanding Brook Trout Habitat within the Potomac Headwaters (WV)

Restore, reconnect and expand fragmented brook trout habitat in the Potomac Headwaters in West Virginia. Project will accomplish this through riparian and instream restoration, brook trout reintroduction, and aquatic organism passage barrier mitigation. Project will increase Farm Bill Program participation by restoring 48 acres of riparian habitat to accelerate agricultural conservation and reduce 976 pounds of nitrogen, 269 pounds of phosphorus and 460,000 pounds of sediment annually.

\$184,970

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

Patch-Based Brook Trout Genetic Monitoring in the Headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Multiple States)

Test novel monitoring metrics for eastern brook trout that include the number and size of brook trout occupied habitat patches, the number of patches with invasive trout, genetic diversity and effective population size.

Project will compare the performance of each of these patch-based metrics, provide recommendations for those that are most informative, and build a model to predict values of these metrics in unsampled habitat patches.

\$110,224

Wildlife Management Institute

Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.

\$504,012

WISCONSIN

Clean Lakes Alliance

Farmer-Led Water Quality and Farm Sustainability Initiative (WI)

Accelerate the implementation of the Farmer-Led Water Quality and Farm Sustainability Initiative in the Yahara River watershed. Project will include financial assistance for conservation best management practices, a certification program, and outreach efforts related to phosphorus runoff into the watershed, improving soil and water quality.

\$65,000

Driftless Area Land Conservancy

Coordinating Monarch Habitat Restoration in Agricultural and Grassland Landscapes (WI)
Coordinate the work of more than a dozen organizations to restore and enhance monarch butterfly habitat on 1,650 acres of protected and private lands in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin. Project will engage 130 landowners in the planting of milkweed and nectar-producing plants in core habitat areas and along dispersal corridors to augment and link similar work recently supported by Farm Bill programs.
\$241,256

Ducks Unlimited

Green Bay Coastal Wetland Restoration (WI)
Restore and enhance over 100 acres of coastal wetlands at sites throughout Green Bay to provide long-term beneficial impacts to fish and wildlife utilizing the bay. Project will create 5 acres of pike spawning habitat, enhance 17 acres of waterfowl habitat, seed 50 acres with native plant species including wild rice, wild celery and hard stem bullrush, and control 100 acres of invasive species.
\$396,779

Friends of Crex

St. Croix Valley Monarch Habitat Partnership (MN, WI)
Coordinate numerous partners to plan and implement monarch butterfly conservation on public and private lands throughout the St. Croix River watershed. Project will engage local organizations and volunteers to restore and enhance more than 939 acres and create eight acres of seed plots.
\$199,576

Friends of the St. Croix Wetland Management District Membership and Local Awareness Development and Growth (WI)

Increase local awareness of the mission and goals of the organization. The St Croix Wetland Management District manages 44 waterfowl production areas in northwestern Wisconsin restoring and maintaining prairies, wetlands and oak savannas in Wisconsin. Project will increase the impact on local communities by increasing community awareness of the district's goals and objectives and expanding membership of the organization. Volunteers will provide 300 hours during the 2-year period.
\$3,525

Hunger Task Force

Hunger Task Force Farm (WI)
Promote economic development and community well-being through sustainable agriculture, natural areas conservation and responsible environmental stewardship in Milwaukee County. Project will restore 50 acres of natural areas surrounding the Root River by reducing invasive species, removing brush, reducing chemical use and employing cover cropping with help of community volunteers.
\$50,000

Keystone Policy Center

Enhancing Monarch Habitat in Agricultural Landscapes (Multiple States)
Disseminate information to agricultural producers, private landowners and the public to explain the role of agriculture in monarch conservation. Project will build capacity to accelerate voluntary monarch conservation on the agricultural landscape in the 14-state eastern monarch corridor and catalyze agricultural community engagement.
\$30,000

Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Developing a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy (Multiple States)
Lead a regional and national coordination process to develop a Central Flyway Monarch Conservation Strategy for states located along the eastern monarch migratory corridor. Project will establish common habitat and population goals, and strategies and monitoring will be implemented at the state level.
\$144,750

Operation Migration-USA

Whooping Crane Reintroduction to Southeastern U.S. - IV (Multiple States)
Support monitoring and outreach efforts in support of conserving the critically endangered whooping crane and building a self-sustaining population in the Southeast. Project will support two staff positions during the three-season migration period and provide outreach to increase general awareness.
\$75,000

Ozaukee County, Wisconsin

Mole Creek Stream and Riparian Enhancement (WI)
Enhance 4,200 feet of stream channel, reconnect 103 acres of wetland and floodplain habitat, control invasive species, and plant native trees and shrubs. Project will increase and improve the habitat structure and diversity for both aquatic and avian species including northern pike, walleye, smallmouth bass, brook trout, greater redhorse, striped shiner and ellipse mussels.
\$66,000

Ozaukee Washington Land Trust

Restoring the Milwaukee River Watershed (WI) - II
Restore and enhance 1,200 acres of critical natural habitats, plant 2,000 trees, remove 300 acres of invasive species and monitor six streams in corridors along the Milwaukee River and Lake Michigan shoreline. Project will monitor wildlife populations, incorporate Youth Corps participants, deliver land management recommendations, and create environmental education opportunities for interns, volunteers and community members.
\$48,742

River Revitalization Foundation

Milwaukee River Beerline Woodland Restoration (WI)
Remove 27 acres of invasive species, restore 1 mile of river habitat, plant 550 trees and involve 500 community members, including 350 volunteers within the city of Milwaukee and the adjacent 800 acres of urban greenway along the Milwaukee River. Project will educate urban youth and university students on the principles of ecological restoration and will increase woodland habitat, which will provide better stabilization to the bluff, reducing sediment in the Milwaukee River.
\$30,637

Sand County Foundation

Building Capacity for Monarch Recovery among Electric Utilities (IA, IL, MN, WI)
Build capacity within the energy industry to establish high-quality monarch habitat on lands dedicated to energy infrastructure and rights-of-way. Project will incorporate cost-effective habitat restoration strategies into energy industry standards of operation and restoring habitat at 400 sites.
\$98,769

The Nature Conservancy

Controlling Invasive Species within the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands Ramsar Site (WI)
Restore and enhance 500 acres of coastal wetlands within the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands Ramsar Site. Project will treat known infestations, map and monitor invasive species populations, utilize early detection and rapid response efforts, and restore a 10-acre wetland site through fill removal and revegetation.
\$186,249

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wisconsin Driftless Area Monarch Butterfly Initiative

Improve monarch butterfly habitat on private lands in the Driftless Area of southwestern Wisconsin. Project will restore 250 acres of agricultural lands or low-diversity grasslands to high-diversity pollinator plantings consisting of native milkweeds, wildflowers and prairie grasses.
\$75,000

Wildlife Management Institute Technical Assistance Coordinators for Young Forests (Multiple States)

Maintain technical assistance contractor positions in the 17-state early successional forest habitat region to benefit New England cottontail, American woodcock, golden-winged warbler, and over 60 other species of concern. Project will continue to develop new approaches and outreach materials to better educate and encourage public and private landowners to become actively involved in this effort.
\$504,012

Winrock International Institute of Agriculture Development Graze Kickapoo (WI)
Engage farmers and landowners in Graze Kickapoo to improve grazing regimes on 25,000 acres through technical assistance. Project will result in 50 grazing plans and 50 farmers and landowners enrolled in the program.
\$199,958

WYOMING

Ducks Unlimited Inform, Strengthen and Monitor Farm Bill Delivery in the Northern Great Plains (MT, ND, SD, WY)
Stem the conversion of native grasslands and declines of associated bird species such as Sprague's pipit, Baird's sparrow, long-billed curlew, chestnut-collared and McCown's longspurs, through stewardship efforts on private rangelands in portions of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. Project will track rates of conversion to assess conservation success and implement adaptive management for future conservation action.
\$112,223

Groundwork USA Building the Future by Rebuilding the Past (WY)
Involve 20 youth corps members in completing trails and historic preservation projects at Mormon Row in Grand Teton National Park. Project will include habitat restoration, brownfield remediation and community greening projects, while providing youth with enrichment activities during non-work time to introduce the youths to other aspects of the park and park service.
\$41,000

Montana Conservation Corps Restoring the Last Best Place (MT, SD, WY)
Engage 79 youth in hands-on conservation projects with the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation at various locations in Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota. Project will include treating invasives, building new trails to help concentrate recreational impact, and reconnecting habitat corridors.
\$76,600

The Conservation Fund Fremont Lake Bottleneck (WY)
Permanently conserve and restore the most threatened lynx pin in the internationally significant Red Desert for Hoback mule deer migration in Sublette County, Wyoming. Project will implement a restoration and enhancement plan on a recently acquired 364-acre parcel in this bottleneck to increase the accessibility for mule deer during their migration and to improve the overall habitat. The property will be donated to Wyoming for permanent conservation.
\$100,000

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Wolverine Monitoring in the U.S. Rocky Mountains and North Cascades (Multiple States)
Define and implement a multi-state conservation strategy for wolverines. Project will implement a collaborative monitoring program to assess and establish a current baseline on distribution, occupancy and genetic characteristics of the metapopulation, maintain landscape connectivity among occupied, core wolverine habitats of the northern U.S. Rockies and north Cascades, and develop policies that address the socio-political needs for assisting wolverine population expansion with translocations.
\$384,961

U.S. TERRITORIES

AMERICAN SAMOA

Conservation Metrics Austral Winter Acoustic Surveys for Seabirds (AS)
Use automated acoustic sensors to monitor seabird species in the remote national park of American Samoa on the island of Ta'u. Project will expand on previously funded acoustic surveys on the island by adding data from the Austral winter season, when other species could be present
\$27,315

San Diego State University Research Foundation Socioeconomic Assessment of Coral Reef Dependent Communities (AS, HI)
Develop and implement socioeconomic assessments and monitoring programs in communities in Hawaii and American Samoa to improve sustainable coral reef fisheries management. Project will provide information necessary to gain a better understanding of social-ecological linkages, and to integrate project results into adaptive management of coral reef fisheries at the local level.
\$67,118

PUERTO RICO

Dewey University Restoration, Stewardship and Monitoring Caño Boquilla Wetland Systems (PR)
Restore 3.6 miles of coastal wetlands, beach habitat and 0.4 miles of riverine banks in the Caño Boquilla Wetland System, a 120-acre natural reserve in Puerto Rico. Project will restore and monitor ecosystems that enhance coastal species habitat for resident and migratory birds and waterfowl, and tree canopy for mangrove forests and beach habitat, while monitoring coastal and estuarine water quality.
\$31,622

Horsley Witten Group Watershed Threat Assessment Tool Development (HI, PR)
Develop a simplified decision support tool for improving the link between watershed management priorities and coral health.
\$80,900

Island Conservation Desecheo Island Seabird Restoration (PR) - II
Restore 286 acres of bridled tern and Audubon's shearwater nesting habitat in Puerto Rico. Project will partner with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to implement the eradication of invasive rats from Desecheo Island.
\$110,000

Protectores de Cuencas Reduce Sedimentation to Coral Reefs from All-Terrain Vehicles through Best Management Practices (PR)
Reduce sedimentation runoff from all-terrain vehicle use in Cabo Rojo Watershed impacting nearby coral reefs. Project will implement sediment traps and rain gardens on a municipal coastal road adjacent to refuges in the Los Pozos and Melones areas.
\$79,902

Protectores de Cuencas Track Pollution Sources from the Urbanized Area of Yauco (PR)
Track and remediate pollution sources in the urban areas of Yauco, Puerto Rico to help coral reefs in Guanica Bay. Project will produce recommendations to local and federal partners and implement at least one restoration project within the watershed.
\$69,658

Ridge to Reefs Improve Detection of Fluvial Suspended Sediment Sources in the Rio Loco in Southwestern Puerto Rico
Work with partners to improve sediment and nutrient information and targeting coming from the watershed in the Guánica Bay/Rio Loco priority area. Project will upgrade sediment sensors to increase the range in the Lajas drainage channel, track improvements in the watershed into the Guánica Bay estuary and the nearshore reefs in order to provide greater focus and insight into watershed cause and effect, and target additional sediment sources in the upper and lower portions of the watershed.
\$50,000

Vermont Center for Ecostudies**Clarifying the Overwinter Status of Bicknell's Thrush (PR)**

Conduct targeted field surveys in Puerto Rico for overwintering Bicknell's thrush, a globally vulnerable Nearctic-Neotropical migrant songbird, in areas where the status of the species is poorly known. Project will clarify the island-wide distribution and habitat occupancy of Bicknell's thrush, survey Bicknell's thrush and other species at 300 geo-referenced survey points, and engage volunteers and an experienced team of local field technicians.

\$30,796

Villanova University**Enhancing the Current Guánica Watershed Management Plan (PR)**

Implement a multi-tiered real-time monitoring system of sediment and nutrient loading for the Guánica watershed in southwestern Puerto Rico. Project will deploy wireless real-time remote sensors of water quality, characterize sediment and nutrient outflows from the Lajas Valley agricultural area, analyze sediment sources throughout the irrigation and drainage canal network, and contribute to a more robust watershed monitoring plan.

\$86,532

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS**Coral Bay Community Council****Sediment Reduction in Coral Bay St. John (VI) - II**

Continue efforts to reduce sedimentation from unpaved roads that affect downstream coral reef and associated marine habitats. Project will help local landowners establish six to 10 stormwater mitigation projects in at least two drainage basins that feed into Coral Bay.

\$67,910

St. Croix Science & Conservation**This is My Beach: Reducing Local Contributions of Debris into the Marine Environment (VI)**

Reduce local contributions of debris to the marine environment by generating community action, business leadership and behavior change within the targeted watershed. Project will conduct a public awareness campaign aligned with derelict fish trap and marine debris removal, spatial distribution assessment of plastics and microplastics in the coastal zone, and recovery monitoring programs for impacted coastal and nearshore ecosystems.

\$77,718

UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONAL
FISCAL YEAR 2016 CONSERVATION INVESTMENTS

ASIA, INDIA AND THE PACIFIC

Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), The University of the West Indies Coordination of a Global Socio-Economic Monitoring Initiative for Coastal Management - II

Facilitate the coordination and development of socio-economic data collection through seven regional programs around the world. Project will continue to support regional capacity in socio-economic monitoring and produce updates to a suite of printed and electronic SocMon training materials.
\$40,500

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Nocturnal Seabird Inventory on Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Use acoustic sensors to inventory and monitor nocturnal seabirds on the remote northern islands of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the first time. Project will initially start with the islands of Sarigan or Guguan and Alamagan.
\$35,323

Conservation International Foundation Spread the Reach of Community-Based Coral Reef Conservation (Papua New Guinea)

Expand the conservation of coral reefs in Milne Bay Province of Papua New Guinea by fostering a guidance and training system that mentors government and community members in their pursuit and practice of coral reef conservation. Project will focus on strengthening the role of community-based biological monitoring teams in mentoring neighboring communities and add an additional 100,000 hectares of coral reefs to community-based management.
\$59,902

Conservation Society of Pohnpei Increasing Adaptive Management Capacity in Pohnpei (Federated States of Micronesia)

Develop community action plans in the municipalities of Nett and Sokehs in Pohnpei to assist local management of resources and establish an effective support system at the state level. Project will engage community members in identifying gaps to achieving their goals and conduct workshops on reef fish management tools needed, while incorporating them more broadly into a statewide fishery management plan.
\$40,000

Indonesia Locally Managed Marine Area Foundation

Expanding Community-Based Coral Reef Conservation in Eastern Indonesia
Mobilize teams of mentors to teach 100 new communities how to use streamlined planning approaches for achieving coral reef conservation actions. Project will result in at least 40 specific marine conservation actions that address major threats to coral reefs and start to restore the health of these ecosystems.
\$41,001

Oregon State University Viewing Albatrosses From Space: Using Satellite Imagery to Count Nesting Birds (HI, OR)

Use WorldView-3 satellite, the first commercial super-spectral, high-resolution satellite with 0.31 m panchromatic resolution, 1.24 m multispectral resolution, and eight-band, short-wave infrared imagery (3.7 m resolution), to do remote sensing imagery to determine albatross nesting population sizes on breeding colonies. Project will test accuracy and develop correction factors using counts from satellite images and those by personnel on the ground.
\$119,605

The Reef-World Foundation Managing a Sustainable Marine Tourism Industry in the Philippines Using the Green Fins Approach

Build capacity of managers in the Philippines to reduce impacts to coral reefs associated with marine tourism using the Green Fins approach. Project will promote and measure compliance of dive industry to best practices supporting coral conservation and resilience.
\$65,005

University of California - Santa Cruz Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.
\$174,488

Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve Provide Flexible Approaches to Restoring New England Cottontail (ME)

Restarting 300 acres over two years, with a special focus on industrial, commercial and public lands, with an eventual increase of about 150 New England cottontail rabbits, while benefiting breeding American woodcock, prairie warbler and many pollinators. Project will support a restoration coordinator for New England cottontail within approved focal areas in southern Maine.
\$60,000

Wildlife Conservation Society
Strengthening Capacity in the Solomon Islands to Plan and Implement Fisheries Management
Work with local communities in the Western Province to develop an ecosystem approach to reef fisheries management planning and strengthen local governance. Project will reduce harvesting pressure on fisheries resources required for local food and income, such as edible shellfish, giant clams and sea cucumbers, and improve status of locally important reef fish stocks.
\$70,064

CANADA

Clemson University Northern Great Plains Swift Fox Connectivity (MT)

Live-trap and track at least 20 adult and 20 juvenile foxes on federal, private, state and tribal lands in Blaine, Phillips and Valley Counties, Montana. Project will use tracking, survivorship and recruitment data to build models of both population dynamics and dispersal/movement potential. This analysis will identify the biggest influences on the population dynamics in the region, and build upon state-wide monitoring to create a meta-population model to assess dynamics at a landscape scale.
\$158,207

Ducks Unlimited Green Bay Coastal Wetland Restoration (WI)

Restore and enhance over 100 acres of coastal wetlands at sites throughout Green Bay to provide long-term beneficial impacts to fish and wildlife utilizing the bay. Project will create 5 acres of pike spawning habitat, enhance 17 acres of waterfowl habitat, seed 50 acres with native plant species including wild rice, wild celery and hard stem bullrush, and control 100 acres of invasive species.
\$396,779

Flathead Community Foundation Crown of the Continent Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention (MT, Canada)

Coordinate efforts to keep harmful aquatic invasive species out of the Crown of the Continent region. Project will combine two successful pilot programs to establish an innovative regional Aquatic Invasive Species prevention strategy.
\$168,655

Groupe de concertation des bassins versants de la zone Bécancour Restoring Yellow Perch Habitat in St. Lawrence River Wetlands (QC)

Restore and reconnect 882 acres of yellow perch spawning habitat along the St. Lawrence River. Project will improve and reconnect wetland hydrology in order to establish sufficient water levels for yellow perch during upstream and downstream migrations.
\$60,000

Island Conservation

Rat Eradication on the Bischof Islands and Arichika Island, Canada - II
Complete the rat eradications implemented on Bischof Islands and Arichika Island, Canada. Project will implement final monitoring to confirm presence/absence of rats on the islands, develop biosecurity protocols for Parks Canada Agency, develop education materials, and complete demobilization of rat eradication activities.
\$19,572

Nature Conservancy of Canada

Wetland Restoration and Demonstrations in Alberta, Canada
Restore 10 wetlands and 5 miles of restored riparian habitat that are actively grazed. Project will develop demonstration sites to study and showcase the impact of technologies such as fencing, coupled with remote watering systems, on the overall health and conservation of the sites.
\$102,740

Royal Botanical Gardens

Restoration of Royal Botanical Gardens Wetlands in Ontario - II
Continue to restore 3 acres of coastal wetland habitat, contributing to the delisting of Hamilton Harbour as a Great Lakes Area of Concern. Project will treat invasive plant species, install five carp exclusion structures, and restore 3 acres of wetland and riparian plant communities.
\$100,000

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

Shorebird Harvest along the Atlantic Flyway
Build and expand on current accomplishments by strengthening law enforcement where shorebird harvest is illegal or restrictions are in place, develop harvest management tools by collecting more and better information, establish and maintain no-shooting reserves, develop incentives as an alternative to hunting, and improve education and communication in all regions exposed to harvest pressure.
\$249,674

**University of California - Santa Cruz
Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)**

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.
\$174,488

University of Washington

Understand Nutrition and Toxin Impacts on Pregnancy Health in Southern Resident Killer Whales (WA)
Analyze whale feces located by detection dogs to evaluate pregnancy and nutritional status as well as toxin loads in Southern Resident killer whales. Project will assess the occurrence and causes of miscarriage in the population to guide management actions.
\$146,106

Vancouver Aquarium

Marine Science Centre
Understand the Effects of Reduced Prey and High Contaminant Levels on Killer Whales (WA, BC)
Compare standard skin/blubber biopsy measures of health to photo-based measures of condition for Northern and Southern Resident killer whales in coastal British Columbia and Washington State. Project will inform recovery-based management actions in both Canada and the USA by using cutting-edge techniques to deliver insight into two of the three major threats to killer whales: prey availability and contaminants.
\$98,714

**LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN****Abt Associates**

Sea Turtle Bycatch Reduction Priorities and Conservation Targets (Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua)
Identify priorities for bycatch reduction and nesting beach conservation efforts for the Eastern Pacific leatherback population. Project will assess beaches and coastal communities and prioritize conservation actions in México, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to guide future activities.
\$349,800

American Bird Conservancy

Capacity Building in the Caribbean for the Conservation of Black-Capped Petrel
Conduct two technical exchanges between Dominican Republic and Dominica partners that will take significant steps to initiating Dominica's black-capped petrel conservation program and developing its capacity to protect black-capped petrels on the island.
\$28,915

American Bird Conservancy

Eliminating Threats to Priority Seabirds (Chile) - VII
Continue restoration work to benefit pink-footed shearwater in Chile. Project will restore habitat on Santa Clara, upgrade fencing at Piedra Agujereada colony on Robinson Crusoe to exclude nonnative rabbits, remove mammals within two fenced colonies, track shearwaters to determine their breeding season foraging areas, document decreased light attraction on Robinson Crusoe, and continue suite of successful community outreach activities on two islands.
\$275,591

BirdLife International

Mitigating Pink-Footed Shearwater Bycatch in Small-Scale Net Fisheries of the Humboldt Current
Investigate, quantify and mitigate bycatch of pink-footed shearwaters and other vulnerable seabird species in gillnet and purse seine fisheries in the southeast Pacific. Project will extend work undertaken in Chilean purse seine fisheries to mitigate seabird bycatch by altering the 'hanging ratio' of the net, and will maintain at-sea coverage in Peru to further quantify bycatch levels in this fishery.
\$230,316

**Centre for Resource Management
and Environmental Studies (CERMES),**

The University of the West Indies
Coordination of a Global Socio-Economic Monitoring Initiative for Coastal Management - II

Facilitate the coordination and development of socio-economic data collection through seven regional programs around the world. Project will continue to support regional capacity in socio-economic monitoring and produce updates to a suite of printed and electronic SocMon training materials.
\$40,500

Fauna & Flora International

Eradicating Alien Species from the Highest-Priority Caribbean Island
Build local capacity to remove all of the invasive mammals, formally protect the island of Redonda as a strict nature reserve, and establish a long-term monitoring program to measure project impact. The permanent removal of harmful invasive species will trigger the recovery of shearwaters and other threatened species and habitats on Redonda and will provide an important case study for other conservation practitioners in this region.
\$100,000

Fauna & Flora International**Hawksbill Conservation
along Pacific Nicaragua - III**

Strengthen the conservation foundation for critically endangered hawksbill turtles on Nicaragua's Pacific coast by consolidating a new nesting conservation project in Aserradores and advancing conservation at the region's most important nesting site at Estero Padre Ramos. Project will increase protection for 52 percent of the nesting activity for this population.

\$70,000

MPA Enforcement International**Building Enforcement Capacity for Sea Turtle
Protection in the Caribbean (Mexico, Panama)**

Assessment and training for enforcement programs in Panama and Mexico to increase the effectiveness of surveillance. Project will provide practical field training to enhance protection of Caribbean hawksbill sea turtles through efficient and effective enforcement efforts and provide training on personal safety for non-law enforcement people like biologists, students and volunteers working on sea turtle conservation.

\$60,000

New Jersey Audubon Society**Aerial Surveys for Shorebirds along
the Atlantic Flyway (Guyana, Suriname)**

Conduct aerial surveys for shorebirds wintering along South America's Atlantic coast and develop an aerial survey training program to ensure the collection of comparable data in the future. Project will produce up-to-date population status assessments for several conservation target species.

\$50,000

New Jersey Audubon Society**Optimizing Conservation Outcomes
and Investments for Semipalmated Sandpiper
(Brazil, Suriname)**

Develop a full life-cycle "migratory network" model to determine what periods during the annual cycle and which regions are major drivers of population declines in Atlantic Flyway semipalmated sandpipers. Project will track individuals tagged with digitally coded radio transmitters using automated tracking systems in northern South America to determine overwinter survival estimates. The model will inform conservation investment decisions made to stabilize and increase sandpiper populations.

\$99,972

**Parc National de la Guadeloupe
Building Capacity for Coral Reef
and Human Dimensions Monitoring
in the Wider Caribbean**

Build capacity for integrated, standardized, coral reef and human dimensions monitoring, reporting and data management in six Caribbean countries. Project will conduct training workshops to increase capacity for integrated coral reef monitoring in Caribbean countries, reach at least 20 coastal resource managers and practitioners, and enable follow-up activities post-training via site-specific assessments.

\$72,000

The Ocean Foundation**Multi-Year Monitoring of Hawksbill Recovery
in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (Multiple States)**

Coordinated monthly in-water monitoring activities across index sites in five countries to quantify hawksbill sea turtle density by geography and life-stage. Project will allow for population trend evaluations over time and enable prioritization of conservation actions and strategies.

\$116,795

U.S. Department of the Interior,**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service****Shorebird Harvest along the Atlantic Flyway**

Build and expand on current accomplishments by strengthening law enforcement where shorebird harvest is illegal or restrictions are in place, develop harvest management tools by collecting more and better information, establish and maintain no-shooting reserves, develop incentives as an alternative to hunting, and improve education and communication in all regions exposed to harvest pressure.

\$249,674

University of California - Santa Cruz**Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability
Analysis (Multiple States)**

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.

\$174,488

**WIDECAST: Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle
Conservation Network****Create a Nesting Productivity Atlas for Six
Species of Sea Turtles in the Wider Caribbean**

Identify and geo-locate all known sea turtle nesting beaches in the Wider Caribbean Region to generate a digital spatial database and landscape of nesting habitat. Project will create a network of Index Sites to monitor population recovery for six species of sea turtles, and develop a structure for long-term population monitoring and trend analysis.

\$59,980

MEXICO**Abt Associates****Sea Turtle Bycatch Reduction Priorities
and Conservation Targets**

(Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua)

Identify priorities for bycatch reduction and nesting beach conservation efforts for the Eastern Pacific leatherback population. Project will assess beaches and coastal communities and prioritize conservation actions in México, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to guide future activities.

\$349,800

Alternare, A.C.**Establishing Strategic Links to Conserve the
Overwintering Sites of the Monarch Butterfly
(Mexico)**

Develop technical and organizational action plans for stakeholders involved in the management of the overwintering monarch habitat within the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve. Project will link community action and train rural leaders to enhance protection of monarch overwintering sites.

\$50,000

American Bird Conservancy**Protecting Townsend's Shearwaters
on Isla Socorro (Mexico) - V**

Advance efforts to eradicate feral cats from Isla Socorro, Mexico to protect the sole breeding habitat for the critically endangered Townsend's shearwater and other threatened endemic species.

\$268,403

MPA Enforcement International**Building Enforcement Capacity for Sea Turtle
Protection in the Caribbean (Mexico, Panama)**

Assessment and training for enforcement programs in Panama and Mexico to increase the effectiveness of surveillance. Project will provide practical field training to enhance protection of Caribbean hawksbill sea turtles through efficient and effective enforcement efforts and provide training on personal safety for non-law enforcement people like biologists, students and volunteers working on sea turtle conservation.

\$60,000

PRONATURA NORESTE A.C.**Monarch Butterfly Conservation in the Mexico Migratory Route**

Identify critical habitat locations along the migratory monarch route by monitoring monarchs and characterizing habitat. Project will use habitat characterization to inform local habitat restoration and will establish 10 pollinator gardens.

\$50,000

Texas A&M AgriLife Research Applied Biodiversity Sciences Conservation Scholars Program

Integrate undergraduates and graduates using a two-tiered program that will focus on local issues related to Gulf of Mexico ecosystems and broader questions on energy development, energy policy and impacts on biodiversity and natural resources. Project will appoint two graduate fellowships to mentor a small cohort of undergraduate interns as they develop their projects and internship proposals. Each intern will conduct baseline research to support a one-month summer internship opportunity.

\$200,000

The Ocean Foundation**Multi-Year Monitoring of Hawksbill Recovery in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (Multiple States)**

Coordinated monthly in-water monitoring activities across index sites in five countries to quantify hawksbill sea turtle density by geography and life-stage. Project will allow for population trend evaluations over time and enable prioritization of conservation actions and strategies.

\$116,795

The Ocean Foundation**Vital Rates and Census of Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle Population (Marshall Islands, Mexico)**

Develop a genetic sampling program for hatchling and nesting female Eastern Pacific leatherback turtles throughout the nesting season. Project will establish protocols that will help identify family groups and understand the diversity of parental lines to complete a full census of the population and monitor the number of contributing males.

\$54,582

University of California - Santa Cruz Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.

\$174,488

OTHER INTERNATIONAL**Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES),****The University of the West Indies****Coordination of a Global Socio-Economic Monitoring Initiative for Coastal Management - II**

Facilitate the coordination and development of socio-economic data collection through seven regional programs around the world. Project will continue to support regional capacity in socio-economic monitoring and produce updates to a suite of printed and electronic SocMon training materials.

\$40,500

Parc National de la Guadeloupe**Building Capacity for Coral Reef and Human Dimensions Monitoring in the Wider Caribbean**

Build capacity for integrated, standardized, coral reef and human dimensions monitoring, reporting and data management in six Caribbean countries. Project will conduct training workshops to increase capacity for integrated coral reef monitoring in Caribbean countries, reach at least 20 coastal resource managers and practitioners, and enable follow-up activities post-training via site-specific assessments.

\$72,000

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

Eradicate yellow crazy ants from 260-hectare Johnson Atoll National Wildlife Refuge 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.

\$380,000

U.S. Department of the Interior,**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service****Shorebird Harvest along the Atlantic Flyway**

Build and expand on current accomplishments by strengthening law enforcement where shorebird harvest is illegal or restrictions are in place, develop harvest management tools by collecting more and better information, establish and maintain no-shooting reserves, develop incentives as an alternative to hunting, and improve education and communication in all regions exposed to harvest pressure.

\$249,674

University of California - San Diego**Developing Strategies for Reef Restoration on Palmyra Atoll Following Invasion of a Corallimorph**

Restore roughly 500 square meters of highly invaded habitat on Palmyra's reef terrace. Project will investigate how the current El Niño and global coral bleaching event is facilitating the spread of an invasive corallimorph in coral-dominated habitat, remove the invasive, and transplant corals back onto treated areas.

\$146,234

University of California - Santa Cruz**Endangered Seabird Meta-Population Viability Analysis (Multiple States)**

Improve a meta-population viability analysis model guide for seabird conservation planning by improving its accuracy in predicting the demographic impacts of island threats, incorporating additional conservation threats, adding additional potential conservation interventions (reestablishment or establishment of new colonies, fisheries bycatch mitigation), and moving the tool into a user-friendly web-based format where it will be promoted to seabird conservation planners.

\$174,488

World Wildlife Fund**Seabird Bycatch Reduction in Russian Longline Fisheries**

Train and place scientific observers onboard commercial longline fishing vessels to assess streamer deployment efficacy on seabirds. Observers will be trained to record bycatch, provide assistance with streamer deployment to longline crew, and monitor and record target species catch. Project will decrease the number of albatross and other seabirds killed by longline hooks.

\$15,500

GULF ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT FUND

FISCAL YEAR 2016 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 2016 in accordance with the terms of the plea agreements. Since its inception in 2013, NFWF has awarded approximately \$500 million to projects in Gulf States.

ALABAMA

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Alabama Barrier Island Restoration Assessment

Coordinate a feasibility study for Dauphin Island based on science and technical expertise and evaluation that will provide the ability to effectively evaluate the benefits and impacts of restoration activities and alternatives. Project includes modeling the island to evaluate beneficial use options and other sand placement activities, and the most resilient and sustainable island restoration activities and configurations in support of critical habitats and resources.

\$75,000

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division

Alabama Artificial Reef and Habitat Enhancement

Enhance and expand the state's artificial reef program to improve habitats for reef fish and other species in coastal Alabama. Projects range from revitalizing degraded reefs in the upper estuary to creating new reef habitat along the continental shelf of the Gulf of Mexico. Extensive research will be conducted to monitor biological succession; temporal/spatial patterns of habitat utilization; and evaluate the structural integrity, durability, and stability of the enhancement projects following the construction of the inshore, nearshore and offshore reefs.

\$12,525,388

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division

Multifaceted Fisheries and Ecosystem Monitoring in Alabama's Marine Waters – Phase II

Monitor recreationally and commercially important reef and estuarine species of interest 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. Project will also incorporate habitat characterization through side-scanning sonar, water quality monitoring and acoustic tracking of tagged fish species.

\$2,195,000

City of Mobile

Mobile Bay Shore Habitat Conservation and Acquisition Initiative – Phase I

Conduct due diligence and planning needed to identify specific, high-priority properties containing undeveloped intertidal habitat within Mobile. Later project phases will acquire, protect and restore coastal habitats in three distinct areas: up to 300 acres of riparian, wetland and upland habitats in the Dog River Watershed (Perch Creek) near its connection to Mobile Bay; up to 40 acres of bay shore property in the Garrows Bend Watershed; and up to 450 acres of tidal wetlands and buffer in the lower Three Mile Creek Watershed.

\$285,912

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program/ Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

Fowl River Watershed Restoration – Phase I (Amendment)

Address increased costs identified through the engineering and design phase of the 2013 project. Project will implement measures to protect and restore 6 acres of marsh habitat at the north end of Mon Louis Island.

\$1,194,149

Mobile County

Mobile County Conservation Acquisition

Acquire a 233-acre parcel on the western shore of Mobile Bay that contains tidal marsh and maritime forest. Project includes development of restoration plans to enhance the tidal marsh habitat and implementation of a long-term stewardship program for the property.

\$4,257,376

The Nature Conservancy

Grand Bay Acquisition

Acquire approximately 674 acres of priority coastal habitat along Grand Bay adjacent to existing protected lands (Alabama Forever Wild and Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge). Project will protect a broad diversity of habitats including shell mounds, pine flatwood savannas, oak cheniers, coastal marshes and salt pannes that feed into the vast seagrasses and oyster reefs that dominate Grand Bay. Project will protect lands that support a diversity of fish and wildlife, including coastal and wading birds, waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds, coastal finfish and shellfish (such as speckled seatrout, redfish, Atlantic croaker, shrimp, blue crabs) and many threatened and endangered species, including the West Indian manatee, and Gulf sturgeon.

\$1,777,446

FLORIDA

City of Niceville

Boggy Bayou Watershed Water Quality Improvement – Thomas Branch Stormwater Management and Boggy Bayou Headwaters Restoration

Implement major elements of the City of Niceville's existing plans for comprehensive stormwater management and surface water and habitat restoration to improve existing and maintain future surface water quality and wildlife habitat in Boggy Bayou, Choctawhatchee Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Project will add stormwater management controls to the northern portion of the Thomas Branch basin north of McEwen Street, and relocate sediment, create habitat, create living shorelines, and restore emergent grasses at the headwaters of Boggy Bayou.

\$3,852,943

Clearwater Marine Aquarium Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health.

\$201,929

Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health.

\$564,657

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Water Quality Improvements to Enhance Fisheries Habitat in the Lower Choctawhatchee River Basin – Phase I

Inventory, prioritize and develop solutions to major sources of sediment runoff, in particular from unpaved roads, in the Choctawhatchee Bay Watershed. Restoration plans will be developed to identify site-specific solutions and estimate the cost of necessary improvements for the highest priority sites, as funding allows, to enhance spawning and rearing habitat for Gulf sturgeon.

\$931,564

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Florida Shorebird Conservation Initiative (Amendment)

Extend key program elements of a comprehensive coastal bird conservation program through beginning of 2017. Project will replenish and protect Florida's Gulf Coast shorebird and seabird populations in the area affected by the Deepwater Horizon Spill through monitoring, posting, stewarding and rooftop nest management.
\$123,552

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Sea Turtle Disorientation Data Collection and Management

Develop standard monitoring protocols for collecting data on disorientation of sea turtles on Florida's Gulf of Mexico nesting beaches to measure the extent of disorientation from light pollution and the impact of measures to address the issue. The project will also support training of local officials and volunteers who will collect the data.
\$201,786

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Enhanced Assessment of Gulf of Mexico Fisheries: Fisheries Independent Monitoring - Phase III

Implements a significant and meaningful expansion of the collection of fishery-independent data in the northern and eastern Gulf of Mexico. These data will be used to assess the recovery of offshore assemblages in association with restoration efforts implemented in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; improve and expand single-species stock assessments for managed species; and foster improved ecosystem-based assessment and management capabilities.
\$4,487,391

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Enhanced Assessment of Gulf of Mexico Fisheries: Fisheries Dependent Monitoring - Phase III

Improve marine fisheries data collection for enhancement of stock assessments and fisheries management of important species along the Florida Gulf Coast. Project will collect harvest data for red snapper and other reef fish from recreational and commercial fishermen.
\$1,326,790

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health.
\$1,267,729

Lowry Park Zoo
Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health.
\$302,200

Mote Marine Laboratory
Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff, equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health.
\$487,867

National Audubon Society
Comprehensive Panhandle Coastal Bird Conservation (Amendment)

Extend key program elements of a comprehensive coastal bird conservation program through beginning of 2017. Project in the Florida Panhandle will enlist volunteers and state and federal partners to improve nesting success of coastal birds.
\$140,242

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stranding Database

Work with marine mammal stranding network participants to ensure consistency and accuracy of data collected from stranded marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico. Project includes database development and refinement, training network users, and implementing quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures.
\$199,850

Sea Turtle Conservancy
Eliminating Light Pollution on Sea Turtle Nesting Beaches - Phase II

Increase sea turtle nesting success on Florida Panhandle beaches by solving artificial light problems on private properties that are known to disorient thousands of hatchlings per year.
\$1,913,086

Suwannee River Water Management District
Florida Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund Restoration Strategy - Big Bend Watersheds Planning

Update and consolidate the Suwannee River Water Management District's existing Surface Water Improvement and Management Plans for integration into the Florida Gulf Environmental Benefit Restoration Strategy. Project will identify regional issues and prioritization of strategies and projects to meet conservation and restoration goals for the Big Bend's aquatic resources.
\$228,563

The Nature Conservancy
Pensacola East Bay Oyster Habitat Restoration Project - Phase I

Conduct the design, engineering, permitting and monitoring of Phase I of an oyster habitat restoration project proposed along 8 miles of shoreline at Escribano Point in the East and Blackwater bays of the greater Pensacola Bay region. The primary goal of the project that will drive its design and monitoring is to help restore oyster habitat and reduce shoreline erosion.
\$1,957,587

The Trust for Public Land
Escribano Point Coastal Habitat Acquisitions - Phase II

Acquire inholdings at Escribano Point, within the Yellow River Wildlife Management Area in Pensacola Bay, and transfer to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for inclusion within the wildlife management area. The properties include coastal marsh and maritime forest habitat that benefit several coastal bird and fish species.
\$1,486,800

University of Florida

Increased Capacity for Marine Mammal Response

Enhance the marine mammal stranding network along the Florida Gulf Coast by providing established stranding organizations with supplemental staff equipment and provisions to improve stranding response and data collection efforts. Project will provide for minimal capacity requirements to allow the organization to contribute critical stranding data to a centralized database on marine mammal health.

\$404,250

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Coastal Bird Stewardship Program in Mississippi (Amendment)

Amendment to the 2013 project to extend the monitoring work so that there is not a gap in data collection between the Phase I and II projects. Project will improve nesting success of coastal birds through nest protection, stewardship and monitoring at 22 key sites along the Mississippi coast, while educating the public on the importance of these habitats.

\$262,090

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Design Challenge for Improvement of Water Quality from Beach Outfalls - Phase I

Sponsor a design challenge to solicit ideas for improving water quality of stormwater outfalls along the Mississippi coast to reduce non-point source pollution impacts to marine resources. Phase I of project will sponsor the challenge, and Phase II is expected to implement the top three ideas, including engineering and design, permitting and construction.

\$544,511

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Oyster Restoration and Management - Phase I

Replenish and protect oyster populations in Mississippi through increasing oyster reef habitat acreage and productivity. Project components answer the critical questions to ensure sustainable and successful oyster restoration in the future: 1) suitable substrate experimentation, 2) water quality mapping; 3) benthic habitat characterization, 4) hydrodynamic modeling of freshwater inflows, and 5) the development of an oyster gardening program to increase spat and larval oyster transport in Mississippi.

\$11,779,900

TEXAS

Ducks Unlimited Cow Trap Lake Bird Nesting Island Improvements

Place a layer of crushed shell or gravel on two recently constructed bird islands to create improved conditions for ground-nesting colonial waterbird species. Project will discourage vegetation establishment and provide optimal nesting conditions.

\$440,000

National Audubon Society Matagorda Bay Rookery Island, Feasibility Study and Alternative Analysis

Complete a feasibility study that assesses alternative rookery island locations in Matagorda Bay that would be sustainable and resilient. Project will also evaluate island locations based on the three key characteristics required for a successful colonial waterbird nesting island.

\$250,000

Texas General Land Office Galveston Island State Park Marsh Restoration and Protection in Carancahua Cove - Phase II

Construct approximately 4,415 linear-foot segments of rock breakwater within the Carancahua Cove area of West Bay. Project will directly benefit avian and estuarine fishery species and their habitat by protecting approximately 2 acres of existing estuarine emergent marsh, 12 acres of existing seagrass beds, 73 acres of future restored estuarine marsh complex, calm and protect approximately 95 acres of shallow estuarine subtidal/open water habitat and create 8,830 linear feet of hard substrate.

\$3,234,500

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration

Protect coastal habitats within the Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area by constructing a breakwater structure to protect the shoreline from further erosion. Project will create salt marsh that will provide additional protection from wave action, habitat for aquatic organisms, and foraging habitat for coastal birds.

\$245,000

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation Powderhorn Ranch Land Acquisition - Phase III

Acquire, preserve and manage Powderhorn Ranch. The property is ecologically important for birds, fish, shellfish and plants.

\$12,493,800

The Conservation Fund

Bahia Grande Conservation

Corridor-Boswell Jenkins Tract Acquisition
Acquire and restore 1,781 acres of coastal prairie and marsh, bayfront and tidal saltmarsh along Laguna Madre to be conveyed after acquisition to the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. The project will link already protected lands through a coastal habitat corridor that safeguards 1,200 plant species, more than 530 species of birds, and 17 threatened or endangered species.

\$4,000,000

The Nature Conservancy

Falcon Point Ranch

Conservation Easement Acquisition

Acquire a conservation easement on approximately 600 acres of the Falcon Point Ranch. The project will protect an ecologically important property for waterbirds, shorebirds, wading birds, and associated coastal habitats.

\$2,910,900

The Nature Conservancy

Galveston Bay Sustainable

Oyster Reef Restoration

The project will restore a minimum of 40 acres of degraded oyster reefs in Galveston Bay using design criteria intended to increase the sustainability and resilience of the restored reef habitats. Project will create conditions optimal for oyster larval production, settlement, survival and enhanced adult oyster growth.

\$2,500,000

IMPACT-DIRECTED ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTS (IDEA)

FISCAL YEAR 2016 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.

ALABAMA

Alabama Coastal Foundation

Oyster Shell Recycling and Restoration in Coastal Alabama

Initiate a pilot oyster shell recycling program in coastal Alabama by coordinating local partners to implement a comprehensive outreach strategy to engage both local restaurants and the public, and to restore an oyster reef in Mobile Bay. Approximately 550 cubic yards of oyster shell will be recovered from restaurants to restore local reefs and educate the public on the value of oysters to the ecosystem and the benefits of oyster shell recycling. Project partners will also develop a comprehensive business plan to show the long-term sustainability of the program once the pilot project is complete.

\$243,079, Federal Criminal Case

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.

\$2,000, Other

ALASKA

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Anadromous Cataloging and Fish Inventory in Select Arctic Ocean Drainages

Conduct a rapid, systematic inventory of anadromous and resident fish distribution in associated aquatic and riparian habitat in select Arctic Ocean drainages within the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska. Target streams will be selected to fill gaps in coverage of Alaska's Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes in freshwater habitats expected to support anadromous fish populations that are likely to be impacted by human activities.

\$99,770, Federal Criminal Case

Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council

Alaska Federal and State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges and Releases, Cook Inlet Subarea Plan Improvements

Work with the Cook Inlet Subarea Committee to update and provide improvements to the Cook Inlet Subarea Contingency Plan, which is a supplement to the Alaska Federal and State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges and Releases.

\$100,000, Federal Criminal Case

Copper River Watershed Project

Enhancing Fish Passage and Implementing Snow Melt Filtration to Benefit Salmon and Migrating Shorebirds on Alaska's Copper River Delta

Restore connectivity to 1.5 kilometers of upland stream channels by replacing a culvert at mile 17 of the Copper River Highway with a stream simulation culvert to ensure access to spawning and over-winter rearing habitat for coho salmon that support commercial and subsistence drift gillnet fisheries and sport fishing. The project will improve the water quality of snowmelt discharges that flow directly into the inter-tidal zone of Orca Inlet, which serves as forage habitat for migrating shorebirds and salmon.

\$359,674, Federal Criminal Case

Polar Bears International

Contemporary Iñupiaq Knowledge of Polar Bears in the Southern Beaufort Sea

Conduct ethnographic documentation of recent Alaska Native observations of polar bear seasonal distribution, behavior, ecology, body condition, and human-bear interactions in the southern Beaufort Sea. This project will be a collaborative effort between social scientists, polar bear biologists, and tribal communities and will fill critical knowledge gaps about polar bears in the context of rapid climate change.

\$84,236, Federal Criminal Case

Prince William Sound Science Center

Comparative Performance in Migration and Reproduction among Wild and Hatchery Pink Salmon in Prince William Sound

Assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with studies of hatchery-wild interactions among pink salmon in Prince William Sound to address knowledge gaps in Alaskan sustainable marine fisheries that will benefit salmon conservation and the commercial salmon industry.

\$95,812, Federal Criminal Case

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 polar bear and human use of coastal habitats increases. The project will expand capacity among local residents to develop and 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 polar bear conservation messages among various user groups.

\$100,000, Federal Criminal Case

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

Estimating Vital Rates of Red Knots

Accurately estimate the vital rates, such as adult and chick survival, of roselaari populations in order to understand limiting factors.

\$49,352, Federal Criminal Case

U.S. Department of the Interior,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Genetics Based Mark-Recapture for Pacific Walrus

Support local subsistence hunting community participation in a genetics based mark-recapture project for Pacific walrus.

\$150,000, Federal Criminal Case

U.S. Department of the Interior,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Point Lay Walrus Haulout Monitoring, and Public Education and Outreach Initiative

Assist the Native Village of Point Lay to continue its role as steward of the nearby Pacific walrus haulout. Project will fund haulout management and monitoring efforts, carcass surveys, and public outreach and education.

\$141,406, Federal Criminal Case

U.S. Department of the Interior,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Steller's and Spectacled Eider Recovery

Support the recovery of Steller's and spectacled eiders through management, monitoring, and outreach. Arctic fox non-lethal control methods will be used to increase reproductive success for Steller's eiders.

\$100,000, Federal Criminal Case

University of Alaska Foundation

Matthew Iya Scholarship Fund

Establish an endowment scholarship fund in honor of Matthew Iya, a walrus hunter and Alaska Native leader from St. Lawrence Island, to benefit university students involved in scientific research studies related to the Pacific walrus.

\$870, Other

University of Washington

Occurrence and Range of Right Whales in the Bering Sea

Analyze extensive existing acoustic data to assess the range of right whales in the Bering Sea (including whether they are common in the north near the Bering Strait), and the extent to which they use Aleutians passes. Project will also improve knowledge of the occurrence of bowhead whales in the region.

\$114,285, Federal Criminal Case

CALIFORNIA

Audubon California

Lake Isabella Willow Flycatcher Restoration

Continue to 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.

\$89,724, Mitigation

Bajada Ecology

2016 Raven Studies in Chemehuevi Desert Wildlife Management Area
Research the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in the Chemehuevi Desert Wildlife Management Area.

\$92,670, Mitigation

Bajada Ecology

2016 Raven Studies in Joshua Tree National Park
Research the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in Joshua Tree National Park.

\$50,819, Mitigation

Bill Luce Consulting

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services
Assist and advise the restoration administrator in the implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam.

\$28,944, Other

BioResource Consultants

2016 Raven Studies in Superior-Cronese Desert Wildlife Management Area and Fort Irwin's Southeast Conservation Area
Research the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in the Superior-Cronese Desert Wildlife Management Area and Fort Irwin's Southeast Conservation Area.

\$130,000, Mitigation

Cachuma Resource Conservation District

San Jose Creek Fish Passage Improvements Project
Build on the previous feasibility study and preliminary design to develop 100-percent design documents for the bidding and construction of improved fish passage at three existing fish barriers on private agricultural land on San Jose Creek in Santa Barbara County.

\$72,794, Federal Criminal Case

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wister Pond Long-Term Operation and Maintenance

Operate and maintain Wister Pond in San Diego County.

\$16,250, Mitigation

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wister Pond Water Source

Purchase up to 500 acre-feet of water from Imperial Irrigation District to benefit Wister Pond in San Diego County.

\$20,478, Mitigation

California Invasive Plant Council
Prioritizing and Controlling Invasive Plants in the San Francisco Bay Intertidal Zone
Control activities on known high-priority populations of invasive Algerian sea lavender and conduct surveys for invasive plants in 10 marshes to pilot a vulnerability assessment system in the San Francisco Bay Estuary.
\$135,190, Federal Criminal Case

California State University - Stanislaus
Surveys for San Joaquin Kit Foxes, Tipton Kangaroo Rats, and Blunt-Nosed Leopard Lizards on Kern National Wildlife Refuge
Determine the presence of listed species on Unit 15 of Kern National Wildlife Refuge.
\$12,063, Mitigation

California Wildlife Foundation
A Fishery Management Plan for Pacific Herring in San Francisco Bay and California
Develop a Fishery Management Plan for Pacific herring in San Francisco Bay and California under the California Marine Life Management Act.
\$145,000, Federal Criminal Case

CDM Federal Programs Corporation
San Joaquin River Restoration Reach Program 4B Project Technical Summary
Develop a summary document that includes the key findings of the suitability of restoring flow and fish to Reach 4B1 of the San Joaquin River, or the Eastside Bypass, or a combination of both routes. The purpose of this document will be to synthesize information regarding the long-term routing of flows for the Reach 4B Project for the San Joaquin River Settlement Implementation Restoration Administrator and Technical Advisory Committee.
\$32,226, Other

Corvus Ecological Consulting
2016 Raven Studies in Mojave National Preserve
Research the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in Mojave National Preserve.
\$136,750, Mitigation

Corvus Ecological Consulting
2016 Raven Studies in Ord-Rodman and Piute-Fenner Desert Wildlife Management Areas
Research the interaction between desert tortoises and common ravens in Ord-Rodman and Piute-Fenner Desert Wildlife Management Areas.
\$77,500, Mitigation

County of San Luis Obispo
Avila Beach Bob Jones Bike Path
Conduct environmental review and engineering of a segment of the Bob Jones Pathway at Avila Beach. Project will result in the acquisition and restoration of at least 2 acres of biologically sensitive riparian habitat.
\$550,996, State Civil Case

Earth Island Institute
El Capitan Creek Fish Passage Restoration Designs
Develop engineering designs for a moderate barrier upstream from the mouth of the El Capitan Creek in Santa Barbara County, with the goal of restoring steelhead passage to 5.1 miles of upstream habitat.
\$88,714, Federal Criminal Case

Earth Island Institute
Wheeler Gorge Campground Fish Passage Conceptual Designs and Alternatives Analysis
Conduct surveys and evaluate feasible alternatives to remediate fish passage for four major barriers within the Los Padres National Forest Wheeler Gorge Campground in the Ventura River Watershed in Ventura County.
\$63,557, Federal Criminal Case

First American Title Company
Property Acquisition: Dobbs Pressley
Facilitate the purchase and transfer to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) of 17.47 acres of flat-tailed horned lizard habitat in Imperial County as compensatory mitigation for biological impacts associated with two separate renewable energy projects permitted by the BLM.
\$11,096, Mitigation

FlowWest

San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services
Assist and advise the restoration administrator in the implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam.
\$23,468, Other

Habitat Restoration Sciences
Long-Term Land Management at Greenhills Ranch
Manage mitigation land at Greenhills Ranch in San Diego County.
\$18,812, Mitigation

Habitat Restoration Sciences
Long-Term Land Management at JAL Preserve
Manage mitigation land at JAL Preserve in San Diego County.
\$11,579, Mitigation

Hanson Environmental
San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services
Assist and advise the Restoration Administrator in the implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam.
\$29,424, Other

Hardshell Labs**A High-Tech Raven Lure for Predation Effectiveness Monitoring and Management through Predator Aversion**

Monitor the effectiveness of repulsion techniques by deploying a mobile simulated tortoise as a lure to attract common ravens reliably and consistently, videotape raven predation behavior and interactions toward the high-tech raven lure, and monitor effectiveness of the repulsion technique by equipping aversion features to the raven lure within controlled areas to analyze its effectiveness as a raven deterrent.

\$12,000, Mitigation

Hardshell Labs**Repelling Ravens from Desert Tortoise Habitat with a Laser**

Repel ravens for an extended period from a specified area of high quality habitat and quantify the effects through detailed observations of raven behavior and quantitative assessment of raven predation intensity.

\$74,500, Mitigation

HPR II**Initial and Long-Term Land Management at California Valley Solar Ranch**

Manage mitigation land at California Valley Solar Ranch in San Luis Obispo County.

\$310,771, Mitigation

Marine Applied Research and Exploration Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas Workshop

Support the Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas Workshop, which convened scientists, ocean resource managers, and other experts involved in underwater research of the Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas to collaborate, review existing data, identify overarching trends and themes, and begin to assess efficacy of networked Marine Protected Areas design.

\$14,000, Federal Criminal Case

McBain Associates**San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services**

Assist and advise the restoration administrator in the implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam.

\$59,685, Other

Mid Klamath Watershed Council Stanshaw Creek Water**Conservation Assessment – II**

Determine physical improvements to the Marble Mountain Ranch water system and associated hydropower system and implement a final physical solution to returning water to Stanshaw Creek above the Highway 96 culvert that will meet stakeholder requirements. Project will address the limiting factors for coho salmon in the Stanshaw Creek area of the Klamath Basin.

\$32,818, 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

Mojave Desert Land Trust**Long-Term Land Management at Hidden Valley**

Manage mitigation land at Hidden Valley in San Bernardino and Imperial counties.

\$70,955, Mitigation

Mojave Environmental Holdings**Initial Land Management at Cuddeback-Kramer Preserve**

Management of mitigation land at Cuddeback-Kramer Preserve in San Bernardino County.

\$218,179, Mitigation

Natural Resources Defense Council**San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services**

Assist and advise the restoration administrator in the implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam.

\$24,888, Other

Ojai Valley Land Conservancy**San Antonio Creek Arundo Removal Project**

Accomplish a tier 1 habitat restoration priority in the Ventura River Watershed Technical Investigation for the San Antonio Creek subwatershed and provide the most beneficial enhancement opportunity to address limiting factors for Southern California steelhead. The project will result in the removal of more than 5 acres of Arundo donax from San Antonio Creek.

\$12,000, Federal Criminal Case

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission**Ventura River PIT Tagging**

Promote the recovery of Southern California steelhead by improving the monitoring activities for Life Cycle Monitoring stations in Southern California by estimating marine mortality between the smolting and spawning stage and by estimating numbers of out-migrating smolts to learn about productivity relationships of resident and anadromous forms.

\$149,997, Federal Criminal Case

Point Millerton Ranch**Long-Term Land Management at Point Millerton aka Tract 4870**

Manage mitigation land at Point Millerton aka Tract 4870 in Madera County.

\$9,848, Mitigation

Point Reyes Bird Observatory - Point Blue Conservation Science**Ensuring A Resilient Tidal Marsh Ecosystem Through Healthy Upland Transition Zones: Assessment and Recommendations**

Gather critical information to guide and assess efficacy of habitat restoration for the tidal wetland-upland transition zone in the San Francisco Bay Estuary. In collaboration with restoration practitioners the project will survey transition zone habitat in 18 marsh sites in San Pablo Bay and San Francisco Bay to identify key physical features and vegetation characteristics benefiting tidal marsh dependent birds.

\$199,872, Federal Criminal Case

Point Reyes Bird Observatory - Point Blue Conservation Science**From Science to Practice:****Assessing and Guiding Innovative Tidal Marsh Enhancement Strategies**

Improve tidal marsh habitat and special status bird populations by assessing the efficacy of and providing recommendations for improving ongoing habitat enhancement strategies.

Assess the federally endangered Ridgeway's rail response to two distinct conservation strategies occurring in the South Bay, engineer marsh mounds and native tidal marsh plant revegetation, and make recommendations for improving tidal marsh enhancement strategies.

\$119,065, Federal Criminal Case

Point Reyes Bird Observatory - Point Blue Conservation Science**San Pablo Bay Transition Zone Restoration**

Install native plants in the marsh-to-upland transition zone in the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge and Sears Point, converting levees to productive transition habitat. Project will also help inform future restoration efforts by contributing to baseline data for the development of a standardized, multi-disciplinary monitoring protocol and framework applicable to the entire San Francisco Bay Estuary.

\$102,720, Federal Criminal Case

Point Reyes National Seashore Association Dune Restoration Expansion Project:**Protecting Key Species from Extinction**

Improve the quality and ecosystem function in the area through restoration of coastal dune habitat immediately adjacent to California marine waters. Project will link two large-scale dune restoration projects.

\$99,963, Federal Criminal Case

Regional Parks Foundation**Brickyard Cove Acacia Removal**

Mitigate environmental damage while facilitating additional habitat restoration at Brickyard Cove in Alameda County through the removal of invasive acacia trees which are hampering ongoing restoration work.

\$10,000, State Civil Case

Santa Barbara County**Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve Public Maintenance Access**

Purchase a new compact tracked loader and trailer for regular sand removal on the only access road entering the Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve.

\$60,000, State Civil Case

Save The Bay**Community-based Wetlands Restoration, San Francisco Bay**

Restore, enhance and monitor tidal marsh transition zone habitat in San Francisco Bay to benefit the wildlife such as the federally endangered Ridgway's rail, salt marsh harvest mouse, and threatened western snowy plover.

\$80,000, Federal Criminal Case

Sea and Desert Interpretive Association**Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge Fund**

Coordinate and fund transportation for local schools to visit the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge to learn about wildlife and the Salton Sea.

\$5,000, Federal Criminal Case

The Bay Foundation**Southern California White****Abalone Restoration Research**

Conduct research to restore populations of the endangered white abalone in Southern California. The project will test conditioning, spawning, and outplanting methods that can be applied to white abalone in the future.

\$20,005, Federal Criminal Case

The Land Conservancy of San Luis**Obispo County****2016 Invasive Species Removal**

Remove invasive species, primarily veldt grass and European beach grass and conduct Nipomo Lupine monitoring within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex.

\$132,871, State Civil Case

The Land Conservancy of San Luis**Obispo County****Mussel Rock Dunes, Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex Land Acquisition Project**

Acquire fee title to approximately 800 acres of dune habitat referred to as the Mussel Rock Dunes property.

\$500,000, State Civil Case

Thomas K. Moss**Long-Term Land Management at Pletz Residence**

Manage mitigation land at Pletz Residence in Monterey County.

\$2,894, Mitigation

Tom Johnson**San Joaquin River Settlement****Implementation Restoration Administrator**

Assist in implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam by serving as restoration administrator under the terms of the settlement.

\$179,400, Other

Transition Habitat Conservancy**Long-Term Land Management****at Fremont-Kramer**

Manage mitigation land at Fremont-Kramer in San Bernardino County.

\$99,614, Mitigation

Trout Unlimited**San Joaquin River Restoration****Settlement Implementation Technical Advisory Committee Services**

Assist and advise the restoration administrator in the implementation of a historic settlement agreement to restore flow and salmon populations to the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam.

\$29,040, 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

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish**and Wildlife Service - San Francisco Bay****National Wildlife Refuge Complex****Potential Hazards of Anticoagulants****to Salamanders**

Complete a preliminary assessment of the potential hazards of two anticoagulants on live-captured or purchased salamanders. These studies will be conducted at the USDA National Wildlife Research Center in Fort Collins, Colorado, under an IACUC-approved study protocol.

\$34,803, Federal Criminal Case

University of California - Berkeley**UC Berkeley Student Restoration****Leadership Program**

Continue and expand the program to train a corps of UC Berkeley students to lead habitat restoration activities on University-owned open space. The project will provide hands-on environmental education in transferable habitat restoration and leadership skills to UC Berkeley students.

\$10,000, State Civil Case

Ventana Wildlife Society**Releasing California Condors****in San Luis Obispo County**

Manage a wild population of California condors with the aim of achieving a self-sustaining wild population in California. Project will support the releases of two more cohorts of condors in summer 2016 and spring 2017.

\$49,651, Federal Criminal Case

Ventura Audubon Society**Ventura Audubon Society Lower Ventura River****Cowbird Trapping**

Conduct brown-headed cowbird trapping over an 8-mile segment of the lower Ventura River for three years to assist in preserving and enhancing the state and federally listed endangered least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher in the lower Ventura River.

\$80,183, State Civil Case

COLORADO**A. Lawrence Kolz****Electrofishing Standardization for Upper****Colorado River**

Provide technical assistance to standardize Upper Colorado River Fish Recovery Program's electrofishing fleet.

\$1,275, Species Recovery

Bio-West**Razorback Sucker Species Status Assessment**

Characterize the Razorback Sucker's current status, future condition, and long-term viability to the extent possible using existing data, expert opinion, and currently available information under various scenarios and time frames.

\$51,000, Species Recovery

Miller Ecological Consultants**Colorado Pikeminnow Population Viability****Analysis**

Use a population viability analysis to help assess species extinction risk and as a tool for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, program managers, and species experts to reach a decision for downlisting.

\$13,302, 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.

\$1,000, 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.
\$16,750, Species Recovery

SWCA Environmental Consulting Technical Assistance to the Upper Colorado River Fish Recovery Program

Assist U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in coordination with the Recovery Program, with completing revision of four endangered fish species recovery plans. Revised recovery goals will be assimilated with past and new information, and consistent with the Endangered Species Act, implementing regulations, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service handbook for recovery plan development.
\$27,039, Species Recovery

SWCA Environmental Consulting Upper Colorado Fish Recovery Goal Development

Assist program agencies in developing recovery goals for the four endangered Colorado River fishes. Once developed, these goals will be implemented by involved agencies and stakeholders to facilitate management plans and strategies for delisting.
\$55,340, 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 fishes. Once developed, these goals will be implemented by involved agencies and stakeholders to facilitate management plans and strategies for delisting.
\$4,800, Species Recovery

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Fund for the Environment Long Island Sound Ecosystem Health Report Card

Coordinate, distribute, and publicize the regional Long Island Sound Report Card over a three year budget cycle.
\$240,000, Federal Criminal Case

Connecticut Fund for the Environment Restoring Fish Passage on the Noroton River

Modify bridge culverts to restore 4.9 miles of fish passage on the Noroton River at I-95 between the Town of Darien and City of Stamford. The project will provide access to a riverine migratory corridor for migratory fish, including river herring, to critical upstream spawning and nursery habitat.
\$10,000, Federal Criminal Case

FLORIDA

Northwest Florida State College Foundation Coastal Habitat Restoration in Northwest Florida

Implement a community-based habitat restoration initiative that will restore 1.10 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.
\$35,237, Federal Criminal Case

St. Andrew Bay Resource Management Association Community-Based Habitat Restoration in St. Andrew Bay

Implement community-based living shoreline habitat restoration programs in the St. Andrew Bay watershed. This project will restore and enhance a total of 0.4 acres of coastal wetlands and perform education and outreach activities, resulting in habitat restoration that will increase community resiliency and enhance environmental stewardship.
\$88,000, Federal Criminal Case

Various Recipients Boat Rehabilitation for NOAA Office of Law Enforcement

Restore, maintain, and upgrade a boat to bring to serviceable condition for law enforcement use in Florida.
\$17,165, Federal Criminal Case

**Various Recipients
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary**
Fund projects and activities at the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary including research, education, restoration, and maintenance of the marine resources of the Sanctuary.
\$23,986, Federal Criminal Case

HAWAII

**Conservation Metrics
Automated Acoustic Surveys for Hawaiian Petrel and Newell's Shearwater on Lanai**
Fund the detection and quantification of Hawaiian Petrel and Newell's Shearwater vocalizations at three survey sites on the island of Lanai.
\$1,700, Mitigation

**Conservation Metrics
Automated Acoustic Surveys for Hawaiian Petrel, Newell's Shearwater and Band-Rumped Storm-Petrel on Lanai**
Fund the analysis of remote acoustic monitoring for Newell's Shearwater, Hawaiian Petrel, and Band-Rumped Storm Petrel on the island of Lanai.
\$11,914, Mitigation

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.
\$25,570, Other

**Pulama Lanai
Hawaiian Seabird Conservation
Equipment Purchases**
Reimburse landowners for the purchase of song meters and associated equipment to monitor the Hawaiian Petrel Colony on Lanaihale.
\$5,947, Mitigation

ILLINOIS

**Various Recipients
Ginseng Conservation in the State of Illinois**
Support projects related to the conservation of ginseng within the Illinois, including, but not limited to, data collection and analysis related to the annual ginseng harvest.
\$10,744, Federal Criminal Case

INDIANA

**NatureServe
American Ginseng Conservation in Indiana and Illinois: A Current Field Investigation of the Population Size, Health and Genetics**
Leverage restitution funds for illegal collection of ginseng in Indiana and Illinois to investigate the on-the-ground impacts of harvest pressure on the abundance, distribution, and population genetics of American ginseng.
\$74,600, Federal Criminal Case

LOUISIANA

**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.
\$250,000, Federal Criminal Case

**Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation
Coastal Wetland Restoration in Southeastern Louisiana**
Restore swamp forest to establish habitat for 18 species of concern and increase storm surge protection for the largest urban areas in southeastern Louisiana. This project will plant 7,000 new swamp trees on a total of 36 acres and engage and educate 760 volunteers.
\$30,000, Federal Criminal Case

**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.
\$59,611, Federal Criminal Case

MARYLAND

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

Accelerate farm conservation planning and implementation of priority best management practices. The work will provide assistance to farmers based on their willingness to implement riparian forest buffers and exclude livestock from streams.

\$129,000, Federal Criminal Case

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.

\$129,000, Federal Criminal Case

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 & Wetlands

Pilot an innovative method to incentivize riparian forest buffers and wetlands to load reductions. The pilot will provide training, assistance, outreach materials, and mapping tools to local soil conservation districts and land preservation partners.

\$129,000, Federal Criminal Case

Oyster Recovery Partnership Accelerating Long-Term Oyster Restoration Through Innovative Nutrient Management Strategies

Restore 20 acres of oyster reefs in the Tred Avon River.

\$30,000, Federal Criminal Case

MASSACHUSETTS

Ocean Genome Legacy Center of New England Biolabs Towards DNA-Based Identification Methods for Black Corals

Build a reference collection of DNA and tissue samples from black corals of known provenance. This collection would serve as a scientific resource and a secure archive at the Ocean Genome Legacy Center to support subsequent work on coral identification, coral forensics, methods development, and basic research.

\$4,000, 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

\$18,930, Mitigation

Swan Ecosystem Management & Learning Center

Kerr Mitigation Work
Conduct mitigation work within the Flathead River Drainage, specifically on McGregor Meadows, Lost Trail 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 include repairing ditch banks, and replacing old and installing new control structures.

\$2,100, Federal Criminal Case

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Nevada National Wildlife Refuge Land and Water Acquisition Fund

Assist U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in acquisition of suitable replacement lands, waters, or interests for National Wildlife Refuge System in Nevada.

\$31,947, Other

NEW JERSEY

American Littoral Society SpillSpotters Phase II: Coastal Stewardship and Education

Expand the current citizen oil-spill response and protection network by adding Hurricane Sandy impacts, technology, and training to the work of learning about and protecting New Jersey's coastal wildlife and habitat.

\$8,310, Federal Criminal Case

The Research Foundation for The State University of New York Factors Limiting Reproductive Success in Piping Plovers in New Jersey

Compare weekly adult survival, nest and chick survival, and the proportions of nests and chicks lost to different sources among sites in order to gain a better understanding of the degree to which predators and habitat interact to limit reproductive success of piping plovers in New Jersey.

\$4,200, Federal Criminal Case

NEW MEXICO

Keller-Bliesner Engineering San Juan River Fish Antennae Installation

Provide equipment, labor and supervision to install fish antennae in the sluice channel directly below Hogback Diversion.

\$20,450, Species Recovery

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

Staff Biologist for San Juan River
Recovery Actions

Contribute to a San Juan River Recovery Implementation Program staff biologist to conduct Recovery Actions.

\$133,384, Mitigation

NEW YORK

Brooklyn Greenway Initiative West Street Watershed Stormwater - II

Implement green infrastructure to achieve maximum stormwater treatment and management throughout the residential areas of Greenpoint that are west of McGuinness Boulevard. The project will result in a major decrease in the volume and frequency of raw sewage releases from the New York City's combined sewer system by diverting over five million gallons of stormwater annually.

\$1,639,878, Other

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. The project will capture 6,411,631 gallons of stormwater annually, 36% of the annual stormwater volume, and benefit 10,910 people by reducing chronic flooding and sewer backups in the area.

\$90,884, Other

Council on the Environment - GrowNYC McCarren Park Urban Farm and Green Infrastructure Corridor

Design and implement a large garden/farm in McCarren Park to educate Greenpoint residents and increase incidences of safe backyard gardening.

\$477,084, Other

Dupont Street Senior HDFC Dupont Street Senior HDFC Garden Renovation

Install a composter, plant a native garden, and provide on-site signs for education.

\$5,000, Other

Evergreen: Your North Brooklyn Business Exchange

Greenpoint Industrial Environmental Improvement Program
Organize a cohort of industrial businesses to research, design, and implement capital improvement projects that will have a visible and quantifiable impact on the local environment.

\$99,950, Other

Horticultural Society of New York**McGolrick Park Restoration**

Increase the environmental and community benefits provided by McGolrick Park. The project will remediate environmental concerns, increase the sustainability of the park's natural areas, and increase opportunities for community-focused education.

\$562,056, Other

National Audubon Society**For the Birds! Greenpoint at P.S. 110****The Monitor School – II**

Deliver hands-on environmental education programming to students at PS 110 The Monitor School. The project will create opportunities for Greenpoint residents to learn about and engage with local ecosystems to promote civic participation and a culture of stewardship.

\$51,843, Other

National Audubon Society**For the Birds! Greenpoint at St. Stanislaus****Kostka Catholic Academy – II**

Deliver hands-on environmental education programming to students at St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Academy. The project will create opportunities for Greenpoint residents to learn about and engage with local ecosystems to promote civic participation and a culture of stewardship.

\$47,403, Other

National Wildlife Federation**Greenpoint Eco-Schools: Creating a Legacy of Sustainability - II**

Conduct after-school club programming for Greenpoint students that combines environment-based education with traditional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) learning and activities.

\$99,934, Other

Neighbors Allied for Good Growth**Greenpoint Lead in Garden Soil Outreach**

Restore the soil in Greenpoint for the purpose of improving public health and the environment through an outreach and education campaign.

\$35,737, Other

Neighbors Allied for Good Growth**Reduce Reuse Recycle Greenpoint: Restaurants**

Conduct a waste reduction campaign that will help divert waste from landfills by targeting restaurants. The project will provide waste audits to restaurants and choose two restaurants to take part in a pilot program for reusable takeout containers.

\$31,736, Other

Newtown Creek Alliance**Newtown Creek SAMPLES**

Conduct a water quality program to effectively evaluate environmental conditions surrounding Greenpoint for the purpose of engaging the community in waterway stewardship.

\$35,000, Other

New York City Audubon Society**The Newtown Creek Wildflower Roof and Community Space**

Install and maintain a large-scale, bird-friendly green roof planted with native species with the goals of minimizing direct wet-weather flows to Newtown Creek, creating natural habitat for birds and other species, and establishing a community space.

\$971,782, Other

New York City Audubon Society**The Urban Birds of McGolrick Park**

Conduct six bird monitoring sessions to which the public will be invited, and present a walk in McGolrick Park where Greenpoint residents can learn about the native plants and their importance to wildlife.

\$5,669, Other

New York City Industrial and Technology Assistance Corporation**Greenpoint Business****Environmental Stewardship**

Work with local companies in Greenpoint to identify and implement environmental improvements within their operations and develop solutions that have a long-term positive and sustained impact on the community.

\$100,000, Other

New York City Soil and Water Conservation District**Creating Green Buffers in the Greenpoint****Industrial Area: A Community****Planning Initiative**

Engage residents and business owners of the industrial area of Greenpoint in a community-driven planning process to develop a greening plan. Planning will ensure strategic siting of green features that maximize the environmental and public health benefits for residents who have been subjected to the environmental damages as a result of the spill.

\$97,675, Other

Newtown Creek Alliance**Greenpoint Bioremediation**

Increase public knowledge and local practice of popular established bioremediation techniques by providing educational materials and workshops.

\$82,951, Other

Open Space Alliance For North Brooklyn**Greenpoint Parks Community Stewardship**

Fund the hiring of a program manager to oversee an outreach program designed to create a culture of stewardship around Greenpoint Parks, including McGolrick Park, WNYC Transmitter Park, and Newtown Barge Parks, as well as the Greenpoint and American Playgrounds.

\$99,000, Other

Open Space Alliance For North Brooklyn**Improving Sustainable Practices at Java Street Community Garden - II**

Improve sustainable practices at Java Street Community Garden by expanding the rainwater garden, installing a stormwater collection system, and adding solar panels to serve as a renewable energy source for the garden.

\$30,220, Other

State University of New York - Brockport**Population and Habitat Characteristics****of the Pugnose Shiner**

Perform research to advance understanding of habitat conditions of the pugnose shiner population in the St. Lawrence River.

\$4,000, Mitigation

The Eyebeam Atelier**Soil Cycle: A Mobile Compost Initiative - II**

Conduct a mobile composting initiative at three Greenpoint schools using specially designed cargo bikes to collect organic wastes from local schools, compost the wastes as the rider pedals, and allow the composting process to be monitored.

\$27,607, Other

The Greenpoint Monitor Museum**The Greenpoint Monitor Museum****USS Monitor Park Shoreline Design Project**

Develop a final design package for the green/living shoreline restoration and stabilization at the Greenpoint Monitor Museum site and incorporate the ecological design and engineering components into the Museum's existing educational outreach program in Greenpoint.

\$599,200, Other

The Nature Conservancy - Connecticut**Beaver Brook Fishway Construction**

Construct a steep-pass fishway along Beaver Creek in the Village of Mill Neck in Oyster Bay, Long Island.

\$20,000, Federal Criminal Case

The Research Foundation of**State University of New York****St. Lawrence River Fish****Habitat Conservation Strategy**

Develop the St. Lawrence Fish Habitat Conservation Strategy, which involves: site prioritization and development of a site list with recommendations for enhancement activities; implementation team meetings and support for advancing proposed implementation projects and the creation of preliminary designs for projects; and GIS database maintenance, and the collection, processing and reporting of biological and physical monitoring data needed to assess impacts on the fisheries of existing and proposed implementation projects.

\$299,407, Mitigation

Town Square**Go Green Activity Hub**

Offer an online hub to effectively organize, centralize, and present local environmental issues, events and opportunities for the community both online and off.

\$58,450, Other

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

St. Lawrence Fish Enhancement, Mitigation, and Research Fund Expenses

Support fish enhancement, mitigation, and research projects in the St. Lawrence River.

\$397,921, Mitigation

Various Recipients

Delaney Bay Wetland Restoration and Grassland Mgt. USFWS Repair Project - Phase II
Pay for the second phase of the repair project for the Delaney Bay Wetland.

\$3,345, Mitigation

YMCA of Greater New York - Greenpoint Branch

Green Tweens STEM Summer Program at the YMCA

Conduct a six week summer program for children ages 11-14 that introduces them to science, technology, engineering and math. The program will focus on service learning, leadership, exploration, skill building, critical thinking physical activity, and stewardship of our green spaces.

\$84,110, Other

W.D. Bach Excavating

Butterfield Marsh Repair 2016

Fund the replacement of a fish ladder in the St. Lawrence River basin.

\$6,000, Mitigation

NORTH CAROLINA**Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership**

Support for Sentinel Network Monitoring of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation in Roanoke and Neuse River Watersheds

Monitor submerged aquatic vegetation at sentinel sites in the Roanoke and Neuse River watersheds through the use of high-frequency boat-based sonar and underwater video. The project will facilitate the development and implementation of an integrated submerged aquatic vegetation monitoring network to provide both methodologies to assess and information about the health of estuaries and inland influences on rivers for improved water resource management.

\$75,000, Federal Criminal Case

Bladen County

Restoring Access to Historic Migratory Fish Habitat in the Cape Fear River Basin: Lock and Dams 2 & 3

Construct rock rapid fishways to provide for greater free flowing access to historic spawning grounds utilized by shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon and other federally managed anadromous fish including striped bass, American shad and river herring.

\$839,535, Federal Criminal Case

Blue Ridge Resource Conservation and Development Council

Avery County High School Stormwater Control

Install a functioning stormwater wetland at Avery County High School that will capture, treat, and store stormwater before slow released into the ground. This project will reduce stormwater runoff and associated pollutants from impacting the North Toe River watershed, as well as serve as an educational tool for the community.

\$53,530, Federal Criminal Case

National Audubon Society

Engaging North Carolina Landowners through the Forest Landbird Legacy Program

Provide landowner incentive cost-share funding to encourage improved landowner management of forests within targeted watersheds for the benefit of biodiversity and water quality. The project is expected to directly improve 1,200 acres of forest, engage 500 landowners, and train 350 foresters and agency professionals in managing forests for birds and other ecological values.

\$146,203, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Coastal Land Trust

Waccamaw Phase IV Parcel Land Acquisition

Purchase a 3,000-acre property that hosts rare plant and animal species and is located along the Waccamaw River in Columbus County.

\$1,000,000, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

1,4-Dioxane and Bromide Monitoring

Support ambient and targeted monitoring for source identification of 1,4-dioxane and bromide in surface waters of the Cape Fear, Neuse, Yadkin, Roanoke and Catawba river basins. Data generated from this project will be used to address potential drinking water source contamination, identify and eradicate contaminant sources, and improve the quality and safety of drinking water for the citizens of North Carolina.

\$239,555, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

Cape Fear and Neuse Water Quality Monitoring

Collect data necessary to complete two nutrient dynamic models for the Cape Fear River Basin and explore sources of organic nitrogen loading in the upper Neuse River Basin. The project will fill existing data gaps that are currently limiting the ability of the North Carolina Division of Water Resources to develop and evaluate nutrient reduction and management strategies in the North Carolina watersheds.

\$60,000, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

Selenium Fish and Water Monitoring

Collect fish tissue and water column selenium concentration data in lentic and lotic surface water systems in the Broad, Cape Fear, Catawba, Lumber, Roanoke and Neuse river basins. The data will inform development of North Carolina's new Water Quality Standards in accordance with the Clean Water Act and U.S. EPA's Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criterion for Selenium – Freshwater 2016.

\$74,000, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

SPARROW Modeling for North Carolina Watersheds

Develop a Spatially Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) modeling framework for nine river basins: Broad, Cape Fear, Catawba, Dan, French Broad, Lumber, Roanoke, Neuse, and Yadkin. The North Carolina SPARROW model will characterize predominant sources of nutrients and sediment, transport factors, and pathways of pollutants to waters, and support the identification of trends and maximization of investment by focusing funding for conservation in watersheds that exhibit the greatest threats to aquatic resources, riparian environments, and ecosystems.

\$225,000, Federal Criminal Case

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

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.

\$717, Federal Criminal Case

Stokes County - Soil and Water Conservation District

Little Snow Creek Stream Restoration
Create bank stabilization and restore the natural stream within a 2,300 linear foot reach on Little Snow Creek in Stokes County. A livestock management plan will also be implemented in the Dan River watershed section of Little Snow Creek to prevent continued stream bank erosion, down-cutting of the stream channel, loss of land, and loss of valuable aquatic habitat in downstream waters. *\$100,000, Federal Criminal Case*

The Conservation Fund South Mountains Conservation Corridor Project

Protect six tracts in the Broad and Catawba river basins totaling 1,510 acres. The acquisitions will be part of a larger network of protected properties that will serve to protect valuable wildlife habitat for threatened bog turtles and to restore mountain bogs in the area. *\$2,960,000, Federal Criminal Case*

The Conservation Fund Rocky and Deep Rivers Corridors Land Protection

Purchase three tracts of land for a total of 298.5 acres. Protection of the tracts will aid significantly in restoring ecological health of the land and restoring the water quality in the Cape Fear River Basin. *\$2,433,000, Federal Criminal Case*

Unique Places

Rocky River Woody Dam Removal
Remove the Woody Dam on the Rocky River to restore fish passage for the Cape Fear shiner. *\$1,499,955, Federal Criminal Case*

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill ModMon: Long-Term Monitoring of Water Quality in the Neuse River Estuary

Conduct regular monitoring of water quality using field measurements and water sample collection along a network of fixed stations in the Neuse River Estuary and Pamlico Sound in eastern North Carolina and share the collected data with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality staff and other interested stakeholders and researchers. *\$449,999, Federal Criminal Case*

OREGON

Trout Unlimited

Cold Creek Coho Passage and Screening Design
Complete a design to remove a seasonal push-up dam on Cold Creek, which impedes the movement of juvenile and adult coho salmon. Cold Creek will be reprofiled to allow for fish passage and irrigation deliveries. *\$21,720, Mitigation*

Trout Unlimited

Wayne Fish Screen and Water Conservation
Install a new cone screen at the Wayne Ranch on the Sprague River in the Upper Klamath Basin to eliminate entrainment risk and install a new pump and variable frequency drive to allow the water user to reduce water and electricity use. *\$56,800, Mitigation*

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources

Pennsylvania Wetlands Replacement
Conduct wetland restorations on private lands, particularly in the Pocono Mountains region. *\$12,480, Mitigation*

SOUTH DAKOTA

SD Lake Area Zoological Society Eagle Flight Cage Upgrade

Upgrade and renovate the eagle flight cage at Bramble Park Zoo. *\$12,419, Federal Criminal Case*

TEXAS

Tom Smith

Tom Smith Land Acquisition Consulting
Support habitat consultant's work throughout the Southwestern United States on various projects in partnership with landowners and agencies. *\$87,841, Mitigation*

UTAH

Biomark

Submersible PIT Antennas and Accessories for the Upper Colorado Fish Recovery Program
Purchase submersible passive integrated transponder tag antennas with accessories for use at Tusher Wash and other high priority areas in the Upper Colorado River watershed. *\$12,390, Species Recovery*

Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education - University of Nevada Las Vegas Desert Tortoise Habitat Restoration in Burned Areas

Revegetate 200 acres of burned desert tortoise habitat, using all native species, in Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas. *\$40,000, Mitigation*

Morris Ag Air and Sons

Herbicide Treatment for Utah Prairie Dogs
Apply herbicide treatment to reduce the black sagebrush cover on 274 acres of Utah Prairie Dog habitat. *\$16,884, Mitigation*

Smith-Root

Tusher Wash Fish Barrier Site Assessment
Perform support of an updated configuration incorporating electrodes on the top and sides of a weir wall in the Tusher Wash irrigation canal. *\$9,295, Species Recovery*

State of Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

Green River/Tusher Diversion Rehabilitation
Install a fish detection system at the Green River/Tusher Diversion Rehabilitation Project. *\$49,392, Species Recovery*

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. *\$7,378, Mitigation*

SWCA Environmental Consulting

Rare Cactus Monitoring in the Uinta Basin - IV
Describe key findings to date for Pariette cactus and Uinta Basin hookless cactus and the activities needed for Year 5 monitoring and demographic and population viability analyses to inform recovery plans currently in development. *\$102,752, Mitigation*

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Red Fleet Reservoir Chemical Treatment
Implement chemical treatment of walleye in the Red Fleet Reservoir. *\$67,054, Species Recovery*

VIRGINIA

Carolina Marine Structure

Erosion Control at Great Dismal Swamp
Install weirs and address an erosion issue that resulted from fire suppression operations at the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. *\$36,300, Other*

Crop Production Services

2015 Herbicide Application
Apply herbicide to 125 acres on the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. *\$8,750, Other*

Crop Production Services

2016 Herbicide Application
Apply herbicide to 80 acres on the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. *\$11,078, Other*

Solitude Lake Management

2016 Alligator Weed Control Herbicide Application
Spray herbicide for alligator weed control at the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. *\$6,184, Other*

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Investigation of Recent Water Quality Issues in the Dan River

Investigate recent taste and odor issues in the Smith and Dan rivers. Samples of water, sediment, and rock scrapings will be analyzed in terms of organic, inorganic, and biological constituents to determine if changes in the water quality and/or ecological communities are linked to industrial discharges or spills.

\$570,197, Federal Criminal Case

WASHINGTON

Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Invasive Species Control in Shrub-Steppe Habitats

Implement a dedicated invasive species control team to address the spread of invasive species in shrub-steppe habitats throughout the Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

\$7,228, Other

PCC Farmland Trust

Snohomish County Unified Conservation Strategy

Lead a strategic mapping exercise in Snohomish County that will identify and prioritize the remaining prime agricultural parcels to be conserved. Project will help to develop long-term conservation strategy and priorities incorporating the shared interests of the Snohomish Sustainable Land Strategy partnership.

\$17,765, Federal Criminal Case

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

West Oakland Bay Restoration and Conservation

Enhance salt marsh habitat and restore the Goldsborough Creek Delta for Endangered Species Act listed fish and wildlife in the Goldsborough Creek Estuary and Oakland Bay.

\$45,000, Federal Criminal Case

WYOMING

Northern Rockies Conservation Cooperative

Priority Areas for Reducing Golden Eagle Vehicle Mortalities in Wyoming

Identify priority vehicle collision locations in Wyoming, a state with significant eagle and ungulate populations, for mitigations aimed at reducing eagle-vehicle collisions.

\$102,592, Federal Criminal Case

The Nature Conservancy - Wyoming Weber Ranch Conservation Easement

Protect, through a conservation easement, 3,802 acres of sagebrush steppe and shrubland, mixed grass prairie, riparian, stream, greasewood flat and limber pine habitat for golden eagles, greater sage-grouse, mule deer and other wildlife and native fish species. The private property is located in Carbon County, within south-central Wyoming, near the town of Baggs.

\$175,850, Federal Criminal Case

Teton Raptor Center

Eagle Rehabilitation and Conservation

Support materials and supplies for bald and golden eagle rehabilitation at two centers in Wyoming.

\$2,017, Federal Criminal Case

Teton Raptor Center

Wyoming Golden Eagle Rescuer and Rehabilitation Network

Create a rescue and rehabilitation network for the State of Wyoming including protocols for handling, transfer and care for injured golden eagles.

\$68,939, Federal Criminal Case

NATIONAL

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies National Fish Habitat Partnership Coordination and Development

Support the National Fish Habitat Partnership's workshop for all 19 of the Fish Habitat Partnerships.

\$30,000, Other

Conservation X Labs

Developing A DNA Barcode Scanner For Conservation

Fund the development of a DNA identification database and instrument that will allow regulatory enforcement action and species testing to occur in the field.

\$159,008, Federal Criminal Case

Skytruth

Satellite Imagery for Oil Pollution Monitoring

Determine the feasibility and offer recommendations for creating a public oil spill monitoring program in the U.S. exclusive economic zone.

\$4,000, Federal Criminal Case

INTERNATIONAL

AMERICAN SAMOA

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. The project will provide an assessment of the impact of mitigation activities recently completed to address run-off from an active quarry.

\$7,000, Federal Criminal Case

PUERTO RICO

Ridge to Reefs

Seagrass Restoration on the South Coast of Puerto Rico

Plant seagrass, remove marine debris, provide education and outreach, and improve the water quality to benefit seagrass on the south coast of Puerto Rico.

\$324,800, Federal Civil Case

RUSSIA

Wildlife Conservation Society

Conservation of Wild Amur Tigers and Leopards in Russia

Address tiger and leopard conservation in the Russian Far East through a suite of complementary activities. The project will result in improved anti-poaching systems and a potential increase in tiger and leopard numbers associated with lowered mortality rates and improve local attitudes toward tigers and leopards in Russia.

\$250,000, Federal Criminal Case

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(cover, black skimmer)

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